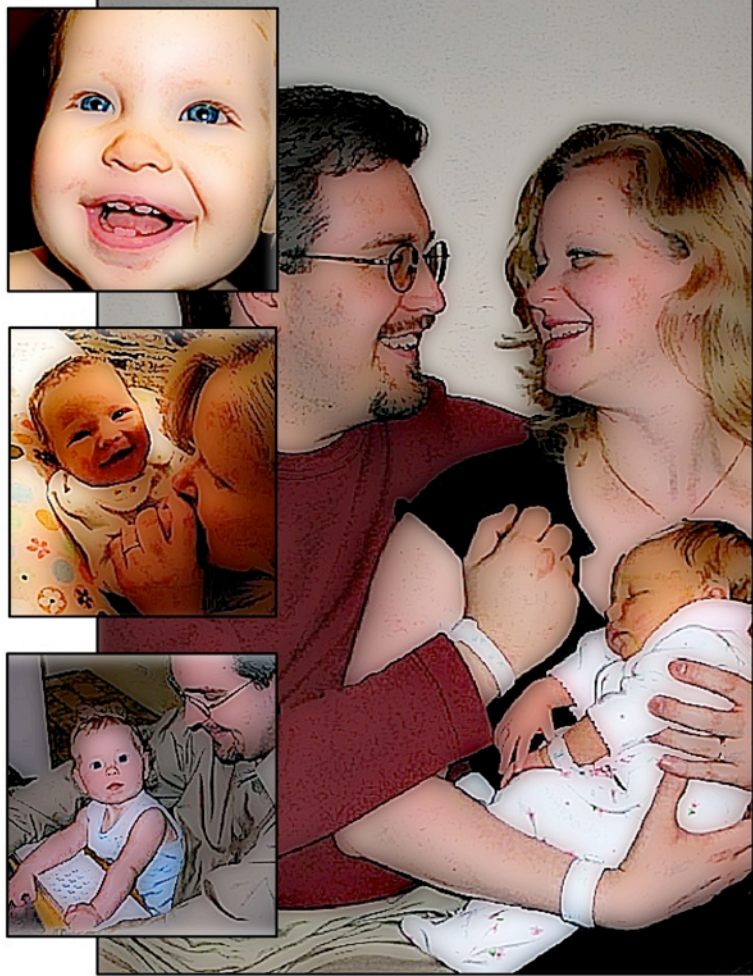


2007

# The Year In Review



Andrew Goetz: Year 33

*This year, the universe changed. You know how the trees on the road down the way are pretty unremarkable until one day, you're driving home and the perfect sunset reflected by perfect clouds and diffused by the perfect amount of fog lights them up in just the right way and you notice that they are the same, but now changed. Kinda like that.*

*We had a kid: a daughter to be exact; who we named Lillian after my grandmother. She's our tiny bundle of ecstatic paranoia. She embodies beauty and love while slowly decreasing my audible range. (OK, I intentionally did far more damage with One Bad Pig, so I can't really complain.) She's a whole new universe without the need for warp drive to get around.*

*Some other stuff happened, too: I stopped pretending that I could run my own business and got a job. (Yes, yes, technically, I am still pretending to run a business, but I think my clients might tend to differ on this point.) I steadfastly refused to join any social networks. (Though, I will probably have to join LinkedIn for work purposes in the next year.) I continued with and then withdrew from Seminary. (Turns out that DTS wasn't the best fit for me.) I rescued Zelda, again. (She really should just stay locked in her room.) I got promoted at the new job. ("Software Development Manager" > "Senior Programmer"?;) I donated lots and lots of red blood cells. (Rescuing premies? It's all in a day's work.) Other stuff happened too, but it would take a full year to tell you about all of it, and you can read my (I mean, Lillian's) blog if you really want to know more.*

*I still think I like blue best, but certain shades of green are starting to gain ground. I'll keep everyone posted.*

Erica Goetz - A year ago I was in my third trimester of pregnancy and looking forward to meeting the new person growing inside of me. I can hardly begin to describe how much I have changed since Lillian has come into my life. Along with the late nights and dirty diapers motherhood has brought me a new and deep sense of joy and wonder unlike anything I could have imagined.

Before Lillian's birth I had thought that I would want to return to work part time to make sure I still had some "adult" interaction on a regular basis. Shortly after returning to work I realized that I hated taking Lillian to daycare and would rather spend the day with her. I am thankful Andrew has a good job and that he is supportive of me staying home with Lillian. I know there are others who can not afford that luxury. I do still get some adult time with friends and since September I have been part of a MOPs (Mothers Of Preschoolers) group which has brought me in touch with other mom's who are full time caregivers like me.

It is amazing how fast Lillian is growing and changing. We already have some insight into her little personality. Although I am enjoying her in all her babyhood I am also looking forward to watching her grow and seeing more of that personality shine through. I also worry sometimes about what the future holds. I could

*May God's  
peace be  
with you  
this year  
and always*

let that fear overshadow everything but instead I am putting my trust in God. That doesn't mean that I think that nothing bad will ever happen to her or that some day (or many days) my heart won't break for Lillian but it means that I believe that God loves her more than I ever could and that he will carry her through whatever the future brings. She is in His hands.