



# The Sequitur



WESTDALE SECONDARY SCHOOL

MARCH 2017

## World Fair: A taste of Westdale’s diversity

Reviewing the grand finale of Westdale Secondary’s Diversity Week

By: Daniel Lane

Hi, Westdale! I’m really hoping that you got the opportunity to make your way down to the World Fair that happened in the middle gym at lunch this past Friday, for Diversity Week. I am so glad that I got the chance to go, and would have loved to have had a table all of my own to represent... um... quarter Scottish, quarter Irish, quarter Italian, eighth Russian, eighth Ukrainian? My head is spinning just thinking about what I could have thrown together for that: “Hi, would you like to try some haggis, mashed together with gagoots and stuffed into pedaheh which I threw into a pot of borscht mixed with Irish stew?” Yikes! Anyway, the event completely surpassed all of my expectations and I would like to share my experience with you...

As I jumped down the stairs to the middle gym, the swell of a soulful jive filled my ears and I could hardly wait to get a glimpse through the door. The moment I stepped foot through the threshold and into the room, it was almost as if I’d fallen into a beautiful new world. A wave of dancing scents began to serenade my nose buds with an international ballad of traditional culture. I was pleased to see the variety of nations that were represented. . .

(World Fair is continued on page 4)



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... an open letter to Professor Jordan Peterson about his stance on gendered pronouns (page 11)...

*All that has been asked of you and the rest of our society is to make an effort to embrace people for who they really are, and not how they were labelled when they were born. . .*



... the return of the MEME PAGE (page 16)...

AND SO MUCH MORE!



## OUR TEAM

### In this issue:

**Editor-in-chief:** Morghen Jael

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## WE NEED. . .

# The Sequitur

- Journalists
- Reporters
- Authors
- Fan-fic Writers
- Poets
- Photographers
- Artists
- Amateur cooks
- Travellers
- Readers, music-lovers, TV show addicts. . .
- Outside-the-box thinkers
- YOU!



### GET IN TOUCH!

Visit Ms. B in room 209 for information, or email us at [thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com](mailto:thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com)

We meet occasionally in room 209, and snacks sometimes make a surprise appearance! Come check us out!

Be part of Westdale's hottest student-run publication! We always welcome new contributors!

**UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS:** Stay tuned in the coming weeks and months for fundraisers and events run by The Sequitur! This month, we're holding a pie-in-the-face event to raise money to print The Sequitur in colour! Get involved!





## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Happy spring, Warriors! That's right, it's finally here . . . or so says my calendar. I may just have to accept it as an "alternative fact" though, since my weather app is definitely telling me otherwise. We live in a world full of alternative facts now, it seems, and I am not even surprised anymore. As American journalist Bret Stephens said, "Outrage will fall victim to its own ubiquity."

When spring really does appear, as definitively as did the failure of Trump's healthcare plan, I want to enjoy it. I plan to go on a real, honest-to-goodness picnic at Bayfront, to watch people fly kites and throw Frisbees. Maybe I'll fly a kite or throw a Frisbee myself. I'm also excited about the prospect of finally wearing shorts to school again - there's nothing like the feeling of scratchy school chairs on your sweaty thighs during math class. I'm looking forward to running outside without having to leap over snowbanks like an awkward deer. I'm looking forward to counting down the days until final exams, and then until . . . freedom! But let's not get ahead of ourselves. There are still 3 months to go. *I'm counting already anyway.*

March is one of the most underrated months of the year, in my opinion. Why? It may be unassuming, hiding behind a slushy grey figurative snowbank, but it has a valuable asset: March Break. Although I didn't travel anywhere this year, I had a break that was fun and relaxing; and by that point in the semester, I desperately needed that.

But perhaps even better than March Break – and even better than the drinking excuse that is St. Patrick's Day – was this month's Diversity Week at Westdale Secondary School. I hope everyone got the chance to participate in some of the fantastic student-organized events and activities, since they were *so* much fun. A school-wide scavenger hunt, a World Map recognizing the broad ethnic history of Westdale Students, guest speakers and workshops, and a celebratory World Fair at the end of the week were all part of the festivities (see pages 4-6)!

Diversity week was more than just fun, though. I believe that the promotion and celebration of diversity is absolutely critical for our population's survival and well-being, particularly during the difficult political era we currently find ourselves in. The ripples from America's changing attitude are being felt all over the world, especially here in Canada; Diversity Week at Westdale was a perfect way to stand in firm defiance of this negativity, and with arms open to acceptance and inclusivity. Standing in the middle of the crowd of students attending World Fair in the middle gym at the end of the week, I could physically feel the positive energy in the room; we were openly recognizing our diversity as something that will unite us, not divide us. That's important.

Have a good start to spring, and remember: underneath, we're all just people.

*Morghen Jael*

Morghen Jael





World Fair continued from page 1:

. . . These included China, Germany, South Korea, England, India, Russia, Scotland, Poland, Syria, Japan, Uganda, Pakistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Mexico, Egypt, Bangladesh, Columbia, and a couple of faiths were present as well: Islam and Christianity. As I bought my tickets and made my way from stand to stand with camera in hand, I tried my best to get a taste of everything both literally and figuratively. It was overwhelming in the best possible way.

Whilst taking a moment to just stand and observe with curious awe, I became hypnotized by the captivating dances, both break and choreographed that were done to music that was lovely and that I wish I'd understood the words to. Next, I found myself to be a wowed onlooker to Minha Amir's talent as she decorated hands with gorgeous designs and floral patterns in henna. As I stepped away and began to push through the swarms of students in an effort to make a pit stop in every country, I could feel the unbridled pride of each representative for their culture and their eager desire to share it with me spill forth. It. Was. Beautiful.

I luckily also got to talk to several highly articulate and insightful individuals about the event and here's what they had to say:

*"It was really great, really encouraging to see Westdale [...] accepting all the different cultures from around the world. [...] A lot of people discovered new foods, new cultures, [and] traditions."* - Talar Stockton

*"I really enjoyed it!"* - Alex Tessier

*"The world fair really epitomized the idea of multiculturalism. [...] It started amazing conversations, both inside and outside of the school. A stranger I met on the bus complimented me on the henna I got and I felt so proud to explain to her that I had it because my school was open enough to give students such awesome opportunities."* – Megan Cyr

I tried so many different foods, each one standing out from the last so distinctly that I hardly noticed how sickly full I was getting... but that didn't matter. Two of my favorites were Pink Tea from Pakistan which was brewed with spices common to the region and tasted unlike any tea I'd ever tried before, and a lentil soup that I was given at the Syrian booth which was inhabited by Talar Stockton and Ms. Baboudjian for the ancestry of Talar's grandma.

Overall, the fair was an absolute blast and a uniquely eye opening experience.

It disappoints me that a world fair wasn't organized last year, and I strongly believe that from here forth it should be an annual Westdale tradition.



## A Syrian Refugee Story

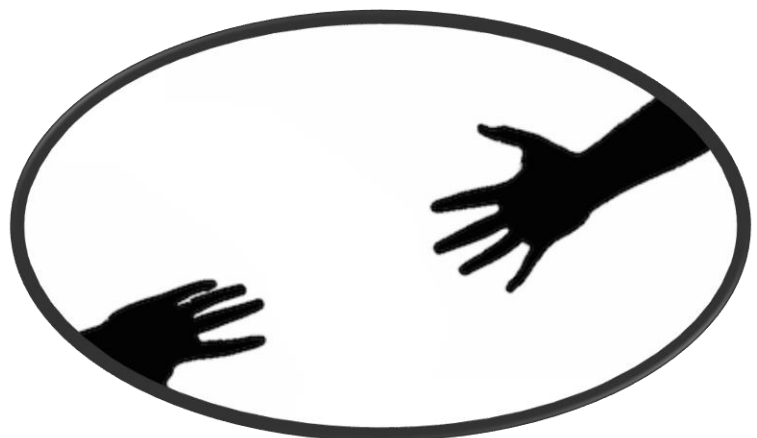
### A Diversity Week guest speaker supports a refugee family – Ramona Ribaud-Begin

What is it like to bring people over from a war-torn country, people you don't know at all, and support them for a year? You almost couldn't tell how much of a struggle it was for Miranda Hill and her family to get to this point by looking at how happy they were with their Syrian friends. The story Miranda told in the library seminar room on Wednesday, however, showed another side to the story, all the months of work that went into one plane ride for 7 strangers.

The story for Miranda began when she was a child, watching people in her community sponsor refugees from Vietnam: "I remember being a little girl, and reading stories about these people and these church communities that sponsored people from Vietnam to Canada. I was really struck by that. My parents weren't joiners. And I asked them, "Why can't we do that?" They said it was too expensive, too hard, too much work- all real reasons. But I would still sit at the dining room table looking at the newspaper, looking at these stories. If it had been up to me, I would have done this a long time ago." When people from Canada started bringing refugees over from Syria, it was like a second chance. The obstacles had just begun for Miranda, however.

"I didn't have a community to help me. I wasn't a part of any church. So I said to myself, 'I guess I can't do this.' I kept coming back to that. But then, people started coming out of nowhere. People I barely knew, but had heard about this idea I had. They were all willing to put in all this effort and time and money, and it all just came together. I barely knew these people, and now they're some of my closest companions." But even with a team sharing the work, Miranda and her friends still had a long way to go. The first step was to decide how many people they were going to sponsor. Miranda reasoned, "At first we thought about only what we thought we could afford. The best advice we got was when we were asked who had the biggest car. One of us had a van that seated 8 people. They told us, then subtract one seat for the driver. Most people only sponsor 4. We sponsored 7."

Canada is the only country that allows private citizens to sponsor refugees. The specific program that Miranda and her team worked with is called the Blended Visa program. The way it works is that the group sponsoring the refugees pays for half of a set fee to support a certain number of refugees for a year in Canada, and the Canadian government pays for the other half. Seven people is obviously more expensive than the usual 4 people, and without the government's help the team members would have had to raise \$64 000 on their own. With that support, that number changed to \$32 000- still not an easy task. Through all this fundraising, they still didn't know who exactly this money was for. "\$32 000, and the government covered the rest," Hill said. "Not just that though. We had to find transportation, and places to live and work. We had to prepare all that. Not knowing who was coming, not knowing the people we had to support for at least a year at all." For a while it was fundraising, fundraising, fundraising, including a Westdale Trivia night that drew over 300 people. Miranda and the team got just the most basic details of the family: a father, a mother, 3 children (all under 5), and two grandparents. And then, on June 14<sup>th</sup>, the day finally came to meet them. . . (**Refugee Sponsor** continues on page 6)



Refugee Sponsor continued from page 5:

... "I was very, very excited. I was very, very scared," Hill said. "When they came through the door, and we met them for the first time... it was like they were family. The kids ran up to me, and started saying, 'Miranda! Teach me how to ride a bike!' They were so comfortable already. Right away, I knew we had done the right thing." After wiping her eyes, she let Mohammed, the father of the refugee family, and his translator explain the story from his side.

"We were poor, but happy. Then the war started. At first, we thought it would pass. It started escalating. We moved to another city where we thought we would be safe. We weren't. I was jailed for 6 days. I saw the most horrible things imaginable in that jail. As soon as I was released, we moved again to a city named Jordan. We were safe there, but we weren't allowed to work, or do anything. I was desperate. Then, the embassy approached us. They put us on a waiting list to Canada. We were on there for 5 months. I am very, very thankful. I feel very welcome here. I thank the Canadian government. I thank Allah. I've seen a welcome here I've never seen before. This is the land of opportunity."

Three adorable children and both grandparents watched everything from the side. Mohammed's wife was absent, for a reason that was revealed towards the end of the presentation - she's pregnant. Mohammed also announced that he intends to repay this kindness by sponsoring another family to Canada, and is already offering support to other new immigrants to Canada.

The Canadian government brought in 25,000 Syrian refugees between November 4, 2015 and February 29, 2016, a number that they have promised to grow in 2017.



Miranda Hill beginning her presentation in the library seminar room on Wednesday.

## WELLBEING – TIPS FROM TEDDY

6

### Tips from TEDDIES

With special guest Theo Korstanje - *Theodor Aoki*

*Theo*: Theo, who would win in a fight: Theo or Theo?

*Theo*: I love to post.

*Theo*: Yeah.

*Theo*: YAH YAH!

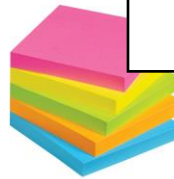
(Laughs)

*Theo*: That's it; that's your interview.



## DEAR A . . .

Advice from the best



Dear A,

Why are there so many feminists at Westdale?

Sincerely,  
Clueless

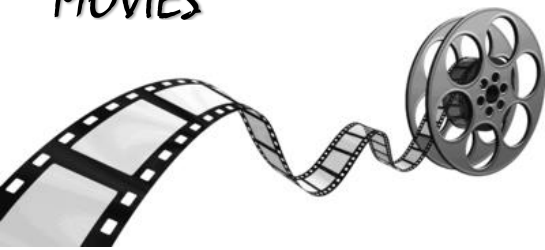
Dear Clueless,

oh dear  
\*knuckle cracks\*



BECAUSE IN CANADA, DESPITE THE OPINIONS OF CERTAIN PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY OF FREE SPEECH, MULTIPLE STUDIES AND COLD HARD DATA HAVE SHOWN THAT WOMEN EQUAL MEN IN SKILLS. BUT WOMEN ARE STILL PAID LESS. WOMEN EARN AN AVERAGE OF 66.7 CENTS FOR EVERY DOLLAR EARNED BY MEN. THIS IS 2017. WYD CANADA.

-A



## The 2017 Academy Awards: A Recap

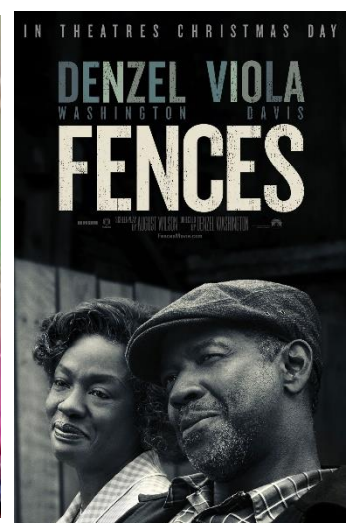
Big wins and big mix-ups – Hunter Brown

There was plenty of fun to have been had watching last month's Academy Awards ceremony, from shocking Award wins, to one of the biggest Oscar mistakes in history. However, if you're one of the people who missed the ceremony for whatever reason, or maybe you did get to watch it but just want to hear a summary of what happened on the last Sunday night of February, rest assured, this article is for you.

I'm not going to go through each and every one of the golden statues handed out this year because, let's be honest, that would take way too long. For the most part, this article is going to go through the larger awards such as Best Actors/Actresses and other categories like that, but there are a few smaller awards that I'm going to go through as well. For example, Disney took home yet another Best Animated Feature award with their hit children's film *Zootopia*, and the Best Visual Effects award with their other charming animal movie, *The Jungle Book*.

On the script writing side of things, director Kenneth Lonergan's *Manchester By The Sea* won Best Original Screenplay, while Best Adapted Screenplay went to *Moonlight*. Fans of the new Harry Potter spinoff, *Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them*, should be celebrating as the film received the Oscar for Best Costume Design, while DC's newest superhero film, *Suicide Squad*, took home Best Makeup and Hairstyling.

There were no huge surprises when it came to the Best Supporting Actor/Actresses categories. As many had expected, Mahershala Ali received the Best Supporting Actor for his role in *Moonlight*. His performance was a highlight of the movie for most filmgoers, even though he only appeared for a small portion of the film. This was not only Mahershala Ali's first Oscar win, but his first nomination as well. It's hard to describe Ali's role in *Moonlight* without giving too much away, so I'll simply tell you to watch the film. It's fantastic. The Best Supporting Actress award went to Viola Davis, for her first ever win and third nomination. It was Viola's role in *Fences* that gained her the award, where she plays the poor emotional wife of actor Denzel Washington. The performances in *Fences*, especially Viola Davis's, are certainly worth the watch on their own. . . (Oscars continue on page 8)





(Oscars continues from page 7):

The Best Actor and Actress in a Leading Role were a little less clear before the awards show. Most suspected correctly, though, that Emma Stone would take home the award for her role in the musical *La La Land*, where she plays a struggling actress trying to succeed at her career in Los Angeles, until she meets Ryan Gosling's character, and they fall in love. It sure does sound like a stereotypical, cheesy musical, but Emma Stone and the rest of the cast elevate it totally beyond that. Best Leading Actor, however, was a little less clear. Andrew Garfield, Denzel Washington, Viggo Mortensen, Ryan Gosling, and Casey Affleck were nominated, and no one knew for sure who take home the golden statue. In the end, it went to the latter, as Casey Affleck was given the Oscar for his first time, for playing the uncle of a single parented child, in the heart-wrenching film *Manchester By The Sea*.

Now it's time for what you came to read about in the first place: the screw-up that managed to make Steve Harvey's Miss Universe mistake look like nothing. Unless you've been living under a rock for the past month, you know what I'm talking about. Warren Beatty and Faye Dunaway had come out onto the stage to announce the Best Picture winner . . . but they were holding the wrong envelope. Inside was the card for the Best Actress winner, which led Faye Dunaway to call out *La La Land* as the Best Picture winner. The *La La Land* producers came up to the stage to accept the award, but, as it turned out, the producers quickly learned that the wrong card was read aloud and that the real winner was *Moonlight*. They managed to sort everything out and get the Oscars to the right people, but it still left some awkward tension in the night.

Regardless of the final results, the *La La Land* crew still took home six other awards, including Best Production Design, Best Cinematography, Best Original Score, City Of Stars winning Best Original Song, Best Actress in a Leading Role, and Damien Chazelle received the Best Director award, now the youngest director ever to do so. The film also received eight other nominations, tying the record of most Oscar nominations ever. *Moonlight* also won three of its eight total nominations, so both films deserve recognition. Regardless of which film you think deserved the award, you should still watch both; just enjoy great cinema like this.



## “Whitewashing” in Hollywood

Investigating the inequalities within the movie industry – Tara O’Neill

Whitewashing; it’s something that I had never even heard about until recently. Just a about a week ago, I listened to a podcast by Matt Galloway about it. Apparently, superhero movies such as Dr. Strange, and Iron Fist have been causing uproar. Why? Because white actors are consistently cast in roles that could give minorities opportunities on the silver screen. So why is this still happening? And why is this a concern now when it has been happening for so many years? What does this problem say about our underlying attitudes about race? We know that movies featuring a diverse cast can sell. For example, the new Star Wars movie VII The Force Awakens had a diverse cast and brought many people to the theaters, and Moonlight was not only very popular but also won an Oscar for best film.

The first problem we encounter when a director tries to make a movie with a more diverse cast is that we are in the cinematic Golden Age... of remakes and sequels! Seriously! It seems every month they are coming out with an obscure 70’s comedy that turns into box office poison. So, what does that mean for racial diversity? Well, mixing people’s nostalgia with casting choices that may be different for the public can equal freak outs. Think about the recent GhostBusters remake; they cast women instead of the original’s men, and there was an internet temper tantrum. And this was during the US election with Trump as a contender. Didn’t people have anything else to rant about?

The truth about remakes is that most obscure 70’s comics, movies your parents liked in the 80’s, or sequels is that they feature mainly white people. And the public hates seeing their favorite movies being changed. So why don’t directors instead try making original movies that feature more diverse casts? They can still renew old tropes and plot points, but change them up with issues that people of different cultural backgrounds can relate to.

Another challenge for directors who try to diversify movies is that they can easily stereotype, misrepresent or even appropriate another culture. Take the recent Disney children’s movie Moana, based on a Hawaiian girl. People have remarked that Moana, like the previous Disney animated production Pocahontas, stereotypes and misrepresents indigenous culture. I think it’s very sad that the little representation people in minorities can get in the media is often stereotyped and sometimes downright offensive. So when I think about the new show coming out called Iron Fist, which was talked about in the podcast, I think about how hard it may be for a director to cast someone of Asian heritage without stereotyping their culture. The podcast talked about how the main character in the comic book was white, but had Asian attributes like martial arts skills. While the director could use this opportunity to make a fresh character who is of Asian descent and use his love of martial arts to highlight some of the character’s culture, the character could easily become stereotyped. We’ll see how that one turns out . . .

(**Whitewashing** is continued on page 10)



(**Whitewashing** continues from page 9):

This issue, though, is not only about movies. Every culture has preferences and norms about people, and in North American culture being white is expected and preferred. This doesn't make sense, because countries like Canada and America are full of people whose heritage is diverse. We are founded on immigrants and immigrants contribute profoundly to our society and culture. When it comes to mass production and storytelling, however, it seems that we don't want to rock to the boat. People like repetitiveness in stories; that's probably why they just recently came out with what feels like the 50 trillionth Cinderella remake, starring Lily James and a CGI cast of mice. My point is that we have been giving movie watchers a pass to just watch the same thing over and over again, but maybe it's time for Hollywood to challenge our preconceived notions about people, and more specifically, about race.

The casting choices in a movie are always the last step in setting up its production. Before that, directors, producers, and scriptwriters are chosen to write the movie. Unfortunately, the people behind the scenes are usually white, so they don't have the experience to tell a story from another culture's perspective. Minorities face setbacks at every level of the filmmaking industry, which discourages them from pursuing a career in filmmaking or acting. Just think about all the genius voices and ideas we could have had from people who were set back simply because they didn't fit into Hollywood's idea of an actor or filmmaker.

Movies are important; more specifically, storytelling is important. Never seeing yourself in one of these stories could make you feel unimportant or misrepresented, like you are not a real part of society. Movies are a cultural snapshot; they reflect our society's values and ideals. So here's the crux of the matter: why aren't people of different backgrounds, heritages, and cultures getting in the picture?



*Thoughts, anyone? If you have an opinion on this issue, or about any controversial topic the internet is yapping about these days, write about it! We'll publish your submission! Email us at [thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com](mailto:thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com)*

## Personal Pronouns and Bill C-16

### An open letter to Professor Jordan Peterson – Ben Cinq-Mars

Professor Peterson,

Recently I have come across your videos regarding your stance on gender non-binary pronouns, and I have some concerns that I would like to bring to your attention. Being a cisgender heterosexual person, I have never experienced what it feels like to have someone doubt, reject, or actively fight my existence as a person based on who I am inside. The stance you have taken regarding this matter and your online activity does just that to members of the LGBTQ+ community. I can imagine that it must be extremely difficult for non-binary people specifically to endure continual rejection and intolerance from people who hold views similar to the ones you are so vocally sharing. You said yourself that gender fluid youth would feel more “isolated” and “lonely” if their self-identification was accepted, yet denying their self-expression and telling them that they can’t be who they feel most comfortable being could not possibly make these youth feel anything but isolated. All that has been asked of you and the rest of our society is to make an effort to embrace people for who they really are, and not how they were labelled when they were born and the doctor held them up to say “it’s a girl!” or “it’s a boy!”. In my opinion, using and remembering gender-neutral pronouns is no different than using and remembering a person’s name. You might argue that one’s name is assigned to them at birth, therefore it has always been a part of their identity. However, many people prefer to be called their middle name, and I have never heard of any resistance to that. This leads to your second concern, which is Bill C-16, an attempt to prohibit discrimination based on gender identity and expression in Canada. While I understand your apprehension to the government controlling what people may or may not say, I feel that the government has presented Bill C-16 not in order to limit and control people, but for the purposes of acceptance and inclusivity for all. You see this Bill as a violation of your free speech, and I too find it unfortunate that our government needs to amend the human rights act. I find it unfortunate that people cannot see for themselves how their words and actions affect the wellbeing of others. I find it unfortunate that people seem unwilling to treat others with respect and decency unless obligated by law. I find it unfortunate that people like yourself invest so much energy into rejecting others, limiting them to one aspect of who they are, and devaluing their importance instead of using that energy to search for human connections. I hope it has occurred to you how many interesting, valuable, and unique people you will never be able to interact with and learn from because of your closed-minded views.

Sincerely,

Ben Cinq-Mars



## The Beginning

### Historical fiction: a short story about colonialism – Anonymous

“They must have been ill. Their faces were so pale,” said Father as he readied the fish for our village supper. The men had come back from a hunting trip earlier in the day and spoke of giant ships with giant sails crashing on shore with great strength. He spoke of the men on the ships, their faces and how white they were. I tried to imagine a person with white skin. It seemed as odd as someone with purple, pink, red, green, or black skin. Mother assured us that if these men existed, Banaitja would have made them kind, and just curious about finding new land.

Father, the chief of our tribe calmed the scared villagers. “We have nothing to fear! Banaitja created these men as he created all of us. We will not harm our neighbours with skin of white, but we will let them discover the land peacefully.”

I played with Adoni every day, his father was the right hand to mine. Adoni and I ran through the forest, one of us chasing the other. We always switched who was chasing and who was escaping; it was all fun to us. I chased him around a small clearing and realized that he had stopped. I looked ahead and saw a boy, about our size, wearing the oddest clothes I had ever seen. Long white covers that went from his feet to the tops of his knees, and a brown scratchy fabric that covered his waist and came up over his bum onto his back. The fabric was held up by straps that went over his shoulders and connected the material to his chest. Under this contraption of an outfit, he wore a white top, and on his head rested a brown, scrappy hat. I looked at his face for the first time and noticed he had skin as white as the top he was wearing. “Ahhhhh!” screamed Adoni and I. The boy did the same and we ran in separate directions.

We sprinted to our village’s central house where our fathers worked to solve community problems. Adoni and I began to frantically illustrate our encounter with this boy. We described his ridiculous outfit and his white skin.

In the middle of our scene, a woman started yelling. The voice got clearer and I began to hear what she was saying.

“Akama!” My father’s name. “Akama, they are here!”

Adoni and I, alongside our fathers, exited the central house to see a group of at least 20 men, all with white skin, standing at the entrance to our village. The men wheeled carts that were filled to the brim with tree trunks.

“What have you done?” demanded my father. “Those trees are sacred.”

I was terrified but my father stood confidently. The man replied in a tongue I did not understand. Father asked again but louder. From the group, the boy, the one that Adoni and I had encountered, emerged. This time the white man did not reply, but drew a blade.

Here’s the painting that inspired this short story. It’s called “The Scream,” and was created by Canadian artist Kent Monkman, who is of Cree ancestry. To see more of Kent’s work, visit <http://www.kentmonkman.com/>





## Woman's World

### Short story: a reversal of traditional gender roles – JR

The Man woke up about an hour earlier than his wife, as he needed more time to get ready. The Man had to shower; do his hair; shave; get dressed, and make breakfast for both himself and his wife. The Man put on his best suit which, in sharp contrast to the clothes worn by his wife, had no sleeves or crotch. The Man had a job interview, and he wanted to make sure he got his potential employer's attention. The Man's female interviewers loved to look at his physical features, and The Man had to play along if he wanted to be noticed.

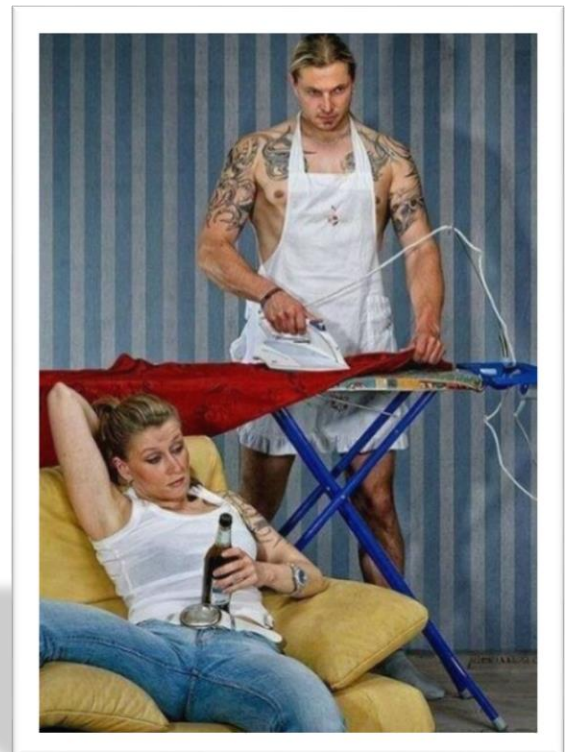
His wife is a CEO of a major firm, but The Man hadn't worked in a long time. When they had decided to have children, The Man stayed home all those years to take care of them while she seized every opportunity to advance her career. Now that their kids had grown up and moved away, The Man figured it was time to get back into the workplace, as The Man was bored of home life.

After breakfast, his wife left for work in her new sports car, while The Man was forced to take three buses and walk in between through the busy street. The women standing on the corners would holler at him, things about his body and his suit, but The Man was used to it. Most men that walked through the city went through this.

The waiting room for the interview was full of different men wearing similar things: sleeveless shirts, crotchless pants, spiked hair. The Man talked to one of the other men who revealed that he'd been applying for the same job for years, but had always lost out to women that were usually less qualified. He decided instead to leave his job and find a new one, but employers didn't want men for important jobs, instead to work as secretaries or assistants.

The Man went home after his interview, feeling uneasy about how it went. The three women interviewing him had asked him many personal questions, such as what his home life was like and whether or not he was single. He did his best to stay calm and composed, but a few men that had gone before had left looking frustrated and angry. When he finally got home in the afternoon, he had no time to rest. After all, he had to do the laundry, clean up the kitchen, and start dinner for when his wife got home.

The Man lies awake at night, while his wife sleeps soundly beside him. He thinks about how unfair it is that he is a man, and for a brief moment wishes he was a woman. But he knows that he has to keep fighting, so that one day his son won't have to.



**December Day**  
Sehely Rahman

I remember

That cold December day,  
That daring daunting day

You and I

Alone.

Standing still on soft snow.  
Shaken harsh by sharp blow.

Contact.

Hands touch and world spins.  
Red flames on our skins.

Shyness.

Eyes freeze at frosty flakes  
Down we look as our heart shakes.

Love.

Closer we get  
And here I regret—

Meeting.



**On the Light Side: Raiyan Sayeed**

**FUN & GAMES**

Motivation and Quotes

The art of living is more like wrestling than dancing.  
- **Marcus Aurelius**

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act,  
but a habit. - **Aristotle**

The brave man is he who overcomes not only his enemies but  
his pleasures. - **Democritus**

The Master Said, "I will not be troubled at people not  
knowing me; I will be troubled that I do not know people"  
- **Analects 1:16, Confucius**

I'm here so I won't get fined. - **Marshawn Lynch**

You're so stupid you threw a rock at the ground and missed.  
- **Someone's little brother**

Funny (and probably cringey) jokes:

**I went Chopin but forgot my Liszt and went Bach to my house.**

What do you call a cow with no legs? *Ground beef.*

**What's the difference between a tennis ball and the Prince of Wales?**

*One is heir to the throne and the other is thrown into the air.*

Did you hear about the Italian chef that died? *He pasta way.*

Riddles:

1. During what month do people sleep the least?
2. What stays where it is when it goes off?
3. A horse jumps over a castle and lands on a man, then the man disappears. How was this possible?

Answers: 1) February, it's the shortest month after all 2) an alarm clock 3) chess play

levels of procrastination

1. non-procrastinator
2. Sunday-night slacker
3. super slacker
4. master procrastinator





## “I guess this is growing up”

blink-182's timeless classic “Dammit” and the art of appealing to teen angst – Alex Tessier

Every time I listen to blink-182's 1997 LP *Dude Ranch* (which isn't often these days) the screeching power chords and whiny lyrics of Mark Hoppus and Tom DeLonge bring out a watery eyed kid in me, feeling like I am in over my head. The reassuring comedic antics heard in between tracks come as a sort of joyful relief; a pat on the back from a friend letting you know: “you're not in this alone”.

This is how the whole album feels to me. I have a memory of laying on my carpeted bedroom floor, amidst a variety of instruments, listening, as the album ends with a long, drawn out, feedback tone. I felt as if the band knew me, as if they knew how I felt inside; my deepest insecurities and my most ambitious dreams. This is one of the cathartic characteristics of some art, and something, in my opinion, the band mastered with *Dude Ranch* more than they had or have since with any other album.

I can rant about all the songs on the album, as they are all an absolute joy and pleasure to me, but one stands out in particular as it became and is still their greatest hit to this day, and the song they still close their shows with, despite it turning 20 years old this year! I am talking, of course, about “Dammit”, the epitome of generic, pop punk songs and possibly the defining track of the genre. In my opinion, the beauty of this album comes from its imperfection. Its ability to draw you into the minds, bedrooms, and rehearsal spaces of the band simply because it is a perfected “raw” sound; more polished than their earlier demos, EPs, and album, and yet not as commercialized and maybe even overproduced as their later work.

“Dammit” is a simple song, with a simple guitar hook, a four-chord structure that is pleasing to the ear, and deeply personal lyrics that are also relatable to most middle class teenagers who have had high school relationships. It's a breakup song, essentially. Like I mentioned earlier, the song, as well as the entire album, feels comforting, letting you know that someone has been in the same spot you have been, and they're there to console you, and help you along your adolescent journey, complete with acne, heavily posterred walls, and plenty of breakups. Blink-182 knows their audience and knew it twenty years ago. *Dude Ranch* is unambitious in a sense, but the perfect fit for its time, as well as a long lasting staple in the music collection of pop punk fans. I'd recommend the album to anyone interested in the genre as it is unapologetically angsty as much as it is comforting.

Side note: the band is just as good if not better without Tom DeLonge. That's an objective fact. Mark always had the better lyrics anyways. Please see me at my locker if you think otherwise, I always love to discuss blink.

# MEMES

*It's the return of the Meme Page! After being MIA for a few months, it has suddenly come back to life, just in time for a spring-themed edition! Happy Resurrection! Enjoy the animals.*



Dan from Florida says: "Yep, it'll be okay."



helo, I have a smol delivery for u, it is unconditional love



creamyburrito:

BABY GOLDEN RETRIEVER BEING A NOOT NOOT



♥ 16,011 likes  
doggosdoingthings U think I am froot but I am doggo



 **Cat Damon**  
@CornOnTheGoblin

me: i let my cat drink the bathtub water while i was in it  
priest: once again kind of weird but not a sin



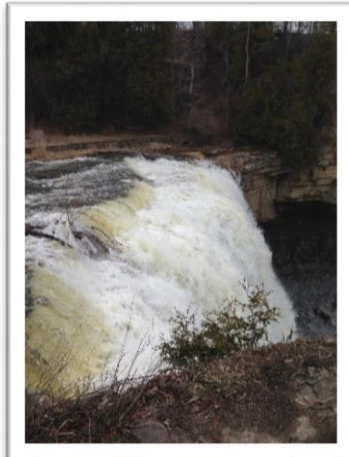
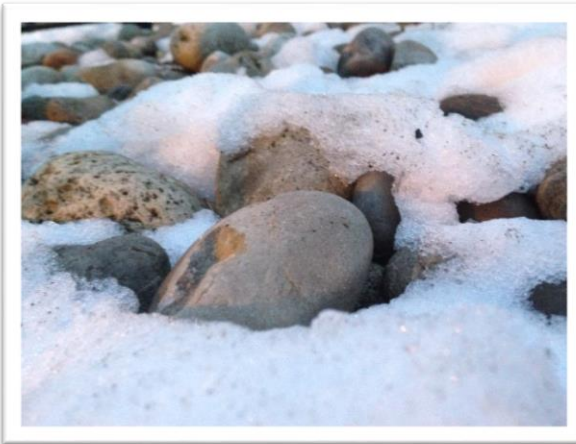




# Student Photography Gallery

Welcome to The Sequitur's gallery of student photography! Photos are IN COLOUR on a limited number of copies, for the first time! Enjoy.

Gallery 1: Sarah Sellens



Are you an aspiring photographer?  
Got some photos to share? Send them  
to [thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com](mailto:thesequitur.westdale@gmail.com)

It you aren't seeing this in colour, check out  
our ONLINE EDITION to see this  
wonderful photography in full colour! Head  
to [www.hwsdb.on.ca/westdale](http://www.hwsdb.on.ca/westdale) at find our  
heading: "Sequitur"! It's worth your time,  
trust us!

Gallery 2: Mackenna Friesen

