

# THE INKWELL QUARTERLY

## Student Teaching Experiences

by Erica Bicchetti

*As an English major with a minor in Secondary Education, I am constantly thinking about how fast my student-teaching semester is approaching. I was able to hear from two students currently student teaching to help me learn about their experiences. My personal experience at field placements has already offered me tremendous opportunities working with students. So it is interesting to hear perspectives from student teachers and comparing them to my experience as a student observer just to get a feel for what is to come. I felt the need to ask these specific questions in order to receive a better understanding of their outcomes.*

### Haley Welker



Photo credit: Haley Welker

**Q:** What grades are you teaching?

**A:** I had two teaching placements: I taught 7th and 8th grade English at G.A.R for 7 weeks, and I am currently teaching 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade English in a Learning Support classroom at Wyoming Area Secondary Center.

**Q:** What school are you teaching at? Do you like it there?

**A:** G.A.R and Wyoming Area Secondary Center. I like both placements equally!

**Q:** What has been your favorite part of student teaching thus far?

**A:** My goal as a teacher is to grant all students, regardless of their backgrounds, the opportunity to have a solid educational foundation. In both of my experiences, I have worked hard to accomplish this goal and have seen the positive impact that I have had among a majority of my students. I recognized that I have the potential to use the English language as a means to provide students with a quality education that helps them discover their own personal definitions of success— this realization has been

my favorite part of my student teaching experience thus far.

**Q:** What has been the most challenging part?

**A:** The most difficult part of student teaching is knowing that some students go home to very challenging lives. There is no way in which I can change their home lives and that has been the most difficult obstacle to overcome. I have learned that the time spent in my classroom should be positive and engaging, thus giving students at least 42 minutes of time in which students are genuinely enjoying their day.

Story Continued on Page 7

### *In this Issue:*

English for Pre-Law  
Studies  
*Archie Comics V.*  
*Riverdale*  
Scum Game Review  
*Bohemian Rhapsody*  
Reviews  
And much more!

## MANUSCRIPT UPDATE

The Wilkes University *Manuscript* Society is not currently accepting submissions for the 2018-2019 but submissions will reopen in the Spring 2019 semester. Keep an eye out for reading posters as well as for this year's issue, as it will be a special anniversary edition with pieces from past *Manuscript* publications!

Any additional questions can be sent to the *Manuscript* Executive Editor, Mackenzie Egan, at: [mackenzie.egan@wilkes.edu](mailto:mackenzie.egan@wilkes.edu).

## Writing Center Hours

The Writing Center, located in the Alden Learning Commons, is open and offering support to student writers across the Wilkes curriculum.

Our Fall 2018 schedule is:  
Monday: 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday: 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 9:00 a.m.-6:00p.m.  
Friday: 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

The Online Writing Center is available at: <http://wilkes.edu/pages766.asp>

For more information, contact: **Dr. Chad Stanley**

## Editorial

by Mackenzie Egan

As I write this, I am sitting on the floor in one of my best friend's bedrooms, my iPad and its keyboard resting against my leg, listening to Pop Punk Christmas music and drinking hot chocolate, and it's the most at peace I've felt in the past month. With finals right around the corner, and my impending History capstone staring me in the face, I'd be remiss to claim that I am not, in fact, stressed, when truly it's the polar opposite. I am stressed, as everyone reading this right now is stressed, because my GPA is in the balance, as well as my degree, but not as stressed as I have been for the past twenty seven days. In truth, this November has been the most stressful month of my college career – and not because of my work load.

This November, I decided to partake in National Novel Writing Month, better known under the acronym NaNoWriMo. NaNoWriMo is an internet based challenge for creative writers that spans from November 1st to the 30th, annually,

with a target goal of each participant completing a 50,000 plus word novel in thirty days. As of today, my novel is a whopping 38,317 words (keep in mind, I'm writing this on November 28th). Now, I'm not sure what insane inner part of me decided that undertaking the goal of writing an entire novel as a senior in college was a good idea, but at two days from the end of the month, I've come to the conclusion that it's probably unattainable (there's no way I'll be able to find the time to write 11,683 words by Friday at midnight). This disappointment in myself at not being able to reach the 50,000 word goal was thwarted, though, when it dawned on my that 50,000 words is a weird target to attain.

The idea first came to me when I was sitting in the intro to DH course taught by Dr. Makkar today, staring at the computer screen while the class discussed quantitative and qualitative research in literary studies. On the screen, she had a quote that was

*Story Continued on page 3*

## Welcome to Our New Staff!

Faculty Advisor - Dr. Hamill  
Editor-in-Chief - Mackenzie Egan

Copy Editor - Julia Guziewicz and Brian Vu

Layout Editor - Erica Bicchetti  
Staff Photographer - Mmachi Dimoriaku

Staff Writers - Emily Banks, Rashonda Montgomery, and

Veronica Romanelli

If you would like to submit articles for future *Inkwell* issues, email Dr. Hamill at [thomas.hamill@wilkes.edu](mailto:thomas.hamill@wilkes.edu) or Mackenzie Egan at [mackenzie.egan@wilkes.edu](mailto:mackenzie.egan@wilkes.edu)

## Editorial

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## Why English?

by Emily Banks

Whenever I am asked what I am going to college for, my response is "I am an English major and I am minoring in Political Science" to which people usually respond, "What do you want to do with that degree?" Most people automatically assume that the optimal major for Law School is Political Science. While I think Political Science is helpful, it is definitely not optimal...in my opinion. Initially when I attended the Wilkes Open House, I chose Political Science as my major of interest, because like most, I assumed Political Science was the obvious major to go with as a student pursuing a career in the legal system. However, upon countless hours of research, I have found that you can major in anything for Law School.

Of course, this information was not helpful to me in any way, so I did a more advanced search of what majors score higher on the LSAT. Not to my surprise, I found English to be ranked higher than Political Science. After taking time to reflect on why English majors score higher on the LSAT, it all made sense. English teaches us close reading and how to analyze and truly break apart every detail of a text. It teaches us how to form our own interpretations as well as understanding why someone else may have a different interpretation. Though not as commonly obvious, English teaches argumentative skills. In every essay we write, we must form an argument and back our argument up with evidence, much like I will be doing in the court room. As former student

Courtney McMonagle suggests, "English teaches you how to read very carefully, which is very important when it comes to law school.

English and the Pre-Law Program at Wilkes taught me the value behind words, and the different weights they carry. Word choice is important especially in English and even more especially in law." She also says, "Having a background in English was also helpful when writing my personal statement. Your personal statement for your law school application isn't supposed to be very rigid; it's kinda supposed to tell the law school who you are and why they should accept you for reasons other than your GPA or your LSAT score. Minoring in English and having dabbled in creative writing heled me craft a personal statement that made me look interesting enough to be accepted into school, with qualities I could bring to the table that other applicants couldn't." Tara Giarratano, another recent graduate and current law school student, claims "I LOVED being an English major at Wilkes and I feel there was

no better pre-law education available for me. My English professors pushed me to think critically and consider the narratives we read from all available perspectives. The ability to see all sides of a situation (even when one side is uncomfortable) is critical to the study of law (and of life!)"

After speaking with both Tara and Courtney, I know I chose the most beneficial major for Law School preparation. I urge anyone considering Law School to major/minor in English. I have taken many LSAT prep tests and I fly through the reading section seamlessly each time. I credit this to my experience as an English major thus far. English forces us to view a text from all angles. It exposes us to different perspectives and urges us to form our own arguments, all skills which will certainly come in handy for Law School.



AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Photo Credit: [americanbar.org](http://americanbar.org)

## Could B

by Veronica R

As soon as I was going to be a which Freddie M by Rami Malek, I it. Before hearing *Rhapsody*, I had his role as Elliot series Mr. Robot by his work in th not wait to see h actor that was co of his role of Elli anxious hacker. I actor of Mercury contrast with his but Mercury did peppy and upbe everyone knows fr

In *Bohemian* Mercury is seen drug and alcohol with his sexuality always been a fascic, I have never the history of th unaware of a lot Mercury was str interesting and I him more as a h extravagant stag I said, though, I looked into the personal life, so factually accurately is. Whatever regarding the ac presented in the to enjoy and ap ter of Freddie as more human, r more relatable t ly believed.

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# Could *Bohemian Rhapsody* Have Been Longer?

by Veronica Romanelli

As soon as I heard there was going to be a Queen movie in which Freddie Mercury was played by Rami Malek, I knew I had to see it. Before hearing about *Bohemian Rhapsody*, I had known Malek from his role as Elliot on the television series *Mr. Robot*. I was impressed by his work in the series and could not wait to see him portray a character that was completely opposite of his role of Elliot, a reserved and anxious hacker. I thought his character of Mercury would be in total contrast with his character of Elliot, but Mercury did not embody the peppy and upbeat persona that everyone knows from the stage.

In *Bohemian Rhapsody*, Mercury is seen struggling with a drug and alcohol addiction, and with his sexuality. While I have always been a fan of Queen's music, I have never really looked into the history of the band, so I was unaware of a lot of the problems Mercury was struggling with. It was interesting and heartbreaking to see him more as a human than just an extravagant stage character. Like I said, though, I have never really looked into the history of Mercury's personal life, so I do not know how factually accurate the movie actually is. Whatever the case may be regarding the accuracy of the events presented in the movie, I was able to enjoy and appreciate the character of Freddie as someone who was more human, more complex, and more relatable than I had previously believed.

One thing that I know for sure is accurate in the movies is the recreations of Queen's performanc-

es. I have seen numerous videos of Mercury side by side with Malek in the movie's concert scenes, and the exactness of the remakes is stunning. Everything from Malek's outfits, to his facial expressions, to

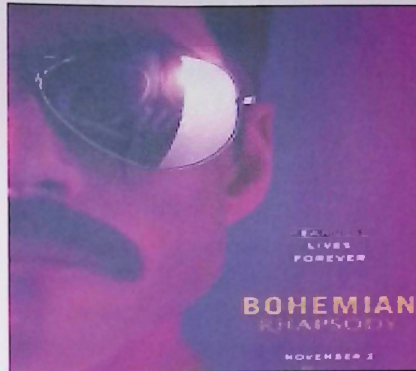


Photo Credit: IMDb.com  
Bohemian Rhapsody, featuring Rami Malek as Freddy Mercury, casted the film beautifully - even if the casting was the only part of the story the film did justice to.

his movements on stage matched Mercury's as close to perfectly as they could be. I was amazed by the thought of all the work that must have been done by the cast and crew to make the resemblances so striking. As a fan of Queen's music, I was also just very generally pleased with listening to their hits in the theater and getting some sense of what was going on backstage between the bandmates before performances began.

Although I thoroughly enjoyed the movie, I am still not sure how I feel about the ending. The movie ends shortly after Freddie tells his bandmates he has AIDs and ends with Queen's performance at Live Aid. I almost wish the movie would have shown Freddie's death and the reactions to it. I think

that might have made the movie more authentic and real. *Bohemian Rhapsody* had a relatively uplifting ending as far as the ending scene went, but it was followed by pictures of Mercury captioned with facts about his death and other details that were missed in the movie. I think it might have been better for some of the details to be portrayed by the actors instead of just quickly flashed on the screen.

Overall, I thought *Bohemian Rhapsody* was a phenomenal film, and I would see it again. In fact, I actually went to the movies to see it with my cousins a second time, but it was already sold out by the time we got there, which just reinforces the hype surrounding the movie and the amount of people dying to see it



Photo Credit: <https://www.behance.net/gallery/22507741/Bohemian-Rhapsody>



## Student Teaching Experiences

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**Q:** If you could offer advice to students who will be student teaching in the future, what would you say?

**A:** My greatest piece of advice is to relate to your students as much as possible. Find ways to implement their idiosyncratic language and personalities into daily lessons and make sure that current cultural and social values that are important to students are added into the curriculum. Although it takes extra planning time, I have found that my students thrive on activities that are shaped around student interests. For instance, I never knew students would be excited to learn about subjects and predicates until I pulled lyrics from popular rap songs and created a Shazam!-like game that had students combine their knowledge of grammar and music.



Photo Credit: Gianna Salvadore

**Gianna Salvadore**

**Q:** What grades and subjects are you teaching?

**A:** My first 7 weeks I taught 5th grade reading. I am currently teaching 4th grade ELA.

**Q:** What school are you teaching at? Do you like it there?

**A:** Tamaqua Elementary - yes, I am having a great time. The staff is so welcoming and supportive.

**Q:** What has been your favorite part of student teaching thus far?

**A:** If I am being honest, everything! This is what we worked so hard for. I am just having a fantastic time learning from veteran teachers and interacting with the kids. I love being there everyday and getting to know the students personally. It is a great feeling to be the one they look up to and go to for answers.

**Q:** What has been the most challenging part?

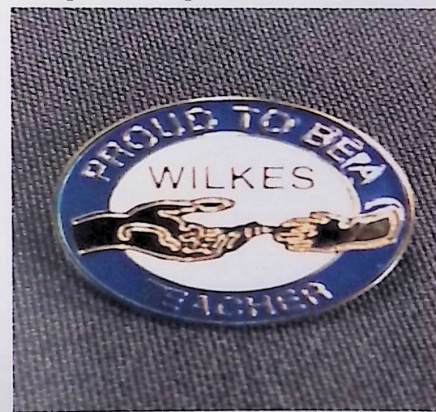
**A:** I think the most challenging part of student teaching for me is putting everything together. In our classes, we learned everything we needed to be successful. We learned to write awesome lesson plans, we learned classroom management, we learned how to differentiate. Student teaching is the time where we put ALL of the knowledge we learned to use and put it all together. It's a lot.

**Q:** If you could offer advice to students who will be student teaching

in the future, what would you say?

**A:** The first few days may be tough and overwhelming, but you have all the tools you need. Just breathe and be yourself. You got this.

*I want to thank Haley and Gianna for taking the time to answer my questions on their student teaching experiences. I wasn't expecting such positive answers, knowing the hard work and stress that comes with majoring/minoring in education. I can now say that I am more excited than nervous for my upcoming student teaching semester. Through their responses, it became clear how much they enjoyed teaching at their placements, and how well prepared they felt when accomplishing this milestone. I will definitely take their advice in utilizing the tools I have acquired, and will try to relate to my future students in order to create the best possible experience.*



*This pin pictured above is from the Teacher Education Program's Pinning Ceremony. Every student accepted into the program receives this pin. This is a reminder to Haley and Gianna of their accomplishments thus far. Congratulations!*

# Sophomore Spotlights

by Erica Bicchetti

**Veronica Romanelli**

**Q:** What is your major/minor and area of concentration?

**A:** My major is English with a concentration in literature and a minor in Secondary Education.

**Q:** Where are you from?

**A:** I have lived in Wilkes-Barre my whole life!

**Q:** Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

**A:** In five years, I will hopefully be teaching English at a high school. I'm not really sure where I want to teach yet, but I think I would like to leave Wilkes-Barre.



Photo Credit: Veronica Romanelli

**Q:** What has been your favorite English class thus far, or any?

**A:** My favorite English class so far is 233 with Dr. Hamill. I've enjoyed everything we've read so far, and he

always makes class fun!

**Q:** If you could be any fictional character, who would you be?

**A:** If I could be any fictional character, I would be Powerline from *A Goofy Movie*. He is such a super-



Photo Credit: Kyle Trout

star, and I am just a huge fan of his work.

**Kyle Trout**

**Q:** What is your major/minor and area of concentration?

**A:** English/Secondary Education with Special Education

**Q:** Where are you from?

**A:** Mount Laurel, NJ

**Q:** Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

**A:** Teaching English/Special Educa-

tion as well as a Wrestling coach

**Q:** What has been your favorite English class thus far, or any?

**A:** English 225 Comparative Grammar

**Q:** If you could be any fictional character, who would you be?

**A:** Spongebob

**Sheylah Silva**

**Q:** What is your major/minor and area of concentration?

**A:** I am an English major with a concentration in writing.

**Q:** Where are you from?

**A:** I'm from the area; Kingston.

**Q:** Where do you see yourself in 5 years?



Photo Credit: Sheylah Silva

**A:** Hopefully, in 5 years, I'm going to be established, happy, and writing constantly.

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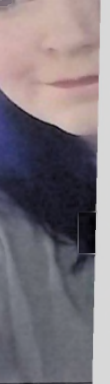
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# Sophomore Spotlights

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**Q:** If you could be any fictional character, who would you be?

**A:** If I could be any fictional character, currently, I would be Alana from the comic *Saga*.

**Kaylynn Bruch**

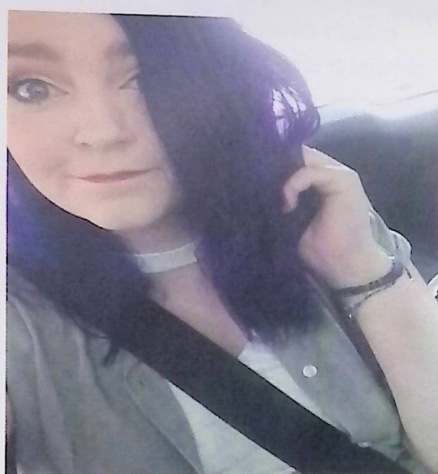


Photo Credit: Kaylynn Bruch

**Q:** What is your major/minor and area of concentration?

**A:** I am an English major and Art minor with a concentration in Literature

**Q:** Where are you from?

**A:** I am from Dallas, Pennsylvania

**Q:** Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

**A:** I see myself studying at a law school in order to become an intellectual property lawyer

**Q:** What has been your favorite English class thus far, or any?

**A:** My favorite class was Painting 120

**Q:** If you could be any fictional character, who would you be?

**A:** If I were to become a fictional character, I would want to be Nemesis from the Diabolic series, because she is a strong female character that becomes more than what she was expected to ever be.

**Sarah Weynand**

**Q:** What is your major/minor and area of concentration?

**A:** I'm a double major in English Literature and Musical Theatre!

**Q:** Where are you from?

**A:** Long Island, New York!

**Q:** Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

**A:** Hopefully getting my masters and living in a peaceful place!

**Q:** What has been your favorite English class thus far, or any?

**A:** Probably English 120: Reading Great Works! I had a wonderful instructor and read so many books that allowed me to come to terms with exactly what I wanted to do with my life. It helped me discover how much I loved analyzing and discussing literature.

**Q:** If you could be any fictional character, who would you be?

**A:** Hermione Granger! My strong, independent smarty pants!



Photo Credit: Sarah Weynand

*Thank you to the Sophomore English majors and minors for taking the time to answer my questions, and allowing me to feature you in this issues Sophomore Spotlights. It's always nice to hear from students who share a similar passion.*

*Be sure to look out for the Junior English majors and minors in the next issue. We will hear from Juniors who were participated in last years Sophomore Spotlights and what they are currently up to here at Wilkes University.*

## Spring 2019 Upper-Level Class Listings

Course Number/Name	Days/Time	Instructor	Room	CRN
ENG 202: Technical Writing	MWF 11:00-11:50	Dr. Kemmerer	BREIS 208	10769
ENG 203: Creative Writing/WGS	MWF 10:00-10:50	Dr. Kovacs	KIRBY 108	10770
ENG 234: Survey of English Lit. II/WGS/Honors	TR 1:00-2:15	Dr. Makkar	KIRBY 103	10785
ENG 281: American Lit. I/WGS	MW 3:00-4:15	Dr. Anthony	KIRBY 103	10778
ENG 298: Visual Literarcy/DH	TR 1:00-2:15	Dr. Stanley	KIBRY 108	10781
ENG 303: Adv. Workshop in Fiction Writing	R 3:00-5:45	Prof. Black	KIRBY 103	10782
ENG 324: Hisory of the English Language/DH	MWF 1:00-1:15	Dr. Hamill	KIRBY 305	10789
ENG 335: Studies in Romantic Literature	TR 9:30-10:45	Dr. Davis	KIRBY 108	10790
ENG 397: S: American Romantics	MW 2:30-3:45	Dr. Kelly	KIRBY 103	10791
ENG 497: S: American Romantics	MW 2:30-3:45	Dr. Kelly	KIRBY 103	

## Bohemian Rhapsody Blues

by Julia Guziewicz

*Bohemian Rhapsody*, the movie about Freddie Mercury's rise to fame, is overall a powerful piece. It focuses on aspects of the man that most viewers probably didn't know about, like the fact that he had four extra incisors. But despite the interesting facts about the man, the film shed light on the overall camaraderie of his band, Queen. It showed in-fighting, drug and alcohol abuse, record label issues, but it focused more on how the band was able to work through those issues and be the legend they are today. While there were multiple inaccuracies in the movie, those weren't the worst part.

Most people know Freddie

Mercury was gay. Most people don't know how he was engaged to, and in love with, Mary Austin. This was a major part of the film, as Mercury's first on-screen relationship was with Mary Austin. But this leads to issues, namely the scene in the film where Mercury attempts to come out to Austin as bisexual. When Mercury tells her that he believes he is bisexual, she immediately shuts that down by telling him that he is, in fact, gay. While it doesn't seem like a big deal, bisexual erasure is a major issue. While Mercury never stated publicly if he was gay or bisexual, the outright denial of the term in the movie is hurtful to young bisexual individuals in the

audience, as it comes off as just another source of media telling them they don't really exist.

Unfortunately, the bisexual erasure isn't the only time there are issues with LGBT representation in the film. I could spend hours talking about how the other major relationship in the movie was between Freddie Mercury and Paul Prenter, and from the beginning this is posed as abusive. Prenter is seen as someone who only really wants Mercury's fame and money. Not only that, Prenter outs Mercury on TV when Mercury eventually pushes him out of his life. This is another inaccuracy, because Prenter actually sold information

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## Bohemian Rhapsody Blues

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to a tabloid, something that seems a little less believable than an exclusive television interview. But by introducing the straight relationship in Mercury's life as the "good" one and the gay relationship as the "bad" one, it reinforces stereotypes about gay relationships ultimately being harmful. It's another example of gay relationships in media bringing only pain. While it may be accurate, the film could've focused more on the relationship between Mercury and Jim Hutton, which was a positive relationship, instead of giving it a small blurb at the end of the film.

But it doesn't end there. Bisexual erasure is bad. Presenting the one main LGBT relationship as bad and abusive while there were other good LGBT relationships in someone's life is worse. But the biggest crime in this movie is how

they treat Mercury's AIDS diagnosis. The AIDS crisis is mentioned only a handful of times, and the movie only says Mercury has AIDS once. They show a small montage of events that make Mercury get tested for AIDS, which includes a TV broadcast about the outbreak, Mercury coughing blood into a tissue, a doctor's appointment that doesn't even mention the diagnosis, and ends with Mercury telling his band and getting embraced. That's it. For a major medical crisis that led to approximately 16,300 deaths before 1987, it deserves more than five minutes. Freddie Mercury having AIDS is a big deal. For them to completely gloss over that is harmful. The AIDS crisis was serious, and it still is today. The way gay individuals were treated during this time was terrible. Religious organizations wanted people with

AIDS to be tagged like diseased cattle. It deserves more on-screen time than the three second close-up of a bloody tissue. It deserves to be referenced more than a couple of times. Erasing the way Mercury died wasn't the way to go here, especially because it was such a major issue.

Overall the movie was good. It connected the legend of Freddie Mercury to the people of today. But it would be wrong to not acknowledge the major issues the film has, especially those that involve the LGBT community, an already marginalized group. Mercury is a legend, and on top of that he is an LGBT icon. To gloss over things, or only present the bad aspects of Mercury's gay relationships does a disservice to his memory, and to the LGBT community overall.

## Scum Game Review

by: Brian Vu



The game *SCUM* is an early access game that you can buy for \$20 on Steam. For all the

PC gamers, I am here to tell you about a new survival game that is so immersive that you can get lost in it. The game is similar to *H1Z1*, and playing with friends makes the game even more awesome. There is so much to the game, and it isn't even released yet. The game was first released for early access on August 29th of 2018 and the company that created it, Croatian, plans to release sometime in 2019.

After playing it for about an hour, I got the hang of most of the

game and its controls. The graphics in this game, even on the lowest settings, are absolutely stunning. The game uses Unreal Engine 4, which possesses extremely beautiful graphics. After taking a break from the game, I have recently started playing again and this time around there have been quite a few updates to the game, which made it even more addicting, honestly.

### THE BACKSTORY

The game's backstory is similar to *The Hunger Games*, where

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## Scum Game Review

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a rich portion of a society creates a television show to entertain the rest of the world. They drop prisoners onto an island (a massive island) and give them a chance to survive for fame. These "rulers of the earth" lock up anyone who rises against them. They make up 1% of the entire world population, controlling police and military forces and basically everyone else. Their global broadcasting company TEC1 has created this reality TV show to make everyone else forget about their world problems, keeping the elites in control.

On the island that the gladiators are left on, they must survive by hunting, fighting zombies, and evading kill-on-sight gun machines. The zombies are previous gladiators who've died on the island but are revived by their BCU-2, a unit implanted on their necks that can control their bodies after they die. This BCU-2 can broadcast the show through the eyes of prisoners, and it's able to record their last moments before their death, making the show extremely popular. The zombies, AKA puppets, are programmed to kill living survivors on the island and can even be controlled by people who pay to control them.

### THE GAME

Players first start off by joining servers that can hold a total of 64. The character customization in this game is very detailed. Players can change their characters' age, strength, dexterity, intuition, body physique, survival skills, endurance, and much more. Once prisoners

are dropped on the island, they can do anything they want to survive. When I say anything, I mean pretty much anything. The longer they survive and the more entertainment they give to this reality TV show, the more fame points they get. They can use these fame points to aid them in their next life. There is a flying robot that flies around the entire island, recording random players in their struggle to survive. Players can also shoot these robots down to earn fame points.

The crafting in this game is extraordinary; you can craft weapons and shelters to use in order to survive. Although moving through the map in this game takes a bit of time, Croatian plans to add vehicles to the game for mobility (because running to a specific location in this game is brutal and takes a hot minute). Soon enough, players will be able to drop into the map with parachutes so they don't have to worry about spending the first hour of survival meeting up with friends.

Players can go to towns to find loot (food, weapons, and materials to craft). They can also hunt bears, deer, rams, rabbits, and boars. The most dangerous areas on the island are the bunkers which are guarded by the killing machines that auto-lock onto players as soon as they are aware of them. But with this danger comes a high reward. If players can sneak past these machines or dodge their bullets, they can enter the bunkers which contain high military-grade gear. Players who get in also have to worry about getting out alive.

The game is not only based on killing to survive. Players must keep their bodies in good shape by eating healthy to keep their metabolism levels up, along with treating illnesses like physical injuries and vitamin deficiencies. This means keeping extra bandages and pills in your backpack. Players also have to worry about going to the bathroom when their bladders or colons are full. If they eat odd foods such as wild mushrooms or even overeat, it can cause them to vomit.

Overall, this game has amazed me in so many ways. At times I felt myself losing track of time because the game is timeless. I could be running from a bunker to return to my shelter and half an hour has already passed by. It's crazy that this game has so much to it and is still in early access. When the game is fully finished and released, I don't doubt that it will amaze me a second time. I definitely recommend this game to any PC gamer. For console players, I have a good feeling that this game will be released for you in the future as well.



## The In

by Rashor

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Reading is on

# The Importance of Physical Books - Even in Prison

by Rashonda Montgomery

Not too long ago, The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections announced that inmates would no longer be able to receive physical books. Instead, prisons are switching to eBooks. In a technologically advancing society, this may seem like an upgrade. What some of you may not realize is that this technological innovation comes with a dark side.

For starters, this means inmates will be required to pay if they want to read. How else would they be getting their hands on these tablets? The state sure isn't going to pay for it. You see, the thing is, for decades inmates have been receiving free books from a countless number of non profit organizations. These organizations understand the importance of literacy and the impact that an access to books can have on an inmate's rehabilitation. With these tablets, even after paying the first price of about \$150, there will continue to be further costs for individual books which can range from about \$3 to \$25 per download.

There is no doubt that many people have different views on the prison system. You could sit around and debate a number of topics for days upon days. One thing I didn't think there was any debate on was the hopes for prisoners. Why do we incarcerate convicts? Sure, some of the first reasons that come to mind would be for punishment or to separate them from the general population. Is this all? What about rehabilitation. Doesn't that matter? Reading is one of the most con-

structive things an inmate can do. It has even been linked to a decrease in recidivism. What happens if an inmate simply cannot afford a tablet? This is a serious issue that more people need to be talking about. Of course, if an inmate expresses interest in a tablet, he or she, in theory could probably either scrape some cash together or receive donations from outside organizations to help fund their purchase, but consider a person who does not express this interest - the ones who don't yet care for reading. The thing about having physical books is that they will always be there if someone one day decides to pick one up. That singular action can open up a new world. This discovery is will no longer be a possibility. You either have access or you don't. You either want it or you don't. There is no in between. People who enter these facilities before ever having the opportunity to gain an appreciation for literature will not spend money on a tablet and, therefore, will not have the chance to grow.

I have yet to mention the limitations these tablets will have. For one, these tablets will not give inmates access to every book known to man. Granted, neither a library nor an organization giving out free books could have ever provided inmates with this. With that, my point still stands. Now, I know the state of Pennsylvania isn't asking me for my opinion, but I would be way more on board with this whole plan if I felt that it was actually offering something to the inmates. Instead, it just feels like

these people will be stripped of something great.

There are a few other reasons this whole tablet plan goes down in my book of complete and utter foolishness, but if I want to be fair, I guess I should explain why this ban on books has been enacted. For one, there was one incident in which tainted book pages were linked to be the cause of a sickness amongst guards. But, perhaps the most obvious reason had already come to your mind - smugglers. There's reason to suspect that having physical books gives inmates a chance to smuggle things in and out of the prison. How common this actually is remains unknown, but because the action exists hypothetically, we must go to far lengths to prevent it.

Regardless, having access to physical books is too important to be ignored. Tangible books have a history of having a powerful effect on the rehabilitation of inmates. As cheesy as it sounds, opening up books opens up minds and hearts. Inmates have benefited intellectually, creatively, as well as religiously and spiritually just from reading multiple books while serving their sentence. If the inmate doesn't have access to books, this important character growth can be stunted. I don't think that's what we, as a society, want for our incarcerated members.

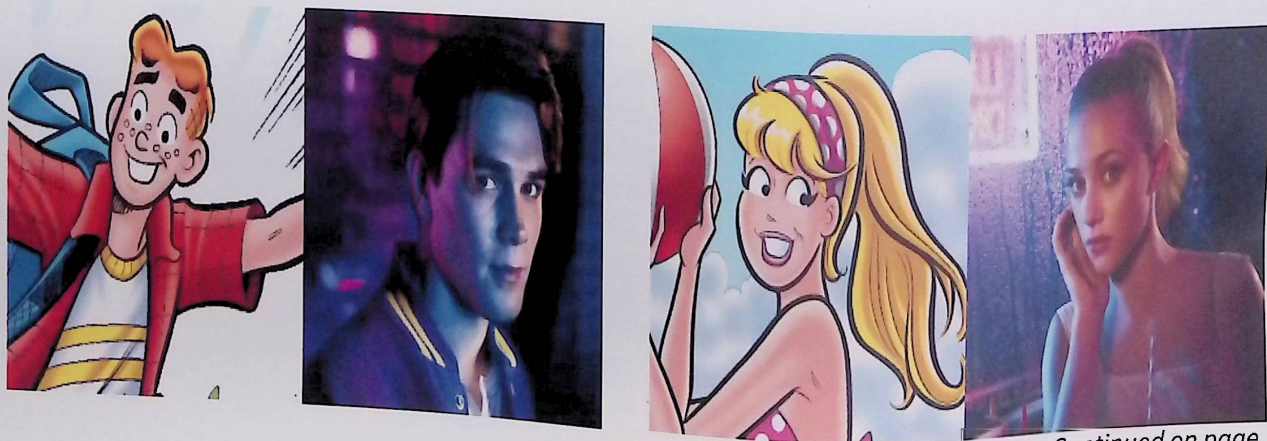
# Archie Comics vs Riverdale

by Emily Banks

*Riverdale* is a popular Netflix TV series which is based off of the classic 1940's *Archie Comics*. Since the show is currently in its third season, airing on the CW channel every Wednesday, it seemed perfect timing to compare it to the classic comics. Our main character, Archie, in Archie comics is described to be "a bright-eyes, optimistic teen who's a bit of a clumsy goofball, but always has his heart in the right place... except for maybe when it came to chasing the women in his life" (gizmodo.com). Comic book Archie is actually not far off from *Riverdale* Archie. For example, comic book Archie also had a 'thing' with both Betty and Veronica. He is still an athlete and most importantly, in both forms of media Archie Andrews is a red-head. One of the main differences noted between *Archie Comics* and *Riverdale* is Archie's scandalous relationship with Mrs. Grundy in *Riverdale*, crudely described as "one of the world's most famous love triangles is now a square" (gizmodo.com). Comic book Betty is described as an "uber-nice, trusted member of the Riverdale commu-

nity who would help out doing odd ends from everything to babysitting to caring for the elderly, and actively involved in social and environmental issues throughout the town" (gizmodo.com). It is also confirmed that Betty dated Archie in the comics as well as Jughead Jones. *Riverdale* Betty is said to have less relationship history with Archie as opposed to the comics (gizmodo.com). In the comics Betty is described as a wholly good, innocent girl, but in the show viewers see that Betty puts up a front to hide the demons she is battling inside. Veronica Lodge as described in the comics seems similar to her *Riverdale* character. In the comics, she is said to be snobbish and rude because her family has money. However, she "found her kind-hearted side growing the more she hung out with Archie and her new friends" (gizmodo.com). This seems similar to her character on Netflix. Jughead Jones in comics is still Archie's best friend, and of course he has the notorious hat we see him wearing on *Riverdale*. He is still described to be sarcastic and "weird" (gizmodo.com). However, one thing *Riverdale*

does not seem to include as heavily is his apparent "love of eating" in the comics (gizmodo.com). Another key difference that is noted is the fact that Jughead is "less of a slacker and more of a broody writer type" in the Netflix series (gizmodo.com). Cheryl Blossom in the comics still importantly has her twin brother Jason, although the show adds the tragedy of his death. She is described to be "closest to her comic book counterpart, except that *Riverdale* Cheryl doesn't move to Riverdale. She's already there as the reigning Queen Bee when Veronica shows up to challenge her place on the throne. She also doesn't seem interested in Archie as the prize of her Betty/Veronica manipulation..." (gizmodo.com). Jason Blossom is farthest from his comic book character. Overall, in my opinion, *Riverdale* does a good job at representing the classic *Archie Comics*. Each character, aside from Jason, has recognizable qualities from the comics and like any tv show or movie, they have to add some sort of drama to make it interesting.



Pictures Continued on page 11

## Archie continuat



## ENG by Dr. S

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## Archie Comics vs Riverdale

continuation from page 10



## ENG 397 A: Seminar

by Dr. Sean Kelly

This course will closely examine several major works of the American Romantic period, 1819-1860. In particular, we will focus on what has been called the American Renaissance, the period during the 1830s-1850s when Americans sought to define themselves—to invent a national and cultural identity for themselves—both in opposition to European models and in complex, often conflicted, relation to their shared colonial past. Primary authors will likely include: Nathaniel Hawthorne -The House of the

Seven Gables, Herman Melville - Pierre, Edgar Allan Poe, Emily Dickinson, Ralph Waldo Emerson - "Self-Reliance" and Nature, Harriet Beecher Stowe - Uncle Tom's Cabin, Henry David Thoreau - Walden, Walt Whitman, and Margaret Fuller, and Harriet Jacobs - Incidents in the Life of Slave Girl. We will also examine some of the best criticism in this field.

The seminar will focus on two broad, interrelated areas of 19th century American literature and culture: transcendentalism and

sentimentalism. In particular, we will examine the productive tensions between transcendentalism's privileging of "sacred solitude" and sentimentalism's ethical and political focus on the other.

Seminar requirements will include:

- Midterm essay exam
- Final research essay (20 pages)
- Formal presentation
- Short response papers

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# Faculty Updates

by Rashonda Montgomery

Dr. Helen Davis has been up to quite a bit.

Dr. Helen Davis was nominated for the executive council for the



International Society for the Study of

Narrative.

She, along with Psychology Professor Dr. Ellen Newell, will also be presenting and innovation session at AAC&U's Diversity, Equity, and Student Success Conference in March. The session is titled "Creat-

ing and Expanding Effective Structures for LGBTQ+ Student Inclusion on Campus."

Lastly, Dr. Davis will be presenting a public lecture on LGBT Art and Activism at the Sordoni Art Gallery on Thursday, December 13th with

Photo Credit: <http://narrative.georgetown.edu/journal/>  
Narrative is the official journal of the International Society for the Study of Narrative

## Ask the Inkwell Staff Answers!

1 - Mmachi Dimoraku | 2 - Mackenzie Egan | 3 - Rashonda Montgomery | 4 - Erica Bicchetti | 5 - Dr. Hamill | 6 - Veronica Romanelli | 7 - Brian V | 8 - Jay Guziewicz | 9 - Emily Banks

## 2019 Upcoming Movies

by Emily Banks

As 2018 comes to an end and the cold weather sets in, the overwhelming urge to bundle up and watch movies succumbs me. That being said, it is only appropriate to focus on the new movies that are coming out in 2019.

### Action:

*Untitled Avengers film:* For those of you superhero fans, the second half of Avengers Infinity War will be releasing this 2019. Since the first

half left viewers with a cliffhanger, this should provide the answers everyone so desperately needs this upcoming year. It is scheduled to be released on May 3, 2019 in IMAX and 3D.

*Shazam!:* "We all have a superhero inside us, it just takes a bit of magic to bring it out. In Billy Batson's case, by shouting out one word - SHAZAM! - this streetwise 14-year-old foster kid can turn into the adult superhero Shazam" (imdb.com).

com).

*Dark Phoenix:* "In DARK PHOENIX, the X-MEN face their most formidable and powerful foe: one of their own, Jean Grey. During a rescue mission in space, Jean is nearly killed when she is hit by a mysterious cosmic force. Once she returns home, this force not only makes her infinitely more powerful, but far more unstable. Wrestling with this entity inside her, Jean unleashes her powers in ways she can neither

## 2019 Upcoming Movies

continuation from... comprehend nor... spiraling out of control... the ones she loves... begins to unravel the... holds the X-Men together... with this family falling... must find a way to... to save Jean's soul... very planet from a... to weaponize this... galaxy" (foxmovies.com).

*Joker:* Plot kept unclear... will center on how... comic book villain... Joker came to be (imdb.com).

### Adventure:

*Captain Marvel:* A... movie featuring... Danvers, who "becomes... Universe's most powerful... when Earth is caught... of a galactic war between... races" (imdb.com).

*Aladdin:* "A live-action... the 1992 Disney film... name" (imdb.com).

*Star Wars: Episode 9:* (imdb.com).

*Godzilla: King of the Monsters:* King of the Monsters... cryptozoological... arch faces off against... god-sized monster... mighty Godzilla... Mothra, Rodan, and... nemesis, the three-headed...



## 2019 Upcoming Movies

continuation from page 16

comprehend nor contain. With Jean spiraling out of control, and hurting the ones she loves most, she begins to unravel the very fabric that holds the X-Men together. Now, with this family falling apart, they must find a way to unite -- not only to save Jean's soul, but to save our very planet from aliens who wish to weaponize this force and rule the galaxy" (foxcinemas.com).

*Joker*: Plot kept under wraps. Film will center on how the popular comic book villain known as The Joker came to be (imdb.com).

### Adventure:

*Captain Marvel*: Another superhero movie featuring a female, Carol Danvers, who "becomes one of the Universe's most powerful heroes when Earth is caught in the middle of a galactic war between two alien races" (imdb.com).

*Aladdin*: "A live-action retelling of the 1992 Disney film of the same name" (imdb.com).

*Star Wars: Episode IX*: "The conclusion of the new 'Star Wars' trilogy" (imdb.com).

*Godzilla: King of the Monsters*: "The crypto-zoological agency Monarch faces off against a battery of god-sized monsters, including the mighty Godzilla, who collides with Mothra, Rodan, and his ultimate nemesis, the three-headed King

Ghidorah" (imdb.com).

### Animation:

*The Lion King*: For any Disney fans, this movie will consist of "CGI re-imagining of the 1994 Disney classic" (imdb.com).

*Dumbo*: "A young elephant, whose oversized ears enable him to fly, helps save a struggling circus, but when the circus plans a new venture, Dumbo and his friends discover dark secrets beneath its shiny veneer" (imdb.com).

### Comedy:

*Toy Story 4*: "When a new toy called 'Forky' joins Woody and the gang, a road trip alongside old and new friends reveals how big the world can be for a toy" (imdb.com).

*Pokemon Detective Pikachu*: "In a world where people collect Pokémon to do battle, a boy comes across an intelligent talking Pikachu who seeks to be a detective" (imdb.com).

### Science fiction:

*Spider-Man Far from Home*: "After the events of the untitled Avengers film Peter Parker and his friends go on summer vacation to Europe and there Peter finds himself trying to save his friends against a villain known as Mysterio" (imdb.com).

### Horror:

*IT: Chapter Two*: "27 years later, the Losers Club have grown up and moved away, until a devastating phone call brings them back" (imdb.com).

*Pet Semetary*: "Louis Creed, his wife Rachel and their two children Gage and Ellie move to a rural home where they are welcomed and enlightened about the eerie 'Pet Semetary' located near their home. After the tragedy of their cat being killed by a truck, Louis resorts to burying it in the mysterious pet cemetery, which is definitely not as it seems, as it proves to the Creeds that sometimes, dead is better" (imdb.com).

*The Curse of La Llorna*: "Ignoring the eerie warning of a troubled mother suspected of child endangerment, a social worker and her own small kids are soon drawn into a frightening supernatural realm" (imdb.com).

*Happy Death Day 2U*: "Sequel to the 2017 film *Happy Death Day*" (imdb.com).

**Along with:** *The Rhythm Section*; *Where'd You Go, Bernadette*; *Fighting with My Family*; *Isn't it Romantic*; *The Beach Bum*; *Ford v. Ferrari*; *Wonder Park*; *Little Women*; *The Angry Birds Movie 2*; *The Kid Who Would Be King*; *The Aftermath*; *Sonic the Hedgehog*; *Spies in Disguise*; *Captive State*; *Glass*; *Gemini Man*; *Artemis Fowl*; *Hobbs and Shaw*; *Zombieland 2*; *Ad Astra*; *Rocketman*;

Story Continued on page 18

## 2019 Upcoming Movies

continuation from page 17

*The Secret Life of Pets 2; Chaos Walking; MIB; What Men Want; Untitled Terminator Sequel; John Wick3: Parabellum; Frozen 2; The New Mutants; Hellboy; The Lego Movie 2: The Second Part; and How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World.*

## Hamill's Hunches

by Dr. Thomas A. Hamill

Well into the fourth quarter of Grace's U9 Girls Soccer game on a crisp October Thursday, as my Assistant Coach and I tried to coax our right defender (for the fourth time that quarter) to stay on her side of the field, my phone intoned its simulated "Old Phone" ring-a sound my players only know as simply a real "ring," and not as authentic digital modeling thereof. (To be fair, even I've (mostly) forgotten the distinction.) When I silenced the phone and glanced "Amy" on the caller ID I thought it was my cousin calling, a fact that, along with the recalcitrance of our right defender's tendencies to leave her position at will despite repeated entreaties that she do otherwise, affected me with mild concern. (To be fair, I probably owe my cousin Amy a call, and I certainly would have been downright obtuse to the logics of soccer positioning, much less in-game adjustments thereof, at the age of eight.) As the game progressed, rainless soccer sunshine beaming at a low and surprisingly warming angle over the tree horizon behind the opposite touch line, the call from Amy and its potential significances receded into

oblivion as our team made a few impressive defensive stops and, in the waning (and mysteriously unknowable) seconds of the contest, scored a brilliant equalizer to close the game in a 2-2 tie. (To be fair, we're not supposed to be keeping score, as I would be sure to tell my U9 players and also every coach, parent, and guardian in the U8 and down divisions for which I serve as Commissioner; that said, it was a great game, and there's something magical, perfect really, about a 2-2 tie game among eight-year-olds in a league where we're not keeping score for perhaps the same reasons that affirm the ennobling functions of a 2-2 tie. Right? Exactly.)

After the handshake-line and fist-bump rituals had been performed and our team's post-game (and post-practice) ice-pop traditions completed, I loaded the team cooler and my oversized soccer bag into the trunk and checked my phone before heading back to the house. When I did so I saw a text message that made clear that the earlier phone call was not from my cousin Amy (whom I should still call) but rather from our next-door neighbor Amy. Her text read as

follows: "Hi Tom sorry to bother you. Random question but there is a man that approached me asking about your mushrooms in the yard and wanted to harvest them? He was waiting outside and just wanted to try to get in touch." Well... Where do I begin? As you've no doubt guessed, this was the sort of message to which a text reply would simply not suffice, and as I immediately "dialed" Amy's number, one of the many thoughts that coursed through my now racing mind was, perhaps oddly, an appreciation for the burdens of communication her message bore, as well as an equal measure of gratitude for the fact that she tried to call me first, aware no doubt, of the inevitable failure of language to come. The immediacy of speech, of course, even if digitally mediated, also served another important function here, for beyond the linguistic burdens of the message were the phenomenological burdens of Amy's (and now my) situated experience of "a man... asking about [our] mushrooms in the yard [who] wanted to harvest them?"; a "man" who "was waiting outside" and who "just wanted to get in touch." It was all a lot to take

## Hamill's

continuation from

in, and it had all altered my imaginations for the events heretofore been Tommy's Pizza, June to bed, and ing on the Ham had promised for Inkwell Quarterly

Perhaps you are wondering I had mushroom front yard, I wonder why this harvest them. however, I was with my inference for Amy to pick thoughts went subterranean toward what I called, with no orienting framework dark unbottomed immediately figure lurking a guy who was my night away and Toad and Hunches and Kingston Peyer, and an encyclopedia know Substances the playful Village that every October the years since sive silver (with expression the Kingston sion I might safely ensconced able range

## Hamill's Hunches

continuation from page 18

in, and it had all fundamentally altered my imagined closing trajectories for the evening, which had heretofore been picking up some Tommy's Pizza, putting Grace and June to bed, and, perhaps, working on the Hamill's Hunches that I had promised for issue 13.1 of *The Inkwell Quarterly*.

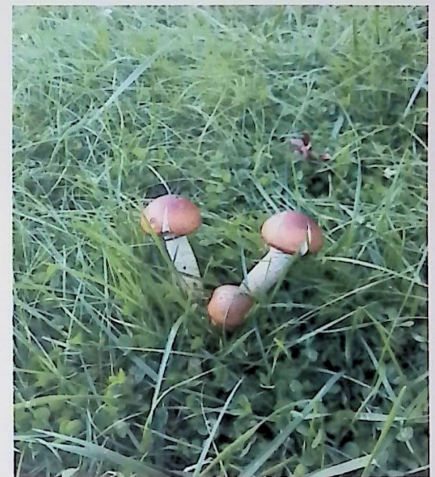
Perhaps in the same way you are wondering why on Earth I had mushrooms growing in my front yard, I was certainly worrying over why this stranger wanted to harvest them. Perhaps unlike you, however, I was not so generous with my inferences, and as I waited for Amy to pick up her phone my thoughts went precipitously, well... subterranean, I guess we'll say—toward what Milton (brilliantly) called, with not altogether different orienting frames of reference, “The dark unbottomed infinite abyss.” I immediately thought of a sketchy figure lurking in front of our house, a guy who was going to redirect my night away from Tommy's, *Frog and Toad are Friends*, and Hamill's Hunches and toward a call to the Kingston Police, a search for a lawyer, and an eventual Google→Wiki-pedia knowing of the Psychotropic Substances Act of 1978. Suddenly the playfulness about the Smurf Village that had been popping up every October in our front yard in the years since we felled the massive silver oak along our tree lawn (with express written consent from the Kingston Tree-Shade Commission I might add) was no longer safely ensconced within the workable ranges of 80s-cartoon-show

representations and the occasional embarrassments over the aesthetic (and olfactory) effects of our *laissez-faire* approach to lawn care. Some Gargamel (no doubt much worse than his original creators and eventual appropriators could have imagined him) was seemingly looming now in our story, nefariously working plans in his evil-wizard mind to turn our futile, unwitting attempts at (apparently Smurf-friendly) organic landscaping into (destructive and illegal) drug-trafficking alchemical gold.

Luckily, it turns out I was just being a tad bit paranoid and was letting my overactive imagination get the better of me, a consequence, I suppose, of too much reading (or not enough). As soon as Amy picked up the phone and started to explain I got the sense that that drug-dealing menace I had been worrying about was no such boogey man at all. And, indeed, when I pulled into the driveway and walked around to the front of the house (still cautious enough, obviously, to insist that Lisa, Grace, and June not follow me), I was greeted by a man in his 70s wielding a plastic bag, a paring knife, and warm, welcoming smile. He spoke in gregarious intonations that had enough of a trace of hippy-ness in them for me to still wonder if “our” mushrooms were of interest because they were “magic.” And while I was not longer concerned about drug trafficking *per se* (as he clearly just wanted to harvest for his own consumption) the fact that he greeted me formally

(“Hi, Mr. Hamill!”) without availing me the same recourse (“I'm Matt”) and while holding a knife made me slightly weary. But as soon as his wife (“Hi. I'm Carol”) emerged from their car (also wielding a plastic bag, a paring knife and a warm, welcoming smile, btw) I got the sense, somehow, that all would be well. At least I hoped so....

**TO BE CONTINUED....**



This image shows mushrooms growing in The Hamill's front yard.

*Will Dr. Hamill survive this encounter unscathed? Will mushroom mycelia, to his belated surprise, in fact save the planet (if not his lawn)? Will his lawn, indeed, bear food? And will there be redemption for the subtle, pervasive algorithms of interpersonal connections and “Smart Reply” that tempted this tale's start? Answers to these pressing questions and much, much more await in the next issue of The Inkwell Quarterly. Be sure to check it out next year....*

## Ask the Inkwell Staff:

For this issue, we asked each member of the Inkwell staff what book they would gift to their childhood selves - can you match the staff member to their answer? Answers are on page 16!

1) *The Moth Presents All These Wonders: True Stories About Facing the Unknown* by Catharine Burns

Dr. Hamill

2) *Firefly Lane* by Kristin Hannah - it's an adult read, but the book is absolutely beautiful and I wish it had come into my life sooner.

Emily Banks

3) *Smiles to Go* by Jerry Spinelli is a book I would give to my childhood self. :) :)

Erica Bicchetti

4) Mine is *Along for the Ride* by Sarah Dessen

Rashonda Montgomery

5) I would probably have to say *The Day the Crayons Quit* by Drew Daywalt and Oliver Jeffers. It's hysterical, and I think it would make my childhood self as happy as it makes me now. Its sequel might even be funnier and more happiness-inducing, but I would have to just sneak that one to myself somehow—or tell myself to ask Santa to bring it as a legit gift because there's only one allowed and sneaking in an extra one wouldn't be cool. Right?

Jay Guzewicz

Mackenzie Egan

Veronica Romanelli

Brian Vu

6) Mine is *The Pinballs* by Betsy Byars :) )

Mmachi Dimoriaku

7) Mine is *The Pursuit of Happiness* by Chris Gardner

8) I think, for me, it would be *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan

9) I guess I would say...*Before I Fall* by Lauren Oliver...if I have to pick it would be that. This was a hard question!