



AGATHA'S

A TASTE OF MYSTERY

161 Peachtree Center Ave
Atlanta, GA 30303

July 14, 2017

In Memory of Blake Dempsey Rice
February 5, 1997- May 21, 2017

Greetings,

I hope this letter finds all well with you and yours. I am writing today to ask for your help and support.
Did you know that suicide is the second leading cause of death in the US for ages 18-24? That one in three LGBT teens attempts, or commits suicide? I did not.

After the heartbreaking suicide of my cousin Blake Rice I began to learn a lot of unsettling facts about our young people and their struggles with anxiety, depression, drugs, and alcohol abuse, as well as the mental health issues that can lead to suicide. Arriving in Prattville AL to celebrate the life of Blake was difficult. The effect on the lives of the surviving family and friends leaves a tragic toll, at times it was more than they could bear.

On a more positive note being in Prattville allowed me to cross paths with a friend of Blake's, Chase Waters. Blake and Chase cheered together at Troy University. Chase is a kidney transplant survivor and has an uplifting story he likes to share. We become fast friends. Over the next few weeks, no matter where we go we seem to bump into folks with "survivor" stories. The healing has begun. Back in Atlanta, as I lay in bed, "survivor" stories running around in my head, sleeplessness ensues. I ask myself why could Blake not have been a "survivor"? The best I could come up with was people have no problem talking about their health from the shoulders down, but from the neck up, not so much. If they do, help and other tools are not easily accessible. Many time's access to mental health care is just not available. And if it is, there is a long lead time to get help. **WE MUST DO MORE.**

In that vein, Chase and I have decided to start a fundraising campaign to support mental health/suicide prevention. We are still ironing out the details. We are sure of these elements thus far. **Name of the campaign: Chase'n'Ricky Foundation \$2.00 Challenge, www.chasenricky.com. We envision this being an ongoing campaign, not a one-time donation type thing. We have a unique plan to make this a reality that we will share with you soon.**

We will also form a new production company, Wiregrass Productions. It will produce a website, social media platform, videos about our "challenge" mission and goals. As well as bios on the people that will make this happen. Riley Lawhorn Design, be will crafting our brand to communicate our image with clarity.

We are seeking contributions of "seed money" to ensure the campaign will have legs to get up and walking. My business partner Cat, myself, and Agatha's, as well as Chase have started the giving with a \$1000.00 gift. Note that none these contributions will be used to benefit the start-up of Wiregrass Productions.

Until I get the details worked out, your faith in me doing the right thing is the only surety you will have that your contributions are being used wisely and for the intended purpose. Currently checks can be made payable to James Warren, we will let you know when the foundation is officially registered with checks payable to it.

Please share with us the best way to contact you. We will keep you up to date with our progress.

Please help if you can.

All the Best,

Rickey Warren & Chase Waters