

SIBLING
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56 Mulock Avenue, Unit 1, Toronto, ON M6N 3C4, Canada

“Open Heart, Run Off”
Marisa Kriangwiwat Holmes

August 29 – September 28, 2019

Dear Meesie,

The apartment is in boxes again. I know that it's a privilege to move cities every few years but that doesn't make it any less of a pain. All of this to start a new job. Following the already typical etiquette of e-mails to my new employer, I'll probably compulsively embellish my character throughout the first few encounters:

Dear,

If there's anything else I can do, please don't hesitate to ask, Thank you in advance,

Sent from my iPhone

Meesie, where do you draw the line between embellishment, exaggeration and lying? In search of some consolation I've resorted to reading forums where strangers pose open-ended questions and the most eager members reply by flexing their knowledge for upvotes:

On Aug 16, 2018 Bob Walker comments:

“I'm 5'11 and 3/4" tall.. I put down on my license application that I was 6 foot. I'm OK with that... It wasn't quite 22 inches, and it wasn't quite 5 pounds... but it was 22 inches and 5 pounds... still an impressive trout.. I'm OK with that. And it was tasty and a heck of a fight...

I know where I draw the line with myself.. I learned very early on in my life that lying didn't pay..."

And yet, I'm about to enter a professional position as a photo retoucher. In this field, there's hardly any difference between fabrication and enhancement — a spectrum of believability depending entirely on the erasure of human touch. Infinitely masking and cloning artefacts on a white background until my tablet is etched and my stylus skewed to suit the converging pressure of index and thumb. Sometimes I catch myself trying to stamp out residual smudges or dead pixels on the screen but they remain resilient and impossible. Minor blemishes on a parallel plane that escape my efforts... I'm OK with that.

Sincerely yours, Felix