

*Well folks, it has been quite a while now that I've been living in scenic Island Drive Apartments. The warm sun, freshly mown lawns, shimmering ripples of the pool, glinting glintiness of the fireflies at dusk...I have felt truly blessed to be able to enjoy such a calming atmosphere during my years here in Ann Arbor and have discovered remarkable serenity while sharing this time with you: my dearest friends. While wading in these memories I realized that it has been almost forever since I have enjoyed your presence both simultaneously and proximately. Then it came to me, like a bright, awe-inspiring sledgehammer to the head; the resolution to our divergent paths in space-time:*

*we oughta get trashed.*

*The way I see it, the best way to bring together the sharpest minds, the warmest hearts, and the junkiest trunk-monkeys is to serve fine cuisine, interspersed with hard alcohol. So it shall be done. You are all umbilical-cordially invited to Chez Rousselle on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2004. I would suggest showing up at 9pm, 'cuz datz when da gruve gitz lade doon. And don't bring nothin'. You heard me: don't bring nothin'. Do I need to say it again sucka? A fine assortment of cocktails will be provided, along with random kitchen scrapings to keep you all ALIVE. In the unlikely event that one (or more) of you intake a greater-than-most-human-brains-can-survive-being-immersed-in-but-would-love-to-soak-up-the-fine-fine-sweet-oh-my-god-is-that-ever-good fluid that will be flowing that night, the University of Michigan hospital ER is in crawling distance. In fact, this will be a helpful monument in locating the venue (see below).*

*Now, sadly it seems, I have already lied to you all. No worries, there will indeed be something to munch on (though I cannot vouch for the attractiveness of the smells), but you will in fact each need to bring something. And sorry, but without it you will not be admitted...this is something small, but truly essential.*

*What I need from everyone is to supply their own libation vessel. The form, colour, and design are completely at your discretion. Bring goblets, chalices, steins, mugs, whatever you find convenient to funnel good of  $C_3H_7OH$  into your gob. As incentive, the individual who brings the most ornate, outlandish, or otherwise gaudy drinking utensil will win a prize (= a big hug + sloppy kiss from your host). Please do not disregard this request, anyone who cannot drink from their own glass will be sent home to retrieve one of those ugly mugs that their dad picked up at a garage sale and thought would useful to them in their extended sojourn away from home—though I would suggest a martini glass, since martinis will be the drink of the evening. You don't want to look unfashionable now, do you? The necessity of this act stems from the fact that Chez Rousselle is dangerously understocked in glassware. I had considered loading up on those cheap-ass plastic cups, produced for convenient disposal; but come on now. We're adults here. Instead you will collectively provide an eclectic assortment of drinking instruments to the kitchen inventory, where they will be enshrined for all eternity in memory of all your smiling smiley faces.*

*You might be thinking, "but Jesse, I've been to your apartment and my calculations indicate that if all the people on this list attend, the population density in your apartment will exceed the recommend limit of 0.05 people per square foot. There isn't a chance in hell that you will be able fit all the folks on this list, as well as their significant others, without general calamity and breakouts of intense claustrophobic rage." Listen: don't worry your pretty little heads about it. We'll figure it out.*

*The only thing you need now (in addition to the previously aforementioned drink ticket) are directions to Chez Rousselle. I suggest going to <http://www.mapquest.com> and typing in the address 1048 Island Drive Court, Apt. #103, Ann Arbor, MI, 48105. That usually works. I'll make an attempt to keep the outer door open, but if you cannot make your way in, look for the buzzer with my surname next to it and start buzzin'. Now parking instructions are another matter...the venue is located in the northeast corner of the Island Drive Apartments complex, behind which is a convenient visitor parking area. On weekends this quite often fills up, and yep, they tow ya if you are not in a visitor spot. There is additional visitor parking in the lot just around the bend (as you go left onto Nielsen from Island Drive Ct.), where many of you have sat yo' rides whilst venturing to Chez Harris/Natasha/Panagiotis/Markos. Aside from this, there is a Blue Lot on Maiden Lane at the end of Nielsen, and those of you with parking passes could plop their vee-hickles there.*

*Ça c'est tout! See you all soon.*