Guess what? You're taking us on a road trip!

We decided that as a reward for writing trivia, we deserve to go on a road trip next week! You will be driving us across the US from Savannah, GA to Los Angeles, CA. We'll provide the car—a 1993 Toyota Camry Station Wagon. In addition to your delightful trivia writers (numbering 2), you have: 1 three-year-old black lab, 4 empty paper coffee cups, 1 jumper cable (half a set), 3 boxes of cheezits, 1 box of tissues, 4 CDs of your choosing, road maps bought 6 months after the car was first purchased, a smart phone with half of its battery power left but no charger, and the novel, *The Phantom Tollbooth*, by Norton Juster, \$5000 in cash and the clothes and toiletries of your choosing such that they can reasonably fit in the Camry with 3 humans and a 3 year old black lab.

You will have to get gas from time to time; the going rate by the gallon is \$3. Record when you get gas, and how much you spend. At the end of the contest, list all the cities you have passed through on your journey. Bonus points if you map it as well. Create a timeline of our journey; including where we stay each night and what/where we eat. This journey can take as much or as little time as you would like, just remember that you have three people, a dog, and only \$5000 to spend.

The criteria on which this will be graded are, in order of importance: reasonableness of planning, appropriate care given to the 3 year old black lab, frugal spending, and our amusement. Except our amusement is actually the most important.

- 1. What is the name of the 3-year-old black lab?
- 2. List the clothes and toiletries you will be bringing, including luggage. You will be penalized if you bring things that do not fit the categories. If you think you might be stretching the boundaries of the categories, justify why the item belongs. Submit this list as soon as you have created it. You lose 1 point from its value for every 15 minutes it takes you to submit it, up to 8 points.

We meet you in Savannah, with the car, but before we can get on the road, I notice that there is a note tucked in the collar of the black lab. I immediately crumple it up and insist that we drive east, to Tybee Island, so I can find something that I've lost. I will provide no more information.

- 3. What have I lost?
- 4. When did I lose it?
- 5. Why don't I really want it back that badly?

We decide that since we detoured, we might as well enjoy the sights in Tybee Island! My trivia counterpart has committed most restaurant ratings and rankings to memory, and she wants to go to the best place possible. I have a hankering for a meal that includes banana peppers and feta.

- 6. Where should we go to eat?
- 7. What is one thing we probably shouldn't order on the menu?

Because we're leaving so late in the day, our next stop is Millen, GA.

- 8. What is our route to get there?
- 9. Can we camp in the 948-acre state park nearby, if that is something we desire?

- 10. Where can we buy the things we need to do so?
- 11. What will we be buying, and how much does it cost?
- 12. Will it be less expensive than housing 3 individuals and a three-year-old black lab in more traditional lodgings in Millen? If so, by how much?

The next stop is Gadsden, Alabama.

- 13. Soon enough this will become predictable...what is our route to get there?
- 14. The black lab really enjoyed yesterday's park and is once again restless...where should we take him?

Driving to Tupelo!

- 15. How will we get there?
- 16. I've requested an audience with the king. How many years late am I?
- 17. What kind of edible offering should I have brought, had I been more punctual?
- 18. Where in Tupelo is the finest place for me to acquire this kingly dish?
- 19. Plan a tour of Elvis landmarks for the day—remember, the 3-year-old black lab must be taken care of as well!

Find me a moon bow!

1. What else is notable about the location of the nearest one to be found?

Our next stop is Greensburg, Kansas.

- 20. What is the chronologically first reason that Greensburg is known?
- 21. What is the chronologically second reason that Greensburg is known?
- 22. What is the chronologically third reason that Greensburg is known?
- 23. What else has touched down in Greensburg?
- 24. How many times did the local high school football team touch down last season?
- 25. How might one measure (1) and what are these measurements?
- 26. Where should we stay? (remember, we need to bring the dog)
- 27. I want to eat the most sustainable meal I can-where should I go and what should I eat?

needs to go to the bathroom...

- 28. What exit will you pull off at?
- 29. I'm hungry and craving sushi ASAP-where should we go?
- 30. The dog is hungry, too—where can we buy him food close to the sushi?

After Greensburg, take us to Durango!

- 31. How will we get there?
- 32. I'm craving the picturesque. Map the route so that there is the most space possible between amenities.

33. We're all really, really hungry and have a hankering for pizza. Where should we go eat that will best fulfil both of these needs?

Take a break and stretch your legs at the Four Corners

- 34. How much does it cost to see it?
- 35. What is the nearest town?
- 36. Where is the nearest place we can get food?
- 37. What are these particular four corners?
- 38. Is there a monument and what does it say?

Kayenta, Arizona!

- 39. When would be the best time of year for us to go to Kayenta?
- 40. Where should we go to the supermarket for the most authentic Arizona supermarket experience?

Make sure we pass through Tuba City, Arizona.

- 41. Why is it called Tuba City?
- 42. What was mined that put Tuba City economically on the map?
- 43. What else is there to do in Tuba City?

Off to the Grand Canyon!

- 44. How many miles did we drive through the Navajo Reservation?
- 45. What is the elevation of the lip of the Grand Canyon?
- 46. Which side will we see first, approaching from Tuba City?
- 47. Plan a day's worth of Grand Canyon food and activities!

Time to traverse the Mojave Desert!

- 48. In what town do we enter the Mojave Dessert?
- 49. Is there any place we can stop once we're in the dessert?
- 50. Any other landmarks we should make sure to see in the dessert?
- 51. In what town do we leave the dessert?

One more mountain range until we reach LA!

- 52. What is the name of this Mountain range?
- 53. Which suburbs of LA will we pass through on our way to the city?
- 54. What streets will we take through the city to the ocean?
- 55. Congratulations! You've made it to the Pacific Ocean! Well, this is...anticlimactic. Now what should we do?