

Lists: Raison D'Être Pour le Sharpie Noir

by Debbie Hobler

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Lists: I am a list-maker extraordinaire. But my greatest satisfaction comes from crossing off things on my list that I really, REALLY do not like doing. Some are big items, others are small. Some, thankfully, are one-time onlys; others, unfortunately, arise repeatedly. But the pleasure I derive from taking that big black Sharpie and drawing a line through my most unpopular list items is pure, unadulterated nirvana. Finished! Completed! Done! Kaput! Here's a list of Debbie Hobler's most unfavorite, favorite list items:

1. Have colonoscopy
2. Have annual gynecology appointments
3. Contract a disease, any kind
4. Get shots, any kind
5. Have blood tests, any kind
6. Attend an opera, any kind
7. Undergo house renovations
8. Tent house for termites
9. File college and graduate school applications
10. Take SATs
11. Take GREs
12. Pay bills
13. Pay taxes
14. Write my will and complete estate/trust planning documents
15. Arrange own funeral arrangements (hopefully only once)
16. Make other people's funeral arrangements
17. Get divorce
18. Pay legal fees for divorce
19. Go on blind dates, hopefully not with lawyers
20. Dental appointments, any kind
21. Move to new home/new town
22. Lose weight
23. Buy bathing suit
24. Buy new bra(s)
25. Update resume
26. Seek new employment
27. Learn how to use my computer
28. Fix computer viruses and meltdowns
29. Pay for computer viruses and meltdowns

30. Clean kitty litter box
31. Get car serviced/repared
32. Take written test at the DMV
33. Clean Guernsey cow tails
34. Clean shoes after cleaning cow tails
35. Call backs to people I don't want to talk to
36. Seasonally reprogram computerized watering system for garden
37. Set all clocks forward and back for daylight savings time
38. Crack, steam and peel chestnuts for holiday meals
39. Pack for trips
40. Write lists