# 2011 X.R.A.Y.

## Xmas Readiness Alternative surveY

### WHO I AM

• In case you all forgot my name, date of birth, country of origin, current address and any other relevant statistical details, here's what you need to know:

Larry Barton, August 11 1966. Currently residing at 125 Fuller Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506-1635, USA.

- The person who knows me better than most that can answer gift-giving questions about me: Roberta The best way to contact them is: email: <u>bertlvx@yahoo.com</u> or tel. 616.459.7390 (w)
- A few things I'd like everyone to know about me: my favorite pencil is the Pentel 0.5mm P205 (black)
- My favorites: food, clothing, shelter, music
- My least favorites: embarrassment, drawn-out social situations
- Due to stress/lack of stress/inactivity/activity/some combination of these, I'm currently wearing these sizes: L sweater, M shirts/turtleneck shirts, 30x32 pants
- To blow off steam, I like to: play video games, read, work on projects
- While surfing the internet, I tend to gravitate to these sites: bbc.co.uk, cnn.com, nationalgeographic.com, Pandora, aurgasm.us, thinkgeek.com, amazon.com, newegg.com, cnet.com, facebook
  What my surfing habits say about my personality: Case # 234505: Subject is unfocused.

### WHAT I DID THIS YEAR

- A few things that happened this year that I expected: weddings; funerals; ArtPrize; having a three-year old child around the house regularly
- A few things that happened this year that I didn't expect: broke a camera lens; unable to host a Halloween party; sang the national anthem at opening ceremonies of the Hispanic Festival
- In my travels this year, I made it as far as: Florida and Kentucky As a result, I learned to appreciate: a break from home every now and then
- Projects/repairs...
  ...I worked on this year: stripping wallpaper, repairing plaster, web site design/redesign/re-redesign
  ...I should have worked on: finishing more of what I started; figuring out how to dependably run a Linux server for the house
- My spare time was filled up with: friends, family, reading, games, writing, volunteering, seeking out new music to listen to

#### WHAT I EAT

- Foods I have to avoid because of distaste: sweet potatoes, ham, salmon, shellfish, liver
- Foods I can not only eat, but also enjoy: authentic Mexican; good Italian, Indian, Chinese. I am also partial to fair trade organic whole-bean dark roast coffee, licorice tea, apple cider
- I'd be really excited if someone made me homemade tamales, apple pie, cookies, salsa, spiced pears
- When I don't cook, I like these people/places to cook for me: Roberta, my housemate Lauren; or local places like Bombay Cuisine, Ming Ten, Olga's Kitchen

### WHAT I WANT

- As far as clothing and accessories go...
  ...I'd love to receive: black dress slacks, jeans-blue or black
  ...I don't need any more: decorative knick-knacks, socks
- I've read/watched/heard about these and would love have my own copy of: *Mirrormask* [DVD], *Pan's Labyrinth* [DVD], *Dogma* [DVD]; *X-Men First Class* [DVD]; *X3 The Last Stand* [DVD]; *Alice in Wonderland* (2010) [DVD], *Avatar* [DVD], *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus* [DVD, Soundtrack to *On Stranger Tides* [CD], Soundtrack to *Tron Legacy* [CD]; *Rough Guide to Trinidad & Tobago* [CD]; Soundtrack to *Constantine* [CD]
- Seeing the Christmas advertisements, a few items I'd like to own but would never buy myself are: anything with Aperture Science or Black Mesa logos on it; Adobe Dreamweaver CS5.5 for Windows (Hey, I'd even settle for CS 3 or 4)
- While at the local Goodwill/antique store/resale shop, I'm always on the lookout for: used CD's, DVD's

### THE FUTURE (REAL OR IMAGINARY)

• What I'm looking forward to in the future year: running a 5K race again; a cheap trip to Mexico and/or the Dominican Republic

• What I'm not looking forward to in the year to come: the job uncertainty that goes along with having your boss retire and having no influence on their replacement