

Access Gazette

Providing OAC students with a voice and access to school news.

In This Issue

- **Creative writing pieces: short stories and poetry**
- **An interview with our very own Kieran Hodgson**
- **Book review and suggested reads: a contemporary classic reviewed; fantasy, romance and horror suggestions**
- **Photographs of animals by Beth**

Access Gazette

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Access Gazette - This Year's Last Issue

The third (and last) issue of the year!

We can guarantee a fantastic read: one as brilliant as both our past issues.

In this issue you will find the answers to issue two's puzzles and riddles.

Sit back, relax, and enjoy a fun read of content put together by our amazing Gazette team. And remember, if you want your name in our newsletter, remember to check out the last page!

Writing Pieces

Disclaimer: If you find any content within this magazine uncomfortable please chat with your Student Wellbeing Leader or visit [Beyond Blue](#)

Seducing an Omnipotent Warlord - Chloe

Scorching - Chloe

Roses - Jemimah

Who is Crush - Andromeda

Every Broken Heart - Rahab

Here are some beautiful writing pieces and reviews by our fellow students: please read and enjoy!



Credit: Canva

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Seducing an Omnipotent Warlord

By Chloe

'Hey... just hold on a second,' I gasp, holding my sword in front of me, as if the length of silver will deter this omnipotent warlord from smiting me with his fireball or stomping me under his boot.

'I could really use a break. How about a truce?' I ask.

The omnipotent warlord tilts his head, his purple eyes narrowing behind the mask of solid obsidian. As he stares down at me from a height of over six metres, my heart starts to race. I resist the urge to drop my weapon and run. Running is not allowed.

The omnipotent warlord lowers his battleaxe. 'Alright.' The single word rumbles and echoes around the solid gold walls. I sigh, feeling my shoulders relax.

We stand, neither of us saying a word as I catch my breath and take a swig from my flask. To be honest, I don't really feel like killing this guy. He seems pretty laid-back for an omnipotent warlord. 'Oh! That reminds me, I never got your name.'

'I am Steve.' His voice rumbles again, like a great earthquake I feel in my bones.

'Nice to meet you, Steve.' Interesting. I had thought him to be more of a 'Joaquin', or 'Sawyer.' Clearing my throat, I say, 'I'm Amir.'

'Nice to meet you, Amir,' Steve replies.

Not wanting this conversation to turn awkward, I retrieve a booklet from my jacket pocket and hold it up. 'Hey, check this out.' Steve bends down, squinting. 'This is the hero's journey. It outlines the twelve steps to becoming loved by your entire village, getting literally every woman to fall for you, and selling your life story to the masses.

'See?' I open the book and point to the illustrations. 'Call to adventure, threshold, inmost cave, ordeal, elixir. Blah, blah, blah. Returning home. Why would I want to go back to my village after how they treated me? Not to mention, this hero's journey is totally old-fashioned!' Steve peers at me. I continue, 'You know what makes me upset? Some stories actually utilise the idea of the woman as temptress. Stage eight. Earlier this week, I was climbing this really tall mountain. I stopped to rest and this woman in a bikini appeared!

'Do you know how ridiculous this is? I'm not even interested in women, but because of these heteronormative storytelling devices, I'm expected to spend a couple of chapters in a dilemma over this bikini-clad female! I don't even care; she just wasted my time!' I rant. I throw the book across the room, where it hits the wall adorned with depictions of mighty warriors. The book falls onto the ground with a thud.

Steve considers the book before turning back to me. 'This is all very interesting, but you must get to the point.' He raises his battleaxe and I shrink away from the glinting steel blade. 'If you don't get to the point, this short story will drag on for too long, and no one will continue reading the gazette.'

I frown. I am not sure what he means by 'gazette', but nevertheless, I do not wish to be smote. 'Alright, alright. The point is, ever since embarking on this hero's journey, I've realised I'm different. I know how the narrative is supposed to go, but I don't think it'll make me happy. From the useless old hermit I met, to the bandits I stopped, to the woman in the bikini, this template really isn't for me.

'Take now, for example. Stage eleven. I'm supposed to kill you. Against all odds, I have to defeat Steve, the omnipotent warlord reigning terror over this realm. But is that what I really want?' I ask. I look up at him, for the first time noticing the gentleness in his eyes. He meets my gaze and slowly lowers his battleaxe.

'No,' I answer. 'I would never kill a fellow warrior, especially not one as well dressed as you.'

Steve gasps. 'You noticed! You're the first hero to notice my Armani.' The glee in his voice is evident. He looks down at his tuxedo, the dark blue fabric matching impeccably with his obsidian gauntlets and boots. Meeting my eyes, he says, 'I must say, you're looking quite handsome as well.'

I feel my cheeks heat up. It strikes me that this conversation has gone in a direction I didn't quite anticipate; not that I'm complaining, but it does raise the question, what happens now?

'So... I don't want to kill you. You don't want to kill me?' I ask. Steve shakes his head, which makes me smile. 'Fantastic! Well, regardless of plot template, we have to achieve a satisfying end to this narrative experience. What do we do?'

'Well,' Steve says, 'we must do something to make all of the gazette's readers smile.'

I frown again. I still have no idea what he means by 'gazette,' but I think I understand the gist of what he's saying. An idea hits me, so I clear my throat and summon all the courage gained from hero training. 'Steve, since we're both attractive warrior men, I was wondering... would you like to have dinner with me? Wednesday at seven?'

His purple eyes glow with what seems like happiness. 'Amir, I would love to.' He finally puts his battleaxe away, strapping it on his very muscular back, which makes me sigh in relief again as I sheathe my sword.

Although I can't see his face behind the mask, I can tell he's smiling. Steve's voice is warm when he asks, 'Shall I pick you up?'

I smile and nod. 'Wednesday at seven. You'd better not be late.'



Loosely inspired by 'Dark Lord' from *Soda Dungeon 2*.
Credit: Armor Games

Scorching

By Chloe

Swirling reddish-brown dust, furious clouds, agitated. Great heights, wheat-coloured grains beyond. Thirsty trunks, scraggly branches, leafless, standing tall against day's fury. Sun burning, heat that rages. Lifeless, desolate.

Horizon, line between clear blue, unrelenting desert. Reflections, far away. Large oasis. See the sky reflected, your weary features. Near collapse. Exhaustion, respite, awakening. Kneel and touch sand. No rest. Trekking miles, many paces, thousand steps.

Turn, hold up a hand. Imposing cliffs, last notion of shelter. Red walls, sunbaked bushes, high-rising tents. Home, family, comfort. Long gone. Only agitation. Flecks, despondent earth; anger, powerful gods. You continue, an endless journey.



Source: Swift Networks Group Limited.

Roses

By Jemimah

Margaret walked down the path towards her rose garden; it was a labyrinth of rose bushes at knee height. She remembered when her husband helped her plant it all those ten years ago. He wasn't her husband back then though...

'Theo!!' Margaret yelled in excitement. 'What on earth are you doing here?'

'You said you wanted a rose garden in your new house, but you couldn't find a house with one so here you go...' Theo replied.

'You didn't have to plant me one.' Margaret looked around at the labyrinth of rose bushes Theo was planting.

'Well I wanted to...' Theo smiled, covered in dirt with rose bushes around him.

'Can I help?' Margaret asked happily.

'No, I don't want you to get any thorns in your hands...' Theo replied.

'I am not some pretty little girl Theodore!' Margaret stated.

'Okay, okay....' Theo replied as he threw her some gloves.

Margaret walked down the path towards the centre of the labyrinth where Theo had put a bench for them. She sat down on the bench remembering when he had proposed in the very spot eight years ago.....

'Margaret,' Theo said.

She turned to look at him, tears welling in her eyes. Theo had just told her he was being deployed for three years: he had signed up for the army and was the best in his class... He was leaving tomorrow. 'I'm sorry,' Theo said.

'It's okay, just don't go dying on me please.' Margaret hugged him tight, tears falling down her cheeks. She didn't want to lose him.

'Margaret, will you be my wife when I get back?'

Margaret looked up at him, tears still falling.

A small smile fell on her lips. She hugged him again, tears falling faster, but they weren't only sad—they were a mixture of happy as well.

'Of course I will Theo, of course I'll be your wife. I love you so much, Theodore Darville.'

'I love you so much too, Margaret Anderson.'

Margaret smiled, remembering the sadness and happiness of that day. Sitting down on the bench where it all happened, she began to cry again. When he returned they had gotten married. They had been married for five years. Three years ago they had a son. He had been deployed for another three years, five months before their son was born. Today she got a knock on the door...

Knock, knock...

‘Coming,’ yelled Margaret. She wiped her hands on her apron, getting rid of the flower on her hands.

She was making her husband and son's favourite pie, apple pie. Margaret picked her three year old son up and ran to the door.

Standing outside were three soldiers who looked at her with melancholic expressions. She looked confused.

‘Can I help you with something?’ she asked, her son on her hip.

‘Are you Margaret Darville?’ the one in front asked.

‘Yes I am,’ she answered, scared of what might come.

‘We are very sorry,’ the front one spoke again. All three of them took their hats off.

She looked at them, tears threatening to fall from her eyes. ‘No, no, no... this can't be happening.’ She fell to her knees, still holding her son.

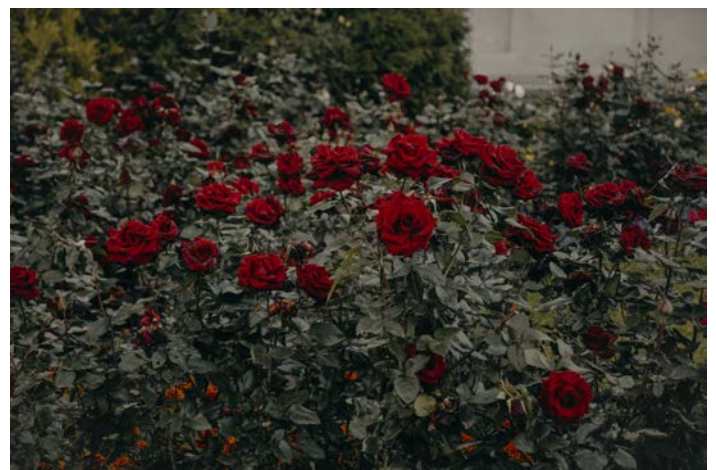
‘Would you like us to stay with you for a bit?’ the first one asked. Margaret nodded.

He eased her son out of her grip, handing him to the soldier behind him.

‘John, hold Theodore Jr,’ the first one said, handing Theodore to John.

The first one held out his hands kneeling down in front of her. ‘Come on, let's go inside, I'll make you a cup of tea.’ Margaret nodded and stood up, still in shock. When they were inside, the first soldier, Thomas, made her a cup of tea as she wandered outside and sat on the bench in the middle of her rose labyrinth.

Still processing what had just happened, tears fell down Margaret's cheeks. She stood up turning to look at her labyrinth. Theo couldn't be gone; his son needed him. She needed him. Margaret started crying uncontrollably, sobs escaped her lips. Thomas came running to her. He caught her before she fell, and she stayed in his arms for around an hour. Theodore would be missed greatly by his wife, Margaret and his son Theodore Jr.



Credit: Canva

Every Broken Heart

By Rahab

*Your infatuated ego,
Your unrealistic dreams
The way you treat me without care,
And tear me at the seams.*

*I wish I'd never met you,
I wish I never had,
Then maybe I'd be happy
Without ever feeling bad.*

*You make me feel unhappy
You make me feel so sad
You rip at my emotions
Then leave me like a fad*

*Why was I so blind?
Why couldn't I see?
But truth finally shone
And I know you don't love me*

*I made this poem
To remind me of
Those who use me without care
Then leave me thereof*



Image sourced from Canva

WHO IS CRUSH?

By
Andromeda

A Character Profile

History

First appearing in the 2018 one-shot *Teen Titans Special #1*, Xiomara 'Crush' Rojas is a half-Czarnian, half-Human hybrid. She is the daughter of intergalactic scumbag supreme 'Lobo' and an unknown human mother. She is a former member of the Teen Titans. As a young girl, she crash-landed in the middle of the Burning Man Festival, shrouded in the sentient chain known as 'Obelus'. There, she was discovered by a couple of vagabonds named Lisa and David Rojas who took her in after Obelus allowed them to approach her; Lisa took this as a sign that the sentient chain wanted them to care for the girl. Xiomara was homeschooled as a child due to her parents not wanting her to be judged or bullied because of the way she looked. They told her that her parents were superheroes who left her with the Rojas while they went away to protect the universe. Upon seeing Lobo on the news fighting the Man of Steel, Xiomara realised she had been fed a lie and that Lobo was actually her true father. She confronted her adoptive parents and ultimately left without Obelus. Later, she returned to see her trailer burnt down, her parents dead inside and her trusty chain missing. Xiomara ran away as she knew she would be blamed for their deaths, and spent her time competing in illegal street fights for cash where she took on the name 'Crush'. She was later approached by the current Robin, Damian Wayne, who asked her to join the Teen Titans. Xiomara agreed to join, believing Damian could help her find her parents' murderer.

Personality

Crush is often rather detached and even sadistic at times. Finding joy in scaring children and not mourning for her Teen Titans teammate 'Roundhouse' who was believed to be dead. However, Crush is also seen to be insecure and loving, such as when she was shown to view herself as a horrible person and awful girlfriend after breaking up with her girlfriend 'Katie'.



Crush & Lobo #4
Credit: DC Comics

Powers and Abilities

Due to being half-Czarnian, Crush possesses all the traits of a Czarnian. She possesses accelerated healing, enhanced senses, superhuman durability, superhuman stamina and superhuman strength. She also possesses the sentient chain 'Obelus', which protects her and acts on its own, making for a powerful tool and ally.

Feats

She was able to launch a man into the sky with a single punch. She once ripped a basketball pole out of the ground to use as a weapon.

She is fully capable of throwing a small nuclear device into orbit and does so.

She is bulletproof and has been shown to 'walk through' bullets.



Crush & Lobo #1 'Pride Variant'
Credit: DC Comics

Trivia

Crush is a lesbian and was a member of the short-lived 'Justice League Queer'. Crush ranked 'Jason Todd' as her fourth favourite Robin. Crush loves coffee. Crush views Obelus as her best friend.

Events

By Rahab

Music Come-in Day



Credit: Open Access College

A group of students with great potential came together on Friday 24 September. They were all music students and have amazing potential to go on with their musical talents. While some regard should go to their teachers, the students themselves should receive congratulations for their courage to show their talents and perform together in front of one another.

The students proved that we are each different, yet each one of us is special. The students showed a wide diversity of music talent, with singers, drummers, guitarists and even a trumpet player.

The whole group had fun together, first separately demonstrating their particular talent to the rest of the group, then playing together as a group, singing 'Don't stop believin' and making a wonderful sound of music that can only be achieved by joy at making music together.

Growing with Gratitude

Growing with Gratitude was started by Ash Manuel in 2014. He was first inspired to start helping people see the good in life in 2010 when he learnt skills about kindness, empathy and mindset. When Ash put the skills he had learnt into practice, he found that it made a positive impact on his life; they really helped him move forward.

In 2013, Ash started positive psychology. This train of events inspired him to start a program to help others to see the positives rather than the negatives. Ash does most of *Growing With Gratitude* by himself; however, he will occasionally add people into it when he needs something covered in a specialised area.

When Jemma and Ash were approached by breakthrough mental health, they brought *Growing With Gratitude* into the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Ash then approached Rae, and the two of them decided to try doing *Growing With Gratitude* through Duke of Edinburgh with Open Access College. 2021 is the first year that Ash has done *Growing with Gratitude* for Duke of Ed; however, next year, he plans to do three schools as well as OAC.

Growing with Gratitude has been an amazing experience for many students and has helped them look at life with a different perspective.

Please note: this article contains confronting information. If you feel any form of discomfort please contact your SWL or head over to [Beyond Blue](#)

By Rahab

RAA Road Safety

On the 19th of October, a small group of OAC students attended a RAA event where they were shown the full process of a crash: before, during and after. We were shown how the emergency system dealt with a crash, and a crash from the point of view of a parent as well as a survivor.

My name is Rahab and I am a reporter for the Access Gazette. When the event started, we were welcomed to the event by a man from Torres Strait Island. He welcomed us to the country which was pretty awesome as I had never been welcomed to the country before—I had only ever heard someone give an acknowledgement of the owners of this land.

A car crash survivor came forward and told us his story, which was pretty moving. Then we were shown a re-enactment of a car crash, which was pretty confronting as they had a motorcyclist and a car collide, where the motorcyclist and one person in the car died. People need to be careful when driving because car crashes are real and people get hurt.

Throughout the day we watched people tell their stories. We saw the before, during and after of car crashes; we heard the story told by parents who had lost their children, as well as from the point of view of survivors. I think the biggest thing for me was seeing people whose lives were changed by car crashes.

The take away message of the day was always drive with caution, with safety, and be alert. I wish more people could see the RAA event and realise the full effect of what happens in a car crash. So be careful and treat the roads with respect.

Katie Piper (Teacher) stated, "I thought the event was fabulous! It was full on and at times confronting but I think that is the reality of any driver getting behind the wheel of a car. I loved the range of things on from the convention stalls to the wheelchair basketball and of course the real-time re-enactment of a crash scene. The range of speakers was great – more than one reduced me to tears! It was so powerful to hear from people impacted in such different ways by drivers and the road. I wish I had attended this when I was 16 and I would encourage as many young people to attend as possible next year!"

Car crash re-enactment

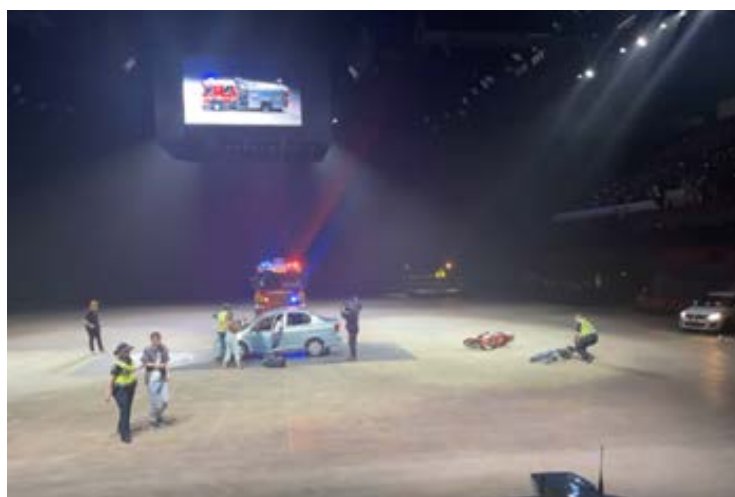


Image sourced from RAA Facebook page

Interview with Kieran Hodgson

By Rahab

Kieran is a 2nd year teacher at Open Access College; he previously taught at Salisbury High School. He currently teaches English and Humanities subjects as well as doing Literacy Support for students. He is a funny, amazing teacher, and so I decided to interview him for the Gazette.

‘So what inspired you to teach?’

Kieran paused as he thought back to what had actually inspired and driven him to teach.

‘I didn’t really know what I wanted to do when I left school.

‘I had always enjoyed studying, then I went to Uni and enjoyed that too but still didn’t have a good idea of where I was heading.

‘It was then that I realised my teachers were the reason I liked learning, so I wanted to be that teacher to my students and help them to enjoy learning.’

‘What do you most enjoy about teaching and why?’

Kieran contemplated the question as he sipped his tea. ‘I think I most enjoy getting to know and building positive relationships with students, especially here at OAC. It is so important to them as they don’t have the same connections as they do in most face-to-face schools.’

‘What do you find most frustrating when teaching?’

Again, Kieran paused briefly before answering the question. ‘When it feels like I can’t help someone it feels frustrating even when it’s no one’s fault.

‘Most of the time I figure it out in the end, but it can be frustrating when it feels like I can’t help them.’

‘Halfway point,’ I said with a smile.

‘What helps the most when teaching?’

‘When OAC students reach out to let me know when they need help. Unlike in face-to-face teaching, there is no body language or facial expressions for me to spot when someone is struggling, so them approaching me really helps.’



[I typed in the answer before moving onto the next question.]

‘If you are willing to share, what are your future career plans?’

Kieran nodded. ‘Although I want to try teaching in lots of different schools and environments, I also want to keep working with students who struggle with the mainstream education system. So, we’ll see what opportunities present themselves!’

‘What is your favourite memory about teaching?’

This time Kieran smiled as he answered. ‘Well, when the first edition of the Gazette was put out, that was really exciting and made me feel like [the Gazette team] had accomplished something big.’

I nodded. ‘final question.’

‘Is there anything else you wish to add?’

Kieran thought it over; then he replied, ‘I hope that all the students who pass through this school really enjoy their time here; we have a great team of teachers who work hard for their students.’

And then it was all over: the interview was complete. I shook his hand, thanked him for his time and departed, leaving with a feeling that I knew just a little more about Kieran, a truly amazing person & teacher.

Artwork

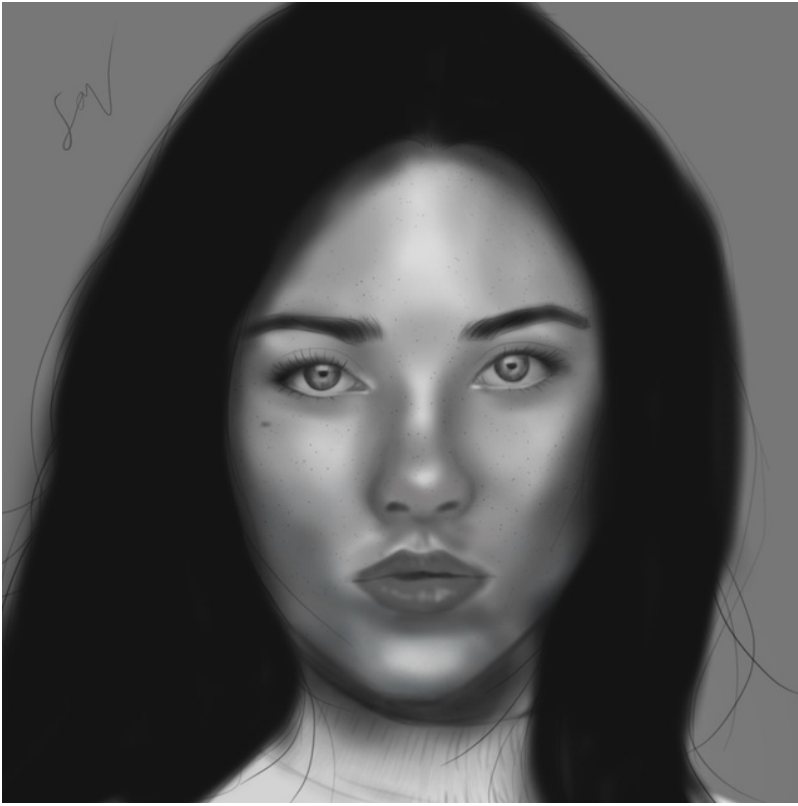
In this issue we have some amazing pieces by the following talented students:

Photography by Beth
Digital Artwork by Shelby



Digital Art by Shelby

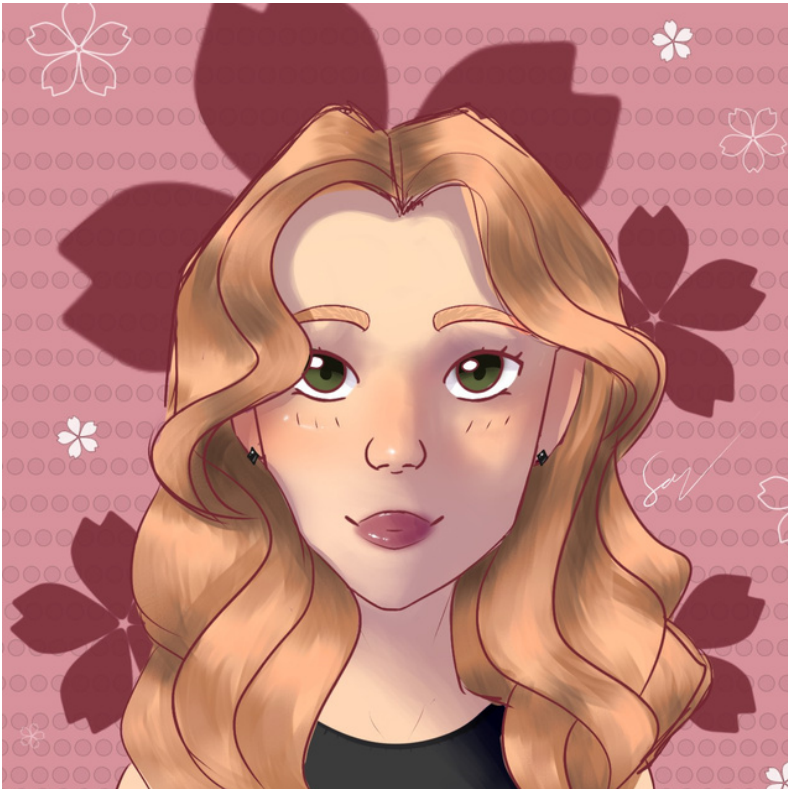
Digital Artwork by Shelby (Year 11)



Digital Art by Shelby



Digital Art by Shelby



Digital Art by Shelby



Digital Art by Shelby

Photography by Beth



Meerkat:

Fact!

Despite the dry weather of South Africa, meerkats don't drink water. Instead, they keep themselves hydrated through moisture inside the insects they eat.

Hamadryas Baboon:

Fact!

The Hamadryas Baboon has a life span of twenty to thirty years. The oldest Hamadryas Baboon on record lived to 37.5 years old.



Yellow-Footed Rock-Wallaby:

Fact!

Weighing six kilograms, the Yellow-Footed Rock-Wallaby can jump up to four metres from rock to rock.

Photography by Beth



African Lion:

Fact!

Lions live in a pride of up to thirty lions. As fierce as the male lion is, females do most of the hunting for their pride.

Cape Barren Goose:

Fact!

The Cape Barren Goose is native to Australia and is one of the rarest breeds of Geese that you can search for in Australia.



African Lion:

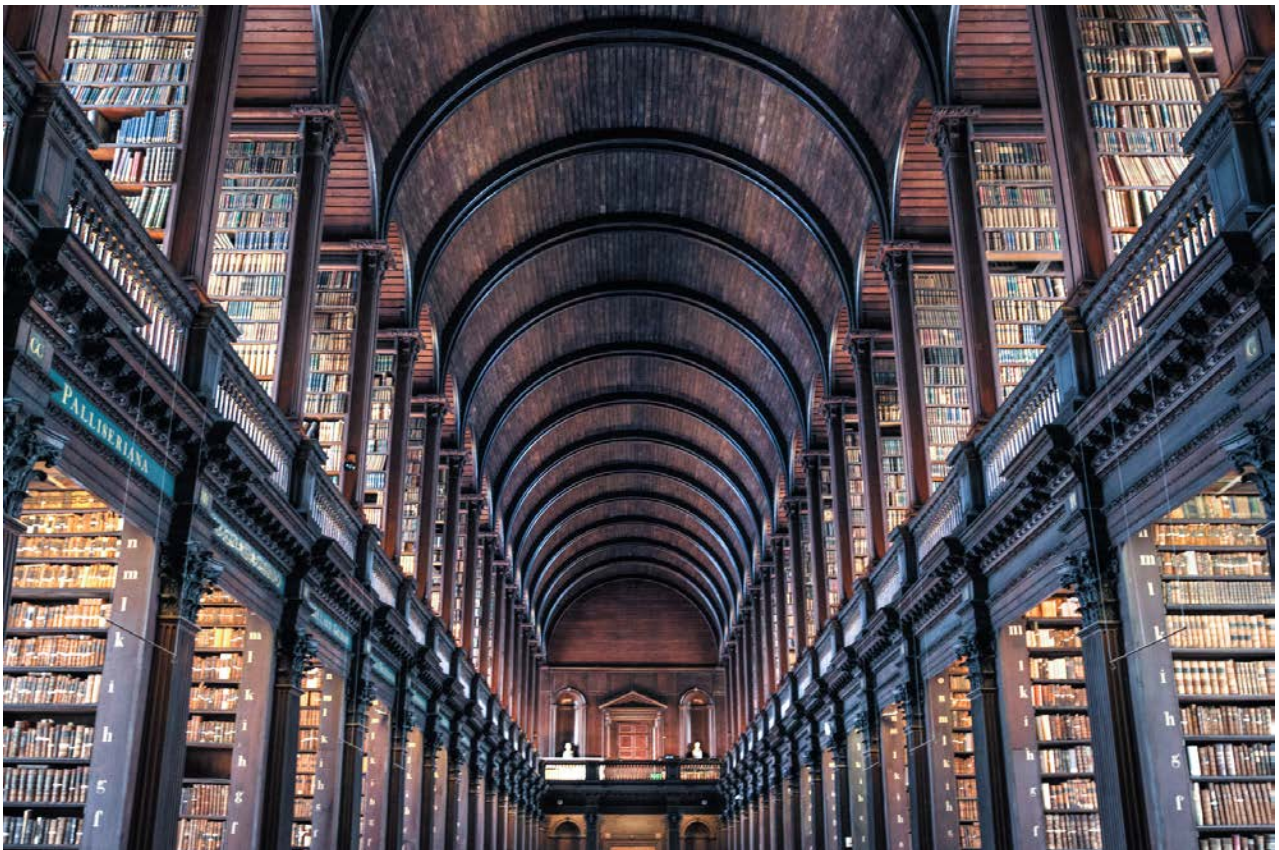
Fact!

A lion's roar is the loudest of any big cats: it can be as loud as 114 decibels, whereas a pet cat's meow is around 45 decibels.

Reviews and Recommendations

Some books contain content inappropriate for younger readers; please look up trigger warnings and be advised. If you feel uncomfortable reading them, please contact your Student Wellbeing Leader or head over to [Beyond Blue](#).

Texts with mature content are marked with 



Source: Canva

Book Review

Bright Lights, Big City by Jay McInerney

By Chloe

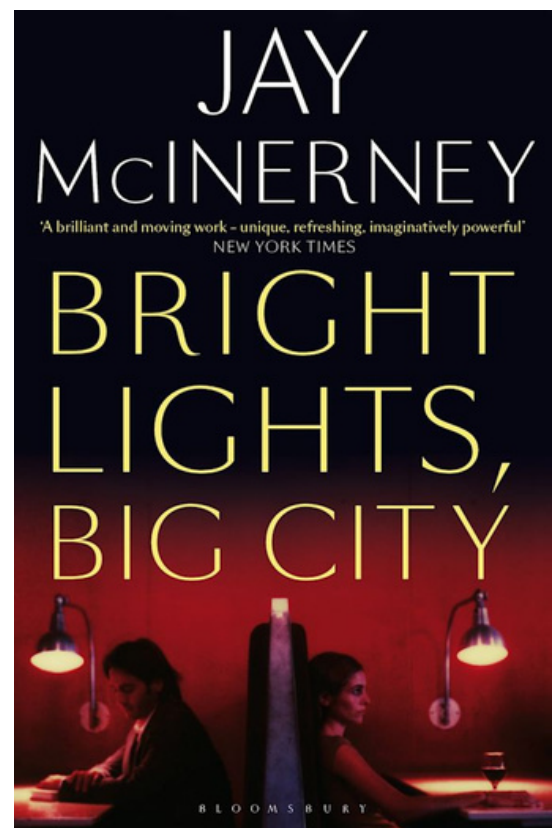
Hedonistic nightclubs, late night trawls, Bolivian Marching Powder: *Bright Lights, Big City* tells the story of a young writer's journey through the 1980's New York party scene. Written by Jay McInerney and published in 1984, readers follow the novel's nameless protagonist as he attempts to escape from past events and find meaning in the chaos of his existence.

The novel opens with our protagonist at a nightclub that is either Heartbreak or the Lizard Lounge; knowing it is past 2 A.M. in the morning, he inhales cocaine and loses himself on the dance floor. By the time Monday arrives, the protagonist finds himself arriving at the Department of Factual Verification where he works. Following an impossible assignment where he is to verify a French piece by a notoriously unreliable writer, he goes out clubbing to forget the impending disaster. Soon, however, he stumbles upon a sight near Fifth Avenue that makes him remember what he has been escaping from.

Bright Lights, Big City is told from a second person point of view, which McInerney utilises in an effective and engaging manner. Through the protagonist's unique voice, filled with humour and cynicism, the closeness of the narrative distance never feels oppressive or uncomfortable; I found it refreshing and greatly enjoyed the immersion the point of view brought. The non-linear plot structure is also very well executed: by setting up backstory then revealing it through flashbacks, the story was able to capture my interest and maintain it throughout the entire novel. The book's narrative experience is only enhanced through McInerney's use of imagery; sentences like 'the solemn progress of a garbage barge, wreathed in a cloud of screaming gulls' (chapter 1, page 9) make for beautifully-written prose,

allowing readers to be further drawn into the protagonist's world. Clever use of symbolism also paints a clearer picture of the protagonist's emotions and conflict, allowing me to understand and sympathise with his confusion and distress throughout the novel.

All things considered, I would highly recommend this book. I think many people, particularly those interested in literary fiction, would enjoy this story for reasons mentioned above: the novel's poetic prose, engaging characters, and methods of storytelling all make the read feel unique and refreshing. *Bright Lights, Big City* is definitely a book I love very much—one whose magic doesn't diminish even upon rereading.



Credit: Bloomsbury

Novel Recommendations

1. Throne of Glass (series) by Sarah J. Maas (rated 9/10) M

Throne of Glass is a YA fantasy/romance series inspired by Cinderella; it is beautiful, exciting, epic and mysterious. The series is about an assassin's road to saving a corrupt world.

2. The Masterpiece by Francine Rivers (rated 9/10)

The Masterpiece is a Christian romance novel. It is beautiful and heartwarming; you won't be able to put it down.

3. Daughter of the Pirate King (series) by Tricia Levenseller (rated 8/10)

Daughter of the Pirate King is a romance, adventure and fantasy series. It is mysterious, adventurous and romantic.

4. The Royals (series) by Erin Watt (rated 8/10) M

The Royals is a high school contemporary romance. It follows the road of the main character Ella, and is exciting, drama-filled. Each book ends with a cliffhanger.

5. The Gilda Stories by Jewelle Gomez (rated 9/10) M

The Gilda Stories is a lesbian/vampire romance horror about a runaway slave who becomes a vampire after killing a bounty hunter in self defence and being recused by a vampire named Gilda.

6. The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis (rated 8/10)

The Chronicles of Narnia is an amazing series about another world in which the ruler is a lion named Aslan. The books are based on the Christian religion and are a fantastic read.

7. Lake of Silence by Anne Bishop (rated 9/10) M

Lake of Silence is a horror/mystery story where a lady is blamed for the murder of a man when her tenant finds the body. She has to prove her innocence despite proof that nothing human could have killed him.

8. The Dead and the Dark (rated 7/10) M

The Dead and the Dark is a supernatural mystery that explores grief, guilt and identity. Just like *The Gilda Stories*, it features a lesbian romance.

9. The Northwoods (series) by Lois Walfrid Johnson (rated 7/10)

The Northwoods series follows a young girl Kate as she tries to adapt to her new life and friends. It is full of mystery and adventure, and contains mentions of Christianity.

10. I am Juliet by Jackie French (rated 7/10) M

This is a book wherein Juliet's side of the story is told. It is a story of love, drama, revenge, and death.

Graphic Novel and Comic Recommendations



East of West by Jonathan Hickman M

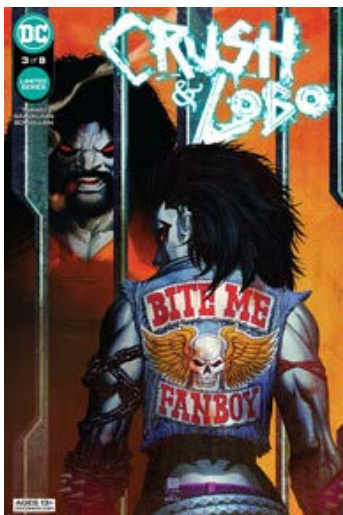
East of West is a sci-fi western epic set in a dystopian America. The series follows the four horsemen of the apocalypse, who just so happen to be trying to kill the president.



Credit: Image Comics

52 by various writers M

52 is an absolutely enormous and expansive event set a year after the disappearance and presumed death of Batman, Superman and Wonder Woman.



Credit: DC Comics

Crush and Lobo by Mariko Tamaki

Crush and Lobo is a road-trip story through and through. It features the titular Crush exploring the galaxy in search of her convict and rather scummy father Lobo, all the while dealing with her recently-ended relationship with her girlfriend, as well as her departure from the Teen Titans.

Student Achievers

Congratulations to Jemimah and Chloe who both won creative writing awards this year. We are very proud of their achievements and look forward to their future successes.

Jemimah (Year 10)

The MHFA (Mental Health Foundation Australia) ran a competition this year partnering with The Young Writers Award. Participants needed to write a short story, poem or script about Mental Health.

Jemimah, a year 10 student of the Access Gazette, entered a short story that featured in our first edition. This story titled *Paper Planes and Cuddles* won first place in the Senior Secondary Category in South Australia. Jemimah was invited to the official launch of the National Mental Health Month SA at Parliament House.

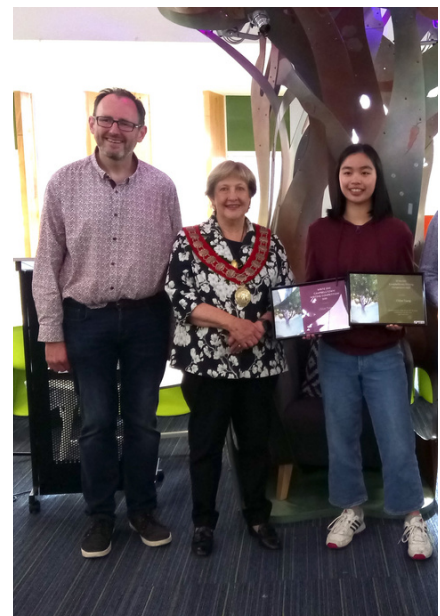


Credit: Mental Health Foundation Australia

Chloe (Year 11)

The Campbelltown Writers' Festival, running from 1–6 November 2021, held a writing competition titled the '2021 Write On! Campbelltown Writing Competition.' The competition was open to three categories of entry: Junior Writer (ages 7–14); Youth Writer (ages 15–24); and Open Writer (ages 25 and above). Entries were open to all forms of writing and had to relate to the theme of 'illumination.'

Chloe, a year 11 student of the Access Gazette, entered a short story and won first place in the Youth Writer category; she was also selected as the overall winner of the competition. Chloe's entry is titled *Light Your Way* and tells the story of eternal love and the finding of oneself.



Credit: photo provided by Chloe

JOKE, RIDDLES AND TRIVIA

SUDOKU

			2					5
8					9			4
			1	8			2	
3						5		9
5							7	
	6						4	
								6
		1		3	4	9	8	
9	2		6	5				3

Source: <https://dailycaring.com/free-printable-sudoku-puzzles-for-seniors/>

FUN FACTS

- There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.
- 'Dreamt' is the only English word that ends in the letters 'mt'.
- The giant squid has the largest eyes in the world.
- 7% of American adults believe that chocolate milk comes from brown cows.
- Tennis players can be fined up to \$20,000 for swearing while playing at Wimbledon.
- The Twitter bird actually has a name: Larry.
- Octopuses have three hearts.
- A shrimp's heart is in its head.



Credit: Canva

Riddle

I belong to no one, yet am used by everyone.
To some I am money, to others I fly.
I make up space, yet don't take it up.
To those who never change, I hold no sway.
But to those who do, I carry the weight of desert sands.
What am I?

Jokes

- Helvetica and Times New Roman walk into a bar. **'Get out of here!' shouts the bartender. 'We don't serve your type.'**
- Hear about the new restaurant called Karma? **There's no menu: you get what you deserve.**
- A woman in labour suddenly shouted, 'Shouldn't! Wouldn't! Couldn't! Didn't! Can't!' **'Don't worry,' said the doc. 'Those are just contractions.'**
- Where are the average things manufactured? **The satisfactory.**
- What does Charles Dickens keep in his spice rack? **The best of thymes, the worst of thymes.**
- How do mathematicians scold their children? **If I've told you n times, I've told you $n+1$ times.**

PUZZLES AND RIDDLES - ANSWERS

Here are the answers to issue two's puzzles and riddles.

Sudoku

4	5	7	1	2	8	9	3	6
1	3	9	4	6	5	8	2	7
8	2	6	9	7	3	4	1	5
9	1	8	6	5	2	3	7	4
2	4	5	7	3	9	1	6	8
6	7	3	8	1	4	2	5	9
5	8	1	2	9	7	6	4	3
7	6	4	3	8	1	5	9	2
3	9	2	5	4	6	7	8	1

Riddle

Imagine being left alone in a ship in the middle of the Atlantic ocean. How will you get out safely?

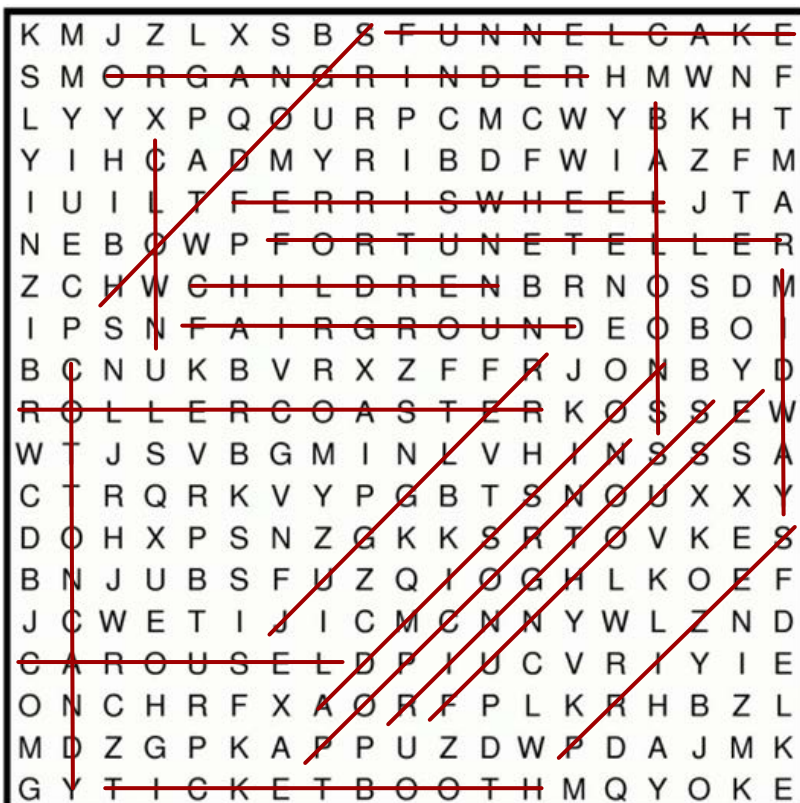
A. Stop imagining



Source: Canva

Word Find

At The Carnival



Admission
Balloons
Carousel
Children
Clown
Cotton Candy
Fairground
Ferris Wheel
Fortune Teller
Fun House

Funnel Cake
Hot Dogs
Juggler
Midway
Organ Grinder
Popcorn
Prizes
Ring Toss
Roller Coaster
Ticket Booth

Acknowledgements

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Student Gazette Team

- Beth (Year 9)
- Layla (Year 9)
- Eloise (Year 10)
- Jemimah (Year 10)
- Rahab (Year 10)
- Andromeda (Year 11)
- Chloe (Year 11)

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Teacher Team

These are the teachers who organised, supervised and encouraged the students in the making of this digital newspaper.

- Gabrielle Mundie
- Kieran Hodgson
- Danielle Dawson
- Kristy Evans

DO YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR WORK IN THE GAZETTE?

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are looking for:

- Artworks
- Music
- Creative Writing
- Science Facts
- Articles
- Anything you would like to share!

PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBMISSIONS TO:

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