Querida Chacho,

¡Hola! ¿Cómo estás? ¿Cómo es Colombia? Tengo celos, amigo. Quiero visitar América del Sur. Dime sobre tu viaje. ¿Dónde estás quedándote? ¿Con quién estás tú? Lo siento, pero tengo noticias malas. Tu carta anterior todavía no ha llegado. Lo siento mucho. Espero que lo recibiré pronto, pero no sé. Así… yo decidí escribir este mensaje porque me faltan tus opiniones.

Gah… Okay, I’m done talking in Spanish. That took me too long to write. Sorry if my grammar is bad; I am definitely rusty. So, if you didn’t hear, your letter hasn’t arrived yet. I figure that it will eventually arrive, but if it doesn’t, I’m sure whatever you mentioned in your letter will be brought up again (or you can just bring it up if you brought my previous letter to Colombia or you remember what you wrote). I’m really sorry, I feel really bad that it is lost. I’m sure you put a lot of thought (blood, sweat, tears, etc.) into the letter. You have no idea how very upset I am that it is MIA. I guess I’ll just talk to you about what’s going on in my life right now.

I’m back at school, and my introverted side that developed over the summer is definitely fighting to stay alive. You told me you were an introvert but I’m definitely a mix of the two. I find myself walking around my apartment building listening to music alone and just thinking about random things. I like hanging out with people one-on-one so much more than in a group setting. It’s nice and refreshing, definitely a change, but I’m sure in a few weeks I’ll be back to my crazy self, especially when I’m around Dhamakapella.

So, I’m going through my adolescent phase of doubt right now. DOUBT, why is it so all-encompassing? I wish I could avoid it. I know that I’m being irrational but I can’t help but worry that maybe my friends don’t love me as much as I love them. I don’t even know why I worry about these things... and that’s why I want to be more carefree and spontaneous.

I’ve decided that spontaneity is my new goal for the semester. I’m going to just do things on a whim and not worry so much about consequences and doubting myself, other people, or things. It’s kind of ironic that I’m planning to be spontaneous. =) Anyways, the first spontaneous thing I did was the Backstreet Boys concert. It doesn’t sound spontaneous, but it was for me because I generally don’t like spending money or going downtown, and I had no idea I was going to go until five minutes before we left. It was also an amazing concert. They performed so well, and what they lack in instruments they make up for in coordinated dancing and cute outfits. I know it sounds lame, but they were so good. I feel like you’re the kind of guy who wouldn’t lie about liking the Backstreet Boys... do you? In other news, I went to Cedar Point a couple days ago. It’s the rollercoaster capital of the US and I absolutely LOVED it. I’ve been there before, but the thrill of rollercoasters will never get old. Amusement parks are, in general, fun. They make me feel like a little kid again, except that now I can go on all the rides! I’m short, in case you couldn’t guess, so when I was little I was REALLY short. I’m 5’2” now and I love it that way. Going to Cedar Point made me realize how many fun things there are to do right around Cleveland. There are lots of parks and nature trails. There’s Lake Erie (not as exciting) and all the MUSEUMS, like the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the Natural History Museum. I think I’m going to ask a guy out (on a date) because I’ve never done that before and there are just so many fun things to do with people. It would be interesting asking out a guy. I feel like it will give me confidence, even if I get rejected. Also, I am totally the girl who would take the initiative to ask out a guy. I think it’s silly that society expects the guy to do all the work in that department. I’m guessing you’ve asked out a girl before. Have you ever been rejected? Why didn’t it work out with your ex-girlfriend? Do you think you have a type? I definitely don’t have a type; I’ve liked all shapes, sizes and personalities.

I saw your website, it’s really cool. How did you make it? I tried blogging once and I’m trying again, but I feel like I don’t have anything important to say. My life just isn’t interesting enough to be blogged about. I don’t know why my opinions would matter to anyone except for a couple people and I know I would have friends who would make fun of me for having a blog. It’s not that they think blogs are lame; they just really like teasing me and I’m really sensitive about my writing. They can tease me about being short or too bubbly, but my writing is my own and I hate showing other people it. That’s another thing about me; people lovingly tease me a lot because I’m really gullible. =)

I think I’m going to head out now. Sorry, if this was a short letter. I guess I’m just really excited to finally hear back from you because your last letter went missing. Hopefully it’ll drop in my mailbox soon... I’ll leave you with another question because I am so curious and I love asking questions. Do you have any secrets that you wouldn’t tell anybody ever? You don’t have to tell me the secret obviously, but rather why you won’t tell. And going along with that, has there ever been a time in your life where you really wanted to say something important, but you just couldn’t get yourself to do it? Well that’s all for now. Hope to hear back soon! Chad, have the time of your life in Colombia!

Con amor y amistad,

Nina