

## List of 50 (22 of 50): CURSE LOOP

1. Yesterday a homeless woman stopped me while I was walking in the street and asked if she could have the root beer I was drinking.
2. When I told her 'no' she pointed at my head and hissed.
3. She said, 'You won't feel so good tomorrow, mister.'
4. She was right.
5. Today I have a stomach ache and some kind of throbbing in my head. To the point I have to sit down to keep from fainting.
6. Half a cantaloupe in the trashcan has made my whole apartment stink.
7. A sweetish stink, though. Almost pleasant. On the cusp of bad cologne.
8. That birds die by explosion from eating wedding rice is a myth, though I imagine it would be interesting to see.
9. Some days I wish I'd take time to feed bread to ducks.
10. Some days the best thing that happens is taking your shoes and socks off after walking.
11. Some days I feel nothing in my heart.
12. If I die tomorrow I'd like to have my casket open only at the lower half, showing my fine trousers and my size 14 feet.
13. I'm not trying to be morbid thinking things like that; I'm just considering the possibility that the woman really cursed me.
14. It is especially forbidden to curse God (Exodus 22:28), parents (Exodus 21:17), the authorities (Exodus 22:28), and the helpless deaf (Leviticus 19:14).
15. I probably curse god at least twice a day, for things as simple as traffic lights, pizza lines, and bad cards dealt in poker.
16. Mostly I don't capitalize god's name, though I do mine.
17. I can be such an ungrateful shit.

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18. I'd curse the authorities more often, but I'm not sure who they are.
19. From my roof I can see the gold dome of the Georgia capitol building but I can't see the people going into it.
20. I live across the street from both a graveyard and the largest hospital in the state.
21. Players who appear on the cover of either the *Sports Illustrated* magazine or the Madden NFL video game have tended to, coincidentally, suffer setbacks or injuries immediately after.
22. Some days, I believe.
23. I enjoy picking dried blood off of my scalp and ears.
24. I once spoke for over an hour on the phone with a Christian telemarketer who assured me I could buy a place in heaven if I'd just give her the numbers off my credit card.
25. The one picture I have from the day of my baptism I'm not smiling.
26. I wish I knew what to do with myself more often.
27. I wish I still walked in my sleep.
28. There are 86,400 seconds every day.
29. And in those seconds, even more divisions.
30. Under the International System of Units, the second is currently defined as the duration of 9,192,631,770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the caesium-133 atom.
31. Even more time to waste than I imagined.
32. Caesium, being one of the heavier alkali metals, is also one of the most reactive, and is highly explosive when it comes in contact with water (even cold water or ice).
33. Even more time to spend getting cursed.
34. The way those seconds seem to move quicker when things are good and less quickly when things are shitty could be used as an argument against god.
35. To be hypnotized you have to want to be hypnotized.
36. I don't mind going out to dinner alone.
37. I sometimes like to imagine a room full of all the food I've ever eaten.

1-10

11-20

21-30

31-40

41-50

38. All the pizza and the pudding. The salad and rice and ice cream. All of it stacked up around me. Everything I've consumed. The swallowed bubble-gum. The peas and carrots. The turkey dogs and cake and slaw. All the saliva and the bad air.
39. Strange to think what it must have been like to know one day you'd be buried in a pyramid.
40. To watch thousands construct your grave.
41. Most tomb robbers, who were believed to be the tomb builders, reentered the tomb after it was sealed.
42. Some mornings I try to imagine myself in other bodies and get up as if I were them.
43. It's often hard to pay attention.
44. Some days I walk around for hours still in bed.
45. Like leap years, there are leap seconds, used to correct atomic clocks because the earth's spin is slowing down.
46. Between January 1972 and December 2005, the IERS gave instructions to insert a leap second on 23 occasions.
47. Though it seems so many more than that. Sometimes seeming more leap seconds than actual seconds elapsed.
48. In all those seconds, all that radiation. All this thinking. And other people in their own bodies.
49. I promise to try to drink more root beer.
50. I promise to try to try to believe.

interrelated  
earth rotation  
reference  
systems