



Hi-Ho from the *Far Northern* climes!

Folks do have high-falutin' expectations of what I am like, considering my pristine holiday image. Let me lift the veil off the mystique and show you at the core, I'm just a regular guy.

Boys do lust after the toys. In sunnier southern latitudes, men of a certain financial status and age flaunt their machismo with a Porsche, or for the faux outlaw, a Harley. No, the big guy is not immune either to the allure of flashy hardware. Check out this sweet ride. The ol' testosterone gets kicked up a notch, huh?

The local Eskimos smile in amazement though befuddled by it's impracticality. How do you haul stuff around? At least Santa's regular sleigh, they note, has ample if not inexhaustible trunk space for presents.

They cannot fathom a real man's fascination with a hyper-ionized, dimension-transitional power drive.

Mmm, mmm, the sheet metal on this baby,... lovely. *THAT'S transcendent design!* The iPads and iPhones of the world rank prosaic and plebian by comparison.

That elf from my workshop is a cutey, don't you think? She does fancy shiny exotica, and guys that are moving up in the world, like moi, of course. The playful wench is handy too with a wrench, imagine that?

Dudes need time to bond with their buds. The "man cave" helps fill the bill. The popular image is of a place dark and dank, coated with a scum from all the chips and pizza consumed in mass quantities while paying homage to the sports heroes of the moment. Unbecoming for a man of my image and standing Ms. Claus pronounced. Marriage is marked by compromise, alas. "Light and Airy" became the operative words -- a "man loft" would now seem the right label. No worries.



The Man of Steel's Arctic home base, the *Fortress of Solitude*, while spacious can feel lonely. The burden of being THE go-to good guy all the time when worldwide mischief occurs weighs heavily on the boy. To beat back his lurking dark demons, Jack Daniels makes a *fine* companion. When not so damn earnest, he does enjoy tearing the place up.

Those furry funsters the 'Berg Brothers *absolutely love* to mess with him. Time and again Superman proves the easy dupe for fake Kryptonite left around unexpectedly. You know it when he goes ballistic. The knuckleheads are diehard Chicago Bears fans. You can see they were a wee bit distraught as their beloved team completely blew a key play. Ohhh, the pain!! **Grrrr...**

Santa, in a male bonding empathetic sort of way, felt compelled to lay down a line of raw blues, denoting the Bears inept on-field performance. That Santa is, by the way, ONE **saxy** guy, eh? What's worse, the agony of pathetic execution or enduring a tone-deaf Santa?

Did you peg me as a meat and potatoes guy? Well, ... I used to be. To Rudolph and his crew I represented a worrisome conundrum. Should they happen to lose a step during present delivery time, did that mean my vision of them morphed from valued family member to a meal on the table? Stress does detract from performance.

On top of that the little woman of the house had been nudging me in her own diplomatic way to alter my four primary food groups from fats, sugar, salt, and caffeine to something a mite healthier. So, easy choice, I've consequently gone vegetarian-lite and everyone's happier.

The clear intent and focus makes it obvious elves are pizza and beer naturals. As a bonus for the rascals, check out those artful iconic pizzas, rosy cheeks and what dazzling personal magnetism! How can anyone possibly resist one so huggable and lovable?

As a protein compromise I've developed an affinity for sushi. At first, raw and uncooked bothered me however Penguin Pete does it, so I'm down with it too. Folks marvel at the Dexterity, precision, and speed of my knife work making sushi – surely they joke, my alter ego must be that of one serial killer on TV. Ho-Ho-Hooo,.. the 😊 absolute absurdity of it! Ahh...Heh-Heh-Hehhh ... 

Anyways, a funny thing; as my skills in the kitchen have evolved, my personal tastes became more refined. For all the Kiddies on my route I might suggest in lieu of milk and cookies leaving me a hot toddy and tiramisu ... or surprise me with something ever so delectable! 'Tis always good to rack up brownie points so that when we get around to wish list review time next year ...

So simply, go ahead and savor all the flavors and colors of the Holidays!

Santa Claus

