

Dear friends,

As an official “grown-up” (I use the term loosely), I decided to write a Christmas letter this year. I hope it finds you and your friends and family well and happy!

This was a big year for me because (drumroll please) I graduated from Northwestern University! When all was said and done, I graduated with a double major in Psychology and Film, summa cum laude, with departmental honors in Psychology and departmental distinction in Film. Sorry, had to brag just a teensy bit (but I’m done now).

My psychology thesis was about objectified body talk and whether it’s contagious (results suggest it is). I presented posters at national psychology conventions in Chicago and Washington DC, along with some of my fellow BAM Labmates. I had a blast being nerdy around other nerds and visiting the DC Zoo for some slightly less intellectual fun.

Spring came faster than I could have imagined and I spent lots of time out by the lake practicing my photography skills with one of my best (and most patient) friends.

I snuck away for a week to meet my parents and our dear friend Pamela in New York before heading back to Chicago to start a summer internship.

Emmi Solutions is a healthcare company that creates patient engagement videos that take scary doctor-speak and turn it into plain language that’s easy to understand. The internship turned into a contract and, as of December 1st, that contract officially turned into a full-time job.

Emmi is an amazing place to work. It’s the dream job I didn’t even know I wanted till I found them. I get paid to learn about surgeries and health conditions, talk to doctors and nurses, and write educational screenplays about them. What could be cooler than that?

Well, actually our high-ceilinged office, complete with comfy couches and a foosball table, might be cooler. Also, the production department does awesome things like Fancy Day and takes field trips to fun things in Chicago (this year we went to the horse races... I lost \$2).

My life right now is pretty awesome. I live in Evanston and commute into Chicago everyday. Tuesday Night Dinners are going strong and every week or so I host 8-10 people for cooking, dinner, and conversation.

I hope 2013 was a great year for you too and that 2014 is even better!

Much love,

Dani

