

Hello, Goodbye

A Larp Duet by Ben Bisogno and Naomi Torres-Ortiz 2020

"I'm Home"

By Ben Bisogno 2020

A letter-Larp about reaching out to the boy you love.

One player | 30 minutes to 1 hour

The Heart of the Story:

Because of the virus, you are away from him.

Even though you have residency in his country, you are forbidden to board that plane. Now, if you had the same protections as married couples, that would be a different story, but you don't... However, this is not the time to address that.

Here, you will seal inside this letter a hopeful heart - one yearning to be back together. With ink, spit, and perhaps a tear or two, your words will transcend the space between you.

You will need:

- An envelope
- Sufficient postage
- A pen that flows well
- Paper that feels good
- Paints or colored pencils
- Someone you love and who loves you back, to receive the letter
(*Your boyfriend in Japan, sister in New York, etc. Customize to your circumstances.*)

You will NOT need:

- Good penmanship
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What to include in your letter:

In this letter you will seal in the following: a vision, a memory, a wish, a dream of what you will do together when you are welcomed back, and a kiss.

Seal in this letter: A Vision

Go outside. Draw or paint a beautiful scene you wish to share. Title it, "thinking of you". Write the date, sign your name, and fold your art into the envelope.

Seal in this letter: A Memory

Detail a moment that you shared with the person you are writing to - a memory that by all rights should be bitter but in fact makes you feel proud, somewhat embarrassed, and closer.

Seal in this letter: A Wish

Lift the letter up the sky. Hold it up and breathe deep- down to your belly.

What do you want? What do you need?

Do you wish he would hold your hands more? To cook pizza with you, even if it comes out much like a milkshake? To listen together to the tidal shift in summer's cicadas' calls?

Fill in the blanks: I feel _____ when I _____ because I need _____ and I wish _____.

Seal in this letter: A dream of what you will do together when you are welcomed back

To imbue your dream into the letter, pick one or make your own: 1) pen the dream directly into the letter itself; 2) put the letter under your pillow for one night; 3) daydream outside under a tree and find a beautiful leaf to tuck snugly into your letter.

Seal in this letter: A Kiss

When you bring this letter to the mailbox or the post office, make a promise to yourself: to be kinder, to live up to the version of yourself you have fit into the small package right here.

Kiss the stamp on the letter, sweetly, and send it on its way.

REMIX: WRITE AS YOURSELF!

Remove the roleplay. Make a beautiful letter, sealing in one of each: a vision, a memory, a wish, a dream of what you will do together when you are welcomed back with your loved one, and a kiss! Send it to someone whose arms you need to be enveloped by. You are welcome to be inspired by the perspective of the larp above, but write this in your own voice.

MIXTAPE: *Letters To A Memory*

By Naomi Torres-Ortiz 2020

i Info: An audio / letter writing LARP about saying goodbye.

One player | 20 - 40 minutes

From the Top:

Your letter will go nowhere. You know that you will be left alone with the words you wish you could send. But peace can be found in seeing the words outside of your own head. Their meaning doesn't fade when your letter gets lost or tossed.

I offer you songs from my own [playlist](#) to inspire your letter. Alternatively, create your own.

You will need:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Paper or blank greeting card● Writing Tool● Envelope● A way to create a mixtape/playlist | Optional: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Scrapbook material● Headphones● Stickers! |
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Who does your heart miss?

Choose one or make your own.

1. The man you loved, who left for unknown reasons
 2. A family member who has drifted away
 3. An ex-best friend
 4. A lover who was here on work visa, and had to leave
 5. A caretaker, for whom you still hold love
 6. Your internet friend, who has not signed on in 3 years
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Lets Begin.

Shuffle: Reminders of a feeling. Skip this section if using the playlist provided.

Listen to your music on shuffle, preferably your liked songs or most listened to . The songs will find you. Choose 5 songs. The first 5 that call to you, that remind you of when they made you happy or how it felt when they left. Make a playlist with the songs and title it "Always", "I Hate You", or "Songs for You v. 4." A 6th song is provided for you at the end of the larp.

Record: Now that you know the feeling, it is time to buckle up, and write it down.

Everything must be written. As you listen, choose a lyric from each song and include them somewhere in your letter. This is not a time to be profound, but honest.

► **Play: Heartstrings are called. Say Their Name.**

Song 1: [Bagels by Kota the Friend](#): Do not start with Dear "Formal Name" That is not how you called them. Welcome their memory: "Darling," "My Love," "Hello ButterBiscuit". Remind them of how this name was found in the fabric of your meeting. How did they get this name? Remind them how YOU gave it to them. Now leave it with them, it's no longer yours.

Song 2: [Summertime Magic by Childish Gambino](#): Place yourself in this moment, set to the page lyrics that talk about joy and happiness. Write about those moments where you laughed so much you couldn't breath, about that spontaneous trip, or how it felt to watch them sleep. Remind them of that.

◀◀ **Rewind: We All Have Regrets. Remind Yourself What You Really Wanted.**

Song 3: [Aeroplane By Greer](#) There were also not so good moments. Times you may have felt unheard or misunderstood. What was said that cannot be taken back? What was never forgotten? Ask yourself: what did you really want? Did you ask for it ? Did they listen?

I also remember when times were not as great, when you would say things like
I never asked for it, but what I truly wanted was...
You offered me ___ and gave me ___ but what I really needed was...

|| **Pause: Take a break. Just sit back.**

Song 4: [Drunk by Dijon](#)

▶▶ **Skip to the End: It is Time. Say Goodbye.**

Song 5: [Empty by PVRIS](#) This is how you may feel now, but this feeling cannot last. It is never easy to let go of someone you care for. Especially when it seems they let you go so easily. Honor those feelings. Why are you sad? Why are you angry? Why do you now leave them behind? End the letter with a sincere goodbye.

Song 6: [TTCL by Eloise](#). Break out the envelope. Seal the envelope with a drawing on the flap and/or a sticker. Write their name on the front. Decorate the envelope.

You are always capable of love, and so it cannot be separated from you. You can hold close the memory of what it was like, and see it mirrored in those who choose to stay.

□ **Stop: Now you must Decide: What Happens To The Letter?**

1. Stick it in your memory box, to collect dust for the next ten years.
2. Give to someone to read but not respond.
3. Post on your refrigerator.
4. Throw it away.
5. Burn it.
6. Something else of your own imagining

▲ **Eject: If wearing them, take off the headphones. Start the day anew, refreshed** .