



THE RESURRECTION OF BLACKBERRY LTD

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**Grad wear will be available to order starting
Nov. 12 in the ticket booth at lunch!**

American Apparel Hoodie:

\$35

American Apparel Sweatpants:

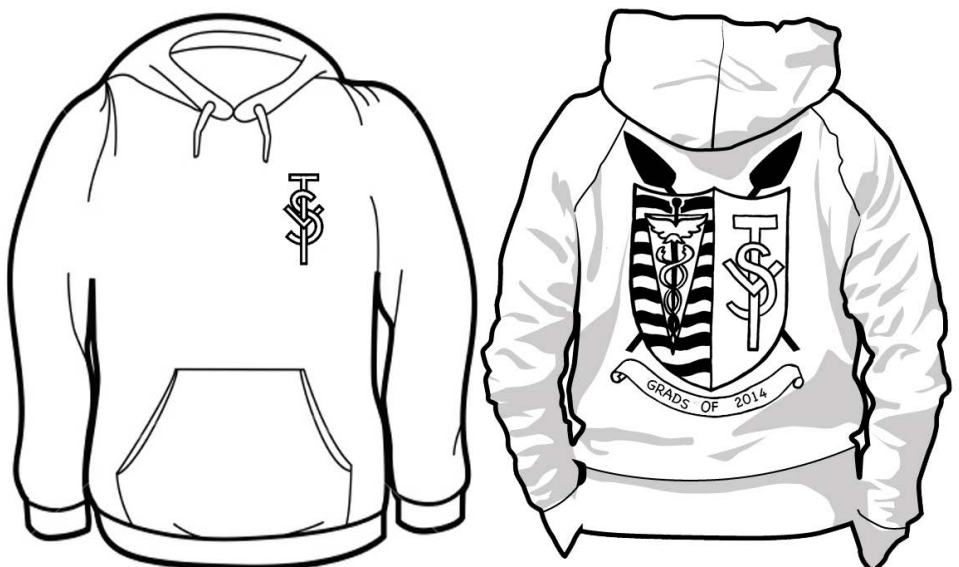
\$35

American Apparel Long Sleeve:

\$25

Extra Personalization Fee:

\$10



L I F E S T Y L E

Staycation in Vancouver

Jenny Huang
THE TALISMAN



With fall approaching, the weather has begun to cool down. Take this chance and go out and explore before it gets too chilly. Admire the nature, and use it as a relaxant. You won't know just how beautiful Vancouver is until you actually step foot outside, yes, away from your TV, your computer, your gaming consoles.

Here are some absolute must see nature destinations of Vancouver:

1 Lynn Valley. Is a hiking trail located in North Vancouver which features beautiful waterfalls, and lakes, as well as hiking trails. It's incredibly easy to get there by transit or car. Just take the sea bus to North Van and board the Lyn Valley bus. If you're going by car, there are convenient parking spaces.

2 Deep Cove. It may be a bit too cold to get into the waters at Deep cove, but if you want a relaxing moment after finishing exams, head over to deep cove just about when the sun sets and you'll be amazed at what beautiful nature you have so close to you. The mountains paint the backdrop and the water just glistens, it'll calm you down immediately.

3 Queen Elizabeth Park isn't just a normal park with a playground and a swing set, it's a park filled with beautiful nature walks, especially in the fall where the colours are diverse. It may not look like much from the outside, but once you step in you'll be surprised at what the place has to offer.

4 Burnaby Lake. Hop off the Skytrain, walk 20 minutes and you're there! You may not be able to swim in the waters at Burnaby Lake but you sure can admire its scenic beauty and the vast amounts of thriving wildlife.

5 Stanley Park. If you're looking for something you're familiar with, just bus on over to Stanley park and bike the seawall with a couple of friends. You may have been there dozens of times, but bike through the pathways, lounge on the beach. Gain a new perspective on a familiar place.



"You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" - Review

Tea Jackson
THE TALISMAN

There are certain experiences that are inherent to growing up. Whether it's running after a fleeing school bus, creating an elaborate scheme to be noticed by the person who has taken up permanent residence in the corner of your eye, or fighting ceaselessly with a bossy sibling, these are childhood memories that unite all of us, and all are tackled with a sense of innocent excitement and a hint of nostalgia in the production of "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown", performed enthusiastically by members of the Van Tech music program. With a swarm of colour and hyperbolic expressions, the remarkably talented cast of six sang their way on to the stage at the opening of the show, ready to begin a brand new day of the first grade, with all of its drama and joys. Interlaced with musings from various characters as to what makes a 'good man', the story strings together moments from Charlie and his friends' lives that aid them in finally defining happiness through a series of short vignettes that refuse to follow a concrete plot. With strong acting and singing abilities from each of the actors, as well as truly excellent portrayals of all characters, this musical swept the audience back to a younger, simpler time, doing so with few flaws and many laughs.

Any member of the audience would find it impossible to deny that the play was delightfully cute, and undeniably fun, a statement that was reinforced by several of the actors, though the softer, more philosophical sketches were able to steer it away from becoming cloying or condescending; like the Peanuts comic strip on which the musical was based, "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" wasn't principally intended for children, though it obviously, like many other forms of superior entertainment, it has cross-generational appeal. In keeping with this original comic strip style, the structure of the play was that of many short scenes strung together with underlying themes, displaying the show's fidelity to the spirit of Charles M. Schulz. This detracted only slightly from the overall presentation, the excellent characterization being enough to hold the audience's attention even through the more meandering sequences. Because of this, the focus of the play was on the characters themselves, and their interactions with each other and their environment, with each actor taking full advantage of the set, score, lines, and other characters to add depth and relatability to their character. And, indeed, the show had no deficit of relatable moments and experiences for teens and adults alike- this production of Charlie Brown, as with every good interpretation, builds its success off of presenting varieties of adult angst and projecting them on to a group of six-year-olds (and a dog).

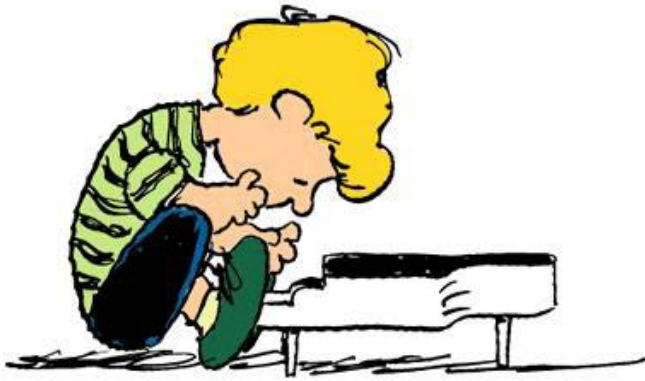
With all of the wonderful qualities of this show, it was the pitch-perfect casting that really stood out. In the main role of the production, Timothy Ebio was Charlie Brown to the hopeful, heartbreaking life; his monologue both hoping and fearing to be noticed by the little red-haired girl is one of the best things in the show. Charlie Brown is a dangerous and, when done improperly, thankless role. Play it all wide-eyed innocence and naive and an audience quickly grows bored and surprisingly angry with the character. Overdo the anguish and self-doubt and you'll lose them even faster. Dare to play it for laughs and suddenly the character is too self-aware and the assumptions on which the show is built shatter into a thousand pieces. Timothy walked this tightrope with an almost startling competence. With his understated approach and marvelous voice, he brought his character, and, indeed, the whole show to life.

But, despite this excellent performance, the show was stolen by the small host of supporting characters, and particularly Lani Baybay, who managed to practically become the character of Lucy. She was quickly seen to be an exceptional actress, and committed entirely to the role throughout the play, every motion and detail perfect for the character, right down to the high-pitched voice, which somehow even sounds good in song the majority of the time. This is not to say that the performance was entirely seamless, but her never-faltering energy and movement on stage certainly

made it appear so. Also standing out was Dexter Van Der Schyff, playing up the nasal voice, thumb-sucking, blanket-holding, and overblown soliloquies of Linus. His voice was not quite as strong as others, but his acting more than made up for it, and he definitely extracted the most laughs from the audience as he danced around the stage with the character's signature blue blanket. As with every actor involved, the little quirks inserted into the performance matched perfectly to both the role and the atmosphere of the play, making it easy to overlook any small discrepancies. Snoopy, the one role in the show which allows - no, demands flash, sass, and a sure instinct for physical comedy, was endearingly and energetically embodied by Clarice Scop, acting as a refreshing counterpoint to the rest of characters, all of whom are sweet, naive, domineering, or all three, and who are required to be entirely oblivious to the ridiculousness of the situations they are in. The famous dog, perched on her doghouse, provided excellent comic relief, as well as a positively angelic voice, and acted well with other cast members.



In fact, this can be said of everyone on the cast; the choice to have a small cast that remains onstage at all times was executed nearly perfectly, the chemistry between those six cast members lighting up the stage and engaging the audience, especially with the supporting characters of Sally, played by Roan Shankaruk, and Schroeder, who was embodied by Devante Hepburn, who add, respectively, energetic and calming presences to the show. The audience could be seen to feel the emotions of the characters as they were displayed onstage, from the comic angst between Linus and his blanket, to Charlie's softly philosophical musings, an effect that only grew as the play went on and the actors settled into their roles, able to swallow their nerves to execute two fabulous performances.



The only flaws in the show were minor; some actors' ranges were not quite up for the demanding range required in the score, the rather screechy voices of Lucy and Sally, though perfect for representing and channeling the characters, did interfere with the quality of the singing at times, and no one could seem to figure out why it was necessary for the cast to be holding their script and score while onstage. Disregarding these few exceptions, none of which detracted from the show in any significant way, the show was utterly seamless in execution, with the live music accompaniment provided impeccably by Van Tech students Calvin Xu and Matthew Feng, who didn't miss a single note and were clearly aware of what was happening on stage, and the minimalist, unchanging set very cleverly constructed, allowing the viewer's imagination to fill in the backgrounds.

With its flawless musicianship and staging, impressive vocals, and admirably accurate portrayals of Peanuts' iconic characters and storylines, "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" was an indisputable success, prompting audiences on all three nights of shows to join Charlie's friends as they alternately sing his praises and mock his every move, and those who were unable to see it to mutter angry curses and, perhaps, even sing a song or two about how badly they missed out.

You can see photos of the play online at <http://goo.gl/5Lv5K4>

Note From The Music Council President

Amanada Coccimiglio

MUSIC COUNCIL PRESIDENT | THE TALISMAN

It was announced via Twitter on June 13th last school year that the Van Tech Music Program would be producing "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown" in October 2013, and believe me, it did not disappoint. The only people who should be disappointed are those who missed out on the opportunity to watch this amazing display of talent, determination and coordination on the 16th, 17th and 18th this past month.

The students involved worked very hard on their own time as a collective to capture every personality of the classic Charlie Brown cartoons, and sing their lines while they're at it. The combination of simple props and a minimalistic backdrop set helped to make the musical experience the crucial element, but really we owe the bulk of the credit to the performers.

Whether they are naturally talented at it or not, each and every one of cast members has grit: a positive, non-cognitive trait based on an individual's passion for a particular long-term goal, coupled with a genuine motivation to achieve their objective. By closing night, this shined through in every scene. Congratulations to everyone who was involved!

If you're reading this in grades 8, 9 or 10 and are inspired to get in on this musical action, it's your lucky year. Musicals are directed by Mr. Reid every two school years, so look forward to auditioning for it in 2015.



R E V I E W S

“The Glass Castle”

Dora Xiong

THE TALISMAN

This book is an infuriating, inspiring, and a heartfelt piece of wonder. When I first picked it up, I couldn't put it back down. From the exceptionally strange parenting, to the author's calm and witty narration, I was hooked.

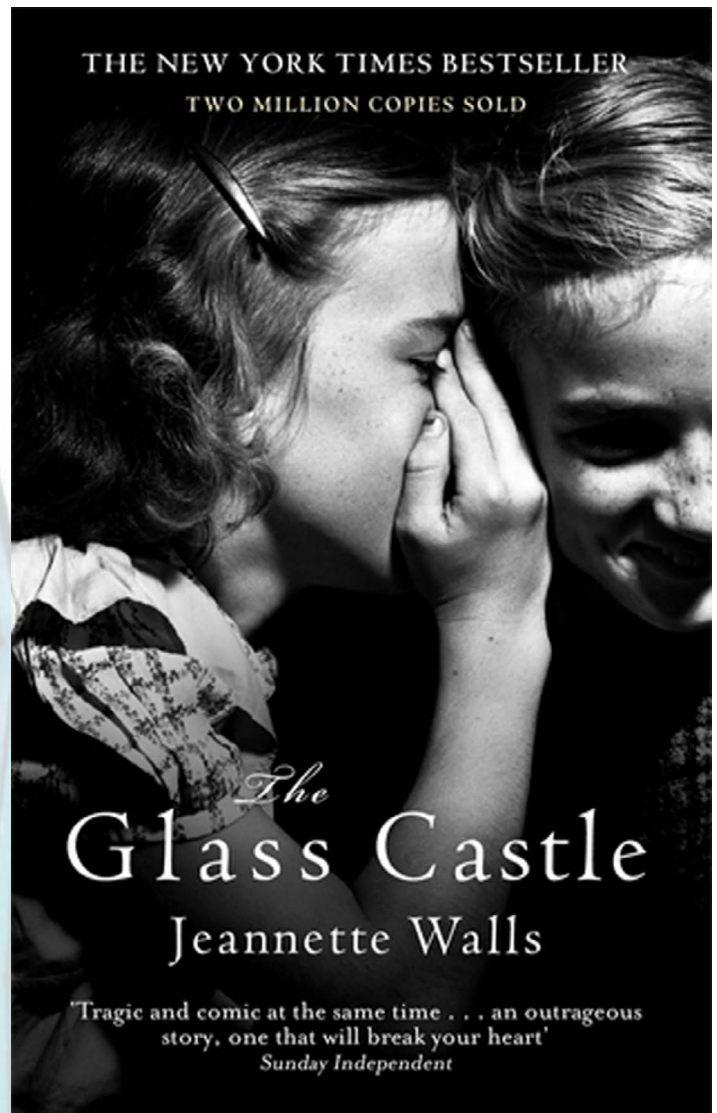
One of my favourite passages includes a look at the narrator's mother's view on injuries:

“Mom was not one of those fussy mothers who got upset when you came home dirty or played in the mud or fell and cut yourself... Once an old nail ripped my thigh which I was climbing over a fence at my friend Carla's house. Carla's mother thought I should go to the hospital for stitches and a tetanus shot. ‘Nothing but a minor flesh wound,’ Mom declared after studying the deep gash. ‘People these days run to the hospital every time they skin their knees,’ she added. ‘We're becoming a nation of sissies.’”

Reading this as a child who was constantly told to stay out of the mud, I found this view quite refreshing. Occasionally, I marveled at how Jeannette managed to stay alive for so long (some of the things that she got up to were pretty crazy!). But as I continued with the story, I realized that this must have been why she grew up to be such a resourceful person.

One of my favourite aspects of the story was the narrator's change in perspective as she grew up from a toddler to a young adult. Throughout her childhood, Jeannette fully believes that her parents are superheroes despite their misgivings. As she grows up, the overlooked problems become increasingly hard for her to continue ignoring and she eventually sees the reality behind the false promises. Despite this, one can still see the strong connections between the children and the parents.

I believe that “The Glass Castle” is a story that clearly captures both the happy and disappointing moments in life. It is a novel that I would recommend to anyone and everyone.

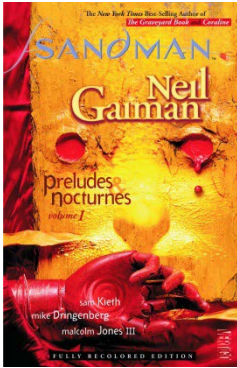


A beginner's guide to graphic novels

Charlotte Steele

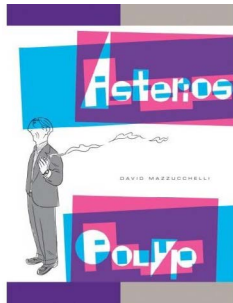
THE TALISMAN

One of the best mediums of today is the graphic novel. When you first start reading them, the choices seem endless. Here are some suggestions of award-winning, well written & beautifully illustrated graphic novels:



The Sandman

This famed graphic novel by Neil Gaiman, is a must read for any graphic novel fan. The story revolves around the tormented Dream and his adventures as the ruler of the land of dreams.



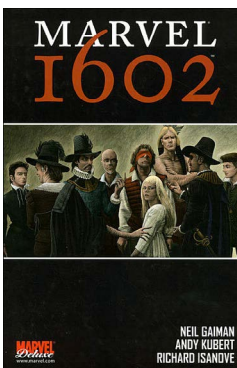
Asterios Polyp

Asterios Polyp stands out from other graphic novels because of its unique illustrations. Writer David Mazzucchelli created a story that directed to older readers looking for a serious plot.



Fables

Fables is an amazingly inventive comic, mixing real life, fantasy and fairy-tales. Bill Willingham, the writer, has received 14 Eisner awards, the equivalent of the Oscar awards, for this ongoing series.



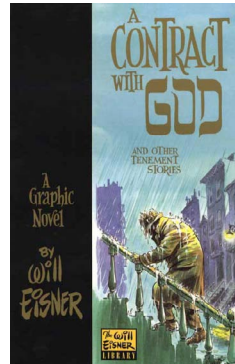
Marvel 1602

1602 is another great graphic novel by Neil Gaiman. He suggests alternate beginnings for several Marvel superheroes. Set in 15th century England and North America, it explains historical events through the actions of superheroes.



Morning Glories

This unique comic by Nick Spencer, has a sinister plot that gets better and better as the story progresses. For those who like dark stories, Morning Glories is the perfect pick.



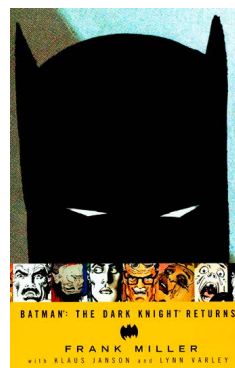
A Contract with God, and Other Tenement Stories

A Contract with God by Will Eisner was one of the first serious graphic novels ever written. This collection of short stories revolves around the sad lives of several apartment-dwellers struggling with various problems.



Watchmen

This graphic novel is set in an alternate universe, where earth is on the brink of an apocalypse. The quality of this comic by Alan Moore has led it to be one of the most influential graphic novels of all time.



Batman: The Dark Knight Returns

Batman is already a classic character in the comic book world, but this single one comic comes out on top. Frank Miller recreated an older and tormented Batman struggling to save Gotham city, overrun by all of his usual enemies.

H O R O S C O P E S



Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

This month, you will find yourself busy with research and different types of investigations. Also, you will find yourself very involved and occupied by special subjects or projects - this is a great time to engross yourself in learning and creating new things.



Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)

The focus for this month seems to be close and personal relationships. You might find yourself in a conflict with your loved ones this month. There is a chance that you will be torn between your responsibilities and your social life so choose wisely. Good news will reveal itself to you near the end of the month.



Gemini (May 21 – June 22)

Work will be the main focus this month. There may be a shift of responsibility in your home which may interrupt your career responsibilities. Take pride in your work this month, as it is your main focus.



Cancer (June 21 – July 22)

You'll find yourself feeling very charming, creative and playful this month. Still, there will be times when you will feel weighed down by learning, projects, errands, etc. Make sure to stay focused and finish these as there will be time to indulge in your hobbies and interests. Physical activity and health routines seem favorable this month.



Leo (July 23 – Aug 22)

Family matters and building a strong foundation will be the focus of this month. It may seem that you're not very productive this month, but the things that you accomplish will be very helpful in the later months. Through your work you may find yourself meeting someone new.



Virgo (Aug 23 – Sept 22)

A busy month that involves many appointments and errand running awaits you. This will be a very good period for you. You will find yourself to be quite charming, strong and confident. Be persuasive, you will be surprised how effective it may be.



Libra (Sept 23 – Oct 22)

Organize your personal finance and keep track as there may be the possibility of overspending this month. It may be a difficult time in your job this month, but remember to keep a cool head when necessary. At the end of this month, it will be an excellent time for learning and communicating.



Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)

This month means confidence and initiative from you. Instead of following the herd, you will be leaving it instead. Settle down, as you can accomplish much this month if you take the time to sort out your thoughts.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)

Career, personal finance and family matters prevail. You may find yourself making some sacrifices and rethinking in your plans. Now is the time to gather your resources for the later weeks to come. You'll find yourself very busy near the end of this month. Take the lead and keep your best interest at heart.



Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)

This month is all about: "expansion, confidence, and hopefulness". You'll find yourself feeling confident about your future. The solutions for your confusing matters will start to unveil.



Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 18)

All the pressure and over-activity that was in your life will start to slowly disappear. Though the responsibility will increase this month, you will start to have a better control of them. Your friends and group activities will become important near the end of the month.



Pisces (Feb 19 – March 20)

There will be a strong desire for a change of pace, making you feel very adventurous this month. Partnerships this month will be rocky and you may find yourself in many conflicts due to this. Find common ground and renew the element of friendship to resolve these problems. You may find yourself in many misunderstandings, but near the end of this month you will find great results in work, money and career.

CLUB FEATURE

Queer-Straight Alliance

Clarice Scop

QUEER-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE PRESIDENT

The Van Tech Queer-Straight Alliance is a club devoted to having fun while working to eliminate homophobia and transphobia in our community. But what does that mean?

Raising awareness among students about issues surrounding the LGBTQ community is necessary for many reasons. Although many people may not realize it, homophobia exists quite prominently in many forms: through “jokes” that are meant to be harmless, through casual slurs, and through all forms of bullying. Just as prominent, if not more, is transphobia, which is prejudice and discrimination against those who are trans* and transgender. These are the kinds of issues that, as a QSA, we hope to put a stop to. Our mission is to ensure a safe space within our club, and to create a diverse school environment where everyone feels safe being open and expressing their identity.

A typical meeting of the Queer-Straight Alliance finds diverse group of students grades 8-12 gathered in room #412 on Tuesdays at lunchtime. We begin by giving everyone a chance to share how they're doing, and then we will usually start a discussion revolving around a theme. Our topics may range from gay marriage, to gender, to sexuality and gender binaries, to LGBTQ awareness. Often we will host debates, open discussions or arguments, and will always give everyone a chance to speak. The most important thing about the QSA is that everyone should feel welcome to express their opinion in a safe and respectful manner. We welcome all students and all voices: queer, straight, of any or no gender, loud, quiet, tall, or short. As long as you come with an open mind and willingness to learn, you are welcome.

Part of what we also aim to do as a club is to promote spirit or awareness days throughout the year. Past examples have included the Day of Silence and Pink Shirt Day. With November fast approaching, we are preparing for Wednesday, November 20th, the Transgender Day of Remembrance. This is a day that we honour those who have lost their lives or have not been able to stand up for themselves due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice. It is important to honour these people, acknowledge these tragedies, and raise awareness about an issue that many people are completely unaware of. If you would like to know how you can show your support on the Transgender Day of Remembrance, listen to the announcements for more information.



One last thing: you may read this and think, “That sounds like a lot of serious, hard work.” Don't let that fool you! Despite the sometimes serious topics, we do have a ton of fun, and we try to make our meetings as enjoyable as possible. We play games, tell stories, and do awesome team bonding activities to make it that much more fun.

If you are interested in joining the QSA, we meet every Tuesday at lunch in room #412. For more information on the Transgender Day of Remembrance, you can visit: <http://www.transgenderdor.org/>. Also, check out the Van Tech Queer-Straight Alliance facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/vantechqsa>.

Hope to see you at our next meeting!

STUDENT VIEW

Try, try , try again?

Stephanie Lim

THE TALISMAN

Post secondary education used to be a rare choice. Instead, most students preferred to go straight into the work force. But today, the pressure is on to make it into the best schools, with the most scholarships, lavished in awards and with your head held high filled with ambition, poise and a sense of driven direction. This is an impossible reality, because perfection is simply unattainable.

However, this is a very hard concept for many students to grasp. This is what is expected of us, therefore, if there is a will, there should be a way. Lies. There is nothing more misleading than this impression, because the matter remains that, sometimes, it just does not matter how hard you try, or how much you work. There are endless amounts of justifiable sayings that fill the teachings of any knowledgeable adult to any student: “you reap what you sow”, “hard work will always pay off” and “in the end, it’ll all be okay, if it’s not okay, then it’s not the end”. As much as these sayings are optimistic in the fullest and enough to get you through a tough day, they won’t always prove true to the core. Although these are valuable lessons to live by 99% of the time, there will always be that last, elusive percent. That 1% is the most infuriating experience in the course of high school.

There is nothing more heartbreaking, gut-wrenching, disappointing and confusing than putting your blood, sweat and tears into something, only to have it result in absolutely nothing. This leads you to an existential crisis where you wonder where fairness belongs in this world, how this could happen and you begin to question and doubt yourself in every degree. When you expect life to give you lemons, and instead end up with massive amounts of bitter grapefruits that you just can’t deal with. So what do you do? You watch your hours of time and effort, slowly dribble its way down the drain, unredeemable and leaving nothing to prove it ever existed. Behold the lesson of, when you try your best but don’t succeed. The hardest lesson to learn.

Sometimes, your best just isn’t enough. You give your everything and give 110%, but end up with nothing more than failure. Though hard work is thought to win over talent, often the opposite is true. You may say never to compare yourself, but this is a reality that one must face sooner or later. The real world forces you to compare yourself, and prove you alone are supreme. Harsh and callous you may think, but true nonetheless. Then how do we face this insurmountable challenge? Well, we look it in the face, and just keep trying. What else can you do? If your best isn’t enough today, hopefully one day it will be.

If you keep working, trying and refusing the notion of giving up, passion will always beat talent, because talent may give you skill, but only you can give yourself will. So the next time you try your best and don’t succeed, save a couple gallons of tears, a couple cuts in your heart and mend the shards broken into your ego. You might not get your million dollar scholarship, entrance into your dream school or know exactly where you want to be in life, in fact, you might think you spend more time on the ground than on your feet, but that’s alright. Fight back at that failure until you get what you deserve, because life never promised to be fair, but it did promise to give you a chance to keep trying for that justice.

IMPORTANT

- MAKE DARK MARKS
- ERASE COMPLETELY TO CHANGE
- EXAMPLE: A B C D E

TO USE SUBJECTIVE SCORE FEATURE:

- Mark total possible subjective points
- Only one mark per line on key
- 163 points maximum

EXAMPLE OF STUDENT SCORE:

1	A	2	B	3	C	4	D	5	E
6	A	7	B	8	C	9	D	10	E
11	A	12	B	13	C	14	D	15	E
16	A	17	B	18	C	19	D	20	E
21	A	22	B	23	C	24	D	25	E
26	A	27	B	28	C	29	D	30	E
31	A	32	B	33	C	34	D	35	E
36	A	37	B	38	C	39	D	40	E
41	A	42	B	43	C	44	D	45	E
46	A	47	B	48	C	49	D	50	E
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66	A	67	B	68	C	69	D	70	E
71	A	72	B	73	C	74	D	75	E
76	A	77	B	78	C	79	D	80	E
81	A	82	B	83	C	84	D	85	E
86	A	87	B	88	C	89	D	90	E
91	A	92	B	93	C	94	D	95	E
96	A	97	B	98	C	99	D	100	E

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FEED THIS DIRECTION

We Day 2013

Carmen Song

NOT THE TALISMAN?

Vancouver's fifth-annual We Day gathered 20,000 pumped-up youth, educators and supporters to Rogers Arena on October 18th to celebrate and inspire positive changes created by young people. We Day is an event like no other. Tickets are not sold, but rather earned through actions that are changing the world no matter the size. The performance and speaker lineup ranged from Martin Luther King III and Kofi Annan to Avril Lavigne and Down with Webster. The energy and passion of the audience could be felt the moment one steps into the arena.

Eighteen years ago, at the young age of 12, Craig and Marc Kielburger started Free the Children to release children overseas from exploitation and poverty. Today, they inspire 2.3 million youth worldwide to make a difference. So far, Free the Children has built 650+ schools in developing communities providing 55,000 children with education each day. Canadian youth will help build another 200 schools this year alone. Since 2008, We Day has helped raise \$37 million for 1,000 local and global causes and 4 million pounds of food for local food banks. This year, Free the Children is focused on education, and We Day was in full swing to celebrate that.

Here are some inspiring words from We Day speakers:

“

“We no longer fight our fights with our fists, we fight our fights with education.” - National Chief Shawn A-in-chut Atleo

“

“Young people have to remember that the world is going to be yours... You don't have to be old to lead. You don't have to be old to take initiative.” -Kofi Annan

“

“You are poised to change the world. The time is now. It's your call.” - Martin Luther King III



TECHNOLOGY

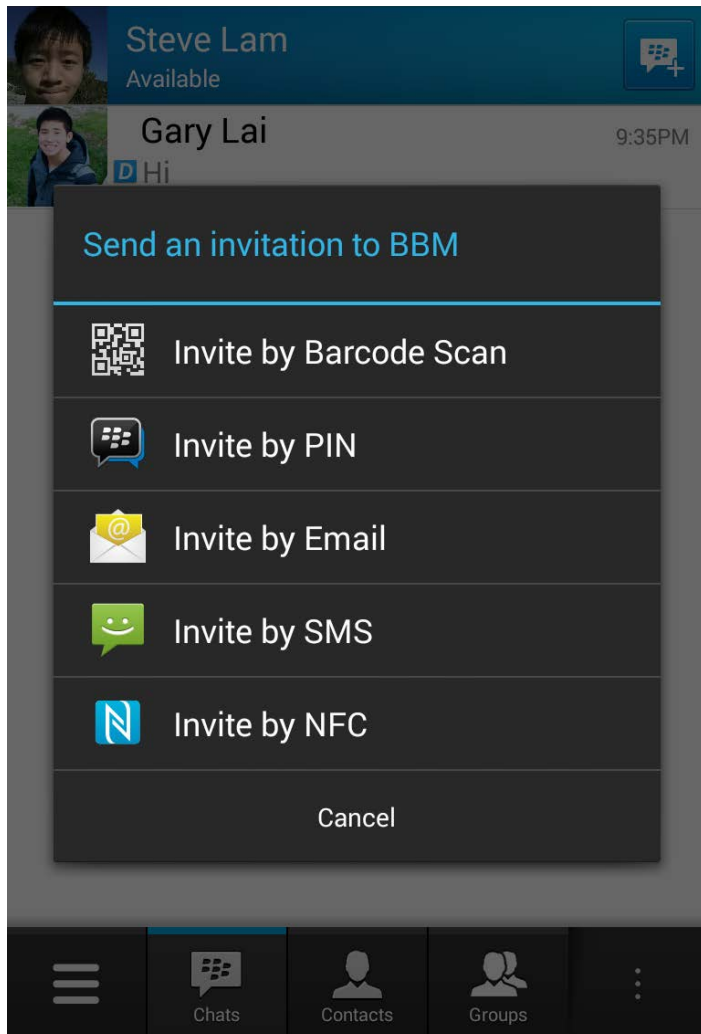
BBM visits new grounds

Steve Lam

THE TALISMAN

Almost a month ago, BlackBerry released its BBM messaging app to Android and iOS users. Since then, BlackBerry announced that in just a week, they received 20 million new BBM users, which brought the total of active BBM users to about 80 million. Those are some big numbers, and the BBM launch was an undisputed success - a success that BlackBerry needed.

But what do those numbers really mean? Are they just a flash in the pan? Ultimately, the true value of instant messaging apps like BBM, Kik and WhatsApp is the ability to quickly connect and have meaningful interactions with the important people in your life. In order for this to work, the important people in your life need to download - and actually use - the same messaging apps as you.



That's BBM's major challenge: Moving users from other instant messaging apps and then motivating them to convince their messaging contacts not only to switch to BBM but to continue using it as well. The way to do that is by offering unique and valuable features that other messaging apps don't have.

Unfortunately, it's difficult to come up with compelling features that are unique to BBM, which is the main reason why I'm not yet sold on cross platform BBM.

BBM for BlackBerry does offer a unique 'Channels' feature, as well as BBM Voice and BBM Video, which let you make free phone and video calls using the app. But these features have not yet debuted on the cross platform version. So these are not advantages for BBM - not yet, at least.

Another thing that might steer some people away is the design of the apps. BlackBerry made both the iOS and Android apps look more like ports than native apps. It doesn't have Apple's sleekness for iOS nor does it have the Google's simplicity for Android.

BlackBerry has always prided itself on security, there's no doubt about that, and BBM is no different. BlackBerry is trying to set BBM apart from other messaging apps by stressing its security and privacy advantages.

That's a clear advantage on the popular WhatsApp instant messaging app. WhatsApp has garnered attention in recent days for privacy issues. It requests access to your device contacts, which could put sensitive information at risk. But the access also enables features related to those contacts, such as the ability to quickly determine who uses WhatsApp and then add them to that app's contacts.

BBM doesn't require access to your contacts, but you also cannot quickly see and add people who are also using BBM. If you care about privacy, BBM has the advantage, but if you care about convenience, the advantage goes to WhatsApp.