

Dear Grey House team members and stalwart

quaran-teammates, we are now **311 zany days** into our increasingly quirky team-building exercise. Feeling like we are in a race against time, between COVID closing in around us and the longed-for vaccine. There must be a precedent for this. Like in Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom, or Star Wars, or Jurassic Park.

4 January 2021, theme: Happy New Year! And next comes happy **Chinese Lunar New Year!** Gotta love ANYTHING with dragons! Last mid-January, Avshalom and I were in Kyoto for Chinese New Year week, and we overheard new-year vacationers from China chatting about a supposedly deadly virus back home.....



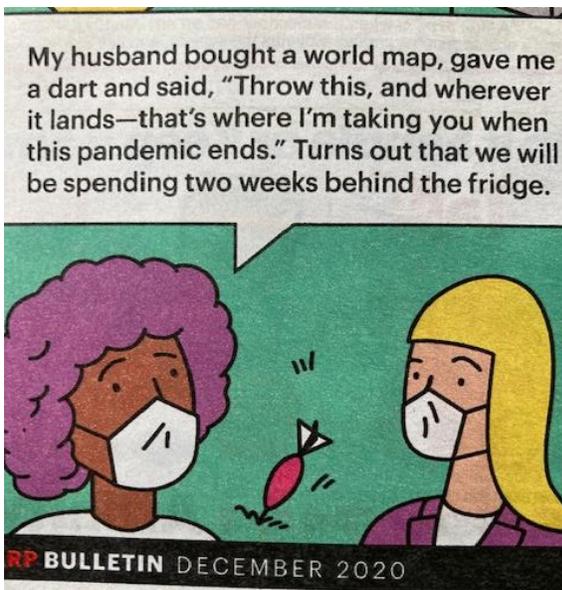
HAPPY NEWS FIRST:

Llama Gizmo, missing for 2 weeks, found! (Karen, you can relax)

[Infrared Drones, Search Parties and a Lasso: Chasing a Runaway Llama](#)



Vaccines arrive, bringing a glimmer of hope for travel in 2021.



Thanks Honalee!



Temí's breast cancer treatment ended with a clean bill of health. What a head-spinning whirlwind experience, from screening diagnosis to complete recovery, in 83 days.

Karen and Ben sent the Holly Dolly Christmas CD, which is absolutely magnificent! Highly recommended!!!!!!

This is so New Zealand, isn't it?



New Zealand village turns off street lights to stop birds crash-landing on to roads | New Zealand | The Guardian

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/dec/22/new-zealand-village-turns-off-street-lights-to-stop-birds-crash-landing-on-to-roads>

That hobbit genius Peter Jackson is doing a new doco film on the Beatles, entitled “Get Back.” And you, yes you, can view a sneak peek. The fab 4 are just as breathtakingly charming as I remember them from 2nd grade.

Check out this video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/UocEGvQ100E>

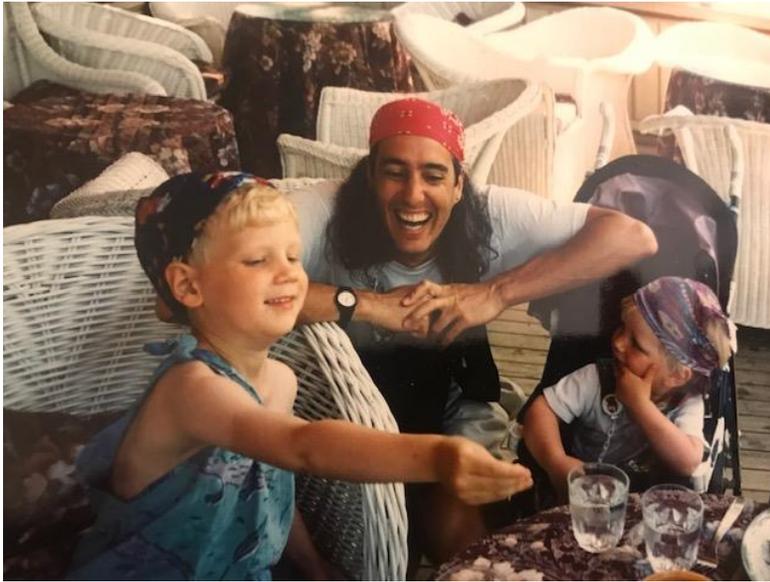


Quarantined Travel Photographer Creates Miniature “Outdoor” Scenes With Everyday Objects

[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://mymodernmet.com/indoor-nature-photography-erin-sullivan/ ;!!OToaGQ!_qaEcidCmncthg59JiEefC7Iti1-XUTdFV65NF-EOqsNPPXrYa03dsSIS1IM4m0Ge-3VyQ\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://mymodernmet.com/indoor-nature-photography-erin-sullivan/)

Maybe you had this holiday experience too? Friends from around the world had spare time on their hands during the holidays and they used it to dig into their old photos, and horror of horrors, sent us some of them.

Three Axel Rose fans in Helsinki, Finland, 1987.



Postdocs in Berlin, 1985.

NEXT, THE UNHAPPY NEWS:

Our colleagues in Norway experienced a horrific landslide.



Our London team members spent Christmas on tier 4.

And going to Level 5 tonight at midnight.

1:14pm January 4 breaking tweet

UPDATE: The UK COVID-19 Alert Level will move from Level 4 to Level 5. This means the number of cases is rising and there is a risk of healthcare services being overwhelmed. See joint statement from the four UK Chief Medical Officers

<https://www.london.gov.uk/coronavirus/coronavirus-what-you-need-know>



Following advice from the Joint Biosecurity Centre and in the light of the most recent data, the 4 UK Chief Medical Officers and NHS England Medical Director recommend that the UK alert level should move from level 4 to level 5. Cases are rising almost everywhere, in much of the country driven by the new more transmissible variant. We are not confident that the NHS can handle a further sustained rise in cases and without further action there is a material risk of the NHS in several areas being overwhelmed over the next 21 days. Although the NHS is under immense pressure, significant changes have been made so people can still receive lifesaving treatment. It is absolutely critical that people still come forward for emergency care. If you require non-urgent medical attention, please contact your GP or call NHS 111.

- Must go into national lockdown from midnight tonight
- Everyone instructed to stay at home expect for essential outings – medicine, exercise, safety, or if can't work from home
- Clinically vulnerable must start to shield again
- All schools and colleges must move to remote learning form tomorrow – sounded like until at least February half term

Chief Medical Officer for England, Professor Chris Whitty

Honalee and Robin spotted a frown cloud.

Seemed fitting, somehow.



2020 by William Shakespeare: So for anyone who is befuddled and wants to remember what happened this year (I don't know why you would, but life is a rich tapestry and to each their own), here is 2020 summed up in Shakespeare quotes. (Thanks to Aaron's dad for sending.)

When coronavirus first hit the news and the prevailing advice was “Just wash your hands”:

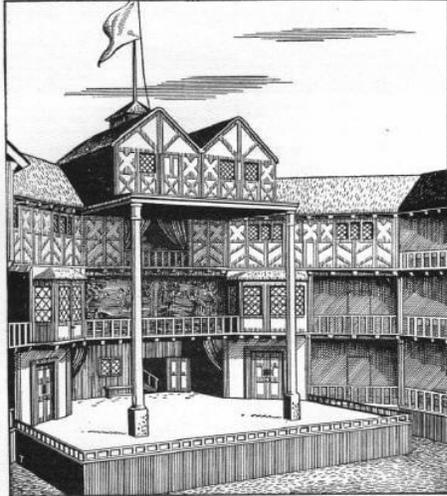
“Out, damned spot! out, I say!”
—*Macbeth*, Act 5, Scene 1

And when we realized it was an airborne virus:

“[All put on their masks.]”
—*Much Ado About Nothing*, Act 2, Scene 1

When Meghan Markle and Harry announced they were leaving the Royal Family on Instagram:

“[Exeunt Duchess.]”
—*Henry VI, Part II*, Act 2, Scene 3



The Stage of the Globe (drawn from the model made by Dr. J. C. Adams)

When countries started rolling out lockdown orders to flatten the curve:

“Hell itself breathes out
Contagion to this world.”
—*Hamlet*, Act 3, Scene 2

When Skype somehow lost the video call wars to Zoom despite having a decade-long head start:

“But how, but how?”
—*Antony and Cleopatra*, Act 1, Scene 2

When some people got to hunker down but others had to keep going to work:

“The nobles they are fled, the commoners they are in the cold.”
—*Richard II*, Act 2, Scene 2

When Prime Ministers and Presidents everywhere tested positive for coronavirus:

“They are infected; in their hearts it lies;
They have the plague.”
—*Love’s Labour’s Lost*, Act 5, Scene 2

When a variant of COVID-19 started popping up:

“Sure the gods do this year connive at us.”
—*The Winter’s Tale*, Act 4, Scene 4

When anyone asked “How are you?” at any point this year:

“So weary with disasters.”
—*Macbeth*, Act 3, Scene 2

How we’re feeling going into 2021:

“Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more.”
—*Henry V*, Act 3, Scene 2

THIS WEEK'S Science visualization, from 1 January 1995:



Science tip sent by Avshalom: You may find this article of interest: [A hitchhiker's guide to working with large, open-source neuroimaging datasets](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41562-020-01005-4)
<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41562-020-01005-4>

RESEARCH-PROJECT PROGRESS SINCE 21 Dec:

Jessica Agnew-Blais's paper is accepted by the *Journal of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*. Polygenic risk and the course of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder from childhood to young adulthood: Findings from a nationally-representative cohort. **Terrific news for the London E-Risk team!**

Dear Dr. Richmond-Rakerd, *PNAS* has scheduled publication of your article, "Childhood self-control forecasts the pace of midlife aging and preparedness for old age," for the week of January 4, 2021.

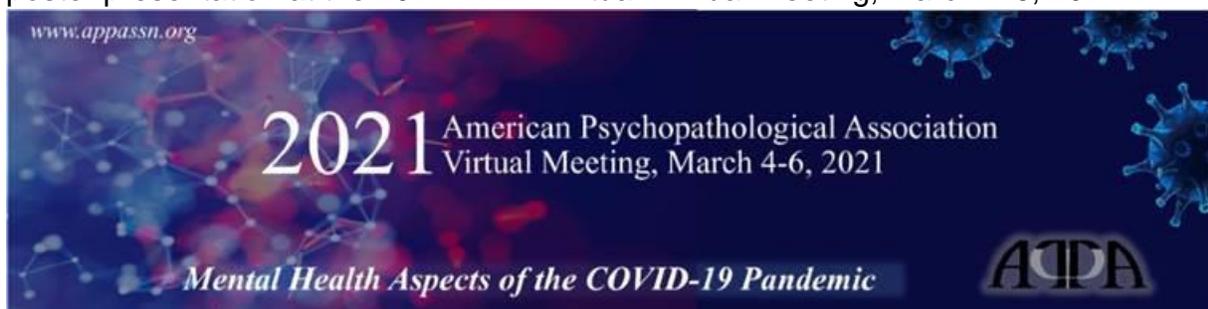
Leah woke up today to urgent entreaties from the UK media, her first incoming e-mail was from the **Daily Mail**.

Leah's video abstract for the age-at-first-birth polygenic score paper was in ACAMH's **top 5 most watched** for 2020.



Elliott and Knodt paper on fMRI reliability is **4th on altmetrics** scores in APS journals in 2020. <https://www.psychologicalscience.org/news/releases/breakthroughs-and-discoveries-in-psychological-science-2020-year-in-review.html> **Well done you two!**

Jasmin's abstract is accepted, "*Psychiatric Illness as a Risk Factor for Accelerated aging: Evidence from a Population-Representative Longitudinal Cohort Study*," for a poster presentation at the 2021 APPA Virtual Annual Meeting, March 4-6, 2021.



Line is working to try to set up a study on whether elevated suPAR is associated with future increased risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19-related outcomes in the Danish patient cohort and the Danish Blood Donor Study. First step is approval to add COVID19 information to the studies. **Wish her luck!**

Kyle's and Line's new paper is ready for mock review this week. "Linking Stressful Life Events and Chronic Inflammation Using Soluble Urokinase Plasminogen Activator Receptor (suPAR)"

Leah's flash talk was accepted by SRCD's biennial meeting. *Childhood Self-Control Forecasts the Pace of Midlife Aging and Preparedness for Old Age*



The Mighty Amaryllis race rounds the back-stretch! (record yours' growth and send pics, first one to flower wins)

Jasmin and Pete's. Off to a slow start.



But Iona is growing.



And a trip to the NC Mountains for Jasmin and co.....



Kyle and Alli's, super tall!



Aaron's & Jessalee's, sturdy, healthy, and very green.



Ben's and Karen's, one leafy, the other not. Why is that?



Susan's, modest but pert, and gaining!



Leah and Curt's, looking tropical despite the cold climate.



Temi's and Avshalom's. A double, kind of a weird bloom.



Renate's, incredibly tall! A giraffe!



Oscar's, Line's, Jens's (did these nice Danish people cheat?)



Emily, thanks for taking the photo while our three Danes flee to Denmark. Their flight could be viewed as an admission of guilt! Hmmm.....

Guess the story here....

a very unusual-looking chicken is dining away in Karen's coop.



Well, yum, that was a delightful snack.



thanks Ben!

Have a serene first week of 2021 everyone.



Dec 29 pic taken thru our telescope with an i-phone