

Good Life

You think we all grew a little together during the past year?

As I overindulged with a fourth beer on St. Patrick's Day it dawned on me, "You Think" was having its first birthday.

I ran the year though my mind. Some moments were great, others were messy, but in all, the year and the column have been a personal success. They both represent long-term dreams.

It was only one month shy of one year ago when I was faced with a decision, was I to stick it out with my ex-boyfriend or move on to the unknown?

I made the right choice — Matthew, the absolute unknown.

It was a difficult path to take in terms of love. But we have worked though the barriers of our first year as lovers, roommates and friends.

For me, the road less

traveled has always been the road to fulfillment. Initially, this love was vulnerable, unlikely, demanding and destined. It was, and still is, perfect.

We experienced nature's four seasons living together — the hot summer by the pool, the cold winter in front of the fireplace. During that time, I walked a mellow path, getting to bed early and taking vitamins. My sole adventure was jumping into a relationship and living with Matt — a dive I am thrilled I took.

But next year, expect the adventures to be a bit crazier, more unrealistic and as always, the path most wouldn't take.

Our relationship deal was that I would experience Atlanta for a year and then we would live a year where I choose. With only

You Think?



By Pasha Carroll

three months left in Atlanta, I have narrowed next year down to two places.

If I am accepted to CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, Matt and I will move to New York City. Though this might seem like an easy and safe choice, one that he has known about since we made the deal last May, it will be anything but.

New York is a tough city. It is the kind of city that weighs you down and you

have to struggle for even a single breath of air. It is only when your head is safely above water that you can start to enjoy the marvels of where you live.

I know the academic program I want to be a part of will be grueling and time consuming and put a heavy strain on our love that has been solitary. He would have to share me with school, work and friends ... a bump in our road that would require a four-wheel drive.

If I don't get into school, we are moving to Europe. A part of me would want to be devastated if I don't get accepted, it would mean my opportunities as a journalist and writer will be far fewer.

However, an even bigger part of me would be thrilled to live the year in

Europe. We could be quasi-gypsies. I could freelance and work at a café in London. Matthew and I could experience real life, the real world far beyond our borders. Europe would mean diving into the unknown together, instead of in New York, where I have already been baptized, but Matt has never even touched.

I have grown with "You Think" over the past year. From my first weekly column about St. Patrick's Day, to the moments in my life I never thought I would share with readers. I look forward to the many more years of growing together.

Pasha Carroll offers insight into today's young people. Read her column weekly, exclusively in The Sun. You can contact her at pashacarroll@gmail.com.

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- Holiday Travel Park
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- Maravilla
- Miss Lucille's

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- South Walton Realty
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- Surfside
- The Beach Group
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- Tom Thumb (Seagrove)
- Tom Thumb (Dune Allen)
- Tops'l Guard Gate
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- Tops'l RV Park
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- Village of Baytowne Office
- Village @ Seacrest Beach
- Walton County Courthouse Annex
- Walton Sun Office
- WaterColor Market
- Whale's Tail
- Wheelhouse Restaurant

- Whitney Bank (Seagrove)
- Winn-Dixie (PC Beach)
- Yianni's Grille

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- Corner Café
- Express Lane
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- Freeport Flowers & Gifts
- Freeport Library
- One Stop Grocery
- Freeport Post Office
- Reddick's Restaurant
- Subway

DEFUNIAK SPRINGS

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- Armbruster Realty
- Buy Gone's Antiques
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