Open Letter to the Stubborn Water Wasters of LA

by Jennifer Chen

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Dear L.A. Residents Who Waste Water:

But go ahead and wash your giant truck EVERY SINGLE DAY in your driveway. When the Valley becomes an apocalyptic desert wasteland (fine — when the Valley is more of a wasteland), I will not share my precious canteen with you.

To the owners of that home who run their lawn sprinklers at NOON when it's 90 degrees, the lawn is brown, and most of the water is on the street, let it be known that when we're huddled together at the Staples Center as the sun bakes the entirety of Los Angeles (see: aforementioned apocalypse), your hogging of our much-needed H_2O will be taken into account. No water for you.

To the guy in a moving van who knocked out the overhead sprinklers in a drive-through Citibank ATM, causing a huge spout of water to come gushing out, then sped off — I saw you. I took down your license plate. No water for you.

And to anyone washing your driveway, I have a gift for you. It's called a broom. It does this amazing thing —cleans without any water. No water for you.

For the rest of us who diligently observe our water restriction rules and want to scream in rage when we see a river washing the sidewalk, here's what we do: pin a blue W on anyone wasting water, just like Hester Prynne. Or how about instead of #dogshaming, we call you out with some #watershaming. Will that make you stop wasting water?

This isn't Portland where you can sit outdoors in the rain, drinking artisan coffee. This isn't Seattle where folks proudly don't own umbrellas even when there's a downpour. This is Los Angeles where we hyperventilate when it drizzles during rush hour. Save water now so we don't have to face off in a *Hunger Games*-style death match for something to drink in 2015.

Thanks for your time,

A Non-Water Waster

Got a LA tip for The Bold Italic? Email tips@thebolditalic.com.

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