

# BOSTON



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## Newsletter from Boston/Cambridge

6 March 2008

### AND AGAIN: THE COUNTRY OF SUPERLATIVES

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Hey again,

this newsletter is clearly gonna be dominated by pictures. They will tell the stories themselves... actually now that I've written it, it seems somehow different looking at the first page ;-) The topic "the country of superlatives" is hardly spectacular, but this country and its people surprise me anew constantly.

Just one example: everything is about the presidential elections these days in the US. The primaries are in full activity at the moment. A month ago, on February 5, a number of states had their primaries at the same day, so this day was considered significant for the nomination of the parties' first candidates. So far so good. What's special about this is that the importance of the day was not expressed by boring terms, probably as every other country would do it, no, it is called *Super Tuesday*. Not enough, passionate synonyms comprise *Super Duper Tuesday*, *Mega Tuesday*, *Giga Tuesday*, *Tsunami Tuesday*, and *The Tuesday of Destiny*. I mean, Super Duper Tuesday... come oon!! :-D (and you can imagine with how much enthusiasm and [partly] fake emotion American people pronounce it)

And: I'd like to express my thoughts about a precarious question: *why are distant relationships that hard nowadays?*

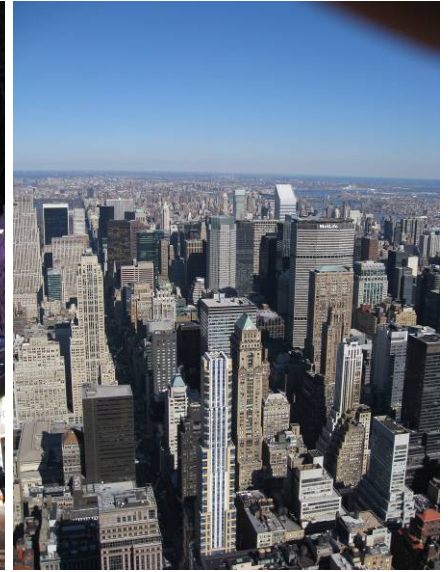
My feeling is that the predicted paradigm shift of (tele)communication innovation rendering distance or even transport obsolete to a certain degree, is not coming true at all. In these times of hectic life, career-centred lifestyle and egomaniac prioritisation, it rather seems that we are so much focused on our close/local environment that *close distant* relationships just don't fit into our way of living. Everybody is "120%" occupied, under constant stress and longing for their own way of trying to reach ultimate self-actualisation or being highly accepted in society.

Ok, what's the essence? Are *close* and *distant* antonyms not only in the etymological, but also in the social sense? Or is just society itself rendering distant relationships obsolete? A saying in a book, which I received from a very dear friend of mine before I left, might elucidate; by perceiving *space* not only from a metaphorical, but a geographic perspective:

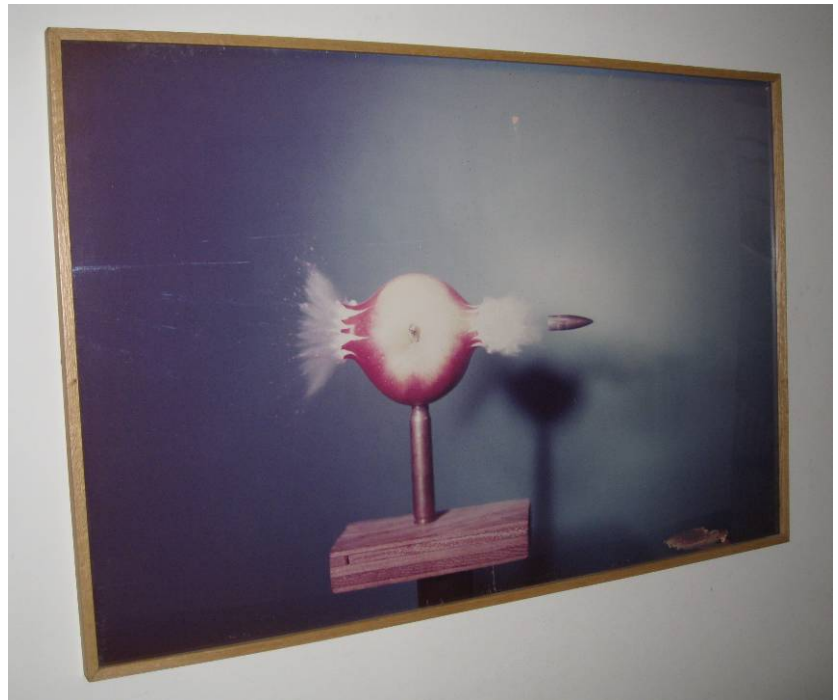
*"We who have friends are wrapped around in kindness  
and safe from the cold immensity of space."*



You can get everything here... I guess my "Hillary" burger was still the most relishable one.



I believe I don't have to say much about this city. More pics at [http://www.berndresch.com/pictures/new\\_york/index.html](http://www.berndresch.com/pictures/new_york/index.html) (user: fotos, pwd: new\_york)

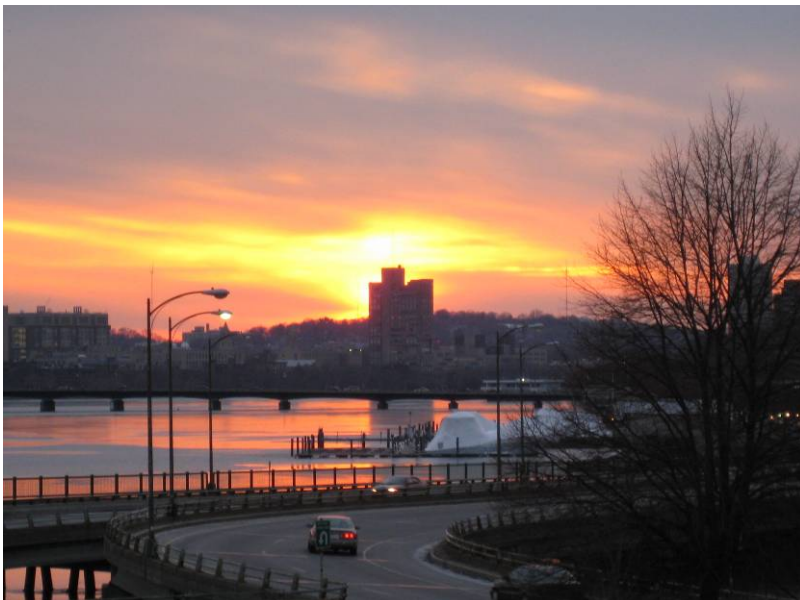


The MIT – new amazing details over and over...





**Skiing in Mt. Sunapee, not to smashing, no "Hüttengaudi", but still a decent skiing area with a gorgeous view down on frozen lake Sunapee!**



**And of course: some Boston impressions. The building on the right picture, which is nearly wholly covered by some weird European guy, is the Lowell House, a dormitory on Harvard campus.**

Finally, I'd just ask you not to talk to me about one topic: Super Bowl... it was a catastrophe here; national mourning! (at least in MA)

Just for information purposes, my plan for the next weeks is the following:

March 15 – March 21: Hongkong (it's definitely gonna appear in the next newsletter)

March 22 – April 4: Salzburg (highlighted by the traditional Easter fondue!!!)  
then back to Boston

All the best, ha det bra och cu soon,  
Bernd.