



# The Classy Rat Newsletter

april 2019

## A word from *Classy*...

Hello Classy Rats! What's your favorite kind of flower? A new trend is emerging on ratsagram: it's called flower hats. My favorites are dandelions, cornflowers, and hydrangeas. Visit a plant nursery near you to find one that first the exact shape and size of your head. Just watch out for bees! Now, don't get me wrong bees are very important to nature and the world. But, having a bee sting your ear is just not classy. So, watch out for that, I guess.

In other, less floral news, I'm happy to announce that we are half way through our fundraising goal of 30,000 crumbs for rat education. Catch my television special, *The Classy Files*, during which I visit Academy Rattus, a rat learning institution in need of a face lift. Stream it online or catch it on RaTv.

The Classy Rat

## The Classy Rat Newsletter Staff

We're four months in this year, and I just want to say thank you to my wonderful staff here at the Classy Rat.



MOOG



SNEAKERS



CALLIOPE

My sincere thanks goes to Moog, who is my editor and greatest confidant. She is a lovely friend with a way for words. We've been together since who knows when, and we will be for years to come! Thank you, Moog, for helping me stick to proper rat grammar, and for all those times you peered into the infinite void to ask the rat-lords questions about my future.

A special thanks goes to Sneakers is our energetic and bright intern. She's so hardworking and positive, I definitely benefit from her presence so much. Thank you, Sneakers for being around to get me through the day. For all the last minute runs to Pizza Rat, and for those cute friendship bracelets you make, you must teach me how to make one!

A gRATuitous thanks goes to my manager, Calliope. She's a gorgeous old rat lady with a lot of stories from her youth. I hope I can live my young rat life the same way you did, then some day I'll be a snazzy manager who wears trendy leggings and can wow the youngin's with tales of my sea-faring days.

A deep and real thanks goes to all the human friends who make it possible for the rat newsletter to be distributed to it's growing audience of human readers in the human dimension. I've never really been able to understand what they say since it all sounds low and too loud for my finely tuned ears, I've had much kind correspondence via email and even by owl.

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## Classy Rartist: *dessertmaus\_art*

Manuela @dessertmaus\_art on IG is making charming colored pencil and water color rat works. She also has a linked account where she posts beautiful photos of the Bavarian landscape.

[http://Instagram.com/dessertmaus\\_art](http://Instagram.com/dessertmaus_art)

## Classy Rat Of The Month

Margot (the rat, not the human), the ferocious beast, is a rat to be feared and regarded. She is the kind of rat who is known to crawl inside of books and eat the delicious words inside. She is a literary rat, and has consumed many books, so she is quite large. She is very squishy and has many rolls, which she is proud of. She often likens herself to a tardigrade when doing stand-up comedy.

<http://Instagram.com/ratsandcrafts>



## A Ratrospective: The Rat Oracle



For millennia, the rat oracle has been leading rat civilization through their annual prophecies and moral judgments. But something has been happening in the last few decades that's begun to shake the oracle center: and that is: knowledge, folks. We rats are getting smarter. How did that happen? We would be foolish to ignore the significance of the skateboard's introduction to our society, as well as the increase in our vitamin intake. It's not that our scampering ancestors had less brain cells or larger jaw bones that competed with their brain sizes: they just didn't have the access to the internet.

So, many rats are beginning to turn up their snouts when they hear the rat oracle say something untrue. Like: there's a galaxy somewhere named after a candy bar. Tomato, a Siamese rat who was raised to worship the oracle, puts it best:

"There's just something silly about it all. We've been putting our trust in the paws of 10-12 nameless, faceless monks who sit around in a cave all day, around a hole to the center of the earth. They're sniffing netherworld gases and having hallucinations that they say tell us all about how we ought to live as rats. It's ridiculous."

Ridiculous indeed. Many rats cringed upon hearing last month's prophecy, which referenced slightly out-dated memes, such as ratbob, which rats as old as the oracle rats could never understand. We

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speculate that perhaps the rat oracle is sensing the gap in generations and is attempting to close it by using younger lingo. But the usage of internet memes is a tricky science. It doesn't help that Generation Pizza (the name for rats born in between the years 2010-2015), is growing and developing trends at a speed much higher than their parents.

"The Oracle is slow and stagnant. Pizza Rats want something that they can access at the click of a mouse," says Tomato.

As it turns out, new groups and ways of thought are emerging. "The Circle of risotto" (CoR) started as innocently as 5 internet friends meeting up in Paris, France's most popular risotto bar, Ratsotto. But, a bizarre tradition arose involving risotto being consumed and causing the effect of the rats speaking in tongues. The group ended up writing down translations of all the crazy noises coming from their snouts and claimed to find some kind of knowledge or wisdom about ratmanity.

The risotto effect hasn't been recorded in other circles, but RatsOnline has dubbed it the new rat oracle: something which the current rat oracle is sure not to like, as evidence by their recent tweet: "the void rat cannot be channeled through risotto," a statement that was clearly directed at CoR followers, or Grain Rats, as they call themselves.

Tomato: "CoR blew up with popularity. I remember reading the original post about it and going, 'here it is- it's fast, it's Italian (I think?), and it's meaningful.' And, if the Rat Oracle is paying it any attention, then you know it's real. Follow the grain."



## **Ask Classy**

Got a problem? Let Classy deal some advice! Send your questions to: [AskTheClassyRat@gmail.com](mailto:AskTheClassyRat@gmail.com)

Dear Classy,

I'm having a problem. I can't pass my drivers test even after 3 tries. What should I do?

Can'tDrive

Dear Can'tDrive,

There's no shame in not being able to drive these days. I never drive! I almost feel silly for getting so stressed out about my own drivers exam back in the day. Now, I have a private chauffeur that takes me where I need to go (thanks, Rats On Wheels!) But, there's always rideshare services if you need to get around. If you're looking for a cheaper option, I've heard investing in a rat bike is a good deal. They make tail clamps now so your tail doesn't get caught in the wheels anymore (that was a nightmare back in the day, let me tell you!). If you're

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really set on driving a car, try meditating before beginning your test. The drivers instructor will understand.

Dear Classy,

In my neighborhood, a pest-control van has been circling. Should I be concerned? What can I do to make sure me and my neighbors are safe?

VerminInFear

Dear VerminInFear

That's really scary! When there's suspicious activity in your neighborhood, you should talk to your neighbors about it. Try forming a neighborhood watch and make a plan for what to do if you see the pest control van becoming a problem. Warn your friends and neighbors to be careful of eating food that's lying on the street, as it might be poisoned or part of a trap. If one of your neighbors needs help, be prepared to hide them in your house. If you and your neighbors band together, you can scare the pest control van out of your neighborhood. Power in numbers! Remember, humans and dogs alike once feared the powerful many headed creature called the Rat King. Now, I'm not saying you and your neighbors should summon him by tying your tails together and chanting, but if one were to do so, you'd be unstoppable.

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