

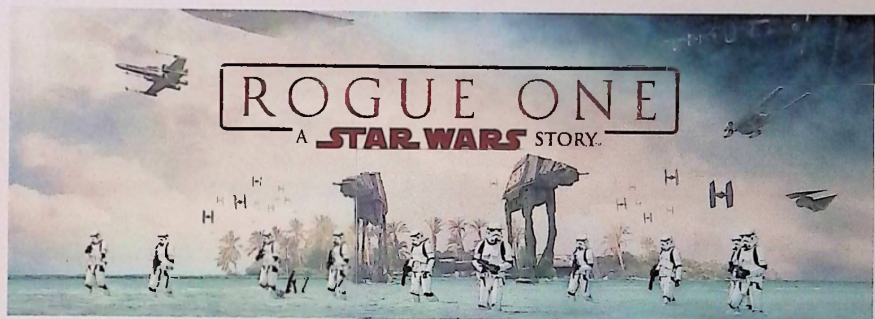
THE INKWELL QUARTERLY

Rogue One and the Little Guy by Mackenzie Egan

@jens_johnsson / Unsplash.com

Throughout George Lucas' space opera film series, *Star Wars*, a number of heroes, characters who embark on daunting adventures and battle against enemies, take part in the galaxy's largest fight between good and evil. In films one through six, the heroes are either Jedi or members of the resistance who play prominent roles in getting the information necessary for the Skywalker family and other main characters to continue their mission against the forces of evil. Characters like Luke Skywalker and Han Solo stand out as the important characters, whereas background members of the resistance fade in and out of shots or are neglected all together. It is the characters that fall into the background that make *Rogue One* stand out within the series.

Rogue One is set in the space between episodes three and four, and explains how Leia receives the information used to blow up the Death Star. It isn't a Jedi or an officer of the resistance who saves the day, getting the information for the destruction of the Death Star, nor is it one singular hero that overcomes being the underdog in order to get the information. It is a compilation of otherwise background characters, such as the pilots and the low level members of the resistance,



Disney / Forbes.com

who pull through and inevitably end up saving the universe. It is monumental how the jump from hero to zero works in the series' favor, as *Rogue One* is a captivating film and tells a necessary story, if not a little late. The little guy being so important in the storyline reveals a side of humanity that is often overlooked - the idea that not everyone can be a hero. It is the person inside the viewer, the fan, that resonates with the audience. If those people can do it than so can the viewer. The characters in *Rogue One* are relatably human, and are the ones that triumph in the end. Without the smaller person, the one usually in the shadows, the rest of the world can not function, and *Rogue One* acknowledges this in a way that makes the concept accessible to new generation viewers.

Story Continued on page 5

In this Issue:

Faculty Update:
 English Students and Faculty
 Read Their Poetry at the
 Wilkes Research Symposium
 Manuscript Update
 Writing Center Hours
 Is the Force Inside of You?
 Ask the Editorial Staff
 The Junior Spotlight
 Netflix's *ASOUE* Review
 Education Majors Update
 Sigma Tau Delta Update
Sherlock Season 4 Review
 More than a Woman:
 A Disturbance in the Force
Star Wars Crossword

MANUSCRIPT UPDATE

The Wilkes University Manuscript Society is accepting submissions for its 2016-17 edition. The deadline for all written and visual art is April 14th. Please send submissions to: magazine@wilkes.edu.

Keep a look out for the *Manuscript* unveiling later this semester!

Any additional questions can be sent to the Manuscript Executive Editor, Elyse Guziewicz, at: elyse.guziewicz@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 Spring 2017 schedule is:
Monday: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Thursday: 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.,
4:00 p.m.-5 p.m.
Friday: 8:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

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

For more information, contact:
Dr. Chad Stanley

Faculty Updates: *English Students and Faculty Read Their Poetry at the Wilkes Research Symposium*

By Dr. Kuhar

"...reflects on issues within a culture or society, bringing to light ideas and voices that often go unheard"

"... reflecting on transitional times in my life, and the anxiety that surrounds change."

"Life is suffering and joy, always in tension with each other. Poetry encapsulates that reality."

These are some of the reasons English program seniors Mary Cordisco and Christopher Santo and faculty member Dr. Michelle Anthony write poetry. Each shared their poetry, as well as thoughts on the condition of verse, at the Wilkes Scholarship Symposium held on March 28.

The poems read by each reflected and reflected on the importance of poetry in life and in the world. In one of his poems, entitled "Hope's End," Chris Santos reflected on his experiences with Air Assault (a specialty school with the Army). Chris engaged the tensions between extreme challenges and disappointing failures – something we all know about as a part of our work to understand our stories.

In "Academia, I've Given You All and Now I'm Nothing," a poem modelled after Alan Ginsberg's famous Beat poem "Howl," Mary Cordisco contemplated transition and change, necessary moments in life that, in the poem, gain momentum and tension as Mary's May graduation from Wilkes approaches.

Dr. Anthony's poetry engaged her life story, as well, reflecting on experiences in her native Oklahoma. In "Simulacrum," she responded to the question of whether cowboys still ride the Oklahoma plains. The answers (plural) draw on an Oklahoma imagery and tone: "We all sucked our teeth / when his corner bank went under, / worked stalks of dried grass" and "That family had it coming / with their Lincolns and slacks."

Chris, Mary, and Dr. Anthony's poems provided those present with important words, thoughts, and stories. Their poems also demonstrated the on-going work in the English program to bring emphasis to the essential importance of understanding and contemplating the function of the imagination.

As our writers shared, we write and we understand the importance of poetry when we see poetry as "... a reflection of society while also functioning as a call or demand for empathy, which is the most important thing for a society/human to have." when we see it as, "...about the anxiety of graduating from Wilkes and no longer being in school." when we see it as, "... more important than ever, for me to write, for me to read, for this world in general."

Where else on campus will you hear these words, thoughts, and stories?

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by Chad S

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Is the Force Inside of You?

by Chad Stake

Per Merriam-Webster's dictionary, force is defined as power or force used on a person or thing that produces a type of change. Isaac Newton's laws of motion explain force as an object's mass multiplied by its acceleration.

Now that we have defined the word force, let's look at the phrase, "Let the force be with you." Credit for making this phrase popular, at least in the movie world, would have to go to the writer and producer, George Lucas. George Lucas is responsible for the character Obi-Wan Kenobi, who continuously feeds this phrase to the audience throughout the 1977 *Star Wars Ep. IV: A New Hope*. Characters in this movie are battling an elite Jedi knight, known as Darth Vader. When an obstacle of evil presents itself during the movie, we continue to hear the words, "Let the Force be with you." When Luke Skywalker is a young man he continues to lack the confidence until he hears the phrase, "Let the Force be with you." Ok, I am sure you are tired of reading the phrase, "Let the

Force be with you," so let's divulge into the theme of the movie which will help illustrate the meaning as I see fit for the phrase.

I have viewed the theme of this movie as projecting confidence to its audience to accomplish any obstacle that life presents, regardless of how impossible the obstacle may seem at any given time. The characters in this movie are fighting to defend the planets where they live from a weapon of mass destruction, possessed by the ruthless Darth Vader. George Lucas pairs the characters in this movie to encourage the theme of gathering the Force within a single person to persevere over the prodigious task of conquering such a powerful weapon. Characters like Luke Skywalker and Han Solo are unsure of their real place within the vast miles of space between the solar systems. Lucas pairs these characters with the wisdom of Obi-Wan Kenobi, who encourages their inner Force to develop. The Force was always present within the characters, but

they needed the wisdom of the more experienced Obi-Wan Kenobi to allow their confidence to build. I am sure that if you had someone constantly encouraging you with the words, "Let the Force be with you," you would feel encouraged to conquer any obstacle that life presents, or possibly a chuckle may succeed the phrase depending on the recipient.

Regardless of what your interpretation of the theme may be, I am sure we can conclude that the phrase, "Let the Force be with you," is quite iconic. Whether you hear the phrase and feel motivated, or simply chuckle, it can be said that George Lucas created a movie that was profoundly an ingenious idea which has a following in mass that can be compared to pro-football fans. The Merriam-Webster dictionary and Isaac Newton can give us the technical definition of what force is, but it is up to the *Star Wars* fans to create the driving Force from within and conquer life's obstacles.

Ask the Editorial Staff:

Which summer TV show are you most looking forward to returning? Why?

"Master Chef, even though it comes out really late in the summer it's one of my favorite summer shows. My dad and I watch it every year."

-Mackenzie Egan

"Not sure if it really counts as a summer TV show, but I was beyond excited for premiere of Prison Break season 5!! It's fast-paced and action packed, and the quality cast makes for a compelling drama."

-Grace Graham

"As silly as it sounds, I'm really looking forward to the series finale of Pretty Little Liars. I read the books in middle school and am interested to see how the series pans out since it has changed so drastically from the novels."

-Nicole Kutos

"It's a toss up between Game of Thrones and Outlander."

-Dr. Farrell

*Since Michael Morrison could not be reached for a comment, we're going to assume he is skipping new summer shows to rewatch *One Tree Hill*.

The Junior Spotlight

by Chad Stake

Rebecca Voorhees

Q: Where is your hometown?

A: I am from Tobyhanna, PA

Q: Why did you commit to Wilkes?

A: I committed to Wilkes because of Kirby Hall, the new marching band, and the overall friendly atmosphere on campus.

Q: If you could become a literary character, who would it be? Why?

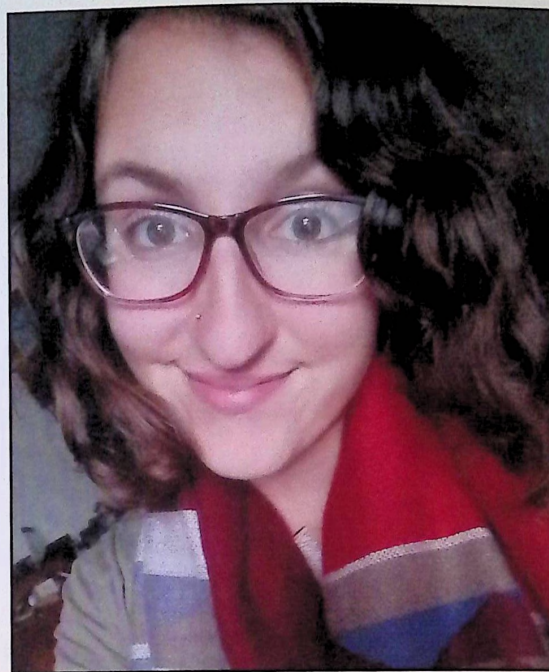
A: If I were to become a literary character, I think I would be Algernon, from *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Algernon is skillfully sarcastic, and he is always eating something.

Q: What was your favorite book when you were a child?

A: My favorite book as a child was *The Giving Tree*.

Q: If you could take only one memory with you when you leave Wilkes, what would that memory be?

A: The memory I will hold on to past graduation would be the first time I walked along the riverfront at sunset.



Erin Michael

Q: Where is your hometown?

A: Dallas, PA

Q: Why did you commit to Wilkes?

A: I visited the campus in September of my senior year of high school and fell in love with it.

Q: If you could become a literary character, who would it be? Why?

A: If I could be any literary character, I would be Francie Nolan, from Betty Smith's *A Tree in Brooklyn*. She's a very resourceful character and she makes the best of her family's hardships while maintaining a positive outlook on life.

Q: What was your favorite book when you were a child?

A: My favorite book as a child was J.M. Barrie's *Peter Pan*.

Q: If you could only take one memory with you when you leave Wilkes, what would that memory be?

A: Moving into my apartment before the Fall of 2016 semester started was the first time I had seen my friends in a while. One of our friends who transferred to a school in Ireland came to visit and help us move in.



Dian McKinne

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Dian McKinney

Q: Where is your hometown?

A: My hometown is in Slatington, PA in the Lehigh Valley.

Q: Why did you commit to Wilkes?

A: I decided to continue my education at Wilkes because I loved the “family” feel that I sensed during my first tour on campus from the students and professors. This allowed me to feel comfortable, and within my first semester, Wilkes became my home away from home.

Q: If you could become a literary character, who would it be and why?

A: I would like to become Kira, from Lois Lowry’s *Gathering Blue*, which is the second book in *The Giver* series. Kira is a young and head-strong character because she leads with her heart and she values creativity and compassion through any experience or challenge.

Q: What was your favorite book when you were a child?

A: I did a lot of reading when I grew up, but my favorite children’s book is the *Junie B. Jones* series, specifically *Junie B. Jones and the Stupid Smelly Bus!*

Q: If you could take only one memory with you from Wilkes, what would that memory be?

A: Some of my most memorable memories from Wilkes involve food and friends. I would argue that my favorite memory occurred a few days before my Junior year began with all my friends. This included our friend Torre who came home from Ireland to visit. We ate snacks and decorated our apartment. We also went shopping and ate dinner at Canteen, so it was an all-around awesome day of eating and bonding.



Rogue One and the Little Guy

Story Continued from Page 1

By putting such an emphasis on the human aspect of the resistance, the filmmakers made the franchise more relatable, and created a compelling story for viewers of all kinds: not just the series’ die hard fans. The background characters, the focus of *Rogue One*, being brought into

the limelight has made the movie successful, and has done something never before seen in the cinematic realm. No-name characters are the heroes of the day, the ones that move along the story, the page turners of the film. *Rogue One’s* emphasis on the little guy has created the perfect middleman

film to bring the *Star Wars* franchise into the century, introducing a whole new generation of viewers with a sympathetic cast list and the desire to continue watching as the newest installments in the series are released.

Sigma Tau Delta Updates

During the month of April members of Sigma Tau Delta will be conducting poetry workshops with third and fourth grade students at Rock Solid Elementary.

The Honor Society will also be holding inductions in late April.

INKWELL STAFF

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If you're interested in joining Inkwell, please email Mackenzie at mackenzie.egan@wilkes.edu for more information!

Netflix's *ASOUE* Review

by Rebecca Voorhees



Jon Lederer / Netflix

Even though the narrator, Lemony Snicket, breaks the fourth-wall and advises viewers to "look away" from the devastating story of the Baudelaire orphans, *A Series of Unfortunate Events* is a must-see original on Netflix. The show is dark, whimsical, clever, and most of all, grammatically correct. Themes of dramatic irony and sardonic humor ignite the flame of creativity found in *A Series of Unfortunate Events*. If you are not familiar with the novels, the infamous and nefarious Count Olaf (played by Neil Patrick

Harris) becomes the guardian of Violet, Klaus, and Sunny after their parents die in a tragic fire. He attempts to wrongfully take ownership of the children's fortune, and death follows whomever tries to get in his way. While running away from Count Olaf, the Baudelaire family discover secrets of their parents' past. The season is made up of eight episodes, adapting the plots from the first four books. Don't be a clueless fool like Mr. Poe, and watch *A Series of Unfortunate Events*!

Education Club Updates

by Erin Michael

The Education Club is hosting a popcorn sale to fundraise for their trip to the PSEA State Conference in Pittsburgh late this March. The popcorn comes in white cheddar, kettle corn, and caramel corn. The price of each bag varies depending on the flavor. The club will be attending the PSEA Regional Conference later this semester.

Education Club will also sell t-shirts from February to mid-March.

The Kappa Delta Pi honor society will be hosting mock interviews in April. Education Department induction ceremonies for the teacher education program and Kappa Delta Pi will be held later in the spring semester.

Sherlock Season 4 Review

by Erin Michael

Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss continue to show their brilliant modernization of *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in season 4 of their BBC mini-series, *Sherlock*. The season starts out by partially resolving the cliffhanger from the third season, addressing whether or not Moriarty is back from the dead. Sherlock insists that he is, but he's been wrong before. The case of the episode, "The Six Thatchers," appears to be solved early in the episode, but creates another case altogether when it reveals someone from Mary's past. Mary finally explains her past life to Sherlock and John after she leaves for months in order to keep John and baby Rosamond safe. The episode ends with an unexpected tragedy, resulting in tension between Sherlock and John.

The second episode of season 4, "The Lying Detective," is possibly one of the best in the series. It deters from the primary plot line, so almost the

entire episode is independent from the overarching plot of the season. "The Lying Detective" is written by Steven Moffat, who is notorious for his intense and unique plotlines. In the wake of the tragedy and John's abandonment, Sherlock succumbs to his drug habit. While high, Sherlock is approached by a woman who introduces herself as the daughter of a beloved TV personality and billionaire. She believes her father may have killed someone and has found a way to get away with it. Sherlock unravels this conspiracy and uses his compromised state to take advantage of John's empathy. John comes back to help Sherlock solve the case. The episode is chilling, and the idea of a billionaire with enough money and influence to get away with murder hits a little too close to home, especially for American audiences. At the end of the episode, Moffat and Gatiss's "east wind" references throughout the series are finally explained.

The season finale, appropriately titled "The Final Problem," opens with a girl on a plane. The pilot and everyone else on the plane is unconscious, and the plane appears to be heading towards a major city. The scene shifts to Sherlock's brother, Mycroft, who is watching a home video. The film melts and reveals the words "I'M BACK." The rest of the episode is an emotional rollercoaster that creates a lot of stress for the viewers. The episode explains aspects of Sherlock's childhood, including his beloved pet, Redbeard. Sherlock, John, and Mycroft end up at a maximum security prison, where they have to solve cases to survive. One of the cases is the little girl on the plane. The episode ends with all these mysteries solved, which differs from every other season finale in the series. The surprising satisfying ending makes it unclear whether or not the series will continue into a fifth season.

More than a Woman: A Disturbance in the Force

by Rebecca Voorhees

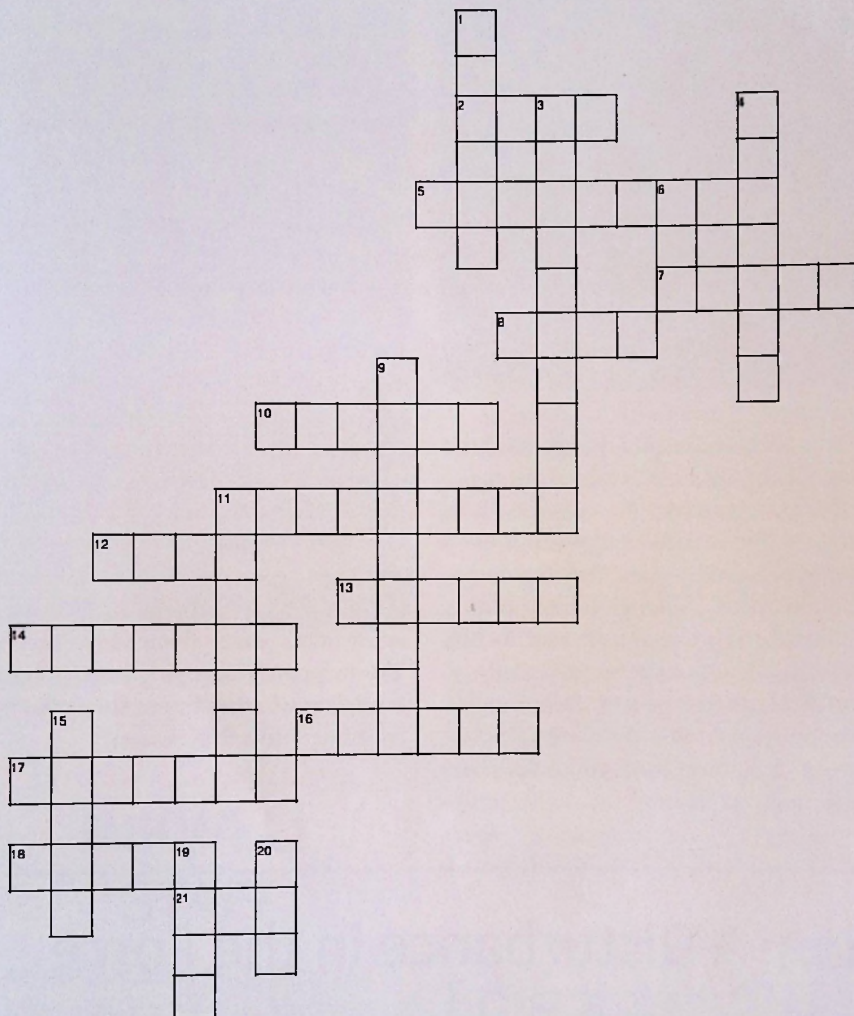
Star Wars has become one of the most popular and successful franchises in all of cinematic history. With the next edition to the series coming out this December, fans are waiting in great anticipation. However, Star Wars has lost one of its most memorable cast members, Carrie Fisher. She portrayed Princess Leia in the original trilogy and reprised her role for the new Star Wars installment, *The Force Awakens*. She passed away suddenly on December 27, 2016 from complications following a heart attack. Carrie Fisher has inspired generations

of women throughout her career. Her performance as Princess Leia was undeniably iconic; she was a warrior, a diplomat, and the quintessence of female empowerment. She proved that a princess did not need to be a submissive damsel in distress. Without her, Luke would have never discovered the ways of the force, and Han Solo would still be a worthless mercenary frozen in carbonite at Jabba the Hutt's Palace. Leia's ferocity came to life through opposition, action, and most of all, compassion. It is no surprise that her face swarmed signs across the

country at the Women's Marches that took place in January. Phrases like "A Woman's Place is in the Resistance" and "The Women Strike Back" were roused by Carrie Fisher's feminist legacy both in and outside of the films. Although Carrie Fisher has returned to the force, she will make a posthumous appearance in *The Last Jedi*. With great honor and respect, Carrie Fisher will be remembered for her contributions to women's rights and her ability to kick misogynistic, imperial ass.

STAR WARS CROSSWORD

Test your Star Wars knowledge with this crossword.



ACROSS

2. The name of Harrison Ford's character in the movies
5. The weapon of the Empire that was blown up
7. A space _____ franchise
8. The bowcaster was the weapon of choice for which bounty hunter
10. Lama Su was the Prime Minister of this place
11. Luke's last name
12. Captured Bolla Ropal on Devaron
13. Who plays Rey in *Force Awakens*
14. The Queen in *Star Wars Episode 1*
16. Actor in the *Star Wars* prequels who had a relative who starred in the original trilogy
17. City where Maul faced off against Sidious
18. Part of the full title of *Rogue One*

DOWN

1. The actress who played Princess Leia
3. Darth Maul retreated here after his battle on Naboo with Obi-Wan Kenobe
4. Obi-Wan impersonated him to prevent an assassination
6. As of March 2017, the number of *Star Wars* movies are to be released in the next five years
9. Kylo Ren's Star Destroyer
15. Owners of the Niima Outpost's namesake.
19. Republic's leader at the battle of Nashyyyk
20. Is 19 in the *Force Awakens*

NEXT ISSUE:

Keep an eye out for a piece about Inkwell's new faculty advisor for Fall 2017, an alumnus contribution about contemporary writer Katherine Howe Skyping into class, and the questions you've always wanted to ask this year's graduating seniors.