

## Re: Please public sh

### **Written spoken word from Brandeis Castle Banks Older Boys & Girls Zoom birthday party for Lila's 64<sup>th</sup> • Tuesday evening March 9 2021 •**



On Mar 5, 2021, at 10:36 AM, Benjamin Rubin wrote:

Greetings, fellow Brandeis Castle Banks Alumni!

Here is a picture of Lila Glogowsky, as we knew her Then, as the truly adorable 21-year-old, a Senior at Brandeis:



Lila Glogowsky

And here is an unretouched photo of Lila, as she is Now, as the still adorable, but wrinklier, 63-year-old Senior!



My, how we have all aged!

Well, its Lila's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday, and as agreed in December at the Zoom 64<sup>th</sup> BD party for the Banks St Ziggy Stardust, that calls for a CastleBanks Older Boys & Girls Zoom birthday party!

**Date: Tues. March 9, 2021**

**Time: 9 pm EST; 8 pm Chicago; 6:00 pm Pacific**

Lila has given us all an **Assignment**: prepare "a haiku, or short poem, (NOT about Lila), but about progressing through the years".

Lila also asks that we sing the Beatles' "When I'm 64". As we have learned, on Zoom it is NOT possible for everybody (even for two people) to sing at once. But in my new Zoom teleplay productions, we have come up with a fun workaround: everybody gets the words, each line is numbered, and every participant is assigned a line (or two), and then we sing sequentially. So I attach (below) the lyrics, with numbered lines. At the party, we will assign lines to sing for each of us, and sing it sequentially.

Finally, two of the best things about parties: 1. reconnect with old friends, 2. meet new friends. So Lila has added to our stalwart troupe a few more Brandesians. Welcome Fran Wagner and Erika and Sebastian Degens!

So RSVP s'il vous plais by "Reply all" so we know who can make it, and how many lines of our song we each will be singing!  
Benjy

*Benjamin Rubin is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting:*

**When I'm 64, (lyrics with numbered lines)**

- 1 When I get older losing my hair
- 2 Many years from now
- 3 Will you still be sending me a Valentine
- 4 Birthday greetings bottle of wine
- 5 If I'd been out till quarter to three
- 6 Would you lock the door
- 7 Will you still need me? will you still feed me?
- 8 When I'm sixty-four
- 9 You'll be older too
- 10 And if you say the word
- 11 I could stay with you
- 12 I could be handy, mending a fuse
- 13 When your lights have gone
- 14 You can knit a sweater by the fireside
- 15 Sunday mornings go for a ride
- 16 Doing the garden, digging the weeds
- 17 Who could ask for more
- 18 Will you still need me? will you still feed me?
- 19 When I'm sixty-four
- 20 Every summer we can rent a cottage
- 21 In the Isle of Wight, if it's not too dear
- 22 We shall scrimp and save
- 23 Grandchildren on your knee
- 24 Vera, Chuck and Dave
- 25 Send me a postcard, drop me a line
- 26 Stating point of view
- 27 Indicate precisely what you mean to say
- 28 Yours sincerely, wasting away
- 29 Give me your answer, fill in a form
- 30 Mine for evermore
- 31 Will you still need me? will you still feed me?
- 32 When I'm sixty-four



*On Mar 5, 2021, at 5:42 PM, Valerie Sonnenthal wrote:*

For Lila G. on her 64<sup>th</sup> blrThDaY

March 9, 2021

glad to know ya – vjrs

Chilmark, MV

Begotten Here

what is carried in the blood  
the dust of stars born loved  
innocent beget inquisitive  
stormy striver stunning lights  
getting through breathing  
still never understanding  
emptiness time until children  
no longer children you get  
to come back into your skin

enduring all so you can wake  
turn your face toward the sun  
and kiss each day begotten here



*On Wed, March 9, 2021, 10:22 PM, Judith Warschausky wrote:*

Haiku for Lila:

Looks fade, Wisdom grows  
Surgery on my toes!  
But love beats the woes.

Judith



*On Mar 9, 2021, at 10:34 PM, John Berke wrote:*

And another:

The kids have moved on,  
Empty house, Redecorate, Let go,  
Thinking what comes next.

John



*On Wed, Mar 10, 2021 at 12:39 AM Lila Glogowsky wrote:*

WhAt a fun get together.

I invite you to send yours please best bday present ever

Once dried they stay true  
they hold truths both old and new  
I like dead flowers

new home holds new friends?  
Replied my old mother then  
Friends are made when young

Can we still be friends  
Sharing no air wordless time  
But I knew you when

64 won't do  
Have you been experienced?  
New status symbol

The point of life seems  
To grow a face with ageing  
The funniest wins

Realized when composing these you sound like Yoda 🙄



*On Wed, Mar 10, 2021 at 7:55 AM sandye renz wrote:*

What a sweet and loving bunch.

Last time I saw you  
probably was the last time  
I wrote a haiku.

Phil should let everyone see his.

Off to get my mom her new status symbol.  
Love love love,  
sandye



*On Wed, March 10, 2021, 8:45:55 AM EST, William Battenwieser wrote:*

So much fun. Happy Birthday, Lila. Here's mine.

Bill

## T's

Eliminate Enmity  
Allocate Amity  
Erase Hannity  
Embrace Profanity  
Save the Manatee  
Preserve our Sanity



*On Wed, Mar 10, 2021 at 9:02 AM dan allan wrote:*

Bill I'd stepped away and missed yours. Very fun and clever! i might add...

Preserve humanity  
Enough inanity  
All is vanity.

Alas, mine was not haiku, and i hope i will not get too much of a deduction for it. Dedicated to the birthday girl:

## Spaciness

Spaciness: don't mind it, adore it  
We love her not in spite of, but for it

I must say, I was shocked to learn that some of Lila's spaciness was drug-related, which changes everything!



*On Wed, Mar 10, 2021 at 9:21 AM sandye renz wrote:*

Um, what drugs?

Are there going to be electric airplanes?  
xoxooxox  
sandye



*On Mar 10, 2021 7:12 AM PST, Lila Glogowsky wrote:*

These are great. Nice to wake up to. Keep them coming! Here's Phil's!

Domestic Bliss

Lila Glogowsky,  
Happy Birthday, Honey Pie.  
What time is dinner?  
Xoxo



*On Mar 10, 2021, at 11:07 AM, YON - Jan C. Hardenbergh wrote:*

Posternity, 2004

Bits rot; Paper goes Poof.

Etched titanium long preserves.

But only fresh copies approximate permanence

While I love you all dearly, I thought Sebastian won the jam.



*On Mar 10, 2021, at 11:41 AM, Erika Degens wrote:*

Such a fun zoom with you all!!!

Happy day of Lila.

An old gal in a yogic position

Found her legs were smack in her vision.

And to her surprise

The skin on her thighs

Was in need of a great circumcision!



*On Mar 10, 2021, at 2:03 PM, Benjamin Rubin wrote:*

I love the post-modern subject line: "Re: Please public sh".

Great title for our ad hoc collection of poetry.

Here's my lila64 haiku:

once spring; still winter;

sun body, wind breath, leaves mind:

sap, thoughts, feelings, arise



*On Mar 10, 2021, at 11:56 AM, Sebastian Degens wrote:*

Fun evening, Happy Birthday.

Thanks Ben for hosting and nice to chat.

Here's what I was madly editing while on the call-

On Time-

In my mind, Time is gregarious and full of promise.

But Time is a false friend,  
a betrayer, hiding when it's needed most.

Time is a coward,  
running out just when there's a creative deadline.  
Time is stronger than memories, and scars over.  
Time flows so steadily,  
but not enough to slake this thirst.

stay safe  
Sebastian



On Mar 10, 2021, at 3:27 PM, Carrie Thaler wrote:

First, thank you all for a wonderful evening! An invigorating pick me up – and - the variety of approaches to the poem “assignment” was fascinating and enjoyable, you are all so talented!

A true pleasure.

Second, thank you all for being so patient and helpful while I figured out that the “old way” of joining a Zoom party no longer worked and I had to adjust and FAST!

Third, thank you to Lila and Roger for the poster – I had completely forgotten about that, Roger, despite having seen it often at Brandeis – you were gorgeous then, and still are, now! (hopefully, now that you are a very big boy, you can cry again, ha ha).

Fourth, why am I counting my thoughts?

Fifth, I have attached my poem below, and I’m sorry it is neither short nor a haiku, but I did my best... it is about friendship and going through the years, as requested, and for anyone interested I will note that the “threat of the sarcastic fringehead” is a real thing, the sarcastic fringehead is a fish that lives off the coast of CA and Baja and the males apparently are very aggressive with their wide opening mouths; also I will note that “our sustainable chain reaction” refers to that phenomenon we spoke of last night, where we feel like we are just picking up where things left off, despite the passage of time.

Sixth, I’m sure I have more thoughts, but I’ll sign off for now, after saying: stay your gorgeous selves, everyone!

Carrie

It takes two and a half days to shake off the city  
Keeping watch on what?  
In charge of the wind, I gave it my all.

No resistance to the experience,  
Safe to go there.  
Definitely, not knowing when to stop!  
An intense registering.

The threat of the sarcastic fringehead no match for  
A sudden awareness  
An expression of something I cannot resist  
Our sustainable chain reaction

Then, dozing dreamlets in the place where words fail.

A quieter protest, than even yesterday.  
I feel strangely encouraged even as thoughts perish.

We've lost sight, we've lost sound  
If there's a fight we're losing ground

So many ways to say it  
None will matter, later.

Pain is krypton to the Funk  
And baby, is the backyard still there?

Love to you all,  
until the next time,  
Carrie



*On Thu, Mar 11, 2021 at 10:29 AM Benjamin Rubin wrote:*

First of all, Carrie, thanks for counting your thoughts! Secondly, I see it as a version of counting your blessings, so it's all good. Plus thirdly, it helped me with navigation, as my short term memory begins to fade, and I find myself, at the end of an email, not 100% sure where I started. But, fourthly, as somebody pointed out in our birthday call, for many, as our short term memory weakens, our long term memories dafka strengthen.

Finally, I also wanted to share the quote from Jacques Barzun that on our zoom call I was struggling to remember. It is actually embedded in the intro to my Zoom teleplay Freshman Spring 1976, (which is all about long term memories of our Golden Age of Brandeis University in early adulthood...):

"*Freshman Spring 1976* is ABOUT learning on the job. Learning how to make a life; how to make sense of our life, which we ALL do by learning on-the-job. As Jacques Barzun says, **life "is an action to be performed, without rehearsal or respite; a confused spectacle to be sorted out and charted.. a mystery, not to be solved, but to be restated according to some vision, however imperfect..."** When it comes to living, we are all "*learning on the job*"..."



*On Mar 11, 2021, at 11:48 AM, YON - Jan C. Hardenbergh wrote:*

> Quesque ce le veur dir? " our long term memories dafka strengthen. "

>

> Jacques is brave and/or manic! I need respite from time to time. And I get it.

>

> YON [www.jch.com](http://www.jch.com) <> Know thyself

>> *On Mar 11, 2021, at 10:29, Benjamin Rubin wrote:*

>> our long term memories dafka strengthen.



*On Thursday, March 11, 2021, 1:16:26 PM EST, Benjamin Rubin wrote:*

Though we can't remember the name of the person we met last week, "our long term memories ACTUALLY, IRONICALLY strengthen".

And we remember clearly just how the crows cawed at dawn on Prospect Hill, even though they cawed 40 years ago



*On Mar 11, 2021, at 10:45 PM, dan allan wrote:*

Well, I decided my little rhyming couplet was incomplete, so here is the full exposition.

### **Ode To Spaciness**

(In Lila's Honor)

Here's to all who seem confused  
Lost in a dream, or vaguely amused  
As by a concept they never quite get  
Always wondering, always beset  
With doubt about  
What was and will be  
And what the rest of us see

A song of praise  
For their spacey ways  
For those who think deep  
And live out their lives  
In the faraway mist  
Between wake and sleep  
Thinking in poems  
Or studying Greek  
Yet never quite sure  
Of the day of the week

There will always be those  
Who blame it on something  
That went up their nose  
And seized up the brain  
And turned a dull rain  
Into magical snows

But really it's just  
The manifestation  
Of a deep lust  
For deep contemplation  
Is it genius?  
Or just masturbation?

(Of course here we speak  
Of the mental variety  
Fit for our Brandeis Alumniety)

And so we must  
All bow prostrate  
Before those who live  
That mystical state  
Marvel, admire and adore it  
We love you not in spite of, but for it



*On Fri, Mar 12, 2021 at 8:03 AM Benjamin Rubin wrote:*

Absolutely love it! My own private New Yorker called this poetic exposition “an Elizabethan-category-7 love sonnet by a 21st century Shakespeare”. And that was from the BAD part of the review!



*On Mar 12, 2021, at 9:35 AM, sandye renz wrote:*

Now do the Anthony Lane review of the Zoom please.  
sandye



*On Mar 12, 2021, at 8:11 AM, John Berke wrote:*

Dan: great poem. Love the rhythm and the word play. If they gave out poetic licenses you would have earned it with variety and Alumniety.  
John



*On Mar 12, 2021, at 12:51 PM, Lila Glogowsky wrote:*

Dan, after all is a professional.  
And I'm beginning to resent a lovely meditation on space cadets being inspired (?) by me. To those who knew me well back then (I'm talking to you to Dan), was I really that bad?  
Those with whom I shared a spliff or two on a nightly basis are disqualified from adding their two cents!  
Im trying to find how to add an emoji to emails but can't figure it out. Not because I am spacey  
Signing off with the wink face emoji. And the hearts thing



*On Mar 12, 2021, at 12:22 PM, dan allan wrote:*

Well, on a semi-serious note, Lila was one of my closest friends back then (and, not uncoincidentally, one of my only friends), and truly not so terribly spacey, but a birthday toasting is not complete without a little roasting.

Although Lila, if you can't find an emoji, may i suggest the old-fashioned colon and close-parenthesis? Like this: :).





On Friday, March 12, 2021, 12:12:50 PM EST, Benjamin Rubin wrote:

Even back Then, decades before emojis were invented, Lila was very strong in both wink face and hearts thing



On Mar 12, 2021, at 10:59 AM, William Bittenwieser wrote:

I'd like to point out that I **am** a New Yorker. Conceived of and put on the drawing board in either San Francisco or Maui, where the designers were on honeymoon. But manufactured and delivered in Manhattan. Oh, now I'm getting cocktails and automobiles conflated. And we know we don't mix drinking and driving.

And...do I understand this correctly? Is the car in that picture the same vintage as the ::::::::::s of those of us celebrating WIM64 this year?

If you're really abstract, might :: be a reasonable representation of our colons? If you can imagine it being – what? – six feet long, three dimensional, bendy, stuffed inside our abdomens, and adept at peristalsis.

Even though I should be disqualified, *per* Lila's spliff test, I'd would like to chime in to note that I was stoned pretty much every day during my teens and early twenties. And look where it got me: A marvelous career spent, literally, with my head in the clouds.



On Friday, March 12, 2021, 2:58:19 PM EST, Lila Glogowsky wrote:

If I may, you over simplify. Without being totally graphic, and As a wanna be doctor, the upper and lower colon are two distinct entities with different functions and uses.

Depending on your perspective.

I for one am Bronx born and bred. Before Yonkers - that is

Conceived at a bungalow colony in the Catskills.

Though I wouldn't mind having been conceived in that car.

Nice to be 57 yo.



On Fri, Mar 12, 2021 at 5:05 PM dan allan wrote:

How sad that we're now in our 60s and riffing on colons. Do you realize what this means? It means, in forty years, our conversation has moved about four inches, anatomically-speaking.

Lila you are so right, that emoji what not the one you'd mentioned in your email. You see? You may not be a space-case anymore, but i'm still a fuck-up who cannot read an entire paragraph and get the correct meaning from it.



*On Mar 12, 2021, at 2:19 PM, Fran Wagner wrote:*

A space case and a fuck-up walk into a bar.

And the bartender says...

It's COVID! What the fuck are you doing in a bar?

Hard to believe I didn't know y'all better. I have plenty of vivid Brandeis memories--- mostly of the people I lived with, followed by those I slept with, and even of the people who slept with the people I lived with. Somehow, many of you lovely people escaped that ven diagram.

Fran



*On Mar 12, 2021, at 4:51 PM, Lila Glogowsky wrote:*

You are too funny 😂😂😂

All of you. Fran and Alison make me laugh on a regular basis. All the additional laughs today were great!!

From my iPhone that has emojis



*On Mar 12, 2021, at 20:21, Lila Glogowsky wrote:*

Why did the chicken cross the road?

To socially distance!

Sent from my iPhone



*On Mar 12, 2021, at 9:01 PM, YON - Jan C. Hardenbergh wrote:*

That joke has legs.

If anyone want to edit the “please public! sh...” I could add a Castle page off of [jch.com/jch/BanksSt/](http://jch.com/jch/BanksSt/)

*On March 13, 2021, 2:42 PM EST, Benjamin Rubin wrote:*

Done!

The foregoing is the edited moving-forward-thru-time version of:

**Please public sh**