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Carolyn Kaster / AP

In 1985, Neil Postman observed an America imprisoned by its own need for amusement. He was, it turns out, extremely prescient.

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A botanical explorer collects seeds from plants threatened by mechanized agribusiness.



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In a short film, a husband ends up in a legal battle over his wife's final wishes to be buried in the front yard.



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Hundreds of asylum seekers have illegally crossed the border into Emerson, Manitoba, dividing the small town.

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Bria Webb / Reuters

**People Are Calling in to a New 'Criminal Alien' Hotline With Reports of Extraterrestrials**

On Wednesday, the administration launched a new office to "assist victims of crimes committed by criminal aliens." Some rang in with reports of UFOs.

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Multiple government websites have retracted posts that were effectively advertising the president's property in Palm Beach.

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Kim Jong Un's nuclear and missile programs represent one of the most dangerous challenges since the end of the Cold War. But there are opportunities to stop it.

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The president has softened some of his tough talk toward China and Mexico, transferring it to Canada and disputes over softwood lumber and dairy products.

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Tell us your birthday, and we'll show you how the world has changed since you were born.

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For centuries, artificial protective coatings have preserved and protected foods—and made them look more appealing. An [Object Lesson](#).

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**The (Sometimes Unintentional) Subtext of Digital Conversations**

Different people have different ideas about what it means to sign an email "XOXO," what you should use Facebook for, and how long you can wait before texting back.

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Chelsea Beck

Cases of brain-infecting amoebae underscore the importance of purifying water before you pour it into your sinuses.

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How Much Coffee Is Actually Safe to Drink? A New Review

Thomas Schaller / Getty

The most comprehensive review of evidence on health consequences of caffeine use has just been published.

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Cassini Goes Where No Spacecraft Has Gone Before

NASA / JPL-Caltech

For the probe, it's one dive down between Saturn and its rings, 21 more to go before the end of its mission.

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Hippos Can't Swim—So How Do They Move Through Water?

David W Cerny / Reuters

The semiaquatic mammal leverages its own buoyancy and bone density to charge through the water.

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Christophe Simon / AFP / Getty

CULTURE

David Bowie's 1987 Slump Held Its Own Weird Magic

Frederic Meylan / Getty

His much-maligned album *Never Let Me Down*, and the dazzling Glass Spider Tour it spawned, was the work of a veteran artist in the throes of metamorphosis.

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The Bizarre Spectacle of *Casting JonBenét*

Netflix

Netflix's new documentary takes a look at the infamous 1996 murder case through the eyes of actors trying to audition for a fictional film about it.

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When a College Degree Isn't Enough

Glenn Gauthier / South Seattle College

Small-bite credentials are being used as supplements.

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Where Are all the Preschoolers?

Peter Nicholls / Reuters

Communities may have the funding to expand services, but they don't have the data needed to target the right children.

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“The grandiose promise of trade is that it binds countries together, breeding peace and cooperation.”

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U.S.

United's \$10,000 Pledge to Bumped Passengers

Kamil Krzaczynski / Reuters

The airline issued a series of policy changes after a passenger was dragged off a flight.

YASMEEN SERHAN APR 27, 2017

Arkansas Carries Out First Back-to-Back Executions Since 2000

Arkansas Department of Corrections / Reuters

The state administered lethal injections to Jack Jones Jr. and Marcel Williams, both of whom were convicted of murders two decades ago.

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Q of the Week: How Would You Assess Trump's First 100 Days?

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First Black Woman to Serve on NY High Court Found Dead

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Three Dead in Apparent Murder-Suicide at San Bernardino County Elementary School

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# Oregon's Invisible Beauty

**A stunning time-lapse captures the landscape under infrared light.**

**NADINE  
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The former president explains what it's like to be both a person and a symbol.

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# What's Going in Macedonia?

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Ognen Teofilovski / Reuters

# Question Your Answers

Since 1857, *The Atlantic* has been challenging established answers with tough questions. Here, Michael K. Williams wrestles with one of his own: Is he being typecast?

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