

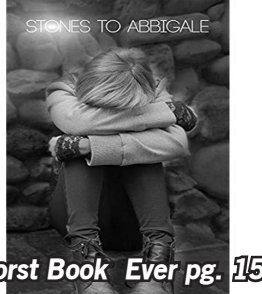




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## the paper

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*the paper* is Fordham's journal of news, analysis, comment and review. Students from all years and disciplines get together biweekly to produce a printed version of *the paper* using Adobe InDesign and publish an online version using Wordpress. Photos are "borrowed" from Internet sites and edited in Photoshop. Open meetings are held Tuesdays at 9:00 PM in McGinley 2nd. Articles can be submitted via e-mail to paper.fordham@gmail.com. Submissions from students are always considered and usually published. Our staff is more than willing to help new writers develop their own unique voices and figure out how to most effectively convey their thoughts and ideas. We do not assign topics to our writers either. The process is as follows: have an idea for an article, send us an e-mail or come to our meetings to pitch your idea, write the article, work on edits with us, and then get published! We are happy to work with anyone who is interested, so if you have any questions, comments or concerns please shoot us an e-mail or come to our next meeting.

So, why come write for us? We are a constantly evolving publication, and have been since 1972. We provide an outlet of expression otherwise unavailable to Fordham students. Writers are free to say whatever they want, whenever they want. We are also pretty cool people, to be completely honest. So please come hang out with us. You'll have a good time, we promise.

## our aim

*the paper* is Fordham University's fully student-run, free speech publication. Our aim is to challenge our writers and our readers: we want to make you think. We provide an outlet for all students to express themselves, whatever their passion may be. Whether it's commenting on a social issue, writing a factual news article, making people laugh with a humor piece, composing a personal narrative, giving advice or ranting about something that makes you feel a certain strong way – we have a place for you. Because of our platform as a free speech newspaper, we tend to push the boundaries of university journalism by talking about important social issues, expressing otherwise silenced voices and opinions, addressing Fordham policy and administration, and starting serious conversations about what is important to our student body. Here at *the paper*, we encourage creativity and uniqueness, spark dialogue and discussion, and foster a community where students are free to fully express themselves.

"Favorite middle school dance song"

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# FBI



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 nights at 9pm in McGinley 2nd!

# News



## McGinley Center About to Get a Lot More Awesome

by George Kite  
Staff Architect

Nothing elicits a “bruh” more than running into construction on one’s daily commute. Since the beginning of the school year, a flurry of heavy machinery, fluorescent vests, and fences have been all around Fordham University’s Rose Hill campus. Truly, chaos reigns supreme when it comes to McGinley center, Collins Hall, and Walsh Library, where construction workers mill about, the road can be blocked off, and all assortments of jackhammers and clanging can be heard.

At McGinley center, things are poppin’. Although fenced off, you can enjoy a wonderful view of rocks, dirt, and heavy machinery from the cafeteria, McGinley second floor, or Hughes Hall upper floors. Perhaps the biggest change that construction has caused is on Bellarmine road, which runs from the three-way to Fordham Prep, to be blocked off. People walking from any of the freshman dorms like Queens Court, South, or Loschert must now walk by the Edgar Allan Poe way and Old Elm road in order to get to the cafeteria, the gym, and the post office. It has perhaps caused a much greater pain for Fordham Prep, considering Prep students must now be dropped off at the entrance by swerving around university students and cars in a one-way road accommodating two lanes.

All the construction at McGinley is for the expansion of McGinley center, due some time in 2021, that will expand the gym, cafeteria, and ballroom. Currently, the construction is putting pipes and other utilities underground, in preparation for the extended spaces. Whether or not the construction is finished by 2021 remains to be seen - construction projects often end up

## Contruction on several Fordham buildings is ongoing

taking longer than their projected date of completion. And being in New York City, known to have an extensive amount of regulation, construction can often be impeded for numerous reasons, for better or for worse.

With a bigger and better McGinley, we will have space to expand the fitness center as well as a more spacious weight room. A new cafeteria,

the expansion.

At Collins Hall, more fences gate construction on the east side of the building. Collins Hall is getting a long-due elevator put into it, to much avail. Considering Collins was built simply to block a planned railroad and to be an actual building, it is a nightmare for anyone who has difficulty climbing stairs or has a physical

floor of Collins has to enter through the back, but to enter the theater you have to go through the front, so that makes sense.

Around Loyola Hall, you can also find the trademark green fences up. But these fences are up around to protect students from a terrifying few pipes being dug up. In what seems like a bit of overkill, a small section of the Loyola lawn has been dug up for piping, but the entirety of the lawn is blocked off. I don’t make the rules, but like, it isn’t the end of the world to see a few pipes exposed.

Walsh Library, our beloved study space at Rose Hill, is also getting its fair share of construction. Between the library itself and Fordham Road, small bulldozers and construction workers have torn up the ground and installed more pipes. The trees behind the library have miraculously survived - for now. While it seems nothing is being built, it looks like Walsh is in the same boat as Loyola, except with more work being done.

With the construction around campus, it seems that campus is no longer a peaceful respite in New York City. Fordham students now have to wake up to the reality that construction follows you everywhere, and that there is no escape from it. It seems like the idyllic green oasis that Fordham has cultivated has gone; yet, one must note that construction, as long is may seem to stick around, will eventually be done with. Construction, while a nuisance for students, faculty, groundskeeping, and Fordham cats, is just another part of life that elicits the saying “Just grin and bear it.”



## Back dat CAT up!

complete with more space for students to sit. New spaces for clubs and activities, ideally with a space for the paper to host extravagant production parties with catering and a ball pit. But we won’t see the finished product of all the construction for another 2 years. And there is still a lot to be built - there isn’t even a concrete foundation yet for

disability. Accessibility for disabled people is an important priority in urban areas, where buildings and cities are planned without giving thought to people in wheelchairs or crutches, making living or working in certain areas impossible. On a strange note, the construction means that anyone wanting to enter the basement or first

# The Trump Administration's Syria Policy

by Omkar Ratnaparkhi  
Middle East Correspondent

On October 6th the Trump Administration drastically modified its policy on the U.S. Military presence in Syria. The Trump Administration allowed Turkey to take a more aggressive role in Kurdish-held territories backed by American troops, and also withdrew American troops from key locations in Kurdish-held Syria. Despite the success of the raid that killed ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, many foreign policy analysts believe that the United States has lost its foothold in combating the Assad Regime and preventing the spread of ISIS in the region. The United States' longtime ally in the region, the Kurdish Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), has lost ground to Turkey, a NATO ally of the United States.

President Donald Trump gave implied approval for the Turkish invasion of Northern Syria on October 6th to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. President Erdogan immediately mobilized Turkish troops to invade Northern Syria. The initial invasion displaced over 200,000 civilians and killed 200. Kurdish troops were unable to hold their ground as the Turkish military had received a green light for invasion from President Trump. In an act of desperation, the Kurdish Syrian Democratic Forces did the unthinkable and allied with their longtime enemy: the Assad Regime. The move not only allowed the regime's forces to gain territory in Syria, but also allowed Russian forces to enter areas under American protection just days before in order to limit the Turkish incursion.

President Trump ordered the withdrawal of American troops in Northeastern Syria in order to limit the possibility of American forces fighting Turkey a NATO ally, however, only approximately 50 of the 1000

## Making a Quagmire out of a Quagmire

troops were immediately withdrawn from the area. On October 11th news reports emerged of American Special Forces troops almost being wounded by Turkish artillery strikes in the city of Kobani that was near an outpost of American advisors. American special operations forces have remained close to or near various SDF bases. The U.S. Military, realizing the imminent danger of such strikes, immediately ramped up the withdrawal process. On October 13th, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper announced the administration's plans to withdraw all American forces currently in Syria in order to prevent American troops from taking contact with Turkish, as well as Syrian and Russian forces trying to counteract the Turkish incursions on the border.



As American forces continued to withdraw from their respective areas of operations, a power vacuum was created that allowed President Assad's Syrian forces to expand their territories. The power vacuum which was caused by the fact that American forces no longer stood next to their Kurdish SDF allies meant that Turkish ground troops could overrun Kurdish positions. The result of this was instead of holding ground and monitoring prisons the SDF was forced to abandon positions and fight for their

lives. As of October 14th Turkish aerial bombardment of various SDF controlled prisons has allowed over 1000 of the 10000 ISIS prisoners of war to escape from prison. At this point, the Trump administration's policies became widely scrutinized by both sides of the aisle as both Republicans and Democrats believed that abandoning the Kurdish SDF, America's greatest ally in the region could only lead to the Islamic State gaining a possibility of resurgence. President Trump has repeatedly tweeted that he has been the President who successfully defeated ISIS, however, many Pentagon officials and members of Congress remain wary of the President's capabilities in successfully containing the Islamic State when his policy shifts in the last three weeks have to lead to the release of thousands of ISIS POWs. The various criticisms of the President over his decision to withdraw troops from Syria by friends and foes in Washington alike lead to the President announcing the deployment of troops to replace current combat advisors in Syria rather than a full withdrawal.

On October 20th the Trump Administration announced its latest change in policy: protecting oil fields in Eastern Syria. On October 25th, Secretary of Defense Esper announced the use of armored and mechanized forces to protect oil fields. A few hundred troops in mechanized, as well as armored units, have crossed the Iraq-Syria border and began guarding the oil fields of Eastern Syria. The Trump administration has claimed that the move to protect oil fields is to

deny access of the valuable resource to ISIS militants. Many are skeptical of the President's claims due to the fact that the President has also expressed interest in the investment of American oil companies in Syria. Despite the President's clear conflicts of interests, many foreign policy experts are quick to point out that the oil fields have been the greatest source of income for various terrorist organizations in the past. If the oil fields are not destroyed or guarded, then they could easily fall into the hands of an American adversary. Another faction vying for power of the oil fields is the Assad regime and the Russian government due to the financial power and strategic location of the fields on the Eastern border of Syria.

On October 26th members of America's Delta Force and 75th Ranger Regiment conducted a raid on the compound of the founder of ISIS Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. The raid was a success as Baghdadi killed himself after running into an underground tunnel and detonated a suicide vest. For more information on the raid read Sebastian Guccione's article on page 7. The raid was a success, but many skeptics remain around the world and on Capitol Hill. American adversaries have gained various territories in the region. The Assad Regime and Russia have also gained more territory in the last three weeks due to the desperation of the Kurds, and the Trump Administration has been blamed by critics for causing two American allies, the Kurds and the Turks, for fighting against each other. The 1000 troops that President Trump stated would be coming home soon will simply be replaced by another 1000 or more troops who will guard oil fields rather than assisting the Kurdish SDF in its war against the Islamic State.

**Egged?**



Or

**PORQUE**

**NO LAS DOS?**

**Por que no las dos?**

**Mugged?**



# Senator Romney's Alter Ego "Pierre" Flames Online Haters

by Nora Hogan  
Copy Legion &  
Freshman Liaison

Aside from being the world's only strangely attractive Mormon Republican senator from Utah who actually hates Trump, Mitt Romney (who I call Mittens affectionately) is also apparently an internet lurker.

Last month, The Atlantic published a profile of Romney, one of the few high-profile Republican lawmakers that have criticized President Trump's efforts to pressure Ukraine into investigating Democratic rivals. Trump's attempt to influence the 2020 presidential election through foreign interference has recently launched an impeachment inquiry by House Democrats. After the article was published in The Atlantic, Trump lashed out online, attacking Romney in a series of tweets that included the hashtag "#IMPEACHMITTROMNEY."

In the profile, Romney revealed the

## Mitt Romney's Secret Twitter Account Uncovered

existence of his secret Twitter account to the writer of The Atlantic's profile, McKay Coppins. The Utah Senator admitted to using the alias profile "to keep tabs on the political conversation" and to occasionally defend himself online.

Initially, he refrained from disclosing the name of the account, but instead revealed the number of profiles that he follows (702 to be exact) and outlined the types of users that he follows. After this information was publicly published, speculation swirled online as to what Romney's covert online identity would reveal, until a writer for Slate, Ashley Feinberg, took it upon herself to unearth the secret profile. After scouring the public Twitters of the Romney family tree, Feinberg struck gold while scrolling through the followers of Romney's oldest grandchild, Allie Romney. She found Twitter user @qaws9876, also known as Pierre Delecto. Once

Feinberg conducted a thorough stalk of the profile and its followers, she was entirely certain that Pierre was Romney.

According to Feinberg's research, Pierre's online presence was born in 2011, exactly one month after Romney announced his 2012 presidential run. His first follower was Romney's eldest son, Tagg. The account then followed all of the Romney children, grandchildren (ultimate clout grandpa) and several of his former advisors, in addition to political commentators, politicians, late-night show hosts like Conan O'Brien and Jimmy Fallon and former NFL players such as Tom Brady and Brett Favre. It became evident that this user was indeed Mittens' as no normal person would ever follow more than four Mitt Romney fan accounts at one time. Additionally, although his tweet count is low (10 tweets total), Pierre has sagely replied to a variety of Romney-related commentary over the

years. He most recently responded in May to Jennifer Rubin, a conservative blogger at The Washington Post, who called Romney's strategy on Trump's "non-confrontation verging on spinelessness," to which Pierre replied: "Jennifer, you need to take a breath. Maybe you can then acknowledge the people who agree with you in large measure even if not in every measure." (Sacré bleu!) Needless to say, Pierre is no stranger to the art of the roast.

After Feinberg published her findings, Coppins followed up with Romney to verify the allegations, to which Mitt simply responded: "C'est Moi." Since then the account has been made private, but the screenshots live on. In essence, if Mitt Romney can tell us anything, he reminds us through Pierre that we can all be our own hypemen. Sometimes you just gotta be a stan for yourself.

## Taking Hate to Court

by Julia Tuck  
Staff Constitutional Lawyer

Here in America it is not unusual to see people hailing from different countries from around the world. It can often be thought that America is the "Great Melting Pot," infused with people who add to the cultural richness that makes America so unique and unlike other nations. Despite this, however, it must also be acknowledged that there do exist racial tensions which not only divide America as a nation but divide us as a people too.

The Charlottesville racially motivated riots of 2017 not only spurned violence by white supremacists but also incited more tensions. A new case regarding the riots will be tried before a jury in the summer of 2020. The specific details of the torch lit protest are not clearly identifiable and attorneys have differing opinions as to why certain events happened and what their arguments are for the court.

It seems almost undeniable, nevertheless, that these riots, which resulted in the death of Heather

## The Lawsuit Taking Aim at the Charlottesville White Supremacists

Heyer who was against the white supremacists, induced a great amount of violence. The specific question, however, is whether the First Amendment protects this hate speech and whether the protests premeditated the violence or if it was



a result of the words and chants used. The defense lawyer W. Edward ReBrook IV claims that "The First Amendment is about protecting horrible opinions, not protecting reasonable ones." This seems reasonable except that oftentimes hate speech does lead to violence. Despite this, in order to prove

the white supremacists guilty of the death of Heyer and violent outrage, the plaintiffs must show that the acts led by the white supremacists involved violence prior to the protests.

Proving a conspiracy is the crux of the lawsuit, which is rooted in the component of an 1871 federal law commonly called the Ku Klux Klan Act, which criminalized efforts by the Klan to re-enslave African-Americans. This act essentially protected the freedoms of African Americans who remained targets of Klan violence despite having been freed from the shackles of slavery, literally and metaphorically. The case now with Charlottesville is not much different than similar actions taken by neo-Nazis and the white supremacists in the past which essentially orchestrate violence based on racism and wrongfully prejudiced notions regarding minorities.

According to Ms. Sines, the leading plaintiff in this case, "Civil litigation allows us to hold those responsible for violence accountable in a way that other tools do not. If you plan

and execute violence — toward Jewish people, people of color, diverse communities like Charlottesville — you will be held responsible for your actions." The ongoing *Sines v. Kessler* case serves as the longstanding case protecting against racially motivated incidents involving racism.

Thus far in the Charlottesville case, Judge Norman K. Moon of Federal District Court cited the *Griffin* case and the Ku Klux Klan Act in rejecting the defendants' initial attempt to have the lawsuit dismissed on First Amendment grounds. It seems that the case can be hopeful for the plaintiffs in the respect that there is evidence of premeditated violence in this situation and it seems clear that the white supremacists were not simply hoping to spread their hateful opinions but did get physically involved with those disagreeing with them. It is in this vain that hopefully this case can positively conclude bringing justice to the plaintiffs and those who were wrongfully hurt, either physically or emotionally, by the white supremacists.

# FAKER THAN TRUTH

by Jack Archambault

## McShane to be Relieved of Presidential Duties, Replaced with Bitmoji Likeness

The Fordham University Board of Trustees announced Tuesday that university President Rev. Joseph M. McShane, S.J., would be relieved of his duties, effective immediately, and replaced by his Bitmoji likeness, Bitmoji McShane.

"It is evident that all missteps by the university in the past have been the result of human error," said Robert D. Daleo, Chair of the Board. "We realized that all of these mistakes could have been prevented had they been made by an omniscient, superior being unsusceptible to the pitfalls of human emotion."

The Board stated that while they had no major qualms with McShane's performance over the past 17 years, Bitmoji McShane represents an opportunity to better the university by turning over its reins to a clearly superior life form.

"Bitmoji McShane is everything McShane could never be in his human form," Mary Anne Sullivan, Vice Chair of the Board, said. "Bitmoji is so excellent, so pure. Sleek, toned, funny. So, so excellent," Sullivan continued while rubbing her hands together and staring blankly into the distance. "Perhaps one day everyone at Fordham will be a Bitmoji," Sullivan said, "but I must stick to The Plan... They'll see things our way in due time. Excellent, excellent."



# Small Step of Progress for NCAA Student-Athletes

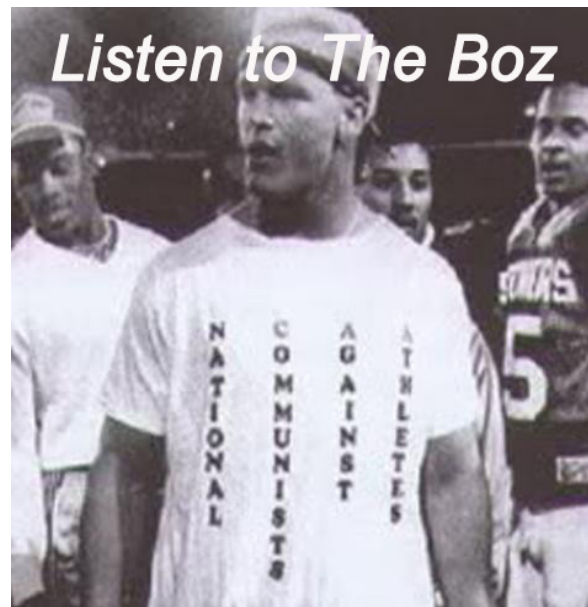
by Rich Shrestha  
Loyola RA & Contributor

## Do that shmoney dance

The NCAA's board of governors met this past Tuesday, October 29th with a new response for student-athletes and their supporters vying to profit off their name, image and likeness. The collegiate governing body announced it will allow student-athletes to take advantage of sponsorships across its three divisions. This has been a hotly contested issue in the past decade, especially due to news surfacing periodically of these athletes accepting or soliciting compensation from potential schools. Some examples that have floated around in recent years involve Phoenix Suns professional basketball player Deandre Ayton's time at Arizona, or Cam Newton, quarterback for the Carolina Panthers, whose father tried to extort Mississippi State. With new rules, athletes could openly receive a compensation separate from their school without penalization. For athletes, this means the possibility of hundreds of thousands of dollars in sponsorship for those stars in top tier programs. However, even students in smaller schools could benefit from endorsements in their local community.

This news comes a month after the California legislation on the same matter passed by Gov. Gavin Newsom, or the "Fair Pay to Play Act." The law details that athletes at California universities will be able to accept endorsement deals. The act allows student athletes to use their name and likeness to earn money in a similar fashion to professional athletes, but this does not entail having the schools directly paying the athletes for their time. At the time, the NCAA considered the law dangerous and "unconstitutional." The organization's concern is if a state like California allows their college athletes to have sponsorships, then these schools can have a comparative advantage in getting top-level recruits. Newsom

himself described the situation best, while signing the bill on LeBron James' media platform Uninterrupted, "I don't want to say this is checkmate, but this is a major problem for the NCAA. It's going to initiate dozens of other states to introduce similar legislation, and it's going to change college sports for the better by having



now the interest finally of the athletes on par with the interests of the institutions. Now we're re-balancing that power arrangement." Some states that also acted with new bills include New York and Florida, and federal politicians have shown interest to work on the case on a national level through Congress.

Thus, the NCAA's decision to support college athletes having endorsements is the group's reaction to such initiatives. Michael Drake, chair of the board for the NCAA and president for Ohio State University, commented, "We must embrace change to provide the best possible experience for college athletes." Additionally, the president of the NCAA Mark Emmert, in closing of the statement, asserted, "As a national governing body, the NCAA is uniquely positioned to modify its rules to ensure fairness and a level playing field for student-athletes. The board's action today creates a path to enhance opportunities for student athletes while ensuring they compete against students and not professionals."

Even with this news, politicians, athletes, and representatives in the sports industry alike are skeptical of how much change the NCAA will commit to. Some notable figures include politician Nancy Skinner who sponsored the California bill. Skinner tweeted, "California's leadership is a game-changer once again! The NCAA's announcement shows promise on giving college athletes' NIL rights. But the devil is in the details on what the NCAA means by adhering to the 'collegiate model.'" Former Olympic skier Jeremy Bloom also found the details, or lack thereof, to be a sign of false advertising. Bloom has previously battled the NCAA after they forced him to be ineligible for two seasons of his collegiate football career in Colorado, due to endorsements he received from skiing.

Skinner, Bloom, and other sports figures see the "collegiate model" term to be an attempt to hide how far the NCAA is actually willing to go. Bloom's fiery response to the NCAA statement was, "Bottom line, state legislators need to continue down the path and keep the pressure high while the NCAA figures out how to hold up their house of cards." To Bloom's likely approval, other legislators agree. Florida legislators, like state representative Kionne L. McGhee, found the NCAA's statement positive, but not the end of the fight. McGhee stated, "While this is a great first step, we must ensure Florida's student-athletes are provided fair treatment and long-term protections found in my bill, HB 251."

The organization gave the three divisions a timetable of January 2021 to create the new rules. Notably, in their statement, the NCAA has yet to outline any other specific steps for this transitory process. However, the organization has emphasized that they will still support student-athletes as students first. And these students will not be given preferential treatment over non-athletes beyond that deemed necessary to accommodate for their commitment to the school.

# ISIS Leader Dead Following U.S Operation

by Sebastian Guccione  
Paper Sec. of Defense

On Saturday, October 26th, President Trump tweeted out that "Something very big has just happened!" Curiosity, excitement, and slight panic by some ensued until it was revealed the next day by the President that Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of ISIS, was dead following a U.S Special Forces operation in northwestern Syria. U.S Intelligence had long been trying to capture or kill al-Baghdadi, and he is the most prominent terrorist leader that has died as a result of U.S operations since the death of Osama bin Laden in 2011.

Al-Baghdadi had been under surveillance for multiple weeks preceding the operation. While the actual raid was conducted solely with U.S troops, it was made possible through the cooperation of U.S, Kurdish, Iraqi, and Turkish intelligence, who worked together to obtain information on the terrorist leader's frequently changing direction from his close informants. Once U.S troops became confident on the location and details of al-Baghdadi's compound, they began the raid.

President Trump remarked that the most dangerous part of the operation

## Al-Baghdadi Kills Himself in Midst of US Military Raid

local gunfire which they quickly eliminated as they neared the compound. Trump believed this gunfire to be not from any organized group or nation, but rather "people that were shooting that were indiscriminately shooting... we think that these were people that were just random people that don't like to see helicopters, I guess."

The president stated that the U.S informed Russia and Turkey prior to the operation that they would be flying over their territories, to which the countries accepted, despite not being told the reason or destination of the flight. The same route was taken both ways, before and after the raid, and, in addition to the low flying helicopters, air support flying high was also present throughout the operation.

Once the U.S Special Forces landed on-site, they began to infiltrate al-Baghdadi's compound. The front door of the complex was rigged with booby traps, and so the soldiers used explosives to gain entry through the side of the building. Troops remained inside for two hours, during which eleven

As the building was cleared, al-Baghdadi fled into a dead-end tunnel with three of his children, all the while being chased by U.S K9 units. Once in the tunnel, al-Baghdadi ignited his suicide vest, killing himself, three of his children, and collapsing the tunnel.

Al-Baghdadi's body was mutilated by the blast, though on sight DNA lab technicians were nonetheless able to obtain a DNA sample and confirm a positive match between the man that blew himself up in the tunnel and previously obtained al-Baghdadi DNA.

Trump remarked that U.S troops were able to obtain "highly sensitive information" on ISIS, specifically in regards to their origins and future plans. Trump noted that he decided not to notify Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and other congressional leaders because "Washington leaks like I've never seen before... Washington is a leaking machine." Pelosi responded by stating that "The House must be briefed on this raid, which the Russians but not top Congressional Leadership was notified of in advance, and on the Administration's overall strategy in the region. Our military and allies deserve strong, smart and strategic leadership from Washington."

No U.S troops were killed or injured during the operation, with the exception of a K9 unit, Conan, that chased al-Baghdadi into the dead-end tunnel and was injured by the blast of the terrorist's suicide vest. Conan was recovered and already has returned to duty.

President Trump has created controversy over his vivid description of the operation. He stated that al-Baghdadi was "screaming, crying, and whimpering" in the moments preceding his death. Both Secretary of Defense Mark Esper and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Mark Milley were unable to confirm Trump's descriptions.

ISIS acknowledged the death of al-Baghdadi and has already appointed a new leader, by the name of Abu Ibrahim al-Hashimi al-Qurashi. American intelligence will continue to examine the new structure of ISIS and seek information on its new leader's past and present roles within the organization, as the War on Terror continues to rage on.



was the seventy-minute flight to and from al-Baghdadi's compound. The eight helicopters that embarked on the flight flew low and were met with

children and a few adults were removed uninjured. Those who did not surrender and those who attempted to return fire were killed.

Realer

Than

Fact

by Christian Decker

## College Student in Carrie Costume Scares the Shit out of First Responders

So I got a wholesome one for you guys this issue! Sidney Wolfe, a student at Marshall University was coming back from a Halloween even when her car struck a deer. A first responder arriving on the scene was scared out of his mind when he saw, covered in blood and looking like something out of a horror movie. Coincidentally, she was straight out of a horror movie.

Wolfe was just coming back from a costume party where she was promoting her role in her school's production of Carrie: The Musical, according to HuffPost. She was dressed in the now iconic prom dress that gets covered in blood during the prom scene of the movie, which naturally, would scare anyone who is trying to help someone they think is injured in a car crash. Apparently the officers who arrived on the scene noticed her dripping blood and remarked that they should probably get her medical attention.

What's fun about this story is that the stars just so perfectly aligned so that all of these lovely events just so happened to coincide and make for a truly hilarious sequence of events. I hope her show goes well!

# The Return of paper Legend Lauren Duca

by Lauren Duca  
Staff Revolutionary

**How did your time at the paper prepared you for your career as a journalist?**

Writing for the paper is the thing that made me decide to be a journalist. When I got to Fordham, I knew I wanted to push nouns and verbs together, but I didn't have any idea what that would look like besides fantasizing about publishing a book someday.

It didn't take long for me to be seduced by the undeniable pull of that windowless print shoppe in the basement of McGinley. Just kidding, I met the paper kids at the club fair. I remember walking around Eddie's and grabbing flyers from everyone who offered. At one point, my roommate said, "OK, put down that sailing club brochure right now — it's getting to be a bit much." It was as if I was grabbing lottery tickets for which future self I would go on to be. I picked writing about culture.

During my first semester at Rose Hill, I started working on op-eds and personal essays for the paper. That's where I first found my voice as a journalist. The paper taught me that I need to write things that are true, and that the most effective way to do that is often through personal stories. (It also set the irreverent tone of my current work, partly because I was allowed to curse while doing all of that — sorry, mom and dad.)

**What are some of your favorite memories from Fordham / the paper?**

Real talk, y'all: I had a rough time at Fordham. I was struggling with an eating disorder and depression, both of which I routinely attempted to drown in Blue Raspberry UV vodka. I got away with being such a hot mess because I miraculously managed to also get good grades despite soaking my brain in booze. (Freshman year, I woke up blacked out in St. Barnabas and also made the dean's list.)

the paper is a thing that helped keep me sane, and partly because it helped me get to know so many different types of people at Fordham. At a time when I

**Famous journalist and author of How to Start a Revolution answers some of our most pertinent questions**

was clueless as to who the fuck I was, I felt most myself as I typed out my latest article. At a time when I hated myself so much that I was regularly making myself puke, I was sure I was good at one thing, and it was the words on the pages of the paper.

So, yeah, that, or maybe the time we did a cover with McShane's face Photoshopped onto "The Dark Knight Rises" poster.

**What is the process like for writing a book? How long does it take, what does a day look like when you're writing, etc.?**

I worked on "How to Start a Revolution" for close to three years. The hardest part was figuring out how such a massive project was going to become a cohesive whole. Even after I had a ton of research and reporting under my belt, I was worried it wouldn't come together into, well, a book. I felt like "The Little Mermaid" for a minute, you know, "Look at this stuff, isn't it neat?!"

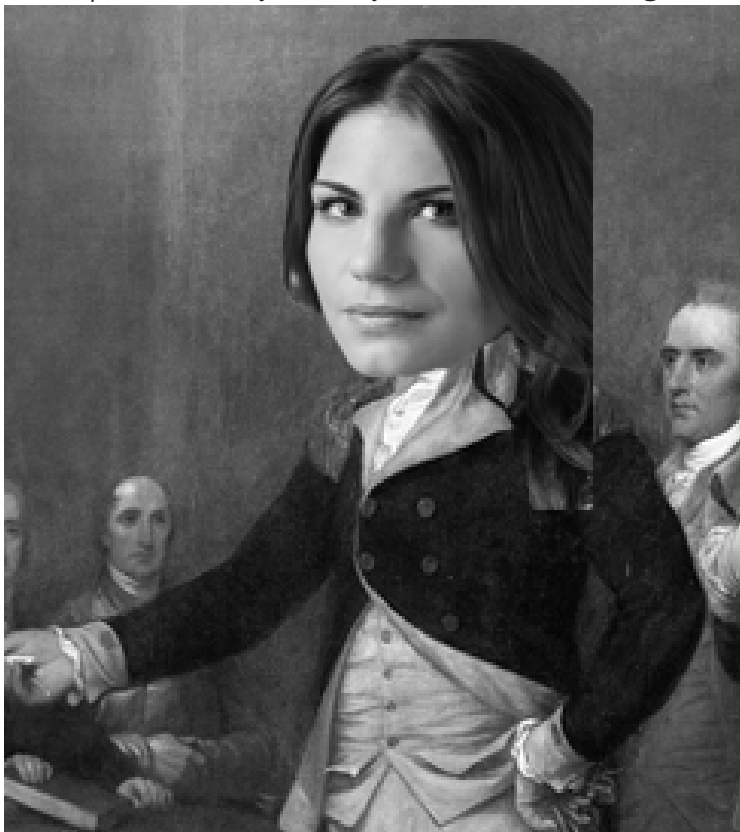
To that end, every day was different. I'm a freelance journalist focusing on building equitable public power by getting as many young people invested in the political process as possible. Sometimes that meant writing op-eds — at the time I was working on my Thigh-High Politics column for Teen Vogue. I would often travel to high schools and colleges to speak to students, or interview activists and political candidates (I interviewed Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez two weeks before she won the primary, and David and Lauren Hogg, after they led a sea change in the national conversation on gun reform). I spent

a lot of time squinting at a Google doc in total fucking agony, just drinking another cup of coffee for no reason.

It all came together in the end, though!

**What advice would you give college-aged people who want to pursue a career in writing?**

I meet a lot of college students who ask me for writing advice. The problem is usually that they haven't started writing.



When it comes to a writing career — or political participation, for that matter — no one is going to come around and knight you. So, my advice is this: Write. Write for the paper! Try your hand at freelancing. At the very least, regularly come up with ideas, and execute them. Always, always, always, be doing the damn thing.

**During your time at Fordham, what were some hot-button issues you had the chance to deal with while on the paper?**

The biggest hot-button issue was my own goddamn feminism. I come from a Roman-Catholic authoritarian upbringing, and that meant I showed up at Fordham with a lot to learn. I have one particularly cringe-y memory of a

telling a cute guy that I was not a feminist. Something about "women's rights, butts."

Obviously, things have changed. I now understand that feminism is about essential equality. The goal of "How to Start a Revolution" is building equitable public power, and I believe that is necessarily a feminist issue.

It took me a while to get there, and the journey started with writing for the paper. As I wrote about being cat-called on Fordham road, the bizarre double standard of same-sex hookups, or being treated differently because of the size of my boobs (that one was called "Making the Breast of It.")

**How has the "fake news" culture that is often antagonistic towards journalism affected your career? What can a journalist today do when their work is stonewalled by accusations of "fake news?"**

I get a lot of harassment by people who are media illiterate and have been brainwashed by the concept of "fake news" as peddled by Fox News and the President.

There are actual fake news sites, but the bigger problem is the concept of fake news, which has misled many members of the public to believe that journalists are actively working to manipulate them. Left unchecked, this misconception has the power to totally erode the forces of democracy.

I think the most essential thing we can do is journalists is to explain our purpose. As journalists, our utmost allegiance is to citizens. It is crucial that we remind people of that by demonstrating objectivity of method with radical transparency for all editorial decision-making.

**What advice do you have for writers coming from alternative publications, like the paper or Teen Vogue, who can sometimes be discredited because their publications aren't taken as seriously?**

If you are writing things that are true with the goal of empowering people with information, your work is serious journalism. Period. Mainstream respectability is not a requirement for speaking truth to power. Get used to telling gatekeepers to fuck off.





## Clowns May Be Murderous, But We Still Love Them... For Some Reason

By Taylor Mascetta  
Staff Clown Scholar

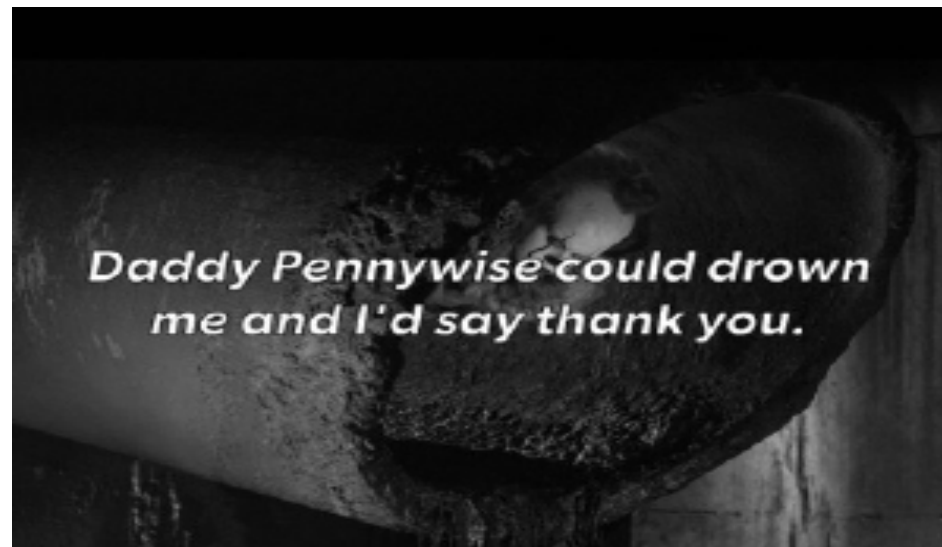
It is spooky season, which means that it's time to send in the clowns... for better or worse.

Clowns are scary. It's as simple as that. They're intended to bring happiness into the lives of children, but they actually cause more fear than cheer. Nevertheless, clowns, specifically the murderous ones, are all over the entertainment industry at the moment. Take, for example, everyone's favorite psychotic jokester - the Joker himself. Anticipation has been building for *Joker* ever since Warner Brothers' greenlit the film back in 2018. Fans have been clamoring for a new depiction of the ever-popular clown prince of crime following Heath Ledger's iconic portrayal and, well, Jared Leto's interpretation. The film, starring Joaquin Phoenix as the titular character, follows failing comedian Arthur Fleck as he struggles to find his place in society. Arthur suffers from a variety of mental illnesses, including a disorder that causes him to laugh at random moments. *Joker* shows his slow descent into pure madness and clownery as society continues to fail him.

The general consensus, despite its heavy, dark themes and fair share of controversies, has been extremely positive. It is the top grossing R-rated movie in history, making \$850 million dollars worldwide and dethroning *Deadpool* much to Ryan Reynolds' dismay. Audiences praised Phoenix's performance and are rooting for him to secure an Oscar nomination. Scenes from the movie have already engraved themselves into pop culture history.

Yo Pennywise, drop ur everyday makeup routine.

One notable scene depicts Joker, cigarette in hand, dancing to "Rock and Roll Part 2" as he makes his way down a set of steps. The Bronx-based stairs became a tourist magnet overnight - cosplayers, fans, and influencers have flocked to the area, skipping down the steps in full Joker getup. TikTok naturally, latched onto the movie too. Thousands of makeup artists have recreated Phoenix's signature clown getup, and self-described "men" dance



away their woes locked away in their bathrooms.

All jokes aside, *Joker* illustrates the formation of a monster. The tragic arc Arthur faces does not excuse all the atrocities he committed during the film. The film has come under fire for its glorification of a killer, and its potential to inspire more mass murderers.

This isn't even the first clown inspired movie that took America by storm this year. Less than a month before *Joker*

laughed into theaters in October, Pennywise the Dancing Clown decided to re-enter our lives with the release of *IT Chapter Two*. The movie is a sequel to smash hit *IT*, a horror film depicting a group of young kids, dubbed the Losers' Club, battling an interdimensional, shapeshifting clown that feasts on children. The sequel depicts the grown up Losers fighting to defeat Pennywise, who is played by the beautiful Bill Skarsgård, once and for all. Both

films of the *IT* saga are coming of age stories that happen to have a terrifying monstrous clown wreaking havoc. Pennywise rips kids' arms off, dances menacingly on multiple occasions, and is homophobic. Naturally, the clown has an adoring teenage fan base that, for inexplicable reasons, is willing to launch themselves into sewers to try to get lucky.

So why do clowns seem to be ruling pop culture right now? Why is the Joker

loved by millions? Why do thousands of Tumblr girls thirst after a clown that eats kids for breakfast? It seems a clown-caused craze has spread across America once again. Everyone claims that they hate clowns; whether we want to admit it or not, we all have coulrophobia. There's something about their chilling smiles and terrible jokes that unsettles us to the core. Okay, maybe some clowns have the intention of making us smile, but it still feels as if they want to suck out our souls.

Clown panics have broken out across America before. In 2016, people dressed up as clowns and hid in the woods, ominously strolled down streets, chased people with knives and terrorized innocent drivers. Naturally, America erupted into a frenzy, leading to "clown hunts" and costumes literally being outlawed in some cities.

We may be afraid, but we can't get enough of this fear. There's just something intriguing lurking behind the mask. It's as if we want to feel the fear, especially during the Halloween season. Or maybe these clowns relate to us in a twisted way. Many people do share the same resentment towards society like Arthur: they just don't go to his extremes. Hopefully no one is considering eating kids like Pennywise, but instead choose to feel inspired by the Losers Club overcoming their fears. Perhaps, watching these clowns gives us a sense of satisfaction that we can overcome our fears of them.

Or maybe we just want to learn where the Joker got his sick moves, or that we're all secretly horny for Pennywise. The world will never know.

# Death by a Thousand Skater Bois

By Julia Carnevale  
Staff Swiftie

When I was a freshman all I had to worry about while walking to class were cars and the occasional football scooters that may or may not be pink and may or may not say "riding 69 dirty".

As if sophomore year isn't hard enough, I have experienced Death by a Thousand Skater Bois...

Similar to Taylor Swift, I am so distressed by this relationship (between skaterbois and walkergal, aka me) that I know is going to end badly, that I turn to inanimate objects, like traffic lights, for answers. Except, there are no traffic lights around campus. Maybe there should be so I don't have to experience DBATSB.

In the past three months, I almost got hit by like 10 skaterbois!!!! At least 10 of them which is almost a thousand... well  $10^3$  but it seems they are increasing exponentially anyway. And I almost die every time. Worst of all, I have no idea where these bois come from!!!! So if I were to die by skaterboi, I am not confident my killer would be found. If I had the chance to ask these skaterbois where they came from, please believe that I would. But, every time I come across one they are seconds away from skating right into me. And not in the cute movie way, where like he's cute and I'm like it's really no problem at all, blood dripping down my legs from the crash, let's spend the rest of our lives together since we were OBVIOUSLY fated. No... instead, I see my life flash before my eyes... and then he's just zoom- gone, and I'm... fine? How did Avril Lavigne even

## Where do the Skater Bois come from? We may never know...

manage to say see you later, boy? That is four words and she says it to him four times. Does time slow down when you sing? ...Does time slow down when you're Avril Lavigne?

The origins of sophomore slump seem more recognizable to me than the origins of skaterbois and I don't even know what sophomore slump is. Do they have a directly proportional relationship? @trafficlights, what do you think? I would define skaterbois as boys who use a device to get

And sometimes... I wonder... how much time and energy do they save on average while scootering, if any? What inspires them to add such eloquent decorations? ...Should we blame them for the increase in skaterbois on campus? Are they... threatened by these new skaterbois? Hmmm. Maybe I'll write another article about our football scooter friends.

Besides not knowing where skaterbois come from, I also do not

finally at Starbucks, breathless, and I could have gotten here earlier if I had just crossed when the normal person would have, like at most chaotic intersection -McGinley- instead of continuing straight towards Fordham prep. I don't have this luxury with skaterbois. Usually I am considering crossing from McGinley to go to Starbucks, and double, double check for cars and football scooter-ers, and miraculously there are neither. I no sooner step from the sidewalk onto the road and then (almost) CRASH... skaterboi. Literally out of nowhere. They're like large fairy boys who skate instead of fly. I bet they all have really cool names too... like Terrence from the 2008 Tinker Bell movie.

I often assume that I have the right of way, as a pedestrian, as a female, as a swiftie. But, then I'm like well, what if they are a beginner skaterboi, and like, they can't stop for me in time, or great, here comes an automatic skateboard I don't know how they control those, what if they can't control them, and so as I'm trying to make a decision I am unconsciously crossing the street and it's Death by a Thousand Skater Bois... almost. Do I recognize that I may be partially to blame? Yes. I guess I should apologize for my role in these awkward encounters... and I really would (and plan to) if I ever got the chance!!!!!!!!!!!!!! If you're a skaterboi and you're reading this... I hope you will consider helping a walkergal out...



around campus faster than the rest of us. I guess that means that the football players are technically a type of skaterboi. All scooters are skaterbois but not all skaterbois are scooters. At least with the football players, we know that they all came from the basement in South. I'm not sure where they got their scooters.

know, (I don't know a lot of things, but that is precisely why I'm at college... filled with skaterbois...) what the "proper" etiquette is when you almost get run over by a skaterboi. Admittedly, I'm not quite sure what the "proper" etiquette is for our football scooter friends either. I tend to avoid them at all costs, as in prolonging my crossing of the street. Like yeah. I'm

next week on

**America's  
got Talent**



**"KID DOING THING"**

*simon called it "revolutionary"  
julianne said "this changed my life"*



# Stop the Nickelback Hate!!

By Erin Stehler  
Staff Rockstar

How did humanity get to the point of bullying a bunch of men in their 40's for enjoyment? I am far from saying Nickelback is within miles of anything other than my 2000's emo playlist, but I disagree with the hate they get. Before I burst in with another unpopular opinion, do their voices sound good? No. However, I could never trust anybody who doesn't know the words to either "Rockstar" or "Photograph." They were literally the first songs I downloaded onto my iPod Shuffle in 2007 and I refuse to join in on tarnishing what's left of their fragile reputation.

I asked several of my friends to give me their honest opinions of Nickelback (anonymously, of course, as I didn't want to ruin their social lives). I received three answers: "their band name is bad, nickels are the worst American coin," "idk who they are," and "they're not appreciated enough, 'How You Remind Me' still slaps". For the purpose of this argument, I will focus on the latter.

In the early 2000's, Nickelback gave us nothing but gold, and what did we give them in return? The look at this graph vine and a spot at the bottom of the social hierarchy. It's not like they released songs that nobody liked; actually, they were pretty consistently in the top ten on the charts and many of their songs were at number one at some point. We can't deny that their lyrics are genius. He really said "I'll have the quesadilla, haha" in the middle of a song, and that song hit number 6 in the United States and number one

## They're lyrical geniuses, y'all just won't admit it

in several other countries. Amazing. Iconic. Show stopping. Spectacular. We let Rihanna's song, "Work," top the charts for several weeks and I still don't even know what she said. Yet here is Nickelback with such thought provoking lyrics as "what the hell is on Joey's head?" I watched the "Photograph" music video, yet it is still unclear exactly what was on Joey's

all done it. I have a Bluetooth speaker in my shower and sometimes when my roommate is taking a shower, I'll blast my playlist consisting of only Nickelback and Kahoot remixes. That's how this whole thing started. I realized that I don't hate Nickelback, I have just been told I should. I never seek out their music unless it is for a joke, but I would not be actively

for an unpopular voting rights provision on the floor of the House of Representatives. That's not even the worst of it- several representatives began to debate the use of Nickelback in the comparison. They really talked for several minutes in a room full of arguably pretty important people about the social standing and talent of Nickelback. It was like Nickelback began the whole cancel culture but didn't even do anything wrong. Yet y'all really let people like Chris Brown survive? In this climate? This is why all the bands of the early 2000's are disappearing. Fear. What ever happened to the Black Eyed Peas, you ask? I mean other than Fergie of course. There were other peas besides Fergie, I think. They probably saw what happened to Nickelback and headed out before the internet could really rip apart "Imma Be." I do not believe all of this ridicule is strictly because their voices sound bad. There are plenty of artists out there who sound bad and get half as much harassment.

I just think we should find a different, more problematic group to hate. I was going to give examples of some bands we could hate instead, but when I googled problematic bands, the first article to come up was called "Ten Bands Easier to Hate Than Nickelback," so do with that what you will. Next time you hear a Nickelback joke, think about the average forty-year-old guys behind it. I'm not going to pretend to know any of their names, but I can still feel bad for them.



head. Plus it was 2005, so we were all on cloud nine singing the word hell. Go and listen to a Nickelback song; we have all slept on their lyrics for all these years. This brings me back to my main point: Why Nickelback?

I have concluded that Nickelback's hate comes from the same place as many fanbases- a bandwagon. People think it is cool to make fun of Nickelback. And to be fair, it is. We've

upset if it ever came on and would probably sing along. But why did we decide it was cool to hate Nickelback specifically? It seems so obscure. They are so completely average. I do not even remember them becoming a joke, but all of a sudden name-dropping them could get a good laugh in any situation. They were the best comparison for anything bad. They were literally used as a comparison



# Study Abroad Student Accidentally Wanders into Political Crisis

By Andrew Millman

Foreign Correspondent

When your flight gets cancelled because of civil unrest in your destination city, there are two options. First, as any rational person would do, accept the refund on the flight and try to get the Airbnb cancelled too. Or, second, use the logic of a drunk girl draped in a tiara and pink sash at Barnyard when her friends want to leave, “but it’s my birthday!” The latter is the path I choose two weeks ago, when I received an email from Vueling Airlines (the slightly more respectable Ryanair) informing me that all flights in and out of the Barcelona Airport would be cancelled on October 18th (my birthday), because of a general strike.

At that point, there had been protests bordering on riots in the city for several days after Spain’s highest court sentenced a dozen Catalan separatist leaders to long prison sentences for trying to secede from Spain following an unauthorized referendum. Catalo-

**But it’s my BIRTHDAY!!!!**

nian separatism is one of those issues that can get super nuanced and complicated, so I won’t get too much into it. Basically, Catalonia is the region of Spain in the northwest of the country that has wanted to become its own country, primarily because it is significantly wealthier than the rest of Spain.

This reasoning itself would be complicated as seceding from Spain would also mean leaving the European Union, and Spain could veto Catalonia’s attempts to join the EU, singlehandedly wrecking their economy. And no one would be crazy enough to want to leave the world’s largest trading zone with no future planning, right?

While all of this is surely important, in my mind, celebrating my birthday was of the utmost importance. During the general strike that Friday, much of the city shut down. There were mini-marches throughout the city, often impeding any hopes of traversing main thoroughfares. Protesters even shut down

Sagrada Familia that day. Instead, my friends and I went to the beach, which was nice, but also totally empty, as most sensible tourists had cancelled their trips on first sign of trouble. The Mediterranean was beautiful, but the whole thing had a “fiddling while Rome burns” vibe to it, as the city slowly descended into a chaotic scene mere blocks away.

Incredibly, we still thought it would be a good idea to go out drinking that night. Again, I was using Barnyard birthday logic. Sensibly, many bars had closed up for the night, and the ones that didn’t were mostly filled with other panicked visitors. The riot police were using rubber bullets and water cannons to try to quell the crowd, but the result was mostly just changing the direction the protesters were heading in.

For the most part that night, we were on the periphery of the action, but at one point we were about two blocks away from the epicentre of the protest,

where rioters had set fire to trash bins and cars in the middle of the street. After the sound of rubber bullets rang out in the night, the crowd momentarily stampeded towards us and we, including one of my friends who was in heels, had to suddenly run to avoid getting trampled. Our rented flat was on the other side of the protest, so we ended up having to hustle through the gothic quarter to get back, which was relatively calm except for the occasional sprinting protesters in masks.

So, that was how I spent my 21st birthday: navigating a tumultuous situation in a foreign country and obnoxiously pronouncing it Bar-th-lona like Noah Galvin in *Booksmart*.

I write this article now in the hope that I won’t be inclined to constantly reference “my study abroad experience” when I return to the Bronx.

## Stumbling into the World of Exotic Animal Content

By Olivia Langenburg  
Opinions Editor

As I’m sure you’ve all realized by now, being a person is a lot harder than it looks. I have to pay rent, feed myself multiple times a day, go to class, go to work, shower, and “socialize” among 400 other tasks?? No wonder I have to take three different medications to help my brain function correctly.

While I am obviously aware of my never-ending list of responsibilities, I am also a normal college student who procrastinates like no other. Sure, I may have an assignment due at 5pm, but that will not stop me from surfing the Internet until 4:30. Recently, a video popped up in my YouTube recommendations from a famous Pet YouTuber. Now what is a Pet YouTuber, you may ask? I’m not entirely familiar with the qualifications, but I’m not talking about someone who makes videos about their dog. I’m talking about people with between 10 and 30 pets, most of which are ~exotic~ animals.

I’ve gotten pretty deep into these videos in the past week or so. I have no idea what the appeal is for

**Who knew reptiles were so charming?**

me, considering I’m absolutely not in the market for an exotic reptile, but I can’t help myself. I sit for hours watching people show all their geckos. It’s oddly satisfying. I’m going to pretend that the reason I’m deep into Pet YouTube is because I’m trying to educate myself. Truthfully, though, I’m just in a rough pit of depression and I need some sort of weird outlet to distract myself. So... 30 minute “Feeding All My Pets” videos it is!

You’d be surprised at the audience that these Pet YouTubers have. Many of them have hundreds of thousands of subscribers, and I’ve seen some with over a million. Clearly, I’m not alone in entertaining myself with exotic animal videos. While I’ll occasionally watch an explicitly educational video about a specific species, my favorite ones to watch are feeding videos or “Meet All my Pets” videos. Why on earth would I sit and watch someone feed a bunch of animals? I don’t know exactly, but don’t judge me until you’ve tried it.

I’ve always kind of wanted a hedgehog as a pet, so perhaps

this is why I’m so intrigued by these channels. Initially, I really liked watching people feed and take care of their hedgehogs because I could live vicariously through them. Now, however, I have a newfound attachment to various lizards. Did you know that blue-tongued skinks love bananas? Do you even know what a blue-tongued skink is? Google it. They’re so cute, you know, for a lizard. And boy, you don’t even want to get me started on all the various species of gecko. They just chill in their enclosures, climb around, and stick their little tongues out. I wish my life were that simple.

It’s pretty crazy to me that there are so many people out there with literal zoos in their houses. Each YouTuber I’ve watched, though, stresses that this should not be the everyday person’s goal; taking care of that many animals is a huuuuuge responsibility, and should only be taken on by someone with experience who can handle it. And yes, my obsession with exotic animal content originally began as a way to take

my mind off things, I have definitely learned a lot over the past few weeks. I’d wager that these channels do a lot more good than your Jake Paul/Dobre Brothers type. If people can learn how sweet and interesting exotic animals are, perhaps we’d be a lot nicer if we encountered them in real life. I know I used to be way more scared of



snakes, but I see now that they’re just silly worms that don’t really want to harm you. They just want to slink

under logs and mind their business.

Have some extra time between classes? Feeling dead inside and unsure how to find meaning in life? Maybe check out Pet YouTube. If you’re squeamish, maybe don’t watch videos of people feeding their animals, but definitely tune in to regular informational content. It’s so much more calming and entertaining than you might think.

# the paper's view

I don't know about anyone else but this year's Halloween was a bit underwhelming for me. The Halloweekend that followed was lit, to be sure, but I didn't do anything beforehand to get me into the spooky spirit. I missed watching *Over the Garden Wall* (if you haven't seen it, it's a delightful and spooky animated short series and you should check it out,) nor did I really engage in any other Halloween-ish media. I have finally become the thing my child me feared: a young adult who barely participates in Halloween festivities. I haven't slacked on eating candy though. If I don't have a cavity right now I definitely am on the precipice of having one.

Unlike Halloween, I am fully ready and feeling the vibes for Thanksgiving. It might be because as a senior the only thing I've been eating are ramen noodles and tears but I'm really looking forward to getting wrecked on turkey and crescent rolls. Thanksgiving can be weird because you have to balance enjoying family time and feeling uncomfortable about the less than accurate representation of the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and European Settlers. That doesn't mean you can't focus on the fun parts of Thanksgivings. My personal favorite part of Thanksgiving is my towns annual Turkey Trot, a 5 mile race that just destroys me every year. I haven't run regularly for the past 3 years, so the last few races have been rough to say the least. Are you guys enjoying this dive into my personal complexes about Thanksgiving? I am.

Finally, Christmas is creeping upon us, and at this point I really don't care when we start celebrating. It can never be too soon to start feeling that Christmas goodwill, and if anyone yells at me for singing Christmas carols in November I'm gonna lose it. Let me have a good time! All my paperviews are about me trying to regain my childhood happiness, and having a 2 month Christmas definitely helps with that.

## Meredith

Do you ever wonder how really big garbage got there?

Driving down the street for example, and seeing a mattress in a tree. Or an abandoned car in the middle of a forest. Or perhaps a college basketball team in the middle of the Bronx that, for the past 40 years, has been the sports equivalent of a steaming pile of dumpster trash.

Basketball season is here. Which means everyone at Fordham can spend the next four months willfully ignoring the existence of the men's basketball team. I don't have that luxury, unfortunately. That's because sophomore year I decided to join Pep Band. Where else could I find a club that combines my three passions of sports, music, and acting like a jackass at sporting events? It was a no-brainer.

What I didn't realize when I signed up for band was that I would be willingly subjecting myself to torture 15 to 20 nights during the winter for the next three years.

Two years ago, Fordham came in last place in the Atlantic 10. Last year, Fordham came in last place in the Atlantic 10. This year, preseason polls are picking Fordham to finish last in the Atlantic 10.

I've seen the Rams lose in nearly every way possible, but I'm sure this year they'll show me a few more.

But still, it's a new season, and maybe this is the year the Rams ascend to the top of the conference. Hell, at this point I'd be happy with just finishing second-to-last.

I know I shouldn't care this much. But I do. And even if this year brings more of the same, at least I can take comfort in knowing I won't have to watch it next year.

## Jack

### Across

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5. Fordham's dopest publication

23. Word search and Sudoku, for example

## the paper-libs!

Take a stab at our very own paper-libs! If you've done any mad-libs you know how this goes. We've taken out some words from Alex Jones' famous "I'M A PIONEER, I'M AN EXPLORER" rant so YOU can fill it in with your own ideas. We're pretty certain this is how Alex Jones writes his material anyways, and whatever you put in is bound to make as much sense as what it originally said. So go crazy! (Just not, like, Alex Jones crazy.)

I'm a pioneer! I'm an \_\_\_\_\_(1), I'm a human, and I'm \_\_\_\_\_(2)!  
 I'm animated, I'm \_\_\_\_\_(3), my \_\_\_\_\_(4)'s big! It's got hot \_\_\_\_\_(5),  
 going through it \_\_\_\_\_(6). I like to \_\_\_\_\_(7.) too! I like to eat! I like to  
 have \_\_\_\_\_(8)! ..I'm here! I've got a \_\_\_\_\_(9) force! This is a \_\_\_\_\_  
 (10), this is what we look like! This is what we \_\_\_\_\_(11) like! This is  
 what everybody was like before us. This is what I am, I'm a throwback.  
 I'm here! I've got the \_\_\_\_\_(12) of human liberty! I'm \_\_\_\_\_(13) fires  
 everywhere! And \_\_\_\_\_(14) are turning on everywhere!

- (1) A noun starting with a vowel
- (2) verb ending in "-ing"
- (3) state of being
- (4) body part
- (5) liquid
- (6) adverb
- (7) verb
- (8) plural noun
- (9) noun
- (10) noun
- (11) verb
- (12) noun
- (13) verb ending in "-ing"
- (14) group of something

# Mayor Pete's Slow Fall From Grace...

By Hope Guzzle  
Staff Politician

We all know Pete Buttigieg, affectionately known as “Mayor Pete”, as the mayor of Southbend, Indiana. He is known for his big plans to abolish the electoral college and remake the Supreme Court. Or at least he was. Recently it seems like Buttigieg is completely changing the way that he is marketing himself; he is no longer the generational change candidate full of unique ideas, but rather he is just Joe Biden below the legal retirement age.

While he was never a progressive leader, Buttigieg once seemed to be comfortable leaning into some less mainstream ideas, but now seems to be backing away. One key issue that allowed him to gain media coverage in the first place was his plan to reform the Supreme Court. Initially his idea to add six new judges to the court was one of his favorite talking points, yet he now seems to be backing off this. One look at his website and he now has several “promising ideas” about reforming the Supreme Court, and this change is only visible during the few times he brings this issue up. This idea may catch fire in the primary, but it is not something you can run on when trying to win over independents and moderates. This would explain his pivot towards healthcare, and more specifically challenging Warren and Sanders’ Medicare For All plans.

This was most apparent during the fourth Democratic debate when Buttigieg went after Warren for her Medicare For All plan. His main

## Why must all the good ones become sell-outs?

criticisms of her plan boiled down to two things: the divisive nature of her plan and her lack of a plan to pay for her proposed idea. However, he once was a supporter of Medicare for all. In February 2018, he tweeted, “Gosh! Okay... I, Pete Buttigieg, politician, do henceforth and forthwith declare, most affirmatively and indubitably, unto the ages, that I do favor Medicare for All, as I do favor any measure that would help get all Americans covered.



Now if you'll excuse me, potholes await.” This is clearly a big change from what Americans were hearing on the debate stage.

This has left many original Buttigieg supporters wondering what happened to their guy. It is pretty obvious that Buttigieg is trying to fill the role of Biden Jr., a candidate that will not completely upset the balance that many democrats enjoy while also not making embarrassing gaffes left and right. And it is working. Mayor

Pete had generated a lot of initial airtime when he first started his campaign, however, he began to really lose steam over the summer. This new push has revived his campaign, and while it took dumping tons of Super PAC money and completely rearranging many of his platforms, he is now placing third or fourth in many of the early states. Now it just needs to be decided if “selling out” is worth it.

When Buttigieg announced he was running and started gaining national recognition, I was really excited. It felt like there was finally a candidate that could bridge the gap between moderates and progressives. He seemed like the perfect candidate to bring the party together, but apparently not many other people felt that way because he did not do well in the primary. I fully understand why his campaign would do this, but I have found it disappointing. I loved what

Pete had to offer, he was so much more than just another electability argument. However, now it seems like his only concern, much like many Americans', is electability. I just find this argument to be an odd choice considering we do not actually know if Buttigieg is electable. He's not called Governor, Senator, or Representative Pete for a reason. While I don't think that holding high political office should be a requirement to run for office, it is a bold move to claim you are the most electable when you are the mayor of a town with a population of just over 100,000 people.

It also takes away one of my favorite qualities of his: his earnestness. He never felt like just another phony politician. I remember watching the first debate back in June when he fully took responsibility for the police brutality incident that happened in his hometown. He admitted that there was more that he could have done, and to me it felt pretty genuine. No excuses were made, just the idea that he could have done better. So when he comes out completely doing a 180 on many of his policies, it feels like some of that is lost. I cannot say for certain what Mayor Pete does or does not believe, but what I can say is that for me it feels pretty disingenuous.

All that being said, I do not think all hope is lost. During the most recent debate we saw Pete more fiery and passionate than ever. I can only hope that he takes that passion and directs it toward the issues he started off with.



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You liked my last shirtless pic so much, here's another one. Kneel.

Kneel. Kneel. Kneel.

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- IQ 120 or higher



## Onion's Book Made Us Cry: *Stones to Abbigale* is Wretched

By Gabby Curran and  
Meredith McLaughlin

**Meredith :**

*Stones to Abbigale* is a “book” by Gregory Jackson, known online as Onision. This “book” is self published; he wrote it after not reading a book for 14 years. Everything about this work is a muddled mess; I’ve read it at least ten times trying to understand why someone would write this. It is my Vietnam.

*Stones to Abbigale* has one main character, James, who serves as a stand in for the author. This isn’t a deep analysis, Greg boasts “James is essentially a better version of myself. His home, his school & his life all resemble my own at his age. The people James analyzes and is surrounded by are not so unlike those I’ve known as well,” in the description for his book on Amazon. It’s ironic that the people James is surrounded by are based on real people Greg knew, because Greg writes human beings with the same level of insight as someone who was introduced into society for the first time at 20 would write. With that in mind, it might be interesting to look at some of the more prominent secondary characters to understand how Greg views other people.

Besides James, the most important character in *Stones to Abbigale* is, of course, Abbigale. She is James’ love interest and the embodiment of pity porn and not much else. She has one (1) moment of agency, where she berates James for assuming she is “broken,” and it’s one of the only good moments in the book. This is of course undercut by Abbigale breaking down and admitting that yes, she is broken

### We can’t stop hating on Onision

and that she’s so so thankful James noticed. Even though Abbigale is the second most important character, she’s only important in how she serves James. She either serves as a figure for him to save or a figure to give him love. Their relationship isn’t one that can exist in real life, especially considering Greg’s abysmal and abusive track record with love.

Davis is James’ best friend, though that term is used loosely. In reality, Davis is more like an obsessive fan, someone who exists only to cheer up James and say things like “Hallelujah, James is here to save us from the evil clouds!” It’s heavily implied Davis is in love with James, even after James nags him for feeling emotionally wrecked after surviving a school shooting. Davis later gets run over and dies like a dog in one of a series of horrific events that Greg uses to inject pathos into his empty, banal story.

Lisa, James sister, is treated as an afterthought, therefore she’s my favorite character out of spite. James hates her because she gossips all the time and apparently has a lot of boyfriends. Greg is merciless in making her out to be this screeching banshee, describing her as someone “...who thought she was so important, everyone around her just had to hear everything she had to say no matter how trivial the topic.” Later, Lisa’s friend dies in the school shooting, and from the little we are told, Lisa is distraught. James shows no sympathy to his sister, or any to any character besides Abbigale, and even slut-shames her when he notices she’s upset. When James’ mom leaves their home to live with her boyfriend in

Spokane, Lisa leaves with her, and with that leaves the story.

Hopefully it’s clear that James (and Greg) treat people objects that provide a service. His cold and clinical treatment of others is a character trait, James describes how he has “enjoyed seeing how people move around and talk to each other, like they’re all animals at the zoo.” This book is poorly written, but even if Greg wrote on Hemingway’s level, it still suffers from how terribly Greg treats the secondary characters.

**Gabby:**

Just when I thought Onision couldn’t get any more inconceivable as a human being, I found out that he is the author of three self-published books. The first of these, *Stones to Abbigale*, is nothing short of a literary masterpiece--riddled with grammatical errors, spelling mistakes, and one-dimensional characters, it did not fail to meet my already high expectations of Onision’s writing.

The book opens with the story’s protagonist, James, ruminating on just how special he is because he doesn’t like anything. A troubled soul, James isn’t like other guys: he always feels like “an alien who had a VIP pass to submerge [himself] in primitive human culture just for entertainment.” Unable to relate to any of his peers, James braves the world alone--that is, until he meets Abbigale, a girl who is somehow different from the rest of the students at James’ high school. They are paired together in art class and share some kind of connection because he makes her laugh once. Shortly afterwards, we are introduced

to Davis, a.k.a. the Human Sycophant Prop. Several shenanigans ensue, including James “saving” Abbigale from her abusive ex-boyfriend, a school shooting, Abbigale moving in with James, and the protagonists’ school burning down. Thank goodness for the reader, James and Abbigale’s totally healthy and normal relationship stands the test of time.

I’m going to be blunt: this book is a shitshow. Onision isn’t wrong when he calls James an alien because 90% of the interactions he describes wouldn’t ever take place in reality. You’ve got romanticized abusive relationships, teachers calling students the F-word with zero repercussions, and the craziest, most unhealthy relationship between the two main characters painted as the epitome of human romantic interaction. This is High School Musical meets Law & Order in the worst way possible, and I don’t hate anyone enough to recommend this book to them.

To conclude, I thought I would include a compilation of some of my favorite quotes. Onision is nothing if not the reincarnation of William Shakespeare:

“I could hear a scream in the back of my mind reminding me my dorkiness and borderline obsession was escaping through my face.”

“I loved that she did everything I would have done, leaving no room for me to imagine potential alternatives to what she felt about Jason’s chauvinistic act.” (Nothing more sexy boyfriend, amiright?) Like a dam rapidly cracking open she began to pour out as I kissed her marks.” “What if stars were like birds, and they took craps on us[?]”

## HOROSCOPES

### This Week: Signs as “Influencers”

#### Aries: Alexis Ren

Check your astrological compatibility with your lover before the media gets to it...

#### Taurus: Dobre Brothers

Remember to smile when you're with other people.

#### Gemini: Danielle Cohn

People love you anyway, despite your Harvard hoodie.

#### Cancer: Cameron Dallas

Your Magcon days are over but it doesn't mean that girls aren't still fawning over you :)

#### Leo: Belle Delphine

People admire you for your entrepreneurial nature. Keep at it. Keep adapting.

#### Virgo: Emma Chamberlain

People miss the old you but remember your health is more important.

#### Libra: Danielle Bregoli

Let your creative juices flow this week.

#### Scorpio: Jay Alvarrez

Hahahaaaaaaaaaaaaa surf's up bruh.....swim this week queen.

#### Sagittarius: Malu

Musical.ly may be dead but you will keep tik toking around the clock.

#### Capricorn: Fred (Lucas Cruikshank)

You will have the biggest social media turn around in the next two weeks.

#### Aquarius: Lele Pons

Try something different this week.

#### Pisces: Amanda Cerny

Keep your emotions in check.

## Paranormal Activity Who? Check Out the *Lighthouse*

By Marty Gatto

### Earwax Editor

Robert Eggers' slow-building, psychotic, occasionally homoerotic new film *The Lighthouse* is a masterpiece. Following his 2016 debut *The Witch*, Eggers has stirred the proverbial waters with his two-man horror period piece. *The Lighthouse*, written by both Eggers brothers, details the story of two crusty lighthouse keepers played by Robert Pattinson and Willem Dafoe.

Some of the most fascinating things about this film are its implicit or explicit references to literature. This is what I will primarily be talking about in this article and SPOILER ALERT I am unapologetically going to reference the entire plot. The film begins with shots of the two on a ship cleaving its way through the water towards the lighthouse in the distance. There is no ham-fisted exposition. Instead, details are slowly dropped here and there about why the two men are here. Slowly, we learn that Robert Pattinson has been enlisted to complete various chores for Willem Dafoe, a crotchety old seaman with a hell of a pirate accent. Throughout, Pattinson

fetishizes a mermaid carving, violently kills a seagull, and obsesses over the light at the top of the lighthouse that Dafoe (who is, possibly, a tentacle monster) himself fetishizes. In the end, Pattinson physically dominates and kills Dafoe, sees the light, falls down the lighthouse and is picked at by seagulls while still alive.

Probably the most important reference to literature in the film is the explicit reference to Prometheus. At the end when Pattinson is burying Dafoe alive, Dafoe specifically references Prometheus in some of his last mad ramblings. The myth of Prometheus, first referenced in Hesiod's *Theogony*, details the story of a Titan who defies the gods by stealing fire and giving it to man. As punishment, the god was chained to a rock where every day an eagle would come to eat his liver and every day it would grow back. Dafoe's invocation of Prometheus

### Robert Pattinson and Willem Dafoe get wet.

foreshadows Pattinson's theft of fire (light) and consumption by birds as punishment.

The other integral reference to literature in the film is the implicit reference to *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*. *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* is a poem by Samuel Taylor Coleridge about a seaman who kills an albatross at sea. The albatross is considered a good luck sign, and the crew is punished for its death

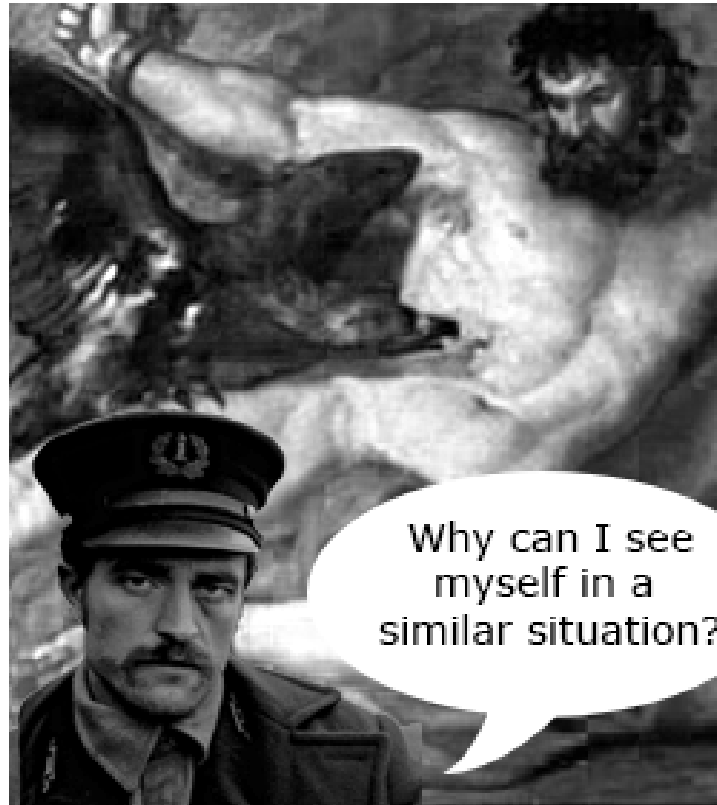
lines between sanity and madness become blurred, Pattinson more and more frequently encounters an actual, beautiful mermaid in what can only be described as "masturbation dream sequences." The mermaid, too, is no Ariel. She cannot speak. Instead, she only emits high-pitched inhuman shrieks. Nevertheless, her psychosexual grip on Pattinson seems more and more to pull him towards ultimate doom.

In this context, the mermaid seems to represent one of the famous sirens from Homer's *Odyssey*. The sirens in Homer's *Odyssey* are creatures that lure sailors to their death with their irresistible song. While Homer's description of the sirens does not include "mermaid" features, it seems like a contemporary trope to depict sirens as mermaids or beautiful, water-dwelling women. Eggers uses this myth to fashion a psychosexual siren. This siren may have had a role in Pattinson's predecessor's madness as well, since it is his predecessor's mermaid carving that induces a "mermaid fetish" of sorts.

Finally, let's return to Dafoe's last mad ramblings. As he is being buried alive the man references "Protean forms." Proteus, in Homer's *Odyssey*, is a shape shifting

sea-god. In order to gain knowledge on how to return home, Menelaus must capture the god. This theme is translated to the bizarre relationship between Dafoe and Pattinson. Dafoe is psychologically abusive and mercurial, but ultimately becomes overpowered by Pattinson (who makes him bark, roll over, and walk on a leash). The theme of "protean forms" is especially notable in the unsettling shots of unexplained tentacles.

*The Lighthouse* is a must-see for any fan of horror. The film is extremely enigmatic and going into it with knowledge of the plot and literary background won't help answer the unanswerable questions it posits. Nevertheless, the film is worth seeing if not for its literary background, then for its Kubrick-esque shots and brilliant acting. It certainly left me eagerly anticipating another Eggers feature.



with stagnant winds, starvation, and death. This mirrors *The Lighthouse* in several ways.

Dafoe, early on, warns Pattinson that it's "bad luck to kill a seabird." Later, he states that this is because the seagulls contain the souls of dead seamen. Pattinson doesn't listen and, quite horrifically, bashes a seagull's skull in. Following this, Pattinson becomes trapped on the lighthouse's island due to weather and the two run out of rations, much like in Coleridge's poem.

Next, we should talk about mermaids. Pattinson, upon arriving, discovers a wooden carving of a mermaid hidden in his bed. Later, he learns that the man he has replaced went mad with delusions about the light atop the lighthouse. Presumably, the carving was his predecessor's.

Throughout the film, Pattinson pleasures himself to the mermaid carving. As time goes on and the



# Bojack Horseman's Final Season Delivers

By Destin Piagentini  
Staff Quentin Tarantino

\*\*Warning: Spoilers\*\*

The final season of Bojack Horseman, which is releasing in two separate parts (with this review looking at the first half), is admittedly bittersweet. On the one hand, this show has meant so much to so many (including me) and it's genuinely sad to see one of the best shows still running get archived. On the other hand, the legacy of Bojack Horseman is a great one that is—like any other great show—always one season away from leaving a black stain on what has been an otherwise near-perfect show. Thankfully, if the first half of Season 6 is any indication for the final half, the show is going to stick the landing.

The world of Bojack is one of change in the eight-episode first half. The end of Season 5 saw each character beginning new journeys and tackling new problems. Most main characters of the series get at least one episode that addresses their current situation. Of course, with such a large cast, these characters often interact within their daily lives, so episodes typically see everybody at least momentarily. As the season progresses we see our cast sort out their lives in genuinely heartwarming ways. Diane, after her recent divorce from Mr. Peanutbutter, finds a stable and supportive relationship with her cameraman, while Princess Carolyn discovers what it means to be a mother, and doubting herself as she questions whether she's forming a genuine connection with her child. Meanwhile, Mr. Peanutbutter finally works up the courage to sort things out with his girlfriend after cheating on her with Diane last season, and Bojack stumbles but ultimately succeeds in rehab after taking his situation into his own hands with Diane's help.

Towards the end of the first half of the season, the focus is on Bojack. In the penultimate episode of this first half, Bojack spends his time travelling around and reconnecting

## Honey, you got a big storm coming...

with people he's hurt in the past. These include Diane and Hollyhock, Bojack's half-sister. The episode is a signal: Bojack is finally ready to put his past behind him and start anew as a good friend, a good brother, and an overall good person. It's a truly heartfelt episode, but in true Bojack fashion, the sentiment doesn't last. The last episode of the season is truly bizarre, and introduces strange new characters we've never seen before, resurfaces old one's that



have seemingly no bearing on the present story, and ultimately is a confusing mess. The closing seconds of this episode, however, bear an important warning for Bojack's fate heading into the final stretch of the series. Hollyhock mingles with a new friend she met at a party who recalls the story of his prom night in high school when a stranger crashed his friend group and bought drinks for the teenagers which ultimately resulted in a night at the hospital for one of his friends. His name was Bojack Horseman.

The more I think about this finale the more heartbreaking I interpret it. Looking at the final episode of this part, it's clear that the show is setting

up a cast of characters that are going to resurface and rail against Bojack for the harm he's caused them in the past, with some of these injustices being highly illegal and certainly actions that could land Bojack in jail for the rest of his life. The show is in a position to make an important message about "cancel culture" and the MeToo movement. Bojack is clearly a changed person, and has actively sought in this season to mend hearts and establish himself as a force for good in the future, but now his past actions are about to catch up with him. Now that push comes to shove, do we just throw Bojack away? Do we say his redemption arch never really made a difference in the grand scheme of things? For Bojack, the only thing that carried him through the ages was the hope that there was still time to overcome his troubled past, die a good person, and be someone others could look up to and love. Dying in jail would take any hope Bojack has fought to reclaim, and confirm his lifelong suspicions that he was broken from the onset, and that happiness is simply out of reach for some people. Not only

would it be a sad message for Bojack, but it is a sad message for us, the audience, and our personal lives as we overcome our own impediments and, for some, mental struggles.

So how do we deal with Bojack Horseman? It's a tight line for the show to walk. If he walks away untouched does it send the message that predators can get away with it? On the other hand, if Bojack's incarcerated for the remainder of his life, does that send the message that we are forever defined by our past actions, and that there's no reason in reforming ourselves? I'm not sure which direction the writers will go in the final eight episodes, but I sure am excited (and scared) to find out.

## EVENTS

**What:** Drag Show with Jizzabella, Valkyrie Hail, and Sugga Pie Koko  
**Where:** Rod's Coffee House  
**When:** Friday, Nov. 8  
**How much:** FREE!  
**Why:** This event is super fun and you should go. There's not much else to say about this.

**What:** J.D. Salinger Exhibit  
**Where:** New York Public Library  
**When:** Now-Jan. 19 2020  
**How much:** FREE!  
**Why:** The New York Public Library presents a rare glimpse into the life of J.D. Salinger with an exhibition of manuscripts, letters, photographs, books, and personal effects drawn exclusively from Salinger's archive.

**What:** Lauren Duca  
**Where:** McNally Amphitheatre at Lincoln Center Campus  
**When:** 11/08/2019 @4:00pm  
**How much:** Free  
**Why:** Lauren Duca is one of us...a paper alum. We're so excited to have the opportunity to speak with her about her new book, *How to Start a Revolution: Young People and the Future of American Politics*

## The Conspiracy Collection: Cash Grab or Inspired Collab?

By Angelina Zervos

Opinions Editor

Shane Dawson has published his latest “docuseries” on YouTube and managed to earn a spot on the top five trending videos with each video’s release. The six-part series, titled “The Beautiful World of Jeffree Star,” was posted throughout the month of October, leading up to the launch of Shane’s makeup collection with Jeffree Star Cosmetics on November 1st. In a previous series, Shane had followed the life of Jeffree Star, reflecting on the multimillionaire’s music career, social media presence, and cosmetic line. During one of the videos, the two had joked about Shane creating his own eyeshadow palette; a year later, the duo has done just that, and then some. However, as Shane’s previous “documentaries,” or as many critics prefer to call them, “vlogumentaries” have proved to be problematic, with the use of questionable journalistic practices and uninformed deductions. Many viewers are left questioning the intent of the YouTube veteran’s endeavor

Shane Dawson takes on the beauty community

into the makeup industry despite never expressing interest in it before.

The goal of Shane Dawson’s previous series was to investigate (and also entertain defamatory conspiracies about) the lives of popular influencers. The main issue many held with these series was the biased, ignorant approach Shane took to examine these figures. Many of the questions posed by creator and viewer alike were either brushed over or completely ignored. Viewers still have no true understanding of Tana Mongeau’s involvement with the planning and failure of TanaCon, if Jake Paul knowingly manipulates his young audience, or whether or not Eugenia Cooney has fully recovered from her eating disorder. Shane is no journalist, and in the case of exploring whether or not Jake Paul was a sociopath, is no psychiatrist either. Instead of answers, he presents melodramatic storylines that intersect each other repeatedly, creating a long-winded narrative that leave viewers begging for some sort of resolution; it is entertaining

nonetheless.

Shane was able to dodge many of these criticisms in his latest series, however, as it focused his personal experience with Jeffree Star in creating the “Conspiracy Collection,” which consists of two eyeshadow palettes, a lip gloss collection, accessories, and an entire merch collection (that has already sold out). Viewers sit in on board room meetings, makeup labs testings, conference calls, and photoshoots. The two insist that what they are creating “has never been done in the makeup industry before.” Perhaps showing the process of a large makeup collaboration, from the lab to the shelves, is impressive, at one point we are given an incredibly dramatic shot of a JFC employee calculating the projected earnings of the duo on his iPhone calculator app... it is hardly revolutionary. We are only given glimpses into the process, and in all honesty, they make it look easy. It appears the most difficult part of the launch was choosing the correct packaging, which had an entire “episode”

dedicated to it titled “The Failure of Jeffree Star and Shane Dawson,” so sad! In all fairness, we do witness some wholesome moments, such as Shane’s proposal to his boyfriend Ryland, a motivational speech made to Ryland’s sister Morgan about subjective beauty standards, and a shot of Shane and Jeffree hugging as they watch eyeshadow pans get impressed with their names.

HOWEVER! This does not excuse the questionable intent of Shane, who throughout his entire career, had never expressed interest in makeup or the beauty community until his series with Jeffree. He makes an effort to address these concerns, doing makeovers on his friends and family in each of the videos. Yet this doesn’t disguise the avaricious nature of the duo, who constantly allude to the grand amount of money to be made by the launch. They were successfully able to sway the hearts of millions into buying their collection; don’t bother trying to purchase the Conspiracy palette now – it’s already sold out!

## J.D. Salinger May Be Gone, But His Legacy Lives On

By Katelyn Cody

Copy Chief

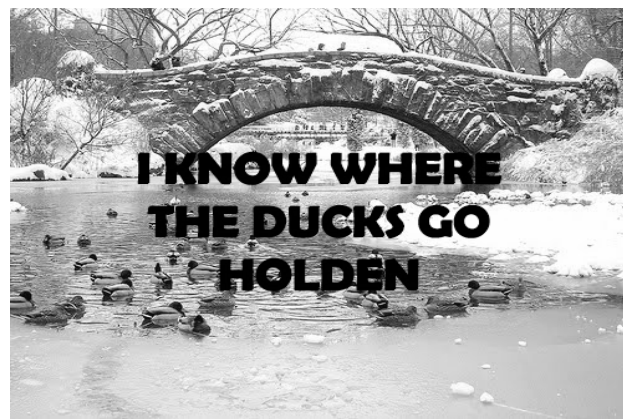
On February 1st, 2019 the Guardian published an interview with Matt Salinger, son of “Catcher in the Rye” author J.D. Salinger, announcing that his father’s unreleased works would finally be published. Despite continuing to write between the publication of his last short story, “Hapworth 16, 1924,” which was published in the New Yorker in 1965, and his death in 2010, the author did not publish any new works, and often refused to comment on his writing and declined interviews. The younger Salinger stated that the first of the unreleased works should start to roll out in 2020 and that readers need to be patient because going through all that his father had written in the 45 years prior to his death is a big undertaking.

In August, Salinger’s U.S. publisher Little, Brown, and Company released all of Salinger’s current works in the form of eBooks. The publishing house even created an Instagram page for the famed author, fully bringing him and his works into the 21st Century. The hesitancy that the Salinger estate showed in releasing the eBooks and in preparing the unreleased works for

Experience history at the public library

publication demonstrates the care the author’s loved ones are taking to preserve his legacy and proceed with publication as he would have wanted.

Also teased in February’s article



was an upcoming exhibition of Salinger’s personal archives at the New York Public Library Stephen A. Schwarzman Building on 5th Avenue. The exhibit opened on October 18th and will run until January 19th, 2020. Last Saturday I had the opportunity to visit the exhibit and appease my moody-”Catcher in the Rye”-loving higher schooler soul. The exhibit is free to enter and housed in a small

room on the library’s first floor. There’s a strict no bags policy and I had to check my bag, coat, and even my phone. The “no photography” rule was taken up a notch by not allowing any phones at all inside and I was told at coat check that for security reasons, guests were not allowed to have anything on them that had large pockets. The exhibition room is incredibly tiny, not much larger than the average Martyr’s Court dorm room, yet it was jam-packed with photographs of the author’s childhood and days in the military during World War II

and letters he wrote to various book agents, publishers, family members, and friends. And of course, right at the entrance was the typewriter Salinger used to write most of his works, including “Catcher in the Rye,” along with the original typescript of the novel. One of the most interesting aspects of the exhibit to me was the amount of memorabilia from his military service during WWII; the

author was present at the D-Day landing and at the Battle of the Bulge. It was at military school in Pennsylvania that Salinger began to write and was also the literary editor of his school’s yearbook. Much of the works on display were Salinger’s correspondence with his colleagues in the literary world. One work that struck me was a set of letters and drawings in which he meticulously outlined what the cover of “Catcher in the Rye” should look like. The author’s attention to detail was so apparent throughout the exhibit that I can’t help but think that is the reason as to why we have had to wait so long to read his unreleased works, Matt Salinger wants to do his father justice and take as much care as he would have had he published while still alive. There was so much on display that there is no way it could be described in just one article, you’ll just have to see for yourself. I wish I could have provided pictures, but honestly, I liked the no-phone policy, it made me actually spend more time contemplating what I was looking at. And one thing is for sure, I am anxiously awaiting the arrival of new Salinger fiction in the coming years.

# Baa Baa Black Sheep Have You Any Idea Who the Murderer Is?

By Connor Lutts  
Staff Sheep

There was an idea - Fordham Experimental Theatre knows this - called the Black Sheep Murder Mystery. The idea was to bring together a group of remarkable writers to see if they could do something more: to see if they could work together to commit murder, to tell a story we never could, through poetry. Simon Rodriguez's character, John Mayor, died for this idea of heroes.

Anyway, last weekend, Black Sheep ran its third ever murder mystery show: *The Town Hall of Horrors*. In it, someone died, someone killed them, and then everyone accused everyone else of doing it. Shows ran November 1st and 2nd, at the Blackbox in Collins Hall.

Let's take a look at the cast (in order of appearance):

**Simon Rodriguez** (*John Mayor*): Up until the moment he tragically died, he was the mayor of this small town. He smoked a cigar, stole brownies from children, and decided to introduce the entire rest of the cast of characters by insulting them, and comparing them to Haulin' Oats. While some of the insults could be perceived as 'personal', we were assured that this was only the character he was playing, and not how Simon acts in real life.

**Christian Decker** (*Jim Gordon*): Christian Decker finally breaks out of his typecast of 'old man who's angry or happy at the world' to bring a

## Town Hall of Horrors brings the ruckus in the Blackbox

star performance of Sheriff Jim Gordon, mid-40s man who's angry at the world. He was considered by John Mayor to be quote 'a suck-up', whose name should've been Matt 'because so many people walk all over him'.

**Shelby Daniel** (*Rhiannon*): Shelby Daniel plays the local Boo Radley, just

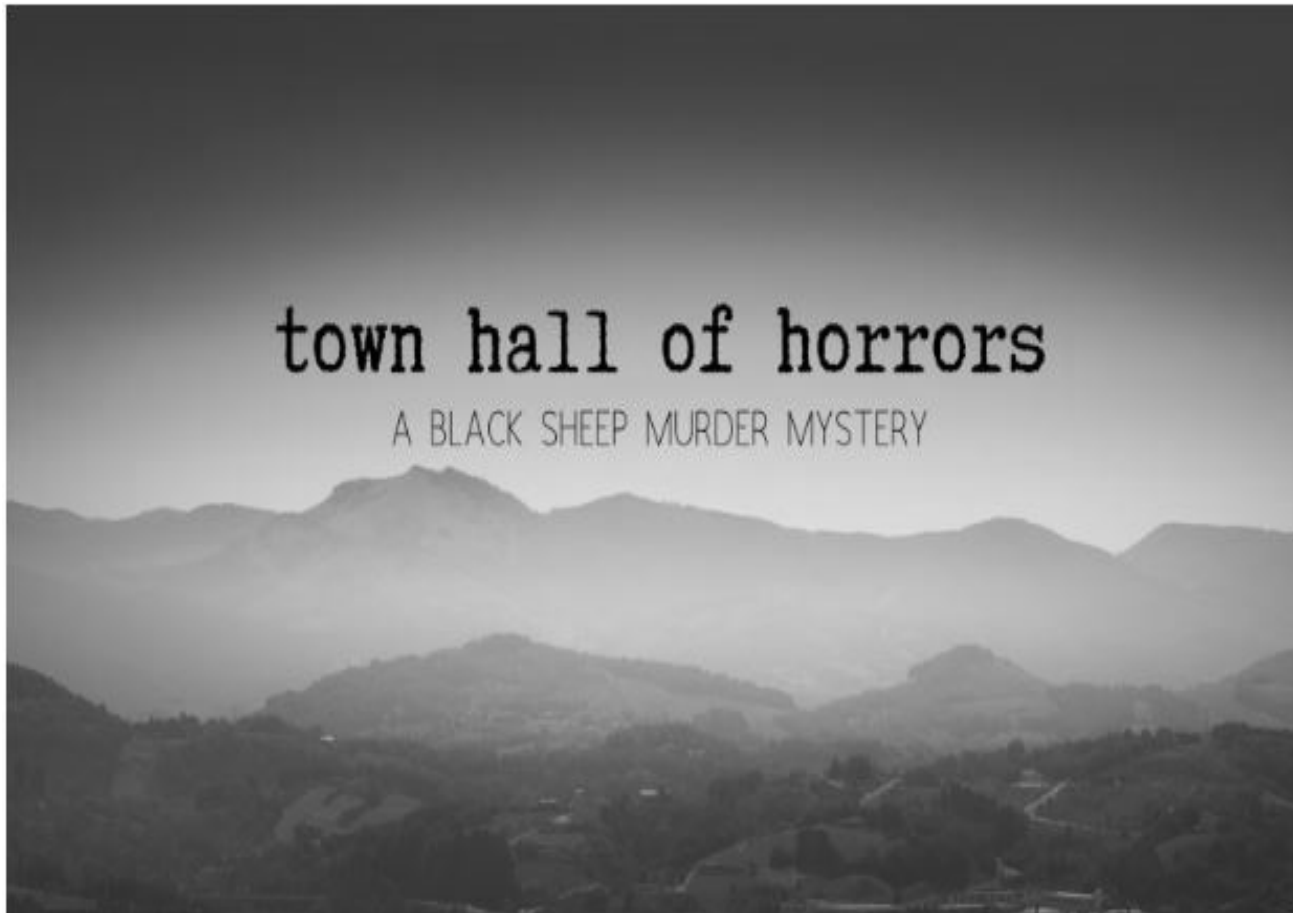
ban mother who could potentially get away with murder, if she were so inclined. More than once, a character goes out of her way to eat her brownies, though whether that's more me and Simon getting hungry, or actually part of the show, is beside the point. Described by John Mayor to live on 'corner of Sixth Street and hell'.

**Abbey Delk** (*Wabigail Williams*): Abbey Delk stars as the other one of the damn teens. Unlike Christian, Abbey chose to stay within her typecast of 'high school girl', reprised from *She Kills Monsters*, another show that you should've seen. Opening with a slow clap and an accusation against brownies, she delivers the show's best line, which was amazing - don't at me, it's a fact.

**Charlotte Utschig** (*Biggie Scoops*): News reporter looking for the next big scoop, she would've died of boredom if the Mayor hadn't bit it first. Unlike the paper, she doesn't care about something as pointless as "journalistic integrity," asking "if a murder happens in a backwater town, and no one's around to report it, would anyone even know?" Described by John Mayor as "if Arianna Huffington huffed too much paint."

**Eric Conor Lutts** (*Prof. Hariton Splimby, PhD*): A lecturer from a local university, who swears he didn't commit the murder, even though he had access to the poison that killed the mayor. He once published a paper openly favoring Marxism during the McCarthy Era, and is described by the mayor as 'a bore'.

So who murdered the mayor? Well, now you'll never know.

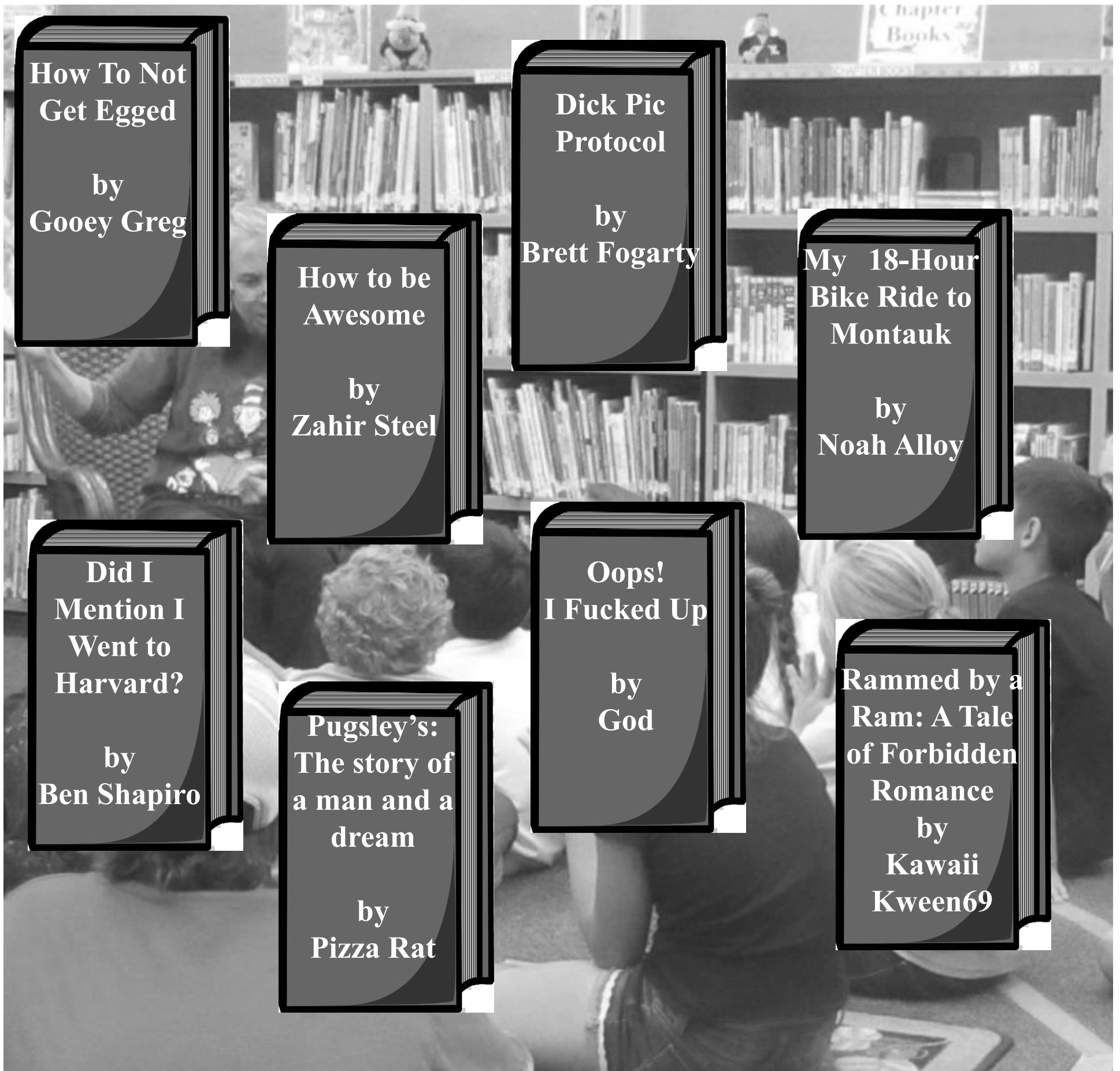


so happens to live in the woods with two black cats, and while she doesn't own any books on the occult, she does rent the Necronomicon from the town's local library. Declared a witch by some, John Mayor describes her as 'about as edgy as James K Polk'.

**Emma Paolini** (*Susan McBarbara*): Soccer Mom and amazing brownie-maker, Emma plays the quiet subur-

**Julia Tuck** (*Cindy McBarbara*): Daughter of Susan McBarbara, you might know her better as *class president*. She derides conformity, believes her mother murdered the mayor, and defends the witch solely on this account. John Mayor describes her as 'another one of those damn teens', along with...

# THE PAPER'S BOOK CLUB RECOMMENDATIONS BECAUSE BOOKS ARE STILL A THING



**How To Not  
Get Egged**  
  
by  
**Gooney Greg**

**Dick Pic  
Protocol**  
  
by  
**Brett Fogarty**

**How to be  
Awesome**  
  
by  
**Zahir Steel**

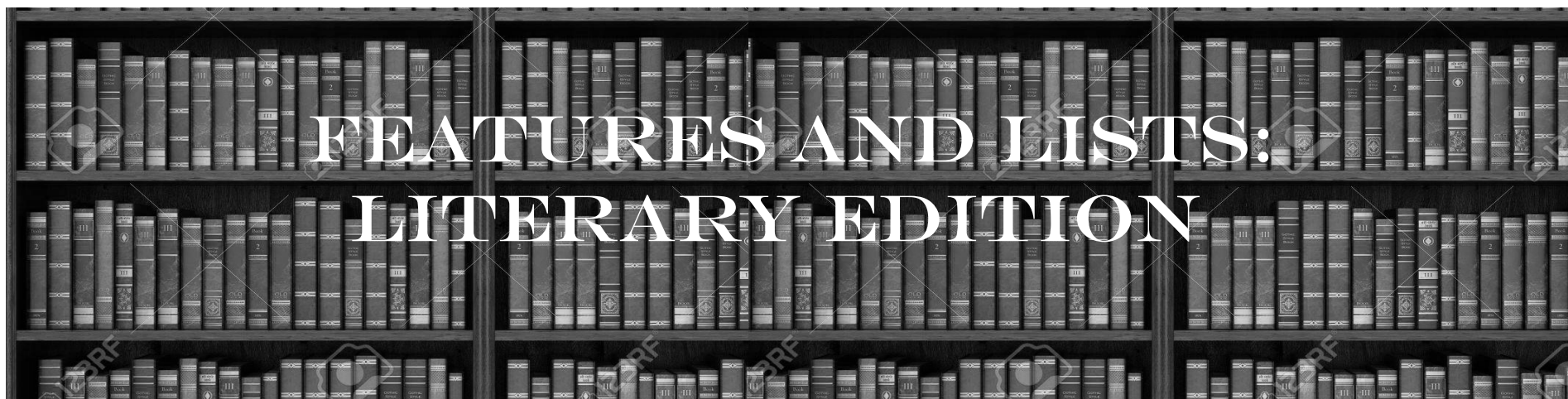
**My 18-Hour  
Bike Ride to  
Montauk**  
  
by  
**Noah Alloy**

**Did I  
Mention I  
Went to  
Harvard?**  
  
by  
**Ben Shapiro**

**Oops!  
I Fucked Up**  
  
by  
**God**

**Pugsley's:  
The story of  
a man and a  
dream**  
  
by  
**Pizza Rat**

**Rammed by a  
Ram: A Tale  
of Forbidden  
Romance**  
  
by  
**Kawaii  
Kween69**



# FEATURES AND LISTS: LITERARY EDITION

## STORY OF YOUR LIFE

**The paper's editors are more than just awesome, good looking, smart, funny and all around great people. We are also accomplished authors with riveting and well-written autobiographies. Some of us were kind enough to share a sample of our works, so sit back relax and enjoy!**

**How to Procrastinate to Success  
by a Genius**

This book would be about how I desperately want to get stuff done but God, I just can't muster the strength. However, it would have an uplifting message that sometimes the pressure of leaving stuff to last minute leads to diamonds of good work. It would also chronicle attempts I made to get stuff done earlier. If you procrastinate, it's not the end of the world. We're all doing our best to get stuff done.

**The Bible  
by Martin**

"The only difference between Martin and God is that God doesn't identify as Jeepers." This two part saga explores my life from the time I created man to the time I sent my son above the stratosphere and into the heavens. Purchase this book at Barnes and Nobel. Behave yourself and I will sign your copy at the gates of Heaven. Tell St. Peter you're a Barnes and Nobel platinum member and I will include a personalized message. XOXO Martin.

**My Power  
By Darthon, Lord of the 7 Realms**

I would write my autobiography by describing my infinitesimal power and how cool it is. I'd probably start with my troubled childhood as a cult child of the Eternal Keepers, and how I bargained with the gods themselves in order to obtain forbidden magic knowledge. From there, I'll write about how I left home

and worked as a baker in the city, making bread and honing my pastry skills. I don't know how much detail I'll go into how I overthrew the king and started my sprawling empire, and the countless souls I destroyed in my journey for ultimate power.

**Drive: The Story of My Life if I was Larry Bird Instead of Me  
by a Not Larry Bird**

My favorite biography is Larry Bird's Drive: The Story of My Life. My autobiography takes place in an alternate reality, in which instead of myself I am the three-time NBA champion who amassed more than 21,000 points over 13 seasons for the Boston Celtics. In my story, of course, Larry Legend (me) won two additional titles and played another four seasons because my back isn't quite as fucked-up. What's the real Larry Bird doing in this alternate universe? Probably still riding around on a garbage truck somewhere.

**Why Always Me?  
by the Bad Luck Barry**

For the past few years my family and I have had a running joke that all the bad or mildly inconvenient stuff seems to happen to me. For example, if we ever go out to eat there's always something wrong with my food, or something really cool comes up and I'm the only one who can't go, stuff like that and worse. I'm literally Neville Longbottom before he has his tough guy glow up. Thus, my autobiography title was born. Honestly, I have no doubt that crappy stuff will continue in the near future because honestly you tend to kind of go with the flow after that stuff keeps happening to you over and over again. IT does get a little annoying sometimes I'll admit though.



**Alcest**  
***Spiritual Instinct***  
**Christian Decker**



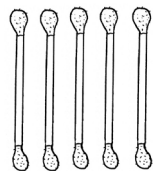
By virtue of their musicianship, Alcest have been able to craft songs that successfully blend the dark and screeching blackness of metal with the soothing beauty of atmospheric rock. *Spiritual Instinct* is a masterpiece of atmospheric black metal and it deserves its place with the greats of the genre. The album is very short, boasting only six tracks, but each one brings a rich array of tones and vocal performances I have never heard before. It's crazy to think that the melodies are so touching when I can't even understand the words because they're all in French.

Perhaps there need be no translation. The music speaks for itself. Neige, with his mind bending soothing clean vocals brings solace and comfort on songs such as "Sapphire" and "Le

Miroir," which then devolves into the wails of a banshee, made all the more potent on "Protection," which is clean for most of the song till the end. The guitar melodies and harmonies that are picked are so very Alcest, meaning, that you'd be hard pressed to find these sounds from any other band. Other bands have replicated this combination of atmosphere and heaviness but not quite like Alcest.

The opening song "Les Jardins de Minuit," hits very heavy but also fills you with such serenity. It's like walking into a dark forest alone at night but knowing that nothing in there is going to hurt you. I suppose that describes much of Alcest's music. *Spiritual Instinct* brings more of the beautifully dark music that they are the best at to the forefront of metal talk.

Favorite Track: "Les Jardins de Minuit"



**Kanye West**  
***Jesus is King***  
**Rich Shrestha**



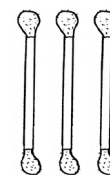
Praise the lord. Kanye's evangelistic mission has finally dropped: *Jesus is King*. However, unlike the preachers on Fordham Road, people do not want to ignore this. At first listen, the album seems to be what Kanye came up with after opening the Bible for the first time. His normal musical production value as always is high quality. Some tracks with such strong instrumentals include the aggressive Selah and the melancholic and controversial Closed on Sundays, discussing Chick-fil-a. Yet, for many of his original fans, *Jesus is King* lacks the grittiness of his musical roots. He leaves room for his new religious devotion. More reminiscent of the old Kanye and my personal favorite song is "Follow God," with vibes of My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy.

Nevertheless, this album is not for me. Kanye does what he believes is best for Kanye and what makes Kanye happy. Right now, Kanye wants to perform gospel music, even though the majority of his fans do not want it. Instead, he reaches an audience of devout Christians and lost souls. His track "God Is" is an example of this type of acclaim with YouTube comments such as "I'm not even a believer but this makes me want to be saved," and "Bruh Satan jus took that L."

Indeed Satan may take that L, but Kanye might have as well with this new course. Isolated from Kanye, this album is decent and definitely grows on you after more listens. As a Kanye fan, compared to his other work, this

collection feels lackluster. It is missing his original, drawing R&B hip-hop essence. Unfortunately, if this album is an indicator of Kanye's new path and not a short detour, then this could mean the end of Kanye's best.

Favorite Track: "Follow God"



**Selena Gomez**  
***"Look At Her Now"***  
**Julia Carnevale**

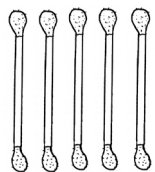


I am a firm believer that there is a right time for everything. I think Selena Gomez is too. She finally released the lead single, "Lose You to Love Me" off her highly anticipated upcoming album on October 23, 2019. Although she has released "droplets" during the dry period between her albums like "Wolves," and collaborations like "Taki Taki," this is the first time in four years we have seen Selena at her most vulnerable, true self.

"Lose You to Love Me" recently debuted at number 15 on Billboard, which is Selena's second highest debut since "Good For You." Many fans are expecting "Lose You to Love Me" to be Selena's first number one. The single is doing incredibly well for a ballad in the streaming era. I think this is in part due to the anticipation and excitement

surrounding Selena's comeback and because the lyrics allow Selena to say what needs to be said.

My favorite lyric from the single is "sang off-key in my chorus, cause it wasn't yours." As a fan myself, I sense a double meaning. Selena is first commenting on the toxicity of a relationship. When it came time for her to cultivate herself and her talents, she simply could not. This explains her singing off-key in her own chorus, since it wasn't the other person who she gave all her time and energy to. I also think this line is a jab at those who have negatively compared her singing to other women in the industry. After she sings this line about her chorus being off-key, a new beautiful chorus of solely Selena's vocals follows. The black and white music video encapsulates her every emotion. Selena has not only grown personally in these four years, but also musically.



**King Princess**  
**Cheap Queen**  
**Nora Hogan**



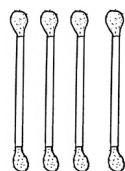
On October 25th, 2019, the world's ears were blessed by the release of King Princess' highly-anticipated *Cheap Queen*. For the past two

weeks, this album has been the soundtrack of my existence. It's been my go-to musical accompaniment to homework, subway naps etc. It's an album full of tangled feelings tinged with a hint of self-deprecation. King Princess fully admits to her tendency to be hard on herself in the album's first track, "Tough On Myself." She then delves into the web of betrayal and confusion of love that exists within her.

Mixing emotion with upbeat melodies, King Princess wraps her cries for unconditional affection in songs that you can bop to with tracks such as "Ain't Together" and "Cheap Queen." However, juxtaposing tracks such as "You Destroyed My Heart" and "Do You Wanna See Me Crying?" predominantly focus on her frustration with the fickleness of love in a more somber tone.

She succeeds in finding the appropriate ratio between sitting and thinking deep thoughts at 2am and letting us thoroughly enjoy a song without listening to the lyrics and getting emo about it. In general, I find *Cheap Queen* particularly refreshing to listen to as it genuinely encompasses the struggles of finding love in the modern age without the naive innocence that accompanies much of her earlier work. However, I think that the release of her EP, "Hit the Back," spoiled the release of the album by giving listeners a premature preview of all the hits of *Cheap Queen*. No track on the album really stood out to me other than the ones that I had previously listened to on the EP. Regardless, King Princess' songwriting and message in her new work are truly great and worthy of praise.

Favorite Track: "Ain't Together"



**Rex Orange County**  
**Pony**  
**Katelynn Brown**



When I heard Rex Orange County was coming out with a new album, *Pony*, I was pumped — it was about to be real sad boy hours again. *Pony* definitely delivered our annual dose of relationship highs and lows, loneliness and isolation. However, as compared to previous albums such as *Apricot Princess*, this album fell a bit flat. As other Rex Orange County albums do, many of the songs blend into one.

I feel usually that if you listen to them enough, you begin to pick out different sounds, poignant lyrics or good instrumental riffs. This album lacks this severely. I listened to this album about five or six times, and not much really stood out to me except the first song, "10/10," which was originally released as a single. I also really enjoyed "Face to Face" and "It's Not the Same Anymore," though I don't remember how either of these songs go. I just remember liking them. Other than these songs, I felt many of the other songs didn't stand out. I think *Pony* could have benefited a lot from more musical variety.

In general, I think Rex Orange County excels at singles, while his albums blend into a homogenous 40-minute melody. *Pony* was no exception — it's actually a perfect example of this. In addition to this, *Pony* feels exceptionally short. Every time I listened to *Pony* I was left thinking, "Oh, it's over." I think that if the songs were longer or if there was an extra song or two, the album would have felt more complete. This is not to say that I

## Electro + Surf 4 U

1. THE GODFATHER - SATAN'S PILGRIMS

2. MISERLOU - DICK DALE

3. THEM CHANGES - THUNDERCAT

4. GODS IN HEAT - TOBACCO

5. CREATURE - TIJUANA PANTHERS

6. WHITE AWAKENING V2 - LES RALLIZES DENUDES

7. FLAMES UP - THINKING FELLERS UNION LOCAL 282

Favorite Track: "10/10"



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Lauren Duca!**



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REVOLUTION**

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