



# In Search of Eldorado

Link to the Eldorado Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VczD1olutQ8>



## Hello to Family & Friends

I spent the night in a Sam's Club parking lot in Pasadena. I asked permission, he couldn't tell me yes but, wink, wink, they aren't going to say anything. Just be careful because sometimes the homeless wander down this far.

No problems from my end.

I was going to visit the mountains yesterday, but the weather was nasty up there. So I think I'll head up there today.

Truthfully, I never realized I was this close to the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. I was able to check another National Park off the list after the Channel Islands on Saturday, and now I get to check off another National Monument. That makes three more National Parks and four more National Monuments off the list so far on this trip.

Forty miles away from Los Angeles are snow covered mountain tops.



Day 60  
Monday,  
March 2nd

*San Gabriel  
Mountains  
National  
Monument*

Weather  
*40's to 80's Snow and sun*

## In Search of Eldorado

By Edgar Allan Poe

Gaily bedight,  
A gallant knight,  
In sunshine and in shadow,  
Had journeyed long,  
Singing a song,  
In search of Eldorado.

But he grew old—  
This knight so bold—  
And o'er his heart a shadow—  
Fell as he found  
No spot of ground  
That looked like Eldorado.

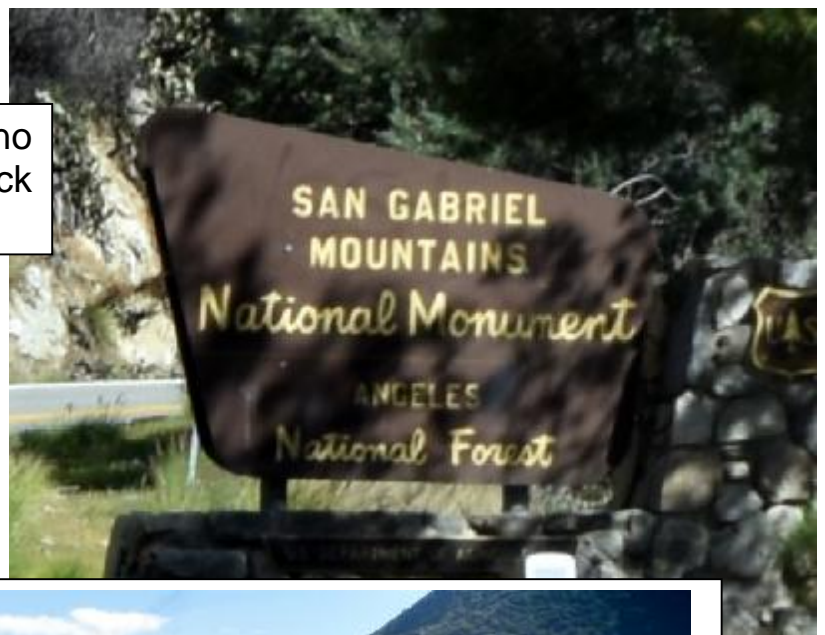
And, as his strength  
Failed him at length,  
He met a pilgrim shadow—  
'Shadow,' said he,  
'Where can it be—  
This land of Eldorado?'

'Over the Mountains  
Of the Moon,  
Down the Valley of the Shadow,  
Ride, boldly ride,'  
The shade replied,—  
'If you seek for Eldorado!'



I'm not sure they're mountains at only 1000 feet or so, but they're very steep.

There was a car right behind me and no place to pull over, so this is just a quick point and shoot.

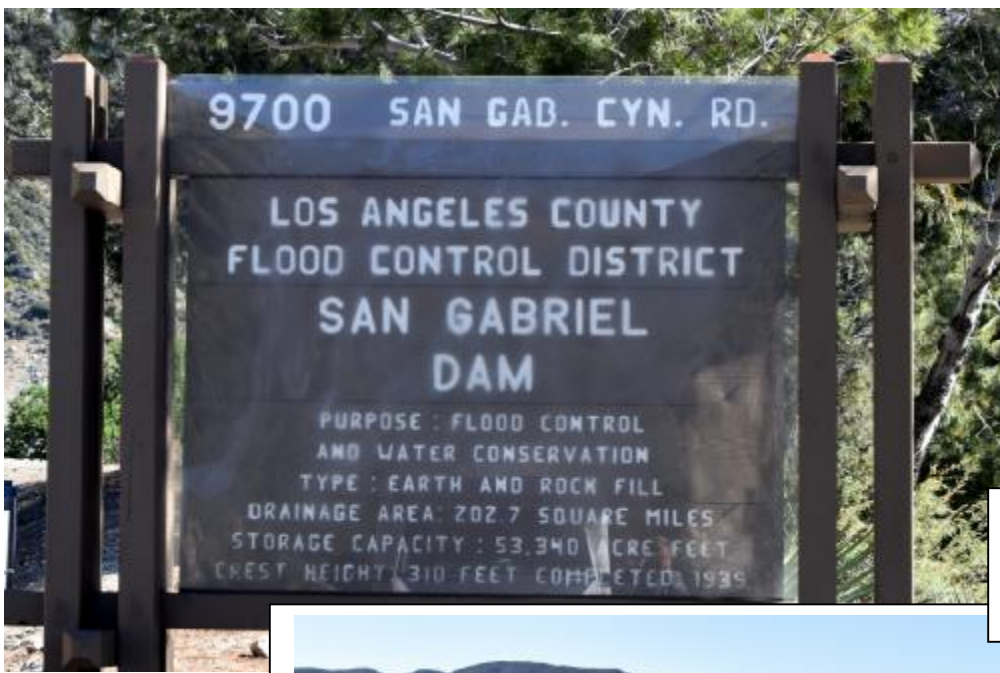


For a ways the road runs along a reservoir. This is the San Gabriel Dam.



Beautiful blue water

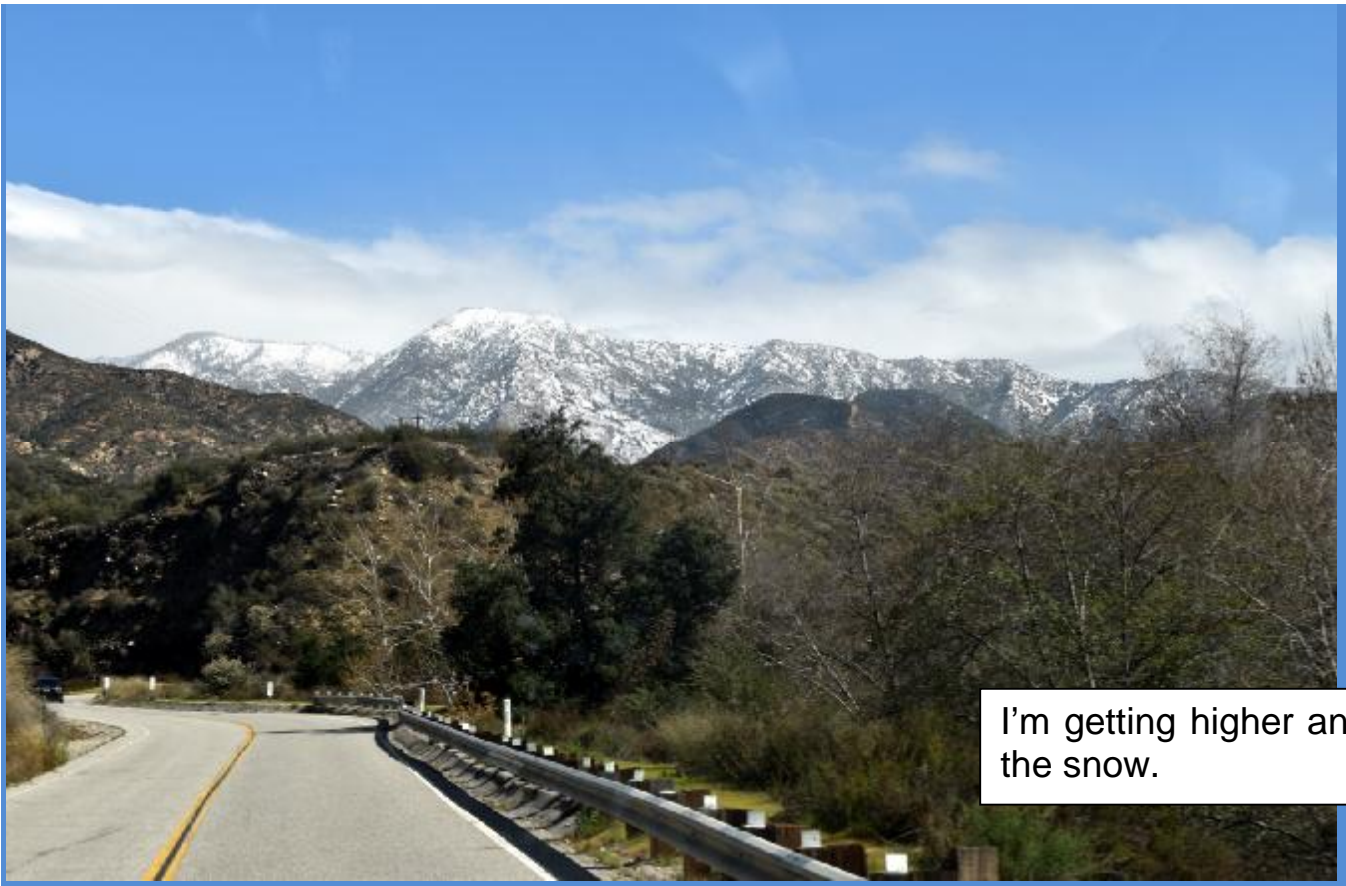




Hmmm....seems like their flood control may be working too well.



Ahhhh, that's a little better. Looks like the water level is down a good 30-40 feet.



I'm getting higher and closer to the snow.

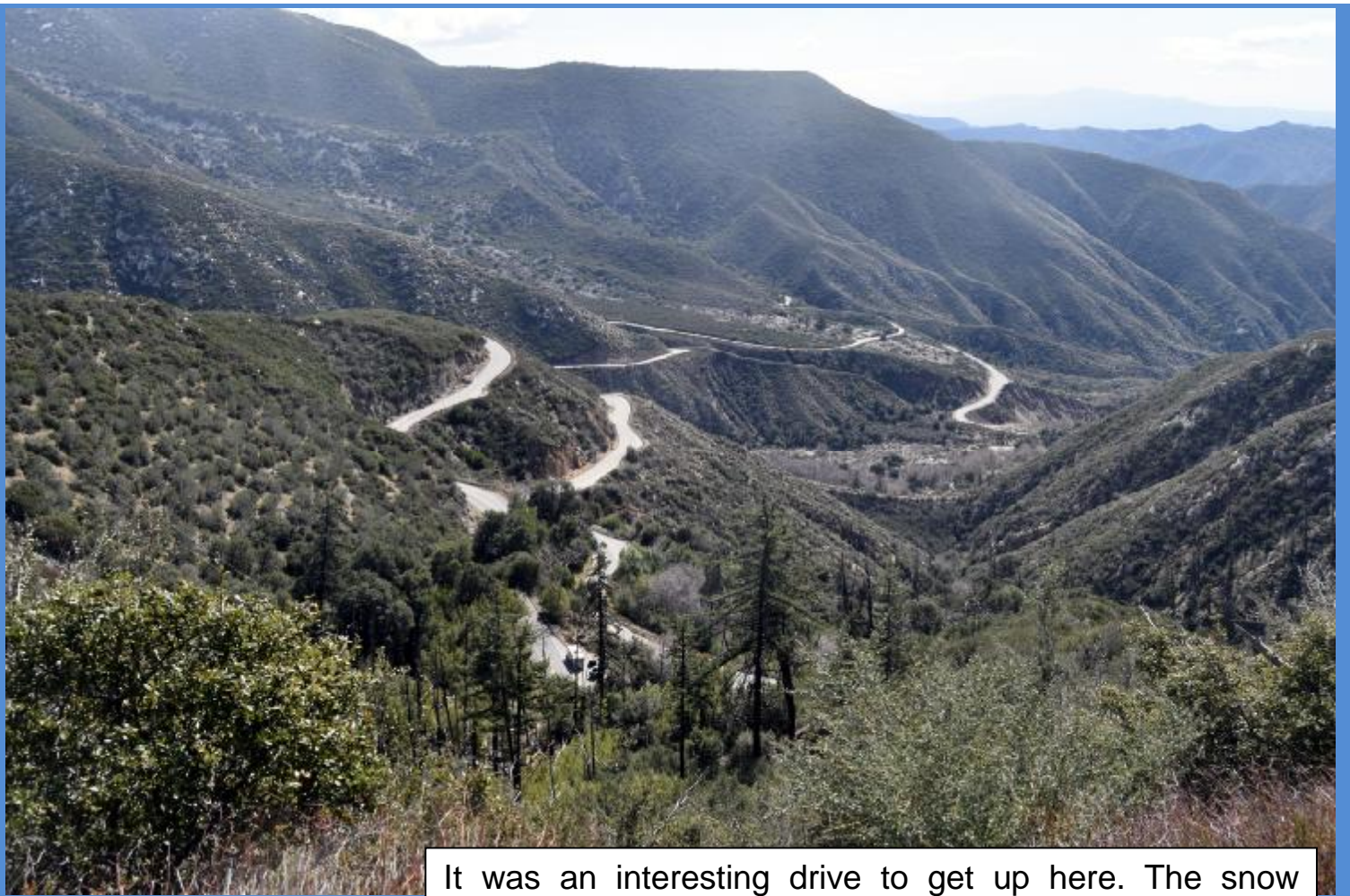


Now that's a pretty nice view

The snow is really coming down up there. A couple of the roads are closed.



This is where I decided to turn around, probably about 5500 feet. You can see the snow on the edge of the road and ice in the shadows of the trees. Temp has dropped from 60 to 40. Yup, I've gone high enough.



It was an interesting drive to get up here. The snow flurries followed me down to about 3500 feet.

I pulled over at an Angeles National Forest rest area with parking, restrooms, picnic tables, etc., and took a walk down to the river. I will never understand why some people have to destroy what's beautiful in this world.





This is my home for the next seven nights, about one mile from Disneyland.

This is the first time I have put the slide out since that rainy day I can't remember when or where. Pretty sure it was before San Diego someplace which means I've been sleeping on the couch the whole month of February. I'm ok with that, it's really very comfortable.

But from now on I should be able to put the slide out and get back to sleeping in a bed. My back will probably be the worse for it.

Tomorrow may be the last newsletter for a week or so, my girls are flying out to join me at Disneyland for a couple days. They've never been here, Disney World yes. And none of us has ever been to the California Adventure. I'm looking forward to seeing them.

I have several errands to get done tomorrow then maybe I'll just hit the Disney City Walk on my bike. Now that I have electricity (first time in two months) and water (I also have the microwave and TV and a freezer) I'd rather not unhook everything to go someplace. I know I will, but maybe not until Thursday.

Until next time.....