LOST ARTS MISSIVE NO. 1



YOU'VE GOT MAIL Before the invention of the telephone, many people sent and received personal letters on a regular basis. The tradition was still alive while I was growing up in the 1960s. Throughout my middle school years, I wrote to a slew of pen pals cultivated from ads in Highlight magazine. Our messages to each other typically contained pre-Facebook boasts idealizing our pubescence lives. Later, after I moved away from home, my mother sent weekly letters that currently fill a shoebox in my closet. Somewhere between then and now, this time-honored form of communication has become as rare as summer snow. In the age of text messaging, our mailman delivers little beyond unwanted offers—advertisements for life insurance, Medicare, and hearing aids.

Letter writing has become something of a lost art. It leads me to wonder what other traditions are on the wane. Consequently, this postcard is part of a design project that aims to explore arts we have lost sight of today. While it may not revive the practice of letter writing, I hope it has delivered a dose of whimsy to your mailbox.