

# ANYWHEN.ca

*For discerning readers of fictional nonsense and humorous truths...*

**Winter hibernation edition, March 2026**

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## **NEWS FROM THE MIND OF A SILLY MAN**

By M.J. Featherston

Canada has done that thing again, where it becomes a large, polite freezer with a flag, and I've responded in the only sensible way: **hibernation**. Not the romantic kind either — more the “I've been wearing the same sweater since November, and I'm starting to look like a before-photo” kind.

Somewhere in the middle of winter, I began writing again, which sounds inspiring until you learn the truth: I **lost track of the days** entirely. At one point, I was convinced it was Tuesday for three consecutive days, which either means I'm deeply productive or a cult has quietly recruited me.

I've also been doing the glamorous author work you never see in movies:

- **Squinting at the March sun** like a cave creature spying daylight for the first time
- **Answering readers' emails** (which I genuinely love — thank you for being the sort of humans who still type words at other humans)
- And, in a development no one requested, **growing out my ear hair** like I'm preparing for an audition as “Wise Forest Hermit #3” in a low-budget fantasy series.

So yes, I've been busy - the way moss is busy. But still.

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I'm still writing, still trying to be funny while staring into the abyss, and still determined to keep the Anywhen series alive — which brings me to Douglas Adams.

### **WHY DOUGLAS ADAMS WORKED (AND STILL DOES)**

Douglas Adams didn't just write science fiction. He wrote **philosophy in a bathrobe**, then threw a towel over it and called it comedy.

What made *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* hit millions of readers wasn't just the absurdity (though the absurdity was glorious). It was the feeling that Adams was doing three things at once:

- Making you laugh at the universe
- Making you suspicious of the universe
- And quietly whispering, "Yes, it's all ridiculous... but you're allowed to enjoy it anyway."

His style had that rare combination of:

- **Deadpan logic applied to nonsense** (the best kind of logic)
- **Big ideas made human-sized** (existence, meaning, bureaucracy, the cosmic joke)
- **Warmth underneath the sarcasm** — like being roasted by someone who still wants you to have a nice day

And maybe most importantly: Adams permitted smart people to admit they were confused. He made the chaos feel survivable. Possibly even funny.

If you're one of those Hitchhiker's fans who likes your comedy with a philosophical bite (and the occasional duck), well..., that's the same strange little corner of the universe I'm writing from too.

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### **A GENTLE NUDGE TOWARD BOOKS**

If you've read either of the Anywhen books — thank you. Truly. Your messages and notes have left me permanently scarred with smile lines.

If you haven't, here are the two troublemakers:

- **Nothing Sacred – A Divine Comedy** (Book 1)

- **The Universe, Earl Grey, and a Duck** (Book 2)

They live here (because capitalism continues to exist): <https://www.anywhen.ca>

### **One small favour (that's actually enormous)**

If you've enjoyed the books — **PLEASE leave a review** on **Goodreads** and/or **Amazon**.

I'm not being dramatic when I say this is the one thing that genuinely helps authors sell books. Reviews are the closest thing we have to oxygen. (That and coffee with two spoonfuls of delusion.)

- **To leave a review on Goodreads:**  
[https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/54364270.M\\_J\\_Featherston](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/54364270.M_J_Featherston)
- **To leave a review on Amazon:** [https://www.amazon.com/stores/M-J-Featherston/author/B0DT4SWYKL?ref=sr\\_ntt\\_srch\\_lnk\\_1&qid=1772561400&sr=8-1&shoppingPortalEnabled=true&ccs\\_id=a9e85d04-d635-4ac0-9400-77ddd1e80942](https://www.amazon.com/stores/M-J-Featherston/author/B0DT4SWYKL?ref=sr_ntt_srch_lnk_1&qid=1772561400&sr=8-1&shoppingPortalEnabled=true&ccs_id=a9e85d04-d635-4ac0-9400-77ddd1e80942)

Even a couple of sentences helps. Such as... "I laughed despite receiving a serious paper cut. Which wasn't easy since I'd bought the eBook version."

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## **WANTED: RECRUITS FOR THE ANYWHEN EXPERIENCE**

### **Qualifications:**

- enjoys British wit
- tolerates philosophy
- not threatened by ducks
- emotionally prepared for mild cosmic disrespect

To join the newsletter: email [mjf@anywhen.ca](mailto:mjf@anywhen.ca) with the subject line **SUBSCRIBE**.

If you know someone suitably sedated, please forward this email to them. Do not forward to the humourless.

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## **NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSE**

By Karl Marx (Toledo, Ohio)

Observations from the cosmos, which watches us with the patient expression of someone waiting for a kettle to boil:

1. If you can laugh at existence, you've already won half the battle. The other half is remembering where you left your phone.
2. The universe is vast, indifferent, and inescapably seeped in bureaucracy.
3. Meaning is not always delivered on schedule. Sometimes it arrives late, in a box, with an invoice.
4. Panic is optional. Confusion is inevitable. Sleep helps.
5. If you post a book review..., somewhere an author briefly stops spiralling and considers showering before dinner.

**By the way**, I'm always looking for unique and humorous character names. If you have a great one, let me know. If I use it, I'll credit you in the book's acknowledgements.

Until next time,  
M.J.

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