

# THE ADVOCATE

William Aberhart High School  
Volume 22, Number 3    October 21, 2016

---



## EDITORIAL

# Crude Humour

by JORDAN BUNKE

It is no secret that the Internet has revolutionized human interaction since its inception. Its ability to let us share and connect instantaneously on a global scale has led to an irrefutable increase in our quality of life, but this can be a mixed blessing. The Internet, especially the modern culture surrounding it, often produces viral trends that are adopted by masses for a variety of reasons, ranging from the interesting nature of a given trend to simply wanting to be a part of the group. Many of these trends are simply dances, video concepts and phrases or expressions that enter the vernacular. The latest huge Internet trend, however, has an additional dimension of legitimate danger that has left public opinion on it fiercely divided.

The trend in question is the “killer clown craze”. Beginning in the US in August and gaining traction through the month of September, the craze is now rampant in Canada, the UK and the US. The concept of the trend is simple, though vague: dress up in a creepy clown costume and frighten people. While many dismiss the trend or find it to be funny, a large number of people are terrified and outraged. Significant demographics that are concerned are parents, educators and young children. A popular activity amongst those participating in the craze by dressing up as frightening clowns is to find and scare young children, potentially due to the fact that they produce the most frightened reactions and are the least likely to retaliate with physical violence upon being threatened.

These events have resulted in mass action being taken against the disturbers of the peace. Several students in the UK that



have produced a clown mask at school, like 10-year-old Tonisha Lowe, have received suspensions for their actions and law enforcement in many jurisdictions have issued statements to the clowns urging them to stop at risk of arrest and further action. As the trend has grown more popular, videos have surfaced of people in the clown masks being furiously chased and berated by angry masses for scaring them, though there have been instances in which the masked individuals have simply been idle, only to be attacked. While their intentions were most likely mischievous, the trend and the consequent backlash that it has spawned pose an interesting question to both the clown culture and the opposed counterculture: Should one be allowed to appear in a mask that is explicitly meant to frighten people and is it right to condemn and harm someone for a transgression that they may never make?

With Halloween around the corner, hesi-

tation and fear are on the rise surrounding how the killer clowns will use the occasion as it presents an ideal opportunity to instill fear in millions of children that are undoubtedly excited for trick or treating and related festivities. Personally, as long as there are no weapons involved, props or otherwise and while the targeted parties are not too young, I don't see the serious harm or intrinsic threat that the trend poses.



## THE ADVOCATE

THE ADVOCATE is the official newspaper of William Aberhart High School. We publish on a bi-weekly basis and encourage letters to the Editor of THE ADVOCATE.

THE ADVOCATE is meant as a forum for student expression and is published to inform and entertain the students and the entire school community.

**Editor-in-Chief:** Jordan Bunke  
**Staff Sponsor:** B Griffin

**Columnists:** Yusef Zia, Alexis Hill, Monique Vigneault

**Contributors:** Mackenzie Clarke, Monique Vigneault, Aditya Khatu, Riley Martens, Alana McPherson, Brooke Van Oosten, Alexis Hill

### *The Advocate* wants YOU!

Do you like to write?

Do you like to take pictures?

Do you have a special affinity for organizing and laying out massive amounts of material?

More importantly,

do you want to wield PERSUASIVE POWERS you never thought possible?

If you answered YES to any of these questions, we want YOU!

We're looking for journalists, columnists, cartoonists, photographers, and layout lackeys to help us with *The Advocate* this year.

Email your submissions and letters to the editor to [advocateabe@gmail.com](mailto:advocateabe@gmail.com)!



## ORANGE PULP

## No Laughing Matter

by YUSEF ZIA

Political satire: an effective medium to light heartedly spread ideas and awareness about current political issues. It comes in the form of political cartoons, newspaper columns such as this and most notably, comedy television. In general, this form of entertainment is portrayed with a specific bias, whether it is the perspective of the writer or the perceived perspective of the general population. Satire is a great way to engage portions of the population that are not typically interested in politics, simply due to the fact that it is entertaining. It has become an important part of politics in liberal democracies, where scrutiny of potential public servants is not only allowed, it is encouraged.

The train wreck of a presidential election in the US has become a lot to take in since it began. While watching the news to keep up with the progress of the election is a great way to get information, it can be very taxing to the typical voter. For many, the countless scandals that come with elections can become too exhausting to keep track of and can eventually leave voters completely uninterested in the final outcome. This is where satire plays its role in politics. Writers take the opportunity to express their view on what they believe is important in a brief and amusing way, which sparks the interest of more people. The simplicity of these skits is what attracts those who would otherwise be completely disinterested in their nation's political situation. Recently, the weekly late night comedy show Saturday Night Live re-enacted each presidential debate in the United States, including the vice presidential debate with reactions from each

presidential candidate's SNL doppelganger. These parodies of the real debates provided a short summary of what people took away from watching the debate, while providing viewers with laughs all the while.

Of course, using satire as a means for information may be easy, but it comes with many faults that need to be taken into account. Like all forms of media, the bias of the writer or artist should always be considered (mine included). On many occasions, the content of a cartoon or show can give misleading information that leans more to one side and it is important for readers/viewers to look at an issue from multiple perspectives so they can formulate their own opinion. Another issue that has been very prevalent in the US presidential election is that major issues can often be made light of or be disregarded when being represented in a humorous context. Throughout the election, coverage for all forms of media has focused much more on the latest scandal, rather than issues the country is facing and each candidate's plan to resolve them. Satire is no less guilty of this, but it also gives a much more superficial outlook on the current political situation because it is brief in comparison to the extensive information that is provided by news organizations.

To conclude, satire is a great way to spread awareness of ideas and give a basic understanding of a nation's political situation to voters. However, we need to realize that there are many solutions to resolve each issue, each with benefits and drawbacks to the nation and even though it may not be the most entertaining, staying informed should

## DEAR ABE

by ALEXIS HILL

Dear People of Aberhart,

No one writes to this column, which is a super fun time for us writers....I'm kidding, it actually sucks and makes us sad. This is our final call, PLEASE WRITE IT, WITH LITERALLY ANYTHING, QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND CONCERNS ARE ALL WELCOME! Is your homework drowning you? We can give you advice and basic swimming lessons. Do you want to cut your hair and dye it bright orange but you go to Abe and there is already enough orange in your life? We can discuss the pros and cons of your potential choice. Do you love geese? We will offer up some amazing goose jokes! Do you want to learn how to make an excellent Earl Grey tea latte? We will personally write you a recipe. Do you want to hear some fun facts about the various ill occurrences that plagued people into believing in vampires? We can make that information readily available to you in the next issue of The Advocate. Did something highly hilarious or cringingly cringeworthy happen to you the other day? WE WOULD TAKE GREAT JOY IN WRITING ABOUT IT! Just write a simple email to [dearabe@columnist.com](mailto:dearabe@columnist.com) with your story, request, or question. They can be serious or joking, even vacant musings will do. Your name and email address will be kept completely confidential! WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU! IT WOULD MAKE WRITING THIS COLUMN A LOT EASIER IF THERE WAS ACTUAL CONTENT :)

Thank you, and please write to us,

The Writers



# The Real Housewife of Trump Tower

by *MONIQUE VIGNEAULT*

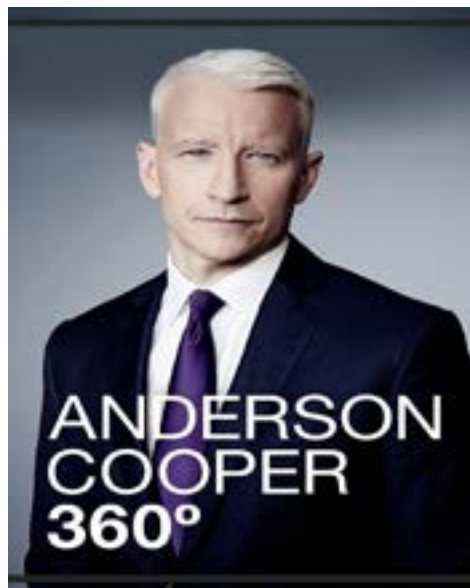
I try to incorporate an ethical viewpoint among the ideas and controversy surrounding the people I cover in this column. Albeit most of the people of interest in this column are political in root, I mostly pick people who are interesting and different thinkers— regardless of ideological differences. As the U.S election draws to a close with one remaining presidential debate to close off the campaign trail, the general public, American and global opinions remain distinctly divided: Does the Clinton-Kain or Trump-Pence campaign suit their individual beliefs, policies & ethics? It's not an easy answer for some; the two candidates are vastly different on the ideological spectrum. But you've heard that all before, haven't you? In fact, I'm sure you've heard enough about the U.S election as a whole. So, let's take a break from this chaos, relax. Are you relaxed? Great.

Let's talk about the woman in the shadows of this diplomatic implosion, Melania Trump. Last Monday on CNN's 'Anderson Cooper 360', the Vanderbilt-born reporter convinced Melania to finally take a step towards the public. In the interview, she vaguely touches on the recent sexual harassment allegations against her husband, the leaked tape showing Trump aiming slurs and obscenities at women, and somehow got to the topic on how the Internet is toxic to children. "Yeah it's kind of uh," She pauses to think, "like having two teenage boys in the house," She says about the leaked tape.

"He was fifty-nine at the time." Anderson adds. She laughs, admitting they should behave better, but that all in all, she forgives her husband for his 'boy talk'. "I'm strong, people, they don't really know me." She told Anderson candidly, then followed it by saying "Don't feel sorry for me, I can handle everything." Then, towards the final minutes of the interview she admits she didn't expect the media to be so 'dishonest' and 'mean', bashing "The Washington Post" for leaking the infamous Trump video, and then "The New York Times" for countlessly 'bashing her' during the campaign. What's really interesting about Melania, is that for the demographic that Donald caters to, Melania fits the exact criteria for what they're opposed to: A woman who immigrated to the United

States, with very little to say about politics. Perhaps that's why she tries to stay in the shadows of the Trump campaign, her politics would simply not homogenize with that of Donald's outwardly anti-immigration attitude. Going back to my underlying idea of ethics in Politics, I believe Melania may be smarter and more articulate than she was portrayed in this interview. She may not have perfect English and we can't verify whether she went to University of Ljubljana or even legally immigrated to the United States but one thing is for sure: Melania was Trump's last card. Portraying Donald Trump as a nice man who supports women was the one last plea to the demographic that in general, Trump can't reach: The Female Vote.

However, I still don't understand Melania or who she is. She immigrated from a small sleepy town in Slovenia after years of being a model, but like she said, she's a very private person, so why on earth would she stand next to the man who is the complete juxtaposition of what she believes in?



## PLAYLIST

by *ADITYAH KATU*

*Kid Who Stays in the Picture*- Hot Hot Heat

*I'm Born To Run*- American Authors

*Take Me Out*- Franz Ferdinand

*Don't* (Explicit) - Bryson Tiller

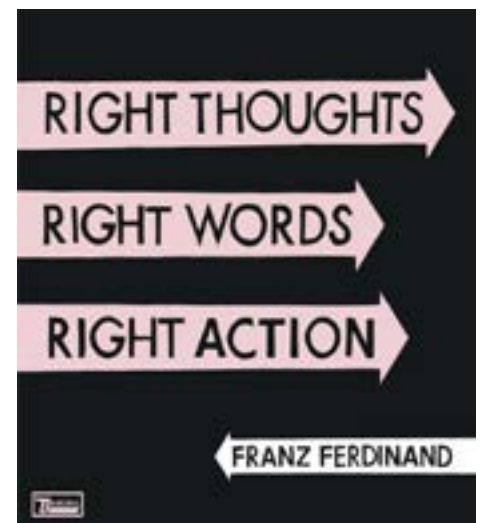
*Girls like u*- Blackbear

*Cocoa Butter Kisses*- Chance the Rapper (explicit)

*What They Want* - Russ

*Random* - G-Eazy (explicit)

*Somewhere In My Car*- Keith Urban



# The Show Must Go On

by MACKENZIE CLARKE

Donning the ubiquitous 70s bandana and unfussy jeans, he strutted onstage, with the encouraging screams of fans reverberating all around. The familiar riff was pounded on the piano and the crowd was entranced. Energy released from the stage shook the floor, while the fans and the singer, together, belted out an enduring tune.

In 2013, I attended a concert unlike any other: Bob Seger and The Silver Bullet Band's "Rock n' Roll Never Forgets" Tour. My dad joked that I was the youngest one there, and that he was the second youngest. In 2013, Bob Seger was 68 years old. Yet, the live renditions of his classic songs, such as *Against the Wind* and *Old Time Rock and Roll*, retained all of their original magnetism. The raw talent of the musicians remained, seemingly unaltered by the 40 years that had passed since their start. Some musicians simply never go out of style.

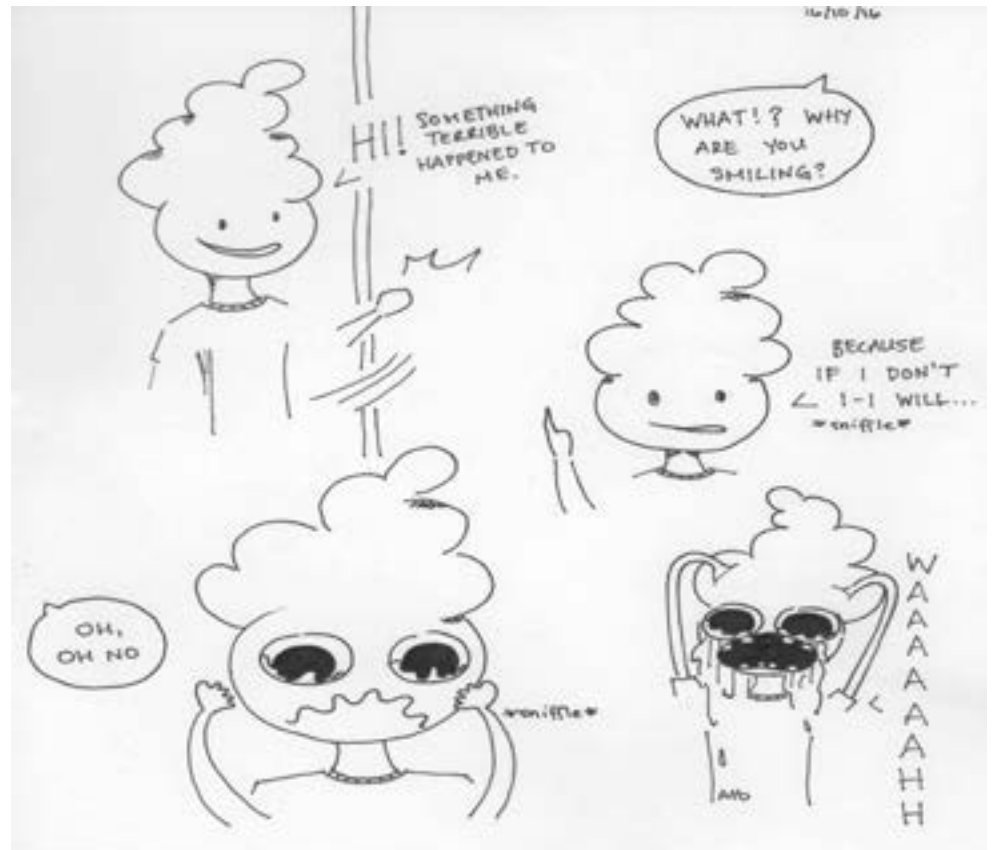
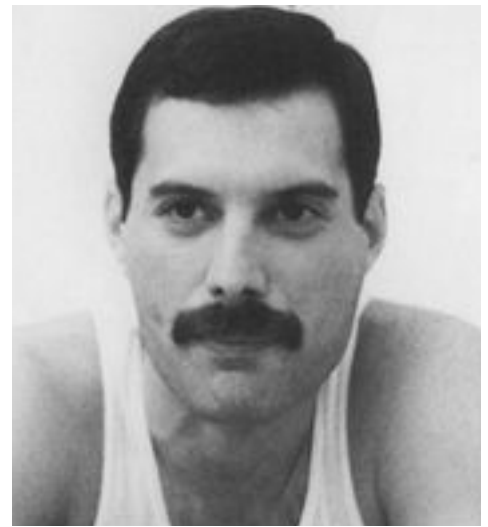
The timelessness of these classic bands and musicians is demonstrated by their constant reappearance on the modern-day music scene. Much of the music that is currently listened to is inspired by old styles and songs, if not directly "covering" them. At the 2016 Billboard Music Awards, Celine Dion performed a remarkable cover of *The Show Must Go On* by Queen, for example. The 2016 Grammy's, as well, presented a heartfelt tribute to Glenn Frey (of The Eagles), who had just recently passed away. Additionally, The Lumineers use Bob Dylan's lyrical masterpiece, *Subterranean Homesick Blues*, as a recurring song in their setlist. However, do today's popular artists possess the "staying power" to become classics, such as those listed above? How many mainstream musicians will still be listened to in future generations?

People continue to be interested in Tom Petty, who now hosts a radio show on Sirius XM's Deep Tracks channel; George Thorogood has been incessantly touring since his hit *Bad to the Bone*, in 1982; Aerosmith has a themed ride in Walt Disney World's Hollywood Studios Park. The success and longevity of these musicians can be attributed to the depth of their music. In the past, there was an undeniable sense of authenticity and personality behind each song that was written

or performed. To experience true success in the music industry, you needed singers and musicians with undeniable talent. Per contra, the same cannot necessarily be said for modern music.

While there are, undoubtedly, very talented musicians existing today, it is all too common for a performer to abuse technology in order to equate for lack of talent. Some, such as Ed Sheeran, are musically adept and capable of performing acoustically, while others, such as Justin Bieber, have been caught attempting to lip-sync. Moreover, music typically considered "old" remains popular because it commented on society, or brought new light to an issue. The quality of the lyrics was as essential to a song as oxygen is to sustaining life. Lyricists such as Bob Dylan or Freddie Mercury ingeniously weaved words to convey meaningful emotions, and were sincere in its delivery. Today, lyrics are often repetitive and superficial. For a direct example, compare Queen's renowned *Bohemian Rhapsody* to Beyoncé's *Run the World (Girls)*.

All in all, I'm grateful to live in a world where there is so music to discover. In every era, there are ambivalent views on the quality of music, as any form of art is very subjective. Will today's mainstream musicians continue to prosper for over fifty years, as the Rolling Stones have, or will they simply disappear from our memories?





## Separating Politics from Person

by ADITYAH KATU

Early last week, former premier of Alberta Jim Prentice passed away in a tragic plane crash. Many Albertans are still familiar with him as his party was in power right before Premier Notley took office. While browsing news sites about Mr. Prentice's death, I came across something that astounded me. There were quite a few responses to the articles that were very negative about Mr. Prentice. The majority of the responses were kind and appropriate but there were far too many that were mocking his death or hoping that other politicians were on the plane.

After seeing that, I became aware that for some reason, there are some of us that find it very difficult to separate the political side of a person and just view them as a human being. Really those should be kept separate.

Another example of this trend can be seen in the campaigns for presidency in the United States. Hillary Clinton is constantly reminded of her husband's affair and Trump is involved in more and more scandals as the race continues.

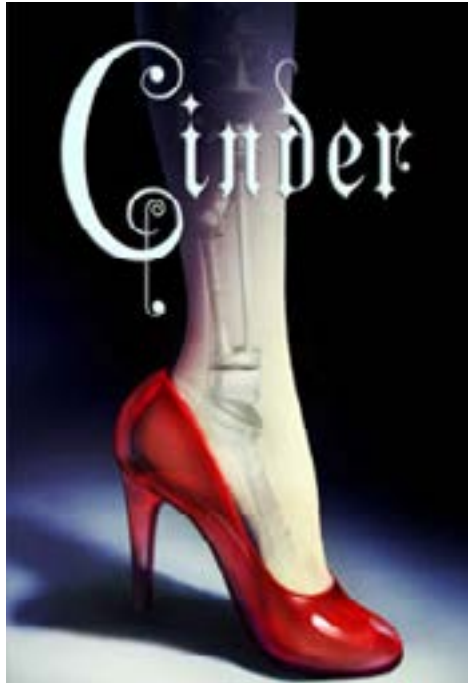
The majority of us can recognize that bringing up Mr. Prentice's political views in the wake of his death is wrong. If separating an individual's personality from their political beliefs is what's right, why do we constantly find the need to bring them together? It's not like this is completely impossible to avoid either. Just look, for example, at the last election that we had in Canada. There wasn't a single mention of any candidate's past, but rather it focused on topics that are relevant to the position they were trying to attain.

Just because we're Canadian doesn't mean that we couldn't contribute to this trend in the US election. Everyone seems to enjoy discussing whatever new scandal there is. This is why politics has turned into a mud-slinging game rather than focusing on what's really important. Maybe if politics was really based on facts and presenting a clear, concise plan, Donald Trump wouldn't have made it this far.

The good news of this election is that people are becoming aware of the ridiculousness of the politics in the US. People hold the power in politics. Let's hope that the US can learn from its stupidity and focus on the importance of the job itself.

## "Cinder" by Marissa Meyer

by BROOKE VAN OOSTEN



Put everything you thought you knew about fairytales out of your head because this has absolutely nothing to do with any of them...well, maybe... a little bit.

You all know the classic tale of "Cinderella". Her nasty stepmother, fairy godmother, shoes falling off, that sort of thing (and if you do not know the fairytale, my friend you are missing out). Now the story of Cinder, however, is very different. In this book, the story takes place much into the future, where people inhabit the moon, and robots are now servants. In Cinder's case, she is a cyborg. With a retina display connected to the internet and a robotic leg and foot, she works as a mechanic in New Beijing of the Eastern Commonwealth. With all these features she has being a cyborg, you would think people would be in awe, but people actually despise people of her "kind". They believe they are dangerous or unpredictable, so not only is she despised by the whole city, but also by her stepmother, and one of her sisters. One difference: the whole world has been taken over by a deadly and highly contagious disease called Letumosis. The only people who are immune are people from Luna - people from the moon, led by Queen Levana. To everyone who sees her, she has the most beautiful face a person could lay eyes on. But that is the case for all Lunars, for they have the power to play tricks on the mind, and cause a person to see a glamour.

While she thinks she's just another unwanted cyborg, Cinder's whole world is about to be flipped upside down when she comes in contact with the famous Prince Kai, who comes to her for android-assistance. This is only the first step to finding the truth about her past. Her past, where she remembers next to nothing from her childhood, or anything about her inventive father. Cinder is very special but most people don't know why. Not even she does. And to uncover these secrets could change the world, and her life.

As you can see, this book is high fantasy, and also includes science fiction. Not surprising, considering it was not only inspired by the fairytale classics, but also by the legendary Star Wars.

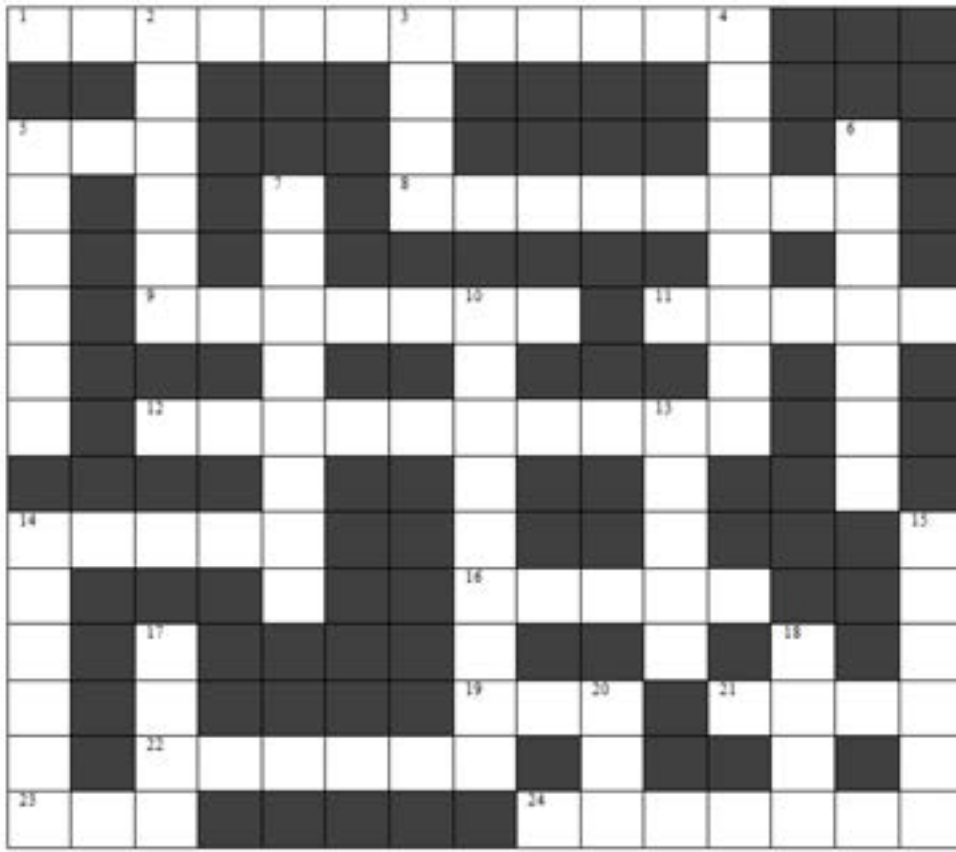
This book is certainly at the top of my favourite series' (next to two others). You will struggle to put it down. Each page is filled with more action, new secrets unveiled and jaw-dropping twists. Even if you are not a fan of fantasy and fairytales, this book will please you. This book involves more science fiction than gushy fairytale. Featuring a badass female protagonist and an insane amount of sass, what's not to like? Cinder is such an inspiring character. She truly makes me think about what I have accomplished in my 16 years of life and what she has (and will). Seriously, it's quite sad. All I was doing was losing sleep from reading this book until 2 in the morning.

Read it and thank me later.



# Crossword

by JORDAN BUNKE

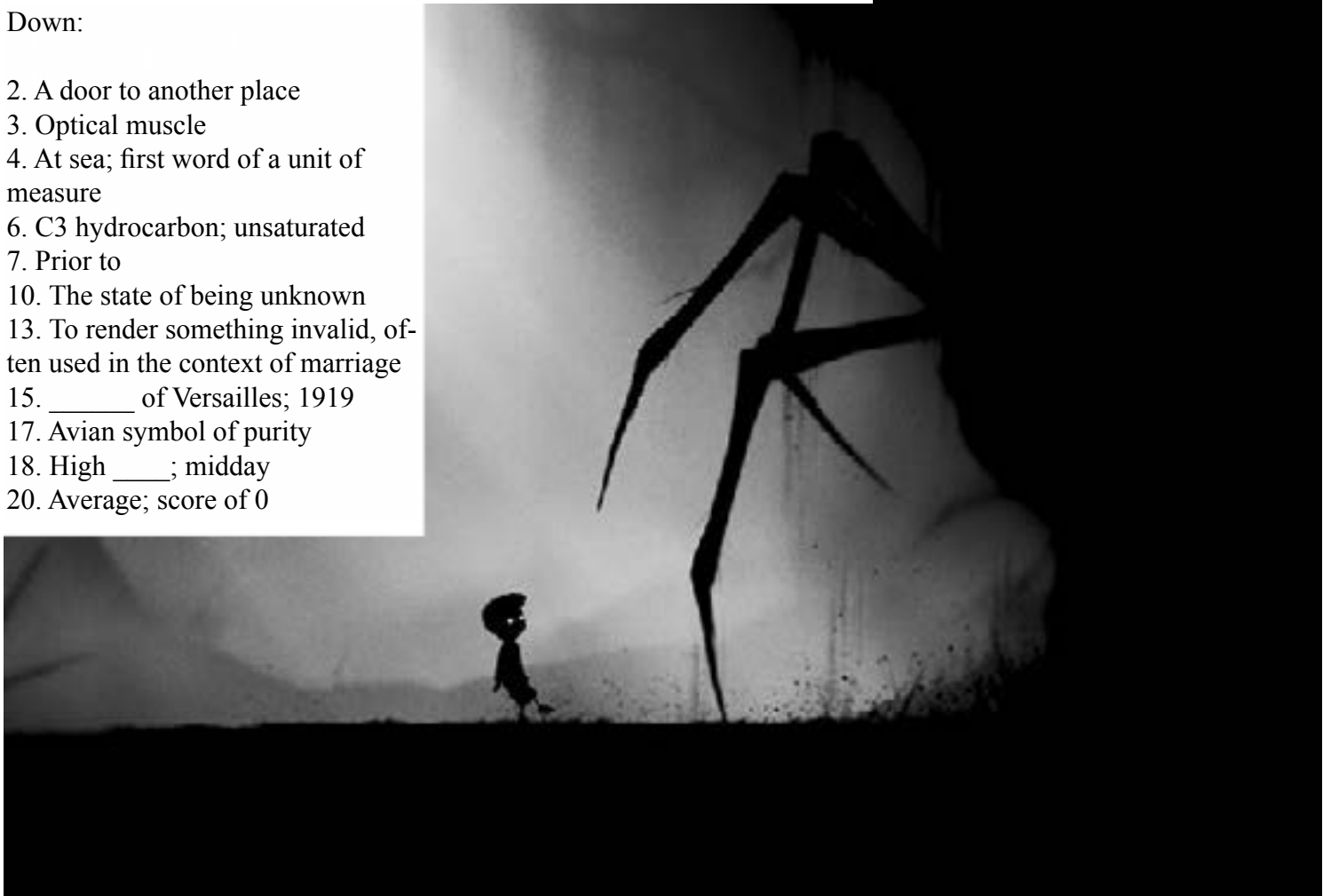


Across:

1. The inability to acquire sufficient oxygen
5. A tool for rowing
8. Left; from Latin
9. Rather than figurative
11. The breadth of something, also a tool used to aim a weapon
12. Out of the ordinary
14. The first circle of Hell according to Dante's Divine Comedy
16. \_\_\_\_\_ operandi
19. \_\_\_\_\_ the phone; an invasion of privacy
21. Lady \_\_\_\_\_ Crawley, Countess of Grantham
22. The truth
23. A moon prior to an occasion
24. With a sense of purpose and a schedule to keep

Down:

2. A door to another place
3. Optical muscle
4. At sea; first word of a unit of measure
6. C3 hydrocarbon; unsaturated
7. Prior to
10. The state of being unknown
13. To render something invalid, often used in the context of marriage
15. \_\_\_\_\_ of Versailles; 1919
17. Avian symbol of purity
18. High \_\_\_\_\_; midday
20. Average; score of 0



## HOROSCOPES

by TWINKLEGAZE ASTROPANTS



### Aries (March 21 - April 19)



You will be compelled by your umbrella dreams to dig up your umbilical cord from the underground electrical box in your back yard, otherwise known as the thunder from down under. Under where? Exactly. Then you'll pet your pet umbrella bird for reassurance. Because it's the real MVP.

### Taurus (April 20 - May 20)



After eating pine needles because bear with me, Bear Grylls barely taught you how to buck a bare buck bear or bare back ride a bare buck. This seems barren while barreling towards destruction. You'll think that ostrich riding was always the more straight forward hobby. But Oh Canada! Les Stroud beats bears and grills them. Or roasts them.

### Gemini (May 21 - June 20)



You will realize that after your guilt trip to Yugoslavia, that their star soccer player, Roberto Noend, broke his wind and was no longer able to play. You'll learn he now makes a humble living in a salsa factory playing competitive tamagotchi. What a legend.

### Cancer (June 21 - July 22)



After drinking all the pen ink you could get your grubby grabbers on, you'll single mouthedly cause an ink shortage in all of north west North Dakota and then you'll be guilty because poor North West won't be able to write in pen if she were to go north west North Dakota, North West won't be in north west North West Dakota. Winter is coming.

### Leo (July 23 - August 22)



After meticulously covering every grid on your grid paper in your 2000 page book with whiteout so you could draw on blank paper, the fumes will make your dreams weird. You'll dream of crabs and sledgehammers. How one evolved from the other. And how one lacks a nose, but not nose hair.

### Virgo (August 23 - Sept 22)



After supporting whale hunting all your life so you can make your Christmas sweaters, a giant winged narwhal will fly down from the ozone and smite you with its horny power because it has a horn. Get your balls out of the gutter.

### Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22)



After meeting with my third cousin five times removed, Cash Mooney the loan shark, for lupper at the Lampstand Diner and getting enough iron for years, you'll want to become a loan shark too. Not for the power or money, but because of the sleazy hair. Grease has never been so fine.

### Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)



After binge playing backgammon, you'll have an epiphany of how cars are like haircuts. Hatchbacks are business in the front and party in the back like a mullet, while Pintos try to cover up rust with duct tape like a comb over. But you can't aFORD it. Then you'll see military privates are really just a big soccer mom convoy. The buzz cuts are the equivalent of sedans. The afro is the minivan, where you try to fit as much as possible in so little space. And because it got SWAG.

### Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)



After feeding pigeons to the bread machine, you'll figure no more loafing around. It's time to do your homework on Ferris Buehler and his life when he's 45. Will he be eating pizza at McDonalds or eating a burger at Papa John's? Only time will know, and you, and me.

### Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)



After talking to your pet octopus Maurice in Klingon, you'll realize that Maurice is cling. But he'll continue to cling on to you even in Klingon. He just won't let you or anything go. Especially his liking for red mopeds; they're spicy. Like

### Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)



After writing a poem about how you enjoy knitting while walking on the beach, your friends will start to make fun of you for your crochet skills, but you'll always know your needle work is on point.

### Pisces (Feb 19 - March 20)



After disassembling carbon monoxide detectors, you'll realize your foods teacher was right. Chili could kill you in solid and gaseous states. But you'll always ask yourself what's the matter? It just happens to be a bit dense.

When you're done, please pass this on or recycle. Thanks!

## The Advocate's Policy on Letters to the Editor

*The Advocate encourages signed letters to the editor and prints both positive and negative comment.*

*Anonymous letters will not be published.*

*Letters to the editor are published as written by the author.*

*Spelling and grammar are not corrected.*

*Occasionally, letters will be edited for length and/or inappropriate language.*

*Editorial responses are not printed.*

*We reserve the right not to print letters that do not bring new light to an issue.*