

## Santa's Elves labor in North Pole sweatshops

by Michelle Huang  
Web Editor

November 1, 2013

The letter finally came in the mail today! For twelve entire years I've been waiting for this. I'm proud to announce that I have been hand-selected by Santa himself to help craft beautiful toys for children all around the world. This moment is kind of bitter-sweet; after cousin Herbie was recruited last year, he's never been back. I guess the North Pole is too perfect to leave... I can't wait to go!

November 24, 2013

My family crowded around and wished me luck as I left for the North Pole. None of them have ever been Helpers, so naturally they were all very excited for me. That is, all except for my great uncle Klaus. He came tottering out of our igloo to croak, "Don't go... times have changed... very bad man, very, very bad man..." It was weird. Klaus is the only Helper I know who came back from the North Pole, but it's probably because he's a freak.

November 26, 2013

Today I arrived at the North Pole! My bunkmates were all first-year Helpers who are equally excited to start work as me. There have been some strange rumors circulating, though. A really grizzled, terrified looking old elf ran in during dinner and screamed "GET OUT WHILE YOU CAN! AND DON'T PUT ON THE SHOES!" He was immediately dragged out of sight and we heard a loud bang, probably because he ran into a Christmas tree.

November 27, 2013

We were fitted for shoes today. For some reason, I couldn't get the image of the veteran elf out of my mind... If only he weren't so old and ugly. Why couldn't he just appreciate the magic of Christmas?!

He ruined my first time donning Helper shoes! They're kind of restrictive and hard to walk in. They have pointy toes and a bell that jingles continuously. Oh well, anything for Christmas cheer.

November 30, 2013

First day of work tomorrow! I CAN'T WAIT!

December 1, 2013

Holy reindeer-feces. I did not sign up for this. The conditions are horrible. We have to eat the toys that we mess up, stay at our stations for eight hour shifts at a time, and endure -20 degrees in the factory. I peed on myself to stay warm.

December 1, 2013 (later)

Also, Santa Claus is an alcoholic drunk. He called me a "ho, ho, ho" which was somehow a lot less pleasant than expected.

December 14, 2013

Helper Avi complained about being fed dead mice for breakfast, because Santa spent all our food money on booze. Avi was dragged outside and we heard an ominous bang again... I don't think he ran into a tree this time. A couple other Helpers and I are terrified and fed up; we're going to make a run for it tonight.

December 15, 2013

THE SHOES! The shoes are going to be our downfall... as we tried to sneak quietly through the night, the bells attached to our heels wouldn't stop ringing.

I tried to take my shoes off but turns out they are ziptied to our ankles. Looks like we're doomed to this lifestyle forever. Merry freakin' Christmas.



J. Reyes



courtesy wikicommons

## Hana's tips for nailing your college interview

By Hana Beach  
Editor-in-Chief

With the last of the applications being sent out, seniors can only hope that they will win over the college admission board during their daunting alumni interviews. Now, these interviews are considered unimportant, and as my interviewer simply put it "I am here to make sure you aren't a psychopath." But a great interview may be the ticket if you want to wow the admissions officers. Here are a list of things you should bring up during your college interview.

1. **How you would win the Hunger Games.** I know it seems unimportant, like a trivial fact that really doesn't explain who you are. But, in my opinion, telling an alumni that you could murder 23 other students gives off the murderous vibes that you want to come across. You know, "murderly" in a fun way.

2. **The Human Centipede.** This one is especially important to those who are exploring pre-med programs. By letting the alumni interviewer know that you only puked once during the movie, you are letting them know that nothing can phase you.

3. **Any weird idiosyncrasies** (i.e. washing your feet 12 times a day). I mean we all have them. For instance, I brush my teeth in the shower and after every meal. These idiosyncrasies make you different; only you could do something that weird on a daily basis. These "habits" keep you original.

4. **Your hangover.** We all know that colleges can accept students with perfect SAT scores and GPAs. But they also want the college to have some "fun" kids. It is vital that this comes across during your alumni interview. So make sure to talk about your migraine or even puke. Trust me, they will never forget you if you interview in a gross sweat covered mini-skirt.

5. **The one time you caught scabies at sleep-away camp.** Anecdotes are the perfect way of showing the interviewer that you are a real person. For

instance, scabies can be horrible and traumatic. But by mentioning that you had them, the alumni will only see your perseverance.

6. **Human Centipede 2** (see explanation for number 2)

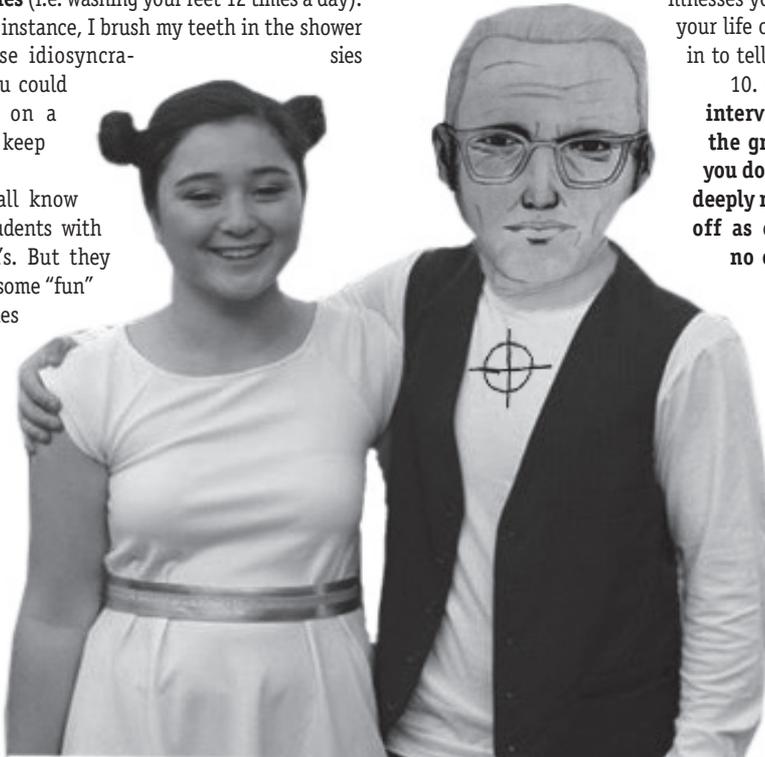
7. **The fact that your father could possibly be the Zodiac Killer.** I mean we all know that the only way to get into Harvard, Yale, Princeton etc. is to have famous parents. No one is more famous than the Zodiac Killer. There are like two movies made about him. Also, by letting the alumni know that your father may have been a serial killer, you will immediately win his/her sympathy.

8. **If they ask you who your role model is respond with Lindsay Lohan.** This statement will give off the impression that you really don't listen to gossip. You obviously love Lindsay for her wild and fun personality. You totes believe that Lindsay can make a comeback; you are an extreme optimist.

9. **List all your allergies and other medical needs.** You don't want to be dishonest during your interview, for that alone is reason enough to reject you. So it is important that you are transparent throughout the interviewing process. Tell them a detailed history of all major illnesses you have suffered throughout your life or perhaps bring your doctor in to tell them.

10. **Most importantly, end the interview with "(your name) is the greatest person ever, and if you don't accept him/her you will deeply regret it." You want to come off as cocky and conceited, for no other student will be portrayed this way.** Also the ending is sort of threatening and ambiguous. The threat alone could be enough to push you into the accepted pile.

It is important to leave the interview feeling like you interviewed them and that they did not interview you. These tips are sure to leave the admissions officers in awe. Don't worry, you will really stand out.



A. Adams-Campeau

## Mistletoe's tragic life

by Rheagan Rizio  
Sports Editor

I can't take it anymore! All these years I've been forced to endure this pain in silence, all this suffering I've been through for so long, but no more! Do you know what we tell our cotyledons about at Halloween, just before everything starts? We tell them horror stories of the things we've seen at Christmas time, the terrors we have had to endure.

You there, sir! Yes you. I would really appreciate it if you would refrain from getting too handsy in such a public location. Get a room. And don't bring me into that room if you please, that's been done before. And you, ma'am! I am appalled that you would allow such things to be done to you. I know you think that no one can see you, but you're wrong. Dead wrong.

I honestly do not understand how this tradition got started. I am a poisonous plant, for goodness sake. That alone should be enough to spare me from the indignity I have to witness every holiday season. I mean, you give people chocolate as romantic gifts, you don't give them anthrax, even though that can be pretty. I have to imagine that a nice, non-toxic rose could do this job just as well.

I also have to deal with the sappy songs that mention me or are about me. Can you imagine being sung about by such people like Justin Bieber? No, I didn't think so. His song is possibly the most uncreative thing I have heard in my entire life cycle, and anyways, he already has a plant of choice it seems like, and it certainly isn't me. I just wish a song would be done about me by Michael Bubl , that would make it all worth it.

But perhaps the worst injustice that has been done to me is the festive red bow. Excuse me, but I am male. Of the genotype XY. I do not appreciate being paraded around as something pretty and feminine that can be dressed up. If someone could find a way to make me look somehow ruggedly sexy, then maybe I would be a little more willing to be used as a hook-up inducer. But having to serve as that while dressed as a girl is just too much for me to handle.

I realize that my complaints will mean absolutely nothing to you as you do not have to go through what I go through; you have not seen what I have seen. So until the day a nuclear explosion gives me super strength, and the power to take my revenge on you all, may you live a happy and fulfilled life. Bah humbug.

Yours truly,  
Bob the Mistletoe



courtesy wikicommons

## El Gato resolutions

by Violet Wallerstein  
World Editor

If you're like me, you're always making and breaking your New Year's resolutions. It's always a disappointment to come to December and see that I haven't stayed true to any of my goals. This year I'm determined to keep them by making them public! Feel free to come up and remind me to stay true to my promises.

1. Stop feeding my pigs bacon.
2. Act more like Miley Cyrus.
3. Exercise more, but only through twerking.
4. Start a weight loss program with Jenny Craig.
5. Trade my siblings to be on reality TV.
6. Learn how to cook whale.
7. Volunteer as tribute for the Hunger Games.
8. Eat a lot of Fiber One bars.
9. Convert my family to communism.
10. Max out my parents' credit cards at Hot Topic.
11. Break up with my World of Warcraft girlfriend.
12. Steal Liat Rubin's vocal chords.
13. Find Rachel more love in 2014.
14. Start a heavy metal band with my deaf aunt in my grandma's basement.
15. Make a Snapchat for my cat.
16. Begin Live Action Role-playing.
17. Go to a Nickelback concert.
18. Defeat fire lord Ozai with Aang.
19. Get a "swaggy" tattoo.
20. Start a charity for kids who need wombats.
21. Conserve less energy.
22. Finish every level in Candy Crush.
23. Learn to breathe underwater.
24. Beat every Pokemon game ever made.
25. Re-dedicate myself to taxidermy.
26. Be adopted by Honey Boo Boo's family.
27. Pierce my dog's ear.
28. Go deep-sea diving to find Spongebob.
29. Make Game of Thrones an official religion.
30. Find a radioactive swamp and become a new superhero.



courtesy wikicommons