

Sample email template

Hi _____,

I have a winter buddy, Majestic oak (*substitute your winter tree buddy name, you might know the species, or just listen for the name that feels right*). I met them through my participation in the Multispecies Care Survey Winter Protocol. I wonder if maybe you can give me some advice on how to approach my winter buddy next time I visit them, by giving me a question and/or physical gesture to take to them, so we all can build a relationship. Once we get your question(s) and or physical gesture(s) we will report back to you so you will become part of our growing relationship. Below is the report from our first meeting, and a photograph. Thanks so much for helping create a more-than-human community. If it's ok with you, I will share our exchanges in a report on the Multispecies Care Survey website once winter has transitioned into spring.

love _____(*your name*) + _____(*tree name*)

Sample Report (from andrea haenggi)

Report 1 (Feb.1, 2021):

Majestic Oak: "Hi everyone, laboring a lot in my top branches, swing in curved small pathways continuous back and forth to keep up with the wind force. The wind deposits more snow crystals on my North side trunk, leaving the South side ground more open. I really want more snow so my South side roots can get covered as well and get the snow warmth.

Then my winter buddy, an anxiety slender white womxn leans on my South side and thanks me that I give her shelter and makes her feel comfortable, warm and protected. Her weight is leaning into my uneven valleys of bark. She says" I'm impressed you are here for so long, you must know your place really well. To fully be face to face with you I choose today to step as far as possible away from you. It took me 40 feet and brought me into the open ball field until I

fully could sense and see you but the wind bringing the snowflakes on my right cheek was really unblessend. Was able to do a still image of you to share with others but not much more than that. I walked towards you for an answer of help from the snowstorm, unblessed misery, until I thought I was prepared as my swiss farmer's ancestors always told me: "There is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothes."

Majestic Oak: Would you love to be the whole winter outside and we with me? It comforts me that we share the tumbling snowflakes from the upper atmosphere

Anxiety Winter Buddy: Not really! Looking up into your branches - one branch is broken and falling onto your other branches and yes less wind but otherwise I'm still cold. I prefer after a while leaning on you to go back into my indoor walls with central heat and wall protection. Glad to know the squirrel stays with you.

Majestic Oak (whispering): Honestly the squirrel is so repetitive - always chooses the same branch to walk along to jump over to the next branch of my family kin, the Tilted Oak.



Photograph of Majestic Oak, February 1st at McCarren Park in Williamsburg, Brooklyn