

**Sent:** 2004-09-11 - 22:00  
**Subject:** Postcard

Hello from Moab. Today was Arches day. In the morning we hiked to Delicate Arch. The trail went mostly across slickrock and was well marked with cairns. So well marked, even white-eyes like us could follow it. White-eyes is an interesting expression. It's easy to think it's an oblique reference to skin color. In fact, it probably refers to the color of eyes afflicted with cataracts. As the vision fades, the whiteness of the cataract obscures the iris. Anyway, American Indians, especially Navajos, were truly amazed that Europeans couldn't see them when they were (to them) in plain sight. Hence they seemed blind, like someone with cataracts. Oh my, way too much on white-eyes. The trail:



The arch:



Out here you better bring lunch. You're probably wondering what

we ate. I'm not telling.



Our afternoon hike was to Tower Arch. It's not like hiking to Delicate Arch. This one is accessible only by going off the pavement, so we did. On our first try we wound up on a 4x4 road consisting primarily of large, oddly-shaped and oddly-placed rocks. Oh, and some sand pits. The Trooper did great, but 5 mph just wasn't getting us there. So we found another road, this one was just 10 miles of washboard, and got us to the trail head. Shown above. Note to kids: Mom's OK.

It was really hot. We drank a gallon. We made it to the arch:



And, again, saw a lot along the way:



D&S