

Monday, 21 December 2020 – the Winter Solstice

My very dear Sophia,

I think about you all the time. But I was especially reminded of you last week. I was watching a movie called ***This is 40*** and it featured an actress named Iris Apatow. She's the youngest daughter of the movie's director. In the movie, she's about seven years old. You were six years old the last time I saw you. The actress Iris looks a bit like you did back then. And she has a very silly sense of humor. I know you're not 6 or 7 anymore, but it's how I remember you. There's a video clip on YouTube all about Iris. You can link to it from here: <http://sobe.black.blue> I've watched it about 20 times already.

What's more, her older sister is in the movie, too. Their characters play sisters who are always fighting and arguing, sometimes over ridiculous issues. It really reminds me of you and Morey.

I'm sorry you're growing up without a father. It wasn't my plan for you. Please know that you have a father who loves you and misses you.

I don't live in the USA anymore. But you're always welcome to visit me. I've always volunteered to pay for your passport and airline tickets. It would be nice to meet some place warm and sandy when it's cold and snowy in Virginia. This damn COVID thing has really screwed everything up for me. About a year ago, I got a new job traveling around and install new surveillance software. But I started just as countries closed their borders and the airlines stopped flying because of COVID. I never got to travel, not even once.

When COVID is over in 2021 – God willing – I would love to see you. If you don't want to fly all the way to the Gulf States, I wouldn't blame you. It's a long flight. But there's Mexico; you could fly there in just a few hours. Mexico City is quite lovely; the food is amazing. I was there several times in 2018 and 2019. There's the Dutch Antilles. Saint Martin is one of the Dutch Antilles. You can fly there from Lynchburg in just a few hours. Google "Saint Martin" and look at the photos. It's beautiful.

I'll meet you anywhere. I can't wait to see you again. There's no life in my life without you.

I'm sending you an Amazon Gift Card because I really don't know what else to send you. I don't know what you like anymore. You liked Olive Garden when you were a kid, so I used to send Olive Garden gift cards. But I don't know anymore. Your Amazon Wish List is very old; I still look at it sometimes for ideas about what to get you.

Did you get the photos I sent you last year? I sent you 25 photos. I don't want you to forget me. I'll post them in case you don't have them. <http://sobe.black.blue/photos>

I'll be spending my Christmas feeling wistful on a warm beach. I'll be alone, but thinking of you. I hope you have a very Happy Christmas. Maybe next year you'll be here, kid. Do you use Zoom on your computer? I have a Zoom account. Let me know. Love you always.

Dad