

Friday, July 28, 2006

### **I'm a Jaywalker**

I know I'm the last person in knitland to make this pattern, but boy is it fun! I'm using Lorna's Laces "Carol Green Stripe," which Sarah got for me last year during my Surgery Rotation. Remember those good old days? Yeah, I didn't knit for about 2 months, which was the longest I've gone in several years! When I really need to sleep, and the decision is to sleep or knit, I choose sleep. Anyway, this yarn is custom-dyed for Purl in NYC, and man do I LOVE it. The pattern is super cute, and the yarn is also super cute, and together they are making a blindingly cute Jaywalker. The stripes are almost perfect, with a tiny bit of color overlap that I'm really liking. The folks at Purl have this concept in a plethora of colors, and I think I may be buying some more someday. I brought the sock with me to a meeting at the Homeless Outreach and Advocacy Program (get it, HOAP...pronounced "Hope") and I got lots of compliments, plus found out that several of the folks there are knitters as well. I'm using my new Knitpicks Options DPNs, which I really like. There's been a lot written about them already, so I'll just say a few things. They are pointy, they are a little bit heavy, but I like that, and although these are labeled as "1", they are actually a tiny bit bigger than 1s, but smaller than 2s. I also bought the interchangeable set, and was afraid that they would all be wrong, but the sizing for those is spot on. My other DPNs from Knitpicks (0 and 2) are also a teeny bit big. So now I have 0 1/2, 1 1/2 and 2 1/2 along with the regular sizes!

Posted by Mia at 11:07

Sunday, July 23, 2006

### **A Scanner Sadly...**

So who out there has heard of the movie "A Scanner Darkly?" I went to see it on Friday night with my boyfriend and his friends, and I found that it was one of the most profoundly depressing movies I've ever seen. The rest of the group thought it was funny, and I think that most of it was SUPPOSED to be funny. But I'm on of those people who experiences movies (and books, too I guess) in a very personalized way. I internalize too much instead of just taking it at face value. Like the book Bridges of Madison County, which I will forever hate because of a bad association with an ex. Or, the movie The English Patient, which I hate deeply because of more bad associations with a different ex. Sarahkins remembers how much I hate that one, I think! Add a new one to my liste, but this one I don't hate, I just don't want it to exist. A Scanner Darkly is a movie about drug addiction in the future. The movie focuses on a group of friends and their use of the drug "Substance D," which has the unfortunate effect of destroying your brain when you use too heavily. Maybe if I were not currently doing an elective in which on a daily basis I interact with Worcester's most down-and-out heroin users, I would have thought the movie was funny. Maybe if I didn't see real people who lose their houses, their wives, their jobs, their lives because of addiction, I would have liked the scene in the movie where they are all high and can't figure out how many gears are on their new bike. Is it 6 gears plus 3 equals 9? ha ha ha. It was a funny scene, but it made me want to cry. Maybe if I didn't pretty strongly believe in the power of methadone and suboxone (the new and improved pill form of methadone), I would have thought the ending twist of the movie (I won't give it away) was interesting and compelling. Instead, I found it annoying and again, depressing. So if you go see this movie, take a step back from the gut reaction to laugh at the antics of people who are high, and to get caught up in the witty dialogues. Just think about what it would be like to LIVE that movie. The pictures, by the way, are of where my yarn stash and sewing machine now live. The bookcase needs a little work...

Posted by Mia in Ramblings at 22:18

Tuesday, July 18. 2006

**(Log) Cabin Fever**

I needed a new knitting project like I need a hole in the head, but then I bought Mason Dixon Knitting and was instantly hooked on the idea of the Log Cabin blanket. I hate sewing, so I'm making one BIIIG square, and I'm using up my random Lamb's Pride stash, plus two skeins that I bought to supplement. I don't know how far that will get me, but I'm enjoying the project so far. My boyfriend has given his blessing to me stashing the project in that nice wicker basket in the TV room. He said, "Hey, are you going to keep your yarn there? It looks really nice!" Awww! We are almost all the way moved in, with really just a few boxes of random stuff (his) in the middle upstairs room that need going through. However, since it is 95 degrees and wicked humid here in Boston, I don't think we'll be getting around to those tonight! Yeck. I'm happily adjusting to my new digs in Beantown, and adjusting to the commute to Worcester every day. I'm doing a great elective right now, "Health Care For the Homeless." I am really enjoying my time there, the doctor who is supervising me is wonderful and one of the few people I know who is truly not shocked by anything. I think this quality is of utmost importance in a population marked by severe drug abuse, poor reliability and lots of mental illness. Worcester is not a fun place to be homeless and addicted to drugs, let me tell you. Fortunately, those folks have this doctor as a very powerful advocate. Right now things are super interesting and very tiring while I'm there, but pretty sweet in terms of total hourage per week. This makes the whole commuting thing not bad at all, and coming home to a clean happy house inhabited by the man I love is SOOOOOO worth it!!! I am one of those drivers who likes to try out new routes and figure which one is the most time and distance efficient. It's an inherited condition that I get from my dad. So far I've come up with a new route home from Worcester that is pretty good. Ok, I'm off to try to take a practice board block of 50 questions, but I might chicken out because it is sooooo hot. Hm.  
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Posted by Mia in Knitting at 18:45