

hihi,  
nicolai.



to

Nick

on july 3rd, 2008, nick ring called me at about 2:30 am (b.c. time) just before he went into surgery. we talked about how nervous he was and what we were going to do when he came out to visit me at the end of july. it was brief but we had spoken for over two hours the day previous and felt that we'd covered all we'd need to since he'd be out of verbal commission for a few weeks. i told him i loved him and he, to me, as well. and i do love him; i always will.

this is the last email i sent nick.

**with love, kait**



today was your surgery and, lucky for me, you called me just before. my apologies for being a little spacey but i had been sleeping off some drunkenness at the time. it was nice to hear your little voice as nervous as you may have sounded. i wish i could have been there with/for you but i'm sure you're doing just fine right now. (i'm telling myself this 'cause i can't bear to think of you all hurty-like).

so i have no idea when you'll actually be reading email but i figure, hey, i gotta lot of time on my hands and internets at my disposal so i should put those two luxuries to good use and spend my time emailing you incessantly; at the very least, it will provide brief moments of distraction while you wrestle with the inability to speak.

my suggestions--and i'm certain you've had them pelted at you a lot lately--are as follows:

1. upon returning home, create a small nest for yourself out of pillows, blankets, and all soft, malleable things your parents can get their mitts on
2. nestle yourself gently within the nest and proceed to achieve the ultimate comfort level
3. retrieve any and all pain killers, consume, repeat. do so until face hurtiness stops
4. get squishy ice packs (not hard ones) or freeze wet cloths....these are much softer and way nicer feeling
5. once optimal comfort and has been achieved and a state of near-blinding self-medication has taken place, ensure that the following things are within arms reach:

*a) gus: he will provide the comfort and squishy for you that i cannot at such a great distance. use him at your leisure, he won't mind.*

*b) lappy: this will entertain you (limit-*

*edly) for brief periods of time when you are able to sit about and read. (this is where i come in with all the fancy typing and funnies and what not)*

*c) entertainment media of varying levels of seriousness. when you're super bored you'll want something that makes you think but when you don't want to think and merely want to enjoy yourself watch something comfortable and easy to understand for you. knowing you, and i think that i do, my suggestion rests confidently in star wars. i hear it's good, or something. perhaps you'd like it?*

*d) reading materials. again, i'm sticking with my bias and insisting on john irving. he's a wonderful fiction writer and i think you'd dig his jive, baby. i also suggest you keep handy copies of the watchmen (watchman?) which you are fond of, and perhaps some sort of star wars literature (if such a thing exists)*

6. your celly. this will provide ample texting potentials. an activity i'll be glad to participate in if you need some more distractions. text me every minute if you need to. i don't care, i've got all the time in the world for you.

so that's a rough, non-medically guided, list of things you'll need to feel happy and comfy and warmy and lovey while you're recovering. i know that in just a short period of time you'll be calling me laughing about how quickly you got over that shit and you'll probably be exhaling from a bong while you do so. ahhh, my dear sweet nicolai. i miss you terribly and i cannot Cannot CANNOT wait until i get to see you again! so much squeezing will ensue it's almost a completely ridiculous thought. do you like sushi? i think it should be the first thing we eat together with your new face. we'll have to take it out for a night on the town including dinner and drinks.

i love you, nick. heart hug, kait



100 (plus)  
THINGS  
YOU MAY  
(OR MAY NOT)  
KNOW  
a b o u t

NICKRING



Nick Ring was born May 9, 1986

Nick Ring has a fraternal twin brother named Graeme

Nick Ring is the youngest of the 5 Golden Rings

Nick Ring went to Brock University for Communications Media and Society Studies

Nick Ring befriended his super cool TA Kait Kribs at a party one December

Nick Ring is a fantastically seamless DJ named DJ 421

Nick Ring DJd most parties and casual hangouts with his friends during the winter of 2008

Nick Ring really likes gummi bears

Nick Ring can eat a whole bag of gummi bears in one single sitting

Nick Ring gets a tummy ache every single time he eats a whole bag of gummi bears and he is aware of said outcome every single time

Nick Ring has always lived at 16 Gerard Street in downtown St. Catharines

Nick Ring is loved by more people that I could ever even know in a lifetime

Nick Ring loves converse shoes

Nick Ring is an avid supporter of all

**Nick Ring  
really  
likes to  
play video  
games  
and is  
secretly  
awesome  
at all of  
them.**

things green and hemp culture

Nick Ring says brew. You say brew, too?

Nick Ring loves Star Wars more than any other film (but only the original three)

Nick Ring is a member of a charitable organization called the 501st Legion

Nick Ring has lived with his parents for the entirety of his life but rarely complains and has tremendous love and respect for them

Nick Ring once woke me up very early in the morning with the intention of getting high and doing yoga in the backyard as the early morning sun rose

Nick Ring worked at Price Chopper and hated it

Nick Ring also worked for the City of St. Catharines and he loved it

Nick Ring really likes to play video games and is secretly awesome at all of them

Nick Ring is loved an astronomical amount by his confident and BFF, Kait Kribs

Nick Ring is a fantastic writer and accomplished student

Nick Ring wants very much to visit the west coast of Canada

A young man with dark, curly hair (likely a wig) and thick black-rimmed glasses is looking towards the camera. He is wearing a light-colored, short-sleeved button-down shirt. In the background, another person in a white shirt is partially visible, looking away. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting an indoor setting at night.

**Nick Ring is  
never afraid to  
look silly.**

Nick Ring made weekly trips to the Brock swimming pool to partake in free swims

Nick Ring never complains about anything

Nick Ring has the most serious dancing face I've ever seen

Nick Ring is protective of his friends and wants nothing more than for their happiness

Nick Ring wears tie dye frequently

Nick Ring makes awesome tie dye  
Nick Ring coined the term 'dye five' in replace of 'high five'. It is only to be used when a 'high five' motion is exchanged between two people who've recently been tie dyeing and are covered in dye

Nick Ring downloads a ton of music  
Nick Ring wears braces and is still really handsome

Nick Ring was in enrichment in the 6th grade

Nick Ring draws hilarious cartoons really, really well

Nick Ring has experimented with drug culture but is by no means a burn out

Nick Ring can't sing very well



Nick Ring thinks Deep Purple is better than Led Zeppelin

but he sure does try "Sabotaaaaaaaaage"

Nick Ring has tender affection for most animals like his dog Bobby and Dave Bunny, Kait's rabbit

Nick Ring likes children a lot

Nick Ring has razor sharp wit

Nick Ring will never ever make a joke at someone else's expense

Nick Ring coined the term 'snax-ophone'

Nick Ring thinks Deep Purple is better than Led Zeppelin

Nick Ring is an aspiring film maker and is damn talented

Nick Ring and Kait Kribs are the exact same height

Nick Ring's best friends include, but are not exclusive to, Graeme, Lindsay, Andrew, Kait, Adrian, Eben...oh, and everyone he meets

Nick Ring commands attention in all the right ways

Nick Ring doesn't like coffee but will always join you for one

Nick Ring shops almost exclusively at thrift stores

Nick Ring teaches you something new every day

**Nick  
Ring  
will get  
up **early**  
and go  
to bed  
**late**, all  
in the  
name of  
**fun**.**





**Nick Ring** will kill you in Trivial Pursuit Pop Culture (editions 1 & 2)

**Nick Ring** has an adorably understated laugh

**Nick Ring** takes things seriously and is deliberate in his ways

**Nick Ring** has an enormous backpack that he bought at Wal Mart. If you're ever missing something, it's probably in there

**Nick Ring** is always hungry

**Nick Ring** is thrifty

**Nick Ring** knows how to back excellent muffins

**Nick Ring** acquired the nickname Little Muffin for an entirely different reason

**Nick Ring** appears in the film Plan B as a puppet of himself

**Nick Ring's** Wii character looks exactly like him. Smirk and all.

**Nick Ring** loves to go bike riding

**Nick Ring** once went fishing as a child and, instead of catching a fish, caught a porno magazine--he released it back into the wild.

**Nick Ring** has never smoked cigarettes

**Nick Ring** has a lot of friends who do smoke cigarettes

**Nick Ring** likes drinking 'girly drinks'

**Nick Ring** is usually intoxicated after about two 'girly drinks'

**Nick Ring** smiles a lot when he's intoxicated

**Nick Ring** get really mouthy when he's intoxicated much to the giggling pleasure of his friends

**Nick Ring** is surprisingly strong

**Nick Ring** likes to create things "Look what I've DONE!"

**Nick Ring** has charisma and charm out the wazoo

**Nick Ring's** charisma and charm are 100% genuine

**Nick Ring** will always play your song request

**Nick Ring** sees the world better through a lens

**Nick Ring** turned the song Paper Planes into an anthem for his friends

**Nick Ring** is a procrastinator but will get it finished and always better than expected

**Nick Ring** gives heartfelt hugs on a regular basis

**Nick Ring's charisma and charm are 100% genuine.**



Nick Ring **commands** attention in all the right ways.

Nick Ring is always listening. Like, really listening

Nick Ring loves Decew Falls

Nick Ring knows more about movies and music than you do

Nick Ring likes very much to be the recipient of "heart hugs"

Nick Ring once went to a rave and described his experience as 'a hoot!'

Nick Ring sleeps on couches frequently

Nick Ring enjoys spooning with large stuffed penguins on couches

Nick Ring was hired on at Brock Tv because is talented and insightful

Nick Ring's middle name is Robert

Nick Ring frequented the local hippy café Strega and always knew at least one person there

Nick Ring is shy at first

Nick Ring is the opposite of abrasive

Nick Ring is up for anything and finds adventure in everything

Nick Ring once appeared on the television show Royal Canadian Air Farce as a Storm Trooper

Nick Ring also made a television appearance when he was much younger for being the biggest Star Wars fan

Nick Ring is the only person I ...





Nick Ring told me when I moved to across the country that I needn't worry because the end is not in sight and that this **past year** was the **best** of his life

know to get kicked out of the campus bar before 5pm while wearing an argyle sweater-vest  
**Nick Ring** often signed his name Nick “Nick” Ring  
**Nick Ring** told me when I moved to across the country that i needn't worry because the end is not in sight and that this past year was the best of his life  
**Nick Ring**, in the same letter, used the expression ‘sweet raptor jesus’  
**Nick Ring** loves people 100%  
**Nick Ring** is very agile and can climb just about anything  
**Nick Ring** is awesome at a lot of things including building fires, making a confined mess, spinning tracks, expressing kindness and smiling at you just right  
**Nick Ring** has traditional tendencies  
**Nick Ring** boasts and expansive popular vernacular  
**Nick Ring** understands computers really well  
**Nick Ring** does a mediocre impression of an English accent. “Chaaaarlieeeeeee...”  
**Nick Ring** really Really REALLY

**Nick Ring isn't competitive, he's just awesome at everything.**



**Nick Ring really REALLY (see: really) likes The Watchmen.**

(see: really) likes the graphic novel The Watchmen  
**Nick Ring** learned something every day and couldn't wait to learn more the next day  
**Nick Ring** can smoke you under the table  
**Nick Ring** isn't competitive, he's just awesome at everything  
**Nick Ring** has two Star Wars tattoos and wants very much to get a whole sleeve  
**Nick Ring** once had a conversation with a tattoo artist about getting a Star Wars sleeve and during said conversation his cell phone rang, chiming the Star Wars theme. He didn't see the humour in that that his friends  
**Nick Ring** has something special about him that you can't put your finger on but you know you're jealous you don't have it  
**Nick Ring** is a child at heart but a mind in spirit  
**Nick Ring** has a great music collection  
**Nick Ring** can't wait to show you his music collection  
**Nick Ring** has an American



Nick Ring is, lastly,  
(but certainly not  
least-ly) a dream  
boat.

Apparel hoodie, along with all of the rest of his 'crew' and deemed us "The Cotton Laden Gang of Rainbow Lovers"

**Nick Ring** eats humble pie for breakfast

**Nick Ring** is the human embodiment of the term 'humble'

**Nick Ring** has never been closer to anyone than he has been with his twin brother Graeme with whom he shares his DNA, his heart, and all of his soul

**Nick Ring** is proud of you

**Nick Ring** walks at a very brisk pace

**Nick Ring** finds a lot of things cute and isn't embarrassed to share that

**Nick Ring** lists his religious views as 'Jedi'

**Nick Ring** once inhaled several balloons of helium and rapped the entire Fresh Prince of Bel Air theme **Nick Ring**, for an in-class exercise, threw down beats and free-style rapped his answer

**Nick Ring** thinks Richard Gere impersonators are nifty

**Nick Ring** will always go to your party

**Nick Ring** can't wait to show you that new, obscure television show he found

**Nick Ring** is awkward on the phone  
**Nick Ring** is engaging and always interesting

**Nick Ring** is never afraid of looking silly

**Nick Ring** listens to bands that don't even exist yet

**Nick Ring** has a really dry sense of humour. Pay attention, he's quick

**Nick Ring** likes to sit in bathtubs filled with pillows after a night of dancing with his ladies Kait and Torie

**Nick Ring's** eye sparkle with youthful mischief

**Nick Ring** will not go through a lady's garbage, even if it's on fire

**Nick Ring** will get up early and go to bed late all in the name of fun

**Nick Ring** throws a dart in a most peculiar way

**Nick Ring's** friends made him personalized darts and they live at the Merchant Ale House. (his darts, not his friends)

**Nick Ring** is a huge part of my life and an even bigger piece of my heart. Never will that space be filled with anything but endless love and admiration for him.

**Nick Ring** is, lastly, (but certainly not least-ly) a dream boat.



*Nick Ring listens to bands that don't even exist yet*

*and i love him more for it*



do the **D.A.N.C.E.**

Do the **D.A.N.C.E**  
1234, fight!  
Stick to the **B.E.A.T**  
Get ready to ignite  
You were such a **P.Y.T**  
Catching all the lights  
Just easy as A.B.C  
That's how we make it right

Do the **D.A.N.C.E**  
Stick to the **B.E.A.T**  
Just easy as **A.B.C**

Do the Dance (Do the Dance)  
The way you move is a mystery  
Do the dance  
You're always there for music and me  
(x2)

Do the **D.A.N.C.E**  
1234, fight!  
Stick to the **B.E.A.T**  
Get ready to ignite  
You were such a **P.Y.T**  
Catching all the lights  
Just easy as A.B.C  
That's how we make it right

Do the Dance (Do the Dance)

The way you move is a mystery  
Do the Dance  
You're always there for music and me  
(x2)  
Under the spotlights  
Neither black nor white  
It doesn't matter  
Do the **Dance** (do the dance)

As strong as you might  
Working day and night  
Whatever happens  
Do the **DANCE** (do the dance)

Under the spotlights  
Neither black nor white  
It doesn't matter  
Do the **DANCE** (do the dance)

As strong as you might  
Working day and night  
Whatever happens  
Do the **DANCE**(Do the Dance)

The way you move is a mystery  
Do the **Dance**  
You're always there for music and me

The way you **move** is a mystery

**for everyone who loves nick.**

**with love, kait.**