8 BECKA GET ENGAGED!

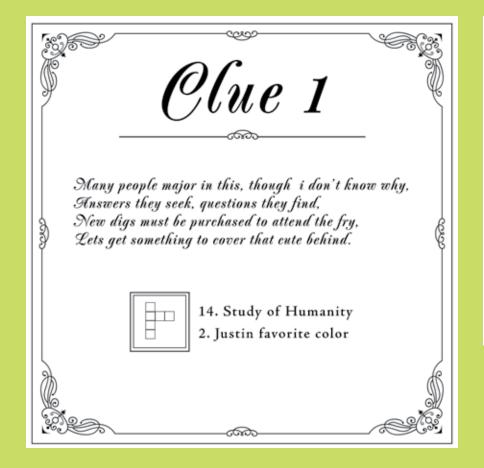
MARCH 1, 2010 was Justin & Becka's 5 year anniversary. On the morning of Saturday February 27th, Justin gave Becka a CD with her morning tea that simply said "Play Me Now" on it. The CD beings with the traditional Mission Impossible song and then goes into a series of robotic voices describing the following message:

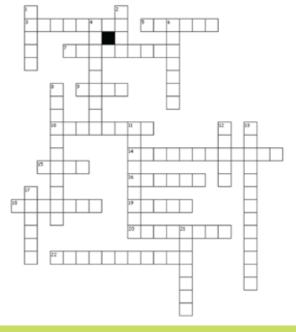


HELLO AND GOOD MORNING REBECCA LYSEN. HAPPY ALMOST 5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY. YOUR MISSION SHOULD YOU DECIDE TO ACCEPT WILL BEGIN IMMEDIATELY AND COULD GO ON FOR A FEW DAYS DEPENDING ON YOUR SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE OF OPERATIVE JUSTIN HOSEK. USE EACH CLUE TO DETERMINE YOU NEXT LOCATION. FILL OUT THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE TO COMPLETE THE FINAL CLUE. SHOULD YOU OR ANY MEMBER OF YOUR TEAM BE CAUGHT OR KILLED THE SECRETARY WILL DISAVOW ALL KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR ACTIONS. TO BEGIN TO FIND YOUR FIRST CLUE: "IT COULD BE DEAD, IT COULD BE ALIVE, PROBABLY NO HOPE TO REVIVE. NO ONE EVER GOES IN HERE, YOU SIMPLY COULD NOT SURVIVE." THIS TAPE WILL SELF DESTRUCT IN 5 SECONDS. 5...4...3...2...1... *EXPLOSION WITH THE SOUND OF A CAT SCREAMING* (POOR BLUE!)

J&B

THIS HINT LED BECKA into the 3rd room of the apartment where the experimental beer brewing kit is set up. Not being sure if the beer is actually brewing (alive or dead) and the 3rd room generally being a hazard (no one goes in there, simply cannot survive) were the tip offs. On the beer brewing kit was the following clue and crossword puzzle:





STUDY OF HUMANITY and somewhere that new clothes can be bought could only be Anthropologie - Becka's favorite store. Off to SoHo to find a new dress!!!







AFTER FINDING THE PERFECT DRESS, Justin and Becka walked towards the exit of the store where the security guard handed Becka the next clue:



BEING AVID KU BASKETBALL FANS means that this clue lead the couple to Village Pourhouse to watch the KU v OSU game. It ended up being one of the few losses that Kansas had that season, but it didn't put a damper on the day.









THE WAITRESS AT THE POURHOUSE brought over the third clue, which was partially filled out with letters and numbers leaving blanks for Becka to solve the next location:



SOLVING THE COMPLEX PUZZLE

revealed that the next location would be art gallery openings in Chelsea. Friends Paul & Casey joined to come along and enjoy the art & free wine!











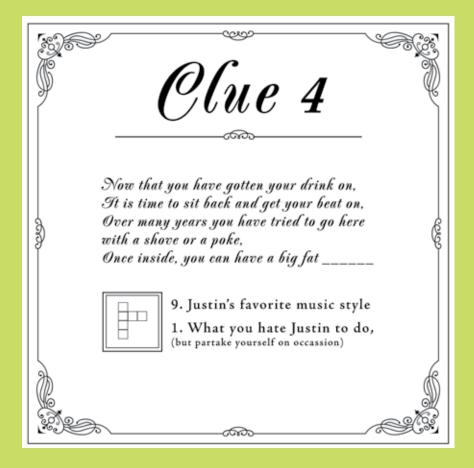




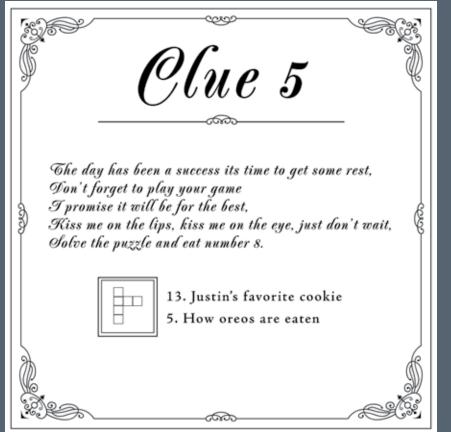




PAUL HANDED BECKA the next clue of the evening. Becka quickly deciphered the clue to mean that they were headed to the jazz club Smoke that she had always wanted to go to. As it turned out, it was a long day and they decided it was best to get some rest and take a raincheck on going to Smoke.



BACK AT THEIR APARTMENT, Justin handed Becka the final clue of the day. This one was tough after a long day with an additional math problem to solve! Once Becka found where the number 8 spot on the grid was she hurried to the kitchen to look in the box of chocolates from Valentines Day for the corresponding grid spot.







THE NEXT MORNING, Justin presented Becka with the final clue. The directions lead Becka to a spa for an hour long massage!

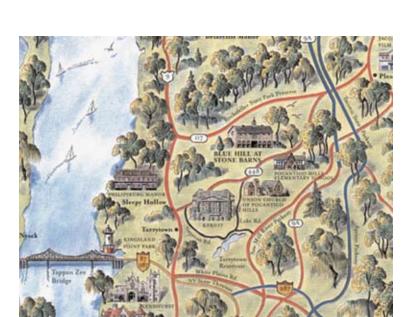








ARRIVING BACK at the apartment, Justin informed Becka that she should get dressed in her new dress and ready to leave by 4pm. He then left on a mysterious errand. When Justin returned he lead Becka outside to an awaiting rental car. "Where are we going???" asks Becka.







DRIVING THROUGH SLEEPY HOLLOW Justin pulls over and parks the car near the infamous Headless Horseman Bridge. The previous fall, Becka & Justin had visited the bridge with friends and walked through the eerie cemetery. On the side of the bridge, Justin shocks Becka by getting down on one knee and proposing. Becka has a hard time believing this is happening and keeps questioning Justin: "Are you serious?!" and then exclaiming: "A million times yes!"









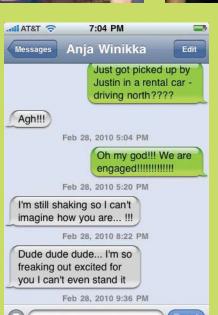
"I HOPE I HAVE BETTER LUCK THAN ICHABOD CRANE."
- JUSTIN

ELATED AND STILL IN SHOCK Becka first calls her mom to break the wonderful news and then updates her best friend Anja via text on the turn of events that she has been relating the whole day.









ONCE THE NEWS HAS BEEN BROKEN, the excited couple arrives at their next

destination. Blue Hill at Stone Barns



















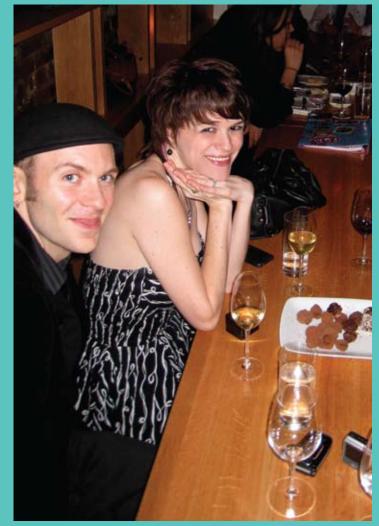






and that wasn't the last surprise of the evening. Becka & Justin drove back south into the city and continued to the lower east side to the wine bar Terroir where their friend Tanner works. Waiting at the wine bar was a large group of friends who gathered under the assumption of a 5 year anniversary toast - everyone was delighted to hear of the engagement and many toasts of champagne occurred.



















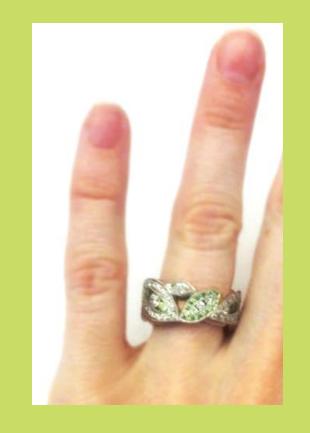






THE STORY OF THE RING

Justin started thinking and working on the ring about a year in advance to the proposal. He did extensive research online and decided he needed to design the ring himself to get something truly unique. Justin worked with jeweler Brad Parsons located in Lawrence at Marks Jewelers. He sent inspiration images and his own sketch. Brad made wax molds and sent images of the ring in the making. The end result is a beautiful platinum ring set with 71 white diamonds, 41 green diamonds, and 3 white marquee diamonds.















THE WAX MOLD OF THE RING AND LOOSE DIAMONDS











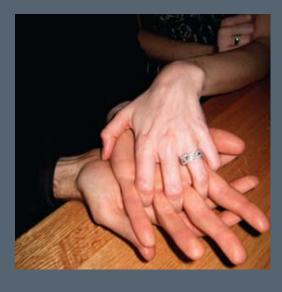


SOME OF JUSTIN'S INSPIRATION RINGS





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J&B

