

# 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: [Roberta Marie Elizabeth Lewis-Barton](#), 8/1/68, Earth, Earth, 53%, 18%, 72%.
- The person who knows me better than most that can answer gift-giving questions about me: [Larry](#)  
The best way to contact them is: [616-617-2694](#)
- A few things I'd like everyone to know about me: [I like socks. I like cats. I do not like cats in socks, especially while I'm trying to put them on.](#)
- A few things I don't want anyone to know about me. (*Ha. Trick question!*) I'm not taking this survey too seriously.
- My favorites: [Larry, sunsets, coffee, 7 Deadly Zins wine, Converse tennis shoes, honey, avocados, Sting](#)
- My least favorites: [rude/prejudiced/insensitive people, political advertisements & debates, cat barf.](#)
- Due to stress/lack of stress/inactivity/activity/some combination of these, I'm currently wearing these sizes: [Women's medium/large tops, size 8-10 pants, converse size 6.5 mens.](#)
- To blow off steam, I like to: [make up silly surveys for family members to answer, sleep, surf the internet, wine/whine with friends.](#)
- While surfing the internet, I tend to gravitate to these sites: [npr.org, facebook, joyofsocks.com, ebay.com, thinkgeek.com](#)  
What my surfing habits say about my personality: [I spend too much time being unproductive and lusting over geeky socks?](#)

### WHAT I DID THIS YEAR

- A few things that happened this year that I expected: [the home projects I didn't do last year look almost identical this year; my boss continued counting down his days until retirement \(which might mean I will be jobless come spring 2012\); time flew by far too quickly.](#)
- A few things that happened this year that I didn't expect: [A three year old and his mom moved in with us; I almost died in a car accident if not for those last 12 inches \(and the insurance company fixed my 11 year old car!\); not having a Halloween party for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row \(sigh – but having a three year old move in with you can have you rethink filling your house with candles and glass!\); and even after changing my diet – again – my body shape still resembles a bag of potatoes. Which I can't eat anymore.](#)
- In my travels this year, I made it as far as: [Florida to visit in-laws and my Aunt Ann; Louisville KY for a musicians' convention.](#)  
As a result, I learned to appreciate:  
[Florida: when your folks tell you that the spare bed they have is horrible, believe them and sleep on the floor. And that I do not appreciate hot humid weather and cannot figure out how anyone lives in it!](#)  
[KY: Bourbon. And that I still do not appreciate hot humid weather and cannot figure out how anyone lives in it!](#)
- This year my coworkers at St. Mary's..  
...have taught me how much I enjoy (and desire): [never having a dull moment. How many other jobs can go from playing a pipe organ to getting food from a food pantry to visiting someone dying in the hospital to looking up "where do cashews come from" on the computer for an 87 year old, to updating address information to answering the phone and getting to tell a telemarketer that no, he cannot speak to the owner of the business because that's God, all in the space of an afternoon?](#)  
...have taught me how much I dislike (and want no part of): [whining, complaining, talking about how "everyone" does \(fill in the blank\), and how sometimes I crave a job with less fractured-ness.](#)
- Projects/repairs...  
...I worked on this year: [stripping paint and wallpaper from the 2<sup>nd</sup> bedroom, planting and maintaining a garden,](#)  
...I should have worked on: [Everything else. I keep waiting for the Repair Fairy to show up but that hasn't happened.](#)
- My spare time was filled up with: [Working. Sleeping. Repeat. And trying to get my allergies under control by seeing a homeopath who has me on a diet to attempt to 'heal my gut' so I might be able to eat food like normal people again \(see below\).](#)

### WHAT I EAT

- Foods I have to avoid because of medication/distaste/diet: [Oh my...now I'm on a Simple Carbohydrate Diet \(look up GAPS diet to be disgusted\), so I'm not eating ANY grains, no sugars, no starches, no chocolate, and next to nothing processed or canned or with food colorings. Fermented foods and probiotics are in, and I am trying to introduce meat into my diet again, but as my Thanksgiving turkey-filled body is telling me right now – YECK. I'm also still allergic to tomatoes and wheat so those are really out.](#)

- Foods I can not only eat, but also enjoy: Avocados, honey, white navy beans (cooked), fish, coconut, coffee, eggs, hard cheese, nuts, homemade goat milk yogurt.
- I'd be really excited if someone made me homemade: food I can eat.
- I've now become obsessed with cooking/making/consuming the following food(s): uh, stuff on the GAPS diet.
- When I don't cook, I like these people/places to cook for me: My housemate Lauren is the best vegan/vegetarian/crazy diet chef in the world. So life isn't SOOOO bad. There are a few restaurants around my workplace (i.e. Little Mexico) that will actually cook to my strange diet, but otherwise, I eat a lot of salad with lemon squeezed on it. Our blender blew up recently since it doesn't like handling smoothie concoctions of raw egg, yogurt, fresh dates, honey, apple cider, nuts, and apples. Go figure! The ninja blender sounds amusing but \$99? Not!

## WHAT I WANT

- As far as clothing and accessories go...  
...I'd love to receive: earrings (post type); shoes; funky clothing; yoga pants; crazy shirts; socks; flannel sheets (hey – I wear them at night!!)  
...I don't need any more: clothing that accentuates my potato-ness.
- I've read/watched/heard about these books/movies that I would love have my own copy of: stuff on my amazon.com list – it keeps growing with stuff I hear about but never get to....
- While at the local Goodwill/antique store/resale shop, I'm always on the lookout for: odd clothing, old hymnals from different denominations, quirky Halloween things, stuff for other people.

## THE FUTURE (REAL OR IMAGINARY)

- What I'm looking forward to in the future year: changing jobs possibly, finally finishing some of these home projects, going back to Mexico.
- What I'm not looking forward to in the year to come: 2 out of the three things mentioned above. You guess which ones!
- Next year I plan to: not make up a survey for folks to answer. This is much tougher than the old one!