



Love and Freindship

An archive of The Republic of Pemberley's Response to the events of 9/11

Ramble - Countries Represented List

This list captures the countries of those who posted at Ramble in the wake of the tragedies in NYC and DC on the 11th of September.

Argentina
Australia
Austria
Belgium
Canada
Bulgaria
Denmark
England
Finland
France
Germany
Ireland
Italy
Holland
Israel
Korea
Malta
Mexico
New Zealand
Norway
Slovenia
Southeast Asia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
United States

NYC people, check in with us, please?

DavidL

September 11, 2001 08:27AM

Here in the newsroom we are watching CNN in horror as they replay the footage of the second plane crashing into the World Trade Center.

Do any members of our virtual community live or work in the vicinity? Please let us know you're all right. Thoughts and prayers for everyone on the scene. ...

Yes please! Nfm

AnneM

September 11, 2001 08:28AM

I am in complete shock

Sally G

September 11, 2001 10:23AM

My thoughts are with you all, we in UK just cannot believe what is going on. Words can't express the horror, the shock I feel. Sympathies to all concerned. Keep us updated on how everyone is PLEASE.

Thoughts from Copenhagen

Annette M

September 12, 2001 05:59AM

Though not a member of Your wonderful community, I have been lurking on and off for the last four Years getting an immense deal of pleasure from following the different discussions here.

But in a situation like this I simply have to share my thoughts with all of You, who I seem to have become so familiar with during these years.

Since I heard the dreadful news yesterday, I have been in a complete state of shock as have all other people, I have been talking to here in the centre of Copenhagen, Denmark.

A mixture of horror and disbelief has overwhelmed me, and I haven't been able to sleep - I keep seeing those wretched people throwing themselves out of the windows in panic. How any human being is capable of such atrocities is beyond comprehension.

In Copenhagen people gathered round the American embassy last night bringing flowers and lighting candles. At night the churches were filled with people trying to understand, what had happened.

Though I am happy for those, who are safe, my thoughts are with the many, who have lost a loved one.

I know this may be a bit long, but I had to share my thoughts with You - maybe also in order to keep my own sanity.

The world will never be the same.

Hoping You are all well

Thanks for your message
Mary-L
September 13, 2001 11:18PM

Annette M: You are so kind to send your thoughts in this terrible time. It is a source of comfort to know so many around the world are grieving with those of us here who have suffered losses. Thank God, all my family and close friends are safe, but my heart aches so much for those whose loved ones are missing.
Thanks so much.. and I hope you speak up again in the future, now that you are no longer a full-time lurker! Mary

I know one at least.....
JulieW
September 11, 2001 09:00AM

and speaking as someone who has lived with these terrors in London, I hope everyone is OK.
I can only second your request, David.

NYC Resident
Clarissa
September 11, 2001 09:11AM

I am fine and I hope everyone else here is okay, not to mention anyone who might be in or near the Pentagon.
My dad was looking out the window and saw the explosion caused by the second plane crash, but fortunately he and my mom are far enough away to be okay.
Very scary!
Clarissa

Both World Trade Towers have collapsed !!!!
Linda
September 11, 2001 09:30AM

Glad you and yours are okay, Clarissa. But
Oh MY GOD!!

Dreadful news
Kristin T
September 11, 2001 09:38AM

I was terrified when my brother called and told me what had happened! I don't know what to say, but my thoughts and prayers are with all the concerned.

Nan, Golda, JenK, everyone--please--just say you're still here. (nfm)
Laraine
September 11, 2001 09:08AM

It will take a while

DavidL

September 11, 2001 09:19AM

It sounds from the news reports as if NYC is at a complete standstill; subways have stopped, phone lines jammed, cable out, etc. Let's hope and pray that all our friends are OK, but assuming that they are, I suspect that getting online will not be at the top of their priority list. It may take days for the whole thing to shake out.

I'm here

Nan

September 11, 2001 09:26AM

and I simply can't believe what I'm seeing. All of lower Manhattan is covered in a cloud of smoke. Fortunately, my brother called to alert me to the situation before I left for work. My office is in Greenwich Village...far enough away I suppose, but I'm still grateful to be home.

Thanks for the concern...and thanks to Myretta for talking me into getting the cable modem. It's very hard to get calls in or out right now.

Thank, God!! One less to worry about (nfm)

Linda

September 11, 2001 09:32AM

Oh dearest Nan! No words come to mind. nfm

Ann2

September 11, 2001 09:55AM

Thank God, Thank God Nan and Golda

Deborah Jane

September 11, 2001 10:07AM

I'm in Vancouver. People are beyond shocked. Crying and sobbing in the hallways, physically ill. We are all praying for you, holding you close in our hearts.

Nan

Laraine

September 11, 2001 10:28AM

I have only prayers of gratitude to know that you're safe. Thanks so much for letting us know. I love you more than I can express right now.

YES
Barbara
September 11, 2001 11:14AM

Small mercies when something of this magnitude has happened, and this cannot help but touch some people in our virtual community, but I'm SOOO relieved you are safe, Nan!

Nan, so glad to know you are safe!
Renate
September 11, 2001 10:44AM

This is beyond words. My thoughts are with the poor innocent victims and their families and friends. I send my heartfelt condolences from Germany to America: Take care all of you.

Thank goodness for the cable modem.
Julie P.
September 11, 2001 09:38PM

I only just got mine 2 weeks ago. If I didn't have it, I wouldn't have been able to let friends from around the world know I was alright because phone service is touch and go right now.

Checking In
Golda
September 11, 2001 09:38AM

I rotate between working in NYC and New Jersey so I am safe. I saw the fire in one tower of the World Trade as I drove on the NJ Turnpike, a highway that is somewhat parallel to NYC. It was ghastly, and then as I drove westward I heard about the second plane. I can't imagine the number of people who have died this morning, and the additional deaths to come. I keep writing awful thoughts and then erasing them. I'll leave it all to your own imagination until I can compose myself. There are all sorts of evil thoughts running through my head, many of them political and so censored here.

{{{Golda}}} nfm
Ann2
September 11, 2001 10:10AM

Honey--thanks for letting us know
Laraine
September 11, 2001 10:26AM

I've been sick with worry. Thanks for checking with us, knowing that we would be worried.
Love to you!

Golda!
BarbaraK
September 11, 2001 10:51AM

After our conversation last week I thought of you immediatly!
Thank goddess!

Golda, so glad you're O.K.
Lea
September 11, 2001 10:53AM

Hi Golda,
It's Lea from Kentucky. So glad you're O.K. I don't visit
Pemberley much these days, but just came over here today to see
if you had checked in. My thoughts and prayers are with you
and everyone in the New York Area. May God be with us all.
Take Care, Lea

So GLAD to know you and others are safe.
Clare
September 11, 2001 10:58AM

Praying for all involved and hoping for the best for all our country and the
world. Our lives have changed forever. I'm sure this is what it felt like at Pearl
Harbor.
Golda, I have also had to censor my thoughts. It's hard to believe that such evil
exists in the world.

SO relieved to hear this
Barbara
September 11, 2001 11:10AM

I have, like so many others, been feeling physically ill about this since I heard,
and worrying about you and others in NYC, Golda. So relieved you are safe.
I will echo others--all NYC Pemberleans, please let us know if you are safe as
soon as you can.
Not much else to do but pray today :-(

Golda, I'm so glad to hear you're ok. (nfm)
Elizabeth Rose
September 11, 2001 11:40AM

Golda
Karen G.
September 11, 2001 12:58PM

I thought of you immediately and was in such shock when I heard the news on
the radio on the drive to work this morning...SO GLAD to hear your safe, and I

haven't read everyone else who's checked in, like Julie P and Jen K (saw that Sansanee is okay, thank God...) It's unbelievable, and as Clare says, I can imagine this is a little like what people felt when Pearl Harbor was bombed, yet this single day of carnage is so much more devastating even - considering how many lives have been lost. My prayers are with all those who have lost - and that is really everyone, but particularly those who have lost loved ones. There are quite a few here in San Francisco area, since one of the planes had been scheduled to land here. I love NYC. Unbelievable. Hard to reconcile anything at this point. But we mustn't lose our heads.

Thank God you are okay....

JennieC

September 11, 2001 09:40PM

Karen, you are the last of five friends from Manhattan that I have worried about and prayed about today. I am so glad you are safe. Thank you for posting.
JennieC

Words cannot express

Linnea A

September 11, 2001 09:13AM

...my horror at this. There just aren't words for it.

Our erratic news reports -- I have only the Net to rely on for news right now -- say Washington is also being targetted. DebraR and other Washingtonians, please say you are still there.

-Linn

Same here

Sabine

September 11, 2001 09:19AM

Just heard it on the radio an hour ago, I went dead cold and called my workmate immediately. My heartfelt sympathies to all the families and friends of the victims. I agree, Linnea, there just aren't words.

My sympathy and prayers for everyone...

Ulrike

September 11, 2001 10:01AM

I was just doing some work at home and switched on the TV to take a short break - now I'm sitting here, shaking, and nearly crying...

I'm at a complete loss of words right now, which does not happen too often. Let me just tell you that my thoughts and prayers are with everyone over there.

Ulli

Ditto, I endorse all prayers and concerns too. NFM
Ian
September 11, 2001 10:05AM

And mine
Katarina
September 11, 2001 10:10AM

Not much else to be said. I'm appalled and shaken. This is a sad sad day.
Dear US Pemberleians, you are in my thoughts.
Katarina

Thinking of you
Fiona Jean
September 11, 2001 02:02PM

What a terrible thing to happen
Thinking of you all and hoping you are safe.

So are mine...
Ursula
September 11, 2001 11:41AM

I am watching TV constantly after I've heard about it and really hope to
God that all fellow Pemberlians are okay.
The scenes are plain horrible. We are all with you, America!

Have to say...
Katrinal
September 11, 2001 11:20AM

...that I just managed to put the computer on and come by - I had this irrational fear
that even Pemberley would be gone. Thank God it isn't!! Golda, Nan - thank God you're
OK!! I hope all of you in the horror struck areas are safe! It's impossible to understand
but so terribly real on the same time. My thoughts and support can't be expressed
orderly. My heart goes out to you - to us all. Someone said on TV: the world can never
be the same after this. Well, what ever comes out of it all you are in my prayers, dear
friends!
~Katrinal

Still in shock...
Linda Fern
September 11, 2001 11:33AM

...but so far my friends and family are okay. I can't get through to New Jersey,
but my prayers are with everyone. Thank you and all our friends in this caring

Republic.

There are no words

Nathalie

September 11, 2001 12:15PM

It's an absolute horror. My thoughts are with you all.

Nathalie

Communication difficulties?

Beth H Shaffer

September 11, 2001 09:20AM

I am also listening in to the news and my prayers go out to all those in and around the area, both from RoP and otherwise. It may be a while before we hear from those citizens in the area, as there may be some difficulty in their getting on the Internet or phone lines. All the same, let me echo DavidL's request that New Yorkers and Washingtonians check in with us as soon as they can. We will be thinking of you!

I came to the Ramble board for the same reason

Lisa Dalrymple

September 11, 2001 09:29AM

We just watched one of the buildings collapse. It's incomprehensible that this could happen - WHY?

My husband tried to call his Dad outside Washington DC but all the phone circuits are out. I was actually going to post this morning about the beautiful rainbows I saw on my way to work when I heard the news - what a day.

Feeling physically ill.

Narelle

September 11, 2001 09:34AM

My thoughts and prayers are with all Americans today.

Minneapolis

Louisa P

September 11, 2001 10:33AM

Has closed the federal court buildings, the airport, the IDS Center and the Mall of America. This is surreal.

Sacramento closed as well.

Candace

September 11, 2001 10:27AM

I work in the shadow of the state capital. We have been told to stay home until further notice as the whole area has been closed down.

Thank God
Laraine
September 11, 2001 10:30AM

You are safe and sound as well. Stay safe.

Not just that...
Jennifer Louise
September 11, 2001 10:38AM

I work at the U of MN and they've evacuated our student center. There are students milling around outside trying to figure out where to go. People are coming up to us and asking us if classes have been canceled and I don't even really know what to tell them. It's a very strange day. I feel like I just want to go somewhere and weep for my country and my leaders. I guess I can only pray - very feverishly.

Washington DC... closing down
Alice
September 11, 2001 10:22AM

I just moved here... been in my house for a week... I can't believe this is happening!!!
My husband works for ExxonMobil, the head office is about 30minutes outside DC...they are closing down and sending everyone home.

Los Angeles
Elysha
September 11, 2001 10:39AM

My father works for The Aerospace Corporation in Los Angeles, and they are also closing down and sending everyone home. He says everyone in the government-related buildings are being closed down.

It's so eerie
NancyK
September 11, 2001 12:45PM

I live approximately 1/2 mile from Los Angeles International Airport. As no air traffic is coming in or going out of the airport, it's the quietest day I've ever experienced in my neighborhood. Except for the sound of sirens which have been almost constant since about 8:00 a.m. P.D.T. I think that many emergency teams are on tactical alert and are doing drills; several road intersections are closed.

If it's like this in L.A., imagine this exponentially across the U.S.
My heart goes out to all those families who have experienced such loss today.
It's such a profound tragedy.

**Boeing in El Segundo shut down
Glenn
September 11, 2001 10:48PM**

I reported to work today but was sent home in the morning. Los Angeles Air Force base (right next to Aerospace Corporation) had bright orange concrete anti-terrorist barriers set up at all entrances. As with all other US military facilities, they were at Threatcon Delta.

**Seattle
Ree
September 11, 2001 11:03AM**

Our tallest high-rise has been closed and evacuated, and I believe the Seattle Center and all attractions have been closed as well. My fiancé is in L.A., within sight of LAX. I am nervous, but thank God that he travelled yesterday.

**San Francisco
Karen G.
September 11, 2001 01:14PM**

All major buildings in SF are closed, the schools are closed, and no pedestrian traffic on the bridges allowed, but the bridges are still open. One of the suppliers I work with today is closing at noon, and they have nothing to do with the government - it's just the immensity of it all.

**Also, DC people, please check in too
Suzanne Morse
September 11, 2001 10:22AM**

Lindy, Debra, Erin M., Vero (I believe). Who else is in DC, and whoever is there, please check in.

**Chat?
Candace
September 11, 2001 10:35AM**

I'm in chat if anyone feels the need to talk.

**NYC and DC citizens-all my prayers,
Vicki I.
September 11, 2001 10:35AM**

all my thoughts and all my hopes. Please check in when and if you can. Love, Vicki I.

**my prayers are with all involved NFM
annemarieb
September 11, 2001 10:39AM**

Shock

Lou

September 11, 2001 10:46AM

I am in shock.

Our Pemberley friend NancyC in downtown Atlanta has been evacuated from her high rise office. I was happy to know that she is home.

I am in shock.

I'm terrified...

BarbaraK

September 11, 2001 10:50AM

For everyone there, all over the country in fact, who may or may not be part of our communitiy. Are you all o.k.

It feels like the whole world is ending doesn't it?! NFM

BarbaraK

September 11, 2001 10:52AM

Yes, it's frightening and sickening (nfm)

Rachel Marie

September 11, 2001 10:55AM

A prayer...

Ree

September 11, 2001 10:56AM

Lord, protect and save us. Hold these victims and their families in the palm of Your hand. Guide us as we respond to this tragedy and help us to protect our nation while preserving our essential freedoms. Amen.

Amen (nfm)

Barbara Anne

September 11, 2001 11:01AM

Amen

Elsbeth

September 11, 2001 11:17AM

And be with all the families and with our nation!

Amen (nfm)

Vicki I.

September 11, 2001 11:26AM

kimikimi
September 11, 2001 11:49AM

Emilie Marie
September 11, 2001 11:55AM

Amen
Heather Marie
September 11, 2001 12:23PM

It's comforting to come to the RoP and hear all these words of comfort and concern.
God bless you all! My heart and prayers go out out to you.

Amen nfm
PeggyS
September 11, 2001 12:26PM

Katharine Meg
September 11, 2001 12:32PM

Amen...and thank you. nfm.
Michele S.
September 11, 2001 01:19PM

Amen (NFM)
Buba
September 11, 2001 01:40PM

Reid
September 11, 2001 04:16PM

Jessica Boling
September 11, 2001 09:51PM

Katrina P
September 12, 2001 01:32AM

J. Eleanor
September 12, 2001 07:29PM

a horrible day...
Kristen G.
September 11, 2001 11:05AM

What a thing to wake up to! (on west coast time). My prayers with all who are involved - Who would have thought something like this could happen?? I'm seeing pictures on the news and it's horrible!

No longer...

Rachel Marie

September 11, 2001 11:13AM

will The Oklahoma City bombing be called "the largest terrorist attack on U.S. soil."
Oh, my God.

This is horrible!

Tarja

September 11, 2001 11:14AM

I met a friend of mine after work a few hours ago and when he told me the new at first I just couldn't believe my ears. I'm in completely shock about this. Now that I'm home I'm constantly listening to the news from BBCWorld and checking the net to see that everyone at Pemberley or Dregston is ok.
Tarja

Trying to stay calm

Barbara Lynn

September 11, 2001 11:24AM

While I am far from the attacks, this is still terrifying as one thinks about all of those who are immediately affected or worrying about loved ones. It is terrifying also because we don't know what will happen next. My thoughts and prayers go out to everyone affected.

Manhattan College

Allison

September 11, 2001 11:48AM

I go to and live at manhattan college in the bronx. The campus is quiet and we are on lockdown. i am very afraid but my prayers get me through. Even the bronx around here is a mess.

Stay safe

Laraine

September 11, 2001 12:19PM

This is so shocking to those of us far away, it's hard to imagine what you're living through. A huge part of your country is praying for you.

Another checking in

Sansanee

September 11, 2001 12:06PM

Ok here. Normally I work in Manhattan but I just left my job. My work actually took me to the Financial District and I've actually had to go into the WTC. However, I'm going to school right now and I had class in the city today, but not till this evening, though not as far downtown as the WTC. Obviously I'm neither willing nor able to go into the city right now.
I went with my fiancé to his school so I could use their computer lab to work on some

homework. My sister in Atlanta called before I left the house to tell us what had happened. We had to turn on the television before we'd believe her.

On the way to school the radio relayed worse and worse news. Got to school, and everyone was huddled around the TV in the grad lounge.

What words would be enough for this?

Everyone please pray and send good thoughts for our city here.

I'm so glad to hear you're safe, Sansanee! (nfm)

Rachel Marie

September 11, 2001 12:34PM

Thank God, you're safe! Thanks for checking in (nfm)

Linda

September 11, 2001 12:40PM

What a day! And it's only 1:40 pm.

Jezkalyn

September 11, 2001 12:38PM

I have been in NJ, but I got a good look at it to and from work. Hubby works on Ellis Island and tried to get in. He was met by a heavily armed guard asking him brusly, Who are you? Pat said, I work here. The guard replied, No one works here to day. He was meant to be there, because on the way back out he gave a lift to a jogging Weehawken (NJ) fireman called to duty.

We are stunned, but home with each other. We are trying to think of what we can do to help.

We are going to give blood and urge anyone in the area to call their local Red Cross Chapter to do the same ASAP. Nutley is going on today from 4 pm on. Montclair's is on thursday from 2:30 on.

Thanks for caring. I am still very worried about JenK.

Jezkalyn

Lou

September 11, 2001 12:42PM

We were wondering about you while talking in the chatroom. So glad you checked in and that you are safe, and we all wonder about JenK...

I pray she will post soon.

Glad you are OK!

Candace

September 11, 2001 12:43PM

We were all quite worried about you this morning in Chat. You have many citizens here that love you, dear.

I'm one of them! (nfm)

Jennifer Louise

September 11, 2001 01:04PM

Awwwww, shucks...

Jezkalyn

September 11, 2001 01:06PM

Y'all are making me cry and it has been a freaky enough day already.
Just caught a glimpse of the people walking up the West Side Highway.
WOW!

Couldnt resist a jsisters reunnion

JulieW

September 11, 2001 01:26PM

Glad you are ok I DO need a drink!.Typos, typos- yuo should
ahve been in chat!! enven beat LaraineLOL!

One more J-sister checking in...

Linda Fern

September 11, 2001 03:49PM

...I did want Jezkalyn to know I finally got through to my
dear friend in NJ and they are okay. What a day! And it
is good to hear from all of you!
Love from Linda

I am glad to hear it.

Jezkalyn

September 11, 2001 09:57PM

I did think about that and had been wondering.
How long did it take you to get thru. I just got
off the phone with my mother. My family had
been trying all day and were politely told that
phone service had been temporarily suspended.
email turned out to be the best way to
communicate. Once again, thank goodness for
the internet!

It took...

Linda Fern

September 11, 2001 10:28PM

...from about 11 Central to about 3
Central time. She was glad to hear too. I
called again tonight and they were fine,
but very upset.
Love from Linda

Hello matey
JulieW
September 11, 2001 01:07PM

I am so glad to hear from you.
Sent emails and have just checked hrer.
Good to know you are all safe. Prayers made and granted. I hope JenK contacts soon.
All my love
julie

Howdy, friend!
Jezkalyn
September 11, 2001 01:10PM

I think it's time you had a glass of wine, Lord knows I have a good stiff beer next to me right now!

Boston people--are you ok?
gkb
September 11, 2001 12:40PM

I hope none of your friends were on the out-bound flights....?

So far, no one I know
Suzanne Morse
September 11, 2001 12:47PM

Boston has closed all federal buildings, evacuated the State House, and shut down the Financial District. But knock on wood, there have been no bombings or attacks on the ground. No one I know is travelling today, thank God, but I am still fearful.

Me too
Myretta
September 11, 2001 01:12PM

My God daughter's father was on his way to LA. But I think he left yesterday. Haven't been able to get hold of his family yet.

Family is OK
Krista
September 11, 2001 12:48PM

Thank God, my roommate just heard from her father and brothers, who all work there. They are OK, but were in the building this morning before the attacks. I am still shaking, and I'm all the way in Pennsylvania. All of our families are stuck in NYC, however. . . they can't get out right now.
Krista

Thank God! (nfm)
Rachel Marie
September 11, 2001 12:59PM

I'm alive and well.
Julie P.
September 11, 2001 01:12PM

I work in Midtown, and could see the 2nd tower collapse from my window (I was at a doctor's appt during the first tower's collapse). We all started to cry. It was just horrible. We are right next door to the Chrysler Building and, when they evacuated, we got sent home.

What about JenK?
Myretta
September 11, 2001 01:13PM

Do you know where she works, Julie? We haven't heard from her yet.

Worried about JenK as well.
Jezkalyn
September 11, 2001 01:16PM

I could be remembering wrong, but I think she works closer to Midtown than Downtown. I hope I am remembering right.

Anyone heard from Ginny2?
Julie P.
September 11, 2001 01:19PM

She works in DC, for the government. So does Debra R. I can't call them because I can't call outside of Manhattan Island. This is a cable modem, not a dial-up. Thank GOD I decided to go for it because if I hadn't, I'd be stuck with no way to reach the outside world.
Cell phones don't work either, so you can't even use them to contact friends and relatives.

I'm okay
Ginny 2
September 11, 2001 03:20PM

Just a little worse for the wear from the pandemonium.
I was actually not downtown today. I was at a conference in a Northern Virginia hotel not very far from the Pentagon. The ATF came and took over the ballroom that we were in for a command center (but were extremely nice about it).
Debra did you make it home okay?

Yes, Ginny
Debra R
September 12, 2001 02:52PM

Thanks, dear, I'm safe and sound. So glad you are all right, too.

Isn't Sari also in NYC? Nfm
Barbara Lynn
September 11, 2001 02:28PM

I don't know her.
Julie P.
September 11, 2001 02:33PM

But Ginny is OK. I'm online with her now.

Sari is OK!
KatrinaL
September 11, 2001 02:33PM

She posted at Dregston, both she and her husband are OK!
~KatrinaL

Yes, fine here
Sari2
September 11, 2001 04:19PM

We were and are both in Princeton, far enough from NYC. First we knew about it all was an E-mail from my sister from Finland! We just moved and TV cable has not yet been connected.

I am all right except a queasy feeling at the pit of my stomach. Haven't felt this shell-shocked since I was in a train accident.

Sari, feeling relief every time another pemberleian checks in...

Thank you! (nfm)
Linnea A
September 11, 2001 02:39PM

As far as I recall...

Ann2

September 11, 2001 03:04PM

...her office is pretty close to Central Park ... on 57th Street if I can interpret my note from last summer correctly.

Yes, it is.

Julie P.

September 11, 2001 04:09PM

She is definitely in what we call Midtown, which is several miles/kilometers from the WTC area. Her only problem would be getting home since she doesn't live on Manhattan Island. It is almost impossible to get off.

As I've said before, my mother is staying with me tonight because getting home is just too difficult.

Midtown

Karen G.

September 11, 2001 04:17PM

This is comforting... that her work was not that close to the WTC.

I'm sure the next couple days, weeks, etc. are going to be surreal for anyone in NYC. It must be good to be together with your mother, though. Even though I have no family in NYC or DC, I called them all (except my mom is supposed to be in Nassau today, and she hasn't checked in) just to touch base. I am still at work right now, but it doesn't feel like any of it is particularly important at all...

Again, glad you're okay, Julie.

She works in Midtown too.

Julie P.

September 11, 2001 01:16PM

But she lives outside of Manhattan, so getting home is not an option.

My mother is staying with me tonight because she can't get home.

I can't give blood because my veins have this nasty habit of collapsing.

The stores are PACKED, which is why I didn't get here sooner. ATM lines are around the block too.

But, there is no looting, no rioting, nothing. Everyone is pretty calm.

Julie P
Karen G.
September 11, 2001 02:32PM

SO glad to hear you're okay! Glad too that you (and Nan) have cable modems.
On the radio, someone described watching the second tower collapse. My heart goes out to you who are experiencing this first hand. Glad to hear there is no looting, etc.
Hope we hear from Jen K.

Northern VA and DC folks?
Michele V
September 11, 2001 01:20PM

Is everyone accounted for? Tenby? Haru?

I just had an email from Debra R
Linnea A
September 11, 2001 04:13PM

She's OK, thank God.
It's strange, though -- now I am crying...
-Linn

So relieved to hear that (nfm)
Sari2
September 11, 2001 04:48PM

I lost four lovely friends.
Debra R
September 11, 2001 07:40PM

Our wonderful neighbors--Leslie, Charles, Dana, and Zoe--were on the plane that hit the Pentagon. They were en route to a sabbatical in Australia. I pray the little girls didn't understand what was happening to them...
My friends were intelligent, funny, and important to our neighborhood. Their loss is great.

I'm so sorry nfm
Diane Margaret
September 11, 2001 07:42PM

My sympathies
kathleen (elder)
September 11, 2001 07:53PM

and prayers are with you -- and w/ the family of your friends. Hugs for you and yours.

me too
AnneM
September 11, 2001 08:04PM

there just aren't words enough, or words with enough meaning...
Debra, I send you and your friends and neighbors prayers and well
wishes.
Everyone I have met today has been either in a daze or crying.
take care everyone
love
Anne

{{{Debra}}} nfm
Ann2
September 11, 2001 11:25PM

I am very, very sorry. Nfm
Ree
September 11, 2001 07:53PM

This brings it home
Lucie
September 11, 2001 08:14PM

This is like a blow to the stomach. To read that a Pemberlian has connections to
this dark day in history really brings it all home in my mind.

I am so sorry Debra.
Julie P.
September 11, 2001 09:36PM

It's so hard to think clearly right now. I was worried about you and Ginny, and
also worried about people I know who worked in the WTC area of town. I am
afraid to call people for fear I'll be told something I don't want to hear.

So many people lost...
Joan, too
September 11, 2001 11:00PM

This is so tragic and so incomprehensible. How utterly inhuman to use planesful
of people - including innocent children - as weapons with which to kill
thousands of other human beings! I cannot understand how those who plan and
carry out such atrocities can face themselves in the mirror or sleep at night. One
can only hope that there is a place in the next world where those responsible
for such things get the eternal punishment that they have earned!
We are thankful if nobody we know was affected, but in reality even those
whom we do not know were known, loved and will be missed by somebody. My
prayers are with all of them.

What to say

Jen K

September 12, 2001 12:22AM

I am so, so sorry to hear of your loss. I hate to say it, but I know how lucky I am and how fickle fate is. My best to you and all the families of your friends.
Jennifer

Oh, so sorry, Debra... nfm

Jan Lewis

September 12, 2001 12:29AM

Grieving with you

Linnea A

September 12, 2001 01:50AM

We are so sorry for your loss, Debra. Disasters so often become a question of mere numbers -- let us never forget that each person killed was an individual as deserving of life as the rest of us.
Our thoughts are with you and your family.
Love,
-Linn

My thoughts are with you and their families NFM

Martine

September 12, 2001 06:04AM

Debra, I am so sorry

Elspeth

September 12, 2001 09:41AM

I can't even imagine the loss you must feel. Be assured that my prayers are with you, as is my love.

So sorry

Emilie Marie

September 12, 2001 10:03AM

I am so sorry for you, Debra. May your friends rest in peace.
Thinking of children being involved makes this disaster even more unbearable, doesn't it?

I'm so sorry for your loss

Sansanee

September 12, 2001 10:17AM

My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Very sorry for your loss

Karen G.

September 12, 2001 01:29PM

I get shivers still trying to comprehend this disaster and wanting to appreciate each one of those who died. Thank you for sharing. I too hope the little ones didn't know what was happening.

Glad you are safe - both you and Jen I hadn't heard for sure until this morning...

Karen

I'm very sorry NFM

DavidL

September 12, 2001 02:07PM

So sad

Ginny 2

September 12, 2001 06:55PM

How horrible. I heard about them and their little girls on the local news. You have my sympathies.

I'm so very sorry.

Ann G.

September 12, 2001 09:26PM

What a tragic loss for their family.

I saw their photo...

Lynn B

September 12, 2001 11:02PM

... on Australian TV this morning and cried when I realised who they were.

"Their loss is great."

I'm sure it is Debra. My thoughts continue to be with you all.

Very sorry for your loss (nfm)

Tara O'Donnell

September 13, 2001 06:27AM

I'm here, I'm here, I'm here

Jen K

September 12, 2001 12:19AM

I actually was describing today, to my friend who helped me pass the time as I was waiting to exit NY, how London didn't even bother keeping trash cans in the Tube. How does one compare?

Bless you all.

Checking in
Tara O'Donnell
September 12, 2001 07:12AM

I was at work yesterday (I work in a bookstore in the Bronx-Riverdale section) when this was all going down. Our newest staff member, Stephanie, used to work in that area-in fact, her first job in NY was at the World Trade Center (she's from California). She was very upset as were we all. I went home early to check on my mom-she just got out of the hospital last week (she's OK now-she had an angina attack a week ago) and I'm very sad for the senseless tragedy here in NY & Washington but am happy to see that many NYC Pemberlians seem to be alright-sorry I can't read everyone's posts but I have to try and go into work today.
God bless America and all of us-I know that together, we'll help each other get thru this.

=====

NYC & DC
Aparna
September 11, 2001 11:28AM

I pray that everyone is okay. All, please take care of yourselves.
Regards,
Aparna

Ditto, big-time - I hope that *everyone* will be fine, and I pray for the dead (nfm)
Fionnuala
September 11, 2001 02:41PM

Be strong friends!
Sofia
September 11, 2001 11:32AM

I so hope everyone are ok. I'm sitting at home not understanding what is happening, not understanding what kind of persons are capable of such a thing. Sitting here on the other side of the world, Sweden, not able to do a thing. I just want to scream out loud!
Just wish everone my best and hope they are ok.
Love Sofia

My best friend is studying at CUNY. Can't contact her. Where's CUNY?
kimikimi
September 11, 2001 11:46AM

The phone doesn't work. I can't reach her. I'm terribly worried.
I never knew I would actually watch The World Trade Center collapsing into a pile of ashes...Horrible. Horrible.

CUNY classes cancelled effective 1 p.m....

Ree
September 11, 2001 12:13PM

Website says they have sites in Manhattan and Brooklyn. Here's a link to the school's website. Keep your chin up; I'll keep your friend in my prayers.

All over NYC
Golda
September 11, 2001 03:09PM

CUNY is the City University of NY and they have about 20 colleges throughout all five boroughs of the City. So you need to be more specific. I think that there is only one CUNY school in lower Manhattan, the Borough of Manhattan Community College. It is relatively close to the World Trade Center, but the distance is great enough to not be injured by today's events.

=====

There are no words...
Emilie Marie
September 11, 2001 11:52AM

...to express what I feel. It is several hours since I have learnt what happened. I feel ill. It is just like a nightmare. I am in a state of deep shock, as everyone here in Europe is. I know there are many Americans at the RoP. I send all my prayers to you.

=====

Talking w/children about terrorism
Lisa RS
September 11, 2001 12:01PM

This came as a forward to me this morning. I have not checked out the links yet but thought that other parents and teachers might be interested. Lisa

Today's events will certainly be in news for quite some time, and many of our lives may be disrupted in different ways for a long time. As many of us watch the news and talk to others about the days events, our children will certainly notice that something is going on.

Parents may want to talk with older children about the days events and what it might mean, but young children (under the age of 7 or 8) may be disturbed by witnessing scenes of destruction on television or by listening in on adult conversations. It may not be unusual if some young children react by being more clinging, seeming a bit more concerned, or having difficulty at bedtime.

Although it might be important to allow older children to participate in viewing and talking about the news, it might be wise to limit young children's exposure to TV news.

It is important that young children be reassured about their own safety and the safety of their parents and loved ones. Subtle changes in parent's moods and behaviors can have an affect on children especially if they witness reactions in their parents that they have not seen before.

Be prepared to spend extra time with children if necessary, and continue normal routines and activities.

Use the opportunity to explain how and why people are reacting the way they are.
In the days that come, we may be witness to preparations for retaliation (or at least threats of retaliation). Certain groups of people may be identified as terrorists. It will be a challenge for all of us to remind ourselves and our children that we value peace.

For more information and suggestions on how to talk with your children about the today's events and the events in the coming days, see:

Talking to Kids About War

AboutOurKids.org

New York University Child Study Center

[www.aboutourkids.org]

Talking About Conflict and War

The Learning Network

[www.familyeducation.com]

Talking with Children about War - Pointers for Parents

The Learning Network

[www.familyeducation.com]

Talking with Kids about the News

Children Now

[www.childrennow.org]

=====

Aaron T. Ebata, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Extension Specialist

Department of Human & Community Development

University of Illinois Extension

About children

Emilie Marie

September 11, 2001 12:24PM

You're perfectly right: it is important children should speak about what they saw today. I have no children, but my 11-year-old sister was watching the news with me, and I saw her shivering and in a state of deep shock. Though she is very mature, she was astonished. She kept asking me questions: how is it possible that human beings can be so cruel ? how come some people were filmed in Jerusalem expressing their joy ?

I have no answers. I just told her to be careful with the media's interpretation.

One of her remarks struck me. She said "I never thought such a thing could happen in the United States. We see bombs in countries where there are civil wars and whose culture is very different from ours. But the United States...it could as well happen to us!" I know it may sound very absurd and unfair, but I confess I understood what she meant. We always think such things cannot happen in our "safe" countries, but we have been reminded of the contrary very brutally today.

I am so glad to see that our fellow-pemberleans are safe. I pray for all the victims and their families.

Emilie

Give your children reassurance
Jessie Dee
September 11, 2001 03:13PM

My son is too young to understand what is going on but to be reassuring that he and my husband and I are ok will go a long way. I plan on giving him a hug when I pick him up from school (I do everyday). All activities here in the Dallas have been cancelled. I am still numb from it all, it feels very surreal. Thanks from all of you in other countries. As it was stated before somewhere, I am afraid of what is going to happen next.
All my prayers are out to my brothers and sisters in NYC and DC.

Thank you for this information. It helped. Nfm
Stacey GC
September 11, 2001 04:31PM

Another very good link
Lisa RS
September 11, 2001 05:42PM

I remembered that during the Columbine High School incident, The Children's Television Workshop had an excellent article with specific guidelines about how to talk (and when NOT to talk) to kids about tragedies. It's available again on the link.

=====

To all of you in the US...
Mirjam
September 11, 2001 12:16PM

I wish you all the strength in the world, courage, and everything you need at this day, and the days to come. I do so hope you are all well... My heart is with you, and everyone's in Europe.
This is unbelievable. This day, the world's gone mad.
~Mirjam

Mirjam says everything I want to express. My prayers are with you. Nfm
Rike
September 11, 2001 12:39PM

I just popped in to say the same..
Leen
September 11, 2001 01:09PM

What happened.. is just beyond words. I've been watching the news all day since I came home from school.
My condolences go out to everyone afflicted by this.
-Leen

=====

**Just heard: all planes now accounted for. Thank God. Nfm
Ree
September 11, 2001 12:34PM**

=====

**Emergency rescuers
Barbara Lynn
September 11, 2001 12:40PM**

One of the women who works with my husband here in Olympia, WA has been sent to McChord Airforce Base to prepare to fly to NY to help with the rescue effort. She normally does mountain search and rescue. It takes a very special kind of person to be able to do this work. I am very grateful for them all.

**Anyone stranded at airports?
gkb
September 11, 2001 12:45PM**

Perhaps there might be Pemberlians stranded at airports? I will ask at the Help board whether the Meetings board should/could be used as a way to connect?

**Go ahead.....
Caroline
September 11, 2001 12:52PM**

....shouldn't be any problem with that.....

**Meetings Board
gkb
September 11, 2001 02:22PM**

A topic is open for the purpose of connecting any traveling Pemberley folks who are stranded in airports with local people who might be able to offer shelter or supplies. Please check in there to report someone who needs help or can supply it. Thanks everyone.

=====

**Call your local blood bank
Lou
September 11, 2001 01:05PM**

We have done so here at our office and we are on the list and when they are ready the blood bank will call us. And I don't even care if I faint.
This is one way in which we can all help!

I second that!

Jezkalyn
September 11, 2001 01:08PM

Pat and I are going on Thursday and I plan to arrange one at work when we get back.

Yes! Also, remember your local American Red Cross. Nfm
Ree
September 11, 2001 01:12PM

Call 888-BLOOD-88 for info nationwide. Nfm
Jezkalyn
September 11, 2001 01:14PM

BUT
Cameron
September 11, 2001 03:25PM

DO donate blood, but do it two or three weeks from now. The banks will be flooded with donors right now, and then they'll have an enormous shortage when people have stopped thinking about donating and/or are ineligible (You have to wait eight weeks between donations.).
Thanks, y'all.
Peace,
Cameron

American Red Cross: 1-800-HELPNOW nfm
Ree
September 11, 2001 04:38PM

Giving blood
Linnea
September 12, 2001 11:43PM

I've been listening to NPR all day. One woman on a local call-in show said that she felt by donating, she was shedding her share of blood in this tragedy that was really an attack on all of America, not just those who were directly affected by it. We're on the opposite coast, so we're somewhat distanced from the immediacy of the search and rescue efforts, but this sentiment really resonated with me.

=====

Thank you, worldwide citizens!
LouAnn
September 11, 2001 01:14PM

Pemberley friends across the world, thank you so much for your messages of support to us here in the United States. This terrible tragedy makes me realize (again and again) that there are people who hate us so much that they would do something like this. It's very helpful to know there are people who don't hate us because we are Americans, but who realize we are just people like everyone else.

All we can do is pray for those who have been hurt by this horror and for those who felt driven to do such a terrible thing. They need our prayers too. Today at work we are saying things like "this puts our little workaday woes and squabbles in perspective doesn't it." Let's hope this tragedy brings people together, and doesn't drive us further apart. Sorry I'm rambling--I work in a University library and our younger students are just stunned. I've been comforting people all day and I'm glad to get comfort from my friends at RoP.

Reactions

Lorena

September 11, 2001 01:59PM

"I work in a University library and our younger students are just stunned. I've been comforting people all day and I'm glad to get comfort from my friends at RoP."

I was at my university this morning. We were going to have a career fair, and as a graduating senior I was excited about it. Suddenly all our attention was drawn to tv/radio reports as we slowly learned of everything that was happening.

Not too long after that we were dismissed from school. It was eerie. My school is right near DFW airport and airplane noise is normal. However, there was only silence in the sky. Having American Airlines based here, the news media was trying to get information from them as well as broadcasting all the breaking news.

The drive home was probably the most orderly I have ever witnessed in this city. Again it was eerie.

Since being home the only time I have been away from the news on the TV was when my family took the time to pray for the victims, pray for the leaders of the nation, and pray for everyone living in this nation.

I am rambling somewhat. But I think I had to put some of my reactions into words...and seeing everyone's posting here, made it the perfect place for me.

My prayers go out for the victims and their families. For our nation, and everyone impacted by this. And my heart is comforted seeing all the support being poured out at the RoP.

My school...

BarbaraK

September 11, 2001 02:45PM

"I was at my university this morning. We were going to have a career fair, and as a graduating senior I was excited about it. Suddenly all our attention was drawn to tv/radio reports as we slowly learned of everything that was happening."

I was setting up for 'welcome week' at school we had all kinds of fun stuff to do and now it's all closed and flags are at half staff, we're all feeling a little ill. Dearborn has the largest Arab population outside of the middle east and our school is pretty racial mixed, so for a while I was really worried that a fight might break out. But it didn't 😊.

Has three branches one in Ann Arbor, Flint, and Dearborn. Both AA and Flint are closed but our campus isn't. It makes me a little nervous because we are between Metro Airport and Downtown Detroit. Our chancellor says there is nothing to worry about but I don't feel so comfortable, I just didn't go home because the traffic would be horrendous. We normally have flight patterns all day but today I only saw planes in the morning, just after this happened, walking here I saw 1. And I started to get really nervous, but then it banked left and landed safely. whew!

I can't say this enough –

Fionnuala

September 11, 2001 02:53PM

Every good moraled people's thoughts are with you today.

After my school today (we always get an early day off on Tuesdays) I went to the bus stop at about 10 past three (GMT) and got home about 3.40. I was greeted by mother saying something about "the World Trade Centre's been bombed" and Hi-jackers. You see, the WTC really doesn't affect an Irish schoolgirl, and so I didn't know much about the building except it was one of the biggest in the world. I know much more now.

So you see, it affects everyone, and soon after this news came through (the telly and radio's been on all day long) Bertie Ahern, the Taoiseach (the Irish Prime Minister) and Tony Blair, the British PM, made speeches, expressing condolences. Let me echo these condolences and multiply them. I am truly grieved for the losses that America is facing. I hope and pray that you'll come out from this all the stronger, and I know that everyone I know think just the same.

Good Luck and God bless.

Effects in Florida

Suzybeth

September 11, 2001 03:35PM

Even at the University of Florida the effects are strongly felt. All classes have been canceled and most local churches are planning pray services. My roommate went to give blood but came back because the wait was over two hours. All theme parks in central Florida have been evacuated. Disney is actually closed for the first time that I can ever remember. The University of South Florida has been evacuated and Tampa has stepped up precautions because of its proximity to MacDill AF Base. Every is in shock and glued to their tv sets.

It's 5:10 am here in Sydney

Lauren Rose

September 11, 2001 02:28PM

At 2:20am my husband called me. He is working in Seoul and couldn't sleep so he turned on the news, which ironically is run by US Armed Forces. He immediately called me and told me to turn on the TV. Every channel here has live coverage in the middle of the night, CNN, ABC and BBC. The Australian government has secured US govt and privately owned buildings and also had taken precautions with Israel's interests here. Our PM is in DC! and is secured in the Australian embassy.

I sincerely hope everyone here in RoP who is in the NYC or DC area is alright. And I pray that you are not touched by anyone you know being hurt in this.

Anyone know about DC??

Michele S.

September 11, 2001 01:16PM

I have an RoP friend at law school in DC that I can't contact - I'm assuming nothing but the pentagon was affected? Does anyone have info. on this??

What a horrible, horrible day.....

some info

Suzanne Morse

September 11, 2001 01:23PM

Michele - I have spoken to a few of my friends in DC, and they seem to be okay. One saw the plane go into the Pentagon because he works in that area, the other works in the Dupont Circle area. They said things seem to be chaotic, but otherwise fine.

Where is your friend in school? Georgetown Law is near Capitol Hill, and there was a report of a bomb there (don't know if that was confirmed). However, it is not right there on the Hill. George Washington Law is pretty far from both Capitol Hill and Virginia, but is quite close to the White House and the State Department.

DC – Pentagon

SaraK

September 11, 2001 09:20PM

I live about 2 blocks from the Pentagon. The plane flew right over my apartment building. I was thankfully at work in Reston, VA about 45 minutes away. Our company was evacuated right after the Pentagon crash. A lot the roads in DC were shutdown including GW Parkway. There hasn't been much said about traffic patterns tomorrow. It's a bit spooky for a while it was very very quiet and now all I hear is helicopters flying around.

My brother works in the World Financial Center next door to the World Trade Center. Needless to say, this was a crazy day for my parents. My brother lives about right between battery park and tribeca, so he saw the second crash and the two collapses. He was one of the people running down the West Highway. He's not allowed to go back to his apartment building, which is covered in soot. He doesn't expect to be able to go back until probably at least tomorrow night.

Finally, a bit of news....

Michele S.

September 11, 2001 10:51PM

She's at Georgetown - and the word is that all is well there, although I've still not managed to track her down.

Thanks for your help.

Have word - all is well. nfm.
Michele S.
September 12, 2001 08:48AM

some more info
Suzybeth
September 11, 2001 02:12PM

From what I have heard from my family in D.C. all government employees have been allowed to go home but many areas of D.C. are on lock down for security reasons.

Capitol Hill
Louisa P
September 11, 2001 02:29PM

has basically been evacuated, and traffic is restricted. State Department is still denying that there was any explosion there, but my friend who lives five blocks away said that the whole family experienced a boom! that shook the house.
Traffic exiting the city isn't as bad as the reports made out initially.
First reports of casualties at the Pentagon site were of no fatalities, 53 injured. But if it was a commercial flight that slammed into the building (not yet confirmed) that will certainly change. The engineers from my office who flew into D.C. last night are telling us that they do not expect to get out of the city for at least two days, more likely three. Flights are shut down for the day, and even into tomorrow.

I had word from Inko. She's safe.nfm
Ann2
September 11, 2001 03:30PM

Thanks for the update. Hugs to both of you. Nfm
kathleen (elder)
September 11, 2001 03:59PM

Thank you all so much for the info.nfm
Michele S.
September 11, 2001 05:59PM

Ken
Linnea A
September 12, 2001 07:02AM

I got word from Ken (Snarkhunter) -- he's unhurt and well, too.
-Linn

Thanks for letting us know.
kathleen (elder)
September 12, 2001 07:23AM

It's so good to hear that another of our Pemberley family is OK.

ditto (nfm)
Sari2
September 12, 2001 08:20AM

Thank you for your concerns. . .
Ken
September 12, 2001 11:48AM

I did have a rough moment when we heard that the State Dept. had been car-bombed & that there was a fire on the Mall; it would have been a perfect & ghastly addition to the plan to wait until everyone was in the streets, then set off more explosions. But fortunately for DC, the plan didn't envision that. I used to work in the Pentagon, in the SE wing, B ring, between corridors 8 and 9. It's a tough old building, or matters could have been unimaginably worse. Stay cool, friends
Snarkhunter

=====

Supposed to be in DC tomorrow
Hanna2
September 11, 2001 01:35PM

I am in complete shock at what just happened. Being in Seattle I got the news a little bit later but even things here have been effected. My building is closed because it is the tallest in Seattle. I am supposed to go to DC tomorrow night but I am a little scared to get on a plane right now! 😞

=====

In total shock
Gudrun
September 11, 2001 01:36PM

My professor said something about a plane crashing into the WTC this morning, and I thought it was an accident. When I got home I saw what happened, it's been hours, but I'm still in shock. I feel so helpless, I want to do something. My heart goes out to all those who perished and their families.

=====

Such horrible details !

Buba

September 11, 2001 02:05PM

Sorry , I couldn't check all your messages about the explosions - but I realized none of Pemberley citizens and his/her loved ones was injured ! I hope I am right !

And the details !!!!! Two buildings crashed , one severely damaged , 4 plane crashes , 4 planes kidnapped !!!! And this is reality !!!!

Who could plan and do such a thing ?

Such devastation

Anne P

September 11, 2001 02:10PM

Only a complete madman.

I have prayed so hard today. I couldn't believe what I was seeing. I've seen and been near terrorist bomb explosions in London, but this is beyond anything we have ever had. Bless you all.

I kept hoping

BarbaraK

September 11, 2001 02:36PM

That it was only a dream. But now I'm very scared for my brother as all US forces have been put on highest alert and he may very well be shipping off to parts unknown. It also makes me wonder how many people were involved who may have been citizens of the US who had sympathies with those terrorists? I also wonder if we'll ever find out who they were because they too died in the crashes as well.

I'll pray for your brother and all the military on alert.

Vicki I.

September 11, 2001 03:09PM

Barbara K., Anne P. and Buba, The shock is wearing off and now I can feel the rage rising inside me. I want to do something, answer phones, run messages anything! Like Col. Brandon whom I have to paraphrase because I can't remember the direct quote:

Give me something to do or I shall run mad!

I'm on the West Coast in a military installation and we are in lock down. I can sympathise with your worries Barbara and I will pray for the safety of your brother, where ever he may be called to serve. I know first hand how it feels do worry about your loved ones, we are retired now but once military, always connected to it. I take some comfort in knowing that Pemberley's citizens in the affected cities are gradually reporting in and are safe. I'm getting more information here than anywhere else, except maybe the news channels.

As for the mad person who would do such a thing, I have several candidates in mind, but Pemberley is a place of refuge right now and for the time being it is wisest to keep them there, in my mind. "God Bless us everyone." Vicki I.

I can only add my prayers. My heart weeps for you all (nfm)
Catherine O
September 11, 2001 04:30PM

As a future Marine...
BarbaraK
September 11, 2001 05:13PM

I am on the military track too and today has been a blunt reminder of what I may/may not be headed for if I join. Right now I'm trying not to worry about Mike until we hear for sure, but I'm wondering whether it is stronger to join the military or stay a civilian? Thanks soo much to all the Pemberlian citizans today and thanks Vicki I. and Catherine O for all your thoughts and prayers. 😊

I can only say
Buba
September 13, 2001 02:18PM

I hope there won't be any danger for your loved ones !!!! I hope there won't be a war ! Just an alert !

=====

Just woken up to this.
Shirley
September 11, 2001 02:45PM

My thoughts and prayers go with all of you in the US.
I feel like the world has gone mad.
It's not just the act that scares me, it's the consequences.

Again, I feel the same (nfm)
Fionnuala
September 11, 2001 02:55PM

=====

Best Hopes and Wishes
A Lurker
September 11, 2001 02:55PM

Please allow me to join in and send all of you who work/live or have relatives and/or connexions in the attacked areas my best hopes and wishes. I pray you

we appreciate your condolences...

BarbaraK

September 11, 2001 02:58PM

please feel free to join us anytime. Even if you don't ever post again, we appreciate your comforting voice.

Consoling

NicoleC

September 11, 2001 03:07PM

I live in Germany but we join with you too.

=====

Proud to be an American...Proud to be a citizen of the World

Mark

September 11, 2001 02:57PM

Whoever did this will regret it. You do not do this sort of thing without causing the American people to come together in an awesome way. I would not want to be in the shoes of those involved.

By the same token, nations around the world are coming together against this horror. I saw Tony Blair's message and was frankly very moved. His voice was but one in a chorus of voices from around the world. Even Yassar Arafat condemned the attacks with the strongest of language.

The Taliban in Afghanistan who have been harboring that one top terrorist are starting to do a fast tap-dance trying to disassociate themselves from this attacks.

We need to take this shock, horror, and outrage; and change it into a firm resolve to first help the victims of these attacks, and then to bring these criminals to justice, and to not let this happen again.

Mark

I say

Fionnuala

September 11, 2001 03:03PM

God bless all involved, even those who perpetrated the event. I sincerely hope you regret what you have done to America and the world. I think I speak not just for Pembrokeshire, but also most of the world, when I say that our thoughts and prayers are most fervently with you.

Yes--my sad ramblings

gkb

September 11, 2001 04:19PM

Thank you for reminding me that the people who commit crimes are still people. It is hard to hold charity towards them in my heart, but you are right to point out that no one is more in need of our prayers than those whose lives are driven by blind hatred. I hope the terrible loss of life will inspire me to become more humanitarian rather than less. Otherwise, I become more like the criminal and less like the type of person I would rather be--don't I? Besides, my own shadow is not so short that I can say it blackens no

one's life. Do I not wear shoes, clothes, made by others' hands? Do I not eat fruits plucked by people far less fortunate than I?

I also feel strongly that the spirit of cooperation and civil communication which is exemplified in this virtual community has the potential to carry over into other walks of life. Though in the midst of crisis, I still need to reflect and learn as much as I can about the people with whom I share this brief time of my existence--even those with whom I disagree. Shared knowledge and mutual education have a tremendous power to transform the world--much more powerful and lasting than the effects of violence. So, I hope we will keep on boasting about our small successes and trading recipes and telling jokes and ranting about pet peeves and play-acting our favorite characters and especially discussing literature. Now, more than ever, I need to hear other voices than the old tired tapes in my head. Now especially, I need to know how other people think. So thanks for being there, everyone.

**Well said! Nfm
Kristin T
September 12, 2001 03:25AM**

**Exactly so! God bless you! Nfm
Linda Fern
September 12, 2001 06:52AM**

**Well spoken. Thank you. Nfm
Elysha
September 11, 2001 03:26PM**

**Please remember...
Myretta
September 11, 2001 04:37PM**

While we all grieve for what has happened, it is important not to turn this into a political discussion.

=====

**military families & thanks
NicoleC
September 11, 2001 03:03PM**

Thank you to all non-Americans for your condolences, it means so much to read your messages! Please keep military families in your prayers along with the victims and their families. This has all of a sudden turned into a high stress day for duty. Dad's office is closed (he works with Recruiting so he is not needed immediately), but we know families who are not sure what their spouses are doing today because of the attacks.

Thank you!
Nicole

Military, medical, crisis response, and more
Michele P.
September 11, 2001 03:33PM

A huge thank you to all military, medical, crisis response specialists, fireman, police, EMT, rescue workers and the lot who are all being called to serve in one form or another from California (reported loss of life of CA residents on the planes) to New York due to the tragedy in NYC, the devastation in DC, and the related downings of planes on other parts of the county. They are on the front lines dealing with the aftermath of this horrible series of events. Also, many have left their own families voluntarily to serve & support the victims and their families. Our area has sent people to join the response team down in Somerset, PA and my thoughts & prayers are with them, as they are with all those who have volunteered their expertise to respond to this catastrophe.

Dear god, another WTC tower is about to collapse.

Military family...
BarbaraK
September 11, 2001 05:21PM

My brother is a reservist who just got a call, so I'm doing the best I can not to break up. Reality and ideals are certainly very far apart. I especially send my condolences to those NYC patrols of every kind, especially firefighters and police.

Military Family
Patricia Bingham
September 12, 2001 12:01AM

My brother is a Navy Seal and was on leave in Tampa for two weeks. He is supposed to go to the Middle East in a few weeks. He got ordered back this morning. His ship left him stranded in Tampa and went on its way back to Norfolk, VA and on to New York. The family gave him a rosary that was placed over our grandmother's bed while she was in a coma last year. We are praying that it keeps him safe too.

Wow!
BarbaraK
September 12, 2001 10:23AM

Not that it was entirely funny, but I did giggle about a ship leaving someone. 😊 It's like driving to a wedding a leaving your daughter at home! But I do wish him the best of luck...

He was feeling a little guilty...
Patricia Bingham
September 13, 2001 10:33PM

Well, at least he can honestly say he missed the boat... Tampa is his home so it wasn't like he had no place to go ;-) He wasn't

sure if he was in trouble or not... I just hope that his ship isn't still going to the Middle East. It's in New York harbor right now.

=====

If your own words fail, as mine...

Ree

September 11, 2001 03:07PM

from what do you take comfort? Do the words of a particular poet or writer describe your sorrow? Your anger? Here's mine; it doesn't give me comfort, but it expresses how I feel today very well:

The Second Coming, by William Butler Yeats.

Turning and turning in the widening gyre

The falcon cannot hear the falconer;

Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold;

Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world,

The blood-dimmed tide is loosed, and everywhere

The ceremony of innocence is drowned;

The best lack all conviction, while the worst

Are full of passionate intensity

Surely some revelation is at hand;

Surely the Second Coming is at hand.

The Second Coming! Hardly are those words out

When a vast image out of Spiritus Mundi

Troubles my sight: somewhere in sands of the desert

A shape with lion body and the head of a man,

A gaze blank and pitiless as the sun,

Is moving its slow thighs, while all about it

Reel shadows of the indignant desert birds.

The darkness drops again; but now I know

That twenty centuries of stony sleep

Were vexed to nightmare by a rocking cradle,

And what rough beast, its hour come round at last,

Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?

Only

Kristen G.

September 11, 2001 03:19PM

I know most of the time people don't wish to talk about religion here, but I must say that faith in God is the only thing that gives me peace. I know that things are and are going to be bad, but I also know that no matter what happens God is with me. This might get taken right back off, but I just had to say that. Anyone want to email me to talk about this? snickersalad@yahoo.com

Prayers with everyone in NYC and DC and all of their families.

Kristen

I agree (nfm)
Kristin T
September 12, 2001 03:27AM

=====

William L.
Kristen G.
September 11, 2001 03:12PM

I haven't heard anything from Bill - are you OK?? I heard a plane also crashed in PA but I'm not sure if that was true or not....I can't help being worried. Do let us know if you're OK.

Yours,
Kristen

Yes, let us know how you are!!! NFM
NicoleC
September 11, 2001 03:15PM

Pennsylvania crash
Elysha
September 11, 2001 03:21PM

I believe the plane that crashed in PA crashed in a rural area and that no one in Pennsylvania was hurt. But yes, William, I hope you can give us more definite reassurance. I can only imagine the bravery of the people on that plane. I understand that on one of the hijacked planes, a passenger called 911 on his cell phone, and that on another a stewardess called for help. I can't help feeling uneasy about my uncle's flight to LA tomorrow. What a terrible, terrible situation.

PA crash update - I too hope all near me are ok
Michele P.
September 11, 2001 03:42PM

Yes, it went down at a sharp angle in a very very rural area. I am in Pgh and the initial national reports that it crashed into/near the city were incorrect (and much to the relief of my family & the families of all in the area I am sure).

"I understand that on one of the hijacked planes, a passenger called 911 on his cell phone" Yes, a county west of PGH (Westmoreland) answered the call in their 911 center and the FBI has the tape as of noon. It was quite an upsetting call for the center, from local reports. So far it has not been released for public consumption. That was the first indication that it was indeed a hijacked plane. Was first reported as flying out of Cleveland, now reported out of Newark.

"What a terrible, terrible situation." Yes indeed. I am sick inside.

=====

I know you'll get a lot of this
Fionnuala
September 11, 2001 03:13PM

But I sincerely mean that I'm thinking of you all, and right now and probably for quite some time, those who have anything to do with this atrocity will have my thoughts and best wishes with them.
Again and again and again, good luck and God bless every single soul.

=====

Ensuring Everyone is O.K.
May
September 11, 2001 03:16PM

Shocked to hear (and see) the terrible events in the U.S. Couldn't wait to get to Pemberley to see the familiar names--knew everyone would be checking in. Noticed that there are still a couple of people unaccounted for. Hope we will hear from them soon.
Best wishes to our American neighbours that you and all your family are safe and united.

=====

Checking in from DC
Martine
September 11, 2001 03:24PM

Just wanted to reassure everyone I know on this board that I'm fine. For those who know her, Danielle is also fine.

I work at the International Monetary Fund, two blocks away from the White House. We were told to evacuate within the hour of the Pentagon attack. Police was everywhere. Cars lined up in the worst traffic jam I've ever seen. The metro was down for a while (not that I would have wanted to use it). So Danielle, her mother (who works for another international organization right accross from the Pentagon) and I walked home.

I saw Golda and Karen G. are fine, thank God. My deepest sympathies to anyone touched by this unimaginable tragedy. I wish I could do something, but I can't give blood (due to my hepatitis), which seems to be the most important thing right now. I hope to see if I can do anything tomorrow.

I hope all the other people I know in NYC (I can't even conjure your names...) are fine.

This is on a scope not comprehensible. Who could be evil enough to do such a thing?

My thoughts are with all touched my these infamous acts. These acts proceed from evil, and in the end, they can only unleash a force of good that will defeat it.

Martine

{{{Martine}}} nfm
Ann2
September 11, 2001 03:39PM

Thank you
Barbara
09/11/2001 04:17PM

I am so relieved to hear this, Martine, and about Danielle too.
Do you hear from CK? I haven't heard from her for a long time. I hope she is still okay if she is in DC.

"I hope all the other people I know in NYC (I can't even conjure your names...) are fine." As you said, in an international community like this it's hard to remember all the people that could be affected by this and it is such a relief for everyone who is able to get word in any way possible to check in and let everyone know you are okay.

"This is on a scope not comprehensible. Who could be evil enough to do such a thing?" I cannot begin to get my mind around this--nor can anyone I imagine.

CK
Martine
September 12, 2001 05:22AM

I have not heard from CK. But she works far away enough from the Pentagon that she probably wasn't affected by the plane crash.

I'll try and contact her today. I'm going into work. I know I won't do anything, but you can't let these monsters think that they have annihilated more than innumerable lives and a few bricks.

Martine

At a time such as this....
Amy BC
September 11, 2001 04:50PM

... not only have we seen the worst of the human race, but the best too. When I came to RoP, I knew that many, many good souls of the world would be gathered here, and I was right. The love between people, who often have never, met can be found here and I believe the Republic is proof that the human race is innately wonderful, good and kind. I'm in the UK, and I send my love and prayers to everyone - worldwide - but particularly America, who has been affected.

God Bless.

Amy BC

=====

Goodnight all....
JulieW
September 11, 2001 03:36PM

I am off to bed. To be honest I think the adrenaline just ran out.

i am so glad most of you are safe. I DO hope JenK appears soon. If you arrive, Jen, I send you my love.

I am thinking of you ALL and hope that this mess will be sorted out. From the air manoeuvres above me in Lincolnshire tonight I think it will be.

I thank goodness for this place where it has been so comforting in the past few hours to link up with

you all in chat and hrer.
My prayers are with you,
With all my love
Julie Wakefield.

=====

Thank you so much...
MelodyAnn
September 11, 2001 03:40PM

...to all our friends outside the States. It means so much to hear the leaders of the world, and all of you, express your thoughts and prayers for us. It's so heartening to know we aren't alone. I haven't been personally touched by this, but at the same time, I have. I live here, and I'm human, and I can feel the horror and fear of those who have lost in this awful tragedy. The Ramble Board is well named, but we could all use it. Maybe none of us can find anything original to say, but we're saying something. The lack of silence is comforting.

=====

Barbara Olson was on one of the planes
Rachel Marie
September 11, 2001 04:13PM

Oh, my word.
The news just reported that Barbara Olson, the conservative political commentator often seen on CNN and MSNBC, and author of "Hell to Pay: The Unfolding Story of Hillary Rodham Clinton" was on one of the hijacked planes and is presumed dead.

She was also the wife of our Solicitor General, Theodore Olson. Nfm
Ree
September 11, 2001 04:23PM

I'd met her a couple of times at social gatherings.
Julie P.
September 11, 2001 04:48PM

And liked her very much. She was an bright, interesting woman. Those of us who knew her will miss her.

So very glad to see you posting, dear Julie.
Linda Fern
September 11, 2001 06:03PM

There are so many posts I can't keep up with them so I am posting this here. I hope those you know in NYC are okay also.
Love from Linda

Thanks Linda.
Julie P.
September 11, 2001 08:32PM

I know it sounds corny, but the love and affection I have felt from people all around the country moves me more than I can say.
Pretty much all of us in NYC knows someone who works in that general area, so most NYers are affected to a certain extent. But, despite what these creeps want, we will NOT back down. We are a resilient people who can withstand a lot. There have been no riots, no looting, no mayhem. This is what they wanted to see. But they won't. Quite the contrary. People are lining up to donate blood, they are offering their assistance and opening their homes to friends and relatives. We will overcome this and will be stronger than ever. We will not let them beat us.

Beautiful message and so very true
Linda Fern
September 11, 2001 10:20PM

Yes, yes, yes! Thank you for these words of inspiration!
Love from Linda

Thanks
Karen G.
September 12, 2001 01:52PM

Thank you for sharing that you knew her. She helped as best she could by calling her husband on the hi-jacked plane. There were some courageous people on that flight. It's so awful that they are all gone.
I can't imagine today is much better than yesterday in the emotional impact.

The city is still eerie.
Julie P.
September 12, 2001 05:58PM

The walk to work this morning (with my mother) felt like a Sunday morning at 6 instead of the Wednesday at 8 that it really was. The line at the local blood center (on East 67th St) was 2 blocks long at 8:30. There are signs all over the place imploring people to give blood.
When I got to work, the cloud was still there, a giant mushroom (yes, mushroom) hovering over the wreckage. Yesterday's cloud was black, today's was pure white. Until late in the morning. That's when we heard that WTC #5, 1 Liberty Plaza and the Millennium Hotel were on fire and could collapse. The smoke started turning dark grey again.
As the afternoon wore on, the cloud started to dissipate, and I could barely see the downtown area. My neighborhood started getting hazy and, as I headed downstairs to go home, I started to smell it. The odor permeated the air. I can still smell it here at home, which is about 7 miles north of the site. They have made announcements on the news that people with respiratory problems (such

as yours truly, an asthmatic) should be careful. I guess this means no running for the duration.

=====

William L
TanyaS
September 11, 2001 05:13PM

Has anyone heard from William L? He was one of the first people I thought about when I heard this sickening news this morning.
May God be with you all, you are all in my thoughts and prayers.
TanyaS

I don't think so..
Kristen G.
September 11, 2001 05:25PM

Yes, I thought of him too and am still waiting to hear from him and keep checking back to see if he has posted. Bill - I sure hope you're alright!
Kristen

So far nothing yet
Vicki I.
September 11, 2001 05:35PM

I have been haunting Ramble all day long and I, too, am concerned about not hearing from him. I've only been in Pemberley 2 months but from his bio and his posts he's the type that would go to offer help so maybe he hasn't checked his computer yet. Still, I worry and I pray. Vicki I.

Yes
Diane Margaret
September 11, 2001 05:48PM

This seems the most likely scenario knowing William as we do. I sure would feel better if we heard from him though.

He posted...
Katrinal
September 11, 2001 05:55PM

...at MP board earlier today, same time as DavidL posted his message (the first about this catastrophe). Perhaps he's been busy checking friends and family? I dearly hope so...
Report if you please, ye olde marine! :-}
~Katrinal

THANK YOU!

William L

September 11, 2001 08:58PM

Have you people any idea of how you have made me feel? I'm sitting here with tears in my eyes. I've been keeping off line to leave the phone open most of the time, as we have a family member in the Air Force and another working in NY. They are OK.

I did the only practical thing I can do now, and went down to the blood bank. Took 4 hours, and I've never done anything better in my life.

There is this wonderful thing: Here in Erie there was no direct appeal for blood until the afternoon. But people, realizing that blood would be needed, were showing up by mid morning, and the blood bank staff and volunteers were coming in off shift.

The line was long--and, God love them, most of them were kids, college and high school students.

A lady in my age group in the line was interviewed by two TV channels, and she said, "When they squawk about the younger generation, you show them this line full of kids."

With you people asking about me, I'm sitting here crying. I can't help it. I love you people. God be with all of you.

With real love, Bill

PS: How do I keep up trying to be the meanest man at Pemberley?

Glad to see you.

JulieW

September 11, 2001 09:08PM

I ahve jsut emailed Golda asking if she ahd heard from you.

Its hard to sleep, and though I am hurs away inthe Uk I feel as if I am right there with you all.

Wiliam, youare not the meanest man- and even if youwere I am just glad to see taht another dear ROPer has returned to teh fold.

Best wishes,

Julie wakefield

Thank you WilliamL

TanyaS

September 11, 2001 09:14PM

William, I think that you should give up trying to be the meanest man at Pemberley as you are just about the most loved.

I am so glad to hear that you and your loved ones are save and well.

Love

TanyaS

Glad to hear...

Barbara

September 11, 2001 09:49PM

...you are well and your family members too. Thanks for checking in. We're all counting our blessings during this horror.

Sweet, sweet Bill...

Jezkalyn

September 11, 2001 09:52PM

thank goodness your family members are fine. How horrible for you.

"I did the only practical thing I can do now, and went down to the blood bank. Took 4 hours, and I've never done anything better in my life."

God bless you. there are so many critically injured and, God willing, someone alive under all of that rubble. We could use all we can. Esp. O-Negative.

"PS: How do I keep up trying to be the meanest man at Pemberley?" Oh, I'm sure you'll find a way.:-)

Jezka-wheneverinamillionyearsthoughBillwasameanie-lyn

Semper Fi Now More Than Ever

Vicki I.

September 11, 2001 10:45PM

Thank God you are alright! We've been so worried about you here at Pemberly. I knew you'd be doing something to help but now I, (we) can breathe a huge sigh of relief. Our Mean Ol' Man is back! God bless you and watch over your loved ones I am glad they are okay. Love, Vicki I. PS: I guess your "cover" has been blown but I promise not to tell anyone how nice you really are, after all one must think of one's reputation.

The mean old man

Lisa RS

September 12, 2001 04:18AM

Shhhhh....His cover was blown long ago but we continue to humor him and let him go on thinking that he's tough and mean. I suspect it keeps him out of mischief elsewhere.

So very relieved that you are safe, Bill.

So glad!

Kristen G.

September 11, 2001 11:25PM

Oh Bill!!

I am so glad you are alright - I thought perhaps you or one of your family members had been hurt! Thanks so much for letting us know you are OK.

By the way - I think we've all seen through you - no one as nice as you can be the meanest guy around here! 🍷)

Love,
Kristen

William L...we are VERY glad to "see" you ~nfm~
Lou
September 12, 2001 12:42AM

Thank you so much William !
Emilie Marie
September 12, 2001 01:35AM

I was really worried to see you were missing. I am very glad that you and your family are safe ! Hope we will get some other excellent news from those who have not shown yet.

Up all night crying too....
DeeMac
September 12, 2001 01:47AM

With my daughter in the States - an ocean away, and those terrible images on screen, I just have no words that can express the pain and grief I feel for my nation and for the people in it who are suffering such unimaginable loss.
In the midst of it all, I am so glad dear William that you and so many of our other Pemberley friends are safe.
All my love,
Dee

Dear Bill
Tuija
September 12, 2001 02:35AM

Bill - if you're this lovable when you're trying to be the meanest, whatever would happen if you "tried" being kind? :-)
So glad to see you and your family members are OK.

Bless your heart, Bill . . .
Mary Anne
September 12, 2001 07:24AM

So relieved. I was thinking as I read the messages here, "My God, Bill's already been through this kind of thing before . . ." I'm sure it's been rough for you and I'm glad to hear you and your people are safe.
As for trying to be "the meanest man"--LOL! Fuggedaboudit!! But we'll try hard not to blow your cover . . . ;-)

What sweet sentiments...
Jennifer Louise
September 12, 2001 07:56AM

Aw, Bill... I can feel myself warming to Mr. Price, for your sake alone. Thanks for the encouraging words.

Very glad that your are safe 😊(NFM)

Alisa

September 12, 2001 08:00AM

You can be what you want

Laraine

September 12, 2001 09:53AM

As long as you're safe, you can be as crabby as you like, as well as cry all you want. The secret is out--we love you too.

Needless to say how glad I am to hear from you !!!! (NFM)

Buba

September 14, 2001 05:36AM

=====

Our thoughts are with you

Pia

September 11, 2001 05:41PM

Just woke up in New Zealand to hear the devastating news, my condolences go out to everyone in US. Can't believe such a thing could happen !
Pia

=====

To donate \$\$ to disaster relief efforts

Ree

September 11, 2001 05:43PM

I have been trying to get through to the American Red Cross donation line [1-800-HELPNOW) but it has been busy. However, their online donation system is running. For anyone interested, a link is posted. I wish there was an FUP on Ramble saying "Give me an occupation..."

Thanks Ree, I just donated. NFM

Maisy

September 12, 2001 06:41AM

Caution – see later post re: scam before donating online. nfm.

Ree

September 13, 2001 01:31PM

=====

My and other swedes condoleancies

Anna-Karin

September 11, 2001 06:13PM

My and I hope all swedish pemberly citizens condoleances to all
americans in the wake of this tragedy. I hope no citizen of Pemberly has been hurt
Anna-Karin

Thank You

Laura L.

September 11, 2001 06:29PM

Thank you again and again for your kind thoughts. It is very comforting to know that my friends
care. I haven't been hert and neither have any of my friends, but I am glad to hear you care. I
will always be here for any one in need of help.
Thank you for your kindness,
Laura

I am so sorry

Constanza

September 11, 2001 07:28PM

I really don't know what to say. This seems really incredible, like a science fiction movie. you are
in my prayers.

By the by Anna-Karin, great to see you

Ian

September 11, 2001 09:49PM

It has been a while since we last e-mailed.
It is very sad news and indeed after a very short night's sleep I basically heard and saw total
coverage of the event before heading to work.
My thoughts and prayers remain for all people.

glad to hear from you

Anna-Karin

September 16, 2001 07:37PM

Glad to hear from you
Mine thoughts are with the american people to
Anna-karin

=====

What can one say?

Captain Everett

September 11, 2001 07:52PM

I spent a good part of the day looking forward to my daily Pemberley fix. At work, I overheard a vague "something" about an aircraft and the World Trade Centre, but no details. I got home to turn on the TV to see images of the second jet striking the tower.

The mind reels at the thought of the scale of the loss, and what can drive individuals to create such a situation.

May I express my sympathies and condolences to those suffering lost loved ones, my best wishes for the injured and traumatized, and hopes for the missing. Also my encouragement and firm belief that the citizens of New York, the United States and the world will find the courage and resolve to carry on.

Jason Everett

Thank you for a beautiful message. NFM

Maisy

September 11, 2001 08:07PM

What a wonderful message. NFM

BarbaraK

September 12, 2001 10:21AM

=====

My flag will not come down tonight...

Maisy

September 11, 2001 08:50PM

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight'
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming.
And the rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?
God bless americans tonight.
Amen.

Amen

Brooke E

September 11, 2001 11:34PM

I never was much of a patriotic, but I am one now! Your tribute "doth wring tears from me."
Though Los Angeles has been officially declared "safe," I can't help but consider that twenty-four hours ago, New York would have had the same label. It is our solidarity as Americans that will now see us through this horrible time.

Thank you, Maisy
Rachel Marie
September 12, 2001 01:05AM

We are survivors. You can see by the lines of people lining up to donate blood all over the country (and in other countries, too) that we are all hanging together in this.

And God bless you, Maisy.

I think it's wonderful how people from around the world are being so supportive and wonderful throughout this difficult time.

From the rest of our anthem:

And this be our motto: "In God is our trust!"

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

-Rachel Marie

Thanks, I've set your .gif as my desktop. Nfm
Ree
September 13, 2001 02:10AM

=====

I'm lucky to be alive
Glenn
September 11, 2001 08:53PM

flew on American Airlines from Washington Dulles to Los Angeles International Airport yesterday. I have often taken AA flight 77 home because it is a non-stop flight and takes me back to LA by 9:30 in the morning. Unfortunately two of my co-workers were on flight 77 today. I had worked with one fellow for years, had attended his wedding in June and just had dinner with him Saturday at Gadsby's Tavern Restaurant in Alexandria. Had my return been delayed for a day, I too would be dead.

OH Glen,
JulieW
September 11, 2001 09:05PM

I am so glad you are safe. I can't sleep here in the UK worrying about you all.
My condolences regarding your coworker. I am so sorry.

So sad for your lost friend. Nfm
Debra R
September 11, 2001 09:10PM

So sorry, Glenn
Jilly
September 11, 2001 09:16PM

I'm thankful that you are alive and well. I want you to know that you and your friends are in my prayers.
Jilly

Oh dear
Sandra R
September 11, 2001 09:18PM

I'm so sorry about your friend. This is just so horrible. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

My thoughts and prayers
Lesley
September 11, 2001 09:37PM

are with you, Glenn at this awful, awful time.

how terrible...
BarbaraK
September 12, 2001 10:18AM

but I'm glad to hear that you are o.k. I'm thinking of you all out east and praying.

So Sorry Glenn
TanyaS
September 11, 2001 09:17PM

Glenn, I am so sorry to hear about your co-workers. I will you and their families in my prayers.
TanyaS

My goodness, Glen...
Jezkalyn
September 11, 2001 09:45PM

I celebrate your escape and mourn your loss. It seems to be a day of mixed blessings.
Yours,
Jessica

Condolences

Karen G.

September 12, 2001 01:47PM

My condolences to you and to the families of the co-workers who died on the plane... and as Jessica said - it was a day of mixed blessings - happy to hear of your good fortune in not taking that flight yesterday.

Karen G.

Sorry for your loss

Barbara

September 11, 2001 09:47PM

...but relieved to hear that another of our group is safe. What harrowing circumstances for you. I felt sick about this all day. I can only imagine how much worse this must be for those who were so personally touched.

I am very sorry

Jen K

September 12, 2001 12:09AM

Glenn, I share with you the unhappy, undeserved, unbelievable feeling of luck. I don't know what else to say, except everyone please go give blood. Thank you.

Prayers

Emilie Marie

September 12, 2001 01:43AM

I am very happy to see that you are safe. My prayers go to your friend and his family. God bless you.

Emilie

Requiescat in Pace

William L

September 12, 2001 08:41AM

Glad you're OK. RIP for your friend

Bill

I too am very sorry

Sansanee

September 12, 2001 10:13AM

for your loss of your friends. My thoughts and prayers for you and their friends and family.

It does make one wonder....

Daniela

September 12, 2001 11:05AM

What is it exactly what God wants from us, and why he chose us and not others to do it.
All my condolences Glenn, although I have never had the pleasure of speaking to you.
Something will come out of this...
it has to.

So sorry for your loss...NFM

Gloria

September 12, 2001 01:51PM

So Glad You're OK

Sarah AO

September 12, 2001 04:08PM

So glad to know that you are OK. I am deeply sorry for your loss, more than words can say.

I am so sorry for your loss ! My best wishes and prayers ! (NFM)

Buba

September 13, 2001 02:37PM

=====

Condolences from Southeast Asia

Isabel

September 11, 2001 09:02PM

I am shocked at all of this...let us all pray.

=====

JenK- has anyone heard from her?

JulieW

September 11, 2001 09:13PM

I am trying to keep track of people in my head.
WilliamL has surfaced,thank goodness.
HAs anyone heard from Jen K?

Not yet, dear.

Jezkalyn

September 11, 2001 09:59PM

I am sure she will surface when she can. Phone lines have been unreliable at best. She works far enough away to be shaken but safe.

I am well, I will go home if I may
Jen K
September 12, 2001 12:03AM

It is far easier to get Internet access than to phones to my friends in NYC. I am perfectly well, and would like to say that most of my friends in the neighborhood of the you-know-what did escape relatively unscathed, if slightly smoke-inhaled. More to come I'm sure. I'm just bloody relieved that my brother, who works on Wall Street, made it out on time.

My love to you all,
Jen K

Dear Jen, so glad to know you are safe... nfm
Jan Lewis
September 12, 2001 12:27AM

Thank Goodness!
Lou
September 12, 2001 12:45AM

All have been wondering about you! I can sleep better tonight knowing you are home JenK!

JenK, there you are!
Ann2
September 12, 2001 12:46AM

"Belive it or not, I did have thoughts of you all on occasion, while I was trying unsuccessfully to reach the rest of my life by phone." Sigh of relief - and you were in ours!
"My love to you all,"
Likewise {{{Jen}}}
Ann2

I'm so relieved. Nfm
Debra R
September 12, 2001 04:53AM

JenK and JulieP
Martine
September 12, 2001 05:30AM

Thank God you are both fine. I was so worried that I couldn't even come up with your names, yesterday.
Blessings to all of you. My thoughts are with you and the victims and their families.
Martine

whew!

jennifer

September 12, 2001 05:20PM

Good to know you're OK, JenK. Thanks for letting us know.
Hang in there, hon.

=====

Such a terrible thing to happen...
Alison Y.
September 11, 2001 09:38PM

I was in NYC for three days in 96. It was gritty and grimy but I fell in love with the city. Manhattan was a lovely place - I've always come back there ever since. But last night my best friend called me and told me to watch TV. And I was shattered, shaken, depressed about the whole thing. How can I comfort those who lost their loved ones. I've lost some people who were dear to me - my mother, my uncle, my grandmother, my friends, my students - so I just grieve with you. Hope there's no more death and violence in the world.

=====

Sounds of Life
Jezkalyn
September 11, 2001 10:01PM

They found two alive in the rubble. At least one is communicating by cell phone. Can you imagine?

That's fantastic! I hope there's more like that(nfm)
Sandra R
September 11, 2001 10:26PM

Yes, at least there is some hope...
Rose H.
September 11, 2001 10:29PM

I heard the same. My sister works in a hospital 2km from the disaster. She has been keeping in touch with us. They expect the worst is yet to come (in terms of casualties). Lots of coma victims and debris/glass injuries so far.
Anyone out there that can, please give blood.

=====

Tonight is not a night to be alone

TracyAnn

September 11, 2001 10:28PM

As I sit here watching network after network replay the horrifying events of this morning, my heart goes out to everyone. Everyone in general. My husband is at work tonight "neither rain nor sleet..." nor massive tragedy, the mail must get thru. I am keeping my dogs close by. It is not a night to be alone. I left for work this afternoon, only to arrive to find out that the mall would be closing out of respect for the victims. Suddenly, my shocked being was struggling with not having anything to take my mind off the events on the coast. I puttered around the store, helping my boss shut things down. I drove home, even with normal traffic, the town seemed slower, subdued, a bit nervous. We gassed up our cars in preparation for what may come in the next few days, the plains with gas prices still high anyway. We took our time taking in everything we saw and heard, shaking our heads in disbelief every few moments. I don't have any relatives or friends involved, but as a small town girl who finally made a dream come true in 1993 of seeing Manhattan, the tragedy struck me hard. I had been standing within viewing distance of the towers just one month after the first bombing. And they were still standing. Two towers, seemingly indestructible, gone. Forever. And the loss of life may total more than the entire population of the town I live in. I cannot imagine what must be going through the minds of the families and friends of the victims.

I spent several afternoon hours in anger, wanting retribution, vengeance, payback, whatever you call it. I wanted the military to strike and take down every terrorist faction, "to show them you don't mess with America". Then I read my brother's diary. His guitar circle keeps an on-line diary and I read entry after entry of the members, seeing the personal thoughts of the average person meant for others to read, and understand. One entry, "I pray for forgiveness in the hearts of American people," struck me. It is right to feel anger. It is right to want retribution. And it is right to seek and attain justice. Thousands have died at the hands of terrorists. Here and everywhere. I see now how those angry feelings can drive a person to fanaticism. But we must find it in our hearts to forgive. That's what makes America a beautiful country. The perpetrators must face justice, but somewhere we must find it in ourselves to forgive them. Maybe not now, but someday.

New York, Washington, everyone has pulled together in the spirit that our country was built on. The land of the FREE and the home of the BRAVE. An act that was meant to tear us apart and throw us into chaos has already, in just half a day, brought Americans together in a way so many disillusioned people never thought would happen. We will survive. We will be free. You DON'T mess with a country with a foundation like ours. Fighting for freedom is what we are and always will be.

Thank you all for your wonderful words this evening. They have kept me company when I am feeling so isolated. I live in a town near an air force base that is on Threatcon Delta. I may have friends and employees unable to make it to work and may be deployed if a declaration of war is made. I will have to be strong for them. Your words remind me that we are all united as Americans, and we will remain Americans. My thoughts are with you all as I ramble, trying to make sense of everything. I don't feel so alone. You are my second family.

God bless America.

TracyAnn

Thank you...

Rachel Marie

September 12, 2001 01:17AM

"I pray for forgiveness in the hearts of American people,"

... so much for sharing that, TracyAnn.

" New York, Washington, everyone has pulled together in the spirit that our country was built on. The land of the FREE and the home of the BRAVE. An act that was meant to tear us apart and throw us into chaos has already, in just half a day, brought Americans together in a way so many disillusioned people never thought would happen. We will survive. We will be free. You DON'T mess with a country with a foundation like ours. Fighting for freedom is what we are and always will be."

You're right. No matter what people say about us, and no matter what cynicism is offered by our own people, we have an American spirit and foundation in freedom that will not be destroyed.

God bless America.

"Thank you all for your wonderful words this evening. They have kept me company when I am feeling so isolated."

I know just what you mean. I turned to Pemberley today and was able to read many comforting messages. This truly is a wonderful place.

-Rachel Marie

=====

WTC SafeList

Kali

September 11, 2001 10:39PM

Looking for someone? Want to check in so others know you're alright?

Thank you for this valuable link

Jennie3

September 12, 2001 07:31PM

My boss's husband and coworkers escaped uninjured from one of the towers, as did a friend from church. I am going to send them this link so that they report their loved ones are safe--they are being inundated with calls of love and concern from around the country. I will also send this to a friend whose cousin is missing. Thank you so much for posting this, Kali!

=====

I pray my Pemberley friends are safe

Patricia Bingham

September 11, 2001 11:50PM

Its been a while since I have poked my head into Pemberley. I just wanted to make a note that I pray everyone is safe and that their loved ones have not come into any harm. The current situation has effected us from one coast to the other and we are all fighting back tears. A tragedy of this unprecedented dimension is very difficult to fathom.

Patricia Bingham
Orange County, California

=====

A different city

Nan

September 12, 2001 12:04AM

I live in the center of Manhattan, on the far west side of town, in a high rise building that has a clear southern view. I was watching as the first tower began to shrink, then disappear into a cloud of brown smoke. Then I watched the second one go down both on my television screen and out my window. Like everyone, I'm stunned and appalled and having completely irrational thoughts. In a few days I will regain some composure but, for the moment, I am not my usual self.

The city is uncommonly quiet. The streets are all but empty. The only indications that anything is wrong are the sounds of sirens and the smoke still rising in the hole where the WTC once stood. All of lower Manhattan is officially closed. The Empire State Building is dark...something that very rarely happens here. There are tugboats on the Hudson--I suppose waiting for the air craft carriers that are expected to arrive soon.

So far, I have been able to locate everyone I knew might be in that area. I'm relieved and thankful, but I have friends who are waiting for news of others. That brings it close enough for me to be nervously waiting on their behalf.

This is not the easiest place to live, and I frequently complain like everyone else...the traffic, the congested subways and the unrelenting pace of our people, make this a less glamorous place to live than many would believe. However, I was born and raised in Manhattan and don't understand any other way of life. I fear the repercussions of today's events and I feel certain that things will never be the same--not in this city or anywhere else.

I m so glad you are safe, Nan.

JulieW

September 12, 2001 12:53AM

Yes, this will change things.

We had 12, I think, bombs explode in my home town in the UK when I was 14. My parents were trapped in the city centre and didn't get home till 3 a.m. They had been to a symphony concert. A girl from my school was killed.

Compared to your experiences, they are small beer, but I do sympathise and know a little of what you are feeling.

Life did change, and we got used to all the security checks.

I am just glad that most people on 9/11 are accounted for.

Good luck.

Love from

Julie W

You are all in my thoughts

Ann2

September 12, 2001 01:07AM

...I fear the repercussions of today's events and I feel certain that things will never be the same--not in this city or anywhere else.

Trying to keep doing the everyday things on a Wednesday morning, I find my thoughts keep returning to all of you, dear and precious Pemberley friends, whether known to me or not. I am so grateful for every name that appears on this board.

Warmly

Ann

So glad you are safe

Elizabeth Cretaro

September 12, 2001 07:07AM

Can't imagine the horror you have been through these last 24 hours. Please know that many people are praying for you and your friends. I believe we have all been touched in some way or other. Monday seems so long ago!

Love, Beth

Sweetheart

Laraine

September 12, 2001 09:45AM

Our lives did change.

I have been heartened by a few things--the hours people will wait in line to give blood, the spirit of the people of New York, and Manhattan in particular, and finally the fact that all the people I know are doing everything they can to reach out to help. Around the country and the world relief agencies are being overwhelmed by offers of help. I know I'm going to give all the blood, time, money, anything that I can over the next weeks and months.

I guess I'm saying that no one seems to be going through it alone, which is the one solace we have.

Love you!

=====

The view from here

Jen K

September 12, 2001 12:31AM

I am quite ready to go to bed, after this day, but I will try to relate my lucky, lucky story. I arrived at work in my office with a beautiful view to see the worst view in the world ten minutes after nine, getting more and more horrible. After witnessing (indirectly, being called out from family phone calls after shouts from the hall) the periodic aftermath of every separate incident, I was finally informed at 11 am that I should go home. Being very far away from that reality, I spent the day at the home of the mother of a co-worker in Manhattan until it was reasonable to attempt to cross the Hudson. I don't know if you can tell from the footage, but I may never be able to comprehend or explain the loss of skyline (to say

nothing of the unmentionable) I experienced viewing lower manhattan from the ferry I took to escape from the city. It is all burned in my brain. One of my co-workers is friends with many fire- and policemen, and I can only think of him. Thank you all so very much for your concern. I will only go now to see that we are all accounted for.

Jen K

So glad that you are safe.

JulieW

September 12, 2001 12:49AM

So are the rest of of household.I am checking now at 6.45 a.m.!

Try and get some peace today,Jen you will need it.

Love from

julie wakefield

Jen!!

Jezkalyn

September 12, 2001 05:46AM

I am so glad to hear you are okay. We were getting quite worried about you. I am so sorry you had, if not a front row seat, a tenth row seat to the carnage. Take care of yourself.

Jessica

Tragic doesn't begin to describe it

Martine

September 12, 2001 05:53AM

I can't watch this anymore. I start crying every time. I can only hope that during the hour before the collapse, as many people as possible escaped. I cannot bear to think of the others. It's too horrible to imagine and stay sane.

In DC, we heard about the airplane crashes, and within minutes, I could hear sirens in the distance, like around the Mall. I even told my colleague it might be prudent to get out of there asap. We ended up staying for a while because our building is away from IMF headquarters and therefore less exposed. Had I been in the main building, I would have fled immediately.

When I finally got out, there was this odd "organized" mayham outside with cars bumpers to bumpers trying to get out of the city. I've never seen anything like that even in the worst of rush hour. A friend whose kids stay at the daycare center at the State Department had to leave in a hurry, after a bomb scare, to get her kids who were evacuated to a nearby church.

I met up with some friends, one of them who has a clear view of the Pentagone from her window. She said one of her coworkers saw the plane go in. It all went so fast. All of surroundings shook from the blast. My friends and I walked to their place (a good 4 miles) as the metro was temporarily closed down (not that I would have wanted to get in there at that point anyway).

There was before and there's after. I can only pray for the victims and their grieving families and hope the monsters who committed these insane acts will be brought to justice.

Martine

Martine, thanks for being here
Laraine
September 12, 2001 09:37AM

We thought of you often yesterday too, and it's relieving to know you are also safe.
Continue to be safe, and talk to any of us to try to deal with all of this.
I think what will help us all in our sorrow is to reach out in every way we can to those
who are suffering most.
Love to you
Laraine

Thank God
DavidL
September 12, 2001 07:26AM

I think you were the last New Yorker at Pemberley unaccounted for, Jen. I don't have the Web at home, so after I left work I spent the evening hoping that you were all right, mixed in with many other fearful thoughts.

Jen!
Nan
September 12, 2001 07:58AM

I knew the chances of you being downtown were slim, but I am still very relieved to see your name here. We've been worried about you, honey.

I was so worried about you.
Candace
September 12, 2001 08:23AM

I am so glad that you are OK! Love to you, dearest.

Dearest Jen
Laraine
September 12, 2001 09:34AM

Thanks so very much for finding the time amid all your chaos to stop by. We waited for you, and you came. Now I can breathe a sigh of relief that all of us are safe.
My heart goes out to you, considering how hard your year has been. I hope that you will come to any and all of us for support.

Thank you for checking in
LaurieC
September 12, 2001 09:55AM

I think I've been holding my breath all this time just waiting for your post. I'm so glad you, JulieP, Golda, Warren, and all the other area Pemberleans have made contact. What a relief! I am so sorry for the loss of friends, neighbors, and associates I've been reading about. Stay well and

thank you for the report.
Laurie

Tears of relief
Barbara Lynn
September 12, 2001 10:27AM

As each person has checked in I have been moved to tears. I'm so glad to hear you are okay.

Echoing sigh of relief
Karen G.
September 12, 2001 01:15PM

Thinking of you yesterday - glad you could check in. It must have been awful to experience it all first hand... I'm sorry to hear it. Hope you got home alright... and SO thankful that you're here.
Karen

I feel so very lucky
Jen K
September 12, 2001 09:06PM

I chose not to go to work today, partially because I couldn't get through to the office and partially because I felt I couldn't handle getting or being there. I am glad that I didn't because I needed this day to recover and be with you guys and my friends on the phone (those I could reach) and just watch the TV. I cried more today than I did yesterday as more details came in and the whole thing started to become real instead of cinematic.
Thank you all so much for your love and concern and I'm sorry for worrying people. As I laid low in Manhattan, waiting to get out, it never even occurred to me to try to get on the Internet

Jen K , you frightened us so much by your absence ! (NFM)
Buba
September 13, 2001 02:48PM

=====

My friend gave birth today
Leonore
September 12, 2001 12:50AM

She had a son named Sebastien at 11:36 am PST. 7 pounds 12 oz. Despite everything else, life happens.

I'm happy to hear it
Katrinal
September 12, 2001 04:09AM

"Despite everything else, life happens."
And goes on... no matter how unbelievable, it goes on. Congratulation to your friend, this gives

hope!
~KatrinaL

There is still life, there is yet hope...

Jo Dale

September 12, 2001 04:51AM

... and all of us here can be proud and say, at least one thing surpasses the horror of this tragedy: the love we carry in our lives every day, that is displayed today.

For those in the US, I can assure you that here in Australia, we are all praying for you.

Jodie Dale

About babies

Vicki I.

September 12, 2001 09:52AM

Lenore, I am writing this entirely from memory so it is not a faithful quote, I don't have access to the book--a collection of prose and poetry--given to me by my college dormitory "mates" when my dad died 31 years ago:

"When God wants to right a great wrong, or make a great change in the world He does not always send down plagues, natural disasters or cause wars to be waged. Instead, God causes a helpless baby to be born of an obscure mother in a tiny corner of the world and He puts an idea into the mother's head, and the mother puts the idea into the baby's head and then God waits....." Hope, new life out of the ashes of despair and direction out of turmoil. Welcome to the world little Sebastian, God Bless You and Keep You in His Dear Love. Life finds a way and so will you. Love, Vicki I.

Babies...

BarbaraK

September 12, 2001 10:15AM

Are one of the best ways to make yourself feel better, even if they never stop crying! 😊 Today at school all my classes were canceled (a day late!) and so we are all pretty exhausted, I only got six hours of sleep last night. The only time I've been noticing everyone smiling is when we passed the daycare/kindergarten. Those little toddlers are soooooo soothing to watch.

=====

Germany is in shock

Silke2

September 12, 2001 01:20AM

My and I hope all German citizens condolences to all americans. We are all in shock.

My friend's brother has worked in the WTC, I hope he and his wife are save.

=====

Dear Friends

Cheryl

September 12, 2001 01:35AM

Like everyone around the world I am stunned, saddened, frightened and angry over the events of today. And I have been moved to tears by the posts here as loved ones check in and we celebrate their well-being and mourn their losses. The love we share and the bonds we have forged here are real, not virtual, and I thank God for all of you.

To our friends in NYC and DC, thank you all for checking in. To everyone else, thank you for being here, a present help in time of trouble.

Dear friends - sympathy from Finland

Tuija

September 12, 2001 02:13AM

Amen to that.

My thoughts and prayers are with you and have been with you all, with everyone concerned in this tragedy, for most of the night.

Thank you to all who have checked in to tell us they're OK. Please remember that all over the world people are sharing your shock, pain and grief.

Thoughts and Prayers from Korea

kimikimi

September 12, 2001 03:04AM

I have nothing to do but pray for you, and for all the people hurt, lost, and gone. I'm praying for you. I'm so sorry there's nothing else to do.

I still can't believe my eyes watching WTC falling down. Now I do believe in the end of the world. I haven't been able to get my hands on usual works and daily chores. God help us all...

kimikimi

And Australia

Lynn B

September 12, 2001 03:42AM

Please know the thoughts and prayers of so many Australians are with you all in the US. While it's impossible for us to comprehend the enormity of the last 20 hours, I hope you can gain strength in knowing your grief is shared around the world.

And in Sweden...

Emilia

September 12, 2001 04:11AM

I cry and I pray for all those who lost someone.

I'm so glad to see so much love and caring displayed here on Ramble, when the rest of the world seems to have gone mad.

Wishing I could DO something...
Emilia

And in Norway, too
Kristin T
September 12, 2001 05:53AM

The American people are in our hearts and thoughts today, and we grieve with you. In the midst of all the terrible that has happened, it's good to feel that we can stand together and give comfort to each other, even if words are not enough...

"Wishing I could DO something..."

I have that wish, too. Even if I can't to anything practical, I will remember you in my prayers. May God be with you all!

In France as well
Emilie Marie
September 12, 2001 09:53AM

I've said it again and again but I just can't help repeating it. Here in France everybody is shocked. We send you all our thoughts and prayers, and we also wish there was something else we could do. Be strong. All over the globe there are people thinking of you.

A little way of expressing solidarity in Malta...
Daniela
September 12, 2001 09:57AM

...we have cancelled all our Independence Day celebrations. There doesn't seem to be much to celebrate at this point. All Europeans have declared Friday a day of mourning.
God help us all.

What a thoughtful gesture! NFM
BarbaraK
September 12, 2001 10:28AM

From Spain too...
ElisabethN
September 12, 2001 02:38PM

Dear Pemberleans,
here in Spain too we are all shocked and very, very sad. People here have been watching TV since we first heard the news and no one could believe it

was really happening. I will never forget this day.

We all here think of the many injured and dead people and we all do pray for them.

And from me. (nfm)
karen from oz
September 12, 2001 07:48AM

I also offer my sympathies
Octavia
September 12, 2001 07:14PM

I second that.

I came in here to see if there was any reaction, and was overwhelmed by the response. After watching the news for about 10 hours, I felt sicker and sicker with grief. I questioned the humanity out there. Coming here is such a reassurance. We are very lucky to be joined within this little community, as I am and was welcomed. If you need support, it is available in a kind word or reassurance, and an absence will be noticed.

I am only regurgitating what has been previously mentioned, but only because it was so sincere and true. I only hope that, not many of you have been affected by any direct tragedy

May God keep you safe, and put an end to all the suffering and turmoil. My prayers are with you.

Octavia

I cannot write it properly - but accept mine also (nfm)
Elena
September 12, 2001 04:15AM

For Austria.....
Sabine
September 12, 2001 07:00AM

..... our Federal Chancellor has announced a "Moment of Silence" for 10:00 CET tomorrow morning to think of America and all the victims. It is only a small gesture and I wish so much there was more we could do.

Sympathy and sorrow
Katrinal
September 12, 2001 04:07AM

My sympathies to you all. Debra, Glenn, William and others; I read and cry. But I thank God that you're still with us.

The American Embassy in Stockholm was closed early and the area is heavily protected. Everyone is in shock, we feel it deeply. In Copenhagen the Embassy is easier to reach.

It's protected too but people gathered there early on to show their sympathy, lit candles and put down flowers.

Whatever happens - let us always reach out for each other. Let us never be separated in our hearts. Whatever happens!

Much love,

~KatrinaL

From Israel

MiriB

September 12, 2001 05:57AM

I am still shocked, this disaster is inconceivable in its magnitude. My thoughts and sympathies are with all of you.

From Slovenia

Katarina and Ursula

September 12, 2001 09:22AM

Dear American friends,

as much as we are aware of the fact that we can do very little to improve the horrible situation, we would like to express our sympathies to you and our hope that something like this can and will never occur again. We are closely following the news, hoping for good news of survivors.

Thinking and feeling for you,

Ursula and Katarina

Yes, thank you thank you thank you

Jennifer Louise

September 12, 2001 08:26AM

...and again, thank you. Thanks to every last one of you from all over the world who have posted prayers, thoughts, encouragements... It has been incredibly helpful for me to read all these messages and know that so many people are feeling for Americans in this dark hour. I know that my voice is just another among many but I still want it to be heard.

There is such an eerie calmness about us today. I don't know if others have noticed it but it's amazing how different things feel. My rush hour commute is usually filled with rude people darting in and out of traffic, cutting people off, tailgating... but yesterday afternoon and again this morning nearly everyone was polite and courteous. Faces are sad but determined. People can't think about anything else and yet we're still determined to go about the business of living and working and being and doing. Others have put it all into words better than I can right now. I've always hated corniness and this will probably sound that way, but I can truly feel that though America is wounded, her heart beats stronger than ever. May God bless this great nation and this great world in which we live.

Yes....

Michele S.

September 12, 2001 09:04AM

can only echo the sentiments that you and others have already expressed here, and offer my own prayers to those who are still waiting for word from loved ones. There's really nothing to be said that seems adequate.....

Such a relief that all of our own thus far seem to be OK. RoP is a truly special place that I am grateful to have access to.

Thanks, too, to all of the RoPers outside of the US who have offered their support and prayers. It is greatly appreciated.

You have said it so well

Barbara Lynn

September 12, 2001 10:16AM

I too have been numb as I have watched the coverage of this disaster, but it is in reading the posts here that I have wept, both from relief and sorrow. The caring and love that is felt here is truly touching and gives me hope. This is indeed a special place.

Amen

Cherie

September 12, 2001 11:53AM

Thank you, Barbara and Cheryl. I am still not able to think or write coherently about this. But amen to all you said.

=====

I'm sorry not to have added my thoughts before...

Daniela

September 12, 2001 04:33AM

but I had problems all day trying to get to RoP yesterday. I don't know what to say...I hope and pray that all the New Yorkers are fine, as well as their families.

We can only pray that things do not degenerate. All the world is with you in this.

=====

Tribute to Peace

Jo Dale

September 12, 2001 04:40AM

Dear friends,

I suppose in times like this, it's unnecessary to tell you what a beautiful thing peace is.

I'm glad to hear many of our Pemberlians are safe and well; to those less fortunate, let us pray for them, their families and, if I may be so bold, the terrible people who brought this about. They are obviously very angry, very misguided and confused in what is wonderful in human nature.

"Eternal vigilance" was the phrase dubbed, for the work towards human rights, but I think it is relevant for what we lacked today - we must be forever striving to be at peace, to be kind, to love our fellow men.

Attached to this post is an arrangement I found of a song which many of you might know. The words are below. It's a beautiful song. Let it remind us of what we can achieve, if we take each other's hand, and love one another.

God bless,

Jodie Dale

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH

For the beauty of the earth,

For the beauty of the skies,

For the love which from our birth,

Over and around us lies,

(Over and around us lies),

Lord of all, to thee we raise

This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour,

Of the day and of the night,

Hill and vale and tree and flower,

Sun and moon and stars of light,

Lord of all, to thee we raise

This our hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love,

(For the joy of love),

Brother, sister, parent, child,

Friends on earth, and friends above,

For all gentle thoughts and mild,

(For all gentle thoughts and mild),

Lord of all, to thee we raise

This our joyful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine,

To our race so freely given,

Graces, human and divine,

Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n,

(Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n),

Lord of all, to thee we raise

This our joy-ful hymn of praise.

Our hymn of praise.

Oh, Jo Dale...

Rachel Marie

September 12, 2001 11:13AM

you're right. It's such a hard thing to do, but we have to pray for our enemies in this. And thank you so much for the song. It has a special meaning to me, as it was my great-grandmother's favorite hymn, and I played it for her on my flute on her 100th birthday, a few months before she died. And it is wonderfully comforting to hear during this tragedy.

=====
everybody in Belgium thinks about you all
christelle
September 12, 2001 05:58AM

We were shocked to see those horrible pictures on TV yesterday evening. My sister called me at the office (we don't radios there) to tell me what was happening and I just couldn't believe it! Afterwards some of my colleagues in other services who had radios started to spread the news and we had to realize this was true. I don't know what to say. Just that the whole country is thinking about you. Everybody talks about it everywhere. We feel very sorry for all the people who were injured or those who lost members of their families or friends. We just wish we would be able to do something. Be strong.

you're right ... wish there was something more i could say... NFM
Leen
September 12, 2001 07:15AM

=====
Strength from Tragedy
Andreamy
September 12, 2001 07:16AM

I was unable to come to Pemberley yesterday - but this morning I see something else that brings tears of hope to my eyes. To all of you around the world who have expressed your prayers, condolences, hopes and wishes, you have our sincere thanks. It means a great deal to me, personally, and to everyone else who is in shock at this time.

I have been praying constantly since yesterday for all those who were lost, all those who are injured, all of the families and friends, and for all of those who are working to rescue those who may still be alive. I live in Kentucky in the USA. My sister-in-law's family all work in downtown NYC, and they are all safe and accounted for, thankfully.

we are all still in a state of shock. I had the day off yesterday because we have to be out of our apartment by October 31. I took the day off to pack (long story). My morning habit is to listen to NPR news, which is what I was doing while I was packing and sorting things. When the first accounts of the unfolding disaster came in, details were sketchy and the idea of just one plane crashing into one tower seemed bad enough in itself. But as the minutes kept ticking away, the details just kept getting worse and worse and worse. I've had almost 24 hours to process it and it's still like a bad dream.

I had to go out for groceries yesterday shortly after the news started rolling in - everyone was walking around in a daze (including me). But when I got to the store, tears came to my eyes when I saw a line of people stretching down the street from the Red Cross office, waiting to give blood. (My husband and I are going to go down to give blood today.) There were so many people lining up - business men and business women, mothers, big burly truckers, punk kids with multi-colored hair - all colors and all types of people. There were so many people there that the Red Cross couldn't handle them all - and most were asked to come back later. I hope that when the images of rubble and twisted metal come back to haunt us, the image of a line of people waiting to give blood will be the one that stands out. That's what I'll be holding on to today.

I certainly had nightmares last night..*shivers*

Alisa

September 12, 2001 08:03AM

It's still hard to believe and I still haven't gotten
ahold of some friends I have in New York. My best
wishes got out to you all! My prayers and hopes are
with you!

=====

Prayers from Massachusetts

Marvin

September 12, 2001 07:17AM

I add my prayers for the victims, their family, friends, our country, and people of good will everywhere.

=====

Let's light a candle and say a prayer....

Jo Keenan

September 12, 2001 07:38AM

Even though I and my fellow countrymen watch in horror and disbelief, thousands of kilometres away
here in Australia, I feel that in our hearts, we are so close to the people of America that we hold them in
a tight embrace, giving them our strength with the merest touch.

So, light a candle and say prayer for those involved in this tragedy; be it citizens of the US, friends,
relatives, loved ones, casualties and especially those who have now found a better place.

Be strong, America, because the world is strong with you, and may God watch over all in Heaven and on
Earth tonight - Lord knows we need it.

- Jo Keenan

=====

Pastoral reactions

DavidL

September 12, 2001 08:04AM

For what it's worth, here's the story I wrote for today's paper. My job was to call local pastors for
reaction and counseling. I was so shaken that I made a point of calling mostly the ones whom I've found
personally comforting and reassuring in the past.

Thanks.

Ann2

September 12, 2001 08:33AM

Sister Zeltmann

How much peace do I have in my heart?
Teresa Leigh
September 12, 2001 10:09AM

Such wise people to listen to...I wish your article was longer!

Thanks for this, David. (nfm)
Janette K
September 12, 2001 12:09PM

Thanks for sharing this. (nfm)
Jane E
September 12, 2001 01:11PM

=====

New York Times today
Krista
September 12, 2001 08:07AM

The news just showed a picture of the front of the New York Times today. Its a close-up picture of one of the jumpers, upside down in front of the striped pattern that the building forms in the background. My roommate and I started crying as we realized yet again what our own families actually witnessed yesterday. To all of you who were actually in Manhattan and nearby the WTC yesterday, I cannot even imagine what you are experiencing, and my thoughts and prayers go out to you.
Krista

=====

Trying to find the words.
Rachel G
September 12, 2001 09:01AM

I went walking my dogs this morning in this soft green gentle corner of England near JA's home at Chawton, then came home to find shots of dawn over NY on the TV. The enormity of what has happened didn't sink in until that moment. I'm too reticent to post often, but I think of Pemberley as a place full of friends, and most of you are Over There!
I send love, tears, prayers, sympathy, solidarity, to everyone who's lives are touched by this terrible tragedy. In a wider sense I feel that includes all of us.
Bah! Words are frail things, and my ability to say what I mean is frailer still.
With love to you all from Rachel G.

So am I ...
SueR
September 12, 2001 10:22AM

As a reserved Brit I was hesitant about adding my thoughts. What more can I say that has not already been said here?

But let me add my sympathy.

Having lived and worked for many years in London I have been affected incidentally (never directly) by various acts of terrorism. I know the shock and disbelief they cause, even if you only hear an explosion or see the aftermath, but especially if someone you know, even slightly, is affected.

But we have never had to contend with anything like what happened yesterday in the US. Like the rest of the world we are in shock.

=====

Pemberley Citizens of the World, Heartfelt Thanks

Suzanne Morse

September 12, 2001 09:20AM

I know others have expressed thanks to all of the well-wishers. I wanted to add my voice.

I am not sure that you all realize the immeasurable level of comfort we in the United States receive by your expressions of horror, by your prayers, by your concern. We are all feeling a little less safe today, and it is extraordinarily helpful to know that the rest of the world truly is looking out for us, despite the actions of a few madmen. They may wreak havoc on our lives and our souls, but to know that the world community cares and is willing to let us know, in the most open of ways, that they too are horrified, that they wish to do all that they can to help - well, it eases the pain if ever so slightly.

We have a hard road to travel, all of us, and we must first look to our "better angels." To blame those who deserve the blame, and to not unfairly act towards those of one ethnicity or nationality. But the example set by those people here at Pemberley, and those people all over the world who have been so kind, it is one ray of hope in an otherwise time of darkness. And for that, you all have my thanks.

=====

IS EVERYBODY ACCOUNTED FOR????

Lisette

September 12, 2001 09:42AM

Sorry for the capitals, but I wanted to draw the attention.

Are all Pemberley/Austen citizen alive?

AnnPac is

DavidL

September 12, 2001 09:54AM

I should have posted this earlier, but I got an e-mail from AnnPac yesterday after my initial post asking people to check in; she expressed thanks for all the concerns and prayers at Pemberley. All of the New Yorkers that I'm aware of have checked in. Can someone closer to the scene who knows the local roster better assure us that we are at full strength?

List of posters on Ramble in the last day or so
Laraine
September 12, 2001 10:40AM

I compiled an alphabetical list of posters in the last day or so (trying to eliminate duplicates), and added a few names of people whom we heard were safe. Although two people have spoken already of losing friends, we have heard of the safety of everyone I can think of:

A Lurker (9/11/2001 3:55 p.m.)
Alice (9/11/2001 11:22 a.m.)
Alisa (9/12/2001 9:00 a.m.)
Alison Y. (9/11/2001 10:38 p.m.)
Allison (9/11/2001 12:48 p.m.)
Amy (9/11/01 11:43 a.m.)
Amy BC (9/11/2001 5:50 p.m.)
Andreamy (9/12/2001 8:16 a.m.)
Ann2 (9/12/2001 2:07 a.m.)
Anna-Karin (9/11/2001 7:13 p.m.)
Anne P (9/11/2001 3:10 p.m.)
AnneM (9/11/2001 9:04 p.m.)
annemarieb (9/11/2001 11:39 a.m.)
Annette M (9/12/2001 6:59 a.m.)
Aparna (9/11/2001 12:28 p.m.)
Barbara (9/11/2001 10:47 p.m.)
Barbara Anne (9/11/2001 12:01 p.m.)
BarbaraK (9/11/2001 11:52 a.m.)
Barbara Lynn (9/12/2001 11:27 a.m.)
Beth H Shaffer (9/11/2001 10:20 a.m.)
Brooke E (9/12/2001 12:34 a.m.)
Buba (9/11/2001 3:05 p.m.)
Cameron (9/11/2001 4:25 p.m.)
Candace (9/12/2001 9:23 a.m.)
Captain Everett (9/11/2001 8:52 p.m.)
Caroline (9/11/2001 1:52 p.m.)
Carolyn (9/12/2001 12:42 p.m.)
Cath (9/11/2001 6:53 p.m.)
Catherine O (9/11/2001 5:30 p.m.)
Cheryl (9/12/2001 2:35 a.m.)
christelle (9/12/2001 6:58 a.m.)
CK (Martine (9/12/2001 6:22 a.m.))
ClaireD (9/12/2001 11:57 a.m.)
Clare (9/11/2001 11:58 a.m.)
Clarissa (9/11/2001 10:11 a.m.)
Constanza (9/11/2001 8:28 p.m.)
Daniela (9/12/2001 5:33 a.m.)
DavidL (9/12/2001 9:04 a.m.)
Deborah Jane (9/11/2001 11:07 a.m.)
Debra R (9/11/2001 8:40 p.m.)
DeeMac (9/12/2001 2:47 a.m.)

Diane Margaret (9/11/2001 6:48 p.m.)
Elena (9/12/2001 5:15 a.m.)
Elizabeth Cretaro (9/12/2001 8:07 a.m.)
Elizabeth Rose (9/11/2001 12:40 p.m.)
Elspeth (9/11/2001 12:17 p.m.)
Elysha (9/11/2001 4:21 p.m.)
Emilia (9/12/2001 5:11 a.m.)
Emilie Marie (9/12/2001 2:43 a.m.)
Filippa (9/12/2001 12:20 p.m.)
Fiona Jean (9/11/2001 3:02 p.m.)
Fionnuala (9/11/2001 4:13 p.m.)
Frances Anne (9/11/2001 10:00 a.m.)
Ginny 2 (9/11/2001 4:20 p.m.)
gkb (9/11/2001 5:19 p.m.)
Golda (9/11/2001 4:09 p.m.)
Gudrun (9/11/2001 2:36 p.m.)
Hanna2 (9/11/2001 2:35 p.m.)
Heather Marie (9/11/2001 1:23 p.m.)
Hil (9/11/2001, 6:10 p.m.)
Ian (9/11/2001 10:49 p.m.)
Michele P. (9/11/2001 4:33 p.m.)
Glenn (9/11/2001 9:53 p.m.)
Isabel (9/11/2001 10:02 p.m.)
NancyK (9/11/2001 1:45 p.m.)
Jan Lewis (9/12/2001 1:27 a.m.)
Jen K (9/12/2001 1:31 a.m.)
JennieC (9/11/2001 10:40 p.m.)
Jennifer Louise (9/11/2001 2:04 p.m.)
Jennifer76 (9/12/2001 11:52 a.m.)
Jessica Boling (9/11/2001 10:51 p.m.)
Jessie Dee (9/11/2001 4:13 p.m.)
Jezkalyn (9/11/2001 10:52 p.m.)
Jilly (9/11/2001 10:16 p.m.)
Jo Dale (9/12/2001 5:40 a.m.)
Jo Keenan (9/12/2001 8:28 a.m.)
Joan, too (9/12/2001 12:00 a.m.)
Julie P. (9/11/2001 2:19 p.m.)
JulieW (9/12/2001 1:49 a.m.)
Kali (9/11/2001 11:39 p.m.)
Karen from oz (9/12/2001 8:48 a.m.)
Karen G. (9/11/2001 3:32 p.m.)
Katarina (9/11/2001 11:10 a.m.)
Katarina and Ursula (9/12/2001 10:22 a.m.)
Katharine Meg (9/11/2001 1:32 p.m.)
kathleen (elder) (9/12/2001 8:23 a.m.)
Katrina P (9/12/2001 2:32 a.m.)
Katrinal (9/11/2001 12:20 p.m.)
Ken (Linnea A (9/12/2001 8:02 a.m.))

Kimikimi (9/12/2001 4:04 a.m.)
Krista (9/12/2001 9:07 a.m.)
Kristen G. (9/12/2001 12:25 a.m.)
Kristin T (9/11/2001 10:38 a.m.)
Laraine (9/12/2001 10:34 a.m.)
Laura L. (9/11/2001 7:29 p.m.)
Lauren Rose (9/11/2001 3:28 p.m.)
LaurieC (9/12/2001 10:55 a.m.)
Lea (9/11/2001 11:53 a.m.)
Leen (9/11/2001 2:09 p.m.)
Leonore (9/12/2001 1:50 a.m.)
Lesley (9/11/2001 10:37 p.m.)
Linda (9/11/2001 1:40 p.m.)
Linda Fern (9/11/2001 7:03 p.m.)
Lindy (Debra R (9/12/2001 12:56 p.m.))
Linnea A (9/11/2001 5:13 p.m.)
Lisa Dalrymple (9/11/2001 10:29 a.m.)
Lisa RS (9/11/2001 1:01 p.m.)
Lisette (9/12/2001 10:42 a.m.)
Lorena (9/11/2001 2:59 p.m.)
Lou (9/12/2001 1:42 a.m.)
LouAnn (9/11/2001 2:14 p.m.)
Louisa P (9/11/2001 3:29 p.m.)
Lucie (9/11/2001 9:14 p.m.)
Lynn B (9/12/2001 4:42 a.m.)
Maisy (9/11/2001 9:50 p.m.)
Mark (9/11/2001 3:57 p.m.)
Martine (9/12/2001 6:53 a.m.)
Marvin (9/12/2001 8:17 a.m.)
Mary Ann (Debra R (9/12/2001 12:56 p.m.))
Mary Anne (9/12/2001 8:24 a.m.)
May (9/11/2001 4:16 p.m.)
MelodyAnn (9/11/2001 4:40 p.m.)
Michele P. (9/11/2001 4:42 p.m.)
Michele S. (9/11/2001 11:51 p.m.)
Michele V (9/11/2001 2:20 p.m.)
MiriB (9/12/2001 6:57 a.m.)
Mirjam (9/11/2001 1:16 p.m.)
Myretta (9/11/2001 5:37 p.m.)
Nan (9/12/2001 1:04 a.m.)
Narelle (9/11/2001 10:34 a.m.)
Nathalie (9/11/2001 1:15 p.m.)
NicoleC (9/11/2001 4:03 p.m.)
JulieW (9/11/2001 10:05 p.m.)
Patricia Bingham (9/12/2001 1:01 a.m.)
PeggyS (9/11/2001 1:26 p.m.)
Pia (9/11/2001 6:41 p.m.)
Rachel G (9/12/2001 10:01 a.m.)

Rachel Marie (9/12/2001 2:17 a.m.)
Ree (9/11/2001 6:43 p.m.)
Reid (9/11/2001 5:16 p.m.)
Renate (9/11/2001 11:44 a.m.)
Rike (9/11/2001 1:39 p.m.)
Rose H. (9/11/2001 11:29 p.m.)
Sabine (9/11/2001 10:19 a.m.)
Sally G (9/11/2001 11:23 a.m.)
Sandra R (9/11/2001 11:26 p.m.)
Sansanee (9/11/2001 1:06 p.m.)
SaraK (9/11/2001 10:20 p.m.)
Sari2 (9/12/2001 9:20 a.m.)
Shirley (9/11/2001 3:45 p.m.)
Silke2 (9/12/2001 2:20 a.m.)
Sofia (9/11/2001 12:32 p.m.)
Stacey GC (9/11/2001 5:31 p.m.)
SueR (9/12/2001 11:22 a.m.)
Suzanne Morse (9/12/2001 10:20 a.m.)
Suzybeth (9/11/2001 3:12 p.m.)
TanyaS (9/11/2001 6:13 p.m.)
Tara O'Donnell (9/12/2001 8:12 a.m.)
Tarja (9/11/2001 12:14 p.m.)
TracyAnn (9/11/2001 11:28 p.m.)
The Mysterious H.C. (chat, 11:30 a.m.)
Tuija (9/12/2001 3:35 a.m.)
Ulrike (9/11/2001 11:01 a.m.)
Ursula (9/11/2001 12:41 p.m.)
Vicki I. (9/11/2001 11:45 p.m.)
William L (9/12/2001 9:41 a.m.)

Wow!

Jilly

September 12, 2001 10:48AM

Thank you, Laraine. That is an amazing list of people. It's quite impressive that so many of us thought of the same thing...to get online and check in to make sure the rest of us are okay. We're a wonderful bunch, don't you think?

Wow is right! This is awesome, Laraine! ~nfm~

Lou

September 12, 2001 11:22AM

Still haven't heard from some DC people

Carolyn

September 12, 2001 11:42AM

Lindy, MaryAnn, Haru, Mary-L (and anyone else I might have forgotten)
please check in, OK?

Oh dear -- Lindy MaryAnn Haru Mary-L -- email or post, if you can (nfm)
Laraine
September 12, 2001 11:47AM

Belated thanks
LindyS
September 12, 2001 10:58PM

Thank you, Laraine and Carolyn and everybody for your concern. I am fine, and so touched by everybody reaching out. My thoughts are with everyone who is still waiting to hear from their relatives, friends, neighbors, colleagues.

Haru checked in on the DWG, is okay nfm
Ann
September 12, 2001 12:22PM

Lindy and Mary Ann are fine. Nfm
Debra R
September 12, 2001 11:56AM

Thanks, Debra
Laraine
September 12, 2001 12:15PM

It's so good of you to let us know, with all you must be going through today.
Laraine

As to Mary-L
Debra R
September 12, 2001 12:30PM

I left a message on her answering machine asking her to check in here.

"It's so good of you to let us know, with all you must be going through today."

Thanks, Hon. It's not been easy. Our little town is coming together this evening (potluck, church basement) for mutual comfort and support. I dread seeing the children, who have lost two very sweet playmates.

**Your dread
Laraine
September 12, 2001 07:54PM**

Debra, I can't say how much sympathy I feel for you.
Take care--sleep, drink tea, be as good to yourself as
you can be.

**Debra, dear
Mary-L
September 13, 2001 12:47AM**

My heart goes out to you and to all who have suffered
losses directly. I spoke with my son, who had called
from Ill. yesterday noon, and mentioned his concern
about his children at school. He was thinking of going
there just to visit, and I thought that was a great idea. I
do not envy you, parents of young kids, trying to explain
such evil to such innocents.
I hold you all in my heart.

**Just checked here, and Debra
Mary Ann
September 12, 2001 01:06PM**

Debra, I'm so sorry about your neighbors.

**Just heard from Catherine
Carolyn
September 12, 2001 12:44PM**

She's OK also...

**Catherine and Carolyn! Hugs nfm
Ann2
September 12, 2001 03:07PM**

**Add mine, sweeties. NFM
Debra R
September 12, 2001 03:26PM**

**Tenby and Haru both okay (nfm)
Michele V
September 12, 2001 06:17PM**

Sorry: post got lost!
Mary-L
September 13, 2001 11:10PM

Hi, all: I got a phone call from Debra R yesterday (9/12) on my voice mail saying people hadn't heard from me, and then responded to Carolyn's post immediately-- or so I thought! Now I don't see it at all; in my haste I must have done something odd when I thought I was sending it.

I am so touched by the caring and concern of all of you! My family is fine, really untouched by anything except enormous grief and shock, as are you all. However, I feel rather shaken by two not-close calls:

First, my older daughter works for the gov't's General Services Admin as an architect, and is assigned to the White House detail. She is often there checking on repairs, heating and ventilation problems, etc, etc but hasn't been there lately. However, when I heard that the White House was probably the primary target of the plane that hit the Pentagon, I was a bit shaken.

Second, my younger daughter, who lives near Boston, flew in here (DC) Sunday eve. and stayed with us, before a business meeting near Capitol hill on Mon. am. She then flew back Mon. aft to Boston. I shudder to think what if her plans had been just one day later, and the terrorists had picked her flight...

We are blessed to be lucky, and grieve for those who were lost, and for their families. I keep remembering the shaken words of the cameraman so many years ago, seeing the flames which destroyed the Hindenburg airship coming in to Lakehurst NJ, "Oh, the humanity!" The terror, panic, and pain of those who died must have been unimaginable! Their families and friends (like Debra R) will suffer terribly for a long time. Thanks to you all for being the caring and compassionate people you are!
Love to all, Mary-L

***Relieved* So no-one is missing anymore.**
Lisette
September 13, 2001 08:26AM

I really feel better now.

=====

Has anyone heard from Golda?
Jennifer76
September 12, 2001 10:52AM

I was talking to her yesterday on chat and she was going to try and get home. Has anyone heard if she made it?

No, she didn't
Golda
September 12, 2001 12:16PM

I had bad information and the bridges home were closed. I turned around, got a little lost in Elizabeth, NJ, but found my way back to the highway by following the morbid NYC skyline and other bridges as landmarks. I slept at my sister's house in northern NJ. It was a comfortable alternative, but I really wanted to be home.

I am at work today. Our offices are closed in Manhattan, but the Brooklyn and Whippany employees were expected to report to work. I find this ironic considering our domestic branches across the country are closed.

One of my staff on a company shuttle bus who took the same route home that I attempted yesterday took 9 hours to get home. At 9pm, they were permitted to walk over the Bayonne Bridge after having their bags inspected. I didn't need to get home that badly. Nor did this guy, but that's IMHO.

This morning, my firm stepped up its security. There were security guards checking IDs at the entrance roads to the complex. There were guards inspecting our bags at the entrances to the buildings, and the ID system that had been turned off inside the buildings to facilitate "communication" has been re-activated. I suppose this will happen all over NY and the country. After a few weeks, or months, things will calm down and security will be lessened. And the terrorists will be back.

I want to go home and look for friends / neighbors. So many people in my community work in the WTC area because our close proximity to the ferry makes it a very easy distance. I am very concerned about one friend in particular and I still can't get through to the NYC area codes. So that's my update. There isn't any need to worry about any of us who weren't in the immediate area. We all suffered emotional damage. People like me in the region only suffered from personal inconvenience. The bigger concern is for all of those lost souls and their families.

What to say...

Jennifer76

September 12, 2001 12:46PM

I am so glad you are safe at least. But there are no words that can express the emotional damage this act has done. My heart goes out to all people affected by this tragedy. I hope you find your friend. Good Luck to you!

the long wait

Cherie

September 12, 2001 03:20PM

When my husband drowned in a fishing accident several years ago, I struggled to find something to be grateful for in the event. I came up with three things: one, it apparently happened quickly - no more than 30 seconds of realizing he was in trouble, before losing consciousness. Two, we found him relatively quickly. It took more than two hours - agonizing hours, not knowing what had happened, whether he was lying somewhere in need of help - but still, much less time than you have waited already. Three, I was very glad it had been an accident and not an act of violence. You and all the others with friends and family involved in NY and DC and Pennsylvania have none of those small comforts. I keep checking in here at RoP because I crave the contact, the words of support, the sharing of stories, and yet it just makes me cry all over again. I wish you good news, Golda.

=====
Also...

Jennifer76

September 12, 2001 10:55AM

I want to thank all those citizens from other countries around the world for your prayers and support. Your concern for America and its people are greatly appreciated! It is comforting to know how much support is out there for us after an attack like this. You have all helped in so many ways!
Thank you

=====
No more words to say

ClaireD

September 12, 2001 10:57AM

There is nothing I can say more or better than what has already been said by so many, nonetheless I send my thoughts and prayers to all in NYC and DC from here in Northeast Ohio.
It is wonderful to see that so many from the Pemberley community are okay, but my deepest condolences to those here who lost friends and colleagues.

=====
Anyone want to chat?

Jennifer76

September 12, 2001 11:06AM

I may go over to the chat room...

I'm there already... (nfm)

Daniela

September 12, 2001 11:07AM

=====
Dear, dear American friends

Filippa

September 12, 2001 11:20AM

An attack such as this is not only cold-blooded murder but also an attack on Democracy itself and an attack on all civilized nations in the world.
I have no words to express what I feel, but in my thoughts and prayers I try to reach out to you all, dear friends.
Filippa (Sweden)

Thank you so much Filippa. (nfm)
Sara
September 12, 2001 02:00PM

=====

The eternal optimist
Daniela
September 12, 2001 11:37AM

I don't know why I'm writing this, because it might seem silly for all those who were involved, but being perhaps naive and having too much faith, whether in humans or in God, I do think that something out of all this tragedy will come out.

At this moment all the Western World, whether American, European or Asian has only one voice, that of condemnation and solidarity. It is rare to see so many different cultures united in a cause that is good, and noble.

Never has the belief in democracy been so fervent, and this is the right attitude which will prevail, or at least i hope so.

Just my thoughts...

Mourning together
Barbara Anne
September 12, 2001 12:10PM

I don't think that it's silly at all. When my father passed away this year, our mourning was made much easier by the show of support by friends and family. Every flower and card made us feel cared about and made us feel less alone in our loss. The wishes of our friends from other countries at this time has left me with a similar feeling of comfort.

I think that we are seeing proof that there is still more good in the world than evil.

good people of New York
LouAnn
September 12, 2001 02:52PM

Yesterday in the midst of all the horror on the news I saw the New York ironworkers who were working close to the scene. They were going up to the firefighters and offering their help, and one said "Even if we just save one life, that's a life saved." It really warmed my heart and made me realize that people do come together in a crisis. I hope when the terror fades we all remember to be as kind to each other as we are being now.

Everyone at work today is trying to smile and be extra polite to each other; I hope we keep it up.

Yes, more good
Natalie S
September 12, 2001 06:31PM

Yes. I think the saddest part of this is that it takes so few twisted people to cause so many broken hearts.

There is much goodness in the world. As long as the goodness can keep hold of its wisdom and courage, there will be real human victory.

I cannot adequately express my gratitude at the outpouring of kindness I have seen on this site. It has restored a faith in who we are as human beings that has suffered quite a blow. Thank you from the depths of my heart.

Something already has

William L

September 13, 2001 06:44PM

Just remember those cops and firemen slogging up the stairs toward the inferno as the poor shaken victims were coming down.

And the spontaneous rush to the blood banks, and to the churches.

And the outpouring of messages from all over the world.

=====

RoP in NYC & DC

Aparna

September 12, 2001 11:44AM

Is everyone at the RoP accounted for in NYC and DC? We are devastated here in Boston. I pray that everyone is okay.

Regards,

Aparna

=====

What of Vero, has anyone heard from Vero?

Vicki I.

September 12, 2001 12:03PM

I've been scrolling up and down the Ramble Board to find some word from Vero and the most recent message I can find was posted on Sep 9th. I checked the list that Lorraine compiled but no Vero. Vero, please post if you are out there--get word to us some how. All my prayer, Vicki I.

No.

Katrinal

September 12, 2001 01:22PM

And I'm worried too, I've been looking all over RoP after her e-mail address without success.

Vero, please post! You are in our prayers!!

~Katrinal

FOLLOW ME TO BIRTHDAY nfm
Vero
September 12, 2001 07:42PM

Thanks, sweetie!! (nfm)
Katrinal
September 13, 2001 04:21AM

=====

My small offering
Rachael Lyn
September 12, 2001 01:03PM

I've been keeping up with the posts, so grateful to see every familiar name. Yet I have not been able to say anything -- for anyone who knows me, a strange thing indeed. But these are the words I have been hearing in my heart:

From John Donne's MEDITATION XVII:

No man is an Island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the Continent, a part of the main; if a Clod be washed away by the Sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a Promontory were, as well as if a Manor of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind.

Oh, wow, same here.
Elysha
September 12, 2001 01:09PM

That is exactly the meditation I've been thinking of since yesterday. Thank you, Rachael Lyn.

Beautiful words. Thank you. Nfm
PeggyS
September 12, 2001 01:22PM

One of my favourites
Kristin T
September 12, 2001 05:15PM

And it sure has a special meaning now. I was very moved when I read it.

Thank you
Lucie
September 12, 2001 08:03PM

These words have brought people for a great many years.

=====

my own meditation
MelodyAnn
September 12, 2001 01:35PM

Dear Lord, last night the world was lit by the candles of the grieving, and through the words of friends across this earth, we felt your comforting hand. We pray for the dead, for the lives cut off by evil, and we know You weep with us. We pray for the living, for the agony of waiting, for the guilt of survival, for the empty places in the hearts of those left behind. We pray for calm, and wisdom, and strength. And we are thankful for the outpouring of love that leads ordinary people to give of themselves without a thought. Such love is of You, and we are grateful. Amen.

Amen (nfm)
PeggyS
September 12, 2001 01:57PM

=====

Today I just faced school
Fionnuala
September 12, 2001 01:38PM

And, as the day just after such a day, where so many things happened, it was a little different. My principal gave us a one-minute silence, as I'm sure many people faced. We had five minutes of prayer, which, at least, I hope will help in any small way. Our school, at about ten o'clock this morning, were working on a small offering which would then be brought to the American Embassy. Please know that the thoughts of a 700 member student body and nearly an 80-strong employee body are with you all. And I know for a fact that most of the world's hopes, prayers, thoughts and wishes are with anyone at all involved. And I think the FUP I used is very accurate, My Tears Flow.

=====

Silence of the air
Karen G.
September 12, 2001 01:38PM

Although some places in the U.S. are experiencing air traffic due to military, or noise due to construction (or picking up the pieces as in NYC), a pilot friend sent off an e-mail (to a flying group distribution) stating that from the little airport we almost all fly out of as private and student pilots, he was there yesterday and all was quiet in the SF Bay Area - absolutely no planes flying in and out - silence on air traffic control all frequencies... this hasn't happened probably since prior to the start of aviation in the Bay Area. I wish I could get out of work and just sit in quiet and not here the air traffic noise... may not be able to do that again. Certainly hard to concentrate here at work...

Yes

Tori Marie

September 12, 2001 02:30PM

The silence has been deafening.

We live very close to OHare International, which is the busiest airport in the US. My son commented last night that the quiet was just too weird.

I'm a little concerned about how my kids will deal with the low-flyers once they get going again.

When we first moved here it was difficult to get used to--my son kept worrying that a plane would crash into our home. I hope we can help him feel safe with them again.

But I am so very glad that you can find some peace and solace in the silence of the airport.

Goodness knows we need all the comfort we can get right now--all of us.

Silence everywhere

Linnea

September 12, 2001 06:49PM

I'm in the Bay Area too (student at Berkeley), and it's not just the lack of airplanes, but an overwhelming quiet. No noisy plazas at lunchtime, just people walking around with radios in their ears trying to get the latest news. I think our generation has really been shocked out of its apathy and complacency.

Far too silent....

Lucy K

September 12, 2001 07:39PM

I was commuting home from work today and looking over the horizon in the sky and straining to see a plane somewhere. I work 10 minutes from Toronto Pearson International -- a very busy airport. I also live in a flight path. The silence has been unsettling -- similar to the quiet when you have a power failure and the reassuring hum of electrical appliances is gone.

=====

poem by John Masefield (1878-1967)

Linda P.

September 12, 2001 01:58PM

I just read this poem, and couldn't believe how oddly appropriate it is for our horrendous tragedy. I hope it may bring some comfort to all Pemberley readers too.

I saw her like a shadow on the sky
In the last light, a blur upon the sea,
Then the gale's darkness put the shadow by,
But from one grave that island talked to me;
And, in the midnight, in the breaking storm,
I saw its blackness and a blinking light,
And thought, "So death obscures your gentle form,
So memory strives to make the darkness bright;

And, in that heap of rocks, your body lies,
Part of the island till the planet ends,
My gentle comrade, beautiful and wise,
Part of this crag this bitter surge offends,
While I, who pass, a little obscure thing,
War with this force, and breathe, and am its king."
John Masfield (1878-1967)

Beautiful, thank you NFM
Leonore
September 12, 2001 04:45PM

=====

To all of you here
Mirjam
September 12, 2001 01:59PM

Dear Pemberleans,
There has been a feeling inside me in the past day that I must share.
Everytime I visited this board in the past thirty hours, all of the concern, wishes, prayers and sharing I encountered immensely moved me. With every person checking in, I felt relieved with all of you. With every story of tragic and horror I shivered. But the prominent feeling is strong emotion, at the horrors I see on TV, and as almost a contrast, the way people stand together here; as they are there too I imagine.
In daily life I tend to be somewhat cynical, but here and now I cannot be.
I can only think: if people can be like this to eachother, sometimes without even ever having seen eachother, if there are places like this, people like these, there is a lot of hope in the world and no madman ever can defeat it.

standing together
Katy
September 12, 2001 02:25PM

Hi,
I've only been posting here at ROP for a couple months (after a long time lurking), but when I visited the Ramble board yesterday I was so incredibly moved by the outpouring of support from people around the world. The concern by other Pemberley citizens was incredibly touching and brought tears to my eyes, although I have not been a member of the community for that long and post infrequently. When I was evacuated from my office building in downtown Chicago yesterday, my heart was heavy, and I wondered dully how and why this could happen. The expressions of worldwide sympathy, mutual concern, and faith which have been exhibited here are testimony, I think, to an ideal kind of community...one which is more like a family than anything else. And this was so encouraging to see.
I send prayers to all Pemberleans who have been directly affected by yesterday's tragic events, and I pray for this country.
Thank you all for being you. 😊
-Katy

How I feel

SueR

September 13, 2001 06:08AM

I too have been touched by all the messages on this board and by people's concern for each other.

What these did for me was to make the whole tragedy real. Watching the news reports on Tuesday it seemed incredible, like a disaster movie. It didn't seem that it could really be happening, though of course I knew that it must be. Then I read the messages here and I could take in that yes it is a real event which affects real people.

It is so sad that this sort of mutual understanding and care for other people is often missing in the world, so that there is mistrust, prejudice and conflict.

=====

Children

Lisa Dalrymple

September 12, 2001 02:04PM

I've been reading through many of the posts on the board and I'm so glad to see the familiar names - I'm not very chatty but I feel as though I know you all as friends. Yesterday Lisa RS posted about talking to children about the tragedy, and I wondered how on earth I could explain something to my children when I don't understand it myself. Then when I got home from work my daughter (8 years old) told me they saw some of it on TV at school, and the after school event we were supposed to attend had been canceled because the principal was afraid the school was going to get hit by an airplane. Now, I know the principal and I know he didn't say that, but that's how she interpreted it. Then my youngest son (6 years old) asked me how the plane crashed, and my daughter told him someone stole it. So he thought about that for a minute and said, "Oh, he must have stolen an empty plane then didn't know how to fly it and crashed". I couldn't even talk, I was so overcome with emotion since I know it didn't happen like that (even as I type I think of his innocent little face). If everyone were as sweet, the world would be a much better place. My oldest son (9.5 years old) was the only one of the three who asked me why anyone would do such a thing, and I could only tell him I didn't know.

My thoughts and prayers go out to everyone in NYC and DC.

If everyone were as sweet

Ann2

September 12, 2001 02:43PM

but his heart is pure

"... he must have stolen an empty plane then didn't know how to fly it and crashed". I couldn't even talk, I was so overcome with emotion since I know it didn't happen like that (even as I type I think of his innocent little face). If everyone were as sweet, the world would be a much better place. ..."

This is very illustrative. Let's not forget this. We must all strive to make our world a place where children have a right to be innocent.

From the mouths of babes

Jennifer Louise

September 12, 2001 03:01PM

What a touching story, Lisa. A coworker was telling me about watching TV with her 8-year old daughter last night. Just as she turned the TV on the horrific images of people jumping from the building assailed them. Needless to say, she wished she hadn't turned on the TV. Her daughter asked, "Do you think those people had parachutes in their offices?"

Even our big kids

Barbara Lynn

September 12, 2001 04:25PM

are having a hard time with this. My 20 year old daughter who is on the other side of the state at college called home 4 times yesterday just to talk (normally she calls a few times a week) and then I found out that she had called her grandparents as well. I think it has hit her more than her 12 and 14 yr old siblings at home or maybe it's because she is away from home and doesn't feel as safe. I just wish I could reach out and hug her, but it will have to wait 2 weeks when we have a chance to visit. I know she has a good friends and a very supportive coach and they can help each other through this, but just the same I wish she were here.

My daughter at college

CarolA

September 12, 2001 05:20PM

called me yesterday afternoon and burst into tears. She had just seen the pictures on TV. She said she needed a hug. Her brother needed to talk to her, too, to reassure himself she was okay.

so good to hear...

Cherie

September 12, 2001 06:21PM

about a young person reacting like this. Here, a couple of college kids being interviewed shrugged and said, "We had it coming." That is as incomprehensible to me as the acts themselves.

Incomprehensible indeed

Jennifer Louise

September 13, 2001 08:12AM

I can't put into words how angry this makes me, not because I can't come up with them, but because I want to respect Pemberley's rules. I don't think they'd be saying as much if someone they loved had been horrifically murdered by terrorists. (Or maybe they don't love anyone, and that's the real tragedy...)

I understand
gkb
September 13, 2001 12:19PM

I understand both how you feel and the young people you mention. If you want to talk about it more freely, may I suggest that the Lobby forum of Dregston might be a good place to open or join an in-depth discussion? I have not been there myself, but perhaps someone else would be willing to talk about it with you. And thanks for adhering to the guidelines. It is hard for me too. I hope nothing I have said so far steps over the boundaries.

she really is a good kid
Carola
September 13, 2001 05:07PM

She waited several hours to give blood and then went to two prayer services Tuesday evening.

Yes, even us big kids go on long rambles.
Brooke E
September 13, 2001 02:10AM

Yesterday morning, after my mother woke me up with the dreadful news, we rushed with our dog and my 11 year-old sister to a friend's house in a Los Angeles suburb. We were in the scary position of being a 10 minutes' drive from LAX and walking distance from a smaller airport that is a frequent landing spot of the president and other dignitaries, so we felt it would be best to get away. We were very nervous leaving my dad at his work (even closer to LAX), but his company maintained the position that shutting down business would be giving the terrorists what they want.

My is not in school yet, but the friend we visited has two daughters in school who are 9 and 12 years old. Having vivid memories of learning about the Gulf War as it happened in sixth grade, I was very curious to see what the schools would be saying when the girls came home. The younger one was sympathetic, but didn't seemed to be bothered much (as was my sister who spent all day watching videos while the adults watched the news), but I was horrified at what the older daughter was saying. As resposible as teachers may be, there were two very strong disadvantages in this case, one being the ease with which rumors spread in a middle school, and two being the tendency of this child to have very selective hearing. Anyway, the 12 year old came home thinking that we were being attacked by the Mexicans and that Disneyland was next. There was a lot more to this interesting interpretation, but I won't go into it further.

As for me, the big kid in our group, I am absolutely appauled and horrified, but I did not know the extent of my terror until last night when my mother (being the only other person in the house still up beside myself) looked as if she were going to go to bed. I am up every night for about four hours by myself, and I usually relish my alone time, but I found myself absolutely terrified and shaking at the thought of being left alone. Fortunately, she fell asleep on the couch (as, by the sound of it, she has done again), so I

did not have to face that fear, but it was a brutal change of attitude for me to face. One of my comforting thoughts has been (as weird as it may sound) that whatever these people have done, it doesn't bother my cats. I guess its kind of a metaphor for the planet as a whole. As my mother has been pointing out recently, it doesn't matter what weapons they build, or how many they make, there is no force on earth more powerful than water and wind. What else could carve the Grand Canyon?

As for my mother herself, I believe that she is taking it the worst. She has been off and on crying (for the act, not anybody we know), but was most stricken by the story of a 22 year old girl from Irvine who had just graduated from college. She looked at me, her own 22 year old college graduate, and just broke down saying, "That could have been YOU!" It was very emotional and I did what I could to hold back my own tears for her sake as I hugged her.

My sister has spent all day watching her X-File videos, finding this all rather boring. I am glad that she has done so, though. Her young mind does not need to dwell on this tragedy like mine has. I am heartbroken to hear the responses of these other, younger children. I truly wish that I could tell them all that it's been some horrible mistake. My support and respect goes out to all of the mothers and fathers who have had to deal with both their own emotions and those of their children as well. I personally have taken a television approach when nothing else seems to sink in. The X-Files and Friends have so far provided good examples for my sister.

Feel guilty

Lisette

September 13, 2001 09:01AM

Even though I'm almost 21 years old, like your young sister I flee from all those news pictures.

Sometimes I am on the point of crying and in the next instant, I feel like: "Oh well, let's go on."

And I feel soooooo guilty about it.

I flee away, because the images annoy me, every program broadcasts the same pictures, all the time and then I have this feeling, that if there is no new news, then why spent 90% of the times talking about the same thing over and over again.

And I know that I'm wrong!!!!

But I can't help it, it must be a sort of defence mechanism that's trying to protect myself from being hurt, but I feel so guilty when I have those thoughts again.

The only time that I can really think about all these events is when I'm here or at DWG. That's the only place where I can think and talk about it without feeling annoyed or angry with the continuous repetition of the same news.

And I know why they do it, I agree with the fact that they do it. Something like this must never ever happen again, but it's only now, alone in my room, behind the computer, that I allow myself the justice of everything.

I feel terribly concerned about all those people that are missing, but again, only when I am here, here everybody has a name and on the television they do not. Is there anyone that feels just a little like I feel, and if I just made everybody really angry with sounding so unfeeling (I'm starting to cry now), please don't

refrain yourself from telling me, I feel that I need it.
Lisette

Guilt
Sabine
September 13, 2001 09:34AM

Dear Lisette, if it gives you any comfort, I, at 23, have felt guilt-ridden these past 2 1/2 days, too. For smiling when someone said something to me, for making myself something to eat on the first evening after the catastrophe happened, for thinking of a story, for feeling like we have to go on at one time, as you pointed out. In fact, I have just spoken to a workmate about exactly the guilt-issue, and I have called myself a horrible person even when thinking of something else than this terrible tragedy. The messages here and at the DWG made me shiver and teary, there are no words to describe it really, and I *know* how I feel about it all, but the feeling of guilt still won

Ohhh Sabine
Lisette
September 13, 2001 09:55AM

You really have no idea how good this makes me feel.

Sabine.....
JulieW
September 13, 2001 02:51PM

I think you must be a lovely person too; what kind of sentiments. And remember, we are all human and need to escape sometimes. Don't blame yourself for doing so. Love from julie W

Your concerns are natural
gkb
September 13, 2001 12:03PM

And your feelings are to be respected. Everyone one of us will have a swiftly changing variety of feelings and we need not be ashamed of any of them. That is how grief affects the mind and heart. It is when we begin to act that we must carefully monitor our feelings and be sure that our judgment and our principles are engaged as well as our feelings. Feelings are necessary but not enough. We must learn how to be whole again, and that means work. When I consider that 24,000 people die every single day of sheer

hunger, it puts the situation into a different perspective. I ask myself where is the media attention for them? When I consider that every nation on the planet has deep poverty to remedy, injustices past and present, widespread illiteracy and innumeracy, and the prevalence of curable diseases, I realize that our work of healing is only beginning. It is right to attend to this event and also right to attend to other things-- from the small details of living our daily lives to developing a large and humane vision of achieving well-being for many, many, many other persons who share the land, water and air with us. Each of us has a role to play and a life to lead and a gift of self to give. Just keep on giving of yourself as you feel the need and have the resources to give. In time, over time, beyond the limits of time, the beauty of life will reaffirm its presence amid the shocks and sorrows of ever-present death.

Oh, no...

Brooke E

September 14, 2001 02:56AM

You should not in the least feel guilty for anything. It is hard, I know. It seems that a common response in tragedy is to feel guilty. This may sound odd, but I start to feel guilty when I am cold. I kind of get this flash of "how dare I complain about something so petty." I don't know why it's that in particular, but there it is.

As for the TV coverage, though I tend to watch all day, there absolutely comes a point, when I literally become sick of it. I feel I have no choice other than to change the channel before I become utterly overwhelmed. At that point, which usually happens at night, I will not watch again until the next day. And then, of course, I feel guilty for watching something like Comedy Central or the Cartoon Network just to get a little levity. And I do feel like I'm turning my back, but I also know that it is for my own self-preservation of mind that I do so. We do not need to be sucked in by these terrorists, in fact, it gives me great comfort to go out and see that Los Angeles is still a fully functioning city. We cannot be brought to our knees so easily.

And I will tell you, I tend to have a very tough attitude about many things in life. I am a very emotional person, but I also have a tendency to think that I don't have problems, and that nothing is so bad in life that it cannot be recovered from, so there is no point in dwelling on the negative. There is nothing you can do about the past, so work on the future instead. In tough times, my mantra tends to be "This, too, shall pass." And while the current situation is beyond the scope of anything in my life to date, I think it still applies that, while we let those that have lost mourn, let those of us that can be strong, Lisette, be strong. It is not our responsibility to be paralysed in sadness. On the contrary, turn those acts for which you feel guilty into acts of defiance. Say, "They may have hurt me, but they have not stopped me from enjoying a movie!"

And they "cannot track that, not with a thousand bloodhounds. And they cannot break that, not with a thousand swords!"

I think

Buba

September 14, 2001 06:07AM

you shouldn't feel too guilty ! Your reaction is pretty natural ! If we concentrated on all the tragedies in this world ... , we could never smile again ... Yes , tragedies happen every day , and some could have been prevented , which is the most tragic ...
But life still goes on ...

Making sense of chaos

Debra R

September 14, 2001 09:30AM

My 16-year-old was coming up with a lot of half-baked scenarios and wierd theories, then getting really angry with us when we tried to explain things to him. He finally was able to articulate his frustration that we were knocking down the fragile framework in which he was trying to understand these events. He is such a classic science/engineering-minded kid: He expects the world to operate according to some basic rules. This chaos is so frightening.

OTOH, our 13-year-old daughter has a much better grasp of history and politics. Of course she is horrified and afraid, but doesn't feel the foundations of her world have shifted.

A good lesson to an old mom (me): Big kids need us, too.

It's hard to watch their pain

Asja

September 12, 2001 04:30PM

When I told my 7 year old about it, he immediately leaped to the conclusion that the crashes happened because the pilots were being careless. I couldn't bring myself to correct him, especially since we were still awaiting word on a family member who worked next door to the WTC. When we had to tell him later that it hadn't been an accident, he was pretty upset.

My 10 year old was quite aware of what was happening from discussions at school.

Unfortunately, she also knew where her aunt's office was, and was quite upset. And now, even though we know she is safe, my daughter wants to go visit her immediately, and suddenly wants to keep tabs on her relatives all around the country.

It's awful knowing what this has done to children's sense of security, even when we follow all the guidelines to help them deal with it.

Innocence

Lisa RS

September 12, 2001 10:07PM

have a toddler and preschooler still at home and as I watched them play the day away I was so very envious of their innocence. They pulled me into their giggling game of 'London Bridge Is Falling Down' and it was all I could do to play because of the images it conjured up.

We live one time zone away from the east coast so very few of our kids knew about the tragedy when they went to school. I fully expected to have my 8-year-old come home talking about it and was grateful to learn that the principal had directed the teachers not to focus on the events. I wrote thank you notes first thing this morning for the decision that allowed me to tell my child in the way that was appropriate for him.

My children...

Andrea TM

September 12, 2001 09:57PM

I'm glad the questions that have no good answers aren't coming from my own son, who is 7 1/2 months old. However, as I always have the a.m. news on for my homeroom students, we saw the horrific events as they unfolded. While they don't truly belong to me, I consider every one of my 132 students to be a little bit mine, and that has made it all the more difficult for me to try answering their very simple question: Why? What makes it even more difficult is that I have Moslem students and students who have come to the US from places like Bosnia, Kosovo and Sierra Leone--they came here to be safe. Living only a few miles from the destruction of the Pentagon and with many of their parents working downtown, they have been truly affected...as have we all.

Don't go to the US, Nea!

Linnea A

September 13, 2001 01:50AM

My nephew Henrik, who is 7, phoned me last night. "There is something I must tell you, Nea," he said. "They are blowing up all aeroplanes in the USA. I heard that on the radio." My first thought was "Oh dear God, has something more happened?" but then I realised that the little bloke wanted to warn me -- he associates the USA with myself and my husband, as we were there this summer, and he was terrified that we might be going there. I promised him solemnly that I was not planning to visit the US anytime soon. My sister then came on the phone and told me how Henrik had talked all afternoon about how he must phone me and tell me about the 'blow-ups'; she tried telling him that we weren't going there, but he had to call anyway "just in case..." There is hope for a more compassionate future.

-Linn

A scene from an Austrian schoolroom....

Ulrike

September 13, 2001 11:07AM

Today, I experienced one of the saddest days in my teaching career. Not because anything had happened to me, or any of my students, of course.

The Federal Chancellor has asked the Austrian population to keep one Minute of Silence to show their support and respect for the victims of the terrible massacre.

I have NEVER witnessed such silence in a classroom before. It was different from the silence one gets during a test, when the children are concentrating on their work, because one can still hear them writing, a cough, sometimes, whispering...there is ALWAYS some sound or other. There was no sound at all today. We were all deeply touched, unable to understand why this had happened, and also unable to express our feelings as we might do in other circumstances. One boy told me that his parents own a mountain hut, and that he was going to hide there if there was a war to come, since "my grandparents used it as a hideout during World War II". The thought of our children already making plans how to escape a war or how to survive attacks with nuclear weapons made me shiver.

Wow
Lisa Dalrymple
September 13, 2001 12:02PM

Makes me shiver, too. I wish I could shelter my kids from all of this and let them remain unaware of it, but I can't.

Wow too
Cherie
September 13, 2001 02:20PM

When I read your story, as with so many others on this page, I was overwhelmed. Thank you for sharing it with us. I've printed it out and will show it to friends, and save it. Thank you.

My Class Was The Same
Sarah AO
September 15, 2001 08:02AM

I am a fifth grade teacher in NC. Our class observed a moment of silence that was state-wide on Friday, September 14. They were silent in much the same way, just looking down or looking at the American flag that is in our room. Very moving.

=====

Sympathy and love from the UK.
Dawn
September 12, 2001 02:48PM

My deepest sympathy and thoughts are with everyone in the USA, and anyone who has family over there. This all seemed unreal, as it was happening you just couldn't believe it. But now the harsh reality of it all has sunk in and the amount of lives which have been lost on what seemed like any other day. I have no connections with the USA but the tears come to my eyes each time I see the terror.

You thoughts are with you all

xxxxx

Love and hugs to you all.xxx
Suzanna
September 12, 2001 03:31PM

This is a terrible tragedy and one that will never be forgotten. You'll be in my thoughts and prayers.

A tremendous comfort
Tori Marie
September 12, 2001 06:25PM

The thoughts and prayers of all you wonderful people, from all over the world, mean more than I can possibly express at this time.
After such horrors as we have witnessed the last two days, these proofs of the overwhelming good in the world do alot toward mending our hearts.

Amen NFM
marysue
September 12, 2001 07:40PM

UK teenagers add sympathy
Lisa Bell
September 12, 2001 03:38PM

This morning as I got on the bus to College I was unsure of how teenagers my age (16-18) would have reacted to the terrible news, yet I was incredibly touched by the amount of sympathy and concern about what had happened. Our thoughts are with everyone affected. We agree amongst ourselves that one of the worst things is that we are unable to do anything. If it has done anything of good it has bought many people together and has made us realise what we have, but that is absouloutely nothing compared to the innocent lives lost and the pain that it has caused. How anybody could even plan such a stupid, inhuman act of violence is beyond my comprehension, never mind performing it. Once again, our thoughts are with you, from the British teenage population.

I'll second that...
Anna D
September 12, 2001 04:22PM

My heart is with all those in the USA, and with connections to the disaster. Sympathy is with you all from all over the UK; as Lisa said, we cannot help but feel terrible for the fact that there is nothing we can do to help those who have been closely affected by the tragedy - all we can give is our support and sympathy.
Anna D

A third voice. (nfm)
Amy BC
September 14, 2001 11:44AM

Your support is appreciated
Laura Elizabeth
September 12, 2001 06:20PM

do not have any friends or family members who are missing, but as an American it is still incredibly hard to deal with this tragedy. I do know others who lost a family member in the attacks yesterday, and I cannot imagine their pain. However, it is very comforting to know that your thoughts are with us, and I think I speak for other Americans as well as myself when I say that your support will undoubtedly help us as we face this terrible situation. So, thank you for thinking of us.

TKS nfm
William L
September 12, 2001 07:14PM

=====
Still trying to process this
Michelle L.
September 12, 2001 03:28PM

My condolences to anyone who has lost loved ones or colleagues.
I still cannot take this in. I think we Americans have been forever changed. Maybe that's hyperbole, but I cannot begin to put it any other way.
We heard the coverage at work on the radio. Couldn't pull up anything on the Net for hours. When we did, we thought it was unbelievably horrible. When I got home and turned on the tv, I realized the still photos were nothing. It was like something out of hell.
My prayers are with you.

=====
Pray for peace...
Maisy
September 12, 2001 03:56PM

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi
Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
...where there is injury, pardon;
...where there is doubt, faith;
...where there is despair, hope;
...where there is darkness, light;
...where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
...to be consoled as to console;
...to be understood as to understand;
...to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
...it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
...and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Use the link to hear Sarah McLachlin's Prayer of St. Francis (# 16 in column)

Thank you
MelissaJ
September 13, 2001 12:08AM

I appreciated these inspiring words as well as the link to that beautiful song. Thank you again.

=====

Don't drink the water?
JennieC
September 12, 2001 03:57PM

I've been listening to radio coverage on NPR pretty much throughout the day here as I've finished up packing for our move this Saturday. Several times it has been mentioned that the heightened security measures all over are because "This is not over." Further attacks (not just hijackings) are anticipated. I think Colin Powell mentioned biological warfare. I know that is one thing which has worried people for years -- germ warfare is a frightening thought, because it can so easily kill entire cities. A neighbor asked me today if people in the cities would be drinking the city water or if they would need bottled water from reliable sources. I hadn't thought about this before, because we live in the sticks and have a well, but I just want to say that if it comes to that, our family is more than willing to help provide fresh, potable water to anyone who might need it. We have a Katadyn filter besides the well water. And we've got some bottled water stored (in case of drought, which has happened three years out of four here).

We're moving to Alabama this weekend, but I hope to be back online early next week. Maybe this is really an off-the-wall post, but my neighbor's question just got me thinking....
JennieC

Precautions
Leonore
September 12, 2001 04:44PM

Thanks for the water offer, though it probably won't be needed. The anti-terrorist units of the Atlanta Center for Disease Control were mobilized early yesterday morning, and I suspect Powell is just trying to be honest about all possible scenarios.

Germ warfare does not seem to be the preferred method of these particular terrorists, who although well-organized, were basically a handful of trained pilots able to dodge standard airport security procedures. Germ warfare is what they would do if killing people was their top priority. But what they wanted was to kill people as part of a bigger priority - attacking large, obvious symbols and making a huge international media statement - and they got it.

=====

Pray for the survivors

Jane E

September 12, 2001 04:36PM

I haven't checked the news lately so don't know what success rescue efforts are having, but my prayer is that all those who may still be alive in the wreckage can HOLD ON until rescue workers manage to find them.

My own little piece of thankfulness - my brother's next door neighbor was in the WTC and made it out safely.

=====

A haven indeed

Anne Frances

September 12, 2001 04:42PM

My Dear Friends at Pemberley,

I have so many thoughts and emotions running through my head that I'm having trouble sorting them all out. So bear with me.

I live in a small town nobody's heard of in a state no one pays much attention to, and yesterday morning I have to admit I was grateful for this fact, as I watched helpless and horrified. I was literally trembling. I still do when I see the pictures and video. I'm a young person; this is the first time I've lived away from my family and relatives and suddenly the world has become very cold and lonely. I'm having trouble processing it; everyone keeps using terrifying words: "terrorism", "thousands dead", "shocking", and worst of all, "act of war." They keep throwing "war" around, it seems, in every other sentence. I wish they wouldn't. For five consecutive generations my family has fought for my country. I'm proud of this, but I've seen first-hand the effects war has on a person and I don't want to be the sixth generation to face and live with this monster. I'm just tired of it all.

It's a surreal experience too. Inside, the tv, radio, and newspaper are all shouting destruction and tragedy; but when I go outside it's a beautiful Indian summer day, birds and trees and blue skies and soft breezes. It's as if I'm living in two different worlds. So I'm spending more time outside. I'm also reading poetry for comfort. You can't destroy poetry.

Others have said this, but I can't thank the international members of Pemberley enough for your words of comfort and support. I've never seen you but I can feel your love and friendship and I can't help but smile with gratitude when I read your messages. The world really has gone crazy, I think; hate and revenge and death and chaos, but here, at our wonderful site, there really is haven. I can't be with my family (none of whom live in NYC or DC, thank God) but I can come here. And I'm marveling at how unusual this community really is. Here are people from all over the world--different religions, races, countries, languages--and we're *friends*. Because we all love Jane Austen.

God bless us all, and God bless Jane Austen. 😊

Anne Frances

So true. (nfm)

DeeDee

September 12, 2001 04:51PM

JA for help
William L
September 12, 2001 08:07PM

In their book, Speaking of Jane Austen, Sheila Kaye-Smith and GB Stern tell of how they turned to the novels for relief in two world wars, and GBS describes how she came out of a real, clinical depression reading JA.
Here you can not only read, but also talk of them with other fanatics.
Aren't we lucky.

I marvel with you (NFM)
Mirjam
September 13, 2001 05:27AM

Indeed ! (NFM)
Buba
September 14, 2001 06:14AM

=====

We are all Americans
PatG
September 12, 2001 04:43PM

There are no words to express the sorrow, shock and sadness felt when seeing the terrible images of the terrorist attack yesterday.
It was not only an attack against the US, but against humankind.
My sincere sympathy for all the families that lost relatives in the WTC, the Pentagon and the airplanes.

=====

Thank you
Katharine Meg
September 12, 2001 04:59PM

I am a relative newbie around here, and feel slightly weird about posting here about this, since I don't know any of you as well as you seem to know each other...but I just had to thank you all very much for being here and being such caring, sensitive people.
I live in the Philadelphia area, about halfway between New York and Washington. I grew up in Northern New Jersey, just west of New York city, and when I was a child, the proof of a clear day was being able to see the World Trade Center towers from where we lived, approx. 40 miles away.
For a while, we were seriously worried yesterday about my brother-in-law, who lives and goes to school in Greenwich Village, just north of the WTC complex. Thank God for the Internet, because we couldn't use the phones, and were finally able to hear from him via email. He's ok.
Our next door neighbor and friend has presumably lost her son, who was on the 104th floor of one of the towers and hasn't been heard from since.
All of us here are surrounded by horrible images of fire, death, pain, and suffering.
I turned to the Ramble board yesterday afternoon, and found hundreds of supportive people all coming

together in a spirit of peace, caring, and brotherly (sisterly?) love. Since then, I have been coming to this board often for comfort, to see people coming together, to see the total opposite of the hate and evil which has been filling the airwaves and the lives of the people here in the Northeast US. What was it that Edmund said in Mansfield Park, somewhere near the end? I don't have my book on me, but I think it was something like "Fanny, my only sister, my only comfort now.." Thank you for the comfort you've given me, and thank you all for being who you are and doing what you're doing for each other and for people you've never seen or spoken to before.

May God bless you all.

-Katharine Meg

Yes

Lorena

September 12, 2001 05:14PM

I am also relatively new to the RoP, but I have appreciated all the posts, the support, the prayers, the good wishes. They have helped make this much more bearable. Whenever I feel overwhelmed I just come here and read the many messages posted and I'm conformed.

I give thanks to God that such a community exists where people from around the world can come together and help each other.

For KM and Lorena

William L

September 12, 2001 05:46PM

If we are helping, we are doing as God wishes. Any comfort you can get from us, especially this old devil, you are more than welcome to.

Hang in there, Bill

=====

A DWG lurker is missing

Ann

September 12, 2001 05:03PM

I've just heard from a dwiggie that a friend of hers and a DWG lurker is missing.

Please pray that she shows up safe and sound. And pray for her friends and family.

If you can, let someone know?

Laraine

September 12, 2001 07:30PM

Ann, if you get word, please send some email or post. We are very concerned about everyone.

Thanks, Laraine

Of course (NFM)

Lucie

September 12, 2001 08:00PM

=====

John, are you there?

Linda Fern

September 12, 2001 05:38PM

I have noticed your post on MP as of (9/11/2001 6:01 p.m.), but you have not posted since. I do hope you and yours are okay. Please check in.

Love from Linda

Thanks, Linda. I'm merely depressed that

John

September 12, 2001 11:23PM

there is so much despair in the world.

A message for everyone - In Loving Memory

Linda Fern

September 13, 2001 06:48AM

This message was sent out yesterday on the Webspirations site.

My faith remains strong - so hold on, dear ones!

=====

A cruelty of trumpets

William L

September 12, 2001 07:04PM

In Stephen Vincent Benet's epic poem of the Civil War there are many wonderful lines, and none better than the three in which he reflects on the opening of that war. By the general tenor of the ROP posts, I believe that most are great lovers of peace. At this time, I recommend much prayer, for I think my country is not of that mind.

Here is Benet, as the first shots are fired:

"The cold cruelty of trumpets wounds the air.

The captains fit their coal black armor on.

The ponderous princes draw their gauntlets on."

Pray hard people.

Amen! Nfm

Linda Fern

September 12, 2001 08:33PM

Many Americans agree with you- peace over hate (nfm)

Krista

September 12, 2001 11:17PM

The lone turbaned man and his be-scarved wife

Marian Z.

September 13, 2001 07:05AM

In my heavily populated suburbia the bearded turbaned man that I pass on my walk every night was wearing a NY Yankees baseball cap over his grey hair tonight instead of his turban. It was so sweet, yet so sad.

What to do? What to do? I just made sure to give him a bigger smile tonight and a little louder "Good Evening."

"I pity the poor immigrant"

BTW - Tony Blair is my eloquent hero - Hurrah for Britain! -- Go you classy people!

I was so comforted by the supportive statements I heard coming from there. I feel as if the maelstrom of hate could become a soaring spiral of peace.

TKS Marian,

William L

September 13, 2001 10:15AM

you have done what you could. When you see them again, give them a little salute for me.

...a soaring spiral of peace...Amen nfm

PeggyS

September 13, 2001 11:46AM

=====

Maybe someone can help me

Lauren Rose

September 12, 2001 07:15PM

I have a friend who lives on Manhattan Island in area code 212. I have been trying to call her from here (Australia) and I get a recording that her line is not working. Is this in effect for all of Manhattan still? Is there any place I can post a message where people in NYC are looking to let people know they are ok? Thanks, I am getting very worried about her.

Some links

Barbara Anne

September 12, 2001 07:28PM

Here are the links that I found. I hope that they are helpful to you!

Another link, some experience and an offer

Myretta

September 12, 2001 07:34PM

But, let me just say that the phone lines to New York are very busy and it is difficult to get through. I have been talking to Nan, but I typically have to redial up to 5 or 6 times

to get through to her. If your friend does not work or live in the World Trade Center area, chances are she is safe and is just not able to communicate at the moment. Please let us know when you find her.

However, if you would like to e-mail me with your friend's name and telephone number, I will keep trying to call her for you and let you know if I can get through.

Thank you very very much
Lauren Rose
September 12, 2001 09:44PM

Thank you to everyone. I haven't yet found her name on any lists, so I am hoping that is a good sign.
And thanks for your offers to call her.

Send the number
Golda
September 12, 2001 08:24PM

I may have better luck than Myretta reaching your friend since it won't be a long distance call for me. Then again, who knows, since some people had an easier time calling the City via long distance than locally. Send me your friend's number and I'll give it a shot.
Send it to Myretta too though, because I might not be able to log in again tonight.

Little luck with 212s
Jen K
September 12, 2001 08:36PM

Please don't worry too much. My office has a 212 area code and I (and the people I work with who I've spoken to) have not yet been able to get through. Have you tried e-mailing her? I have been using e-mail to reach people in NYC (especially those with high-speed connections) to some good effect. And like Myretta says, keep trying. She may also be trying to call you and is unable to get a line out. I do hope you hear from her soon.

=====

Support from everywhere...
Zsenya
September 12, 2001 08:16PM

Hello all,
I haven't posted here in ages, but RoP was my introduction to the world of Internet communities, and the website that I currently operate is modeled after this wonderful place.
It's primarily a Harry Potter fan site (www.sugarquill.com), but we have a "Ramble" board as well (Parseltongue) and I thought people might be interested to see what has been reported and discussed there. I've been amazed by the concern and care that everyone has shown for each other. As far as we know, all the regular (and lurking) members who live in NY or DC are alive and well, but they've posted accounts of what they're going through.
"Arabella" on the Sugar Quill posted as "Megan Kelley" over here, and there may be one or two

Pemberley members who crop up as well. She lives in NY and has been updating us as to her experiences, as have others.

Zsenya

=====

I spend more time at the DWG, but...

Becca Ann

September 12, 2001 08:19PM

...it was amazing to see how much support we all have for each other and everyone who may have been a victim of yesterday's tragedy. I just wanted to add that my prayers are with each and every person affected by yesterday, and those of us that are safe as well.

With all my love and Prayers,

Becca Ann

Me too

Katy Ann

September 12, 2001 09:23PM

but I'm delurking here to let you know that you gave me goosebumps and a lump in my throat to see such a stunning outpouring of support, prayers, and love. My prayers are with all of you wonderful, wonderful people as we go through this terrifying time. May God bless you all with comfort and peace in the coming weeks.

Katy Ann

=====

Did anyone else notice this? (etc)

Jan Lewis

September 12, 2001 08:44PM

My ex-husband saw this, not me. But I will certainly look for it tomorrow. About 6:00 am this morning, dead overhead in the sky, he saw a crescent moon and, within its (invisible) circumference, the brightest star in the sky.

This celestial configuration appears on the flags of Afghanistan and Turkey. It symbolizes "Islam rising". It might be a coincidence. But we know the terrorists are big on symbolism, so I wonder. I don't know how much longitude and latitude would affect what one sees, but I presume it would be pretty similar throughout the US. Look at the early morning sky tomorrow - tell us what you see.

If this really was part of the plan... what a frightening enemy.

I have just heard that the male passengers on the United flight that crashed in Pennsylvania had heard about the WTC incident and decided to rush the cabin after the hijacking. That two of them told their families this via cell phone. That's why the plane crashed in Pennsylvania instead of into some other heavily populated and highly symbolic target. This just takes my breath away. I can't even write about it without weeping.

Lastly, I want to say how much it has meant to me to be a part of this warm and caring community at such a terrible time. I've been very busy at work so I've not had the chance to post - but I've been able to check in and read some of the posts a couple of times a day. It has really helped me, though some of the

posts moved me to tears. Thank you all...
Jan

Very interesting, thanks for sharing! Nfm
Linda Fern
September 13, 2001 07:25AM

Actually... (Astronomical note)
The Mysterious H.C.
September 13, 2001 12:42PM

A star can't appear fully within the circumference of the crescent moon, because the unlighted part of the moon is there and blocks the view -- though a lunar meteor impact or (theoretically) volcano could be visible there.

I misspoke - it was just outside, not within (nfm)
Jan Lewis
September 13, 2001 02:18PM

=====

Not outside, but inside
Joan, too
September 12, 2001 09:02PM

The new image at the top of the message index is from indoors rather than outdoors. There's a story behind it that somehow seems to fit well with the current mood of connectivity between people most of whom have never met in person.

Between June of 1988 and August of 1990 I was on sabbatical while in grad school at the U. of Minnesota. My (furnished) house was rented out, at first to a Japanese family who had been transferred by their employer to California, but who had to break their lease when their employer suddenly transferred them back to Japan. It was hard to find a short-term substitute renter to take over the remainder of the lease but the property manager finally found a family who had purchased a home but could not take possession until the end of July, but had to vacate their current home because their lease had expired and their current landlord would not permit them to remain without signing another full-year lease.

I never met these people, but when I returned home on August 9th, I was met with a nice clean house and an African violet in full bloom in a 4" pot sitting on the counter of the pass-through between the kitchen and dining room.

I had never been an "African violet person" before, having heard that they are finicky and require lots of attention, but I kept on watering it, and it kept on growing and blooming. It appeared to be happy in that location, which has a fluorescent light fixture mounted about two feet above it, and appeared to require no special attention other than exposure to that bright light. After some months I transplanted it into a 6" pot when it became too top-heavy for its existing pot, and ultimately discovered that it was easy to "clone" just by putting a removed leaf in water and permitting it to root.

The plant in the photo that is in bloom is one of these clones, with its original "parent" still alive to the left of it. Eleven years later, I still think of those people (whom I never did meet) each time I look at these plants. :-)

Wow, if they ever knew...

May

September 12, 2001 09:22PM

...that their 1 simple, kind act has kept themselves alive in your mind forever. If only each and every one of us would remember that what we do will leave a lasting effect on others.

Thank you

MelissaJ

September 12, 2001 11:45PM

Thank you for sharing this story, and I agree--it is very fitting at this time. I hope that we all remember we do not stand alone in this world, but rather we are all connected as brothers and sisters in the human race.

Plants are special ways to remember people

Vicki I.

September 13, 2001 12:44AM

Thanks Joan for sharing your story. It reminds me of the peace rose in my mother's back yard that we call Daddy's Rose. A dear friend of the family brought it to us in 1970 in lieu of flowers when my father passed away. She said that she wanted to give us something that would remind us of daddy every day of the year. He loved to make things grow and she couldn't have given a more fitting memorial. Thirty one years later it is still blooming and when I went back to visit mom in August it was absolutely loaded with blooms and every time I see it I think of Daddy and dear Mrs. Kaiser who gave us the rose bush and I whisper a prayer. Love, Vicki I.

=====

Perspectives

KaraLou

September 12, 2001 09:10PM

It's interesting how catastrophic events like this puts things into a different perspective. I have thoroughly enjoyed reading (and writing) stories from here. When news of the tragedy hit, I suddenly felt very guilty of indulging in a very selfish pastime. I suddenly felt that my preoccupation with Lizzie and Darcy had no real value. But as I watched the news over and over again, I needed a change, I needed some distraction. So what did I do? Turn to here. It was a simpler time, yet we know that even back then there were threats from other countries. My thoughts and prayers go out to everyone who has been affected. My prayer is that none would direct their anger toward God, but draw nearer to Him for strength.

=====

Coming out of the shock

Cinthia

September 12, 2001 09:44PM

Many of us witnessed it on tv screens around the world, but nevertheless it has affected us as well. NY and Washington are not only inhabited by Americans, people from other nationalities also live and work there or visit them for tourism or business, in particular in a financial center as WTC was. That is why I agree with those who have said that this was not only an attack against the US, but to all the civilized world.
My prayers to all.

Thank you
Jennie3
September 13, 2001 07:48PM

Thank you for saying this, Cinthia. There were people from many different countries around the world working in the WTC. I heard yesterday a story about a company in Japan frantically seeking word of its employees. Words cannot express the enormity of this tragedy.

=====

A NYC View
Golda
September 12, 2001 10:21PM

I finally arrived home tonight after a swift and easy trip home. I think most of the people who were locked out of NYC yesterday went home earlier today. They didn't bother to work a full day as I did, but part of my motivation was much better e-mail and Internet access at the office. I was very glad to learn that my friends and neighbors were home safely. I also came home to 9 messages on my answering machine from friends who were calling to see if I was OK, and others passing on messages.

As I suspected would happen, every friend or co-worker that I talk to knows someone who has lost a family member. Fortunately, I do not have a direct story to tell and I know that I am lucky.

Now for my Subject line topic. I went upstairs to my best friend's loft which has sweeping views of Brooklyn, Manhattan and the east coast of New Jersey. Our building is about 5 miles from Manhattan across NY Harbor. The lower half of Manhattan is split in half between fully lit and dark. There is no electricity on the western half where the WTC once stood. The dark half of the island is backlit with strong flood lights set up to aid the rescue effort. I wish I had a tripod and 1000 ASA speed film to properly record the scene. Another neighbor said he thought the buildings that remain standing (and there are many) looked like tombstones from the distance. An interesting analogy.

Most of you probably won't see this picture in the press because from everything that I've seen scanning the TV, the press is restricted to locations north of the WTC. I live to the south.

The skyline is completely different when you look at it from 5 miles away. Many of the remaining buildings are around 50 stories. I know that is tall by most people's standards, but Manhattan island doesn't seem so grand from a distance without the towers.

The local news that I'm listening to in the background right now is not good. The only people checking into emergency rooms now are fire fighters and rescue workers.

So this is my report for the night. I've done more than my share of rambling these past two days.

Love to you all,
Golda

Thanks

LindyS

September 12, 2001 10:50PM

Thanks, Golda, for helping me visualize it -- I wish you had the camera equipment, too! Glad you and those you are close to are all safe.

The reports about all the emergency medical personnel standing by with no one to aid are terribly sad, but at the same time I appreciate the official personnel and media speaking realistically about the low probability of rescuing any survivors, rather than dangling a hope that could be sensationalistic and would cause additional pain when the inevitable is finally acknowledged. From very early in the day today local news (DC) has been saying there is really no hope of recovering anyone alive from the Pentagon.

NYC skyline

Krista

September 12, 2001 10:50PM

I am driving up to New York this weekend to be with all my family, some of whom were right there or among the rescue workers (firemen, cops, etc.). I don't want to see the new skyline from the side of the New Jersey Turnpike, but I know I can't avoid it. . . Selfishly, I don't want it to be that real, to see it for myself instead of on the news.

The Empire State Building is dark.

Julie P.

September 13, 2001 05:41AM

The Empire State Building was evacuated last night for a bomb scare, as was Penn Station, which is a few blocks to the West. Thousands of people who live nearby were asked to leave their apartments and head East. Luckily, it was a false alarm, but it was still unnerving, to say the least.

I live in Manhattan and, even though the trains have started to run again, and the bridges and tunnels are open for business again, I still feel somewhat isolated. The streets aren't as crowded, the stores aren't completely stocked, mail delivery is erratic (no air mail at all), and the smell is inescapable. I can see the smoke from my neighborhood, but can no longer see the Towers from my office window. It is not an exaggeration to say that life will never be the same again.

My mother couldn't get out of town on Tuesday, so she stayed with me that night. We were up until all hours watching TV, switching back and forth between the national coverage and the local coverage. It was all very surreal then, and it still is. It's as if the rest of the world has gone away.

I've been working my way through my address book, calling people to see if they themselves are OK, or if mutual acquaintances are OK. And, as with Golda, I too have been getting such calls. So far, pretty much everyone I care about who worked there is alive and well. Only one person of my acquaintance is unaccounted for at this point. There are still people whom I knew professionally whose offices were in the Towers, and I have not heard anything about them. Since I am not close to them personally, it will be harder to find out anything about them. It is so nice to come here and know that others care.

I had a moment of despair

Martine

September 13, 2001 07:20AM

When I heard this news, I started crying and praying (and I'm not all that religious). I have been to the ESB many times. It's my favorite building in NYC. I was there last Spring when I visited with my parents. I couldn't bear the idea that it could end up like the WTC. It was just too much.

On top of that, at that same moment, there was a suspect package being investigated by the Montgomery County Bomb Squad at the Judicial Center in Rockville, MD, not a mile and half from my house. I really thought we were in for another round of attacks.

I can't hear a siren without tensing. As much as I hate to admit, I am scared that more is to come. I am particularly weary of the metro, which I normally take at Farragut North, the exit most tourists use on the Red Line (metro) when they go to see the White House. I've decided to walk pass the downtown stations up to Woodley Park, thinking that if anything happened, it would probably be at Metro Center and the likes of it. If you take the metro in the DC area, please be very careful.

Like most of you here I'm sure, I've slept a grand total of 5 1/2 hours in the past two days. But I'll be damned if I don't go into work. I'll crawl if I need to. I refuse to give those B***ds the satisfaction.

As you may know, I work for the International Monetary Fund. The World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings were to be held in a couple of weeks. Now there is talk of cancelling them, mostly due to the danger of gathering so many heads of governments in the current conditions.

As for the publication we put out at the moment of the Meetings as background information for discussion (World Economic Outlook; gives estimates of where the world economy is heading for the next 6 months), it is pretty much meaningless at this point. Don't know what will happen.

I just looked to the left of my desk and saw a leaflet that looked familiar: I pulled it out. It was the brochure for the cruise sightseeing tour my parents and I took around the South of Manhattan, last spring. I can't believe it has become a historical document now.

Martine

Chilling accounts - thank you Golda Julie & Martine – nfm

Marian Z.

September 13, 2001 08:31AM

Honey

Laraine

September 13, 2001 10:05AM

Dearest Martine,

Please know that we support you in how hard this all is. I too wonder what the next move will be. Anticipation is horrible.

Hang on to those memories of your trip with your parents. They are most valuable.

Rest, please. It will help you most. Take a Benadryl or something, but get some

sleep.
Email me if you like. I think of you often.
Love,
Laraine

It is always good to read you entries...(nfm)
Elizabeth Cretaro
September 13, 2001 07:58AM

We definitely care
Jennifer Louise
September 13, 2001 08:17AM

All of America and all of the world feels this, but we know that it was New York who took the biggest and the hardest hit and we won't forget that. I am so sorry to hear that the city New Yorkers know and love looks and feels different. We all look and feel a little different because of it. My heart cries.

We do this side of the pond too. Nfm
JulieW
September 13, 2001 08:48AM

The ESB
Karen G.
September 13, 2001 11:33AM

"The Empire State Building was evacuated last night for a bomb scare, as was Penn Station, which is a few blocks to the West. Thousands of people who live nearby were asked to leave their apartments and head East. Luckily, it was a false alarm, but it was still unnerving, to say the least."

My mom and I went to the top when we visited in April. Bomb "scares" after such tragedies are a bit infuriating, because its as if someone is playing a sick joke on everyone. But it's better a bomb scare than a real one.

"It is not an exaggeration to say that life will never be the same again."

No, none of ours, but particularly those living in NYC with no towers to see anymore. I would assume, that the Staten Island Ferry is not running and won't be for sometime except for emergency crews? The view from there, although still beautiful, would be much changed (Golda, thanks for the description in your post.)

"I've been working my way through my address book, calling people to see if they themselves are OK, or if mutual acquaintances are OK. And, as with Golda, I too have been getting such calls. So far, pretty much everyone I care about who worked there is alive and well. Only one person of my acquaintance is unaccounted for at this point. There are still people whom I knew professionally whose offices were in the Towers, and I have not heard anything about them. Since I am not close to them personally, it will be harder to find out anything about them."

I'm sure you will eventually hear about people you didn't know well, but it may take weeks, unless they post a casualty list in the Times or something.

"It is so nice to come here and know that others care."

Glad that you have an Internet community to help you feel less isolated, if nothing else.

=====

Why I am so very grateful for Pemberley

Ree

September 12, 2001 10:29PM

I want to thank you all for your postings in the last two days. This is truly a remarkable community. I worked at home yesterday because I couldn't get hold of my fiance's family in England to let them know that he had not travelled to Los Angeles yesterday (as planned), but the day before. So I had to just wait for them to call.

Sitting here by myself, waiting for the phone to ring, trying to concentrate on work when everything seemed insignificant, seeing the flag on the Space Needle flying at half mast, and listening to the appalling reports on NPR, I could have felt very alone. But the outpouring of shared grief and condolence here on Ramble kept me going. God bless you.

Seconded. Nfm.

JulieW

September 13, 2001 03:54AM

=====

Hey, I'm okay.

Kendra Crispin

September 12, 2001 10:39PM

I've been at the Tea Room over at the DWG posting and "chatting" over the horrible day yesterday. I'd get going to give blood later this week, but I had surgery last week. My doctor said I couldn't give blood for at least six weeks. I am glad to see that people are coming out in force to do so. That blood will be needed.

Just thought that since I post at Pemberley often enough I'd make sure to let people know I'm okay. I'm in Oregon, but boy the Pacific Northwest isn't not affected, I'll tell you that.

BTW, I had been bathing when my mom found out. She talked to my dad over the phone, and then when I came up she told me. I felt disbelief and was (and still am) numb.

I hope everyone here is accounted for. My thoughts and hopes go out to anyone who knows anyone who's missing or worse.

=====

Very touching

MelissaJ

September 12, 2001 11:32PM

I have never posted on the ramble page before, but I saw the message on the BoI to come here for discussions about what has been happening. I have been glancing through some of the messages and I have been so very touched by the expressions of love and concern. I have been brought to tears to see

how so many were looking out for each other here at the RoP.

Like everyone, I think, my thoughts have been wide ranged. Everything from shock, to anger, to grief, and even beyond have gone through my mind. But there has also been much hope. I have spent much time watching the news and following these events closely and I have seen some horrible things (nothing in comparison to the things many other have seen, I know) but I have also seen some amazing things. All around my neighborhood people have hung their flags in honor and respect of those in New York and Washington. Blood banks around the country are full. Prayer vigils and memorial services have brought people together in faith and love. I have seen on the news strangers comforting each other and every day men and women coming together to help out in any way they can. And finally, my heart is touched to see firefighters, police officers, and other rescuers risk their lives in the hopes of saving any one person.

There is hope for us yet, my friends. In the wake of this tragedy, as we contemplate these events, let us not forget the good that exists in this world. Let us remember that although we have witnessed the worst mankind can do, we have also seen the best that mankind has to offer. Let us also remember and always teach our children that love and goodness and kindness must begin with each of us. Let us reach out to all those in need around us and may God send down His choicest blessings of peace and love upon all of us, especially those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. My most fervent prayers are with the families of all the victims.

Don't ask for whom the bell tolls

Elena

September 13, 2001 01:05AM

Now through the world the bell tolls for all of us, we all feel pain - and fear. Let us hope. You expressed my thoughts better than I can do myself.

... this Bell tolling softly for another, says to me ...

Ian

September 13, 2001 07:33AM

"... No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the Continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of your friends, or of your own were; any mans death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for you."

John Donne put this so well.

Thoughts and prayers the world wash over, for against all humanity this crime was wrought.

=====

Does our education prepare us for such atrocities?

Mary Ellen

September 13, 2001 12:03AM

Today I was teaching Northanger Abbey in a small New England College campus. Many students and faculty here have friends and family in NYC. Some like me have been incredibly lucky (my daughter in NYC is fine); others have not been lucky.

I had given my students the journal question: What incident in Vol. 2 of NA do you consider the most "horrible"? Needless to say, we talked about both "horrors" of NA and of the world. My students felt that like Catherine Morland they, too, had lost their innocence.

We particularly looked at Henry's speech to Catherine when she suspects the General--part of which I've quoted in my subject line. Another line from this is "Remember the country and the age in which we live." That cut pretty sharply too.

I reminded my students that Jane Austen wrote in a time of war and revolution and yet always showed that what others might consider small--the functions of the human heart and how to know the truth--were even more precious in perilous times.

My love to all who grieve and all who wait to know.

=====

Not alone

Katherine Elizabeth

September 13, 2001 12:06AM

I've been at RoP for a while now, maybe two years, but recently started posting. I live halfway between Atlanta and Athens, GA, and have also been horrified with the images I saw when I awoke Tuesday. It being my day off from U of GA, I was glued to the TV for ages. I feel for everyone affected by this horrible incident. I, too, was disturbed by some of the live video from that day, and needless to say, I couldn't sleep on Tuesday night/Wednesday morning without thinking about the horror. I knew people on RoP were from all over the world, but until I saw today all the responses, I didn't know the extent to which people could pull together and be strong, and it is such a wonderful and comforting feeling that we in the USA are not alone with this. I know that this has affected families and friends globally. I cannot imagine the horrific situation that many here have felt being so close to the sites. My prayers go out to all the families and friends that are hurting now. I'm glad that everyone seems okay, at least physically. I hope I didn't go on too long, but I feel better venting these emotions inside.

=====

Strange days.

JulieW

September 13, 2001 12:56AM

finally slept last night- but woke wide awake at 2.30a.m.

Golda had managed to phone and it was WONDERFUL to hear her. I have been trying to phone Jaskalyn, Golda, Lou for two days but no luck. Thank goodness for email and the internet. But despite knowing everyone eventually checked in on ROP (I was up at 2a.m. last night to see if JenK was around) - I still wanted to talk to you!

My little daughter went to bed without knowing if Lindys was safe. The email arrived and I confessed I woke her to tell her the news that our dear friend and her husband were alive. She has never experienced the possible loss of someone until this moment. It is very hard to answer her questions. My birthday tea was spent eating cake around a map of NY explaining to the kids where our friends are and just how safe they are.

My poor friend Connie living in the UK is terribly upset. Luckily no one she knows of so far has been affected, but she feels almost disloyal in that she was out of the country when this happened. I have hopes for her; just keep her company and hug her.

My English family and friends have been phoning continually to get news of you all. My dearest friend Judith is on holiday in the wilds of the West Coast of Scotland - in her cottage with no TV. She didn't even have the radio on, so she didn't realise what had happened until last night when she picked up a news paper in the local pub. She and her husband has been walking the hills for two days and had met no one. Her concern for Golda was very apparent. I am so glad I was able to be the bearer of good tidings. What can I say to you all: I really do love you and thank goodness for this place - the chalet room kept me sane at a very awful time. I am so glad we are surviving. Oh, and I still intend to come in a month's time - I need hugs as well as voices.

Hands across the water

LindyS

September 13, 2001 08:12PM

Dear Julie, Katherine is a sweetheart!

And I see it was your birthday? Oh, my -- although I fear happy birthday wishes are in vain (and belated!), please accept a virtual hug and lots of love from across the pond.

=====

Guys I haven't heard from Lauryl

Daniela

September 13, 2001 01:08AM

I emailed her but got no news. I don't really know where she lives though, and whether I should be scared.

Does anyone have any news?

Not in NY or Washington

Myretta

September 13, 2001 06:34AM

Daniela, I'm pretty sure that Lauryl is in Oklahoma, far away from where this ugliness has taken place. I'm sure you'll hear from her.

Not much ...

Marine

September 13, 2001 08:56AM

Dear Daniela, I emailed her as well when I heard of those terrifying news, but she had sent me an e-mail at the beginning of September to say she had gone back to University in Oklahoma. She spent a weekend with us in July in Paris (France), and I took her round the monuments and museums. We are concerned here, and do hope she's OK, and her family too. Please let me know if you have an answer.

Lauryl is in OK
Carissa
September 13, 2001 10:53AM

I know Lauryl Lane and she is back in Oklahoma for sure. She is a friend of mine as well, and is busy with school and our Pemberely Ball preparations (to be held on Oct 6th, in Texas)
Don't worry.. her computer crashed or something, and that is one reason you probably haven't heard from her.

Regards,
Carissa Trost
(also of Oklahoma) 😊

She's fine
Elsbeth
September 14, 2001 01:57PM

Although she was concerned about a friend of hers who is in NYC (he's fine, BTW). I know Lau just started college, so I imagine she's just settling in. You can get her latest e-mail at her site: [www.lauryllane.com] (I think). BTW, Daniela, thanks to your country, and felicitations on the anniversary of your independence!

=====

To Debra R
Louise C
September 13, 2001 01:39AM

Debra, Australia grieves with you for your beautiful friends who never made it here. This is the report from the Canberra Times

A loss to many communities
Debra R
September 13, 2001 05:11AM

Thanks for sharing that. So many deaths, so many broken families.

I saw it last night
Martine
September 13, 2001 06:50AM

They were showing some of the victims and describing them, and I realized Mrs Whittington was the one you had talked about.
The horror of this beyond anything that can be expressed or comprehended.
Martine

=====

NYers--Will you help us help?

Tori Marie

September 13, 2001 02:14AM

My kids have asked what they can do to help the survivors of this horrible tragedy. I would like to take up the suggestion someone made of letting them make get well cards for the injured.

I know there are a lot of hospitals treating these victims. Could someone please list a couple of these for me? I can get addresses online once I have a name.

Thanks to anyone who can help. My kids are quite anxious to help themselves and I want to give them that gift of feeling useful and good-hearted.

Talking of help...

JulieW

September 13, 2001 02:17AM

is there a donation line where I can send help in monetary form from the UK? Does anyone know of one, for example, has the Mayor set one up?

I can't do much this side of the pond but I would like to do something.

JulieW, this might work...

Ree

September 13, 2001 02:54AM

The US government has designated the American Red Cross as the focus point for fundraising efforts. Funds raised go to providing shelter, clothing, counseling, etc. for victims and food/water stations for rescue workers. The ARC has a secure website where you can donate money by credit card to the Disaster Relief Fund. I know that my fiancé can use his UK credit card here in the US with no problem, so perhaps this would be an option for you. Thank you!

Link to the ARC's website is below; see the "Donate Now" button on the left navigation toolbar.

Thanks a lot, Ree.

JulieW

September 13, 2001 03:50AM

I'll pass this round to my friends here in the UK.

There is a tremendous feeling of solidarity, you know, between us—that is the UK and the US.

I know most of you probably think this is a quaint old place but when the backs are against the wall I don't think you will find us lacking; after all you have helped us out enough in the past at crucial moments..

It's good to be able to do something constructive and not abstract.

Thanks you for your speedy link.

love from

Julie W

The main hospital working on this is St. Vincent's.

Julie P.

September 13, 2001 05:27AM

But I'm not sure what you can do via that route. Children cannot give blood but I shouldn't think they will need that much longer. As the days go by and fewer and fewer survivors are discovered, the need for blood will decrease. Clothes are not needed either because, once again, there are just not enough survivors.

I agree with Ree. Sending donations to the ARC is probably your best bet.

What I really want is to rebuild. To show those {expletive deleted} that they cannot beat us. I would love for those of us who want to rebuild to donate to that cause.

I agree with your sentiments,Julie

JulieW

September 13, 2001 06:25AM

and have always subscribed to it here-(Birmingham
,Manchester,London)

By the way, I amso glad to see you and AnnPac posting again.It was great to see your names appear on Ramble on Tuesday.

Thank you all

Tori Marie

September 13, 2001 11:55AM

I appreciate all the help and advice of everyone in answer to my question. I am also so touched by the outpouring of sympathy and a wish to do something-- anything!-- to help from all over this country and, indeed, the world.

I believe the wretched people who did this have underestimated us. The majority of humanity is good and decent and simply will not allow such evil to prevail.

Yes, I agree, and re: blood

Ree

September 13, 2001 10:43AM

"As the days go by and fewer and fewer survivors are discovered, the need for blood will decrease. Clothes are not needed either because, once again, there are just not enough survivors."

One thing: I believe there have been many burn victims, so the need for blood will continue for a while -- I think I've heard that burn treatment requires quite a bit of blood transfusion (or

maybe it's plasma). Medical Pemberleams -- thoughts? The ARC has asked that people not send supplies or clothes.

"What I really want is to rebuild. To show those {expletive deleted} that they cannot beat us. I would love for those of us who want to rebuild to donate to that cause."

I know. But I'm torn on this -- in one way I want us to rebuild for exactly the reason you have stated -- but on the other hand I can't imagine the WTC site now as anything but a memorial. The Pentagon I have an easier time imagining being restored, as it's a military site. I have just heard that the death count may reach 5,000. My Lord. I just heard someone on the radio paraphrase Mother Teresa: "I know that God does not send more than we can handle, but I just wish He didn't trust us so much."

Oh, JulieW

Ree

September 13, 2001 10:32AM

"I'll pass this round to my friends here in the UK."

That's wonderful, thank you.

"There is a tremendous feeling of solidarity, you know, between us-that is the UK and the US."

I came home from work yesterday to find a warm, heartbreaking message from my future parents-in-law condoling with all Americans.

"I know most of you probably think this is a quaint old place but when the backs are against the wall I don't think you will find us lacking; after all you have helped us out enough in the past at crucial moments.."

I find the UK not quaint, but dear and strong. As has been said so many times on this board in the last three days -- but cannot be said enough -- America takes strength from our friends abroad.

"It's good to be able to do something constructive and not abstract."

I know. But it's hard, even from this side of the pond. Thank you, dear JulieW.

No, thank you, Ree.nfm.

JulieW

September 13, 2001 11:29AM

Amazon One-click donations

Myretta

September 13, 2001 06:31AM

Amazon has also set up an "honor system" page for one-click donations to the Red Cross. They will send the total donation to the Red Cross. So, if you can't get through to the Red Cross page, you might want to try this.

Thanks M. nfm.
JulieW
September 13, 2001 07:43AM

The Red Cross
AnnPac
September 13, 2001 06:19AM

People here in New York are struggling with the need to do something to help. The easiest thing for people around the U.S. and overseas is to donate funds to the Red Cross and, I believe, you can donate blood where ever you are. I also think that we all should make a conscious effort to carry on and not let terrorists dictate how we are to live our personal and communal lives.

Caution, see earlier post re: scam before donating online nfm
Ree
September 13, 2001 01:29PM

<https://www.uwnyc.com/eplledge/sept11.cfm>
Denise D
September 13, 2001 07:35AM

You can also pledge money through the United Way. They say that 100% of the funds will go to relief efforts. You can specify NY or DC.

United Way September 11

We are trying to remind ourselves to be grateful here...all NY relatives & friends are accounted for, and no friends here in Boston were on the hijacked flights. My brother-in-law missed his usual morning train and arrived late for work at the WTC in time to see it come down.

I will mention as way of caution
Lisa RS
September 13, 2001 08:51AM

that once my (still rather young) child ended up on a mailing list for donating directly under his name to one of the large national organizations. I still would have had him make the donation as I think it is valuable for kids to be involved but would have done it through my name instead.

I found the addresses yesterday, but ...
Barbara Anne
September 13, 2001 08:58AM

Cannot find them today. I'm still looking and will post them as soon as we find them. I'm hoping to do the same thing, my children are looking forward to being involved in some way. Also, I did want to add the link at the bottom which include a few more options for donating, including the fireman's fund which will give the money to families of it's fallen.

The Hospitals
Barbara Anne
September 13, 2001 01:17PM

Here are the addresses for the NYC hospitals. I haven't got the ones for Washington.
St. Vincent's Hospital
170 W 12th St
New York, NY 10011
Bellevue Hospital Ctr.
462 1st Ave
New York, NY 10016
Metropolitan Hospital Ctr.
1901 1st Ave Fl 1
New York, NY 10029

Children also want to help ...
Lin
September 13, 2001 11:12AM

... in this tragic time. My youngest son's school is having a bake sale next week and sending the proceeds to the Red Cross for the victims in New York. As part of the committee to determine what the school should do, we decided that the children (my son is in 3rd grade) would feel better for having some 'thing' to do -- baking helps them to feel a hands on approach.

What a wonderful idea! (nfm)
Barbara Anne
September 13, 2001 02:00PM

Helping Families of NYC Rescue Workers
Amy S
September 13, 2001 06:28PM

According to NYC's official website -- you can check it out yourself at [www.nyc.gov] -- collections are being accepted for a fund to support the families of rescue workers. In case anyone wants to contribute to this cause (in addition to what they may otherwise be contributing to the Red Cross and other aid efforts), here is a direct quote from the nyc website. "The City of New York is accepting contributions to aid the families of Police, Fire, EMS and other City employees involved in rescue efforts. Please make your check or money order payable to: NYCPPI
The City of New York
100 Church Street, 20th Floor
New York, New York 10007
Please include your name and address with your tax deductible contribution to NYCPPI (New York City Public/Private Initiatives, Inc.). NYCPPI is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization."

=====

in Sydney....

Claire

September 13, 2001 02:22AM

I saw a television interview this morning with a man who had worked as a rescuer in the Thredbo lodge collapse (several ski lodges collapsed - about 17 people were killed). He commented on the fact that it had been a natural disaster, making the distinction between disasters caused by nature and those caused by people - nature's disasters are far easier to accept.

My point being...since waking up yesterday morning I have thought of the insensitivity of nature. It doesn't seem right to me that my city is bathed in glorious sunshine. When a storm came over the city yesterday, I thought that it felt right. Nature should be mourning, too.

My thoughts and prayers are with all Americans, all the victims and their families.

And...

Luc

September 13, 2001 02:58AM

...so are mine.

=====

Deepest sympathy for the US, and a missing friend

Kate2

September 13, 2001 04:01AM

Dear Us friends

I have felt physically sick since I first saw the awful images from NY on Tuesday. I stood with my husband in the Greatest Bar not three months ago, admiring the wonderful views and marvelling at the masses of office workers teeming throughout the buildings. "Only in America" we said. My heart went out to all of you, especially those most directly affected.

Now I learn that a dear friend and neighbour, who worked in London, but was visiting the Morgan Stanley offices in the South Tower has not returned home to our village and to his wife and four young children. There is simply no news of him, and we are all hoping against hope that he is just unable to communicate, or in some hospital, injured but alive.

Our prayers are joined with yours.

Praying for your friend, dear. Nfm

Debra R

September 13, 2001 05:09AM

Yes, similar story

LaurieC

September 13, 2001 10:17AM

My husband's friend lost her husband in the Pentagon. He is presumed dead, but it is hard not to hope as the body has not been recovered. Very, very sad. My best wishes for better news about your friend.

Laurie

Take courage

Jennie3

September 13, 2001 08:11PM

Kate, a friend's husband works for Morgan Stanley in the South Tower and he and others made it out. Please don't give up hope yet.

I hope he will soon call ! (NFM)

Buba

September 14, 2001 06:52AM

=====

Too horrific to take in.

Julie C

September 13, 2001 04:25AM

I got a phone call from my husband to tell me to turn on my television. I couldn't believe what I saw. It was so surreal - like watching a disaster film. As the events unfolded, the extent of the damage became clear. I offer my sympathy to all involved, and to all who have lost someone dear to them.

People in the UK are in shock - we can not believe that terrorists could be so fanatical as to hijack a 4 planes full of civilians and crash them deliberately. The details are too horrific to take in. My husband has lost colleagues who were working on attachment to the Pentagon (There are a couple of hundred British Forces attached there). My brother works for Morgan Stanley in their call centre and says that the hardest thing he has had to do is answer the phone to worried relatives of his colleagues in New York.

Here we have increased security to an unprecedented level, and our Prime Minister has pledged to help the USA. I only hope the any action taken is carefully thought out, because the consequences could be catastrophic.

My prayers are with you all. I hope that all Pempberleans are safe. We haven't lost anyone, have we?
Julie C.

=====

My Thoughts

Sharm

September 13, 2001 04:34AM

Hi! Although I have been an ardent fan of RoP for the last couple of months, this is my first message. And unfortunately that I have to write on a sad and tragic occassion. I live on the other side of the world from where the tragedy happened. Despite the distance, when I first saw the news, my first reaction was shock and disbelieve. What a senseless act to so many innocent lives. I couldn't believe that these fanatic madmen, with such narrow minds, think they had achieved something. Their action only speaks how inhuman they really are. I am sorry for my harsh words but I really hope they burn in hell. My prayers to those perished in this tragedy.

Sharm, this is great of you
Laraine

September 13, 2001 11:00AM

Thanks for delurking to share your concern. I know that you will be happy you did.
Go talk to Candace at Newbie when you get a chance & save your name, OK?
Even in the midst of this horror, we welcome you with open arms.
Laraine

=====

The Angel You Asked For.

Daniela

09/13/2001 04:50AM

I read this poem, and my first thoughts were for all of you:

The Angel you asked for
arrived slightly late,
her halo askew, in rumpled robes
looking almost harried
and rather un-angelic.
But Angels are more than
calm smiles, glowing faces
and chamber music in cumulus.
You need an angel with cool fingers
to touch your brow when weary,
bottomless eyes that you can rest in,
and a laugh that makes you smile
even when you don't wish to.
You need an angel to sing softly
when you are inches from sleep,
and that sweet voice
will touch your dreams
and ward the night from harm.
The angel you asked for
will not remember the times you faltered,
but will never forget the times you shined.
And there will always be a place for you
warm, near and dear
and if you weep, she will flutter her wings
and catch the tears
holding wide her arms to welcome you
to the home you miss, or lost,
or never knew,
because she's the angel that you asked for---
the only one who'll do.
And I'm sending her straight to you!
(Lisa Shields)
This is the link for it: [www.funtown.com]

Lovely, Daniela nfm
William L
September 14, 2001 06:25PM

Thank you for those lovely words. Nfm
Linda Fern
September 13, 2001 07:08AM

=====

So shocked...

Ingrid
September 13, 2001 05:33AM

...I still cannot believe that something like this could happen - and most of all that human beings can do something like this to one another.

I spent Tuesday afternoon trying to get some news on various news websites, and each time I looked some further horrible news had come through. I have to admit that for the first time I am really scared. I live far from where all this happened - in Ireland - but I have colleagues and friends in America (Alexandria, VA and in New Jersey) and these events made me really realise that something like this can happen anywhere and at anytime as long as there is such undescrivable evil in the world.

I had to fly to the UK yesterday on business, and though I have never been scared of flying before, I caught myself praying that we would arrive safely. Today when I came back I started to read all the sad and wonderful messages you have posted here since Tuesday, and I just wanted to say that I have been somewhat comforted by them. I think your messages show that despite everything there is a lot of good in the world and there are a lot of people who genuinely care about each other. I am a very new Pemberleian (though I had been lurking around for quite a while), but I am glad and proud to be here. My heart goes out to all of you, especially those in the US and anywhere else who have been afflicted in some way by this horrible tragedy. God bless you.

Thank you for posting
Karen G.
September 13, 2001 11:01AM

You have a great deal of empathy. I know as an American (but living on the West Coast, so I'm probably as far away from NYC as you are...) I feel as many do, that this was an attack on America. But a post such as yours does make me realize more that it's being felt by the world as an attack on freedom and democracy, on humanity. And that it was a deliberate act is what is most frightening and angering. But the collective abhorrence of such acts does give hope that this is evil rising to the surface to be quenched out, not to rule us.

I have come back to Pemberley often just to read the posts, too. They are comforting, and do give a feeling of connectedness. My humble thanks to this gentle Republic! :]

=====

Buckingham Palace and the Star Spangled Banner

JulieW

September 13, 2001 05:56AM

I have just heard the most moving item in the radio.

The Queen decreed that today's scheduled Changing of the Guard ceremony should not take place, instead a ceremony of remembrance occurred. When the Guards military band struck up the Star Spangled Banner many of the thousands of people congregated there sang along. It was so moving. I must admit- I don't know the words well enough to sing along- but it did move me to tears.

It's not much in the scheme of things but at least the gesture was made.

The last night of the Proms due to take place on Saturday has also been modified. No mad jingoism. No Arne or sea shanties. It is not thought appropriate. I can only agree. What is scheduled is Barber's Adagio for strings and the last movement of Beethoven's Choral; symphony. I approve.

Thank you for the comfort, dear J-sister. Nfm

Linda Fern

September 13, 2001 07:05AM

I apologise

JulieW

September 13, 2001 07:39AM

for my typos. I am so wound up about things my fingers won't work correctly. Forgive me.

No need to apologise.....

Caroline

September 13, 2001 09:07AM

...for something that we all do. Your post was perfectly readable, and very pertinent.

All the more beautiful, dear One! Nfm

Linda Fern

September 13, 2001 10:29AM

Support

AnneM

September 13, 2001 07:32AM

Here is the link to the BBC, I have been reading their website, as it is very direct. There is a letter in today's paper from our sister city in England expressing support and sorrow.

Again I broke down at the breakfast table.

My 8 year old wanted me to confirm his dad's assessment that this would be on the news for a long, long time. He can't understand that this was deliberate. In his mind people, just can't be so heartless. I pointed out that Pearl Harbor happened 60 years ago and we still talk about it. I wonder when a day will pass that we don't talk about this?

I am glad to see so many familiar names here that are safe. My prayers are with you and your families and friends.

take care
with love
Anne

That is so good of them...

Kendra Crispin

September 13, 2001 11:02AM

I've always liked England and the UK (I've been to London, Stonehenge, Salisbury, Cheltenham, and Portsmouth - yes, I've been there. Didn't see any house that looked like it belonged to Mr. Price.), I've even witnessed a Changing of the Guard, but this is wonderful and touching.

Anything for Friday?

Caroline

September 13, 2001 07:35AM

Thanks for the report, Julie. This came thorough on our news broadcasts this morning, too. Some newsfeeds at Community zero are saying that the E.U. has declared a day of mourning for Friday...is there anything said about this in England?

Not yet.

JulieW

September 13, 2001 07:41AM

To be honest, most people are concentrating on the Us and not Brussels. The TV news refelects this, I think.

A Book of Remembrance is available to sign at the US embassy. My freinds and I are off next week.

The church of England

JulieW

September 13, 2001 07:48AM

is holding prayers on Sunday for the dead and bereaved.

In Ireland...

Ingrid

September 13, 2001 11:11AM

... the Taoiseach has declared Friday a National Day of Mourning, and has urged businesses, schools etc. to close for the day. I don't know though if there are going to be any commemoration ceremonies on Friday in Dublin or anywhere else in Ireland.

Commemorative Services

Lara

September 13, 2001 03:32PM

Churches in almost all parishes have arranged masses and prayer vigils for the day. Everything will shut with the exception of emergency services and exceptional operations.

So far the Taoiseach has said that we may have 1300 Irish nationals missing.

Needless to say, my prayers are with every one involved.

Lara

National Mourning in England.....

DeeMac

September 13, 2001 11:57AM

I teach in a large high school in England, and all of the teachers were given the following instructions for tomorrow morning:

WE ARE UNITED IN SADNESS TO REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN CAUGHT UP IN THE TRAGIC EVENTS IN THE UNITED STATES
FORM TUTORS

At morning registration on Friday please tell your students that at 11 am we will join millions of people throughout the world who will be standing in silence for three minutes to think about the suffering and pain caused by the atrocities in the United States. Tell them that every class in the school will spend the three minutes in the same way. Sixth Form students, and others who are out of groups for any reason at all, should be told to observe the silence.

TEACHERS

The three pips of the bell will sound as usual at 11 am

After the third pip say to the students: "Please stand quietly and remain silent."

When the students are standing the following words may be used to create a whole-school bonding and to strengthen our act of remembrance and respect.

In our silence we are joining millions of others at this time beyond our school and throughout the world to remember all those who are suffering as a result of the terrible events which have occurred this week in the United States.

With those millions of people we are thinking now:

Of those who have died or are dying

Of those who have been injured and are in pain

Of those who experienced fear and anxiety as the events took place.

We are thinking now as well:

Of the families and friends of all who have been directly involved in the tragedies and who are feeling huge sadness and loss

Of those who are struggling to care for others and to restore a sense of order and calm in New York, Washington and many other cities in the United States.

We hope that from the silence and thoughts of the millions with whom we are now joined, will flow comfort and love to strengthen and support all those who are suffering and need our help.

Teachers may of course substitute their own words for this script.

A single bell will be rung at the end of the silence when students should be dismissed for break. Break will be extended by five minutes.

~~~~~

Just typing out the above words made me cry, so I can't imagine how I will manage to

read them out to my class tomorrow when the time comes, but I will do my best. I know that the students will make allowances. Many of them have told me that their parents have been weeping while watching the recent television coverage, and they are all so touchingly kind to me personally, because I am the only American on the staff. I thought you would like to know how very much our thoughts will be with you all tomorrow morning.

**Thank you, Dee and may God bless you all. Love. Nfm**  
**Linda Fern**  
**September 13, 2001 01:09PM**

**DeeMac....**  
**JulieW**  
**September 13, 2001 01:26PM**

I am sure you will find the strength to read the words; and if you don't, then everyone will understand. God bless and good luck.  
Love from  
Julie Wakefield

**I am truly touched.**  
**Jezkalyn**  
**September 13, 2001 10:21AM**

The world has been amazing thru this. It is hard to believe it has only been two days.

**I'm so grateful**  
**Dana Lee**  
**September 13, 2001 01:05PM**

As an American living and working in England, I have been so heartened and impressed with the generous outpouring of sympathy and support from our friends in Britain (and indeed from all over Europe). My co-workers have been so solicitous about the safety of my family and friends back home, and I can't say enough about the kindness of all those who have signed books of condolence, attended memorial services, left flowers and notes at the gates to the military bases, and the hundreds of other acts of thoughtfulness I've seen over the last few days. This means so much to us. Thank you all.

**The difference of two hundred years**  
**Rachel Marie**  
**September 13, 2001 01:46PM**

It's wonderful to think that when the Star Spangled Banner was written, America and England were enemies, and less than 200 years later, the British (many of you beautiful people) are among America's first well-wishers, playing said anthem and praying and crying with us Americans.

I sincerely hope that our descendents and those of the terrorists who perpetrated this vile act will live in peace as well.

**And the UK mourns its losses as well**

**Debra R**

**September 13, 2001 02:23PM**

The BBC link provided details and stories on the lost British subjects. Our hearts go out to them and to their loved ones.

Let us not forget that, although this disaster took place in the U.S., citizens of many countries have been killed and injured. The loss belongs to us all.

**Quite, Debra.....**

**JulieW**

**September 13, 2001 02:40PM**

This is hard to express without sounding odd, but I felt a little nauseated this morning hearing about the "English" dead on the news, as if they were a special category.

It matters not one jot what nationality those poor souls were,IMHO.

What matters awfully is that it happened at all.

I do send you my condolences on the awful loss of your neighbors and words fail me when I think of their situation, Debra.

With love from

Julie Wakefield

**A scene not to be forgotten**

**LindyS**

**September 13, 2001 08:03PM**

The Buckingham Palace event -- especially the video coverage of regular people there -- was deeply touching.

Although I know this is certainly not the motivation behind the international expressions of compassion, I cannot help but think that those around the world who gloried in the scenes of destruction must find the international solidarity and support just a little bit sobering.

Thank you all.

=====

**US Embassy Warning**

**Lauren Rose**

**September 13, 2001 06:14AM**

I thought you might be interested to read information that is being passed on to Americans abroad. This is the second of 2 messages sent to my husband in 2 days, the first one was not nearly so detailed or urgent in it's tone.

From: AMCHAM Membership Coordinator

Sent: 13 September, 2001 5:31 PM

Embassy of the United States of America

Seoul, Korea

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Spokesman

Worldwide Caution

September 12, 2001

The events of September 11 at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Somerset, Pennsylvania, serve as a cruel reminder of the continuing threat from terrorists and extremist groups to Americans and American interests worldwide. This situation remains fluid and American citizens should be aware of the potential risks and to take these into consideration when making travel plans. The Department will continue to develop information about potential threats to Americans overseas and to share credible threat information through its Consular Information Program documents available on the Internet at [www.travel.state.gov].

As the U.S. Government has reported in Public Announcements over the last several months, U.S. citizens and interests abroad may be at increased risk of terrorist actions from extremist groups. Most recently, we advised that we had unconfirmed information that terrorist actions may be taken against U.S. military facilities and/or establishments frequented by U.S. military personnel in Korea and Japan. In addition, we continue to be concerned about information we received in May 2001 that American citizens may be the target of a terrorist threat from extremist groups with links to Usama Bin Ladin's Al-Qaida organization. In the past, such individuals have not distinguished between official and civilian targets. We take this information seriously. In light of the above information, U.S. Government facilities worldwide remain at a heightened state of alert.

U.S. citizens are urged to maintain a high level of vigilance and to increase their security awareness. Americans should maintain a low profile, vary routes and times for all required travel, and treat mail and packages from unfamiliar sources with suspicion. American citizens are also urged to avoid contact with any suspicious, unfamiliar objects, and to report the presence of the objects to local authorities. Vehicles should not be left unattended and should be kept locked at all times.

U.S. Government personnel overseas have been advised to take the same precautions.

U.S. Government facilities have and will continue to temporarily close or suspend public services as necessary to review their security posture and ensure its adequacy. make

every effort to provide emergency services to American citizens.

their fax

machine.

=====

**Shinjinee--please check in.**

**Lisa RS**

**September 13, 2001 06:27AM**

We haven't heard from you and I seem to recall that you are a university student on the east coast. I'd like to believe that you are sleeping soundly in your bed right now.

Lisa

**She's fine**

**Louisa P**

**September 13, 2001 09:00AM**

She posted to the Heyer list this morning, saying she was shaken, but fine.

**Dear Friends - I am fine (but shaken)**

**Shinjinee**

**September 14, 2001 10:33AM**

Dear Lisa and others -

Thanks for thinking about me. I haven't spent much time online (for one, we have had severe disruption at work, between not being there most of Tuesday and all of Wednesday, and a bomb threat and subsequent evacuation for all of Thursday). From home, I kept getting knocked off. Also tried to stay off line according to the request of my local company Verizon.

I heard the news at work Tuesday morning. It was ironic, but I missed the first news because I was doing library searches, and never saw the news come up. Then we watched the whole tragedy from 10:30 on TV, and I left work at nearly 12 (after waiting with a co-worker for her daughter to check in from downtown). I live pretty far from the Pentagon (about 4-5 miles) so I was in no real danger. My parents were pretty anxious. The schools closed early, so we had a lot of kids from the neighborhood and relatives of the family I live with - parents working in the White House and FEMA and unable to get back home thanks to the air service disruption plus overtime work. (That is solved; they got back using military planes).

I realized I was suffering from shock yesterday. I have been more tired of late, but I attributed that to a slight cold that I have had since Sunday (v tired on Tuesday morning anyway). Then I realized that I was in shock, only after we were evacuated (left stuff behind in a hurry, nothing stolen, thank God). People are jittery now, and unfortunately cranks and vicious people will do this kind of thing. It was a hoax fortunately (just as in the Capitol and at the Pentagon where rescue workers were evacuated in the morning).

All my friends and neighbors appear fine. One neighbor who travels regularly to the WTC had a narrow escape, he overslept and missed his (United) shuttle. Took a later one, and was on the tarmac when the pilot turned back. He was at the airport and looking the other way when the plane smashed into the Pentagon (almost next door). So he saw the immediate results, not the actual crash. I am sure that his wife, daughter and stepson (and others) are all delighted at his escape. Unfortunately many of his (early awakening) co-workers were less lucky; some are in hospital while others are still missing.

I am not an American citizen, but I have lived in this country a long time. And I feel just as strongly about this horrible tragedy, as does any American. While we will leave the political matters upto the leaders of this country, personally I am off to a prayer service this afternoon organized by my school (within my university).

Thank you all. I may not have a lot of time to post, since the connections (at home) are iffy, and I am trying to stay off long phone conversations (or online connections). This message has been posted from work (where we have a dedicated T3 connection).

Shinjinee - feeling shocked, but also grateful that so many people have survived, and so many people are working to rescue the victims.

=====

**Just to confirm I have heard from CK**

**Martine**

**September 13, 2001 07:35AM**

Her work is actually much closer to the Pentagone than I realized (2 1/2 miles, she told me.) She and her coworkers were so engrossed watching what was happening on TV with the WTC that they didn't realize something was happening at the Pentagone until it got on the news.

I got have a five-month old kitten at home. Her big event on Tuesday was that a cricket got in the house and she got to play with it. It is soothing to see innocence.

Also, thinking about it, I wouldn't call these terrorists "animals," as I've heard it. I don't think animals are capable of this kind of cruelty and viciousness. This was very human. It's called murder.

Martine

=====

**Differing responses to tragedy**

**AbbeyW**

**September 13, 2001 07:49AM**

Greetings All,

I am especially touched by the concern shown here, not only for specific members of the Pemberley community, but also in general. After I got done reading several of the comments here, I tuned in to our regional newspaper online to see what the comments were like there. For the most part, they speak of hope, they offer prayers and condolences, they exhort us to rise to our best behavior towards each other. Then, there are a few sinking cowards who serve to call attention to international students and visitors, making it appear that they are not wanted. I included the URL in case anyone was curious.

Just wanted to post a reminder to everyone to remember to show kindness and generosity to international visitors and students here. Remember that the majority of them must be terrified, must want to return to their own countries to be with their families. Some may have already suffered the brunt of cruelty and prejudice, either through words or physical deeds, because they are falsely connected to Tuesday's tragedies.

I have friends here who study in the U.S. under political asylum from their home countries (in the Middle East and Africa), and they are often the first to be accused of being in the U.S. for unfriendly reasons, simply because of their origins. It's not just for them that I ask this, but for anyone who might suffer from those who feel compelled to align themselves with such disgusting and reactionary sentiments as those I've read or heard from various people.

I truly believe that events like these show people's better natures, for the most part. Those who "forget" to give blood or to donate to charity suddenly pull together and put aside selfish interests. Those who live in a bubble think outside of that bubble long enough to empathize and sympathize with others.

Local Mississippi River barge owners united to donate money to New York restaurants to feed emergency workers over the next few days. People are giving blood so quickly that the Red Cross is running out of bags. I am proud and happy to hear of such events, especially for the hope they continue

to give to others.  
God bless us all...

**I totally agree with you**

**Lisette**

**September 13, 2001 08:36AM**

In Holland where I live, the Palestine-embassy has received several, serious, threats. They are under high protection because the Dutch government fear attacks. That, even when the persons who did this have not been found, even the identity isn't known.

The Jewish schools in Amsterdam have closed for fear of attacks, which I think is a little unnecessary, but if they feel better by doing so, then I certainly won't deny them that right. I think that the most important thing is, to relax and don't make swift decisions, no good will come from them.

I have thought about giving blood, but living in Holland, across the Atlantic, and with no planes arriving at the US yet, I have postponed it.

With isn't a bad idea; as you say, the Red Cross is flooded with donations and when in a couple of weeks all blood is gone, there will be nobody left to donate as there is a three weeks pause between donations (that's what I hear anyway).

**Very true**

**DavidL**

**September 13, 2001 10:36AM**

I have been very impressed with how little knee-jerk anger and hatred we've seen at this site, but it's out there; we've gotten some nuke-'em comments at our paper's website, and comments about cracking down on letting people into the country. So far, no local reports of vandalism or harassment, and I pray it stays that way. Try to spread that attitude.

=====

**Malta**

**William L**

**September 13, 2001 07:56AM**

I just heard from Daniela in Malta. Her small nation, independent for just half a century of so, has cancelled its Independence celebrations in honor of our tragedy.

Let us thank the Republic of Malta, through our own Daniela for the wonderful expression of holy charity.

For the whole USA, Bill Thomson says, Thank you Malta.

**Add my thanks! (nfm)**

**Barbara Anne**

**September 13, 2001 08:41AM**

**Oh gosh**  
**Daniela**  
**September 13, 2001 09:01AM**

I don't know what to say. I've been smooched on chat yesterday for this as well! We really don't deserve all this...I'm serious. No one wants to celebrate at this point.  
Being thanked by the US...lol kind on unimaginable 😊.

**Amen! Nfm**  
**Linda Fern**  
**September 13, 2001 10:28AM**

**I...**  
**Kendra Crispin**  
**September 13, 2001 11:05AM**

have a penpal in Malta. I guess I'll have a lot to talk to her about in my next letter. That is deserving of a huge thank you.

**more hugs....**  
**NicoleC**  
**September 13, 2001 03:24PM**

Daniela told me about this either the day or the day after the attack (for some odd reason Tuesday and Wednesday are running together in my memory...), all of us in the chat room gave her virtual hugs- and I'm happy to give another one.  
It's rather illogical, but after seeing such hate manifested towards us, it feels twice as special to see other countries who really feel for us.  
Nicole

**Nicole and Daniela**  
**William L**  
**September 13, 2001 06:37PM**

Since I email with both of you, I hope you won't mind if I tell you that you seem very much alike in many ways--all good.

**William...I wish I were...really. (nfm)**  
**Daniela**  
**September 14, 2001 12:51AM**

=====

**On my drive home last night**  
**Jessie Dee**  
**September 13, 2001 08:07AM**

I saw a bunch of young kids with posters saying Help Support America and waving American flags. I turned around and asked one of the parents what was going on. She said because the kids are too young to give blood they were collecting for the Red Cross. I thought wow this is incredible. I gave a donation and went on my way in silence saying a prayer. This affects everyone. There was an email sent to me to fly your American flag at home, at work, on your car. I put my flag up yesterday and I ask everyone if they have not do the same to support our great country.  
Thanks

**We tried...**  
**Erinn Melissa**  
**September 13, 2001 10:01AM**

to get a flag for our house, but all the stores were sold out - Wal Mart is reporting that they sold 80,000 flags on the 12th alone - the highest total from ever before being 6,000. That really tells you something about how Americans are feeling right now!

**Order one**  
**Maisy**  
**September 13, 2001 11:28AM**

Try Amazon.com-- I linked my flag picture from there on Tuesday night for the posting that is linked.

**flags - Red Cross**  
**NicoleC**  
**September 13, 2001 03:29PM**

I know some radio stations are doing special fund drives - an American flag in exchange for a cash donation that goes straight to the Red Cross.  
Our flag is flying. We live in a very small farm community in Colorado. As we were driving to Church last night I tried to count the number of new American flags up. I think there were @ 7 new ones up, which isn't a whole bunch - but for country living, that's pretty good.  
Nicole

**Flags**  
**Rachel Marie**  
**September 13, 2001 10:10AM**

I saw a senator on CNN last night, urging people to put out their flags. I immediately did, and I took a drive last night to see how many flags were up. Well, they were EVERYWHERE! On so many many houses! And all the banks and churches, some private homes, and the court house, of course, had them at half-staff. And one of the big banks downtown had a HUGE flag draped from the roof covering most of the outside wall. It was quite a spectacle.

**"Old Glory"**

**Maisy**

**September 13, 2001 11:17AM**

The flag has been a comfort. Mine has been up constantly since Tuesday afternoon. I have been wearing a flag pin on my lapel these last 2 days. I am also struck by the number of times since Tuesday evening I have heard excerpts quoted from The Star Spangled Banner. I've been on that same wave-length since Tuesday night when I posted the message that is linked.

**The Special Meaning of Our Flag**

**Tori Marie**

**September 13, 2001 12:16PM**

I had already planned to teach my homeschooled children a lesson on our flag and "The Star-Spangled Banner" this week, as part of our ongoing timeline project. Why? This week marks the anniversary of the event that inspired the writing of the National Anthem.

For those around the world who may not have heard the story, or Americans who may have forgotten, Francis Scott Key witnessed a long battle in the War of 1812, in the defense of Fort McHenry, in Maryland. It looked pretty grim, but as dawn broke, Key saw the American flag still visible over the fort--tattered and torn, but still present. He wrote the lyrics to "The Star-Spangled Banner" in celebration of that proof, to him, that the American ideals of freedom could and would endure.

Freedom is not only an American concept. We by no means have a monopoly on it. But this is what the flag and the anthem mean to us. I share it in the spirit of thanks for those in other countries--like the extraordinary use of them at Buckingham Palace today--who are using them to lend us support and comfort. We do appreciate it so much.

**I have been to Fort McHenry...**

**Maisy**

**September 13, 2001 02:12PM**

and I have seen the original Star-Spangled Banner at the Museum of American History In DC. (I have included the photo here.) It is currently being restored through a hefty grant from the Ralph Lauren Company. In DC there is a park in memory of FSK, under a bridge that connects Georgetown to VA--it is called the KEY BRIDGE.

Fort McHenry is a beautiful oasis in the heart of the Inner Harbor area of Baltimore. It is a wonderful learning experience for children and adults. If you ever get the chance, you should go.

**Car Flags**

**Lin**

**September 13, 2001 11:16AM**

There are vendors here on the streets of Los Angeles selling American flags to attach to your car (windows/antennas) and I have seen dozens of them as I drove to take the kids to school this morning (my children are very proud to be one of them). It is such a heartwarming thing to see in this wretchedly sad time.

**Half-staff**

**Ree**

**September 13, 2001 11:29AM**

I am assuming that flags have been ordered to half-staff across the country; our Governor ordered it on Tuesday. I want to try to get a flag to drape from our apartment's balcony; I know the proper way to drape a flag without a pole (blue field still in the upper left, so it looks backward) but does anyone know the proper way to show mourning with a draped flag?

**The flag itself is the show of respect in that case (nfm)**

**Barbara Anne**

**September 13, 2001 11:49AM**

**Thanks. Nfm**

**Ree**

**September 13, 2001 11:56AM**

**Blue field to the flag's right if on a wall NFM**

**BarbaraK**

**September 13, 2001 12:00PM**

**Correct. So to the viewer's left. Nfm**

**Ree**

**September 13, 2001 12:05PM**

=====

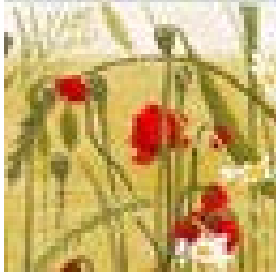
**Imagine**

**Hil**

**September 13, 2001 08:25AM**

All the meanings ...





**Beautiful gesture (nfm)**

**Lisette**

**September 13, 2001 08:37AM**

**Thank you, Hil**

**Myretta**

**September 13, 2001 09:02AM**

Lovely as always and comforting.

**Consider the lilies" (nfm)**

**Jennifer Louise**

**September 13, 2001 09:08AM**

**"In Flanders Field, where poppies grow..." nfm**

**Cherie**

**September 13, 2001 09:29AM**

**It's beautiful, Hil.**

**Laraine**

**September 13, 2001 09:55AM**

And you are wonderful.

Love,

Laraine

**Chills**

**Barbara**

**September 13, 2001 12:04PM**

I had chills looking at this, Hil. Thank you. I set this as wallpaper on my desktop.

**What a great idea**

**Laraine**

**September 13, 2001 12:40PM**

I just did the same wallpaper, Barbara. Now I have both the lovely picture and a reminder of my dear friend.

I set my Control Panel > Display > Appearance tab to "Wheat" and it matches nicely, I think.

**It's lovely Hil, thank you (nfm)**  
**Lucy K**  
**September 13, 2001 12:36PM**

**Well done, Hil nfm**  
**William L**  
**September 13, 2001 03:51PM**

**{{{Hil}}}** (nfm)  
**Ann2**  
**September 13, 2001 04:05PM**

**Thanks, Hil**  
**Katrinal**  
**September 13, 2001 05:20PM**

It's lovely. Apart from other interpretations, I come to think of another passage in the Bible but I don't know it in English. It's about man's life is like grass; she grows, blooms and whither away... It goes so fast, we must cherish it and make the best of it.  
~Katrinal

**Behold all flesh is as the grass...**  
**Joan, too**  
**September 13, 2001 08:40PM**

First Peter 1:24 - its also part of the Brahams "German" Requiem.  
King James version:  
For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth and the flower thereof falleth away.

**Rosemary, for remembrance?**  
**Debra R**  
**September 14, 2001 09:22AM**

Thank you, Hil. Just beautiful.

=====

**Horror**  
**Marine**  
**September 13, 2001 09:12AM**

Hi everyone  
I know this is late to enquire, but please please is everyone OK ?  
Those terrific news upset us here in Paris dreadfully. As soon as Monday the US embassy was put under

protection, but they did not say on TV on what grounds they protected it before the dreadful events of NY and Washington. They might have received some other threats.

I was at the hospital to visit my husband when we heard the news on his room TV. That's beyond belief ...

Needless to say the US community is especially under shock here, but all Parisians too, they remember the underground. Paris is under high security plan, especially all public places and US companies. I also emailed Lauryl, who spent a week end with us in July, but as Daniela posted, I have not had any answer yet.

We pray for all the victims and their families. Love to you all  
Marine

**Lauryl is OK!**

**Carissa**

**September 13, 2001 10:56AM**

I replied already in a previous message link... but I wanted to tell you here as well.. Lauryl is doing fine at home in Ok! 😊 she is a friend of mine as well and is back at home busy with school and the upcoming Pemberley Ball (to be held Oct. 6th in Texas)

regards,  
Carissa Trost

**oh thank God (nfm)**

**Daniela**

**September 13, 2001 10:57AM**

**Relief**

**Marine**

**September 13, 2001 02:46PM**

Thanks a lot for your mail Carissa. Lauryl did give me her telephone number in Paris, but it was lost somehow, and I had only her e-mail address.

Thanks again, Marine

**My prayers are with you**

**Ana 2**

**September 13, 2001 11:40AM**

I wanted to give my support to all our members of the US. I was shocked when I show the news at tv and learned about it, here in Spain we have been suffering terrorism since I remember although in not such big degree, so I can understand your concern someway.

I feel awfully sorry for you.

=====

**Blood Donation****Julie****September 13, 2001 09:18AM**

With so many people asking what they could do to help, I thought I would pass this along. The American Red Cross is urging people to call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to schedule an appointment to donate blood in the upcoming weeks. Although the Red Cross has as much blood as they can handle at this point, there will certainly be a need in the next couple of months. For those in the Washington, DC area, see [www.redcrossdc.org](http://www.redcrossdc.org) for more local information.

**The need is ALWAYS urgent****Debra R****September 13, 2001 11:10AM**

At the best of times, East Coast blood banks typically have just a few days' supply on hand. Give now if you like, but give regularly. My family has been permanently disqualified (due to a 6-months' residence in Europe); I feel so sad about that.

**I gave blood today...****Anne Frances****September 13, 2001 03:09PM**

...and it really lifted my spirits. I've never donated blood before so I was a little nervous--I was afraid of fainting. But there were some local guys with a guitar and tambourine playing every song they could think of (even if they didn't know the words)--which was a good idea because there was a two hour wait. They had everybody singing the "sha la la" chorus to Van Morrison's "Brown Eye Girl". Everyone was laughing and talking. It was a good experience and I feel much better to have taken some sort of action. And I'll definitely donate blood again.

**Anne Frances****I can't donate right now...****Kendra Crispin****September 14, 2001 02:08AM**

I had surgery last week. My doctor said not for at least six weeks. But when those six weeks pass, you can be sure I'm going to start giving blood regularly. I feel bad that I can't do it now.

**Don't Feel Bad****Julie****September 14, 2001 07:57AM**

I hope your recovery is going well, let me say again that the need for blood will continue over the next few months. Your donation will be equally appreciated in 6 weeks. Becoming a regular donor is a wonderful idea. The Red Cross is ALWAYS in need of blood, and by taking a hour of your time every 2 months you can save numerous lives.

**Oh, believe me....**

**Kendra Crispin**

**September 14, 2001 12:15PM**

I'm going regularly once I'm able. If I have to beg my mom to drive me (since I'm not going to take driver's training till I move to Austin, Texas in December), I will. Doing it will feel like I've made a difference in somebody's life, and THAT'S a wonderful feeling!

And, yeah. I'm doing fine. I'm still tender where I had the surgery, and I've been told it'll take a year for all of it to go away, but the end result will be worth it!

=Kendra Crispin=

**Debra...**

**Anna D**

**September 13, 2001 05:23PM**

Debra, you don't know how worried I have been about you, with living and working in Washington. I know this isn't the place but can you please give me your new E-mail; I still have my old address as your old one doesn't seem to work. I am so glad that you are OK. I don't know what else to say. I'm sorry for this, everyone else, I hope you will excuse it just this once. Thank you.  
Anna D

**Anna, I will.**

**Debra R**

**September 14, 2001 07:14AM**

We are well and safe, but grieving like the rest of the world. I'll get in touch soon.

Big hug,

Debs

**Anna! Over here!**

**Debra R**

**September 15, 2001 10:41AM**

Your email address doesn't work either! You can get mine by clicking on the name, above. Please?!??

**Donors**

**William L**

**September 13, 2001 03:50PM**

Here in Erie the blood bank was swamped by noon Tuesday, before there had been any official appeal. The line was filled with kids--high school and college students. Yesterday (Wed), the

bank asked people not to come in until next week as they could not process the blood fast enough.

=====

**so sad in Manhattan**

**Melissa1**

**September 13, 2001 09:35AM**

First of all, I am so happy that I finally got online and could read so many of the wonderful messages on this board. I have been home from work for three days now (my building is four or five blocks from where the WTC used to be) and am starting to feel isolated. I cannot access any of my firm's email services (mostly because they are not working).

I have tried to give blood two times and unfortunately (in all respects, mostly because the need for blood has been less than expected) I have been turned away twice.

My aunt's office in the Pentagon was 300 feet from where the plane hit (she is fine) and my brother and sister-in-law are doctors in Navy and are currently on the highest alert (Delta) as has ever been in America.

My friends know 15-20 people who worked at Canter Fitzgerald on the 105th floor of the WTC and have not heard from any of them. At times I can smell the smoke coming uptown from the the fires. The telephone in the apartment building next to mine has been ringing straight for three days without answer and I don't know how to help. I was on second avenue yesterday (in one of my blood giving attempts) and watched as 20 police-escorted dump trucks made their way downtown.

I apologize for the rambling on of this message, it just feels good to be able to get it all out. Thank you all for the nice words and comfort.

**Glad that you've made contact.....**

**Caroline**

**September 13, 2001 10:14AM**

That "I just missed it" feeling is a strange thing, isn't it? I'm very glad to know that you are okay, Melissa.

How to help? Those darn phones are designed to sound urgent, to make you want to do something. If it really bugs, you, get the supervisor of the apartment building to go and answer it.

Y'know, there is an urge to help NOW, but a bit later there'll be a real need to provide other kinds of help. Injured people will have go home, and may need some aid from friends and neighbours in doing very mundane things. Children will need to have more things explained to them. The Salvation Army, having put their all into getting clean clothes stands and soup kitchens up and running for rescuers, may well appreciate a replenishment of their coffers in a few weeks time. Families of rescue workers, firemen and dump-truck drivers will need to have someone listen to them. All this kind of help is just as important... just not quite so urgent. Could you help then, rather than now?

**Good point.**

**Jezkalyn**

**September 13, 2001 10:27AM**

As am I Melissa. I can't imagine what it must have been like from so close. I had the luxury of watching from the relative safety of NJ. My heart bled not only for all those lost but for those of you so close to it who will need to work thru it all. I hope our gentle Republic can be of some service to you. Please keep posting.

I too feel the urgent need to help now. It is nearly infuriating to sit by and know there is nothing I can do but watch. I shall take comfort in the "help later" concept. There will be few of us not only in the city but the surrounds as well, who will not be personally affected by this.

Stay well, Melissa. Ramble away. After all, that's why this board is called Ramble!

**Blood too...**

**BarbaraK**

**September 13, 2001 11:57AM**

I too want to go and do what I can, but constrained by time and distance I can't. I even went to donate blood, as O+ they need me nearly all the time, but I got asked to wait until next week. It is rather consoling to know that for the first time in a long time the U.S. will not have a blood shortage. 😊

**thank you for your kind words and support (nfm)**

**Melissa1**

**September 13, 2001 03:37PM**

=====

**A big heart in a tiny body, my best friend's granddaughter, Miss Zhane Shaffer-Plugis**

**Mary Collette**

**September 13, 2001 10:47AM**

My best friend told me this yesterday. Tuesday night, she had been downstairs relaxing at her house, I guess watching all the news broadcasts and her granddaughter Zhane came downstairs and asked Erika to take her to the hospital. Zhane has asthma and I suppose Erika thought that there was something wrong with Zhane, who is six years old, by the by. When Erika asked why, Zhane replied that she basically wished to donate her blood, and Erika had to tell her that she was way too young, and way too small. That a pint of blood from her would be a pint too much, she was ready to give the tiniest bit from her finger. That goes to show that even the youngest of children want to help out in this great hour of need in our country.

**This is so touching. Thanks for sharing. Nfm**

**LaineyB**

**September 13, 2001 01:17PM**

=====

**A Litany from Boston**

**Whitney**

**September 13, 2001 11:01AM**

Seven of my brother's coworkers were on the United flight from Boston.

A coworker's wife's best friend was on that plane as well.

Another coworker's friend called from the 80 somethingth floor of the WTC to say he was trapped. He hasn't been heard from since.

My husband's second cousin's brother-in-law--if you can follow that logic--was on the plane that crashed in Pennsylvania. In fact, he was one of the ones who called on his cell phone and said they were going to try to stop the hijackers.

Fifteen employees from our parent company are still unaccounted for and another one was on one of the planes.

My alma mater has set up a web site where you can check for names of fellow alums. I can't even bear to look yet since many of my former classmates worked for companies in the WTC.

The planes overhead are fighter jets.

There are policemen and dogs at South Station where I get off the T on my way to work.

When I pass the Federal Reserve Building on my way to work, there are armed guards in the parking lot checking every vehicle that pulls in for bombs.

I'm not in New York experiencing the horror first hand. So far, my inner circle of family and friends are safe. But I've never before been involved in a tragedy where I could trace even these tenuous connections to the victims. It brings it all so much closer to home. I've felt sick and numb since Tuesday morning. How can we not grieve for what has happened?

I don't post often but I wanted to add my voice this time. The spirit that has been fostered here has been so comforting. I have been drawing strength from it since Tuesday. It's been wonderful to see--especially those comments from all of you not in the United States. I'm glad to see so many pleas for tolerance. I think that is crucial at this time. I'm also deeply glad to know our New York Pemberlians are safe.

**Very close to home**

**Laraine**

**September 13, 2001 11:05AM**

You have been touched by this tragedy in a real way, and your plea for tolerance is a testament to who you are.

Feel proud, along with feeling said.

My heartfelt sympathy,

Laraine

**degrees of separation and change...**

**Karen G.**

**September 13, 2001 11:47AM**

I echo your thoughts.

Some other thoughts I've had regarding country-wide changes...

The way we use air travel is going to significantly change, with tightened security, etc. This week of course has been unprecedented. My younger sister was coming out to CA for a visit but



cancelled. My mom is in Fla. and is due to fly back to Ohio tomorrow, but she and her friend may drive.

No major airports are opening back up for service until new safety guidelines have been met. What I wonder is - it will be such tight security at large airports, but will small airports be the same, too? Most people can freely drive to small airports without so much as a security code, and pilots don't have to go through metal detectors, etc.

=====

**Some of our freedom has been lost forever...**

**Davidia**

**September 13, 2001 12:17PM**

But this is a consequence of the times we live in. We have to brace ourselves to what's to come. The future has never felt so uncertain. I join you in your prayers for our future and the future of our children. Love and blessings to all.

Davidia

=====

**Someone to watch over me...**

**Maisy**

**September 13, 2001 12:29PM**

Angel of God,  
my guardian dear,  
To whom God's love  
commits me here,  
Ever this day,  
be at my side,  
To light and guard,  
Rule and guide.  
Amen.

From infancy to death human life is surrounded by their watchful care and intercession. Beside each believer stands an angel as protector and shepherd leading him to life. Already here on earth the Christian life shares by faith in the blessed company of angels and men united to God.

=====

**5 Miracles**

**Tori Marie**

**September 13, 2001 12:44PM**

Wonderful news today! Five firefighters have been rescued alive from the rubble of the WTC! Two of them were able to walk into ambulances.

I just saw an interview with one of the rescue workers. He said that there are pockets of air in there, which he called "little pockets of hope", as he rushed off to search some more.

We have so little to rejoice in these last few days so this is especially welcome news.

=====

**Hil's beautiful picture**

**Anne P**

**September 13, 2001 12:45PM**

Might I make a suggestion? And hope that I'm not being presumptuous.

Lots of people have said how much they want to help, but they can't because of distance and because there's not a lot most of us can do at the moment.

But there will come a time when all sorts of help and support are needed (like replenishing the Salvation Army's coffers, helping victims' families etc etc)

Hil, could your lovely picture become a WTC memorial card or print? One that people could buy and profits to a fund or something? I'm being very forward here because it's your picture. But when I saw it, I wanted to buy it.

Just a thought

Anne (feeling very nervous about posting this, so please delete if I've overstepped the mark)

**Of course**

**Hil**

**September 13, 2001 04:11PM**

Not immediately sure how to go about it, but of course. I'll have a think - it would need printing and distribution. My only stipulation is that it fund welfare and global peace.

**I like this idea...**

**Suzanne Morse**

**September 13, 2001 04:57PM**

...but clearly it would take some planning, as well as some help in costs.

The only thing, Hil, is perhaps we could separate it from helping the direct relief efforts (unless that is what you mean in terms of welfare?)? (see my post over at Dregston)

**I was thinking**

**Anne P**

**September 14, 2001 01:47AM**

Of something small, postcard, greeting card, whatever, that people could buy in large numbers for small outlay so that anyone but anyone could help - even those of us abroad.

I'm glad you liked the idea

=====

**Web Site for American Flag**  
**Jessie Dee**  
**September 13, 2001 01:04PM**

I found this for the 4th of July. I have a color printer at work and printed the one for all 50 states and taped to my name plate.

=====

**Warning re disaster relief scam (unfathomable!)**  
**Ree**  
**September 13, 2001 01:26PM**

Please be careful if you receive an e-mail asking for donations to the Red Cross and providing a link. Apparently some spam artists are sending them out, asking for donations, then harvesting the credit card numbers of donors.

Link to an article about these vultures is below. The official Red Cross website is [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org). If you do donate online, please be sure that that is where you are.

**another disaster relief scam...**  
**NicoleC**  
**September 13, 2001 04:26PM**

I don't know if this is only in my area, so I'll just warn anyhow. Some people have been going door to door saying that they are from the Red Cross and soliciting donations. The Red Cross does \*not\* send people door to door for donations. These people are \*not\* legitimate.

Oh- the inhumanity of humans.

Nicole

**Thank you, Ree and Nicole (nfm)**  
**Sabrina**  
**September 13, 2001 06:18PM**

**So kind of you ...**  
**Lin**  
**September 13, 2001 02:14PM**

... to be on the lookout and to let others know. As I've mentioned elsewhere on this board, my son's school is holding a bake sale (the kids are doing the baking) and sending the proceeds. I will make certain that they go to where they will actually help and not to line someone's pockets. How despicable.

**Another Red Cross Address**  
**EJean**  
**September 13, 2001 06:10PM**

This is appalling. I cannot believe how sick some people truly are.  
Canadians should note that the official Canadian Red Cross website is [www.redcross.ca](http://www.redcross.ca). Please

look there for information on donating.  
~EJean

**Good grief!!**

**Jezkalyn**

**September 13, 2001 07:32PM**

Is nothing sacred?!?!?! I feel like I felt this morning when I heard there were gas stations trying to gouge customers. Two have been caught. One is going to refund the customers, the other is going to donate the overcharges to relief funds.

\*Haarumph!\*

=====

**Allow me please to share a message...**

**PeggyS**

**September 13, 2001 01:29PM**

...I just received from my daughter-in-law's sister:  
A few hours after the attacks I was trying to see the light,  
really see it, and bring it in.  
But nothing would come to me  
except thick, gray, billowing smoke.  
In my mind's eye I was floating above Manhattan island  
and noticed, extending up out of the water, a green speck.  
The speck grew larger and drawing closer I recognized her.  
A symbolic gift of truth, and justice, and liberty.  
Her arm reaching up, strong and high,  
her hand holding a torch emanating light,  
pure and piercing,  
flooding the sky with its brilliance.  
At that moment I knew  
she was the epicenter of the world.  
So close to the destruction and terror,  
she was there, holding the light,  
spreading it out over all of Manhattan,  
New York,  
D. C.  
Pennsylvania  
the whole country,  
stretching out over the oceans,  
the continents,  
emanating out, and further out,  
over the entire world.  
Nothing could stop this light.  
NOTHING could prevent it from spreading.  
And the smoke was gone.

**A beacon of hope... (NFM)**

**Lin**

**September 13, 2001 02:12PM**

**Beautiful, thank you Peggy. Love. Nfm**

**Linda Fern**

**September 13, 2001 03:12PM**

=====

**A lurker offers sympathy**

**Angela**

**September 13, 2001 01:30PM**

Sympathy and love from Ireland.

A simple message left at the US embassy Dublin:

Such a sad waste of precious lives. Why? Heaven is full tonight; you

=====

**News in DC**

**Julie**

**September 13, 2001 01:32PM**

The washington post has reported the casualty totals for the crash at the pentagon. 126 pentagon employees were killed as well as 64 passengers on the plane. This is not nearly as high as was feared, considering that an estimated 24,000 people were in the building at the time of the crash.

My heart goes out to those who have lost a loved one.

=====

**Donate computer equipment to the Red Cross**

**Julie P.**

**September 13, 2001 01:34PM**

[www.techtv.com](http://www.techtv.com) for the details.

**Ten million from Microsoft**

**Laraine**

**September 14, 2001 06:33PM**

Normally I have thought of Bill Gates with less than kindly feelings, I admit.

Microsoft has pledged \$5 million in cash and another \$5 million in equipment and services. They are advertising that if your company needs software development to get a relief-effort-related task done, they will develop for you, or put together your network, or whatever.

I stand corrected about Mr. Gates.

**Bill Gates...**

**Julie P.**

**September 15, 2001 07:32AM**

has donated millions to Seattle-area libraries over the years. He has said he doesn't want to leave all his money to his kids, he prefers to give most of it away during his lifetime.

=====

**I'm touched by the response...**

**Karen Renee**

**September 13, 2001 01:40PM**

A word about those callous, rude, uncaring New Yorkers.

It is soooo untrue! I am amazed how people are pulling together and supporting each other...the lines around the block to give blood just brought me to tears. I've seen teddy bears and blankets, water, food given to victims and rescue workers. And lots of hugs. So far I've heard of no looting. I'm so proud of my fellow Americans... and the Candadians that in some cases opened their homes to those plane commuters diverted to Vancouver for days. Also the touching tributes in London and all over the world, and the offers for help.

You've all been wonderful.

Thank you thank you thank you!

Now we have to move, day by day, towards the light at the end of the bleak tunnel. It sure helps to have friends. 😊

**We New Yorkers get a bad rap.**

**Julie P.**

**September 13, 2001 02:36PM**

This city gets made fun of all the time because people on the outside expect violence and boorish behavior from the inhabitants. I sincerely beg to differ.

You don't see NYers rioting when our sports teams win championships. You saw it in LA, in Detroit, in Philadelphia and in Montreal, but not in NY.

When LA had riots back in 1992 in the wake of the Rodney King verdict, NY was peaceful and quiet.

In the early 90s, there were racial tensions in Brooklyn that led to violence, but this did not extend beyond the borders of that borough. People were not rioting in Manhattan, Queens, the Bronx or Staten Island.

New Yorkers like their privacy to be sure (it's one of the things we like best about our town), but we know how to come together when necessary.

I was born and raised here, and am fiercely proud to call it my hometown. We may be a bit provincial to be sure, but I can honestly say that I wouldn't live anyplace else.

**Nyaarkers**  
**William L**  
**September 13, 2001 03:46PM**

When your Gov. Patacki talked to one of the firefighters in the hospital on the day after, he praised the man for his and his fellows' bravery. The fireman replied, "Waja spect? We're Nyaarkers." Need I say more?

Actually...

It's pronounced "Noo Yawkahs." I thought you'd like to know. \*wink\*

On a more serious note, a friend of mine is a fireman involved in the cleanup, and we just heard he's alright. Another friend is a nurse who has been down there doing her part. She was awake for 30 straight hours, and was the only woman in her area. She was doing work that would tire a lot of men, but she managed to hold her own. In an odd twist of fate, her name is Grace. They are people I am proud to call my friends.

**We're all proud**  
**William L**  
**September 13, 2001 09:36PM**

Grace is well named.  
Honest, he said "Nyaarkers" it was 2 1/2 syllables, not 3.

=====

**Unity Candle**  
**Suzanne Morse**  
**September 13, 2001 02:12PM**

I received this from a friend. Of course, I know that not everyone on these boards are Americans, but world unity can't be a bad thing to wish for at this time, either.

"Light a Candle for Unity

Though terrorists may have struck out at us as Americans, let us come together and show our unity. Let us show that though we may have been hurt, they cannot dim the light which burns in the hearts of all Americans.

ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2001 AT 10:30PM (EASTERN TIME), 9:30 PM (CENTRAL) AND 8:30PM (PACIFIC), walk out your door and light a candle or lantern to show the world that our spirit burns bright. Gather with your loved ones, friends and neighbors and let your light burn in the night to show that we are united and that we remain strong.

Please pass this on to anyone you know. Print it up and pass it to anyone who may not have Internet access. Post it on message boards, clubs, news stations - anywhere and everywhere there are PROUD AMERICANS.

LIGHT A CANDLE FOR UNITY!"

?

**Emmy A.**

**September 13, 2001 02:47PM**

I just recieved an email stating the this was on Friday at 7pm EST. Does anyone know which date is correct? I also just wanted to say, that I encourage everyone reading the first note to light a candle to show our neighbors and the world that we stand together and that cowards will not bring the US and her people down.

**I heard 7pm Friday, too. NFM**

**Beth Ann**

**September 13, 2001 02:59PM**

Still, a lovely idea. Perhaps I will do both times, to be certain. (nfm)

Sabrina

September 13, 2001 06:13PM

**Two separate things?**

**Michelle L.**

**September 13, 2001 05:31PM**

They were passing this out at the hospital where I work--but I've seen the 7:00 Friday thing too.

Many ideas floating around

Tracy Y

September 13, 2001 05:43PM

Although I am very much in favor of the country/world uniting in a moment to mourn/show defiance, there are so many floating around the e-mail circuit it is hard to know which are really going to happen (and I can't do all of them). Some of the things I have heard are:

~ patriotic clothing day (I received an e-mail today saying that we should do it tomorrow, but when I looked at the original sender's date - yesterday - it means it should have been today and I am wearing green)

~ flag day (again I've received e-mails saying it will today or tomorrow)

~ unity candle day (I've been send e-mails for both tonight and tomorrow at 7 pm - the question I have is that is it eastern time? pacific time?)

When people start up something like this, if they want real support, they need to give the information enough time to get around so people can participate.

Personally, I think any or all of these ideas can easily be put into play on next Tuesday - the one week mark. I'm sure there will be a moment (moments) of silence all over the place at the time the event began.

**National Day of Mourning**

**Barbara Anne**

**September 13, 2001 05:52PM**



has been officially declared all over the world for tomorrow (Friday). I think that most of the shows of patriotism are planned in order to honor that announcement. You are right though, there are so many ideas for ways to show our mourning that we all must do those which most closely fit with our feelings.

=====

**Shocked! Grieved and shocked**

**Lin**

**September 13, 2001 02:42PM**

I have had JA's phrase running through my mind since Tuesday morning. It so clearly expresses my feelings. I have been deeply distressed and have escaped daily to the 'harbor of tranquility' that RoP has offered.

The kindness and graciousness of its members have been a lifeline. Thank you all for your warmth and humanity so eloquently expressed on this board.

I find that I have no eloquence, no ability to wax lyrical about the brutal and vicious attacks on innocent people. And, even from the relative safety and distance of the West Coast, the ripple effect reaches us here. I have lost people I have known, both on one of the planes and again several people who worked in the Towers, and grieve for them and their families.

I think that the perpetrators expected to bring the United States to its knees. They were wrong. They have unintentionally united all civilized humanity against an unspeakable atrocity and set in motion an implacable will.

**re: Grieved and shocked**

**Elora**

**September 14, 2001 01:32AM**

You were wrong, Lin - you did find eloquence, and succinct truth. And I appreciate it. Today, a friend and I drove by a group of cheering grade-schoolers - they were wearing red, white and blue and handing out small flags. There was a news van there and I joked to my friend that maybe we'd be on the news (please understand that she and I were out to try and distract ourselves for a while.) Well, I did see the kids on the news later in the day, and the news people did interview one the drivers who stopped for a flag. I don't remember exactly what she said, but she was intelligent and well-spoken, and I was grateful that she was interviewed and not I. I haven't yet posted here because I don't know what to say, even what to think and certainly not how to say it.

I just wanted you to know that I appreciated your post.

yours, etc etc, Elora

**Thank you, Elora -- it helped to write (NFM)**

**Lin**

**September 14, 2001 10:10AM**

=====

**I am so joyfull to see**

**JessicaJ**

**September 13, 2001 03:08PM**

How close people are here in this wonderful site, and how giving people all around the world have been. I agree with all those who have called this a haven, it is a chance for people to share with others the things they love, and to give one another support. I have read these beautiful messages you have sent to one another, and it warms my heart to see how much you care for one another. I know that I am just barely new here, but I am glad to be.

This tragedy has brought to mind a tragedy of my own that I faced in July. A dear friend of my families and mine was coming to visit us, but she was killed in a terrible car accident. The pain I felt was so hard to bear, and so I have an understanding of what others are having to face at this time. I know that this recent tragedy involves the loss of more than one life, and was a greater tragedy than my own, but I grieve for the families and friends who have lost their loved ones, because it is a terrible and hard time for them, and the pain is so hard to bear. I pray to God that all may receive peace in their hearts and receive comfort in this time of heart ache.

Thank you for allowing me to share my thoughts and feelings, God bless!

**One or many**

**Laraine**

**September 14, 2001 09:42AM**

Loss of life is loss, if it is many or one.

Please find comfort in our support, Jessica.

**Sorry**

**William L**

**September 13, 2001 03:42PM**

I don't think you posted on your tragedy (Possibly you hadn't signed in yet) as I don't remember it. If you had, you would have found yourself answered with posts of support and sympathy. You must have noticed how this board was swamped with messages, people terribly worried because they hadn't seen a post from someone. In my case, as noisy and contentious as I am, they must have thought I was dead because I missed a day.

=====

**Support**

**marry**

**September 13, 2001 03:29PM**

Like all most of you I saw the terrible images on tv, and I was terribly shocked But when I read all the messages on this board the pictures were no images anymore, but became real.

Tomorrow friday 14 september there will be three minutes of silence at 12.00 hours European time all over Europe to commemorate these awful events. In our college we will be silent too and I will again talk about what happened with me students of 12 and 13 years old. They will sign a letter of condolences that will be send to your ambassador here in Holland. I will tell them about what I read here. How people of goodwill all over the world reach out to support one another and I will read some of your

prayers for them. May be this will show them that evil can and will never win as long as there are others who will stand up against it.

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you in America,

God bless you,

Marry

**European solidarity**

**Sylvie**

**September 13, 2001 04:35PM**

Yep,

I know that we, Europeans, are also present in Pemberley. Let's just say we're also present in the sympathy for the numerous families who have been touched by this tragedy. Even though it's several thousands kilometers away, life stopped during tuesday afternoon. I was not born when JFK was shot but, according to my father, the reaction in Europ has been quite equivalent. We, French people, are said to be more critic towards the American ways than other Europeans. I'd like you to know that, at that moment, our thoughts are with the American people.

=====

**Bewildered...**

**Gloria**

**September 13, 2001 04:24PM**

...As a lifelong Brooklynite, we know of many young people trapped in the towers. Our neighborhood is a twenty minute subway, bus, or car ride to the financial district area.

...Son-in-law of good friends (wife just had third child three weeks ago), sons of two men with whom my husband plays cards every week, a young woman we watched go through elem and high school, son of an old friend, and more. Two of the above work for Cander(sp?) Fitzgerald. I believe one paper today stated that 5 of their 1,000 employees have been accounted for. I think they were one or two levels above the first crash.

...I'm sorry if I've rambled too morbidly. Thanks for listening.

**We will listen whenever**

**kathleen (elder)**

**September 13, 2001 05:28PM**

you need to talk. It must be awful to know so many people who are missing, and to fear the worst.

Words are small comfort, I know, but please know that there are legions of folk who condole with you and send you all the sympathy they have.

Hugs.

**It means so much...**

**Gloria**

**September 14, 2001 03:06PM**

...to have people who'll listen. Love you all.

**I'm so sorry**

**Holly Mc**

**September 13, 2001 05:46PM**

It's hard enough to comprehend all of this without having people I care about missing. You and your neighborhood will be in my prayers.

**Sympathy**

**Sabrina**

**September 13, 2001 06:09PM**

But, of course, that's what we are here for! Poor Gloria, our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Many hugs,  
S.

**Hugs & Prayers Needed Here**

**Lisa RS**

**September 13, 2001 08:32PM**

We gladly extend both to you.  
Love, Lisa

**Go ahead and talk Gloria**

**William L**

**September 13, 2001 09:32PM**

We are indeed listening. We at ROP are good at that, so let us answer.

**deepest sympathy**

**DeeDee**

**September 13, 2001 09:53PM**

Not at all. I'm so sorry for your losses. I'm in a class on the "problem of evil" right now, and the subject matter couldn't be more pertinent to the events this week. You and your friends are in my prayers.

**May God give us all strength!! (nfm)**

**Elizabeth Cretaro**

**September 14, 2001 08:06AM**

**Sympathy from this Lisa, too NFM**

**Lisa Dalrymple**

**September 14, 2001 08:32AM**

**I am so sorry ! (NFM)**

**Buba**

**September 14, 2001 02:51PM**

**I'm sorry, Gloria NFM**  
**DavidL**  
**September 14, 2001 08:56PM**

=====

**Did you see what Frankfurt did?**  
**Leonore**  
**September 13, 2001 04:49PM**

They put a huge carpet of flowers with an American flag in the middle outside the town hall.

**Beautiful - and so touching. Nfm**  
**kathleen (elder)**  
**September 13, 2001 05:34PM**

**So beatiful... and so nice...**  
**Kendra Crispin**  
**September 13, 2001 08:26PM**

I'm glad to see all that people 'round the world are doing.

**That is so incredible!**  
**Rachel Marie**  
**September 13, 2001 10:42PM**

Thank you so much, Leonore!  
That is one of the most beautiful things I have ever seen. Bless their hearts.  
-Rachel Marie

=====

**Art and Life**  
**Doug**  
**September 13, 2001 05:52PM**

I'm still quite new to Pemberley and am admittedly still very much learning the ropes, so I hope this post is in order.

An acquaintance wondered how on earth, in view of what has happened, people could be posting to such an "entertainment" site on novels and films and such (and not just on the Ramble board).

I remarked that I thought it an illustration of what the philosopher Nietzsche (a fine and sensitive intellect despite his reputation) once said, namely, that we have art so as not to perish of life.

I doubt JA ever dreamed she would bring so many people together on so many levels at such a time.

**Beautifully stated. Nfm**  
**Ree**  
**September 13, 2001 05:58PM**

**Absolutely**

**Vero**

**September 13, 2001 06:22PM**

We should continue to share what brings us together, this exploration of human nature through literature and art in general, the kind of human virtue that is worth preserving under any circumstance.

Think of a scenario. What would you do if you were trapped under ash and burning rubble hoping against hope to be rescued? I can tell you that I would start with poetry and I would say as much Shakespeare, Borges, Eliot.. etc as I could remember and when I could not speak any longer I would turn to mental images of prose and dialogue of all kind (even Dante if my sense of humor allowed for it) to keep me human for as long as my fragile body could resist..

=====

**Checking In...**

**Lauryl**

**September 13, 2001 06:13PM**

Marine, Daniela, everyone else who was concerned for me:

Merry just sent me an e-mail that you guys were looking for me. Marie, I got your note and wrote back last night, Dani- I'll send you my new e-mail addy, you probably don't have it. I am so sorry that you were worried and also so very appreciative. Yes, I am far from harm's way, but it was a scary time for us as we had just put my grandfather on a plane back to Los Angeles about two hours before the attack, and so for most of the day we didn't know where he was or what was going on. Fortunately his plane landed in New Mexico and though he was stranded there for a few days, he was perfectly fine. I've also been v., v. worried about my dear friend Nathan, but just got a call yesterday that he was actually on vacation in Florida all week (instead of his home in NYC). Thank God!

I love you all!

**Thanks, Lauryl....**

**Jo Keenan**

**September 13, 2001 09:55PM**

...for checking in and letting us know you're safe and sound. It really helps. I'm glad to hear your friends and family are also safe. :-)

=====

**Thank you and life goes on...**

**BethMarie**

**September 13, 2001 06:16PM**

It is so wonderful to see the heartfelt messages of care on this board and elsewhere on the web.

Personally, a former neighbor of mine is thankfully alive and well after his Navy section in the Pentagon was hit. He is such a kind, funloving, goodhearted person, that I couldn't bear the thought of the world being with out him while we were waiting for news. (Just like Henrietta and Louisa, I DO love a man in

uniform!) I am still waiting to hear from another acquaintance, a NYC fireman who was a specialist in their anti-terrorist unit. I hope that everyone here will keep Bobby in their thoughts. He is another goodhearted, funloving person whose mission in life was to help others. He would have been one of the first to dive in and do all he could to rescue those who were trapped in the first unspeakable moments. While I feel as stunned as so many others, I've reminded myself that there is still beauty in our world. I have been working on a piece of silk ribbon embroidery, determinedly trying to make something lovely to look at in the days to come. We have the wonderful words in literature and poetry to make our souls soar, we have art and music, we have friends and family to comfort us and we all have our own higher power to look to in times of distress. I hope that we all consider that in other parts of the world, the criminals who committed this horrid act were once innocent children with their own friends and loved ones, and contemplate that they must live in states of desperation to allow themselves to think in a way that would lead them to these actions. Considering that the people of the West Bank in Palestine are just as shattered everytime they lose a loved one, they are every bit as human as we are. Islam grew from Judaism and Christianity, and the Koran contains many of our Gospels. The Koran does not condone murder or violence. It is only the desperation and disenfranchisement of that part of the world that leads those people to inhumane behavior. It is too easy to let fear and hate lead to calls for retribution. My resolve is to be more kind and less judgemental of all that I meet or pass in the days and years to come. In the distant future when these events are viewed as horrid memories, I hope that I keep that resolve and am a better individual because of it.

**Brava!**

**AbbeyW**

**September 13, 2001 11:58PM**

Well said, and I will keep your friend in my prayers as well. I understand about the fondness for a man in uniform--my boyfriend is a Seal (on inactive duty for the next few years, though). We were both concerned about his friends in the Pentagon, and relieved to hear that everyone he knew personally came through safely. I can only imagine what the rescue squads are going through right now...I've only been psychologically prepared for this level of destruction, through my work with canine search and rescue. The tales we were told of rescue work were chilling, but nothing compares even to seeing the television footage that was shown Tuesday night. I don't know how I would have dealt with it, but at the same time am sad that I never did urban or cadaver work with my dog. Maybe we could have been useful.

I remember a few months ago a rather ignorant uncle of mine (who thinks the Acropolis is in Egypt, btw) claimed to my father that Muslims worshipped false gods and were going to hell. Even after my father tried to explain that Allah was their word for God, and that they did believe in Jesus, my uncle still felt the same as before. I couldn't believe it when I heard it, given the number of Muslims I've known over the years who have always impressed me with their loving and faithful devotion to God and to their families and friends. If hell is where they're destined to go, I'd want to be there as well, because I couldn't imagine them passing on to anywhere that isn't lovely.

Anyone who judges Muslims as evil because of the evil actions of a few should think about how easy it is for people who are not religious to bash Christians as a whole because of a few people with unsavory reputations. I get flack often enough for being Catholic that I really find it difficult to keep my patience with those who generalize about people of faith.

=====

**Sorrow across the world**  
**Gaby**  
**September 13, 2001 06:16PM**

There are just too many messages on this board that I'd like to answer so instead I'll just say that even in Uruguay the grief and sorrow is felt. I have many American friends several of whom live in N.Y. and I sincerely feel your pain and shock. What happened is an atrocity which should never take place again anywhere. I just wish there was more I could do. I don't really know what else to say except that I'm so sorry for this tragedy and that I, as well as many others around the world feel your grief and support you.

**International casualties**  
**Marian Z.**  
**September 13, 2001 06:32PM**

This article lists the nationalities of some of the known casualties and still missing people, revealing the character of NY as a world hub.

**Sadness everywhere**  
**Stephy**  
**September 13, 2001 11:36PM**

I'm a lurker here usually, but I'd just like to say how everyone in New Zealand also feels shock and grief at what happened. We normally feel safe and isolated from tragedies that happen in the rest of the world, but it is amazing how many people I've talked to know others living in N.Y. and working near the W.T.C. We all wish there was more we could do to help. Our support and prayers are with you.

=====

**This horrible week**  
**LindaM**  
**September 13, 2001 06:52PM**

I urge everyone to pray to God, our Father, during this terribly sad time. Our President has asked that all Americans pray tomorrow during their lunch hour at work or at home. Wonderful idea - please spread the word.

May God watch over the brave people trying to recover our fellow Americans - either live or dead - and may He hold all the victims and their precious families "in the palm of His hand".

**Thanks, Linda**  
**Laraine**  
**September 14, 2001 09:49AM**

Many of us intend to do this, I'm sure. It has indeed been a horrible week, and being together helps us know we are loved even when we are lost.

=====



**Near Miss**

**Emmy A.**

**September 13, 2001 07:30PM**

As I watch the news tonight, I am so thankful to God for the passengers in the plane that went down in PA for their bravery and strength. I am also thankful for the God's timing for the crash (as strange as that may sound), but the news showed tonight that they think that the plane turned around in NE Ohio right where I grew up (& still have many family and friends), & if the plane had gone down in Ohio there would have been many lives lost (NE Ohio is fairly densely populated in some areas). Although I was already upset for the loss of life, it was still a little unreal for me until I started to see the personal stories that the news has shown last night and today, & then the faceless victims became real life human beings. My prayers and thoughts are with all Americans tonight and especially with those in NYC and DC.

=====

**Back at work in NYC**

**Jen K**

**September 13, 2001 07:59PM**

Today was a very quiet day in New York. I know some of us have been at work since yesterday but this was my first day back. The nicest thing today was having our human resources representative personally come around to offer help, hand out EAP flyers, inform us that no one who was too afraid or distraught to come to work would be penalized financially in any way, and, most importantly, to let us know that everyone who worked for our company (Bowne Business Solutions) in the towers has been found safe. The worst thing had to be the lingering, hair-trigger fear, the sick and appalling rash of fake bomb threats, the ghastly, over-detailed conversations some people felt it necessary to have, and the new knowledge every few hours of someone I work with finding out that one of his or her loved ones or friends was yet to be accounted for or certainly dead.

I am reminded of a few years ago when my brother and I were travelling together to our grandmother's funeral. He married a woman with a very large family and, consequentially, has been to a good deal more funerals than I have. Services aside, I am overwhelmed at the losses suffered by Pemberleans alone and I know that this is the result of knowing so many wonderful people.

Ultimately, I was glad to be at work today and cheered every person I knew who was safe. And as sad as I am about the many losses we all have suffered, I would not give up this site and your friendship for the world.

**Dearest**

**Cheryl**

**September 13, 2001 08:10PM**

Thank you for this report. I am glad you were at work and that you found it was where you needed to be. Keep sharing with us, we want to know how you and everyone else is doing. We will support all of you in any way that we can.

\*samooch\*

**Today**  
**Karen G.**  
**September 13, 2001 08:20PM**

At work, today I finally didn't watch CNN all day in an effort to be more productive at work, but I felt so out of touch and a little down not keeping a abreast of any new developments. I'm glad being back at work helps. The isolation of not going to work probably wasn't good. The certainty of those who are dead is almost worse, when then no hope is left to see them again... the personal stories are really heartbreaking.

"Ultimately, I was glad to be at work today and cheered every person I knew who was safe. And as sad as I am about the many losses we all have suffered, I would not give up this site and your friendship for the world."

Ditto! Love to you.  
Karen

**Dealing in different ways**  
**Sansanee**  
**September 14, 2001 06:20AM**

What is it with people who want to dwell on the horror? \*shudder\*  
I'm glad you were able to meet with your coworkers and friends and reach out that way. I'm glad you could also come here and reach out to us too. My heart also goes out to fellow Pemberley citizens who are so personally affected

=====

**In deepest sympathy**  
**Anielka**  
**September 13, 2001 08:55PM**

To all of you in America, and especially New York, suffering loss and tragedy. May your hearts be healed and your sense of peace and security return swiftly. Although we are far apart we are all touched. We all know someone who knows someone who is suffering loss. Although our sorrow in Australia cannot compare to those of you who have experienced the personal loss of loved ones or stood in the streets lined with rubble, know that you are constantly in our thoughts. We are all linked around the world in grief.

**Thank you, and ..**  
**Linda Fern**  
**September 14, 2001 07:48AM**

...glad to see you have "checked in". I was worried because I know you fly a lot and my email to you was returned to me. Your caring thoughts are appreciated.  
Love from Linda

=====

**We were evacuated today.**

**Julie P.**

**September 13, 2001 09:11PM**

My office is next door to both the Chrysler Building and Grand Central Terminal. We were told at around noon to leave the building. I work on the 31st floor, which is the top floor of the building. We walked all the way down, everyone in good spirits, but there was still a tenseness that was palpable.

We got to the ground floor, and were told by security personnel that we should gather 2 blocks east, at the corner of 44th Street and 2nd Avenue. We were there close to an hour. My legs felt like jelly, probably a combination of nerves and having walked down 31 flights of stairs. I had my Walkman with me, and listened to the radio to see if I could learn what was happening. Apparently, there was a bomb scare at Grand Central, so thousands of people in the area were doing what we were -- standing around waiting to learn if we could go back in.

The rest of the day was quiet. Several people left the office to go home. They just couldn't deal with it anymore. Those of us who stayed were glued to various websites...and the window. The smoke, which had been white since yesterday, suddenly turned black again, and started billowing. This didn't last very long, but we did wonder what was causing this change. Rumors flew fast and furious. It's gotten to the point that you'll believe anything, no matter how outlandish it might have sounded only 3 days ago.

Over the course of the past 2 days, I have been calling and e-mailing people I know to learn about them, or about mutual acquaintances. Tonight I learned that a former colleague is among the missing. This man and I were not close, but I liked and respected him. He was one of the nicer people I worked with at that particular job. I had originally heard about it on TV this morning (his family had circulated flyers near the site), but it wasn't confirmed until tonight.

I feel sick.

**Keep your chin up**

**Jen K**

**September 13, 2001 09:26PM**

As ridiculous as that may sound. Remember how many people you do know who are okay. And try very hard, as I have had to do more than ever in my life, not to take stock in rumors. Despite having to listen to people's unfounded fears all day, I cling to the hope that we will stay banded together and find a way to make this all bearable for each other.

I keep waiting for the day I wake up and this just isn't true.

I'm very sorry for the day you had. Take care.

Jen

**Thanks ladies.**

**Julie P.**

**September 14, 2001 06:06AM**

It wouldn't be so bad if we were busy at work, but we're not. There's not much to do other than sit and read every newspaper, read every Internet news site, and look out at the smoke where the Towers used to be.

But, I do understand what you mean. I so desperately want something happy to think about. I don't want these b\*st\*rds to think they've beaten us. I want to see a baseball game. I want to watch a football game. But it's not that easy. A friend who plays Major League baseball says that the players themselves are of 2 minds about resuming. Some

figure that they should go back to work like the rest of us, but others say that it's just not important. I agree with the first group. Just as we need to get back to work, so do they. Maybe it's selfish, but I want to be with 50,000 other people, proudly singing the Star-Spangled Banner in defiance of the creeps who tried, and in many cases succeeded, to kill us. But that could be dangerous too.  
This just stinks, and I still feel sick.

**You know,Julie**  
**JulieW**  
**September 14, 2001 07:13AM**

I agree wholeheartedly, and while yesterday I understood why they are changing the tone of the Last Night of the Proms here tomorrow, today part of me says that instead of cancelling Rule Britannia etc they should have kept these songs in and added the Star Spangled Banner to the programme. To be played VERY LOUD.  
And the Battle Hymn of the Republic for good measure. I don't care about being thought patriotic right at this moment.  
love from  
Julie

**I just saw the service at St. Paul's.**  
**Julie P.**  
**September 14, 2001 07:59AM**

It was very moving. I liked the Archbishop's sermon, and thought that the singing of the Star Spangled Banner and The Battle Hymn of the Republic was a wonderful touch.

**Yes,**  
**JulieW**  
**September 14, 2001 12:07PM**

My friend Connie went; due to a family bereavement here in the UK I could not go. She told me this afternoon she found it very cathartic and moving.  
First time the Star Spangled Banner had been played in St Paul's.

**My dearest Julie,**  
**Linda Fern**  
**September 14, 2001 07:34AM**

"It wouldn't be so bad if we were busy at work, but we're not."  
I have been through some trying times in my life, though not the equal of this, and have found that "busy at work" is just what the doctor ordered. "Work" did help to put my mind on something other than the "event".  
"I so desperately want something happy to think about."  
"Something happy" - I have never seen anything like the outpouring of love,

solidarity, courage, caring, etc. as I have at this sorrowful occasion. It does my heart good to see such LOVE IN ACTION. Especially, at this present age when we see so much to worry about - drugs, shootings, domestic abuse, divorce, hunger, children in need and on and on.

"I don't want these b\*st\*rds to think they've beaten us."

IMO I do think that "they" should be getting the message by now that, in view of the outpouring listed above, they may have started a battle, but we have already won the war. They really don't know "US"!

"Maybe it's selfish, but I want to be with 50,000 other people, proudly singing the Star-Spangled Banner ...."

I agree, and it's not at all selfish - it would show that we cannot be driven into caves. Life goes on.

"This just stinks, and I still feel sick."

The 'webspiration' linked below came this morning, so I send it along just for you.

Much, much Love from Linda - who sits in her little corner of the world on the outskirts of Memphis in the woods with her "window to the world" (computer) listening as three airplanes were heard overhead last night in flight!

**I am sorry too.**

**JulieW**

**September 14, 2001 04:44AM**

"I keep waiting for the day I wake up and this just isn't true."

I know- teh days ahve an unreal feeling about them- and i am thousands of miles away.

"I'm very sorry for the day you had. Take care."

Me too.You are being very brave going on- and that is the best thing.For you, and to show the sick poeple around who perpetrate these acts, and the even sicker people ,in my not so humble opinion, who can make hoax calls.

**\*Hugs\***

**Sansanee**

**September 14, 2001 06:11AM**

Oh Julie, I hope you and the man's family hear about him soon. So terrible! I'll put him in my thoughts and prayers.

I suppose if I were still at my job right now I'd be one of those with the jelly legs too. I've had to walk down 33 flights in the Chanin building when the elevators lost power (there's now a backup power source so that shouldn't happen again). I woke up yesterday morning remembering that, and I couldn't get out of my mind what it must've been like to race down, as much as it would've been possible, with al the people and their bags and high heels and the fear and tension so thick. It was too disturbing for me to go back to sleep, so I went into the living room just to have the drone of the tv on, not that it was much comfort either.

**Yes, you'd have been there with me.**  
**Julie P.**  
**September 14, 2001 07:56AM**

I tell you Sansanee, there were thousands of people. The place was swarming with people. The evacuations covered dozens of buildings.  
I heard something on the radio last night that I found very interesting. People were talking about cancelling baseball, football, etc. But the host said, well then, what else do we cancel? Do we tell restaurants to close because, after all, we can eat at home, can't we? Do we tell movie theaters to close? Or what about Broadway shows? Or video stores? These are all diversions. Do we tell all television and radio stations to stop all broadcasts except those relating to the tragedy?  
My answer is no. We cannot let them beat us.

**Cancellations**  
**Lisa Dalrymple**  
**September 14, 2001 10:01AM**

I heard this morning that part of the reason they were cancelling major sporting events this weekend is because of uncertain transportation for teams and fans. I also heard that some TV comedy shows that were supposed to premier tonight have been put off. I'm not sure that's really necessary. Like you said, we cannot let them beat us.

**That, and I could REALLY use a good laugh (nfm)**  
**Jen K**  
**September 14, 2001 10:22AM**

**How about a small one? (laugh, I mean...)**  
**Caroline**  
**September 14, 2001 11:02AM**

There's a very silly final exam paper on the MP board right now. It could use your talents, JulieP, and JenK. It's not much..but if it helps anyone feel a little more normal, then it will have done its job.

=====

**An attempt to cheer up....**  
**Jo Keenan**  
**September 13, 2001 09:45PM**

I love the following song. It is one that is very well known throughout the world, and I'm almost on the verge of tears every time I hear it.  
Despite the fact that many of us are feeling quite the contrary right now, the following is a reminder to you all that the world is still full of things, good, beautiful and wonderful.  
I apologise if this offends. If it becomes too much, I will delete it. But remember, it's main purpose is to

console. And if I have, by this one very small gesture, removed even one tenth of just one person's pain and grief, I shall be eternally grateful...

Louis Armstrong

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD

I see trees of green, red roses too

I see them bloom for me and you

And I think to myself what a wonderful world.

I see skies of blue and clouds of white

The bright blessed day, the dark sacred night

And I think to myself what a wonderful world.

The colors of the rainbow so pretty in the sky

Are also on the faces of people going by

I see friends shaking hands saying how do you do

They're really saying I love you.

I hear babies crying, I watch them grow

They'll learn much more than I'll never know

And I think to myself what a wonderful world

Yes I think to myself what a wonderful world.

**Thank you!!**

**Jeanette Marie**

**September 13, 2001 11:26PM**

This is such a beautiful song. I cry everytime I hear it (or read it.) It's message is so loving and warm. Thank you for sharing it with us.

**I know how you feel**

**Lorena**

**September 13, 2001 11:29PM**

So many thoughts and feelings have gone through my mind these last few days....but one of the quotes that keeps coming back to me is from Anne Frank's diary. "In spite of everything, I still believe people are really good at heart."

This song echoes those thoughts. And in the midst of such devastation we have truly seen people with their hearts in the right place. From the rescue workers who work relentlessly and give their lives to save others to everyone who has given what they can--blood, water, food, encouragement, prayers, etc. Yes, there are good people that do help make our world a better place.

**Cheer on!**

**AbbeyW**

**September 13, 2001 11:33PM**

I don't think there's anything wrong with this whatsoever. There are so many people working and praying for the good of others right now that you can't help but bask in it, delight in it, feel hope in it. If we could only feel this kindly to one another all of the time, half of the evil in the world would seem as nothing, comparatively.

We have a strong sense of unity right now, something that we've been missing for a long time.

I've often heard it said that Americans have trouble with national identity because we haven't had a full-scale war on our own soil in a long time. Rather than feel strong and protective of one another, we've turned to bickering within. I wouldn't say that I agree that we need wars or tragedies to feel close as a nation, but they do tend to be a catalyst.

Perhaps, too, some won't feel so obligated to ignore international news, or the sufferings of anonymous people in other countries. I've heard so many people over the past few years say things like "This doesn't affect me...who cares? It's just people in Cambodia or East Timor who I don't know." Given the amount of support pouring in from other countries, perhaps they'll feel more inclined to take part in the sufferings of other nations. Suffering sometimes seems to be a matter of proximity, but it doesn't have to be that way.

I was talking with my boyfriend earlier this evening about people's changing principles over the past few days. Rather than hearing people screaming about being discriminated against, calling us to discriminate against others, or otherwise behaving badly, we've heard people say things like "I'm not black, I'm an American" or "I'm not a man, I'm an American." For once, the majority seems to be setting aside differences to unite. For once, we are not thinking what is due to us, but what is due to others.

What a wonderful world, indeed!

**Beautiful-Thanks! (nfm)**

**Beth Ann**

**September 14, 2001 10:50AM**

**Thanks ! (NFM)**

**Buba**

**September 14, 2001 02:58PM**

**Thank you so much !**

**Emilie Marie**

**September 15, 2001 11:40AM**

After so many pictures of horror and sadness, it is exactly what I needed. I find it not offending. I think on the contrary it gives courage, which is necessary if we want to help and then to move on.

=====

**Northern CA Ren Faire donating its proceeds**

**Leonore**

**September 13, 2001 09:47PM**

The Northern California Renaissance Pleasure Faire, where I teach fencing on weekends, will be held this weekend as scheduled. The managers decided people needed a little relief and escapism from all the images on CNN.

All the proceeds from this weekend will be donated to a relief fund for families of firefighters and police officers killed in the tragedy.

In a fortunate twist of fate, two of the Faire managers were supposed to be on the flight that crashed in Pennsylvania, but they overslept and missed it.

If you happen to be near the Nut Tree in Vacaville, California, drop by.



**Heartwarming to see generosity in all its forms (NFM)**

**Lin**

**September 14, 2001 10:13AM**

=====

**More thoughts on blood donation**

**Courtney**

**September 13, 2001 10:46PM**

A belated 'hello' to everyone here. I've spent the last hour reading Ramble and mentally ticking off the names in my mind of the people at Pemberley who are accounted for. We are blessed in having so many safe and unharmed friends here. My prayers are with the rest of the nation in thinking of the families who lost loved ones on Tuesday.

Since noon on Tuesday, I've had the red cross on speed dial which always turns up busy. I stopped by a few blood donation centers over the last few days and was turned away each time, but was urged to return next week. As has been reported here already by numerous people: please donate blood if you are able. If you have already done so, thank you. But if you still want to donate and have been turned away like myself - don't shrug your shoulders and say, "oh well." Please try to make appointments later next week. And if you are unable to donate blood, please consider financial support or volunteer work. My employers are 100% supportive of anyone missing work to help out in this crisis.

Once again, my thoughts and prayers are with everyone here at Pemberley during this time of sorrow. Although I live far from the tragedy (southern California), I feel that my community has joined the entire nation, and is mourning and prepared to help in any way we can.

**Indeed....**

**EJean**

**September 14, 2001 01:31AM**

I alternate between lurking and posting on various boards here at Pemberley, but I always find comfort in what I find, whether or not I comment upon it. I knew that coming here in the face of this horror would provide comfort to many and I am glad to see that it has done so.

'Since noon on Tuesday, I've had the red cross on speed dial which always turns up busy....'

I, too, am far from the disaster areas, in Western Canada. I have been volunteering with the Red Cross here, though, and I would urge all Canadian Pemberlians (is this a word? 😊) to contact Canadian Blood Services at 1.800.2DONATE to donate blood in the next few weeks.

With love and prayers for us all,

~EJean

=====

**Friend found**

**Lauren Rose**

**September 13, 2001 11:09PM**

I am very very happy to be able to post this message. I just hung up the phone from an hour chat with my friend who lives in Greenwich Village. She is fine. I am the third friend who has "found" her again,

after losing contact, from concern over the events in NY. What a relief. Because we move around the world so much the few friends I have from America are very special to me, kind of like touchstones. Thanks to those who posted to help me find her!

**I'm so glad**

**Myretta**

**September 14, 2001 06:10AM**

What a relief to you and how wonderful to be in touch with an old friend at a time like this.

**Good news**

**Golda**

**September 14, 2001 12:09PM**

I'm glad you found your friend.

**So glad ! (NFM)**

**Buba**

**September 14, 2001 02:59PM**

**so glad for you and your friend NFM**

**Sansanee**

**September 15, 2001 07:05AM**

=====

**our community**

**NicoleC**

**September 14, 2001 12:12AM**

I thought this would help cheer some- I know I'm encouraged by every little report of people coming together and helping.

A local radio station held a fund raiser today in cooperation with the Red Cross. Their goal was to raise half a million dollars. When we last had the radio on (at 7 pm, it's 11 now) they'd reached \$470,000.

We're listening to the radio again now, but they haven't yet announced the total earned. One of the newscasters said that complete and total strangers were hugging each other and crying.

I have been so impressed by how we've pulled together in this crisis. Before we seemed so argumentative over every little thing, but one attack and we are united like a granite rock. Amazing.  
Nicole

**Mozart Requiem**

**Lydia C.**

**September 14, 2001 12:30AM**

I heard on National Public Radio that a special performance of the Mozart Requiem was given in NYC Wednesday afternoon. An event like that could be so moving, and hopefully helped work through some of the pain and grief.

Prayers and sympathy to all who are suffering right now.

**also listened to his Requiem**  
**NicoleC**  
**September 14, 2001 12:33AM**

I listened to Mozart's Requiem Wednesday night- I often put in a CD when I'm going to sleep at night, a Requiem was the only thing that seemed appropriate. The phrase "lacrimosa dies ira" kept running through my mind - this day filled with tears.  
Nicole

**Listening tomorrow**  
**Elysha**  
**September 14, 2001 01:19AM**

I know the phrase you're thinking of, so beautiful and largely sad. Tomorrow is the day of prayer and mourning, and I want to listen to that piece. Like Doug and Vero said, the best thing we can do right now is to be as open to life as possible and soak in the insights and beauty of literature and music. The Mozart Requiem concert must indeed have been powerfully moving.

**Try also the Brahms or Faure Requiems (nfm)**  
**Joan, too**  
**September 14, 2001 04:24AM**

**Or the Verdi nfm.**  
**Debra R**  
**September 14, 2001 08:06AM**

**Or John Rutter's (nfm)**  
**Laurel**  
**September 14, 2001 08:51AM**

**listened to Faure's Requiem. love it. Nfm**  
**NicoleC**  
**September 14, 2001 01:49PM**

**What was played during the DC Memorial Service?**  
**Tay**  
**September 15, 2001 06:47PM**

I especially enjoyed the piece the young chorists in white sang during the ceremony. I wish I could describe it some, but I can't, and I hope someone has an idea what piece I'm talking about and can perhaps relay some information about it! (I notice that the news agencies often play clips of it when mentioning the service).  
Tay

**Sang it last night**  
**Linnea A**  
**September 14, 2001 04:17AM**

My choir -- or rather, parts of my choir and the other mixed Cathedral choirs -- sang that particular movement from Mozart's Requiem last night at an anti-violence manifestation with various Christian, Jewish and Moslem congregations as well as completely nonreligious organisations. It was a very solemn and dignified occasion (as an aside, I bet it was the first time in the 730-year-old history of the Cathedral that the Qu'ran was recited from the pulpit: a verse about how a man who kills one innocent person is the same as a man who kills all of mankind -- very appropriate and moving) which managed to focus on the positive things which must be done rather than dwell on the atrocities alone. All the same, I was quite choked up when we sang the Lacrimosa, not to mention when we sang Laudate Dominum from Mozart's Vesperae Solemnis. When words are not sufficient -- which they aren't -- music does help, as many others have said already.

As always, my thoughts are with those who have lost loved ones.  
-Linn

**I was there, Linnea! It was lovely.**  
**Emilia**  
**September 14, 2001 08:56AM**

I was also very moved by the words of the Quran. But I felt sorry for the Muslim man reading it: he stated over and over again how much he abhorred what has happened. With all the other speakers, this was simply understood... Only he had to prove it. I read that there has been provocations against Muslims in the US, and here in Sweden the big mosque in Stockholm has been attacked. It is very sad. The music you sang, Linnea, was powerful and heartbreakingly beautiful. The speakers were good, and it was wonderful to see all these people come together to share sorrow and express their commitment to democracy, peace and freedom.

In the middle of the concert I was sobbing quietly when a piece of Jane Austen leapt to my mind (as it so often does...): "It is so fine when good people come together", says Miss Bates, "and they always do!". And instantly I felt better!

Of course, the dear thing is talking about Mr and Mrs Elton, but the sentiment is there. Good people WILL come together. Stand together. Like here on Ramble.

Love to all from Emilia

=====  
around the world...

**Claire**  
**September 14, 2001 01:45AM**

I glanced out my window just now. I can just see the top of the Sydney Harbour Bridge where the Australian flag is flying at half mast.  
The world mourns.

**day of mourning and solidarity**  
**Silke2**  
**September 14, 2001 02:59AM**

In my home town the Germany flag is also flying at half mast.  
Indeed, the world mourns. One can see signs of solidarity all around the world.  
The European Union declared this Friday as a day of mourning and solidarity and in entire Europe there will be minutes of silence in commemoration of the victims.

**In Oz, Sunday is National Day of Mourning and Remembrance**  
**Ian**  
**September 14, 2001 03:43AM**

And indeed on the Central Coast just north of Sydney, many flags were flying at half-mast too. The only thing wrong is that the sun shines and there are blue skies. It's raining in my heart though.

**France's mourning day**  
**Emilie Marie**  
**September 14, 2001 05:47AM**

A few minutes ago, it was noon in Paris and three minutes of silence were respected all over the country. Most flags were at half-mast. The Avenue des Champs Elysees was surprisingly quiet.  
Many people were gathered in front of the American Embassy, where they had laid down a great deal of flowers. In Toulouse, about one thousand people were gathered on the Place du Capitole.  
During the three minutes, every activity in the country was stopped. All the means of transport stopped. In the museums, the supermarkets, the schools, everybody remained silent. Meanwhile, all the French radios were broadcasting "Imagine" by John Lennon.  
In the Palais de l'Elys

**Thank you for the report and the comforting words**  
**kathleen (elder)**  
**September 14, 2001 06:11AM**

We take so many things for granted, but I don't believe I will ever underestimate the goodness of people again. In the midst of this tragedy, we are feeling the support of citizens of the world.  
Blessings upon you and yours.

**I am proud to be French today**  
**Martine**  
**September 14, 2001 09:31AM**

And even more proud to be from Toulouse.  
But if my passport says one thing, as a 10-year resident of the Washington DC area, I AM American in my heart and I grieve with you all.  
Merci de ces infos, Emilie.  
Martine

**(applause and tears)**  
**Kendra Crispin**  
**September 14, 2001 12:08PM**

After all we hear about what the French think of Americans, it's wonderful to see such words, and know that there are people around who remember what America did for France and Europe. From a girl who is proud to be an American citizen, thank you, Emilie Marie, for the beautiful message.

**Your message means so much**  
**Kathleen M.**  
**September 14, 2001 07:38PM**

Thank you, Emilie, for your beautiful message. It meant so much to my family and me in the Boston area. It is always good to realize again that other people in the world do care about America and Americans, and that you will "be there" for us when we need you.

**Light a Candle**  
**LisA**  
**September 14, 2001 06:50AM**

I have just received this link - since I lit my candle 10 minutes ago, more than 1000 more candles have been lit.  
In a situation where I can't express my horror in words - at least I can show my sympathy for the victims and their families.

**British Grief**  
**Margaret Smith**  
**September 14, 2001 07:33AM**

Here in Britain today at eleven o'clock, offices, schools, supermarkets etc. observed a three minute silence to honour the victims of this horror...  
Flags are all at half mast...  
Yesterday, the Changing of the Guard ceremony was performed in honour of America and the

American National Anthem played...

...I understand this was done at the personal request of the Queen.

**I saw it on CNN...**

**BarbaraK**

**September 14, 2001 11:55AM**

A station I normally hate but unfortunately am now glued to like the rest of the world. And I saw the piece they did on the observances in other countries...hearing our anthem and seeing the woman weeping into the US flag near the London Embassy turned me into a wreck. But it was a quite profound picture. After having been in those places it was neat to see how they have been transformed...not for the better...

**Additionally ...**

**Bernie**

**September 14, 2001 05:14PM**

In London an ecumenical service of remembrance was held at St. Paul's Cathedral. Only 2, 500 could fit inside, but some 25, 000 to 30, 000 stood outside to grieve, remember, listen and to reflect ...

Every day those working in The City have observed a minute of silence for friends and colleagues lost. Today, in conjunction, not just with the rest of the Nation, but also with the rest of Europe (not just the EU but 43 countries) three minutes of silence were observed.

**Thank You Britain!!!Infm**

**marysue**

**September 14, 2001 08:00PM**

**Bless the Brits!**

**Tay**

**September 15, 2001 02:15AM**

I was moved to tears by this warm demonstration of support and sympathy. It's somehow easier to bear, knowing that the world understands our grief and suffering, and appreciates and shares what we are feeling.

Bless you all!

Tay

**My sympathy to all of you**

**Geertje**

**September 14, 2001 08:23AM**

I live in Holland with over 650 people in a student's flat. Today, at 12 am it was absolutely quiet for 3 minutes. There were no cars on the streets and buses stood still. It felt like a breath that was taken in. I held hands with my friends and felt tears rolling of my cheeks. My heart goes out to all of you. I don't understand how people can inflict such pain upon so many innocent people. I am always a very positive person, but I feel really sad about this world now.

**I was so proud...**

**Amy BC**

**September 14, 2001 11:42AM**

...of all my fellow classmates today. We are a small, close sixth form and we have a free study time on Friday which covered the time of 11 o'clock here in Britain. There was no teacher in the room, and I think it shows the amount of grief we feel when we all gathered in one room to watch the scenes on television leading up to 11. We were silent from the moment the coverage turned to talk of the attack, and as soon as Big Ben struck the first beat of 11 o'clock, we stood as one for our silence. No prompting. A solemn united silence as we thought of the world and America's grief and loss. I hope God was listening to the prayers of our hearts.

**exactly the same over here in belgium**

**Leen**

**September 14, 2001 02:12PM**

I was almost crying in class too. I've never seen 25 people in a classroom being silent all at the same time, but today it was so.

I feel for you all so much!

-Leen..

**The Biggest Prayer of all time.....**

**Sabine**

**September 15, 2001 05:09AM**

I was moved by an article in one of our major newspapers this morning, commenting on the "3 Minutes of Silence" in so many countries of yesterday noon.

The last paragraph says "How does such a prayer by one, small person help? Millions, billions of people paused. It was the biggest prayer ever prayed. God simply must have heard it - this silence".

=====

**A happy story**

**Rachie**

**September 14, 2001 02:44AM**

Last night a woman rang up the radio (in Australia) to tell about some guy that shed know and had a crush on for ten years. She hadnt told him how she felt because she thought it would ruin their friendship. Anyway, he worked near the top of the tower, and was chatting to her on icq when the plane hit. He told her that something had happened, that there'd been an explosion, and then the last thing he said was that he loved her. She didnt get a chance to reply, and was really upset. But then today she rang the radio again to say that his father had been searching in all the hospitals and had found him, and apart from a broken leg he was alright! She spoke to him and told him that she loved him too, and asked him why he hadn't told her before. He said he was waiting for the right moment! I think he picked it!!



Anyway, the radio station is sending her over to New York as soon as possible so they can see each other.

I just thought that was a nice story, it certainly made me feel a bit better!

**Sigh!!**

**Sharm**

**September 14, 2001 04:39AM**

Dear Rachie,

I loved the story. While I was reading it, I was thinking how she had missed the opportunity of declaring her love and I definitely thought he had not survived owing the fact that he was near the top of the tower but I am really glad they were given another chance. Just makes me all warm and fuzzy. Sigh!!!!

**aw \*goofy grin\* NFM**

**Daniela**

**September 14, 2001 05:18AM**

**ditto goofy grin :- ) (nfm)**

**Sabrina**

**September 14, 2001 01:40PM**

**10 years? Men! what a waste of time! Nfm**

**Constanza**

**September 14, 2001 02:48PM**

**Like Emma...**

**gkb**

**September 15, 2001 05:28PM**

You make me laugh against my conscience! You will be mocking Miss Bates any minute. Tsk! Tsk! Tsk!

**Beautiful story in such a disaster**

**Emilie Marie**

**September 14, 2001 05:19AM**

Thank you !

**thanks, that lightens my heart NFM**

**Sansanee**

**September 14, 2001 06:01AM**

**Thank you ...**

**Sandra R**

**September 14, 2001 06:07AM**

Sigh!!

for sharing that. I'd heard her yesterday and on the radio today they said there was a happy ending. Thank goodness for that.

**It is good to laugh...**

**Martine**

**September 14, 2001 09:12AM**

Thank you so much for sharing this story. Every laugh, every loving thought is a step back to where we all were "before". It makes us stronger, more focused, and therefore more able to think clearly about the ways to respond to this horror.

Blessings and courage to us all.

Martine

**Amor vincit omnia. Nfm**

**Debra R**

**September 14, 2001 09:15AM**

**Ditto! (nfm)**

**Laraine**

**September 14, 2001 09:20AM**

**Oh , so sweet and with happy ending ! (NFM)**

**Buba**

**September 14, 2001 03:02PM**

=====

**The way I feel...**

**Geertje**

**September 14, 2001 08:48AM**

is best expressed in a songtext of Icelandic singer Bjork

I have walked this earth and watched people

I can be sincere and say I like them

You can't say no to hope, can't say no to happiness

I want to go on a mountaintop

with a radio and good batteries

play a joyous tune

and free the human race from suffering

The less room you give me, the more space I've got

This is an alarm call so wake-up wake-up now

(Bjork, Alarm Call)

It is a bit of an alternative song, but I hope you understand me.

=====

**An international question**

**Laraine**

**September 14, 2001 09:14AM**

We've been trying to determine how many countries we have heard from here at Ramble.

I came up with 15 from memory--if I slipped up and forgot yours, please forgive me and remind me in a reply, OK?

Argentina

Australia

Austria

Canada

England

Finland

France

Germany

Holland

Israel

Malta

Norway

Slovenia

Spain

Sweden

**Korea. Nfm**

**Debra R**

**September 14, 2001 09:16AM**

**Ireland. Nfm**

**Angela**

**September 14, 2001 09:18AM**

**question, Angela**

**ClaireD**

**September 14, 2001 10:52AM**

I heard Ireland was shutting down most of its shops, schools, etc. today as a gesture of mourning. Did this happen?

**Yes (nfm)**

**deirdrew**

**September 14, 2001 01:06PM**

**That's true**

**LauraB**

**September 14, 2001 01:27PM**

Yes, with almost no exceptions all shops, government buildings etc. have been closed all day and practically all Irish people have been to

church in order to pray for the American nation. It has been said over and over again today that America has been a great friend to Ireland since the 19th century when she took so many Irish people in and gave them great futures. We feel that we owe America our prayers and support during this brutal time.

God Bless

LauraB

**Yes**

**Emer**

**September 14, 2001 03:02PM**

Yes, and at 11 am this morning, a three minute silence was held all over Ireland in honour of the victims of this tragedy. I was in church and the whole place was silent - it was overwhelming.

**Wonderful**

**Laraine**

**September 14, 2001 06:11PM**

I am a small part Irish (it's the origin of my red hair, actually), so I have always had an interest in the country. I have only had the pleasure of traveling there once, but it was stunning, and the people impressed me most of all.

I am at this moment reminded of what Charlotte Bronte wrote in Jane Eyre: "You'll like Ireland, I think: they're such warmhearted people there, they say."

It's true. Warmhearted, generous, and loving.

**Deirdre, Laura & Emer...**

**ClaireD**

**September 14, 2001 08:58PM**

Thank you for your responses to my question and thanks to you and your country for your thoughts and prayers. It was such a nice gesture for you to have done so much today.

Actually I was just watching the news here and they were telling the story of the Cork-born brother and sister: the brother who escaped the burning towers, his sister and niece who were on one of the planes that crashed into the towers and the sister's best friend who was on the other plane that crashed into the towers! Such a sad but amazing story and so symbolic of just how vast and horrible these events were. But also evidence that these aren't just American tragedies; there will be families in mourning in both our countries

for these deaths.  
Thanks again.

**Doh!**  
**Laraine**  
**September 14, 2001 09:23AM**

Already knocking myself on the head for my rotten memory--which I suppose I should stop or I'll suffer a concussion. It's a really bad memory. :-}  
THANKS!

**USA 😊(nfm)**  
**Rachel Marie**  
**September 14, 2001 09:29AM**

**Denmark (nfm)**  
**Carolyn**  
**September 14, 2001 09:45AM**

**Mexico (nfm)**  
**Cinthia**  
**September 14, 2001 09:59AM**

**I noted Southeast Asia and Belgium nfm**  
**PeggyS**  
**September 14, 2001 10:40AM**

**Italy...**  
**Davidia**  
**September 14, 2001 01:17PM**

Although I live in the US, I do spend part of the year in Italy and can inform you on what's going on there as I have family and friends who live all over Italy.  
Davidia

**New Zealand (nfm)**  
**Stephy**  
**September 14, 2001 03:01PM**

**Switzerland**  
**Nathalie**  
**September 15, 2001 06:18PM**

I haven't said much so far - but here, too, we've been thinking of you - a lot.  
Nathalie

**Add Bulgaria (NFM)**  
**Buba**  
**September 16, 2001 02:24PM**

=====

**Candle lighting TONIGHT in memory and show of strength**  
**Martine**  
**September 14, 2001 09:22AM**

I just got this message from a friend. I cannot stress enough how important it is to participate under the current circumstances.

This is a message for Americans, but anyone it inspires is welcome to join in.  
Blessings to all. Be safe.

Martine

"Friday Night at 8:00 p.m. EST step out your door, stop your car, or step out of your establishment and light a candle. We will show the world that Americans are strong and united together against terrorism. Please pass this to everyone on your e-mail list. We need to reach everyone across the United States quickly.

The message: WE STAND UNITED - WE WILL NOT TOLERATE TERRORISM.  
We need press to cover this-- we need the world to see."

**Time question**  
**Leonore**  
**September 14, 2001 10:42AM**

I got this e-mail twice and it said 7 pm EST, not 8.  
Here on the West Coast, we should probably wait until 7 pm Pacific Standard Time so it's dark.  
Can anyone confirm times?

**Candles 7 pm on the West Coast**  
**Leonore**  
**September 14, 2001 10:54AM**

The San Francisco Chronicle has just confirmed that candle lighting time is 7 pm Pacific Standard Time on the West Coast.

**Candles still burning**  
**Lin**  
**September 14, 2001 09:47PM**

Our family went out onto our front steps and lit a candle for each of us. Our sons believe that the light must be visible from space, so many of their friends are doing the same. I can still see them burning as I type.

We believe in "adding our light to the sum of light". A beacon of hope and solidarity.

=====

**Rain: you just never know**

**Holly**

**September 14, 2001 10:41AM**

I was lamenting the rain and how it will hamper rescue and recovery, but a (now rare) optimistic thought hit me--perhaps, just perhaps it will slowly drip down and give someone who is buried and dehydrated just what they need to survive a little longer. You just never know.

**I thought that too, also fire hoses! NFM**

**BarbaraK**

**September 14, 2001 11:19AM**

**Easier for the dogs, as well**

**kathleen (elder)**

**September 14, 2001 12:52PM**

On the news last night they said that it is easier for the dogs to get a scent when the dust has been settled. I hope they find more survivors.

**yes!**

**AbbeyW**

**September 14, 2001 01:34PM**

That, and it's much easier for dogs to pick up a scent when their noses are moist. Urban SAR is so much harder because of car exhaust that the dogs need every advantage they can get.

**But...**

**Liz M**

**September 14, 2001 06:52PM**

...if it keeps raining, it will knock down any drifting scent or wash it away entirely. And that wreckage won't be any easier to clamber around when it's wet and slippery!

BTW, don't forget that the K9 teams need support just as much as the Red Cross does. I've heard that some pet supply companies have donated protective booties to keep the dogs' paws from getting cut up, and Iams has been donating dog food for them. The National Disaster Search Dog Foundation and similar groups are also asking for monetary donations.

**question about donations**

**AbbeyW**

**September 15, 2001 03:42PM**

Too true, that about heavy rain. Additionally, do you know if there's any sort of fund to help the dog handlers as well, or does the fund cover both dogs and dog handlers? It's so expensive to get dogs certified, and with the costs of travel and lodging, I can only imagine how expensive each SAR mission would be.

=====

**My brother...**

**BarbaraK**

**September 14, 2001 11:18AM**

Well, Mike was called away at 3:00am this morning and we haven't seen hide nor hair of him since. Considering how close we live to the detroit/windsor boarder I hope he is guarding that, or the airport. His birthday is in a little over a month and my mom is hysterical that he'll never get to celebrate it...she also is upset that she can't protect her son from worldly dangers. (Although at 19 he is not a baby anymore) I don't know what to say because I think the whole world is feeling crummy right now and I can't stop crying...

I guess I'll just ask everyone here to pray that if the USMC does send him somewhere that they don't put him on an Osprey (I don't trust them), or that he will survive the battles ahead.

Thanks,

Barb

**Crossed fingers, and a hopeful thought....**

**Caroline**

**September 14, 2001 11:54AM**

I know how you feel, having sent my husband off to war zones several times in the last decade. The small consolation is always that the guys really do know how to look after each other. Your brother would appreciate knowing that everyone is okay at home, and thinking of him, when you do have a chance to contact him. If he thinks the family are falling apart, it will undermine his efficiency and make him more vulnerable. When he calls, be ready to support him.

**Semper Fi, Barbara**

**William L**

**September 14, 2001 01:27PM**

When you get a chance, give Mike a salute from an old sailor. He probably knows that we called the Marines Jar Heads, and they called us Squids. That was when we were being polite. One of my sons was a Marine years ago.

Anyway, may God go with him.

=====



## **just some rambling thoughts about planes**

**Haru**

**September 14, 2001 11:35AM**

I work in Washington DC. My office faces west (to paraphrase, a most inconvenient office for the summer; the windows are full west), and I used to be able to look out the windows and see the planes flying over the Potomac River towards National Airport. I wonder if I will ever see that sight again, or if I do, will I ever look at it in the same way.

Since we moved here several years ago, we would ride our bikes down the Mount Vernon bike trail that runs along the Potomac and stop at Gravelly Point, which is just a few hundred yards across some water and the end of the runway at National. People would stop there on their bikes or on their walks and watch the planes take off and land. Those planes would come in so low and so loud as they made their approach. Kids would look up and point at them, and just watch them in awe, these magnificent flying beasts of aluminum and steel floating onto the runway. This is one of the places we would take friends, because it was such a sight.

What I would give to watch them innocently like that again.

**I second that...**

**Another Heather**

**September 14, 2001 11:57AM**

I am in Cleveland, Ohio. I was leaving school (running to hug my family) on Tuesday morning. A plane flew overhead and everybody in the street stopped and stared at it in speechless horror. Last night, I couldn't sleep for the sound of planes and faraway sirens. I have season-tickets to the Cleveland Browns and wonder if I will ever walk into that stadium again without a sense of dread.

My thoughts are with all citizens of teh world.

**I hate to say it**

**Ginny 2**

**September 15, 2001 08:06AM**

But National Airport should be closed. It should have been closed years ago as many air travel and security experts warned. I can't imagine that anyone who has ever flown into National would disagree.

Airline pilots have long agreed that the approach to National directly over the Potomac River and the very short runways make it the most dangerous airport for landing. I am sure many Washington Pembers remember the jet that crashed into the 14th street bridge on approach and into the Potomac River in a snow storm 20 years ago.

Add to that the fact that that National is so close to the WH, Capitol, Pentagon, monuments, Federal buildings, etc that it would be virtually impossible to stop a terrorist from crashing into those buildings -- even if military fighters constantly circled the city.

If it had not been for the convenience that National Airport offers to official Washington (proximity and free reserved parking for people with certain job titles), it would have been closed years ago.

National is beautiful and convenient and 10,000 people work there. However, it is time for it to go.

**I've been mulling over this...**

**Haru**

**September 16, 2001 05:06PM**

and I still have mixed feelings. You're right -- it is unbelievably close to some sensitive sites. I get some chills when I fly into it and look down on the Ballston-Rosslyn corridor in Arlington -- a lot of people live and work there. On the other hand, it wasn't a plane from National that got hijacked and crashed into the Pentagon -- it was Dulles, an airport I use far more frequently. But I can see a scenario where a bunch of goons commandeer a jet on takeoff and just push the nose down into downtown DC (or swerve around back to DC, if they're taking off in the direction of Alexandria). But realistically, I think the airport will reopen. But if it does, man, anyone who wants to fly out of there I hope is going to have to go through the biggest security and the airlines are going to have to clean up their ground operations to improve security in terms of access. I'm still more scared flying out of Dulles -- I've always thought security there has been lax. Geez, while waiting for my husband, I've seen people park their cars and LEAVE them for as much as 30 minutes! Walk away from your car more than three feet at SFO and you have a cop on your back yelling at you to get in your car and move it! Anyway, I don't think I meant to imply in my post I wanted it to reopen. I just meant that if it did, I'd never look at a plane in the same way again, just as I don't look at double-decker freeways or basement garages the same way I did before the 1989 San Francisco earthquake.

One last thing -- we had some friends over for brunch today, and I found out that one of my friends had thought about attending a conference in NYC on Sept. 11, but he felt he couldn't justify the boondoggle. The conference was on the observation deck of one of the WTC towers. He's sure all the attendees are dead. I'm just so glad that our friend was here today, enjoying french toast and coffee, and that we were not mourning him.  
Haru

=====

**Reserve got called.**

**Annabella**

**September 14, 2001 11:38AM**

The father of twin girls I babysit got the call last night and was on his way to Washington early this morning. The girls are 2 1/2 years old.

Please say a prayer for him that all will be well.

Thank you.

**what does that mean exactly?**

**Daniela**

**September 14, 2001 11:41AM**

He was called for what?

**The Army Reserves...**

**Julie**

**September 14, 2001 11:50AM**

...were called in for duty. The US is (unfortunately) preparing for war.

**Being called....**

**BarbaraK**

**September 14, 2001 11:51AM**

Yesterday or today the President called to active duty 50,000 reservists. Of which my brother is one. Normally in the U.S. reservists only are 'active' on bases 1 weekend a month and two weeks a year, but at the highest levels of alert, the Delta level that they are at now, they are considered part of the normal military. So they can be transfer to different states or countries with the regular military. So a lot of people are missing school, or work, that they wouldn't normally miss. It is also one of the first times that they called up the reservists in (I think) 10 years or so.

**Oh no no no no no...**

**Daniela**

**September 14, 2001 11:52AM**

not war...it can't be war.

We don't get to survive war.

**Not there yet, Dani.....**

**Caroline**

**September 14, 2001 11:58AM**

This is a time to NOT imagine. War is not inevitable, yet.



**Daniela**

**September 14, 2001 12:00PM**

War has been my greatest fear ever since I got to know what it meant. Damn it, damn it all to hell. Let's hope that logic will still prevail.

**Perhaps I am Jaded, but...**

**Julie**

**September 14, 2001 12:34PM**

...having lived in Washington, DC for 24 years, I am of the opinion that politics often does not follow logic. The leaders of this country are very ready to take strong military action, hopefully they will do this in a smart way as to avoid harming

innocent people.

I am not sure that this will really turn into a full scale war, but the US has gone to war for MUCH less. A lot of political decisions are derived from public opinion, and there is a great deal of anger in the US right now. People just want to lash out at something. It is all very sad and distressing.

I was raised a pacifist and do not feel that war is the answer, but the US must do something to protect its citizens. Finding the appropriate response to Tuesday's tragedy will not be easy, and I have been praying for the leaders of this country, that they will make wise choices.

**Don't read too much into this**

**Ken**

**September 14, 2001 12:11PM**

It's been war for over 30 years. Most of us are just now realizing it. Nevertheless, little has changed with this call up--the Reserves are being mobilized to assist cleanup efforts, help maintain order, and provide more complete internal air defense, not to invade country X or Y. It does move the US military one step closer to being able to maintain sustained operations lasting many months; for short actions or for air strikes, this step would not be needed at all. No mention was made of support troops, however, and they, too, would definitely need to be mobilized to sustain operations abroad.

S.

**you're making me feel better now 😊**

**Daniela**

**September 14, 2001 12:19PM**

You may think I'm silly...but well, I'm terrified of the idea of war. I am too interested in history to be comfortable with that idea! Perhaps you're a bit more used to it than I am, but I really was freaking out for the past 10 mins!

**War is a good thing to be terrified of. . .**

**Ken**

**September 14, 2001 12:43PM**

. . . as just about anyone who has been in one will tell you.

S.

**yes, you are so right (NFM)**

**Daniela**

**September 14, 2001 12:46PM**

**I'm going...**

**Kendra Crispin**

**September 14, 2001 01:03PM**

to talk with my history teacher about war this term. The class is basically Wesern Civ. 3. It covers BOTH World Wars and 'Nam, which my Dad fought in. My teacher (he's the coolest history teacher in the world, and I love history and military mistory) fought in both WW2 and Korea. He's seen what war means. I think EVERYBODY should study military history if only to understand what war is and understand what causes it. War is fought between nations. If it was just a terrorist group, than we're going to have a military strike against them, and nothing more. I wish people wouldn't throw "war" around like they are; it shows that they don't understand what they're saying.

**According to the Pentagon**

**Sutton**

**September 14, 2001 01:19PM**

"These reservists are being called upon to provide port operations, medical support, engineer support, general civil support and homeland defense."

**On the other hand....**

**Elizabeth Cretaro**

**September 14, 2001 12:44PM**

My husband is in the Navy Reserves...a medical unit. His Reserve weekend duty was cancelled.....Go figure? We will be glad to have him home with us.

**my understanding**

**Melissa1**

**September 14, 2001 01:18PM**

is that many of them have been called in to come here to NYC to help with the clean-up and rescue. At least that is what I have heard on the news here.

**I most sincerely hope a war won't errupt ! (NFM)**

**Buba**

**September 16, 2001 02:32PM**

=====

**Ottawa is giving up talking in order to help....**

**Caroline**

**September 14, 2001 11:47AM**

A call has gone out locally for cellphone batteries and rechargers of any make, that can be shipped down to New York for the use of the rescuers. I'll be giving in a few hours.  
Is anywhere else doing similar things?

**Emailed AT&T**

**Laraine**

**September 14, 2001 06:28PM**

This idea impressed me so much that I sent an email to AT&T urging them to consider getting involved. I think I'll go find something at the Noika site too.  
What could be more practical.

**& Nokia & Sony & Ericsson**

**Laraine**

**September 14, 2001 06:53PM**

Maybe they've thought of this already, but then maybe not.

=====

**On another's sorrow**

**Kristin T**

**September 14, 2001 11:54AM**

I'm sitting here reading poetry, and just wanted to share this poem by William Blake with you.

On Another's Sorrow

Can I see another's woe,  
And not be in sorrow too?  
Can I see another's grief,  
And not seek for kind relief?  
Can I see a falling tear,  
And not feel my sorrow's share?  
Can a father see his child  
Weep, nor be with sorrow filled?  
Can a mother sit and hear  
An infant groan, an infant fear?  
No, no! never can it be!  
Never, never can it be!  
And can He who smiles on all  
Hear the wren with sorrows small,  
Hear the small bird's grief and care,  
Hear the woes that infants bear -  
And not sit beside the nest,

Pouring pity in their breast,  
And not sit the cradle near,  
Weeping tear on infant's tear?  
And not sit both night and day,  
Wiping all our tears away?  
O no! never can it be!  
Never, never can it be!  
He doth give His joy to all:  
He becomes an infant small,  
He becomes a man of woe,  
He doth feel the sorrow too.  
Think not thou canst sigh a sigh,  
And thy Maker is not by:  
Think not thou canst weep a tear,  
And thy Maker is not near.  
O He gives to us His joy,  
That our grief He may destroy:  
Till our grief is fled and gone  
He doth sit by us and moan.  
William Blake

=====

**Thank you all**  
**Another Heather**  
**September 14, 2001 12:00PM**

I posted on this board briefly some time ago, but drifted away. I came back today for some small assurance that all is not changed.  
I live in Cleveland, Ohio and persnally know none of the victims (as far as I know), yet I have the most profound sense of loss I have ever felt.  
I heard it said that we in America have lived in "Disneyland" without even knowing it. I am still in shock and my life will never be the same.  
I have read almost every post from Tuesday morning on and have taken some comfort in all of your words, especially the international outpouring of feelings resembling my own. I no longer feel so alone.  
Thank you, god bless you, and be safe.

**Yes, thank you**  
**Suzybeth**  
**September 14, 2001 12:37PM**

I, too, posted on this board some time ago and then drifted away. I came back for pretty much the same reason that Heather did and I have posted several times in the past couple of days. It is reasuring to see so many people, from America and around the world, offering so much support and words of comfort. This tragedy has shaken me more than I would like to admit. Being divided form most of the world by oceans, Americans have a tendency to place themselves in a protective bubble. Tuesday demonstrated to us just how futile that action is. We are not immune to anything.

It always amazes me how the worst of humanity can bring out the best of humanity. How in times of greatest need the greatest help is offered. This week has shown proof of that. The support that I have found on this board has been amazing. Thank you.

**I agree**  
**Heather Marie**  
**September 14, 2001 02:33PM**

I'm usually pretty much a lurker around here; posting occasionally. Reading all these messages in ramble has been very comforting to me. It gives me not just a sense of not just the RoP or US community but a world community.  
Thank you all.

=====

**The Nostradamus thingy.....**  
**Caroline**  
**September 14, 2001 12:25PM**

I'm putting this up as an example of the rumours and stuff that is currently going around as people try to make sense of this disaster. It might help someone here, or someone you know.  
My husband came home very late on Tuesday night with a comment that one of his co-workers was convinced that the disaster had been predicted by Nostradamus, who said that on the eleventh day, twin towers would fall, etc. etc. It turns out that there is something like this being spread around in e-mail. The original source of the rumour has spoken out- extremely embarrassed. It seems that the "perpretrator", a student from Hamilton, Ontario, made a web-page debunking Nostradamus way back in 1977. This student computer project included a page of fake prophesies as examples of why the real Nostradamus predictions have no value, and it is one of his "fake" prophesies which has been taken seriously and is circulating on the Net, with embellishments from other sources. The former student has no claim to "visions" himself, and wants to assure people that what they are asked to believe is not genuine Nostradamus. He is baffled and embarrassed by the whole thing.

**how sad...**  
**Daniela**  
**September 14, 2001 12:31PM**

This "prophecy" was reported by Reuters. I read it on the newspaper today. No wonder he's embarrassed. He will have his own day of glory now!

**Thanks, Caroline!**  
**Rachel Marie**  
**September 14, 2001 12:50PM**

Thank you for posting this, Caroline! I'm printing it out as I write this. My younger sister (age 15) and her friends have been passing that "prophecy" around like crazy, and I've seen about a million web pages with it displayed. I thought it was bunk from the beginning but now this may even convince my sister.



Thanks again! 😊  
-Rachel Marie

**Caroline, may I...**  
**Jennifer Louise**  
**September 14, 2001 12:51PM**

...I've gotten the Nostradamus e-mail and I'd like to forward your words on to others who also received it. Would you mind me using your words? You may find them popping back to you in your e-mail box someday, and I just wanted to make sure that would be okay with you.

**sure, but....;-)**  
**Caroline**  
**September 14, 2001 01:25PM**

Please corrct my typo! ;-) He made his website in 1997.

**This may help...**  
**Peggy**  
**September 14, 2001 01:36PM**

Thanks for brining that up...I looked the whole thing up and found this website which may be helpful in clarifying the whole matter. The link is  
[urbanlegends.about.com]

**Don't even know why...**  
**Shirley M**  
**September 14, 2001 03:02PM**

those people wasted their time writing stuff like that. It's like that fake casualty list that has been posted around on the net

**this reuters article says otherwise!**  
**Tamara**  
**September 14, 2001 01:59PM**

But the Reuters article I've linked to suggests that one version circulating on the Internet is a legitimate (but vague) Nostradamus prophecy.

**Whoops**  
**Tamara**  
**September 14, 2001 02:01PM**

I don't know why the link didn't show up in the previous email - I definitely did put it correctly into the form!  
[us.news2.yimg.com]  
0913/od/prophecy\_dc\_1.html

it doesn't work :-( nfm  
Constanza  
September 14, 2001 02:21PM

Actually  
kathleen (elder)  
September 14, 2001 02:53PM

That web page does imply that the email version being sent is a hoax - even though many people seem to believe it.  
I have relinked the web page.

not legitimate  
Suzanne Morse  
September 14, 2001 02:24PM

see my post regarding this - it is cobbled together from two different prophecies, it has been embellished, and parts that mention the Normans, etc., have been excised.

**Big Giant Urban Myth**  
Suzanne Morse  
September 14, 2001 02:21PM

I received this e-mail in response to the Nostradamus e-mail.

"Claim: A 1654 Nostradamus prediction said World War III would begin with the fall of "two brothers," a reference to the destroyed World Trade Center towers.

Status: False.

Example: [Collected on the Internet, 2001]

"In the City of God there will be a great thunder, Two brothers torn apart by Chaos, while the fortress endures, the great leader will succumb, The third big war will begin when the big city is burning"

Nostradamus 1654

Origins: The turmoil of recent events has us all scrambling, some to look for solace and meaning, others for the terrorists responsible, and yet others for signs that what happened could have been prevented or at least foreseen. The 11 September 2001 attack on America destroyed not only the two World Trade Center towers in New York City, a chunk of the Pentagon in Washington, and caused untold loss of life, it also shook America's sense of invulnerability. No longer do Americans presume safety in an unsafe world.

For some, that realization is an eye-opener, unsettling but necessary, in that a child's blissful unawareness has been replaced (at great cost) with an adult's more clear-eyed view of the world and its sometimes horrifying ways. For others, it spells the beginning of the end, in that they equated an illusion of safety with its reality and thus now feel their world is ending. It is the fears of that second group that are given voice in the Nostradamus prediction circulated on the Internet even before the dust had settled in New York.

The French physician and astrologer Nostradamus (1503-1566) penned numerous quatrains populated by obscure imagery that the credulous have ever after attempted to fit to the events of their times. These predictions can often ring somewhat true in that the images employed are so general they can be found in almost every event of import, but by the same token, the

prophecies are never a dead-on fit because the wordings are far too general. Not that this stops anyone from believing in them; our society's need for mysticism runs far too deep to ever allow for that.

Those looking for the certainty of a Nostradamus prophecy come true have been known to sledge hammer the results to force a fit by inventing fanciful translations from the original French, bend over backwards to assert one named term is really another, and (as in this case) outright fabricate part or all of the prediction.

Nostradamus did not write the quatrain now being attributed to him. (One wonders how a guy who died in 1566 could have written an item identified as being penned in 1654 anyway.) It originated with a student at Brock University in Canada in the 1990s, appearing on a web page essay on Nostradamus. That particular quatrain was offered by the page's author, Neil Marshall, as a fabricated example to illustrate how easily an important-sounding prophecy can be crafted through the use of abstract imagery. He pointed out how the terms he used were so deliberately vague they could be interpreted to fit any number of cataclysmic events.

It appears someone mistook Marshall's illustrative example for an actual Nostradamus prophecy and, not content to let well enough alone, added "The third big war will begin when the big city is burning." A fabrication was thus further fabricated.

But that wasn't the end of it. More fakery was piled on in later versions that now included all of the text quoted in the Example section above but now concluded with:

On the 11th day of the 9 month, two metal birds will crash into two tall statues in the new city, and the world will end soon after.

Similarly, another enhanced version incorporates the "Example" text quoted above into a more detailed prophecy:

And Nostradamus predicted this (who knows how long ago):

In the year of the new century and nine months, From the sky will come a great King of Terror.

The sky will burn at forty-five

degrees. Fire approaches the great new city. In the city of york there will be a great collapse, 2 twin brothers torn apart by chaos while the fortress falls; the great leader will succumb; third big war will begin when the big city is burning

This "prophecy" is bogus. The second quatrain is entirely made-up, and the first quatrain is composed of lines taken from two completely different prophecies of Nostradamus' linked together for effect (Lines referencing "Normans" and "Mongols" which have no plausible application to current events have been excised by whoever concatenated these two pieces.)

The first two lines are from a verse which describes events that would supposedly have taken place in July of 1999 (not September of 2001) and has long since been associated with a wide variety of occurrences -- both real and fictional. (An excellent dissertation on this "prediction" can be found here.) The second two lines of the first quatrain are taken from what is often cited as a Nostradamus writing identified as Century 6, Quatrain 97:

Cinq and quarante degrez ciel bruslera Feu approcher de la grand cit

**Damn straight**

**DavidL**

**September 14, 2001 04:56PM**

These predictions can often ring somewhat true in that the images employed are so general they can be found in almost every event of import, but by the same token, the prophecies are never a dead-on fit because the wordings are far too general. Not that this stops

anyone from believing in them; our society's need for mysticism runs far too deep to ever allow for that.  
Very true. If Nostradamus had predicted this attack, why didn't any of his fans let us know IN ADVANCE? Same goes for psychics, horoscopes, etc. We have all endured a horrible tragedy. The last thing we need is this widely circulating e-mail that says, in effect, "Told ya so."

**Thanks for this**  
**Diane Margaret**  
**September 14, 2001 04:46PM**

I just sent your message to the friend I got the Nostradamus "prophesee" from

**Urban Legend and Folklore**  
**Lin**  
**September 14, 2001 09:39PM**

I, too, received the e-mail from several of my friends. It claims that Nostradamus wrote the prediction in 1651 -- the couplet about the "twin towers being destroyed by the flying silver wings". Not so. Nostradamus died in 1566!  
There is a wonderful site on Urban Legends and Folklore where you can go to debunk these things. I find these hoaxes maddening attempts to inflame people's fears.

=====

**A few notes of information (comfort, perhaps?)**  
**AbbeyW**  
**September 14, 2001 12:57PM**

Please don't take this information with an alarmist perspective...I merely want to point a few things out that may put things into a different light, for those who are fearing war.

--The U.S. has been targeted by these groups for decades...almost all of the attacks have been foreseen and stopped, without one word to the press or to people in general. I seriously doubt that another attack is going to get through any time soon, because our already high security has been stepped up considerably. People are working overtime now, gathering information, ransacking and tracking, and planning for all possible situations.

--If the Reserves are called up, it doesn't mean we're going to war. Think about it logically...would the U.S. call up people to send off to war who train monthly, before they call up people who are already in active duty?

Now, if CNN would just stay put and not follow the Seals and Special Operations around this time, maybe we'll be able to get a hold of these sick people who put us into this situation (Note: CNN has, in the past, endangered military lives and missions by filming what are meant to be covert military operations...they are often unaware that they just aren't supposed to be there).

Keep your hopes up, and don't fear what you can't foresee and what cannot be guaranteed as inevitable or even possible. It's a shocking time, emotions are high, and our imaginations can easily run away with us. That's part of what terrorism hopes to accomplish--a general state of fear and panic. That's how they hope to control a nation, through the horrid actions of a few. Don't let a few cowards make you afraid of

daily life, or even of the future.  
And besides, Colin Powell's in charge..."The Man."

=====

**Is everybody ok??**

**Roxanne**

**September 14, 2001 01:08PM**

Hi I am usually on the BOI board and I was trying to figure this one. Do you know if any people posting on BOI have been hurt??

Is there anyone who needs help or prayer?

Is there anything I can do??

**Hi, Roxanne**

**Carolyn**

**September 14, 2001 03:04PM**

There have not been a lot of stories posted lately, have there?

I believe that everyone is fine from BOI, it is just that I doubt many feel like writing during this time.

In time things will pick up again.

Thanks for your concern.

=====

**Frustration**

**William L**

**September 14, 2001 01:39PM**

It is difficult to be able to do so little. I kicked in a pint of blood Tuesday (can't do that again until Nov.). I've done some praying, and there isn't much else.

I hope that my posts here do a little to make some people feel a little better, and I will certainly continue posting.

We had a prayer service for the school kids at Our Lady of Peace this morning, ending with America the Beautiful, a lovely song, and was it not superb as sung by Denyce Grace at the National Cathedral service today? I can't help feeling that the best song would have been Battle Hymn of the Republic, as I am sure we are even now reading a fiery gospel, and will be trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored.

For all those who are weeping, I posted a Francis Thompson poem at the Library. For those who have worked so hard and at such risks to their own lives at the disaster sites, I add here  
GLORY, GLORY, HALLELUJAH!

**It was the best song**

**JanM**

**September 14, 2001 03:10PM**

I was lucky enough to watch the entire service from the National Cathedral, and you will be happy to know that the closing hymn was, indeed, "The Battle Hymn", with full orchestra, choir, and congregation. A very fitting send-off after a beautiful, moving, and comforting service. Everybody take care of themselves.

**Uplifting, indeed**

**LaurieC**

**September 14, 2001 03:20PM**

I'm still weepy, and the patriotic songs that have been ongoing on this day of remembrance have just put me over the edge. I have so relied on your posts, and the posts of the others here, to get me through this time. Thank you!

This might seem like a strange question, and I'm a little embarrassed to ask, but do you know if is there a website that has the lyrics to all the patriotic songs? I was watching the Seattle memorial event, and it seems I'm not the only one who falters at some of the words.

Laurie

**patriotic songs**

**William L**

**September 14, 2001 04:08PM**

I don't know of one like that, but I'll bet there is one. If you know the title, just put it in the browser window, and it will come up, possibly with others. In my youth, these songs were taught in schools, public and private, and there were all kinds of books that had them.

In line with faltering, I remember a priest who gave a short test in religion by telling us to write the Our Father and Hail Mary on paper. As he said, "You can't mumble them on paper."

Actually, we could all write the Hail Mary, and most of us could do Our Father. If he had requested the Apostles' Creed, I think there would have been a lot of failures.

**Here's a link**

**Rachel Marie**

**September 14, 2001 04:17PM**

I just did a search and came up with this page, though it doesn't have all of the verses. I hope it is what you were looking for. 😊

**Perfect! Thank you so much. :-) \*nfm\***

**LaurieC**

**September 14, 2001 06:34PM**

**Patriotic Song Lyrics**

**Maisy**

**September 14, 2001 11:04PM**

In libraries we catalog patriotic music as folk music. I have successfully used the folk site linked below to find lyrics to patriotic songs. (They will usually provide all lyrics, not merely the 1st verse.) This site will often give you bonuses like background info on the songwriter or the specific song. For example, a search for the lyrics to "Battle Hymn of the Republic" also yields biographical info on the lyricist, Julia Ward Howe.

You can also use the following website to locate MIDI files, which will provide you with the tunes!

**Better to light a candle**

**Linnea A**

**September 15, 2001 12:57AM**

It is difficult indeed. Watching from the other side of the world, the feeling of helplessness can at times become overwhelming -- and I can't even donate blood, because of the medication I'm on.

But.

There is a saying in Swedish -- I don't know if you have it in English -- "It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness." Even if we only make life just a little bit easier for one single person, that is something, it has to be something. Imagine if everybody did that -- what an impact! There is absolutely nothing concrete I can do about this situation, and if I allow myself to dwell on that I will go mad; better to just keep living, and try to make the world just a little bit better for those around me.

Best,

-Linn

**You do, dear friend.**

**Debra R**

**September 15, 2001 10:38AM**

Sweet, faraway friend, you do, everyday, with your words of comfort, wisdom and (on happier occasions) humor. Lucky old us, to know you.

=====

**My two cents...**

**Louisa**

**September 14, 2001 01:54PM**

I'll tell you, if I had the \$\$, I would take a couple of weeks off from work and go to NYC to do SOMETHING. I feel useless. I made a donation and went to church and am running around like crazy looking for a flag (had to settle for a red/white/blue bow) but otherwise feel sick and distressed and frightened for all those poor people.

Glad everyone on the Boards is okay (I hope!)

Now I can't get the Battle Hymn of the Republic out of my head. Thanks Bill!!!

**You're welcome nfm**  
**William L**  
**September 14, 2001 01:58PM**

=====

**Help, but help wisely**  
**Debra R**  
**September 14, 2001 01:58PM**

Last night an Arlington County (where the Pentagon is) emergency official stressed the need to coordinate donations and offers of help. We all want to help, but this man emphasized finding out what's needed. He said that yesterday, emergency workers received a surprise donation of 200 pizzas--after lunch, when they could not use them. So, somebody had to, as he put it, find homes for the pizzas instead of attending to more pressing business. He also pointed out that help will still be needed for days and weeks to come--just please be sure to coordinate what you want to do, and when.

=====

**What's Normal Now??**  
**Julie**  
**September 14, 2001 03:09PM**

Washington Post columnist Joel Achenbach did a good job summing up what it feels like to live and work in Washington DC right now. Thought I'd include the link.  
[[www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)]

Life has definately gotten surreal.

**don't forget**  
**Karen G.**  
**September 14, 2001 04:18PM**

...the last part of the article, though... he's not naive to think that great good can come out of great evil.

I'm sorry to hear that D.C. has been so chaotic. My landlord works at Stanford University Hospital in Palo Alto, CA and there was a bomb scare there yesterday (she left and went home.) I guess we have to wait and stay resolute despite the jitteriness caused by the sickness of those who would want to perpetuate the chaos.

=====



**My plan to get myself back to normal....**

**Lucy K**

**September 14, 2001 03:22PM**

I need a break from the news, from the sadness and the fear. So I'm going to drop my P&P2 tape in tonight and do a marathon run through the entire six hours!!!!

**A Lovely Idea! (nfm)**

**Sabrina**

**September 14, 2001 03:26PM**

=====

**My confused emotions**

**DavidL**

**September 14, 2001 04:18PM**

Last night I had a ticket to the Cleveland Orchestra, and the performance was not called off. They had a moment of silence before playing the only work of the evening, Mahler's Fifth Symphony. It was a good performance, but I was in no mood to hear it; I hadn't had an hour to sit in one place and think for several days, and I kept wishing that they had played the national anthem or something like it before starting.

The concert got a standing ovation, which I did not join; I felt terrible. I barely made it to my car before I burst out crying, for the first time since the attacks.

It took an hour to drive home. I flipped on the TV and landed on a good Simpsons episode, and I laughed. During the commercial break I changed the channel, saw footage of the burning tower, flinched, and quickly flipped back.

So ... at 8 p.m. I was upset with the orchestra and the audience for not doing more to acknowledge what had happened. At 11 p.m. I wanted to forget what had happened and was upset to be reminded. Why? Has anyone else gone through something similar?

**Yes**

**Sutton**

**September 14, 2001 04:29PM**

I don't know how similar it is, but my dad died two years ago, Sep 8. It has taken a long time, but even so, I am still a different person in some ways than before.

If you've ever had a serious physical injury or medical problem, you know that it took a long time to recover from it. You also know that healing isn't always 100%.

I think emotional injury is similar, except that it is not always so easy to see and feel the wounds. If I were with you, I'd just give you a big hug.

**Tears & laughter**

**kathleen (elder)**

**September 14, 2001 05:17PM**

are very close sometimes. So are guilt and denial (for me, at least). I have been following the news closely, discussing it w/ colleagues, and reading/posting here at Ramble. I taught a class at

noon today, then went over to the student union building for lunch. I had planned to watch the end of the National Cathedral prayer service on the lounge tv -- but one look at the mourners, w/ the music in the background, and I had to leave. I felt like running, I was certain that I would begin weeping if I stayed there.

Now, tonight, I think tears would be cathartic -- or perhaps I need laughter. I guess what I most want is for the story to be a bad dream, and I feel guilty about having personally suffered so little. And now I've returned to tears, laughter, guilt and denial. Vicious cycle.

Hugs to you. Take care.

#### **Similar Feelings**

**SandyW**

**September 14, 2001 05:31PM**

Sometimes I feel like a yo-yo or a magnet because I want to watch what is happening...but then again I don't...and when I turn off the news it's not long before I'm drawn to turn it back on again hoping to hear of a miracle in the time since I last watched.

Not being familiar with Mahler's Fifth I don't know if it was upbeat or not...which could have made a difference.

We are spending so much time in tears and sadness these days that we need something uplifting to nudge its way into our lives. The National Anthem, God Bless America, even the 1812 Overture would have most likely been uplifting for you. Something to bring you up from the depths of despair as the Simpsons eventually did. Something to draw your thoughts away from death and destruction to victory or escape.

I think we are all in need of that.....don't you?

#### **The strongest feelings I've had...**

**Kendra Crispin**

**September 14, 2001 07:17PM**

are numbness and the urge to give blood (the latter I can't do for another six weeks).

Every one of us copes with tragedy in our own way. If we need to find comedy to laugh at, then we find it to comfort ourselves. It is proof to us that life will continue and we'll be okay.

I do feel sad every time I look at pictures of the damage and the victims. I've seen enough of them and don't watch the news or read the paper if I can. Some of those images are so scary...

#### **struggle on a community level**

**Jane E**

**September 14, 2001 08:04PM**

My city had a celebration planned for this weekend, just a fun annual thing we do with concerts & a street fair and a mostly silly parade...it was initially decided not to cancel it, but to open it with a moment of silence. I was somewhat disgusted with our having this silly celebration (it doesn't even commemorate anything) when other nations are cancelling their independence celebrations (thank you for your tribute, Malta). But on the other hand, many people are so eager to show the terrorists they can't beat us, can't rip apart our society, that they want to keep on with plans, as a way to rise above this all...so how do you simultaneously grieve and carry on? Then my city decided to cancel Friday evening's events and have a community-wide

candlelight vigil, which seemed to me a more fitting gesture than just a moment of silence, and a better compromise between those for & against the cancellation.

As for me, I keep turning on the TV as soon as I get home (an extraordinary thing for me to do) to see the news, but sometimes have to turn it back off. Last night I just wanted to watch a movie for a little escape. But today I missed the National Cathedral service and wished I'd seen it; does anyone know if it will be rebroadcast? I feel a great desire to see it - I think I need some sort of catharsis.

**The National Cathedral service**

**Rachel Marie**

**September 14, 2001 10:19PM**

I don't know if you'll see this in time, Jane, but MSNBC is planning on re-airing the entire thing at 3 A.M. U.S. eastern time tonight. That's what they were saying on their live coverage, and I already put a tape in, though I watched the whole thing live today. It was extremely moving. The singer (Denyce...her last name slips my mind) was incredible, and all of the speakers, representing different denominations, were wonderful.

I hope everyone gets a chance to see it.

**YES!**

**Kendra Crispin**

**September 15, 2001 01:05AM**

Midnight West Coast time? MSNBC? I'll have a tape ready!

**Waves of feeling**

**gkb**

**September 14, 2001 09:46PM**

Feelings come in waves, or pulses. There are crests, plateaus, and troughs. Sometimes we are in synch with our surroundings and sometimes we are not. Big disturbing feelings such as we have lately been confronted with throw us out of our usual habits and our tried-and-true methods of regulating feelings.

We regulate ourselves a lot more than we realize--to be in synch with others, to get work done, to respond to our environment. When the feelings are too big to be contained in the old patterns and we have not learned new ways to process them, then they burst out whenever and wherever, especially at low and high points.

We are very fortunate to have the luxury of processing our feelings with caring friends. JA even calls it a luxury. When Edmund relates his sorrows to Fanny, it is "the luxury of relating circumstances and sensations of the first interest to himself, to one of whose affectionate sympathy he was quite convinced." Not a privilege, not a right, but a luxury.

When people are under continual stress, experiencing repeated traumas, living in invalidating environments, they often do not have this blessing. Their emotional processes shut down, become overtired, burn out, go numb, or go berserk. Then it takes much more work, more pain to heal, just as a festering wound is more difficult to cure than an open, bandaged one.

Being out of synch with our surroundings is quite usual when dealing with deep grief. It is one of the many ways we know that we are healing--if we were unaware of our feelings, unable to see

and compare and contrast, we would be much worse off.

I have found in times of unusual stress that it is best for me to try to maintain myself on as even a keel as I can--not yielding my attention wholly to either the highs or the lows. I try to keep a part of myself separate and observant from a calm, non-judging place. In Zen practice (and DBT therapy) this is called Wise Mind--the middle place, the unifying place, between emotion mind and reasoning mind. It is a tricky balance but it can be very satisfying to let action arise only from there. It can help me to stay sufficiently in synch to act, yet to act independently of either despair or unrealistic hope or any other strong impulse.

Sorry to lecture. Like other rambling preachers (especially those who do not do it for a constancy) I tend to be "eloquent on a point in which her own conduct would ill bear examination."

**Actually.....**

**Michele S.**

**September 14, 2001 11:13PM**

a fellow RoPer and I just had a conversation yesterday about this very thing.

I had gone to dinner with a friend - after a long day of news, tears, and trying to answer my three-year-old son's questions - and at some point, over some trivial matter, we both just dissolved into an absolute fit of giggles.

I drove home feeling terribly guilty.

We're told we must try to resume normalcy in order to prove to these terrorists that they can't destroy our spirit - and yet it seems a fine line we're trying to walk between "normal life" and the respect and reverence we feel for those who have suffered.

**Reactions we don't expect**

**Ree**

**September 15, 2001 12:59AM**

I was in the seventh grade when the Challenger space shuttle exploded. The principal of my school came over the intercom and announced the terrible news. Of course the class broke out into discussion, talking especially about Christa McAuliffe, the civilian teacher who was aboard. I don't remember exactly how the conversations fit together, but at the same time one person asked "Which shuttle was it?" our teacher was replying to someone else's question: "The one with Paul Harvey" (who, for those outside the U.S., is a syndicated radio commentator). In my mind, the one question and the other answer sounded so ridiculous, I burst out laughing, to my own horror and that of my classmates. I was absolutely mortified -- so much so that, even fifteen years later, I feel it when I hear about Challenger. (My teacher, by the way, was very kind -- and reminded everyone that different people react to grief in different ways -- a lesson I would have done well to remember today, see my post above.)

Michele, please don't feel guilty.

**Strong feelings here too**

**Lauren Rose**

**September 15, 2001 06:17AM**

The events in NYC unfolded in the middle of the night here in Sydney, and I was awakened at 2am our time to watch the drama unfold. I had a commitment to play bridge at 9am and although I had a very considerate partner who called to see if I wanted to cancel, I decided to go. I don't remember driving my children to school that morning. I know I made some very stupid moves at bridge although everyone was very kind to me. I had many commitments during the day that required me to drive around and I had to catch myself as I wandered into oncoming traffic many times. Finally, I just stayed at home. I have watched the live broadcasts throughout the night all week and have had only three or four hours sleep each night while trying to keep a certain degree of normalcy for my children. As an American here in Sydney I have had many kind people ask with concern about my friends and family. I however find myself dwelling on and crying for the individuals I see on TV who have lost a friend or family member and berate myself for being an overly emotional person. I find that I cannot participate on the other boards here. I have had a very emotional journey locating a friend in NYC that I lost contact with as well. If someone half a world away from the events that are unfolding can feel this way just what must those who are directly affected be going through. I cannot convey how deeply I feel for them.

**1.Perfectly natural feelings ! (NFM)**

**Buba**

**September 16, 2001 02:53PM**

=====

**I grieve with you**

**Francesca**

**September 14, 2001 04:28PM**

The days pass and it still seems just incredible. I can't find words to say all the sorrow and the shock, they only increase the more I realize that it is really happening. I can only say that I hope that every one of you in USA and all your families and friends are Ok. And that from here we feel really close to you all, hoping you can feel our love and solidarity.

=====

**Did anyone see last night's edition of WWF?**

**SandyW**

**September 14, 2001 05:04PM**

I suspect the majority of us at Pemberly don't watch WWF...but my son does. He tapes it so he can watch it when he gets home from work. And for once I was impressed. They sang the National Anthem in the beginning....surprisingly well.

One of the guys came on and explained why they went ahead with the live show instead of cancelling like many others had.

Then throughout the two hour program each person who normally participates in the show had a cameo and said what they thought and felt about what happened on Tuesday. I have to admit that for

once the WWF impressed me. The compassion and sympathy these men and women expressed was by no means fake, insincere, or preplanned. I wouldn't have watched what I did if I hadn't had to launder my sons work clothes....and I suspect this won't change my opinion of the show...but it has changed my opinion of the people that participate in the show.

**Mums and Hims**

**Ian**

**September 14, 2001 06:54PM**

Sandy, it would be wonderful if you could watch WWF (if you so desired) without having to launder your son's clothes. As you said, he has this program taped. Perhaps he could launder his own clothes when he watches the program?

One small irk I have is about the playing of the "Battle Hymn". This doesn't sound appropriate with the present rhetoric being voiced in certain quarters. All well to be uplifted. Could there have been a more appropriate hymn instead ?

**A tad confused**

**SandyW**

**September 15, 2001 11:51PM**

Ian, I probably wouldn't have watched the program if I hadn't had the clothes to wash. Yes, he knows how to do them himself..

but I've found that the laundry detergent lasts longer when I wash the clothes myself. Plus he had a friend with him that night.

My confusion lies in the "One small irk" statement...I asked my son about the "Battle Hymn" and he didn't remember it either...did we miss something?

**Slightly off tangent as usual**

**Ian**

**September 17, 2001 01:43AM**

Ah, good to hear that your son knows how to launder clothing. Yes, a little detergent goes a long way.

"My confusion lies in the "One small irk" statement...I asked my son about the 'Battle Hymn' and he didn't remember it either...did we miss something?"

Ah, no I was referring to some other threads here. I just felt the words are a little too strong during this time, especially with the rhetoric that was flowing about.

=====

**Hope at week's end**

**Marvin**

**September 14, 2001 05:31PM**

I have only posted once here in the last few days. However, I have checked in several times daily. The stories, thoughts and prayers of everyone here are a source of inspiration. In particular, the solidarity

shown by those of you outside America are so gratifying.

Here in suburban Massachusetts the last few days, while it has been far from business as usual, at work, or driving around, I have seen people going about their daily tasks: work, school, errands. Our girls did not miss school and kept essentially to their regular schedules.

We mourn for those who are gone and pray for a speedy recovery for the injured. But as I saw people striving to quickly re-engage in our normal lives, the message I felt was being sent to the perpetrators and their supporters was this: "Though your attack was deadly, and though it altered the skyline of our largest city, if you thought you struck our heart, you are not only wrong, but you have no idea where or how to look for the heart of America, or of any people of good will." That's my thought of hope for now.

**Back to normal...but..**

**Patricia N**

**September 14, 2001 06:10PM**

Today I went about my usual routine but when returning from a few errands I went through a red light! I treated it like a 4-way stop! Perhaps we are all a bit distracted as we try to process the evil deeds of the week. Tonight our bridge club meets, I don't expect to play very well.  
Patti

**Me too.**

**Laraine**

**September 14, 2001 07:02PM**

I did precisely the opposite. There is an intersection with a 16-lane 4-way-stop on my way home from work. The car ahead of me stopped, then moved ahead in a moment or two. I proceeded to follow it as if I had been waiting at a light. I \*know\* I was thinking about our East Coast.

Trying harder to focus now... 8-/

**Oh!**

**Jane E**

**September 14, 2001 08:21PM**

What you said just above so closely echoes an editorial I read today! I wish I remember where it was so I could give credit to the writer - but it was addressed to the attackers and the gist of it was, if you think this will destroy us, you don't understand the hearts of the American people - because we will just lay aside our bickerings and unite together stronger than ever.

=====

**Thankfully the week is over....**

**Hanna2**

**September 14, 2001 06:39PM**

I feel like I have been walking through this week like it was a dream (maybe more of a nightmare?). I didn't realize until now, almost 5pm and time to leave work, how worn out I am from all the events here in the US. Does anyone else feel like it was not very easy to work like everything was normal when the world feels like it is in so much chaos?

**I agree**  
**Jennie3**  
**September 15, 2001 07:48PM**

I keep feeling sick every day, though I don't personally know anyone involved. (Friends have said similar things.) I was relieved for the weekend to arrive. It's like this has sapped my energy--even though I got enough sleep last night, I must have had the need to sleep because what was supposed to be a short nap this afternoon turned into a marathon sleep session. Everyone was so hoping for a miracle, and things look so grim. The news is so pervasive, and you don't want to watch it and yet you DO want to watch it.

=====  
**Words cannot express**  
**Lorena**  
**September 14, 2001 07:07PM**

As I watch the news casts showing so many countries coming together and uniting behind the united states, I am moved to tears. Hearing so many different nations sing our National Anthem is awe inspiring. But I am not surprised because Pemberleyans from around the world have shown me that America is not alone in this our of tragedy.  
I have cried and prayed and hoped and felt many many emotions this week.  
But my heart has been lifted by seeing all the support being poured out. And especially by all the thoughts of my fellow Pemberleyans that have touched me in a very personal way. I sated before that I was new here, but you have all become my family.

=====  
**MISSING DWIGGIE HAS BEEN FOUND ALIVE!!!!**  
**Kendra Crispin**  
**September 14, 2001 07:10PM**

She's been in a hospital, unconscious with no ID, but she's been found by her friend. The little account is at the Austen.com Tea Room.  
YAY! This gives me hope that more survivors will be found.

**Thanks very much!**  
**Laraine**  
**September 14, 2001 07:14PM**

I believe that this means that we (in the sense of our sister sites and RoP) are all accounted for and safe. We lost dear friends, but we really are all safe.  
I hope I am always wise enough to be grateful.  
Kendra, thanks again for letting us know!



**You're welcome!**  
**Kendra Crispin**  
**September 14, 2001 07:19PM**

I didn't know if the person who found her posts at this board, so I thought I'd do it so the people here would know right away.  
It's such a relief to know that everyone's accounted for.

**YAY! Good to hear. Nfm**  
**May**  
**September 14, 2001 08:40PM!**

**Thank you, thank you for the good news (nfm)**  
**Jen K**  
**September 14, 2001 10:27PM**

**Such good news, thank you nfm**  
**Sansanee**  
**September 15, 2001 07:01AM**

**Wonderful ! (NFM)**  
**Buba**  
**September 16, 2001 02:54PM**

**Thank God! (nfm)**  
**Julie C**  
**September 17, 2001 04:38AM**

=====

**My family's 7pm candle lighting**  
**Jeanette Marie**  
**September 14, 2001 07:33PM**

Here in San Antonio, TX, it is now about 7:30pm. At 7pm my husband and I went to the front steps of our apartment building and lit a candle. We then sang a hymn together. There were children running around on scooters and bikes and stuff, so I didn't notice two little girls who stopped to listen to us sing. When we were done, they clapped for us and gave us a big smile. We didn't explain to them what we were doing, but then they probably didn't need one.

I also wanted to share the words of the song we sang with all of you. It's one of my most favorite hymns, and it helps me remember how we all need God right now, in our time of need.

Where can I turn for peace?

Where is my solace when other sources cease to make me whole?

When with a wounded heart, anger or malice,

I draw myself apart, searching my soul?

Where, when my aching grows, where, when I languish,

Where in my need to know, where can I run?

Where is the quiet hand to calm my anguish?

Who, who can understand? He, only One.  
He answers privately, reaches my reaching in my Gethsemane,  
Savior and Friend.  
Gentle the peace he finds for my beseeching.  
Constant He is and kind, Love without end.

**re; 7pm candle lighting.**

**Roxanne**

**September 14, 2001 07:59PM**

This is beautiful!! I too went out with a lighted candle but the wind was bad. So I lit all of mine in the bathroom.

**One of my favorites**

**Tracy Y**

**September 14, 2001 08:19PM**

Where can I turn for peace?

This has always been one of my favorite songs and has been in my head today (along with various other songs). Maybe I'll do the same (although my voice is suffering badly these days).  
Thanks for sharing that Jeanette Marie.

=====

**My public praise of Pemberley**

**DavidL**

**September 14, 2001 07:43PM**

I have been so impressed, and comforted, by the outpouring here over the last few days that I took the liberty of writing a column about it. The link is below.

I wrote 21 inches and was told to cut it to 16, so I did. The parts I most regret losing were about the worldwide response at this site and the offer to pick up stranded Pemberleians at airports.

**Thank you, David**

**Myretta**

**September 14, 2001 07:59PM**

Thank you for writing what all of us feel about what happened here. This community has been a great help to many of us this week. On Wednesday, I sent a link to Ramble to my co-workers because I thought that seeing this would give them the same kind of hope for humanity that it gave me. Thank you all.

**David, thank you. And Committee...**

**Debra R**

**September 15, 2001 10:19AM**

David, your words express clearly and movingly how I feel about this special place.  
Myretta, Cheryl, all the wonderful Committee members, thank you for creating this

place and making it what it is. Indeed, it is a haven in a confusing world, a place where we can come to confirm some truths about life: that there is beauty and justice in the world, and that love is real.

**Beautiful - Thanks (nfm)**  
**kathleen (elder)**  
**September 14, 2001 08:03PM**

**I am impressed**  
**Laraine**  
**September 14, 2001 08:06PM**

with this. Very. I hope that your paper knows what a great writer they have, David. It's not easy to get the right tone in articles like this one, and you did a great job. Thanks very much for sharing--I was very proud that we were quoted in a newspaper several states away. 😊

**Internet knows no states**  
**DavidL**  
**September 14, 2001 08:42PM**

But isn't that the great thing? Pemberley is everywhere that there's a citizen. You're in Minnesota, Myretta's in Massachusetts, I'm in Ohio, and it doesn't matter.

**No country borders either, nfm**  
**Filippa**  
**September 15, 2001 07:53AM**

**Completely true. (nfm)**  
**Laraine**  
**September 15, 2001 05:34PM**

**Me too.**  
**Barbara**  
**September 14, 2001 10:12PM**

I agree whole-heartedly. I enjoy reading your work David. I worked as a journalist for several years before becoming a teacher and I know how hard it is to hit the right tone, as Laraine says. What an admirable job you did!

**very nice and so true :-)**  
**AnneM**  
**September 14, 2001 09:10PM**

it is the back fence  
I think writing and reading responses is almost as strong a bond as a big hug. I haven't responded to everyone, but I have read until my eyes hurt. The family Debra told us about was mentioned in our local paper. So very, very sad and real.

And a special to Kathleen, Myretta and others. The activity on this board has got to be hard to keep a handle on. Thanks for the extra effort this week.

with love,  
Anne

**Incredibly moving, David (NFM)**

**Lin**

**September 14, 2001 09:32PM**

**Thanks, and proud to be a Citizen! Nfm**

**Linda Fern**

**September 14, 2001 09:53PM**

**Pemberley family**

**Cheryl**

**September 14, 2001 10:39PM**

This said so well many things I have been feeling. When not working and I can tear myself away from the TV or can't bear to watch any more, I come to Pemberley and am comforted. I almost always cry as well, but find solace here.

Like many people, I have several cyber haunts I regularly visit. While there have been expressions of horror and sadness other places, no where else have I found such sustained and genuine love and care which has been exhibited so freely here. I am very proud of us and humbled by the very real community we have here.

**And that is thanks to...**

**Deborah Jane**

**September 15, 2001 02:07PM**

...the entire Pemberley committee, past and present. Without your tireless work, your loving efforts, this place would not exist. Profound thanks.

**Beautiful David (NFM)**

**Lucie**

**September 14, 2001 10:49PM**

**My not-so-public praise...**

**PeggyS**

**September 14, 2001 10:51PM**

...of Pemberley was e-mailed to 2 dear friends only. Please forgive me Marian Z for quoting your eloquence without your permission. On Thursday morning, instead of being in LAX, I wrote from my heart:

Hello,

Perhaps you recall that I've been visiting a web site where JA fans exchange ideas and discuss her books. Well there's a section called Ramble where people talk of non-JA things. I checked there Tuesday morning after watching as much news as I could bear and here's what I found. Very shortly after the explosions, a 'regular' posted a plea for all NYC & DC folks to sign in and

say they were OK. It began a heartwarming day of replies from down-town NY & DC workers, students and others in the area. Then words of happiness for their safety and expressions of support, comfort, and love from all over the US. Very shortly, messages of support began to appear from people all over the globe. I counted 19 different locations from Southeast Asia to Finland. From 3 cities in

Canada and all over the US came offers of accommodations for people stranded in strange towns when their planes were required to land before reaching their destinations. There were reports of prayer vigils...flowers and candles at American embassy in Copenhagen. One person from Malta wrote that their Independence Day Celebration had been canceled because no one felt it was a time for celebrating. Pleas for tolerance. A request from a teacher for names of the hospitals where the injured had been taken--her students wanted to make and send get-well cards. There was information re Red Cross Blood Banks. People were urged to fly the American flag. Beautiful poems, prayers and meditations were posted:

From John Donne's Meditation XVII:

No man is an Island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the Continent, a part of the main; if a Clod be washed away by the Sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a Promontory were, as well as if a Manor of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind.

And this [signed Marian Z.]:

"In my heavily populated suburbia the bearded turbaned man that I pass on my walk every night was wearing a NY Yankees baseball cap over his grey hair tonight instead of his turban. It was so sweet, yet so sad.

What todo? What to do? I just made sure to give him a bigger smile tonight and a little louder 'Good Evening.'

I pity the poor immigrant.

BTW - Tony Blair is my eloquent hero - Hurrah for Britain! -- Go you classy people!

I was so comforted by the supportive statements I heard coming from there. I feel as if the maelstrom of hate could become a soaring spiral of peace."

I still check in every few hours, just to be uplifted by the kindness, thoughtfulness and genuine care I read there.

Fondly,

Peggy

**Lovely....and so very true.nfm.**

**Michele S.**

**September 14, 2001 11:04PM**

**This was wonderful, thank you for sharing this (nfm)**

**Michelle L.**

**September 14, 2001 11:05PM**

**As the bumpersticker says: I'd Rather be at Pemberley**

**Jen K**

**September 14, 2001 11:08PM**

I very emphatically related to my friends the story of Canadian Pemberleans who offered their help, as well as the outpouring of concern for those of us whose horizons now include the swooping of F-16s. When I am troubled by the behaviors at work, I am comforted by my friends

here.  
Thank you.

**Beautifully written, David ...and so true! (nfm)**  
**Ursula**  
**September 15, 2001 03:04AM**

**Thanks for sharing David...!!!!!!! nfm**  
**Lauren Rose**  
**September 15, 2001 05:43AM**

**Thanks for expressing so eloquently what I'm sure we all feel. (nfm)**  
**Amy BC**  
**September 15, 2001 06:05AM**

**Thank you**  
**Sansanee**  
**September 15, 2001 06:57AM**

That was a lovely column. It's been more difficult for me to get online in my area of late, though I'm sure it's because there are people who need the phone lines more than I do. When able, I have been coming to Pemberley every time I could get online in the last few days. It's been a comfort to be here amongst friends. Oddly, watching the television coverage seems to make me feel more isolated. Seeing the various memorials from our country and others, however, has been touching and comforting, even as I find myself bursting into tears yet again.

**Thank you David.**  
**Julie P.**  
**September 15, 2001 07:38AM**

That was wonderful. The public hears so many horror stories about the Internet that I think it's great for you to have shown people that it can be a place where real friendships can be formed.

**Happy to be in the Republic with you!! (nfm)**  
**Elizabeth Cretaro**  
**September 15, 2001 07:49AM**

**Lovely, David. Well put! Nfm**  
**Jezkalyn**  
**September 15, 2001 08:32AM**

**Well done David nfm**  
**William L**  
**September 15, 2001 10:59AM**

**Thank you so much (nfm)**  
**Geertje**  
**September 15, 2001 11:51AM**

**Wonderful, David. Thank you**

**Linda**

**September 15, 2001 12:36PM**

I was unable to get online from Tuesday afternoon until late Wednesday evening. Watching all the horrors on TV, not being able to touch my real life friends and not even being able to seek the comfort of my online friends was just terrible. I felt so isolated and lonely. I think that you have captured the essence of what we have here at Penberley. Thank you so much.

**You know,**

**JulieW**

**September 15, 2001 01:08PM**

when everything happended on Tuesday, after seeing the first tower on fire on TV I ran( yes,RAN) to the study and looked at ROP to find out what was going on., David, your "call in" post was already there, and I added my fourpennoth worth.I too had not met Jen K but was suffiencently worried to get up at 2.30 am our time to see if she had called in.She had.

I know I could not have met any of you without this place.For someome with a love affair for America and Jane Asuten you can imagine just how imporant it had become to me over the past two years.

I remeber reading Myrettas words in the FAQ about lifelong friendships being made here.I must admit I thought that was probably going too far.But , guess what , I think she may have been right( as usual!)/

I am so graefu e ae all able to share all our expereincs with each othr.An I think in teh coming mnths we are goin to need this place all the moer.

**What a fine article, DavidL**

**Lou**

**September 15, 2001 01:11PM**

I too found this place of comfort, and I still cannot believe how touching everyone's messages were, from US or abroad. God Bless America, and long live the Republic of Pemberley!

**Thanks for telling the world what we all feel (nfm)**

**Mary Ellen**

**September 15, 2001 02:05PM**

**Terrific article, David. Thank you. (nfm)**

**Jilly**

**September 15, 2001 03:11PM**

**Wonderful job. (nfm)**

**Sandy A**

**September 16, 2001 12:31PM**

**great column**

**Haru**

**September 16, 2001 07:47PM**

I've felt a bit left out, and it was nice that some posted asking about my whereabouts. This is a special place, and you captured that in your article. I frequent other boards as well, and they don't come close in the kind of community we have here.

Haru

=====

## **Memorial Services**

**Caroline**

**September 14, 2001 08:40PM**

Canadian T.V. has just broadcast -complete and unabridged- 3 memorial services. The first, from Washington Cathedral was profoundly moving from the very beginning. I don't think I'll ever forget Denise Graves' singing, or her guitar accompaniment. It was wonderful to hear representatives of different faiths speaking out from their own sacred texts and saying the same things. It was formal, and very lovely. The second service was from St Paul's Cathedral in London. the accoustics of St Paul were beautiful, the choir was beautiful, and Archbishop Carey was a wonderful speaker. (JA would have been proud of him!) It was great to see so many different faiths represented there, too.

Our own memorial service was very, very, different. For a start it was outside, on Parliament Hill. Ottawa is lucky in having a picturesque park and river as its parliamentary setting, and it was used to great advantage today. Over a hundred thousand people packed into the park and the surrounding streets. There were no religious speeches, although leaders of many faiths were there. The National Anthem and the Stars and Stripes were sung by a police officer. Short speeches of sympathy and solidarity were spoken by our Prime Minister and our American Ambassador. A solo lament was played by a Canadian piper (did you know Canadians are great bagpipe players?) and other music by a military brass band. Then the whole country held three minutes of silence. On the Hill, the silence was like a thick blanket, warm and comforting... and somewhat astonishing in its length. The silence ended with the tolling of the bell in the Peace Tower, and people began to move away.

I really can't say who did the best service. What I can say is that the Canadian one was from the heart of Canada's people. We are not a ceremonial bunch, really, but every word of every speech was meant, every note of every tune was for America. I hope America likes our tribute.

**Wonderful picture of the gathering at the Parliament Hill service. (nfm)**

**May**

**September 14, 2001 09:22PM**

**beautiful setting**

**AnneM**

**September 14, 2001 09:23PM**

I typed out three things to say, but it just didn't come out right. I live in North Carolina, but I feel like a member of my family just died....we are all so numb. So I say, from one little ole US family, thank you. It means a lot.



with love  
Anne

### **Memorial Services**

**ClaireD**

**September 14, 2001 09:56PM**

I liked it. I didn't see the whole thing, but what I did see I found very touching and very well done. You really did get the sense that it was "from the heart."

I only saw a tiny excerpt of the London service, but I must say if the British keep up this playing and singing of my nation's anthem, I just might develop a belated appreciation of the darn song 😊 I suppose I'm so used to the often half-wit versions of it done at the opening of baseball games where guys drinking beer mumble it and singers either try their best to hide that they can't sing it or turn it into a pop or country-western tune (probably also a method of hiding that they can't sing it) that there's something strangely wonderful about hearing it sung by English-accented churchgoers and church choir and hearing it played by a band outside Buckingham Palace. :-) Thank you Britannia!

And speaking of singing: Caroline, I agree with you about Denise Graves; her singing at Washington's service was beautiful.

### **Services**

**Lucie**

**September 14, 2001 10:45PM**

"And speaking of singing: Caroline, I agree with you about Denise Graves; her singing at Washington's service was beautiful."

She moved me to tears, she is always wonderful.

I cried like a baby when they sang "The Battle Hymn Of The Republic."

Also when President Bush gave his moving speech.

I believe I like Tony Blair after today.

**I feel so bad about missing it.**

**Kendra Crispin**

**September 15, 2001 01:02AM**

I've been staying away from the news for the last few days, not wanting to hear and see too much. But that sounds like I should have seen it. If only I could see it...

"I cried like a baby when they sang 'The Battle Hymn Of The Republic.'"

I guess I'd better prep myself for a good cry if I ever get to see it. I was happy to get to see part of the changed Changing of the Guard with Mom. That made me feel proud.

"Also when President Bush gave his moving speech."

I think we actually have a good president. Last November I didn't care which turkey won (I thought neither deserved the office). Now I think he could be exactly what we need: a strong leader who CAN make good decisions, and has smart people grounded in reality around him.

"I believe I like Tony Blair after today."

Now I really have to see that. The man's judgement has been suspect to me in the past, but I have to see what he did or said to compel you to write that. Think they'll have copies available for those who want to see it again? (Or for those of us who missed it for various reasons?)

**A gentle reminder**  
**kathleen (elder)**  
**September 15, 2001 07:35AM**

I realize that this is not really a political message. But this seems a good place to remind all Pemberley people that, regardless of the provocation, we should not stray into political discussion here. Thank you.

**Sorry if it was at all political...**  
**Kendra Crispin**  
**September 15, 2001 02:42PM**

I think I'm emotionally charged, but I can't seem to release any emotion except through words. But I did get to see the service. I shed a tear during President Bush's speech, and got watery eyes at a few others times during the service.

**Thank you for sharing**  
**Jen K**  
**September 14, 2001 10:52PM**

In a rather selfish admittance, I still feel like I'm going through it all what with trying to return to work and having to look at the new skyline and seeing people I haven't seen since and so on. I do hope this doesn't sound nationalistic or localistic or whatever: I really appreciate what Canada has done for us this week and what you have done today, as well as the rest of the world.  
Jen K

**Song, Silence, Bells, and the Solo Piper**  
**gkb**  
**September 14, 2001 11:36PM**

tune is an old drinking song  
Its notes too high and awkward change.  
The words were written during war,  
A night of shocks, explosive siege,  
And war's uncertain turns.  
And yet, it has a power strange

**Gkay, that's lovely.....**  
**Caroline**  
**September 15, 2001 10:50AM**

Thank you, too.

**Sorrow shared, sorrow eased**  
**Deborah Jane**  
**September 15, 2001 02:03PM**

: -)

Thank you, Canada.  
Thank you, too!

**Thanks to our friends!**  
**Brooke E**  
**September 15, 2001 06:00AM**

I was actually caught unawares last night when I was flipping channels to find a station to fall asleep to when I came across what I believe was the live presentation of the service in London followed by the special session in the House of Commons. I was very moved by the church service, especially when they sang "Battle Hymn of the Republic" (I had already missed the National Anthem). It was also nice (and I don't know how many people had this in mind) that I could sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee" as they were singing "God Save the Queen." I never knew much about Tony Blair, but I heard his entire speech to the House last night, and everything he said gave me hope. I have been deeply touched by the tributes from all over the world. And yes, Caroline, I knew that Canadians were great bagpipe players! I was actually in Victoria about a month ago, and very happy to find a bagpipe player almost always out by the harbour. It was one of those little things that made me love Victoria so much because most of the time, you weren't even aware of the bagpiper, but the sound just seemed to be softly filtering into the air. But I digress...

On this National Day of Prayer, it was more than moving to see that in reality it had become an International Day of Prayer, and I think it a wonderful sign that it is not just Americans that are pulling together, but the entire world with us. I am very grateful for every gesture.

**I agree with you Caroline**  
**Deborah Jane**  
**September 15, 2001 09:54AM**

It was dignified and moving. I was deeply touched by it.  
We had a memorial service at the university where I work too. It was out-of-doors, under a glorious blue sky, and ended with a lone bagpiper, a lament. Between attending this and watching the service from the Hill I felt truly connected to my grief - that's a good thing.  
"What I can say is that the Canadian one was from the heart of Canada's people. We are not a ceremonial bunch, really, but every word of every speech was meant, every note of every tune was for America."

It's true - we're usually very reserved about displays of this sort, which is why, I think, it was all the more poignant.

=====

**Childlike Faith**

**Lisa RS**

**September 14, 2001 09:09PM**

We have kept my three-year-old daughter innocently sheltered during this week's tragedy with the exception of the prayers that we have spoken for our nation and its people. Today, however, while we were at the garden shop I picked up a red, white and blue ribbon and pinned it on my shirt and then offered one to her.

"What's that for, Mommy?"

"This is because America is sad today."

"Why is America sad?"

"American is sad because some people were hurt."

Pause.

"Daddy will talk to America. He will fix it."

Oh, that my faith in my own Heavenly Father would be so great.

=====

**God bless North America**

**Suzanne**

**September 14, 2001 10:11PM**

Tonight my husband, who is an airline pilot, is flying his first flight to LA since the tragedy. We are Canadian but in no way feel immune to the horror. Tonight I will light a candle for all victims and say a special prayer for all aircrew who are carrying on despite their fears.

=====

**Thank you**

**Lucie**

**September 14, 2001 10:54PM**

I want to thank all the people from around the world who have posted these messages the last few days. It has brought home so very well the fact that we are not alone in our sorrow and grief.

Thank you Pemberlians

=====

**The children**

**Karen A**

**September 14, 2001 11:06PM**

I live in a Navy town, and one of our neighbors was recently transferred to the DC area, possibly the Pentagon. While looking at CNN's partial list of names, I noticed the ages that were posted with some of the victims. There were several children's names there, and reading about Debra's neighbors, I knew there would be at least a few.

One of the flights I noticed 3 or 4 children of about eleven, but it appeared they were without their parents, at least there were no adults with the same last name (which doesn't necessarily mean anything). On the same plane were several victims identified as teachers. I was wondering if anyone knew about these children - what is their story? Who were they with? I do so hope that they had no idea what happened.

I also heard an interview with a survivor from the Pentagon. He was sharing his story of trying to get out of the building, and mentioned the day care workers attempting to gather and flee with the children in their charge. Does anyone know if there were day care facilities in the WTC? I never thought of it before I heard this man's remarks, but on site day care is so common now - as is evidenced by the Oklahoma City victims.

I am an elementary teacher. A colleague of mine was sharing a story about discussing the recent events with his class. The students were trying to get some sense of proportion by comparing it with Oklahoma City, when a shy little girl raised her hand and said "I was there". The girl was one of the children in the daycare at the time of the bombing. Her physical injuries have healed, but I'm sure the emotional wound is still fresh. The children who survive this trauma will be suffering for quite some time to come.

I teach 5th grade, and my students are of the age that they are at least capable of taking in some of the enormity of the situation. Even though we are on the opposite coast of these attacks, my students, children of military parents, are fearful - not so much of an attack in our town, but now that talk of retaliation is permeating the airwaves, they know that their parents may be sent off. During Desert Storm, the children were huddled around their tv all night watching the bombings and air raids, knowing that their moms and dads were there. Now a new generation of children may face the same prospects. Unfortunately there are no instruction manuals on how to help children survive these types of horrors. Hug your kids often.

**ABC, Peter Jennings program for children, Sat 10-noon, nfm**

**PeggyS**

**September 15, 2001 01:02AM**

**I have heard...**

**Brooke E**

**September 15, 2001 05:38AM**

...via my mother on the first day of the attacks that all of the day care children were cleared out safely. I haven't heard anything on the news myself since, but I like to believe that this is true. Also, in watching the coverage, I haven't seen anybody out there with flyers of children, which is another sign of hope. And I am sure, that if the possibility of many child deaths were a possibility, we would be hearing about it.

**Children & teachers**

**kathleen (elder)**

**September 15, 2001 07:18AM**

There were some 6th graders (and 2? teachers) on the flight that hit the Pentagon. These children were headed to California on a National Geographic trip. It was sort of a reward for

being good students.

I agree with you about their innocence -- I hope they were unaware (as much as possible) during the event.

=====

**The new greeting in New York**

**Jen K**

**September 14, 2001 11:26PM**

As a member of such a far-reaching group of friends, I don't pretend to be uniquely affected. I am sorry for everyone's loss.

I went back to work yesterday and today was another day. Because so many employers battled with the dichotomy of "we shall press on" vs. "our people must have time" the commute was actually less populated today than it was yesterday.

Again, the management of my company came around to every site, assuring us that all of ours were well and, not only would we not be penalized for not coming into work on Wednesday, but if any of us were still worried about family members we should speak up immediately and feel free to go home to our loved ones. In addition, there are going to be mass counselling sessions at headquarters on Monday and I believe I'll go to one, just to see if I'm the only one who finds myself crying on the subway or in the car on the way home. As much as I love the support I've found on-line, there is something to be said for real-time hugs. New York is a nicer place to be right now.

As is inevitable, I have run into people I haven't seen in days and invariably the first question asked is, "is everyone okay?" I am one of the many people who are glad to respond, "yes, all accounted for, thank you." But just as often as this response comes up I hear, "well, my \_\_\_\_" or "three former co-workers" or "one of my best clients is still missing" etc. Present co-workers' friends, best friends on one of the planes, brothers-in-law on a train, etc. None of it surprises me and all of it makes me sad. Tremendously sad. But in all of it I suppose we must go on. Not alone, thank goodness.

**Business as usual?**

**Brooke E**

**September 15, 2001 05:29AM**

Yes, my father's company in LA has maintained the attitude of staying open so as not to gratify any terrorist intentions, but it certainly isn't business as usual. I was talking with my aunt the other day, who works at my dad's company, and she said that she had the unhappy task of going through all of their open accounts to find the ones that may have been effected, so that she would know from which accounts they should no longer seek payments. She said at least three accounts were in the WTC, possibly more, and I couldn't help but think what an emotionally taxing job that must be for her and the other people all over the country who have to do similar jobs. It certainly isn't business as usual, but at least we are trying.

**We're open, but...**

**Julie P.**

**September 15, 2001 07:27AM**

a lot of people are just staying home. We've been told to go home early on 3 separate occasions since it happened. I think I could handle it better if I didn't have a view of

lower Manhattan from my window. Just looking out the window and seeing the smoke is difficult.

I've had confirmation that 2 people I knew are among the "missing, presumed dead." One of the men was someone whose father was my father's roommate at Columbia back in the 50s. I went to college with his older brother. The other man who's missing was someone I worked with for 4 years. A great guy.

BTW, did anyone see Solicitor General Ted Olson on TV last night? I am impressed he was able to discuss his wife without breaking down. As I've said, I met her a couple of times, and thought she was a very special lady.

**We are not alone, thank goodness**

**Sansanee**

**September 15, 2001 07:31AM**

I think I need to set a schedule for myself while I'm at home, if only to impose a semblance of routine in my time between jobs and getting on with school. My Sunday class is canceled, though my Tuesday class may still take place, since Canal Street has become the new boundary and my school is now north of that. I've had to reschedule a second job interview yet again. I hope more than ever to get that job, in order to get back into some routine and also to feel that I'm doing my little part to support the economy, if that makes sense.

I'm glad employers are trying to walk this line, realizing more than ever that their employees do have personal lives and issues and are forever altered by this mindless destruction. At the same time, I understand the imperative to get back to "business as usual" so as to poke our fingers in the eyes of those who would bring us down. Those counseling sessions are definitely a good idea. Actual in-person interaction is indeed something we all need.

I feel so badly and angry for the people in WTC2 who heard the announcement that the building was secure and went back to their desks instead of heading down the stairs. I saw this Australian guy on tv, a James Dorsey (I think), who had given his account to CNN, although I think I saw the segment on ABC news. Anyway, he was on one of the top floors, and decided to ignore the "building is secure" announcement and kept going down the stairs. By the time he got out of the building he literally had four people holding onto him, and he was telling all of them they were all going to make it, even though he didn't believe it himself. But they all made it, thank God.

I'm never going anywhere without my cell phone again. I want to get a spare battery, and a phone for my fiancée as well. I hope that if I were ever on a plane that was going to be used as a weapon, that I could find it within me to work with the others and take the plane back, even at the cost of my life.

But we will, we must go on, for our own sakes, in tribute to those who were lost, and in defiance of those who would presume to strike at our hearts and souls. I'm very sad, and yet I'm proud to be a New Yorker, and of course an American.

**Speaking of cell phones...**

**Julie P.**

**September 15, 2001 03:26PM**

we are being asked to refrain from using them unless it's necessary. It's important that the cells be kept free for the rescue workers.

**True  
Sansanee  
September 16, 2001 11:43AM**

fortunately I never have need for mine except for the brief "I'll be at the train station at such and such time" calls.

=====

**Battle Hymn of the Republic  
Maisy  
September 14, 2001 11:59PM**

Since reading several Ramble postings about this beautiful song I thought it would be nice to post the lyrics here so that all may be moved by them.  
MIDI file of "Battle Hymn of the Republic" is linked.

**Thank you very much for that, Maisy! (NFM)  
Brooke E  
September 15, 2001 05:18AM**

**Peace on Earth  
AnneM  
September 15, 2001 08:29AM**

thank you for the posting. I have to admit that when we were singing "Let there be Peace on Earth" I really wanted to sing this hymn.

:-(  
Anne

=====

**Staggered  
Marie-Bernadette  
September 15, 2001 12:08AM**

Last week I was diagnosed with High Blood Pressure. Last time I had my BP taken it was 170 over 104. Last Friday, my husband and I were going to go to a B&B for an early celebration of our 13th anniversary, but we ended up having to admit our young child to the hospital and have since learned that she has ulcerative colitis. She is going to be in hospital for several more days at least. Then on Tuesday, I learned that terrorists had bombed my country. I am stunned and numbed and enraged and anguished and very worried. I really don't even want to know what my blood pressure is now. I am thankful that my family and friends are safe. I am thankful that we have medical insurance. BarbaraK, my dear, I will contact you soon. I'm worried about you and your family, too. We love you and miss you.

I am heartened to see all these messages and to see such support for and by Pemberleyans. This little electronic refuge really does help to ease a bit of stress and, at the very least, reminds us that we are not alone.



**Poor Lilija!**

**BarbaraK**

**September 15, 2001 06:43PM**

What were her symptoms, poor girl, I have a friend with this disease and I know that it sucks. I do hope that she is feeling better soon, two hospital visits in one year are two to many. What hospital is she at?

I'm also sorry to hear of your high blood pressure...I'm thinking of you guys a lot!

Talk to you soon,

Barb

=====

**Finding myself unjust to others**

**Ree**

**September 15, 2001 12:33AM**

I am feeling very frustrated tonight. I am frustrated with my own inability to tolerate other people's reactions to the attacks.

I went to the memorial gathering in downtown Seattle today, which was opened by upbeat gospel songs from a very skillful choir. But I couldn't wait for them to finish -- they were singing about joy and victory, and I didn't feel either of those things. They asked the crowd to clap to the beat, and I found myself unjustly annoyed with those around me who did. I heard two teenage stockboys in the grocery store discussing the planes slamming into the World Trade Center as if it were great special effects in a film, and I wanted to tell them to grow up. I was filling my car with gasoline when a group of young girls came running across the street, laughing and screaming at the top of their lungs, obviously enjoying a Friday night out -- I couldn't stop myself from giving them a very nasty look indeed, and when that did not avail, I only just stopped myself from telling them off. I found myself, while driving home, shaking my head and wondering about the state of our teenagers -- and then I remembered the wonderful teens who have posted at Pemberley thoughtful and caring messages, teens who have stood in line to donate blood, teens I saw praying and crying today at the service, and I was ashamed of myself.

**4. Don't be - you're normal**

**Anne P**

**September 15, 2001 07:10AM**

Ree, if you ask anyone else, I bet they'll feel the same as you. I remember seeing the carnage of Enniskillen and Omagh on the television and wondering if anyone would laugh again ever. Just remember that we all deal with things in our own way and what goes on inside isn't necessarily what we show to others. I just posted a message entitled 'peace' further up. It contains the words of a hymn we'll be singing on Sunday. I find it very helpful - hope you do to.  
love from anne

**Thank you, Anne. Nfm**

**Ree**

**September 15, 2001 03:43PM**

### **3.about teens..**

**Kristen G.**

**September 15, 2001 12:29PM**

As a teen girl I thought I'd defend them a tiny bit. I don't go to school (home-schooled) but on my tiny dead-end street there are four girls that are all roughly the same age (and there used to be five!). I was talking to two of these girls on Tuesday. Both were very concerned and upset over what happened ~ one especially was very afraid of something similar happening to her (though I could reassure her that the only big thing in our town is an old paper mill ~ not usually a big target). They were worried and upset, but they didn't want to appear to be. They laughed and joked to try and hide their true feelings....yes, it is annoying when people act like nothing happened, but I think some of the time it's only a cover for them being scared to death.

**The kids**

**William L**

**September 15, 2001 02:04PM**

"I think some of the time it's only a cover for them being scared to death."

Sure they're scared, and with reason. And you are right about so many standing in line to give blood. And there is no use in going about long-faced. Smile and light a candle. In the 60's there was a silly song with a very catchy tune, extremely popular among the kids. The chorus, which strikes a note of happy realism: Oob la dee, oob la dah, oob la dee, oob la dah, oob la dee, oob la dah, and life goes on. So it does.

**Yes, you are right...**

**Ree**

**September 15, 2001 03:59PM**

... and you speak wisely. See my post to Michele S., posted a few minutes after my original post here. After the Challenger disaster, when I was a teenager, I had a similar reaction.

### **2.don't be frustrated!**

**NicoleC**

**September 15, 2001 03:05PM**

I'm also a teen... I've often been frustrated at the bad rap \*all\* teenagers are given, regardless of who they really are. It is always annoying to be standing with my dad when he proudly says he has three teenage daughters, and to have the person next to him roll his eyes and go, "Ooooooh. teenagers. haven't had to lock them in their room yet, have you?"

Anyway.

I'm sure there are teens America today who aren't reacting the right way, but don't get frustrated! I am trying to get back to a somewhat normal life so that I can finish my education and not thoroughly depress my very young siblings. Humour has always been a part of my normal life, which is probably why I found myself cracking jokes last night. I think there needs to be a balance. I am angry, and I am hurt with what happened Tuesday. Thinking about it still leaves a gaping hole in my heart- why? why possess a hate that would lead you to kill yourself

and innocent people?

To this end, I am taking action. Our flag is flying. I am praying. I am writing letters to dear friends (we know two young men in the Army, and one will probably be sent to the mideast- and one doesn't know yet. they are scared and need all the support they can get).

I also know for a fact that not all teenagers are ignoring this or making fun of it. My dad worked as an Air Force Recruiter for three years, he now trains other Recruiters. The three years he spent as a Recruiter were hard for our whole family. Very, very few people were interested in joining the military. They didn't see a need to join, they couldn't care less about the military, they didn't know anything about the military, etc. Dad says there has now been a jump in young people coming in to Recruiting offices. They *\*do\** care. Regardless of your opinion about what we should do after this attack, it is wonderfully encouraging to know that the American teenagers do care about what happens to others in this country.

Don't get frustrated, please!

Nicole

**Regretting having posted**

**Ree**

**September 15, 2001 07:24PM**

"Yes, I'm frustrated too but I think before this is over frustration will probably be the least of my concerns. I don't begrudge the young their foolish remarks or actions though because I know these are born out of an innocence which they won't have for long. Look at their youthful faces now while you can, the next time you see them might be on the obituary page."

Reading over the various replies, it is obvious that my post was not taken in the spirit in which it was meant. I know my reactions are wrong; I was sharing my frustration with myself. This is why the last line of my post was "...and I was ashamed of myself", and why my subject line was "Finding myself unjust to others. I should not have posted.

**Do not feel regret....**

**Irene M**

**September 15, 2001 07:26PM**

Ree, do not feel regret of having posted your feeling, they are very natural, and not wholly unexpected. Shame can be a good teacher at times. I wish there were more people like you. As soon as there were reports of who they suspected may have been behind all this, I started fearing for the lives of the Muslims who live in North America. Already, I have heard of people attacking Muslims in different cities across Canada (from where I am from). And I wouldn't be surprise if there are similar stories in the US as well. I am sure that most Muslims are also very shocked and are upset about the events on Tuesday, yet there are those in N. America who feel that they should be lumped in the same group as those who perpetuated these attacks.

Two thoughts that came into my mind as I watched the WTC crumble:

- 1) What caused those people to have so much hatred that they would do such an act without regard to human life.
- 2) There are children in the world who know nothing about what it is like to live a normal life like we have in N. America. They have only known violence and

hatred all their life. I think we need to pray for these children too.  
For my first thought, I have no answer, I can only speculate. Pamela has voice a lot of what I feel as well. All I know is that this has got to stop.  
Yes, you felt ashamed of feeling unjust towards others, but you had stopped yourself from feeling that way. For that, I am proud of you. Other people have not. I think that we all (including myself) need to take that first step to stop this vicious cycle of hatred or whatever it may be and to learn to respect one another.

Thank you, Irene. nfm.  
Ree  
September 15, 2001 07:27PM

**No regrets, please**  
**Kathleen (elder)**  
**September 15, 2001 07:28PM**

You spoke from your heart, and I certainly identified with what you are going through -- I find myself thinking & feeling many of the same things. You put that into words for me very succinctly.  
Thank you.

Thank you, Kathleen. nfm.  
Ree  
September 15, 2001 07:28PM

**don't!**  
**Kristen G.**  
**September 15, 2001 08:29PM**

Oh no! That's what this place is for ~ sharing feelings! 🙄) I only wanted you to see another side. I do agree with lots of what you have said. It is hard not to be mad after this.  
Thank you for being honest! I love reading others' thoughts~~~~"Pemberley-happy thought indeed!" 🙄)

Thanks, Kristen G. nfm  
Ree  
September 16, 2001 01:39AM

**No**  
**Captain Everett**  
**September 15, 2001 11:29PM**

You wrote of your thoughts and feelings, some were unpleasant. That's normal. What's important is that you saw that and apologized for it, rather than speaking or acting in a way that could cause harm.  
Jason E.

**Thanks to Cpt. Everett, Kristen G. and all of you...**

**Ree**

**September 16, 2001 01:55AM**

I will defer to others' assessment that it was right to have posted what I did. It was the way I felt, I felt the need to express it to other human beings -- to see whether I was normal, I suppose -- and I was alone, as my fiancée and confidante was stranded in L.A. Like so many times this week, I turned to Pemberley, and you did not let me down.

Thanks.

P.S. I see that my "regret" post looks very strange now, as the replies that prompted it have been removed.

**My own momentary lapse in composure..**

**Karen W.**

**September 16, 2001 08:06PM**

I too have to admit to a very strong violent impulse to whack a street preacher with my newspaper in central Brisbane yesterday, after I'd left a church service.. It has been an extremely tiring and stressful and lonely month, on top of the recent events. I have family stranded around Australia after a major airline company collapsed and my Dad is stranded in Jamaica. We are all trying so hard to get home for my brother's wedding next Sunday. I have never felt so far from family and friends and I so desperately want to see them again. The man was shouting about eternal hellfire when I really needed peace and tolerance. A few deep breaths and a quick walk away from him helped - but I feel really ashamed that I even came so close - and really immature - me hitting such a tall man would have looked pretty ridiculous. We are all so much on edge and learning to cope. People all around the world have been affected by these tragic events. I guess some of us are just coping in such different ways.

**Take a deep breath,**

**kathleen (elder)**

**September 16, 2001 08:33PM**

smile, and just say: (God) bless you, too.

Not that I always succeed in following my own advice, of course! But it helps if we remember that everyone is coping w/ life's stresses as best they can.

I do hope that your family will all be together soon. Let us know how the wedding goes.

Hugs.

=====

**I feel so ashamed**

**Daniela**

**September 15, 2001 01:42AM**

After so many of you thanked me (by proxy) for my Govt's decision to cancel our Independence festivities, it was announced yesterday that the last 5 days of the usual month long celebrations will

proceed.

I don't know exactly why, but I can only guess it's because of economical reasons.

I am so ashamed. That three minutes of silence observed yesterday is not enough.

**Malta**

**William L**

**September 15, 2001 08:11AM**

After so many of you thanked me (by proxy) for my Govt's decision to cancel our Independence festivities, it was announced yesterday that the last 5 days of the usual month long celebrations will proceed.

"I am so ashamed. That three minutes of silence observed yesterday is not enough."

Daniela dear, Don't be, not for you nor for your country. Only 5 days out of 30 is not much of a major celebration. And here in the US, the big sporting events will be proceeding next week.

There is no way I nor any other reasonable person could possibly think less of you because your government has made a decision that they must have been under intense pressure to make. I don't think less of them either--as is noted regularly, here in the US we are trying to get back to normal business.

Bill

**Seconded. Nfm**

**Anne P**

**September 15, 2001 08:29AM**

**There are many ways to celebrate**

**Natalie S**

**September 15, 2001 09:16AM**

Daniela, I think Independence is the one thing that SHOULD still be celebrated. It is wonderful to have seen the better side of mankind in all these past few days and we do appreciate it greatly. But, as an American, I don't mind at all that your country will celebrate independence. Just celebrate it with your true heart and real appreciation. Make it meaningful. That might, after all, be the best tribute to the lives lost.

**It IS most appropriate**

**Elizabeth S**

**September 15, 2001 03:26PM**

Another American, delurking, to beg you please not to feel ashamed...it breaks my heart even more.

I can't tell you how much the international love and support has meant to us. The pictures from around the world have soothed and comforted me immeasurably. I will look for pictures of your celebration and I am sure they will lift me up, too. Shorten, perhaps, but cancel altogether? It will not do.

If they were who we think, the perpetrators were trying to strike a blow against independence. Honoring and celebrating yours honors every soul who was lost, especially those lost within sight of our beautiful lady of liberty, who was, after all, a gift from another nation. The roll of the

lost is international, too. So it is most appropriate to show gratitude for liberty and pray for its peaceful spread around the world.

**Precisely  
Laraine  
September 15, 2001 06:00PM**

Elizabeth, you've said exactly how I feel--in celebrating its independence Malta is celebrating the spirit of both NYC and DC.  
Daniela, going forward is an important part of living. I hope you know that your friends here think you should be proud of your reactions to what happened--both yours and your country's.  
Look ahead. It's challenging to do that--a test of bravery, I think.

**thank you for always being so kind and understanding 😊\*nfm\*  
Daniela  
September 16, 2001 02:23AM**

**Well said! (nfm)  
Joan, too  
September 15, 2001 10:49PM**

**Blessings of ROP  
William L  
September 15, 2001 10:40PM**

I guess I was first to answer you on this, but now you see what others are saying to you. This place is loaded with good will and good sense. I am proud to be a friend of Daniela, and now a friend of Malta.  
From the meanest man at Pemberley

=====

**The Washington memorial - if you're still up...  
Joan, too  
September 15, 2001 02:23AM**

Someone asked (but I don't remember who) whether the service at the National Cathedral was going to be re-broadcast. If you're still up, FOX is rebroadcasting it as I type. The trouble this week is that there is no way to plan such viewing, since it's hard to find out when the stations are going to broadcast what.

=====

**Finding it hard to sleep....  
Ursula  
September 15, 2001 03:59AM**

Dear friends,

I didn't know if I should post this or not, but I decided I would anyway.

This place has become a balm for everybody in these last days, being directly hurt or not, and I thank you all for it!

I couldn't sleep the other night because I've had the situation in America in my head and watching CNN, I get really sad at some scenes. So this is the result...

All my love

Ursula

\* \* \*

New York had a worldwide famous view,  
alike it, most people knew only a few,  
now the sky looks so depressingly grim;  
where, oh where is each of the WTC twin?

They stood there tall and powerful,  
but days ago the view was still considered dull.  
Yet nobody will ever think of it that way -  
not after Evil forced all that steel to sway!

Still, let us forget about the famous scenery,  
complaining of material loss seems a blasphemy!  
Those steely frames breathed, were indeed alive,  
before they went down, hopelessly did they strive!

Only God knows reasons behind that killing might,  
who is to be saved and who to behold heavenly light!  
Nobody else could make the two lists in black and white,  
he will live and she may not - it's settled on the site!

And it's hardly in a mortal's position to interfere,  
though our prayer He sometimes decides to hear...  
So, pray, pray for more victims to be on the list TO LIVE;  
My promise to be a better man is the most I can give!

Why should the black list always be longer  
and why Death never tires of its constant hunger?  
We hope strongly we will be able to stop the violence,  
life is futile when living in fear and constant vigilance!

We promise NEVER to forget September 11 2001,  
for numbers of generations still to come.  
Let it not be a symbol of the end, though,  
but a reminder that friendship and peace are of pure gold!

**Beautiful, Ursa, thank you .... (NFM)**

**Sabine**

**September 15, 2001 04:23AM**



**amazing Ursula (nfm)**  
**Daniela**  
**September 15, 2001 04:42AM**

**Thank you, Ursa, this was beautiful... nfm**  
**Ulrike**  
**September 15, 2001 06:04AM**

**Peace**  
**Anne P**  
**September 15, 2001 06:41AM**

Ursula, that was lovely.

Thank you for your inspiring words (nfm)  
Elizabeth Cretaro  
September 15, 2001 07:37AM

**TKS Ursula nfm**  
**William L**  
**September 15, 2001 10:57AM**

**Thank you for a message of hope and peace nfm**  
**Vero**  
**09/16/2001 03:33PM**

=====

**Peace**  
**Anne P**  
**September 15, 2001 07:04AM**

You know, it's so lovely to see people concentrating on peace. In the UK and Ireland we've felt the anger, sadness and sheer terror that comes from bombs or losing people we love. So many innocent people have died here.

What all ordinary people (people like all of us here at Pemberley), all over the world, want to do is to live in peace with each other, raise their kids, travel safely and visit each other's countries in friendship. And that takes a miracle. And it's wonderful to see so many people praying for one.

In our church on Sunday, we will be singing the Battle Hymn of the Republic for you. But also I will be singing our remembrance day hymn to ask for peace for New York, for the dead, for the families and really for the whole world. So here are the words and if anyone wants to join in in spirit, it will be at about 9am GMT. (The first verse is really about armed forces, but I think counts for firefighters, ambulance workers, rescue workers etc too)

Words by John L. Bell, copyright the Iona Community, Glasgow.

What shall we pray for those who died  
Those on whose death our lives relied  
Silenced by war but not denied  
God give them peace

What shall we pray for those who mourn  
friendships and love, their fruit unborn?  
Though years have passed, hearts still are torn  
God give them peace  
What shall we pray for those who live  
tied to the past they can't forgive?  
Haunted by terrors they relive  
God give them peace  
What shall we pray for those who know  
nothing of war, and cannot show  
grief or regret for friend or foe  
God give them peace  
What shall we pray for those who fear  
war, in some guise, may reappear  
looking attractive and sincere?  
God give them peace  
God give us peace, and, more than this,  
show us the path where justice is;  
and let us never be remiss  
working for peace that lasts.

**Amen, Dear Heart. Love. Nfm**  
**Linda Fern**  
**September 15, 2001 10:51AM**

Wonderful...  
Ree  
September 15, 2001 04:34PM

...I hope it's in my church's hymnbook. I will check tomorrow, and ask if we might sing it one  
Sunday. Thank you so much, Anne.  
Love  
Ree

=====

**Sydney Olympics**  
**Lauren Rose**  
**September 15, 2001 07:14AM**

While I have not checked my calendar for an exact date, I am reminded by the television tonight that  
one year ago the world had come together in a peaceful community of sharing and friendship for the  
2000 Olympic Games. A TV station here tonight replayed the Opening Ceremony.  
It seems somehow like much more than a year ago. This last week alone could have been a lifetime for  
many of us.

=====

**Duty**

**William L**

**September 15, 2001 08:15AM**

A New York Fire Dept. battalion chief named John Moran is missing, and almost certainly dead. Two years ago, in a more normal fire, he performed heroic acts and was decorated for bravery. He said, "A firefighter performs one act of bravery in his career--when he takes the oath. After that everything is in the line of duty."

Requiescat in Pace, John Moran, and thank you for that statement.

**A special hymn - please read**

**Anne P**

**September 15, 2001 08:28AM**

William, you are quite right. In an earlier post I put a note with the words of the hymn my church will use on Sunday. The first verse is particularly relevant for the firefighters and other rescue and emergency services teams who died. My post is not meant to be in any way political - just a heartfelt prayer.

**Just read it**

**William L**

**September 15, 2001 10:55AM**

The first verse is particularly relevant for the firefighters and other rescue and emergency services teams who died. My post is not meant to be in any way political - just a heartfelt prayer.

Thank you, Anne

Bill

=====

**patriotic songs/lyrics**

**AnneM**

**September 15, 2001 09:13AM**

here is a list of songs and lyrics - I can't remember all the words to these.

Anne

=====

**Harvest wishes**

**gkb**

**September 15, 2001 09:56AM**

Today is the first day of the ancient Eleusinian mysteries that originated in Greece. It was a rite of Persephone descending into the underworld to search for her lost daughter. There were many meanings, some of which are lost to history, but in part it was the mystery of the harvest, of death and life together. On this special day, please allow me to thank all the nations who have spoken here and to

wish for everyone a harvest of great good.  
Blessings,  
G.Kay B.

Thanks! you too! NFM  
BarbaraK  
September 16, 2001 05:38PM

=====

Thoughts from abroad.  
JulieW  
September 15, 2001 11:34AM

My husbands great friend- a headmaster in Bradford, Yorkshire has just phoned. At the football match this afternoon there was a minutes silence and the Star Spangled Banner was sung live by a soprano. This is quite poignant as Bradford football ground suffered its own tragedy a few years back with a terrible fire taht killed many of its supporters. So tis not surprising they sympathise in these terrible times.

A friend of mine on holiday in York has just phoned to say she attended the memorial servie inYork to day- and taht it was a tremendously moving expereince. If any of you ahve been to teh Minster- Debra R I think you ahve- you can imagine .

And last night at choir practice my little girl learned the "Battle Hymn of the Republic- for our service in our church( which two of you at least have seen) in our lttle village.I will be threr.A collection is to be made.As we are connected to the USA quite strongly in this county- our Boston was the original , you know!- it seems very appropriate tthat the Churches are helping out.

And to those who feel guilty about enjoying yourself at the moment.Consider this.I discussed this with my mother - a 76 year old who lived her formative years throughout the Second World War in Birmingham- yes- close to COventry and you can imagine jsut how it was bombed.

She said taht at the start of that conflict every entertainment was closed down as many thouht it innappropriate.And then everyone got so demoralised - they had to reopen things quickly.She has sat through "Gone With The Wind" in a bombing raid as she wanted to see just wat ahppended at the end! So- what I am saying is- as she put it-life is for living, and there is a time to grieve but also a time to be happy and rejoice- otherwise the enemy ,whoever they may be,has won.

THinking of you all lots.

Love from  
Julie W

Adding my thoughts from abroad  
Kate2  
September 15, 2001 12:10PM

Those of us in Europe, and perhaps especially the UK who have had to live with the threat or with the real consequences of terrorism for some time past will agree, I'm sure, that the very best reply to the men of violence, of whatever denomination, is to send a clear message that they haven't cowed you into hiding, or broken your spirit.This is best achieved by determinedly carrying on with life as nearly normally as possible. So open the stores and schools and theatres,

play your sporting fixtures, let the kids have their birthday parties and let THEM know;  
"It's business as usual"!

**My response to the events...**

**Stacy Lynn**

**September 15, 2001 12:46PM**

For me, it isn't being afraid or having my spirit broken. I can't help but think that there should be a period of mourning before I begin to go out and enjoy myself - it feels too disrespectful to the thousands who have died or lie injured or for the families of those victims to simply get back to "business as usual." It doesn't matter that I don't know any of these people personally - what happened was so horrific that those who were victims deserve that time from the rest of us to pay respect to their lives. At least that's how I feel - and I know that not everyone deals with this in the same way so everyone has to do what they feel is best.

I am getting together with friends tonight, though part of me doesn't want to - it feels a little like taking what's happened and "forgetting about it" and I just don't feel right about that. *sighs*

**Your feelings are very normal**

**AnnPac**

**September 15, 2001 01:35PM**

However, in my case it may be the stubbornness of advancing age that makes me determined not to let terrorists have the psychological win that they are so determined to have over our way of life. Once I tear myself away from news reports (and my window overlooking midtown Manhattan) and get out and back to my routine, I find it life affirming. Sometimes we can only make small symbolic gestures like attending prayer services, contributing to the funds that are set up for the families of the victims, displaying flags and lighting candles etc. but that is good. Maybe we are crazy, but my friend is now making her way into Manhattan from an outer borough so we can keep the RoP tea date we made. It is impossible for most of the people to make it but the appointment will be kept and that is also good.

**Perhaps...**

**Sabrina**

**September 15, 2001 02:14PM**

....we have a responsibility, not only to remember those whose lives were lost, but to remember and celebrate how precious life is. Go out in the sunshine today, see a friend, read a good book, listen to music. Remember how fortunate we are to be here to enjoy these things. My thoughts are with you all today.  
S.

**The services from DC and London helped**

**Inko**

**September 15, 2001 03:41PM**

After three days in a sort of shock -- couldn't tear myself away from TV -- I found yesterday's services really helpful. I watched the one from National Cathedral here in DC and then late at night C-Span showed the service from St. Paul's. Somehow, it was comforting to know that the entire civilized world (and I say civilized advisedly!) is with the US and is equally shocked. Thanks for your account, Julie.  
Inko

**Read some Austen, honey**

**Laraine**

**September 15, 2001 05:40PM**

After three days in a sort of shock -- couldn't tear myself away from TV --  
I have found it relieving to take some breaks from TV and other coverage. I took up S&S and it's given me some steadying peace.  
My thoughts are certainly with all of my friends from DC and NYC.

**More thoughts from abroad and all my sympathies**

**Nina**

**September 15, 2001 08:33PM**

First of all, I want to say that I am so sorry for everyone who has lost a family member or a friend, and for USA in general. There is no way that I can understand how it must feel, nor any good way to express sympathy

=====

**My ex-aunt's WTC experience...**

**The Mysterious H.C.**

**September 15, 2001 02:31PM**

The following was written by my uncle's ex-wife Ellen (she decided to get a medical degree in middle age) to her step-daughter (my cousin) after a day spent as a medical volunteer.

\*\*\*\*\*

From: Ellen

Date: Fri, 14 Sep 2001 10:55:32 +0100

To: katie & richie

Subject: Re: wednesday in NY

Dear Katie,

There are people in my apartment building (whom i know only in passing, but of course have they have other close relationships with other tenants here) who work at the World Trade Center. One woman, Rebecca, worked on the 103rd floor of Tower 2. There seems little hope that she survived this hideous tragedy. There are folks here trying to get information and out about her to the appropriate rescue person.

And today (Thurs.) i heard of another beautiful woman, Angela, who lives on My floor and whom i do not know well. What i do know about her is through my interactions with her because she's active and

involved with co-op board issues; always interested in and sensitive to others. She really cared about and loved us all. No one has heard word of her yet.

Early Thursday:

I just came back from "ground zero." Worked volunteer as part of the medical team. A neighbor organized a food drive and got several supermarkets, a truck and for transportation on a ferry from New Jersey to Wall street. This is 2 or 3 blocks from the site of the WTC. So i went with the food on the ferry to Manhattan and was able to work as a volunteer - mostly flushing grit out of the eyes of firefighters and rescue workers, giving TLC. There were about 10 doctors, 15 nurses, many EMT folks working in these 2 on-site triage areas set up under the entrance way to Number Two World Trade Center (a sign that hung, eerie, dust covered overhead) one for eye injury, one for surgery. There were gurneys, oxygen stations, the lobby filled with supplies, clean underwear, shirts, towels, medication and medical supplies.

The scene on arrival was surreal. smoke from debris and fires continues to rise from the vast, twisted rubble. Visible are bare frames of walls, twisted metal, glassless windows arching over huge pile of metal beams - dust and ash covers everything. The poetically beautiful blue sky shows through the blown out windows; the effect of the smoke, orange, beige, gray, black makes it look like a futuristic film set. You know, those disaster films or stage sets of what cities would look like after WWII. There were rescue dogs, cadaver dogs, police, volunteers, food and water supply stations and volunteer carrying around boxes of food and water to the workers coming in and out of the carnage.

Lots of police, rescue support staff present. An infrequent procession of bodies (some probably only parts) carried out of rubble from on orange plastic stretchers all day and night. I quickly found out where the "morgue" was. in the building next to where we located. I later found out this was the American Express building. This scene was counterpointed by two giant backhoes lifting and moving piles of debris - plaster, metal, dust, ash covered unidentifiable machinery, equipment onto containers on block- long flatbed trucks.

A rescue worker, who's an engineer said that he could smell the beginnings of human decay. But there is serious belief that there are still some survivors in pockets. At about 8:30 p.m. there was rumor that a dog had signals of life from a Mound of metal. Everyone surged forward to watch the rescue effort. People held their breath and the tension was palpable. Men with picks were digging; Earthmovers assisting. there was no one alive was found at that time.

One of the docs asked me to find a pad, pen so they could keep track of people treated and what was done for them. Ironical that in 257 collapsed floors of office building: no writing pads. (later, a volunteer with a Scientology "tee shirt" found one for us.)

During one of the periodic cleanings up of empty medical containers, debris and litter around the medical staging center, i found a pair of reading glasses. I think that my process of thought demonstrated here validated the shock we're all under. My first thought was, oh, someone lost her glasses. But of course my instinctive reaction was to look around for this "someone" because s/he was likely to have been in the vicinity and the glasses could be returned. I showed them to a fellow health worker, and she looked forlorn and sad. and then.. oh, yes, I thought. indeed these glasses will have belonged to someone. perhaps a survivor, perhaps not. In that moment i felt nauseous. the horror of the tragic event became prescient; chillingly and personally gruesome. There was no place to put them. i guess i stuck them in my backpack so they would not get lost or damaged. when i got home i found that they were still with me. Naturally they will be returned to whatever forensic center they need to go to. Face masks and filters were in constant and great demand. But the heavy rubber masks that were delivered for eyes and nose had screw in filters that didn't fit - were for different models, i guess. so we were taping them into place for the fire people/ rescue team with medical, paper adhesive tape. it was an assembly line operation done quickly so the workers could get quickly back into the "mine."

The ophthalmologist, Alexander Moloskevich (?) with whom i was working was talking about how

amazed he was at becoming inured to the smell, the circumstances, and the immense scope and experience of the day. You just keep going and doing and seeing who needs help what they need and giving what care, solace, energy, help you can to those in the crucible.

I was able to work there for about 12 hours. What seemed to be most gratefully received was going around to the weary, resting men in groups, sitting in chairs or on rubble and asking them if they wanted their eyes flushed with a saline wash, food, water. It was all accessible and just needed to be directed to where it was needed.

These men (mostly) of all ages, races, ragged with fatigue and anguish (for many of their colleagues were missing or dead). In a group of 5 or 6 the reaction to my query at first was: "no, thank you. i'm fine." A kind of stoicism or a denial of how bad their eyes really did feel. i'd make eye contact with each person and assess, if i could, the level of care that each might need. Ultimately, as a rule, one of the group would nod or say, "OK," and i would first ask if he/she felt that there was something in the eye besides grit. (If there was, I took him to the staging area where the docs were doing a procedure to remove the object or give a special flush aimed at healing the abrasion. This was a procedure that i'd learned in the ER in Oakland during my rotation there in 1998. So i was able to re-learn it here under very different, "battle ground" conditions.)

So out in the "field" after treating the first brave soul in the group and he acknowledged how great it felt, the rest quickly changed their minds and I had a slew of converts. (I started to carry pocketful of Tootsie rolls" and give one to each firefighter after the procedure) Their reaction was really cute. Some said they only agreed to the eye flush just to get the Tootsie roll! I think that their initial fear was of having something in their eyes -- some acknowledged that. But eventually the rewards outweighed the anxiety.

Everyone was so appreciative and effusive in their thanks and appreciation. It was humbling. It was THEY who were the heroes, the supremely strong willing combatants. and they were thanking ME?

All night drug store: After midnight, a nurse who said that she was going to get some supplies returned from a shopping expedition to a store a few blocks away. She was excited to have found a 24-hour pharmacy and was able to get what was needed: a box of kleenex, tampons, flashlight batteries, a few supplies. Where did you find a store open at this hour? I naively asked. "Well, the door was blown off. I hope they don't mind making this donation." Then a FEMA engineer appeared about 3 AM and said that they were evacuating the triage area to a few blocks away; the area was unsafe.

The creepiest feeling was confronted after i decided to go home. Thought i'd search out the bathroom. (all day long i'd been directing folks when they asked where it was, but i hadn't actually ventured deep inside the WTC. The beautiful atrium over the (i guess Merrill Lynch company) the damaged turnstiles, up the tile stairs with paper, wood, metal scraps, dust and ash strewn stairs to the mezzanine floor.

Down a corridor, air circulating with particulate matter, men standing in at window frames figuring out how to move enormous pieces of building structural elements; how to shore up base structures to assist in rescue/removal.

I had a flashlight, but there were some lights rigged along the walls for the guys working. I was directed to the third floor. Up a long, wide flight of stairs to a completely deserted, destroyed health club. The massage rooms with tables, gym equipment, all surfaces that were still in place covered with this beige dust, grit, ash combination. i found the bathroom. Large, high ceilings with huge walls of white towels that were seemingly protected from dirt by their shelf arrangement. The plumbing wasn't working, of course. But by this time my breathing apparatus (even though i was consistent about wearing a face mask - and even changed it once or twice during the shift) was acclimated to the particulate crap in the air and camouflaged the odors that were probably there.

The Wall Street ferry ran all night. i'd just missed one at about 3 AM. A little later 3 fire fighters and an engineer showed up to catch the next ferry too. I asked them if they wanted their "eyes flushed," a neck rub. All 3 were very anxious to have their eyes attended to; one wanted a neck rub. I still had my 60-ml



syringe with saline so i could oblige. That was lucky.

On the Jersey side, the "support" that i was told was there was by way of a coordinating office on the 11th floor. They said that if they couldn't get me a ride home, there was bedding there. I think some workers, DPs were bedding down there - anywhere. I saw a "police tee-shirted" man changing his shoes at his car across the street and asked him if he were going up toward West New York. (Guttenberg, where i live is about 3 blocks long, so not many have heard of it.) In fact he was going "right past it, if 'use' want a ride." Turns out that he did indeed know of Guttenberg: his grandparents used to live right across the street from this building.

What an experience. Dr. Alex had told some first year medical students who had come to help out, that for them this experience "was like a fellowship." If he meant "a baptism of fire," i'd heartily agree.

As a complete afterthought unfortunately. I took my medical board exam on Tuesday. On my first break at about 10 AM, a woman in the bathroom was in tears. She told me that someone had flown an airplane into the trade center tower. Back in the exam office they told me about the other tower. Unbelievable. Just try to put that out of your mind.

love, Ellie

**Amazing eyewitness account, HC**

**Deborah Jane**

**September 15, 2001 04:34PM**

I've sent it on to some other people. Thanks for sharing it with us.

**Thanks, thanks, thanks**

**Laraine**

**September 15, 2001 05:52PM**

It was amazing to read this, Henry. It was deeply moving without trying to be dramatic or emotional.

I appreciated the opportunity to see it.

**Thanks Henry. I agree.**

**Ann2**

**September 16, 2001 09:35AM**

... this is a piece of plain reality that makes you think and feel.

Hope you don't mind if I pass it on to other Swedes.

**Thanks for sharing, Henry...**

**Linda Fern**

**September 15, 2001 07:51PM**

...a personal experience makes it seem so realistic that it is scary all over again.

Love from Linda

**Tootsie rolls and & "donations"**  
**Leonore**  
**September 15, 2001 10:27PM**

Thanks, Henry! I love the stories about the Tootsie rolls and the "donations" from the pharmacy with the missing door. I hope you won't think I'm ghoulish for smiling a little.

=====

**A Tribute to America**  
**Lura**  
**September 15, 2001 05:18PM**

I received this through email from one of my friends. I appreciated it and the true care with which it was written. I know that all of you not from the USA are praying for us, and I thank you for it, my love for you all has increased as I've read the messages posted here. Thankyou.

subject: A TRIBUTE TO THE UNITED STATES

We should appreciate this one. This, from a Canadian newspaper, is worth sharing.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNITED STATES

America: The Good Neighbor.

Widespread but only partial news coverage was given recently to a remarkable editorial broadcast from Toronto by Gordon Sinclair, a

Canadian television commentator. What follows is the full text of his trenchant remarks as printed in the Congressional Record: "This Canadian thinks it is time to speak up for the Americans as the most generous and possibly the least appreciated people on all the earth. Germany, Japan and, to a lesser extent, Britain and Italy were lifted out of the debris of war by the Americans who poured in billions of dollars and forgave other billions in debts. None of these countries is today paying even the interest on its remaining debts to the United States.

When France was in danger of collapsing in 1956, it was the Americans who propped it up, and their reward was to be insulted and swindled on the streets of Paris. I was there. I saw it.

When earthquakes hit distant cities, it is the United States that hurries in to help. This spring, 59 American communities were flattened by tornadoes. Nobody helped.

The Marshall Plan and the Truman Policy pumped billions of dollars into discouraged countries. Now newspapers in those countries are writing about the decadent, warmongering Americans.

I'd like to see just one of those countries that is gloating over the erosion of the United States dollar build its own airplane.

Does any other country in the world have a plane to equal the Boeing Jumbo Jet, the Lockheed Tri-Star, or the Douglas DC10? If so, why don't they fly them? Why do all the International lines except Russia fly American Planes?

Why does no other land on earth even consider putting a man or woman on the moon? You talk about Japanese technocracy, and you get radios. You talk about German technocracy, and you get automobiles. You talk about American technocracy, and you find men on the moon- not once, but several times-and safely home again. You talk about scandals, and the Americans put theirs right in the store window for everybody to look at.

Even their draft-dodgers are not pursued and hounded. They are here on our streets, and most of them, unless they are breaking Canadian laws, are getting American dollars from ma and pa at home to spend here.

When the railways of France, Germany and India were breaking down through age, it was the Americans who rebuilt them. When the Pennsylvania Railroad and the New York Central went broke, nobody loaned them an old caboose. Both are still broke. I can name you 5,000 times when the Americans raced to the help of other people in trouble. Can you name me even one time when someone else raced to the Americans in trouble? I don't think there was outside help even during the San Francisco earthquake. Our neighbors have faced it alone, and I'm one Canadian who is damned tired of hearing them get kicked around. They will come out of this thing with their flag high. And when they do, they are entitled to thumb their nose at the lands that are gloating over their present troubles. I hope Canada is not one of those."

Stand proud, America!

This is one of the best editorials that I have ever read regarding the United States. It is nice that one man realizes it. I only wish that the rest of the world would realize it. We are seem to be blamed for everything, and don't get a thank you for the things we do. I would hope that each of you would send this to as many people as you can and emphasize that they should send it to as many of their friends until this letter is sent to every person on the web. I am just a single American that has read this, I SURE HOPE THAT A LOT MORE READ IT SOON. Makes you proud to live here doesn't it??

THANKS,

**I'm sorry to say this..**

**Daniela**

**09/15/2001 05:20PM**

but I do find this article offensive.  
Sorry.

**Hold on--this is almost 30 years old**

**Laraine**

**September 15, 2001 05:33PM**

This article was written in June of 1973 in the wake of the Vietnam war and the recession that troubled the US after we pulled out.

Its reference to walking on the moon was reasonably timely, considering that the moon walks had occurred pretty recently (the first one was 4 years before the article).

Gordon Sinclair died in 1984.

This article has been floating around in email for the last 5 days, and I've been trying to let everyone who sends it to me know that it is NOT contemporary.

**JA's answer**

**gkb**

**September 15, 2001 06:18PM**

got that one in email too. With some difficulty, I restrained myself from sending this in reply:

"Elinor thought it wisest to make no answer to this, lest they might provoke

each other to an unsuitable increase of ease and unreserve, and was even partly determined never to mention the subject again."

**I'm sorry if I over reacted...**

**Daniela**

**September 16, 2001 02:20AM**

but it really worried me to think that Americans were being encouraged just by putting down the rest of the world. It is really not the right attitude with which to react, that's all.

I had received this email already and unfortunately I reacted the same way (but was typically Maltese about it...ie not diplomatic), and I probably lost a friend because. I don't want this to happen here too!

**Relax**

**gkb**

**September 16, 2001 08:46AM**

I sort of took the editorial with a grain of salt because I had seen it some time ago. When I read it more closely, I realized how defensive it sounded. But editorials are designed to persuade, and the times were quite different when it was written.

But then--when I compared it to the overwhelming outpouring of shock, support and concern from citizens all around the world, I got a bit testy. I'm awfully good at being crabby, I'm afraid. I hope neither you nor Lura feels personally criticized. I meant to deflate the potential for conflict with a bit of humor from JA.

What impressed me most was how simple, direct honesty helped resolve the tension without any meddling from an old grouch like me.

I need to breathe deeply and relax more. \*big sigh\*

**Exactly.**

**Janette K**

**September 15, 2001 06:30PM**

I received this in the e-mail from that friend (we all have one) who forwards everything that gets sent around by people who forward everything that gets sent around. I replied to the group she mailed it to that, given the wonderful and heartwarming solidarity our Canadian and European (not to mention Mexican, South American, Australian, Asian, and African) friends have shown with the U.S. this week, the complaining tone about everybody being against us is pretty inappropriate.

The next day our local paper (The Bellingham Herald) published it on their editorial page. Can you believe that at a time like this they'd publish e-mail spam as commentary? That one I did not write a letter about because I was under a

deadline for work, but I was embarrassed for them. They had at least done enough checking to realize the piece was written in 1973 and put that in an intro.

What I say is Thank You, Canada, for receiving our international flights on the day of disaster. Thank you friends around the world for mourning with those who mourn. Your thoughts and prayers are felt and appreciated in the U.S.

**I'm sorry**

**Lura**

**September 15, 2001 06:00PM**

I apologize, I didn't mean to offend anyone. As pointed out by Laraine, it's not contemporary. I suppose what I was trying to pass along was that everyone around the world has been so wonderful in our 'hour of need' so to speak, and I am very thankful for that.

**We're sure you didn't**

**Laraine**

**September 15, 2001 06:56PM**

What people have said to me they respond to about this article right now is that sense that the US has international support. It also says that the US should get more credit than it often does for reaching out to others in need.

My first copy of this came last Tuesday, and before noon CST. The world had not come out so very, very, very strongly in support yet. People were feeling attacked and defensive. So this article that comes to the defense of the nation felt good to read--somewhat vindicating.

I'm certain you didn't mean to offend. You were one of thousands of people who read this and forwarded it--as Janette said, her paper printed it without researching. Let's start an equally strong campaign to respond to everyone who sends it to one of us that tells them this is not exactly what they think it is--OK?

**I got that email too**

**Anne P**

**September 16, 2001 02:55AM**

Lura, don't worry that you sent it. However it's as well to remember that others may not agree with its sentiments. The US has just had a dreadful shock - its first real brush with terrorism. There are many people around the world who live with it daily, (we have our share in the UK) and who therefore know exactly how you all feel from their own personal experience. If the writer had ever been near a terrorist bomb (I've been near three), I'm quite sure he wouldn't write something like that.

We also know how much damage those kind of sentiments - which are born of the shock of the moment - can cause. So don't you feel bad.

=====

**AbbeyW - about donations for the search dog teams...**

**Liz M**

**September 15, 2001 06:03PM**

Messages are moving down the board at an amazing rate, and I thought you might miss this if I posted a reponse to your previous message.

I imagine the donations are used for supplies for both the human and dog halves of the K9 teams.

However, in this case maybe the dogs are getting priority since the people might be able to get supplies from the Red Cross? If you're concerned about how your money would be used, you could call the groups to ask what it's being spent on.

One group that is collecting donations for the K9 search & rescue teams is the National Disaster Search Dog Foundation ([www.ndsdf.org](http://www.ndsdf.org)). You can also find more information at the websites for the National Association for Search and Rescue ([www.nasar.org](http://www.nasar.org)) and FEMA, which is coordinating the SAR efforts ([www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)).

The searchers who have been hard at work since Tuesday have my highest admiration, and I wish them the very best for a successful result from their efforts!

**Money is used for supplies**

**Maisy**

**September 16, 2001 08:03AM**

Specifically, the k9 units were in great immediate need of: dog food, dog boots, (to protect thier feet from heat and cuts) can openers for the food. Also, the animals become stressed more easily than humans, and need transportation and a place to rest and recover.

**Thank you! 😊**

**AbbeyW**

**September 17, 2001 01:32AM**

I'll check those sites out...I agree with this sentiment. It's really difficult and expensive to get dogs certified in the first place, and hard to gather the necessary equipment without sponsorship of some sort.

=====

**Airplanes**

**Jezkalyn**

**September 15, 2001 09:20PM**

Most of the time, we put my son to bed at 8 and he will sleep thru until 6am or so. Last night he woke up every two hours. We have been watching the non-stop coverage for days. I am afraid that this has affected my son because every time he woke up last night, he wasn't hungry, he didn't need a change, he wasn't hot, he wasn't cold. He just needed comfort from the troubling feelings permeating our humble abode. So, today, I decided to pack the diaper bag and head out to a local park for a walk.

As I was sitting on the grass with him, I realized that there were planes flying overhead at the rate of about 1 per 5-10 minutes. We live near Newark airport on a take-off flight pattern. It has been so quiet around here lately with the airports closed. This was one of the things I had to adjust to when we moved into our current apartment. I hated all the noise. I noticed the silence when they were silenced. I

enjoyed it. Then, two days ago, I heard my first military helicopter and a couple of fighter jets fly overhead. I began to think that I would actually be very happy to start hearing commercial flights again. Today I did.

I will never take normalcy for granted again.

**Amen. None of us ever shall. NFM**

**Maisy**

**September 15, 2001 10:11PM**

**Everything is different**

**Barbara**

**September 15, 2001 10:23PM**

I do believe kids pick up on these feelings--they must. My two definitely sensed the stress around here on Tuesday.

Working late on the computer Thurs. night, I heard a plane fly overhead--which I probably noticed because of the silence in the previous few days. We are not really in a flight path, but near enough to the international airport that planes are quite low over our house. Immediately after the plane, I heard some sirens. I suddenly felt very anxious--and immediately tried to tell myself not to be so ridiculous, it couldn't be... etc. But who can feel complacent like that again now? We are in a city that has a large number of important oil refineries. It's possible...

**Surrounded by planes.**

**Brooke E**

**September 16, 2001 04:34AM**

I live below the approach path for the Santa Monica Airport in LA and I also live close enough to LAX to hear and see the planes. I thought that the silence without the planes was very eerie, and I was very surprised to hear planes and helicopters coming into the smaller Santa Monica Airport as early as Tuesday night. I don't know if their purposes involved New York and Washington or the great fires that are raging in the Northwest, but I knew that their purpose must be serious. I was very happy, though, when I was out and about yesterday (Friday) and I saw several planes coming into and leaving LAX - so many more than I ever thought there could be so soon. As I was watching these planes, so happy that they were there, I also couldn't help but imagine one of them turning off course, and it was frightening to have that visual. I have also noticed that the planes tend to be staying lower. For someone who is afraid of planes crashing into my house anyway (this has happened twice since I've lived here - once less than one block away), this is an added stress I could really do without, especially since I have become so sensitive to noise this past week.

**Similar here**

**SueR**

**September 17, 2001 05:43AM**

I live below the approach path for the Santa Monica Airport  
And I live near the flight path into Heathrow. Obviously not all flights stopped, but trans-atlantic makes up a good proportion and there have been noticeably

fewer planes. Also they have been coming in the "wrong" direction. Normally many come in east-west flying across London (you can often see a string of planes lined up ready to land). The last week flights over central London were banned so the planes were coming S-N. Might seem insignificant, but when you look up and notice it is a reminder....

**The sounds of silence**  
**kathleen (elder)**  
**September 15, 2001 10:47PM**

My (non-Pemberley) friends in the Boston area live close to the airport. They are along one of the major approach paths, and it's usually very noisy at their house. This week they have felt guilty about enjoying the silence. I also suspect it will take them a while to get used to any plane which appears to be coming in a little too low.

=====

**An American in London**  
**Inko**  
**September 15, 2001 10:49PM**

My daughter sent me this link today. It's an interesting first hand account of the service at St. Paul's.  
[[www.digitalbuyingguide.com](http://www.digitalbuyingguide.com)]

**Very moving**  
**kathleen (elder)**  
**September 15, 2001 11:03PM**

Thanks for the link.

**{{Inko}}**  
**Ann2**  
**September 16, 2001 09:28AM**

From me too. Take care both of you.

**Yes, very! Thanks for sharing! Love. Nfm**  
**Linda Fern**  
**September 16, 2001 07:23PM**

**Just when I think I'm done crying...**  
**Cheryl**  
**September 15, 2001 11:12PM**

Thank you for this, Inko. It was wonderfully done. Who wrote this? I didn't see any attribution.



**Oh, yes**  
**Debra R**  
**September 16, 2001 08:35PM**

How many tears can there be in the world?

**Dearest**  
**Cheryl**  
**September 16, 2001 10:57PM**

The number appears to be legion, doesn't it?  
Been thinking about you and your community quite a lot. \*samooch\*

**Another American in London**  
**Maisy**  
**September 16, 2001 07:56AM**

I have e-mailed the link to friends whose daughter moved to London this year. Since her marriage to an English citizen last spring, she too is "an American in London."  
(The pictures brought tears to my eyes.)

**I was fine until that last picture. Nfm**  
**Jezkalyn**  
**September 16, 2001 09:02AM**

**A powerful account and images**  
**Sansanee**  
**September 16, 2001 11:27AM**

Just when I think I have it together, out come the tissues. A moving account and I am again touched by the response other nations have made for our loss here.

**Thank you...**  
**Lynn**  
**September 16, 2001 02:43PM**

I will be sending this to a British friend of mine who lives in the US. I want her to know that we Americans appreciate the British people.  
Thank you for sharing it.

**Thank you very much. I sent it...**  
**PeggyS**  
**September 16, 2001 08:56PM**

...to my daughter-in-law who lived in England for 10 of her school years and to one of my sons who did a semester of college in London and managed to stay on for the summer with a (non-paying) job working for a member of parliament.  
I hope you don't mind my sharing. I was sure it would mean a lot to them to read it.

Peggy who sends you:

"There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it."

Edith Wharton

=====

### **Good things today?**

**Ree**

**September 16, 2001 02:33AM**

I know that many Pemberleans are struggling with very difficult crosses to bear -- loss of friends, being displaced, shaken, confused, pained, afraid. I hope that they will not take it amiss that I list a few things that were good today, though some are trivial in the grand scheme of things, and I hope the list may be in the very least bit comforting. I hope others may add to my list.

The light of my life returned safely from L.A.

An absolutely perfect Jonagold apple, as crisp as can be, not too sweet (not an easy find)

Spotted a villain in Agatha Christie's "Third Girl" before the illustrious Poirot explained it

Dvorzak's String Serenade in E major op. 22

Pemberley



**nfm**

**Daniela**

**September 16, 2001 02:42AM**

### **Wonderful things!**

**Brooke E**

**September 16, 2001 03:46AM**

I think this is a wonderful thing to start. Maybe we can keep it going and raise peoples' spirits at least a little.

Positive things:

1. My nightly bowl of Haagen-Dasz coffee ice cream with Pepperidge Farm Geneva cookies and a cup of tea.
2. Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" - I'm not sure why I heard this. I was asleep and it was on in the other room, but it has always moved me.
3. My cat who sleeps on my bed.
4. All of the airplanes I can see taking off and landing safely from LAX. (Never thought all that noise would be a welcome part of my days!)
5. All the books on my shelves.

### **Yes, let's continue this...**

**Linnea A**

**September 16, 2001 04:30AM**

1. Two days ago, my temp job was finally changed into a permanent position after almost three years.
2. My two cats -- one of whom is on my lap as I type.
3. My sister is having a baby in January.

4. Mahler's 8th symphony.

5. All the proofs of friendship I have received lately.

When you are really hurting, other people's joy doesn't do anything to help you; but if that's how you feel, please know we aren't doing this to flaunt our happiness... just to inspire others to find and share their sources of joy and comfort in the middle of this horror.

**My good things today...**

**Jo Keenan**

**September 16, 2001 07:00AM**

1. It's Sunday - I slept in until 9.30am
2. I had breakfast with the love of my life
3. I saw a Claude Monet & Japan painting exhibition
4. Beautiful, sunny, spring weather here in my great country, Australia
5. I took an afternoon nap ;-)

**Good things**

**Deborah Jane**

**September 16, 2001 09:15AM**

1. Weeded my garden - a useful and very relieving thing to do - a sense that I cleaned up one tiny little patch of our planet.
2. Communications media - talked with many friends and family not reached previously during this crisis; shared pain and ideas with friends via the internet.
3. The stars in the sky - sat outside last night and marvelled at our universe and our place in it.
4. The felicity of a good marriage - spent day and evening doing little chores and listening to music together.
5. The world's fattest cat :-)

**Contgratulations**

**Captain Everett**

**September 16, 2001 08:07AM**

"Two days ago, my temp job was finally changed into a permanent position after almost three years."

Twenty-three months for me, and still waiting [and occasionally cursing under my breath ;-)].

I remain,

Jason E.

**Thankyou!**

**Linnea A**

**September 17, 2001 03:26AM**

It is sooo frustrating, isn't it. Hang in there -- I hope you'll get it soon...

Best,

-Linn

**Good things today**

**Geertje**

**September 16, 2001 02:04PM**

1. I finally saw my favourite cousin again. She is mentally handicapped and we went to the zoo
  2. I baked an applepie
  3. I had a JA dream; I was in JA's Emma
- Great day!

**Counting my little blessings...**

**Anne Frances**

**September 16, 2001 04:12PM**

1. I got to sleep in.
  2. The weather is gorgeous.
  3. Watched 1999 version of "A Midsummer Night's Dream"
  4. Copland's "El Salon Mexico".
  5. I downloaded a P&P2 screensaver and lots of Austen-related photos for wallpaper on my new pc!
- What a great idea!
- Anne Frances

**My good things today**

**Maisy**

**September 16, 2001 05:55PM**

Brunch with my husband and our son.

Lots of hugs from both.

My friend's daughter is coming home from NYC for a weekend of TLC.(she works 4 blocks from "Ground Zero." 😊)

I found a treasured memento among my mother's belongings.

**my good things**

**MelodyAnn**

**September 16, 2001 09:46PM**

Having dinner with my family and members of my church and knowing we're all safe and together. The love and patience of my wonderful boyfriend. Watching wonderful movies until very late with my friends. Laughing. Being outside in the sun. Fleetwood Mac's "Rhiannon".

**Lots of things...**

**Rachie**

**September 17, 2001 03:06AM**

I gave blood for the first time today, and felt really good about myself afterwards (also laughed at my really tough looking friend who needed a local and couldn't watch the needle go in!!).  
Got my history speech over and done with and got full marks!  
Finished reading Our Mutual Friend (which I suppose is also sort of sad!)  
Played "Jupiter" in school orchestra and it sounded really nice  
It's nearly the end of term (yay!) and when I come back we start studying PP2 in English!!!  
:-)

**Well**

**Buba**

**September 17, 2001 05:52AM**

- 1)Meeting friends
  - 2)Fantastic weather
  - 3)Being here
  - 4)Going to bookstores
- It is very good to be able to enjoy such little pleasures !  
My best wishes to all of you !

=====

**The Last Night of the Proms**

**Kate2**

**September 16, 2001 07:01AM**

This event which is usually a noisy celebration of the ending of the BBC Proms season and an excuse for patriotic partying was a sober affair this year. Most of the traditional songs and music which are usually accompanied by hearty communal singing, flag-waving and ballooon-bursting were replaced by sober and reflective pieces more appropriate to the popular mood. Finally, the finale to Beethoven's 9th and last of all "Jerusalem", a beautiful English song envisaging a perfect world. The concert began with the playing of the British and American national anthems, and a short and moving speech by the orchestra's American conductor.

**Rule Britannia**

**Anne P**

**September 16, 2001 08:49AM**

Yes, it was brilliantly handled wasn't it?  
I'd just like to share an experience I had:  
1995 was the 50th anniversary of the end of the 2nd world war. By chance it was our local Round Table's turn to host a meeting of Tablers and partners from all over Europe. That happened in the middle of all the events celebrating 50 years of peace and looking back reflectively to the end of the war.  
We had a big dinner/dance for 300 people, at which each Round Table had to do an

entertainment. Since we were hosting, ours was last and I was asked to sing 'Rule Britannia'. I was very worried about this because the song is very jingoistic, and I didn't want it to be misinterpreted, although of course the last night of the proms is broadcast and enjoyed all over the world. But I was assured that it would be fine.

And you know what? I went out there clad in long white frock, papier mache helmet and Round Table shield and sang my heart out. We had all 300 people joining in the choruses on their feet - and it was the most amazing occasion. People from all the other countries still talk about it and certainly no one took offence.

And in that audience we had the children of British, German, French, Dutch, Finn, Norwegian, Danish etc etc parents who, 50 years previously, had been sworn enemies.

Gives you a sense of perspective, doesn't it?

What a ramble....

**But.....**

**JulieW**

**September 17, 2001 12:47AM**

The flag waving DID take place during "Jeruslaem"-if you watched teh Proms in the Park footage. Prsonally I was rather sad- and I know a lot of people will not agree with me- that ALL the patriotic songs were left out.

I was glad the fancy dress had gone- I always find some aspects of the Last Night excruciatingly embarrassing.

I agree that the evening had to have a change of tone and teh Barbers Adagio for strigs was almost unbearably sad. But a touch of Land of HOPE and GLORY and Rule Britannia together with Jeruslaem( which is a conumdrum;look at teh words by Balke.)would not have gone amiss;and I think the Battle Hymn of the Republic would have ended the concert in the right frame of mind.

I bear in mind that teh US Ambassador to the UK wanted teh Memorail Service on friday at St Paul's to be a celeration too and to be uplifting.

we ahv difficult times ahead- ALL of us- and we must all strengthen our reslove if we are to face the next few months.

There is a time to greive but we must not forget what is to come too. A bit of flag waving would not go amiss at the moment.

I was glad to see it in Liverpool,Hyde Park and Gateshed- and there was some in the Albert Hall too.

=====

**Pictures from all over the world**

**Gudrun**

**September 16, 2001 08:50AM**

I've found this on another message board: [www.wam.umd.edu]

**heart warming**  
**Bodecia**  
**September 16, 2001 01:52PM**

These pictures are so heartwarming....it makes you see just how much love there is in the world...

**Good therapy**  
**Asja**  
**September 16, 2001 07:39PM**

It really helps to look at these pictures, even if they do make me cry! I think I'll save the site so I can look at it when I get upset about all the war talk, and the pictures will remind me of what we all have in common regardless of government or creed.

**amazing...**  
**Sarah Jo**  
**September 16, 2001 11:22PM**

I've been following the original thread since it began...and the images are very touching. Those images really touch a person.

=====

**Triumph of Life**  
**William L**  
**September 16, 2001 11:04AM**

This is very personal, and I think at this time of so much sorrow and so much anger, it is time to tell this personal tale of grief and triumph and the laughter of life.

As an old man, I have had many losses: both parents, all my grandparents, uncles, aunts, and cousins, a president I admired and loved, my closest friend, godfather of 2 or my children, an infant sister and brother, an infant son, a grown son, and then my beloved wife Mary Jo.

This post concerns Mary Jo, and why I am able to post, and why Life triumphs.

She and I knew a month before her death that it was coming, and soon. I believe her most favorite dog knew it as soon as we did, because he began to waste away even before she died, and he was at the height of his immense strength. Two weeks or before her death, she told us to send Big Theo along when he was ready, as she could tell that he was shutting himself down. It took him 8 weeks, and when he would no longer walk, we sent him along to find her.

When our priest spoke her eulogy, he said, "I visited her just a few weeks ago, and she was not in the least afraid of death, she could smile, and she was so proud of her gigantic dogs that she introduced me to."

A week or so before the end, when she was unconscious 23 hours of a day, I had my last real talk with her. I could not see myself without her, and, God forgive me, I had in mind seeing how far I could put a motorcycle into a concrete wall, or how much whiskey it would take to do the job more quietly.

I said, "I don't want to be here when you aren't." For the last time in her life, she sat up, and spoke with her old force, and the 68 year old dying woman was for a moment the young and vital girl. "No you don't, Bill, but you are going to be here, and you WILL NOT MAKE ANYBODY SORRY THAT YOU ARE!" Do

you understand me, Bill?"

I nodded, and said, "Yes."

"All right, Bill.", and she laid back, closing her eyes.

I don't think I've made anybody too sorry. And I do know that I have made my fellow Pemberleans laugh (and I think sometimes swear), and they have made me laugh.

Those of you who like me, and enjoy my posts, say a word of thanks to Mary Jo Thomson, who rammed life down my reluctant throat, and made me stay here.

Life does triumph--even a small victory as above proves it.

May the Peace of the Lord be with us all.

Bill

**I'm glad to have you here**

**Sansanee**

**September 16, 2001 11:13AM**

Thank you for sharing such a personal story. Clearly Mary Jo was a great woman.

**thank you Bill**

**Daniela**

**September 16, 2001 12:18PM**

Thank you for sharing such a personal story. Clearly Mary Jo was a great woman.

I'm passing through a rough patch...and words like yours give me loads of hope. My problems seem to be nothing compared to what you had to face, and yet here you are, making us laugh and swear 😊.

It takes a lot of strength and courage to live, but then I guess it's all worth it, and we realise that only when we're part of the lucky group that still wakes up in the morning.

**You are loved! God bless you! With tears, Linda nfm**

**Linda Fern**

**September 16, 2001 11:30AM**

**Bill...**

**Karen A**

**September 16, 2001 11:31AM**

This place is such a haven for so many of us. Although we may have found this site because of our passion for an author, we stay because of the people we find here.

People who make us laugh, challenge our thinking, provoke us to think, answer our questions, encourage us to continue, share kind words of support, and just let us know that we are connected.

I do so appreciate your posts here. The content alone makes them "must reads" for me, but the element that I most admire is that you share your life experiences so openly. Although there is quite a diverse range of ages here, we don't seem to have many posters from The Greatest Generation. My father is of your age group, and has experienced many of the major life events that you write about. But he is not able to share as openly as you do, so your posts are an educational experience as well.

The events of the past few days are devastating, and much of the world is struggling with how to



understand and cope with it. This recent tragedy may now give us a link among generations. While this is certainly the most tragic event in my generation, others have unfortunately known losses of this proportion, and know what it takes to survive and move on. I hope you will continue to share your unique perspective with us, as it helps me to put these events into a timeline of life, and a life that triumphs.  
Mary Jo was one lucky lady. I think she knew that too.

**Bill, thank you**  
**Caroline JH**  
**September 16, 2001 12:11PM**

Bill thank you, for your message, although i do not know you (did read a lot of your posts around RoP). I have not had any real challenges in my life, but this story has really impressed me. I will remember it for the days that i will be challenged, to give me courage.

**Dear Bill,**  
**Kristen G.**  
**September 16, 2001 12:31PM**

I am so glad Mary Jo made you stick around! I am sorry, though, for your loss: I wish I could have met Mary Jo ~ it sounds like she was a lovely person.  
Love always,  
Kristen

**Thanks to Mary Jo**  
**Barbara**  
**September 16, 2001 12:33PM**

I do thank her for that and also for having been the kind of person who inspires you to share her story with all of us. Her message is an important one for everyone to hear after this terrible week.

**What a wise and courageous lady...**  
**PeggyS**  
**September 16, 2001 12:35PM**

...you had for a wife. And her loving care for you when she was near her end on earth is an inspiration to us all.  
Thank you for opening your heart to us. Such a confidence could not have been easy for you to make.  
Pemberley grows more dear to me with each post I read and I can tell from your words how much it means to you.  
Thank you for being here and for being wise and funny and for making us think and be comforted.  
Peggy who sends you:  
"Memory is the one paradise out of which ew cannot be driven -- Sacha Guitry

**Thank you**

**Kristin T**

**September 16, 2001 12:44PM**

Your post made me cry. I wish I had such strength in difficult situations as you've shown. Life is such a precious gift.

You have often made me laugh (not swear, mind you! 😊), and I'm sorry to inform you that I don't think you're mean at all.... Although I don't know you, I'm glad to have the opportunity to read your uplifting posts.

God bless you!

**Such a touching story**

**~Ally**

**September 16, 2001 02:46PM**

Thanks so much for sharing. I've only been with Pemberley about a year, but already I look forward to seeing your posts to all the boards. You are a blessing, I know to everyone here, and no, if this is the way you live your life, I doubt that you've made anyone sorry.

God bless and keep.

~Ally

**Thanks for sharing this! (nfm)**

**DeeDee**

**September 16, 2001 04:50PM**

**I agree with Mary Jo**

**Lin**

**September 16, 2001 05:56PM**

and moved us to tears.

I do not know what else to say other than I'm glad you decided to stay.

**I'm crying...**

**Jezkalyn**

**September 16, 2001 08:18PM**

...and I'm not a crier.

I have a tendency to crack bad jokes at the wrong time just relieve the tension. I have restrained myself. I am glad I did as that was the most beautiful thing I have ever read.

You have relieved some of my tension here in NJ where you can still see and smell the fires of NYC burning. I can't imagine how those actually in the city feel.

I hope to be as brave as your dear wife. I hope to be as full of life as you are.

(Ya old curmudgeon ;-P)

**Made me cry as well...**

**Alisa**

**September 16, 2001 09:20PM**

I hadn't really let myself cry until now. This reminded me so much of my Nana (she passed away when I was 12 and I miss her a lot.)  
Mary Jo sounds like she was an amazing woman. Thank you for sharing.

**Your posts.....**

**Elizabeth Cretaro**

**09/16/2001 09:21PM**

always are enlightening and worth the time to read. Your presence here at Pemberley makes it feel more at home...you are our Patriarch.  
Continue with your wise lessons from the past, for I have learned a great deal.  
I enjoy getting to know you, Mary Jo and the rest of your world.  
Glad you are becoming a part of mine.  
Beth

**God bless you. Thanks so much for sharing (nfm)**

**Linda**

**September 16, 2001 09:48PM**

**Bless You**

**Stacy Lynn**

**September 16, 2001 10:45PM**

I'm still relatively new here, but already I look forward to clicking on your posts and reading them. They are always filled with such wisdom and experience and never fail to make me think or to remind me of something I've forgotten. Thank you so much.

**Bless her and thank you, Bill! (nfm)**

**Ursula**

**September 17, 2001 01:44AM**

**How true! Thank you for sharing this. (nfm)**

**Julie C**

**September 17, 2001 04:29AM**

**Thank you for sharing this !!!!! (nfm)**

**Emilie Marie**

**September 17, 2001 05:08AM**

**A very touching story ! Words are simply useless ! (NFM)**

**Buba**

**September 17, 2001 06:06AM**

**Thanks to Mary Jo - and to you. Very glad you are here. NFM**

**Andreamy**

**September 17, 2001 06:22AM**

**Thanks for sharing, Bill. Triumph indeed. (nfm)**

**Tuija**

**September 17, 2001 06:50AM**

=====

**A Touching Poem**

**Angela**

**September 16, 2001 11:22AM**

This might have been posted before but if it hasn't I think some people would find comfort reading it.

"Angel by Your Side"

May you always have an angel by your side  
Watching out for you in all things you do  
Reminding you to keep believing in brighter days  
Finding ways for wishes and dreams  
to take you to beautiful places  
Giving you hope that is as certain as the sun  
Giving you the strength of serenity as your guide  
May you always have love and comfort and courage  
And May you always have an angel by your side  
May you always have an angel by your side  
Someone there to catch you if you fall  
Encouraging your dreams  
Inspiring your happiness  
Holding your hand and helping you through it all  
In all of our days, our lives are always changing  
Tears come along as well as smiles  
Along the roads you travel,  
May the miles be a thousand more times lovely than lonely  
May they give you the kind of gifts that never, ever end:  
Someone wonderful to love  
and a dear friend in whom you can confide  
May you have rainbows after every storm  
May you have hopes to keep you warm  
And may you always have an angel by your side  
-Emilia Larson

**Beautiful. Thanks. (nfm)**  
**Emilie Marie**  
**September 17, 2001 05:10AM**

=====

**What was played during the DC Memorial Service?**  
**Tay**  
**September 16, 2001 01:23PM**

I really enjoyed the piece the young chorus sang - does anyone know which piece I'm talking about? Sorry I'm so vague, but I notice that the news agencies usually play a clip from them. It's extremely lovely, and I'd love to know its name.  
Tay

**re:music**  
**Roxanne**  
**September 16, 2001 03:00PM**

I think the tune was "He is born" the French Christmas carol. They also did the tune "The water is wide." Ally would know better than me. I will ask her.

**Program**  
**Carolyn**  
**September 16, 2001 03:02PM**

Tay, I do not know what you are looking for, but the attached link is the program to the service. Perhaps you can find what you are looking for.

**It's**  
**kathleen (elder)**  
**September 16, 2001 03:32PM**

sung by the Cathedral Choir (boys & girls, I see). The tune is the French hymn "He is Born (Il Est Nee)." I am glad that Carolyn provided the link to the program. The Prayer Service is being re-broadcast on C-SPAN right now, so I am finally getting a chance to watch it.

=====

**More NYC Observations (Long)**  
**Golda**  
**September 18, 2001 12:06PM**

I've been saving a bunch of thoughts from the NY front gathered over the weekend. I returned home from work Friday evening to find notices plastered all over the front doors and mail boxes of my building. There were lists of items that neighbors were collecting for the rescue volunteers, as well as a list of drop off points. There were boxes and plastic grocery bags cluttering the entrance hall.

I wondered about some of the items stuffed in the boxes. The cynic in me thought that half the stuff that was being donated would end up in the trash or in someone else's home. Some of you might have heard that a lot of donated food wound up being thrown away - there was too much of it, and it couldn't be properly stored. It's best to give cash and let the agencies that are running things make the purchases.

Cynicism aside, I went food shopping on Saturday afternoon and purchased several giant size bottles of Tylenol, Advil, and Bayer aspirin. I took Templar for a walk to the Staten Island Yankee Stadium (a minor league team whose stadium opened this past June) where there was a drop off point for the rescue effort. Along the way, I walked on a street that is elevated and overlooks New York Harbor, and of course, Manhattan. There were flags and posters attached to the wrought iron fence that tops a low concrete wall. Some people were leaning against the fence and watching the skyline. I suspect that there had been greater crowds at one point, but they were gone by now. There were also many glass jars with candles, mostly extinguished, on the ledge. I saw a neighbor, Bob, relighting all the candles. We exchanged words about the glasses falling off the ledges. Bob thought I was nuts to think that it was dangerous - his view was who cares about these details at a time like this. My view was that anyone walking a dog or wearing sandals might think a lot since the sidewalk was already strewn with glass (these sidewalks are not maintained by the City). An argument seemed pointless.

Templar and I walked past the S.I. Ferry Terminal access roads. Huge Sanitation Department dump trucks filled with sand blocked the roads. There was a small police presence, of course, but more Sanitation workers at the intersection. These were probably the men who drove the trucks. I think the idea was to have people in uniform providing a sense of order. The sand trucks are obviously a defensive tactic - they can withstand much more force than a regular police car or makeshift gate.

I walked down a long ramp from the sidewalk to the bottom of the stadium and the waterfront. There were volunteers moving carts filled with bottled drinks. I saw a clipboard to sign up to volunteer. I wrote my name and both my numbers, but I don't think that anyone will call. The volunteer effort has been overwhelming and people are being turned away.

Templar is a great conversation starter since borzoi is not a common breed and lots of people came over to talk to me and see the dog close up. I saw neighbors working there too. One did not feel a sense of mourning at this site. It could have been a neighborhood block party.

The ferries were running all week, but only to shuttle rescue workers, injured people, and I suspect, corpses. The Stadium was also being used a morgue earlier in the week.

The unfamiliar site of F16s were circling the City borders and waterways. We are not accustomed to these sounds. One Coast Guard boat sailed back and forth in the Verrazano Narrows, which leads to the Harbor.

On Saturday, my community (a complex of renovated warehouses that were converted to lofts) proceeded with their annual tennis tournament. The group didn't want to let the week's events stop their plans.

My best pal at the co-op, Wendy, manages a psychiatry unit at the local hospital. For the first time in the 10 years that I have known her, she was scheduled to work on the weekend. Her unit, normally closed, was open for the expected volume. Wendy told me that in the first days following the WTC disaster, hospital staff came to the psych unit because they had loved ones missing. A large number of NYC firemen and policemen live on Staten Island, and many people work in lower Manhattan due to our close proximity.

By the end of the week, those who escaped from the WTC, or other downtown buildings were coming into her unit. Their volume tripled. I see the strain on Wendy. I called her on Saturday offering to bring her lunch, but she had eaten a small salad and wasn't hungry for much more. Wendy acknowledged that she needed to go out to dinner and have some relief. I feel an obligation to take care of Wendy for who takes care of the caregivers? The strain is on her face. She says that the stories are horrifying, but she

has to listen because that is her job. You don't need additional details from me - you have seen it on television.

Wendy made some other interesting observations. She said that it was nice to take care of 'nice' people for a change. Her days are usually filled with sociopaths, psychotics, ne'er-do-wells who abuse the system, etc. She derived great satisfaction from helping nice people. She also noted that some of her 'regular' clients showed up because suddenly they weren't the center of attention. The units didn't have the time or the inclination to deal with them.

As soon as Wendy came home from work, I drove her to our favorite local restaurant that overlooks industrial Bayonne, New Jersey. During dinner, I drew a map of lower Manhattan and labeled all of the affected buildings on a paper place mat. I thought that this was just an overview, but Wendy kept asking for details and made me label the map more clearly. Finally, I understood - Wendy wanted to use the map to help her understand the specific buildings and sites that her clients were talking about. Which building is the Commodities Exchange? Which is Morgan Stanley Dean Witter? Suddenly, I felt badly about all of the details that I couldn't explicitly note.

When we returned home, I stopped to chat with some neighbors who were enjoying a barbecue in the picnic area after the tennis tournament. (Doesn't my little community sound lovely?) I saw the co-op Board President, a Lehman Brothers employee. I had heard that he was at the PATH station below the WTC when the first plane hit. He told me his story, about running north from the debris, walking with the crowds over the bridges, and then finally hitching from somewhere in Brooklyn because he was walking with a diabetic friend who said that he couldn't go on. He told me that Lehman would probably operate on shifts so that they could share their Jersey City office space. Lehman occupied the lower third of American Express Tower and the building has been badly damaged. For those of you who have been watching the pictures on the news, Amex Tower is usually on the right of your screen from the scene known as Ground Zero. It is directly across the street from where the WTC stood, in the World Financial Center. I worked in that building when the bomb went off in the WTC eight years ago. It is 54 stories, but it rumbled and the lights flickered. I think that experience taught many people a lesson and caused them to evacuate the WTC despite initial information from authorities to the contrary in Tower 2.

I talked to other neighbors who are medical professionals. One doctor said that were in the emergency room waiting for patients early in the week, but as you all sadly know, their services weren't needed. The downtown and midtown Manhattan hospitals were able to handle the volume. One psychiatrist had been working at the Armory in Manhattan, a facility set up for families to report their missing loved ones. You can see the pain on her face too. On the weekend she had planned to go there again, but instead, had to cover in her usual location where there was also a flow of patients seeking psychiatric assistance.

Every neighbor has a story. Whenever you see someone whom you haven't seen all week, the conversation always starts with a sincere how are you, and then you mutually ask if they knew anyone. No words follow the 'anyone' in the previous question. The sentence doesn't need to be finished - it is understood. I wrote last week that everyone knows someone who knows someone that is missing or deceased. That statement still holds true.

On Sunday, I worked in my garden for hours. The weeding was like a purge, and mentally, it is one of the best things I can do with my time.

Wendy went back to work to open her unit Sunday morning. She returned after an hour and I made a big breakfast for her. She returned to work in the afternoon to see a patient who was coming back with her family.

My office floor is always very subdued, filled with technology people who stare at their screens. Monday seemed no different. But there was some cranky behavior coming from some of my peers and staff. I ignored them, not willing to engage in the pettiness at this time. Everyone is working at his or her own

comfortable pace.

The skyline is smoking less, but the fires continue. The southwest corner of lower Manhattan is closed, but the rest of downtown is open, including the NYSE. The Dow tanked Monday, but from a technology perspective, the opening was a success. It was a record-breaking volume day and the systems were up, and stayed up - quite a feat considering that so many lines were destroyed. I still can't make long distance calls from home.

So that's my report from NY. Things are getting quieter already. There is only one notice posted in the lobby about goods to donate for the volunteers rather than six.

**Thank you Golda**

**Cheryl**

**September 18, 2001 12:20PM**

I've been thinking about how you've been doing, quite a lot. Thank you for sharing all this, and thank you for taking care of Wendy. She (and we) are lucky to have you. \*samooch\*

**and from me**

**Ann2**

**September 18, 2001 02:10PM**

I've been thinking about how you've been doing, quite a lot. Thank you for sharing all this, and thank you for taking care of Wendy. She (and we) are lucky to have you.

\*samooch\*

I have been thinking of you too, and reading your composed first hand report was like having a mail from you. I could see your face as I read it. Take care.

**Thank you**

**DavidL**

**September 18, 2001 12:43PM**

Thank you for that long, gentle and actually rather comforting report, Golda. Life will never be the same for any of us, but it is going on.

"I wrote last week that everyone knows someone who knows someone that is missing or deceased. That statement still holds true."

It may hold true for the entire country; see how interconnected we are? Aside from Debra R and Gloria, I heard last week from a good friend of mine who is "hoping for a miracle" for a college classmate of hers who worked on the 89th floor of Tower 2. She lives in Seattle, and I visited her last month on the same trip in which I had tea with Pemberleians. We took a walk and I fussed over her new baby. I fervently hope that someday he'll look back on at least as pleasant a life as the children born in 1941 have had.

**Interconnected**

**Barbara**

**September 18, 2001 12:52PM**

I think the ripple effects could be farther reaching than that. At my husband's school there is a little girl whose aunt was in the WTC and is missing. 6,000 people and



everyone they knew and everyone that knew someone they knew is very far-reaching, indeed.

**Golda...**

**Barbara**

**September 18, 2001 12:55PM**

Thank you so much for your post. It means a great deal to hear a firsthand report from someone I know and that is not being passed along through the various media. Not that anyone can forget, but I find that after a week of round the clock coverage on the airwaves and in the newspapers, it somehow makes all of it seem less real. That doesn't make any sense, I know. But I don't want it to feel less real now or anytime soon, and reading your thoughts really helped.

**So true**

**kathleen (elder)**

**September 18, 2001 01:24PM**

" I find that after a week of round the clock coverage on the airwaves and in the newspapers, it somehow makes all of it seem less real"

There is something about the hyped-up media coverage, with the most heart-breaking of the stories presented in even more heart-breaking terms, that actually adds to a sense of unreal. I, too, feel the need to keep it real, which means more on my own level, I guess. (I know, I'm not making sense either -- hard to do in these circumstances.)

Thanks from me, as well, Golda, for your long, kind, satisfactory detail of particulars -- it gives the human perspective that I need.

**Thank you, Golda**

**Inko**

**September 18, 2001 04:18PM**

Thank you for putting a human face on this tragedy. After all the media coverage one tends to forget about all the real life suffering in every part of New York. You are so right in asking who takes care of the caretakers? Wendy is lucky to have such a good friend. Take care of yourself.

**Thanks Golda.**

**JulieW**

**September 18, 2001 02:09PM**

You know how I feel about it all and Wendy and you (and Templar). I love you and hope you begin to feel better soon.

**Well done!**

**gkb**

**September 18, 2001 03:20PM**

"I feel an obligation to take care of Wendy for who takes care of the caregivers?"

The immediate survivors, the caregivers and the people who handle the human remains are most at risk for PTSD. You have done a very good deed in helping support your friend through this time. That support can have an expanding ripple effect in helping everyone. You might suggest to her that the hospital administration should consider a retreat, co-counseling group session, or some other type of 'debriefing' for their psych staff at the end of the month. There is some good evidence that this helps the caregivers retain their balance amid severe levels of stress. Perhaps they already know this, though, because it is one of the key components in the new forms of cognitive-behavioral therapy.

I imagine that there will be a city-wide acknowledgment of the workers who are on the site-- that will go a long way towards helping them readjust and to put the nightmare behind them and go on.

**Thank you (and Staten Island thoughts)**

**Krista**

**September 18, 2001 04:52PM**

I am fairly new here, so we don't really know each other through Pemberley or in person. Even so, your personal account cut through the numbing mess of media and even through the knowledge that people and I know and love have lost friends, to truly hit deep. Thank you for being brave enough to share all that.

I was actually in Staten Island all weekend. I'm from Connecticut, but both my parents are from Staten Island and I still have a huge network of relatives there (two big Italian families). We had planned my sister's bridal shower for Saturday, and after learning that all the cousins were actually OK, decided to go ahead with it. We wanted a chance to get together, even if we couldn't celebrate. The stories, the worry, the relief to see everyone safe (or to know that they were safe but hard at work, there's a cop and firefighter in my family) is hard to describe. Even weirder was the drive home. My grandmother's house is right off Richmond Road, near Doctor's hospital, so we definitely couldn't see Manhattan from there. But crossing the Goethals Bridge I saw what's left of the skyline for the first time in person. It felt real in a whole new way. It made me want to cry- some of my favorite memories of Manhattan were watching the city approach from the Staten Island ferry. Its one thing to know something, but seeing even the physical destruction in person was horrible. I can't even imagine how it must kill the rescue workers to realize the human destruction up close. . .

I don't know if this rambling makes any sense or adds up to any one idea, but your story really affected me, so thank you for that.

**Every neighbor has a story**

**JaneGS**

**September 18, 2001 04:55PM**

One did not feel a sense of mourning at this site. It could have been a neighborhood block party...The group didn't want to let the week's events stop their plans...When we returned home, I stopped to chat with some neighbors who were enjoying a barbecue in the picnic area after the tennis tournament. (Doesn't my little community sound lovely?)...Every neighbor has a story...On Sunday, I worked in my garden for hours. The weeding was like a purge, and mentally, it is one of the best things I can do with my time.

Thanks for posting your thoughts. Here in Colorado I had a Saturday filled with the kids's soccer games, and I couldn't help feeling a little guilty that life was going on, and I wondered what

people in New York and Washington were doing. Your little community does sound lovely-- finding connections and listening to stories and taking care of each other.

**Thank you all**

**Golda**

**September 18, 2001 04:55PM**

Thank you everyone for your kind words. It is very moving to read your responses. I write as much for my own personal therapy as to give you all a slice a life from NYC. You can see by the length of my post that I talk as much as Miss Bates, and like Lady Catherine, seldom require an answer. So your messages are gratefully acknowledged.

With love from,

Golda

P.S. Watch this Board for future posts from Mrs. Allen. She has been quieted by current events, but that doesn't mean she isn't eyeing all of your fall wardrobes.

++++  
++++