

2022-2023

Washington's Farewell Address: Response

1/13/2023

By: Anonymous

In 8th grade History, students wrote a letter to George Washington in response to his Farewell Address, which contained advice for future presidents. Students pointed out some advice of his that still holds up today. Below is one student's letter.

Salutations Senor Mr Washing Tons of George,

January 11,

2023

Your Farewell Address is a fantastic piece of writing that outlines your advice for future presidents of the USA in order to maintain a just union. Your text is still recited to this day. After reading your Farewell Address, I chose to write to you and recognize some of the ideas that still hold up in our modern world.

In a portion of your Farewell Address, you discussed the need for accessible education in our country. You outlined how you believed there should be education to be distributed among the people of the United States of America. This idea is in effect to this day through America's public school system. Ordinary citizens have access to education so that they can learn how to work through each day in their future.

Another point you addressed in your parting article was the need for proper government funding. You suggested that the government instate taxes in order to raise revenue. This is still a valid idea in our modern government as the people of the United States must pay different forms of taxes, like income tax and sales tax. This funds our safety mechanisms and the goings on in our government. Without this, our society would surely crumble.

The last idea I will point out was your passion to keep a balanced government. In your Farewell Address, you urged the need to maintain a balanced government with a separation of powers and with checks and balances so that one branch of government could never overtake another. In modern life, the US government is still separated into the Executive, Legislative, and

Judicial branches. They each have powers over each other so that one branch never gets too powerful. Your opinion on this front is what still holds our nation together.

Enjoy your party later! See you soon!

A churro-loving citizen

Student Artwork

12/2/2022

By: Tushar R



Disgust

11/18/2022

By: Anonymous

Disgust is sticking out her tongue,
Looks at you in surprise.
She's gagging and almost choking,
And then she rolls her eyes.

Her stomach seems to be churning,
She's getting dizzy now.
For Disgust hates what you're doing,
And leaves without a bow.

Disgust complains like a child,
She's cringed as cringe can be.
And if you come any closer,
"Just get away from me."



Book Talk

10/28/2022

By: Anonymous

“‘Gosh,’ she murmured, ‘if the Mansion caught fire, it might spread through the woods to our house and yours, mightn’t it?’” (Campbell). What would you do with one million dollars? What would you do with it if it could save your friend? What would you do... if it caught on fire? This is the exact problem our characters have in *Trixie Belden and the Secret of the Mansion*. A mystery novel written by Julie Campbell, get ready for a wild ride of a book.

Right off the bat, we meet a spunky, strong, and perseverant young girl named Trixie Belden who hates doing her chores, a normal teenager. Shortly thereafter, her ancient neighbor passes out in his driveway from pneumonia and gets hauled away in ambulances. As he’s in the hospital, Trixie can’t help but notice some odd shapes around his Mansion. Honey Wheeler, a shy girl who had just moved out to the farms, and Trixie become fast friends. Eventually, their curiosity becomes too much to bear and they set off to investigate the mansion. Through their search, they discover hidden rooms, deep secrets, a new friend in need of help, and maybe even a treasure.

I first got this book (and most of the series) at a garage sale for free, and I was very skeptical at first, but still excited, I mean, I had just gotten over twenty books for free. When I finally picked it up, I found this book phenomenal with gorgeous language. I already loved mystery stories, but the strong female characters and... deep... sibling relationships made the book interesting and increasingly relatable. There is all sorts of problem solving, teamwork, and an overarching theme of friendship. Another interesting element to this book is that it is so old, but still relatable and interesting. I love how the setting comes across with the medical progression, the horses, and the old cars and more rural language, but you still understand the characters' frustrations and can relate to some current-day practices. This book is great at showing imagery: [read the blurb on the back and page 218, paragraph 2] These passages are prime examples of how smooth and immersive this story is. It is easy to get completely lost in the novel and absorbed in the plot.

Overall, I would rate this book a 4.5/5. This book is perfect for mystery, suspense, and overall fiction lovers. First of all, the character development really helps you understand the protagonists and get invested in their lives within the pages. I really enjoyed the vocabulary used in the book, not just that it was complex, but that the dialogue explained what each word meant without disturbing the flow or plot. The description and suspense are extremely intense and captivating. It brings

thrills and keeps you enthralled in the plot. I cannot stress enough that you should check out this book. If it's not for the interesting plot and creative characters, do it for the thrill of the kidnapping.

2021-2022

The Lasar Cat's Sorrow

5/6/2022

By: Sylvia M

Chapter 1: Meeting

Boss: Don't hold back. Kill them all.

Lasar: But sir, what abou-

Boss: JUST KILL THEM.

Lasar: B-but s-

Boss: DARE YOU DISOBEY ME?!?!?

Lasar: N-no. never. I will never disobey you.

Boss: Good.

Lasar: I'm going to get a sandwich.

Boss: Hey Lasar, can you get me a coffee while you're in the kitchen?

Lasar: *sigh* Sure.

Lasar comes back to Boss's office with his sandwich and Boss's coffee.

Lasar: So how will we even carry out this mission?

Boss: You will use your laser powers. This is your first mission since we hired you. I hope you don't fail.

Lasar: Will I have assistance?

Boss: Minimal. Sans will assist.

Lasar: Good.

Boss: You're dismissed from this meeting. Now go play Kario Mart or something.

LATER:

Lasar: Yessir.

[illegible]

When the city is a wreck, Lasar breaks the hypnotism, his eyes turn back to normal.

Lasar accidentally fires a laser at a rock causing it to fall on him. Hard. Lasar is invincible. Though, this kind of a blow would kill anything that lives, invincible or not. Lasar wakes up in a strange, pitch black place.

A mysterious figure pops out of the darkness. It's a human-like figure, but with a face covered in static and many pairs of wings. Lasar draws back in fear.

Lasar: TELL ME PLEASEEEEE!!!!!!!

Lancer: No.

Lasar: PLEEEASE???

Lancer: No.

Lasar: PLEEEEEEEEEEEASE????

Lancer: No.

Lasar: PLEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEASE?????!!!!!!!???????

Lancer: Ok FINE.

Chapter 4: Room Of Doors

Lancer: Look behind you.

Lasar: But it's just darkness!

Lancer: Not anymore.

Lasar turned around, to see a doorway.

Lancer: Go through there and enter the door to the far left.

Lasar: Okay...

Lancer: Just know that when you go through the door, you may not come back. Unless you somehow die again.

Lasar starts walking, but suddenly, Lancer pushes him in. Lasar tries to yell at him for pushing him in, but Lancer has already disappeared. Lasar goes through a random door, not listening to Lancer's instructions, for Lasar cannot tell his left or right.

Chapter 5: Cyber City Alleyway

Lasar falls down a dark pit and finds himself in an alley. He recognizes it.

Lasar: Hey, this is Cyber City from Deltarune. I played that once.

???: What the heck? Who are you?

Lasar: Thinking: *Ugh, it's Berdly. I hate him.*

Berdly: W-well whoever you are, bow down to my massive IQ.

Lasar: No.

Berdly: Yes.

Lasar: No.

Berdly: Yes.

Lasar: No.

Berdly: Yes.

Lasar gets up and walks away trying to ignore the annoying nerd that is Berdly. Two figures walk around the corner. They are familiar to Lasar.

???: Kris, another enemy, should I freeze them?

Kris: ...

Berdly: Noelle? What are you talking about?

Noelle: Berdly?!?

Lasar: Thinking: *What is this? I haven't seen this dialogue in Deltarune before! Is this a different route? But Toby said there would be only one route!*

Berdly: IDK what you're doing Kris, but looks like I have to stop it!

Berdly: Whispering: *yo dude, help me out with this fight!*

Lasar: Whispering: *sorry, but i'm on noelle's side here.*

Noelle: Berdly! Run away!

Chapter 6: SnowGrave

Battle:

Kris: Hey, Stranger Person if you're on our team then defend until we have full TP, ok?

Lasar: Ok.

Lasar: *Defend*

Kris: *Defend*

Noelle: *Defend*

The TP meter goes up to 23%.

Lasar: *Defend*

Kris: *Defend*

Noelle: *Defend*

The TP meter goes up to 44%.

Lasar: *Defend*

Kris: *Defend*

Noelle: *Defend*

The TP meter goes up to 67%.

Lasar: *Defend*

Kris: *Defend*

Noelle: *Defend*

The TP meter goes up to 96%.

Lasar: *Defend*

Kris: *Defend*

Noelle: *Defend*

The TP meter goes up to 100%.

Kris: Noelle. Use SnowGrave.

Noelle: I don't know that spell.

Kris: ...Just do it.

Noelle: Kris, I'm not kidding, just stop!

Kris: C'mon.

Noelle: Fine! Just see what happens when I use a spell I don't know!

The following sequence plays out in front of Lasar's eyes:

Watch here: <https://kapwi.ng/c/Q8H4-J1UXy>

Noelle falls to the ground. There lay Berdly's corpse, frozen solid in a block of ice.

Noelle: W-what happened...? There was so much snow... I could barely see anything.

Noelle is horrified at what she has done. She killed Berdly.

Noelle: I don't feel so good. I think I'm gonna go home.

And Noelle walks off.

Chapter 7: Back to The Doors

Lasar: Thinking: *What just happened?*

Lasar: Kris! Did you cause this? Was all this genocide all because of you? This is horrifying! Why would you do this?!?

Kris: To get stronger.

Lasar: Stronger? YOU THINK YOU'RE MAKING NOELLE STRONGER?!? BY LITERALLY HAVING HER MURDER EVERYONE IN THE CITY? YOU THINK THAT MAKES SOMEONE STRONGER? NO IT DOESN'T!

Kris: If you think it's messed up then fight me.

Battle:

Kris: *Fight*

Lasar: *Dies*

Lasar is back in the pitch black room.

Lancer: I see you're back again. Such an unfortunate death, but a noble one indeed. Died in a battle, trying so hard so hard to save Noelle's morality. What Kris did was immoral, so when they die, they go to hell. Anyway, you have 7 lives left.

Lasar: Wait, we're doing a lives system?

Lancer: Don't you cats have 9 lives?

Lasar: that's no technically tru-

Lancer: Shut. I don't need your technicality. Go ahead, pick a door, my spaghetti is ready.

Lasar goes into the room of doors he was in before. He climbs a ladder to a higher door. He was never meant to do that, but alas, Lancer never told him that.

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Boss: Good.

Lasar: I'm going to get a sandwich.

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Lasar: *sigh* Sure.

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Lasar: Will I have assistance?

Boss: Minimal. Sans will assist.

Lasar: Good.

Boss: You're dismissed from this meeting. Now go play Kario Mart or something.

Chapter 2: Down Goes NYC

LATER:

Walkie Talkie: Boss: Lasar are you at your assigned location? Sans, You too?

Lasar: Yessir.

Walkie Talkie: Sans: Aye Aye, Cap'n.

Walkie Talkie: Boss: Okay. Start the armageddon. *plays loud high pitched hypnotic sound*

Walkie Talkie: SCREE

Lasar's eye's turn red, as he's under the effect of the sound.

Lasar fires lasers out of his eyes, destroying New York City.

When the city is a wreck, Lasar breaks the hypnotism, his eyes turn back to normal.

Lasar: Oh no. What have I done? I've wrecked New York.

Lasar accidentally fires a laser at a rock causing it to fall on him. Hard. Lasar is invincible. Though, this kind of a blow would kill anything that lives, invincible or not. Lasar wakes up in a strange, pitch black place.

Chapter 3: Lancer

A mysterious figure pops out of the darkness. It's a human-like figure, but with a face covered in static and many pairs of wings. Lasar draws back in fear.

Lasar: Wh-what kind of monster are you?!?

??????: I'm ☺ ☆ ✱ ✱ ♀ % ☺, but you can just call me any human name that you'd like.

Lasar: How about Lancer. But why am I here? Can I go back to Earth? Is this a dream? Am-

Lancer: Enough questions. You are dead. You cannot go back. You come here to become a ghost.

Lasar: WHAT?!?! I'M DEAD?!?!?

Lancer: Yep. Apparently you had laser eye powers, and accidentally zapped a cliff causing a landslide to hit you. And you destroyed New York City.

Lasar: Is there any way I can go back?

Lancer: Well I suppose there is, but I'm not going to tell you.

Lasar: TELL ME PLEASEEEEE!!!!!!!!

Lancer: No.

Lasar: PLEEEASE???

Lancer: No.

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Lancer: Ok FINE.

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BOOK 2 COMING SOON!

Student Book Review!

4/22/2022

By: Riya Gupta

I recently read a book recommended by our extraordinary librarian- Mrs. Marx. Counting by 7s is an engrossing and life-changing book about learning to cope with your grief and finding something more beautiful out of it.

Most of the book is written from the perspective of an adopted girl- Willow Chance. Willow is a seventh-grade genius (well, she did ace the three-hour medical school test and twelve SATs) who loves to plant and has a bizarre passion for medical conditions.

Willow has always led an average life until a tragedy occurs, and she loses her parents in a car accident. Through the pages of this book, Willow learns that sometimes, friends are your only family and the friendships you create are what matter most in the end. The Vietnamese girl that she meets during a counseling session plays a vital role in shaping Willow's life.

If you want to find out what happens to Willow Chance... What are you waiting for? Go get a copy from the Book Room today!

Quick facts:

Title: Counting by 7s

Author: Holly Goldberg Sloan

Page Count: 378

Lexile: 770

Main Character: Willow Chance

Main Character Age: 12

The Adventures of Planodrum

4/8/2022

By: Gabe Shaw

“Can this ox move any slower?” whined Asher Flame, the coal-black skinned halfling from the rear of the cart.

“The ox has a name, you know.” Constance Pride, who was sitting up front, said this in a blank tone with no accusation in her voice, merely stating the facts.

“Oh yeah? And what might that be?”

“Vinson,” said Constance. “Vinson the ox.”

“If you want it to go faster,” grunted the dwarf sitting beside Constance who was steering the cart, “then one of you three should come up here and help out!”

“I’m sorry, I can’t -- I’m too busy tuning up my instrument! When we reach Planodrūm, the people must hear my beautiful music!” The halfling male strummed his lute loudly, playing a series of flat notes, giving a face as if they were the most grand notes ever played.

Asher rolled her eyes. “Or not. Staying silent until the job is done and we go our separate ways is also an option, you know.”

The other halfling’s eyes sparkled, as if stars were trapped in them. “They will love me!”

“I can come up!” said the in the group, who was sprawled out in a lounging position. “Wouldn’t you love to sit with me?” He gave a smirk.

The dwarf gave a look of terror. “No, no, you stay back there. As it would happen, we’re good on ox drivers as of now!”

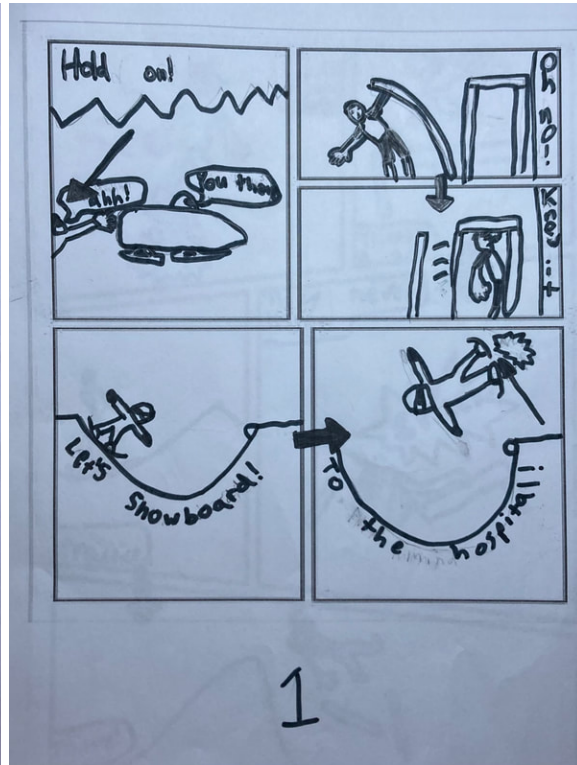
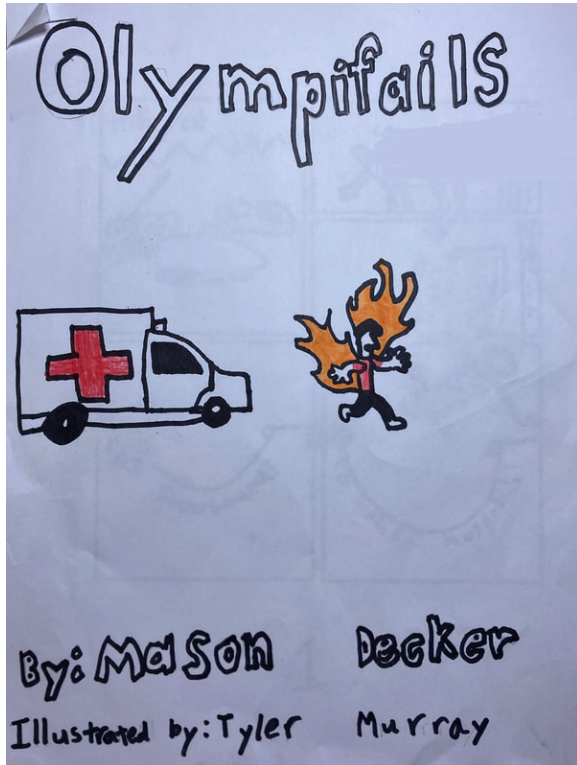
“That’s what I thought.” The elf closed his eyes. It was unnatural for an elf and a dwarf to be traveling together, let alone willing to travel together. After all, elves and dwarves were wary of each other and hated each other, and the two races had done so for several generations. And the elf knew this. The two of them had only agreed to take the job because of how tight money was for them.

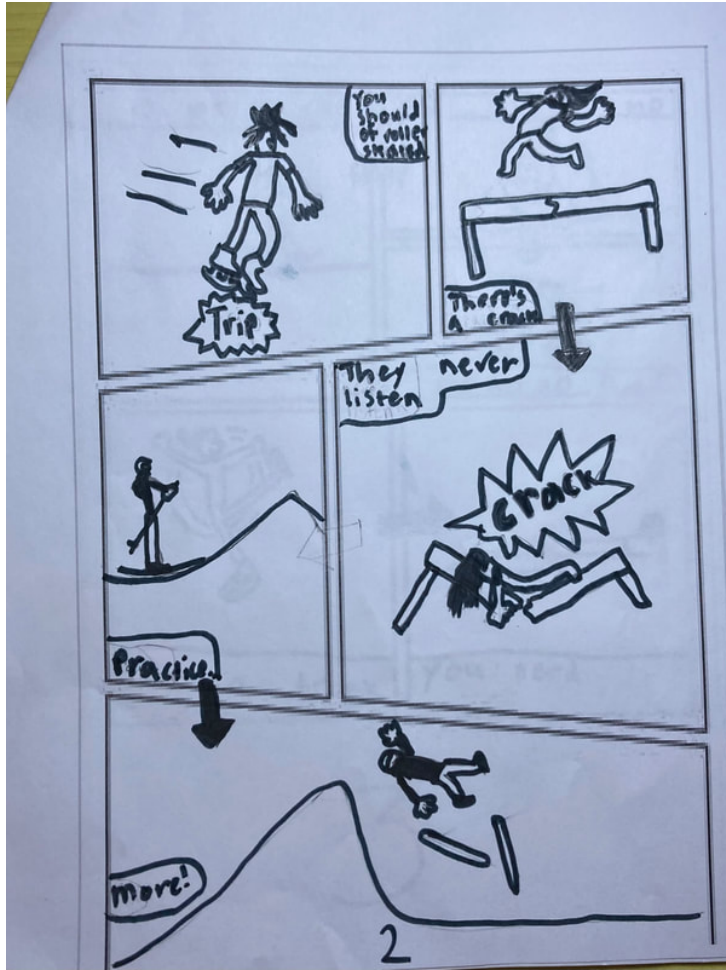
“Oh, stop it with the petty squabbles, you too,” interjected Constance.”

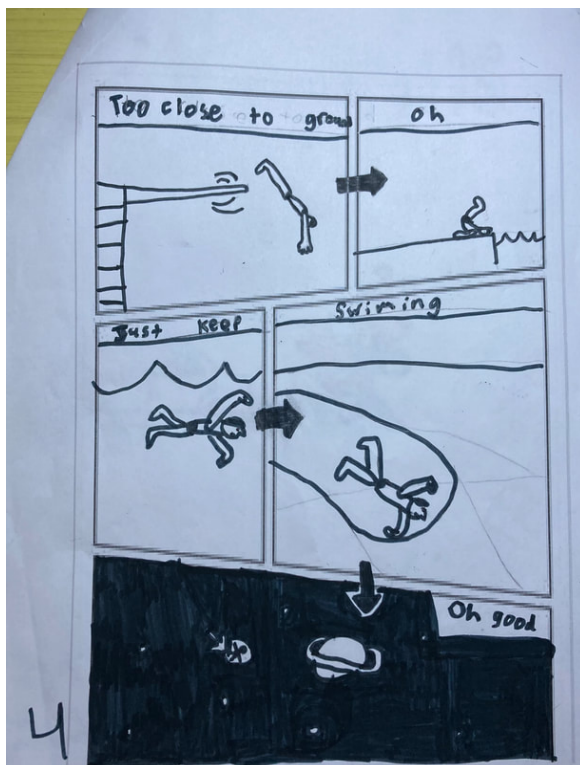
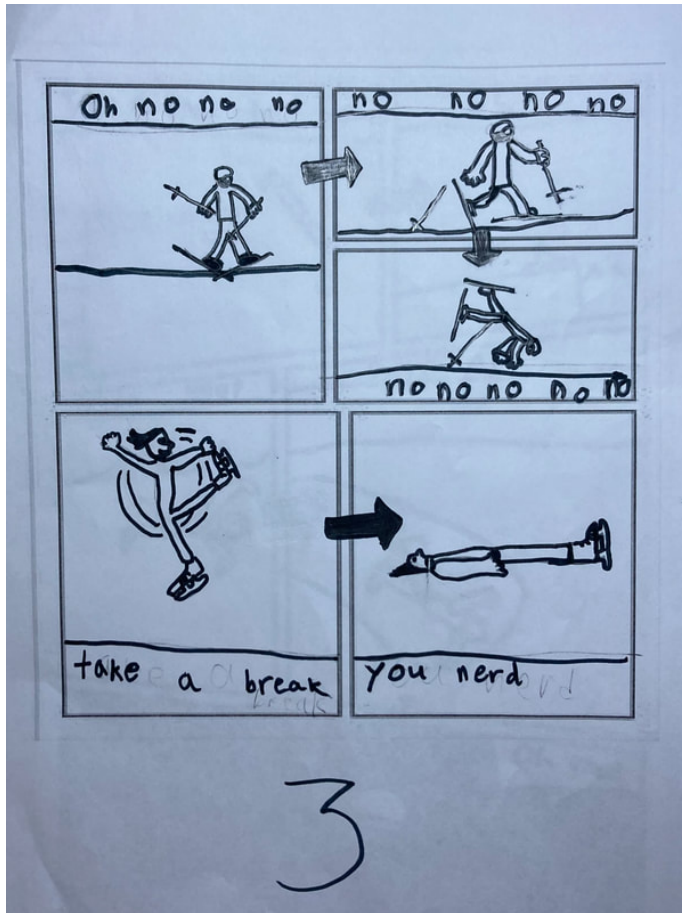
[WANT TO READ ON? CHECK OUT THE FULL FIRST CHAPTER HERE!](#)

Olympifails!

3/25/2022







Student Review!

3/25/2022

By: Luis Nava

Only a couple months ago I read a book that referenced, “20,000 Leagues Under the Sea,” by Jules Verne. I became interested in reading the book. I started reading it and could not put it down! It is an epic tale of travels under, and above the ocean. Verne recounts the journey of P. Aronnax and his companions. This book has a wonderful mix of fiction and science, and it contains many interesting facts for the reader.

Jules Verne has written many books that take place in a variety of different places. This might lead people to think that he was an explorer or a traveler; however, he hardly ever set foot outside of France!

The story is told in first person, from the perspective of P. Aronnax. He is an author and a scientist. Rumors were going around about an enormous sea creature. He is soon invited on an expedition to attempt to find and kill the beast; however, after they meet the beast they soon figure out that it is not a living creature! That is how his submarine adventures begin. If you want to find out how they end, then make sure to read, “20,000 Leagues Under the Sea.”

Author Bio:

Jules Verne was a French author who first published “20,000 Leagues Under the Sea,” in 1869-1870 in french. Later it was translated to English. Jules Verne was born in Nantes, France, on February 8th, 1828. Among his other notable works are, “Around the World in 80 Days,” and “Journey to the Center of the Earth.”

Who Was Jim Henson?

3/11/2022

By: Liam Marx

Jim Henson is a very famous puppeteer who created the muppets, fraggle rock, sam and friends and Sesame Street. He is an incredible artist and has worked with Disney who bought the muppets after his death. plus he originally made the muppet show in england. He has made over 2000 puppets and his legacy will live forever.

Jim Henson was born on September 24th 1936. In fifth grade he moved to Maryland and he created sets for school plays. He spent a lot of time with his grandma who taught him how to sew and got him into art. In high school he went to northwest high school and that is when he started to find a job. He went to a ton of different places and they all turned him down until he made Kermit and started Sam and Friends.

He went to the University of Maryland and went to the department of arts. He created Kermit in 1955 with a very different design than the Kermit we know today. In 1976 he created the muppets. He had to search everywhere to find a studio that would accept him to show the muppet show so he went to England and happily found a studio that would accept him. Then very quickly he got to work and got George Burns to do the first episode and it was a giant hit. It was very popular and across all ages they were watching it. Especially in America people were watching it and they then got even more popular people on the show and even more people watching it. His success was so incredible that in 1979 he partnered with disney and made the muppet movie. It was extremely successful and is still very popular to this day.



Jim Henson is an incredibly kind person and boss and is super helpful and has made his debut in so many different TV shows and movies. He was one of the first people to ever make puppets have face expressions and he also made puppets from at home materials for kermit the frog, his eyes are ping pong balls and the body is fabric. He also originally made sesame street and fraggle rock but dont forget about the muppets and sam and friends his original TV show. He is a very generous and hardworking person and boss. He also made Sam and friends with one other person(besides the crew).

He is an incredibly hard working man who had to adapt to new places as a kid and had a very successful life. Sadly in 1990 of may on the 19th he passed but his legacy is still alive today and his kids and grandkids are keeping the henson legacy alive. He is an incredible man and sadly passed at only 57 but he is still alive in kermit. He is famous for making multiple TV shows and very successful ones and made the first alive puppets.

Internet

**Stoltman, joan. "Jim henson" GETEPIC
2019. 3/3/22 <www.getepic.com**

A Crisis of Hope

2/18/2022

By: Anonymous

For those of you asking, this was made in part due to a set bet that me and Mr. Hejka (a teacher at the middle school) made. I was up at 3 AM one night, and I decided that I couldn't sleep. So, I gathered all of the thoughts that ran through my mind. Now, for those of you who have never seen what staying up at 3 AM does, it gives you an immense amount of productivity.

For those of you asking about me, I'll give you a hint about who I am, with the cryptic hint of, "Those that tolerate me are the real heroes of the world."

Finally, for those of you asking me about why I wrote this, one of the main reasons was that I stayed up at 3 AM. That in itself gives you a desire to do something, to change your life, and to gather your thoughts and type them. The second reason is that I believe that there is a crisis of hope going around. There are so many newsworthy events, that everyone splits into this us-vs-them mindset. So, I got together what I learned about hope and added some teenage angst and darker-than-your-emo-friend's humor into it.

A Little Story

Imagine a group of teenagers, trying to make it into Tik Tok fame. The only way that they can start making money off of their fame is by getting more followers, because more followers mean more profit for Tik Tok, as they are profiting off of its use, meaning that the company will give the person hope.

It is the story of all fairy tales and fables, film, and Twitter for a person to for someone to drag their problems by the hair and make things fair for everyone. My job isn't to regurgitate a story that anyone could tell. That's something you could go to any other person for. My job is to regurgitate what I have thought of through a speech. Being a hero for everyone isn't about amazing acts, and the ability to spit 'facts' that everyone takes for granted. It's about being there when things are bad, when all they can take for granted, is darkness, the darkness that surrounds them.

Let's imagine that they have a good following of ten thousand followers doing Tik Tok challenges for the fun of it, and for getting some more money. The group has average looks (in the Tik Tok world), the group has average character, and are little more than a bunch of teenagers trying to challenge themselves (aka torture disguised as fun) in various ways while hanging out as

friends. They grow steadily at a rate of about three thousand followers a month. One day, the group hosted a meeting because they were getting close to the valuable milestone of a hundred thousand followers, where teenagers (yes, those people you called lazy back at the bus stop yesterday, Karen), can make more money in a month than most teachers nowadays in a year.

George was at the head of the Tik Tok group. This wasn't a formal meeting or anything. It was a way to discuss new ideas for the Tik Tok channel to grow. They brainstormed for hours and hours on end and tried to come up with a way to get more followers. Then, they started looking at the top Tik Tok accounts. Then, they started looking at the top Tik Tok accounts. As George poured through the results, one struck him out at the best idea. They should get a team that enhances their looks for each Tik Tok. Sounds like a good plan, I mean, what could go wrong? I mean, there are so many people on Tik Tok, who can check every box in the modeling industry, and people like beauty... right? It would cost a lot but still, I could become the next Charlie D'Amelio and still get my money right?

As the head of the group, George began making some calls to some teams to enhance the look of each person. However, when negotiating, George began to get greedy and only asked for the best teams to enhance the look of each person. Now, when agreeing to a deal, each time before they made a Tik Tok, they would change looks every single time. However, their followers didn't go up. They went down!

It is the story of all the media and every celebrity speech that tells us that we need some more hope. It is the story that shows us that someone is going to become a hero, save their Tik Tok empire, and finally reach their dreams! And yet, we sit around doing nothing but watching another mundane video, talking about how the world is getting worse by the day.

Ironically, in the most prosperous time (minus Covid), we are still stuck on the idea that we are all going to die in an endless fire! We get two hundred messages about the world burning, your favorite celebrity taking a break, and we watch these because we fear that there is some impending threat.

Panicked, George called for another meeting to discuss some more ideas, and maybe rant on other people in the group who weren't doing enough. So, they started to invest more. But, the problem was that they didn't have enough money for the team, never mind switching to a fancier house. The team somehow got a loan together for a mansion, and moved into it so that they can live their Tik Tok dreams...right? Then the magic fairy would come and solve everything...right? Wrong! Their followers went down again, and George called for another meeting. They then put their last ideas together to have scripted Tik Toks, mimicking celebrities and famous lines and

quotes in their Tik Toks. However, their last-ditch attempt at a comeback had failed, once again, as most of their followers left them.

Eventually, George left the scene, tens of thousands of dollars in debt, and with his life in shambles.

The Classic Assumption

People might talk about this story and say, “Oh, George, you are going high and spending more and more money on your dreams! You needed more hope.” Now people just say that you don’t have it or just that you didn’t have enough grit, or hope that it is all going to work out, and all of the other social media jargon that you might have.

People might balk at this story and say, “Anonymous! This isn’t true! I know you picked out this story to tell everyone to live a normal life! I’m going to make it as a Tik Tokker! BOO! YOU SUCK!” But first, I would tell them, “Good luck marketing yourself like you’re an item on Amazon. You’re going to be spending more and more time posting more boring challenges and revealing more and more about your life until no one sees your Tik Toks anymore, Addison.”

The Classic Assumption that most people have is that people think that fame comes from the things that you own, a...and the looks that you have, and the best people to be around. People with charming personalities. People who can stir up a joke in every situation. People who can be X, look like, and be with the right type of people.” It’s the type of stuff celebrities say so that they can get more followers because what ‘optimist speakers’ want at the end of the day is simply money and followers. They say that stuff to distract you from the truth that hope comes from within, and confine you from

We are so addicted to scrolling through social media and seeing the new latest updates on people. When grandpa felt like he didn’t mean anything, he would just sit down for five minutes and pick right back up. Now, you’re just blessed with two hundred pictures of people having the greatest time, and all you are left to do is scroll around, wondering where you went wrong.

The Paradox of Optimism

Every day, we are blasted by millions of posts about people on vacation, people having the best time of their lives, people becoming millionaires by crypto, and Jennifer Garner having a new boyfriend every few weeks. And yet, we scroll through them, jealous of all of the things that they would post, and think, “This is their daily life? What is wrong with me?”

Eventually, millions of people chant this, in prayer. It’s so common that it is The Modern Mantra. If I can have X amount of cars, Y amount of houses, and Z amounts of diamond rings, then

I can finally be happy. If I can have a partner that looks like A, and drive my helicopter to someplace so that I can do some really meaningful work, then I'll be happy. If I look like someone to kiss on the spot, then I'll be happy.

And, as we go on social media, we then get saved by millions of posts about “Working Hard”, “Never Giving Up”, and “Being hopeful.” And yet, no one knows that those people who say those things are the people who post the pictures that get you down in the first place. Eventually, that's how celebrities form. They just have something different that they are not sharing, because that's the easiest way to climb down the social ladder. All of the current motivation that you see in social media is not about actual steps to being ‘better’. They just focus on the things that you don't have and make you feel bad about not having them. Then, they make you stay up until 3 AM and contemplate about your ever failing relationship with everyone around you, while Junior is selling themselves like a discounted Walmart product through Tik Tok, while you cry about not having the right mindset, not having enough optimism to fix everything.

Now before you come at me saying that I haven't presented the life story of anyone that has benefited through optimism, it's because I don't have to. It's worse if I present it that way. If I present the life story of someone and glorify that same life story, then why am I presenting my ‘thoughts’? It's almost the same as starting a cult! And I don't want to start a cult, nor does anyone else.

Optimism and hope are two different things. Hope is the thing that wakes you up in the morning and prevents you from jumping off of the roof onto the concrete driveway below. Optimism is just what it is, a way of looking at life. I hate to say it, but optimism is a distraction. Optimism is a way of telling yourself that there is hope, despite there being none. The only reason you hear all of these optimistic speeches is because they want to distract you from the fact that you need to change your life. It forces you to be alright with the things that you are not alright with, a virus that makes you think that you are alright, and yet, you are dying inside, sort of like the current COVID-19.

So, Anonymous, Why are you Writing This?

I believe that there is a crisis of hope going around. There are so many people turning to social media to escape from the world seemingly burning around them. And yet, we live in the most peaceful time in history (COVID Excluded). We have longer lifespans and longer of everything. Ironically, in the most peaceful, and most prosperous times, we are the most stressed, and we feel like the world is going to end. Don't get me wrong, there are real issues in the world, but, those issues have been upgraded, from the issue of dying painfully when getting a cut.

Many people have a lot of things to do, just like the days before we have the internet. Back when grandpa feels bad, all he has to do is to dig another hole. Grandpa thought those times were stress-free because digging a hole didn't mean anything to him. He just did it, because the amount of money he gained was better than the stress of not earning money and being labeled as a failure and effeminate in those times.

Stress isn't about the sheer amount of work you have. It's about the meaning that you tie into the work. That's why there was no stress in elementary school, because the work that you did, didn't have any meaning. You just did it because you found it as a chance to show what you know, which gave you some incentive to do the assignment. But of course, in middle school, you tie in more meaning to your assignments. In high school, it is worse, because each assignment can make or break your chances of going to the Ivy Leagues, or your chances of being ridiculed for going to a community college.

As humans, we deal in terms of how much we mean. We must think we mean something to survive. That's why advertisers want to make customers think something to influence their product. That's why kids are so gullible. All they can think about is candy because their whole life is based on the idea of eating candy and having that high compared to what happens in adulthood.

At the end of the day, hope comes from inside of you, and hope comes from the meaning you tie in things. At the end of the day, you need hope to survive. At the end of the day, the only time hope matters is when you matter.