

# THE SOLEBURY

SOLEBURY SCHOOL  
2020-2021  
8TH EDITION

BROUGHT TO YOU BY SOLEBURY STUDENTS

Adresseavisen  
koster forsendt saavel in-  
den- som udenbys  
Kr. 2.50 pr. Kvartal  
• 0.85 • Maaned.  
Forsendt til Udlandet  
Kr. 6.00 pr. Kvartal.  
Abonnement tegnes fra  
1ste og 15de i hver Ma-  
ned.

139 Aarg. No. 139.

Forbeningen til nærmeste Voltutor. Abonne-  
mentet, for Herre Typet forholdsvis,

Indsejlsfaldt end tidligere. 3 de  
har har Tilværelsen af So-

	Indsejlsfaldt	Indsejlsfaldt
1000 Kg. 1000 Kg.	6878	703
4088	735	
2913	233	
4215	—	
2204	—	

Indsejlsfaldt

## Why Incineration is a Big NO NO

By: Zy'Ira Redhead & Teach2Serve Cohort 10

You may have heard about “Waste to Energy,” but what exactly does that mean? According to the U.S Energy Information Administration (EIA,) Waste-to-Energy plants, “burn municipal solid waste (MSW), often called garbage or trash, to produce steam in a boiler that is used to generate electricity.” In other words, taking paper, yard waste, plastics, wood, etc., and turning it into energy. All of this sounds great, right? Well, let’s take a closer look at what “Waste to Energy” really entails and how it affects our environment.

When we choose to incinerate (burn) our trash, we help companies release toxic pollutants, such as dioxins, lead, and mercury, into the air, which is detrimental to public health. And trash incineration and environmental injustice go hand-in-hand; about 79% of the 73 incinerators in the U.S are located in low-income communities and/or those inhabited predominantly by people of color. This is especially dangerous for people with asthma, and it has been linked to brain and lung damage in residents who live in the neighborhoods where incinerators are located. Furthermore, about 4.5 million people throughout the nation live within three miles of incinerators, and almost 2 million people live within a three-mile radius of the twelve top emitters of PM2.5, NOx, lead, and mercury pollutants. Coal-powered plants are also major polluters; however, trash incineration is by far the worst polluter. In a study performed by the EPA, trash incinerators were found to produce 28 times the amount of dioxin than coal, about six times as much carbon dioxide, and 70% more sulfur dioxides.

Another problem with incinerators is that they produce fly ash, a by-product of combustion that contains various toxic metals.

For every 3 lbs of trash that are burnt, 1 lb of fly ash is produced and then driven to a landfill where the toxins leach into the air, soil, and water. As we have discussed, incinerators are located around or inside of minority communities and that means that these residents are more at risk of getting cancer, respiratory diseases, and many other illnesses solely because of their “hierarchical” standing. Although landfilling is not the ideal solution and the goal is to reduce our waste as well as recycle, even landfilling is better than incineration. Recycling properly decreases the likelihood that trash will be sent to incinerators, and it’s an easy way to combat environmental racism.

Additional information:

<https://www.epa.gov/coalash/coal-ash-basics>

<http://www.energyjustice.net/incineration/worsethancoal>

<https://altamontenterprise.com/04072021/environmentalists-critique-waste-incineration-clean-future-act> <https://earthjustice.org/blog/2014-july/ash-in-lungs-how-breathing-coal-ash-is-hazardous-to-your-health><sup>1</sup>

<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/pavement/recycling/fach01.cfm#:~:text=Fly%20ash%20consists%20primarily%20of,based%20on%20its%20chemical%20composition.>

# Post-Pandemic Travel

By Alex Li

Hundreds of millions of American adults have been stuck at home for most of the pandemic, with little to do because of the various local, state, and federal restrictions placed upon different areas to mitigate the spread of coronavirus. As the pandemic winds down, people are expected to travel and vacation in record numbers in the coming months, with hotel bookings through the roof in many popular destinations. Although the percentage of vaccinated Americans continues to increase and the number of cases correspondingly decreases, there are still many uncertainties about the future of travel. Some will benefit the travel industry while others have permanently changed it for the worse. If you are looking to get out and enjoy this summer, then this article is for you. I know I am looking forward to the summer.

Although the pandemic is probably winding down in the United States, it is definitely not over, especially in other countries. According to CNBC, a survey of over 8,000 Americans had 65% reply they planned on traveling more this year than they traveled pre-pandemic. Vaccines are very widely available in many parts of the country but dangerous variants are still circulating and the CDC still recommends mask-wearing in many public settings to avoid infecting unvaccinated people. First and third-world countries such as Japan and India have had extremely slow vaccination rates which makes traveling internationally difficult and potentially dangerous. In addition, Michigan and Florida are still seeing high daily case numbers as a result of virus variants infecting unvaccinated people. At this point, it seems reasonable to travel to any location that does not have an overwhelming number of cases and is beginning to lift restrictions for the long term. Due to the world still being in the thick of the pandemic, it is more likely that the largest travel boom has still yet to come and will probably occur next year. The travel industry will benefit regardless because of an increase in air travel and reservations from the summer quarter.

There will be several significant changes to the travel industry as a result of the pandemic. Some changes including sanitation guidelines and more flexible cancellation policies are here to stay and are beneficial to everyone. Technology such as contactless check-in will make for a

such as trips to the beach or renting a vacation home. On the other hand, vaccine passports and test certificates will become more common around the world. The United States has said it will not endorse any centralized system of vaccination or testing proof which will place it behind many developed countries that will require it for travelers in a wide range of situations from crossing the border to entering amusement parks. Developing countries that have not seen many vaccinations will struggle to keep up with first-world countries which will prolong the pandemic and economic impacts from it because travelers will be excluded from going abroad.

As of now, TheNew York Times reports that the State Department recommends that U.S. citizens hold off on traveling internationally because of the state of the pandemic. The CDC is requesting that you not travel until you are fully vaccinated, two weeks after the final dose. Those who have recently been in countries with widespread variants such as Brazil, India, and South Africa are subject to more intense restrictions when entering the country. Certain countries are now allowing or will allow Americans to travel abroad, including the European Union which will permit Americans to travel to Europe provided they have proof of vaccination. Visiting a destination such as the Bahamas is not so simple for unvaccinated people. They must have negative PCR test results at most 5 days before arriving and take rapid antibody tests for extended stays. Traveling between the islands requires the same documents. Vaccinated travelers are able to bypass those restrictions. Popular destinations that Americans may consider visiting in the coming months include most Caribbean islands, the European Union countries, Hawaii, and the United Kingdom.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/03/30/heres-what-post-pandemic-travel-might-look-like.html>

<https://www.nytimes.com/article/coronavirus-travel-restrictions.html>

## Something You May Not Know

by Benjamin Gregory

### History

Something you may not know is that Abraham Lincoln was an accomplished wrestler. Due to his large stature, at 6'4", he was very skilled and rarely defeated. One source says that he was defeated once in 300 matches before he became president. According to an article on History.com, Abraham Lincoln was also quite the talker. Lincoln once even challenged an entire crowd of onlookers after dispatching an opponent, according to Carl Sandburg's

biography of Lincoln. He was quoted as saying, "I'm the big buck of this lick. If any of you want to try it, come on and whet your horns."

### Science

The fields of science are ever-growing and evolving, thanks to research and data collection from experts. One new scientific discovery came through an issue of Nature, which found that the previous tally of trees around the globe was incorrect. As it turns out, in 2015, there might be more trees on earth than there are stars in the milky way, with a count of 3.04 billion trees. Unfortunately, Nature hasn't followed up on this article, but as of 2015, the global number of trees had fallen 46% since the beginning of human civilization. In addition, there are roughly 380 trees per person worldwide, which is something to consider when cutting down that maple in your backyard.

### Art

Without some of our usual distractions during the Covid-19 lockdown, we have all had time to fill. One of the best ways to fill this time is through art, learning about art, or even learning about artists, possibly like Michelangelo. Before his prominent career, the famous artist carved a lost cupid statue. His benefactor, Lorenzo di Pierfrancesco de Medici, declared that it should be sold under the pretense that it was a recently uncovered archaeological treasure. Fortunately for Michelangelo, the Cardinal who bought it quickly discovered the ruse. He brought Michelangelo to Rome anyways, where Michelangelo lingered for 7 years before carving his famous masterpiece, the Pieta.

### Technology

Whether the circumstances are pleasant or not, the world has seen examples of incredible technological growth in the past few years. We've further closed the space between us with tools like Zoom. The auto industry also offers more electric vehicles now, than ever before. Sadly, Innovations like these can be hard to appreciate in our own time, especially simple ideas which spark something wonderful. While it might be an unusual example, we say "robot" to describe a myriad of mechanical machines with unique functions. Did you know that the word "robot" was first used by a playwright, Karel Čapek (1880-1938), who wrote Rossum's Universal Robots? Eventually, with the benefit of hindsight, we might look at this time appreciative of the possibilities that were opened with the new technologies or even simple ideas that we create today.

### The Vatican

Due to their complicated histories, it sounds silly to talk about the Vatican and astronomy in the same sentence. In 1616, the Catholic Church banned Nicholas Copernicus's "De Revolutionibus," which was his argument for a sun-centered universe. They also ordered Galileo Galilei to stop supporting this theory in public. For the time, this wasn't an outlandish idea, since these ideas were contradicting the religion on which society was based upon. Fortunately, today the Vatican isn't only in good standing with Copernicus and his theory, they also have their own observatories. The first is 15 miles from the city in the papal summer residence, Castel Gondolfo. Due to pollution in the sky, the original papal observatory was not enough. The second was built in 1981 on Mount Graham in Tucson, Arizona.

<https://www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-the-vatican>

<https://www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-abraham-lincoln>

<https://www.sciencefriday.com/segments/the-origin-of-the-word-robot/#:~:text=As%20a%20word%2C%20robot%20is%20a%20relative%20new-comer,1920%20hit%20play%2C%20R.U.R.%2C%20or%20Rossum%E2%80%99s%20Universal%20Robots.>

<https://www.history.com/news/9-things-you-may-not-know-about-michelangelo>

<https://www.nature.com/news/trillions-of-trees-1.18333>



## Songs That Mention Horses Ranked By How Much I Think You Should Play Them For Your Horse By Casey Epstein-Gross

Hello all, and welcome to this edition's edition of Casey's Hyper-Specific Music Rankings, where I rank songs in stupid, arbitrary fashions! Sorry if a song you like fits the category but doesn't make it into the list—I'm selfish and chose to just do songs I know/like rather than the most well-known songs that fit the requirements.

The sole requirement for the songs on this list is that they have to mention horses. While all the songs I ended up ranking had "horse" (or "pony") in the title, there are a lot of other good horse-mentioning songs with unrelated titles, so I'll put those in this month's playlist for your horse's enjoyment and/or anguish, depending on the song. You can find this playlist on Spotify [right here!](#)

I took a few factors into consideration while making this ranking: whether the horse would actually like the song (the sound, the instrumentation, etc), how they'd feel about the lyrics, and what their external reaction would be and how it would affect you, their benevolent owner. For transparency's sake, I must admit that I have never owned a horse nor have I spent particularly extensive time around horses nor do I even like them that much. But that does not mean this list is ill-informed, however; in fact, it is objective fact. God came down and told me so.

If you have any questions, comments, recommendations for future rankings, compliments, insults, death threats, or confessions of undying love, feel free to send them my way. Now enjoy! Or don't. I won't force it on you. I hope your horses have big horse smiles soon.

### 12. A Sky for Shoeing Horses Under by WHY?

"Looks like a sky for shoeing horses under / Looks like a good sky to die under"

Imagine getting some weird metal thing hammered onto the bottom of your foot. Do you think you'd like that?

Unless you're some kind of masochist, I really don't think so. I don't think horses have enough self awareness or critical thinking skills to know what masochism is, let alone experience it, so I think it's pretty safe to say that horses don't like getting weird metal things hammered onto the

horse playlist. And if you do want your horse to spontaneously combust, I'm calling Animal Services.

### 10. A Horse With No Name by America (covered by Patrick Carney)

"I've been through the desert on a horse with no name ... Cause there ain't no one for to give you no pain"  
Having a name is nice. It reminds me I exist. Horses probably feel the same. It must be so sad to not have a name! This song will make the horses sad for all their equine brethren that go nameless throughout their lives, and the air of misery will likely dissuade your horses from doing any work. They'll just want to sit and mourn the unnamed horses lost to time. So if you want to get anything done, probably avoid this song.

Wait, no, definitely avoid this song — as all horse owners know, horses are grammar fiends. You have to take real care not to let any participles dangle around them, because otherwise you'll be faced with a barn full of furious whinnying. So this song? With the (in)famous incomprehensible line "there ain't no one for to give you no pain?" Playing this around your grammar hero horses might just turn your animal farm into Animal Farm, novel by George Orwell. And no one wants that. Except probably the horses.

### 9. Headless Horseman by The Microphones

"You deserve yourself / And I'll return from my trip to hell / As a headless horseman"

Oh man. I would not recommend playing this song for your horses, both for your sake and theirs. In all likelihood, a listening session would end up with all of you staring at the wall trying to process — I'm not sure what, exactly, but something. This song is very pretty but very sad. Not, like, crying sad, I don't think; it's the kind of sad that tightens your chest and constricts your throat and lays on you for a while, visceral and heavy but quiet. Do you want your horses to be sad? Do you want your horses to see you sad? I didn't think so. Besides, I don't think anyone particularly likes to think about getting beheaded, so don't subject your dear horses to 3 minutes and 8 seconds of sadness, yes, but also thinking about being a headless horse. That's scary!

### 8. Racehorse: Get Married! by Jordaan Mason and the Horse Museum

"I'm letting all you horses go, I'm letting all you horses go"  
This is a very intense and weird song in a very intense and weird album by, you guessed it, a very intense and weird band. Jordaan Mason is certainly an acquired taste, and I feel like if I were to play this album for most people, they'd

don't like the sound of this song, I doubt horses would. However you have a kind of quirky horse, a weird looking one with eyes that bug out a bit too much, I think they might just end up stomping their hooves along with it. The final refrain of this song is the phrase "I'm letting all you horses go," which I think horses would take as a sign of either being gifted their freedom or or being abandoned by their owner, depending on the horse's attachment style. I think this is a song you have to be careful with in terms of playing it for horses — there are some horses that would likely feel awful at the thought of being "let go," others who would relish in it and see it as you acknowledging their autonomy, and possibly a radical or two who would take the song up as a battle cry and destroy your farm to gain their independence. Be careful playing this song for your equine anarchists; if you play it and then don't, in fact, let the horses go, you will likely have a rebellion on your hands.

#### **7. Julia (or, 'Holy to the LORD' on the Bells of Horses) by mewwithoutYou**

"Holy to the LORD" on the bells of horses / Safely on the shore we sank like stones / To the bottom of a made up ocean"

Lyrically, this song doesn't have a lot to do with horses — they're only mentioned in conjunction with the bells ringing "Holy to the LORD." I don't think horses would dislike this song, but I definitely don't think it's one they'd enjoy all that much. Wait, I'm further into the song now, and I take that back; most horses would likely not like this song. There is a lot of background screaming in the second half and I feel like that might scare some of them. However, if you have somewhat of an angsty horse who probably has a fringe of some sort, doesn't mind screams of rage and anguish, and is really into strange religious symbolism/imagery, then this song hops to #1 on the list easily. I can just picture said horse headbanging a little bit in their horse stall thing

#### **6. A Horse Named Cold Air by Mitski**

"A lake with no fish / is the heart of a horse / named Cold Air / who when young / would run like a storm"

This song is probably right in the middle of the road for me — I don't think I'd recommend it, but I don't think I'd advise against it either. The lyrics of this song (particularly the part that involves horses) are very abstract and confusing, and I can just picture the confused horse faces cocking their horse heads in confusion as they try to figure how exactly their hearts are lakes with no fish. It is a very pretty song, though. I could see playing it at night

time when the horses are about to fall asleep (and thus too tired to think too hard about Mitski's lyrics), as the song feels kind of like a weighted blanket — slow, heavy, languid. I would not play this song when your horses are craving some good old lyric analysis, as they will either be very confused or become very sad (this is not the happiest song) and we don't want that!

#### **5. Deposition Regarding the Green Horse for Rap by Milo**

"Ro with the forceful retort, the green horse for- / The green horse for rap"

Do horses like art rap with jazz influences? I don't know, but if you play this song for a horse, you might just find out. My advice really depends on the outcome of that experiment, but since it hasn't been attempted yet (to my knowledge), I'll try to give a recommendation anyways. I would recommend this song to people who have horses that either are very knowledgeable and will understand any allusion made or don't really care about getting all the references as long as the song is cool. If your horse feels disheartened when they don't know something, Milo in all his glorious pretentiousness would likely not be your best bet. Similarly, if your horse is prone to blaming themselves for everything, this song might do more harm than good — one of the main refrains is "You're wack and it's all your fault," and I can't imagine the more fragile horses among us responding too well to that.

#### **4. blue and red horses by Adrienne Lenker**

"Blue and red horses on the run / I think the angel is jumping the gun"

This is a very pretty song that I can picture listening to while trotting atop a horse. I can even see myself ruffling a mane or two during some parts. I think the horses would like this song a lot; it's really pretty but fun, not overwhelming but not boring either. It's simple, with simple rhythm and simple words and a lot of easy repetition, and your horses will get comfortable with it quickly. It's not a jaunty song, per se, but it has some jaunt to it, and I think your horse will appreciate it. This song is especially great for those of you with either blue or red horses — representation is important in the media, and equine representation is no different. They'll be so happy to hear about horses like them that they'll be practically prancing!

**Author's note:** I have listened to this song since it came out, and due to the jaunty pretty simplicity of it, I never thought much about the lyrics. When I looked them up for this, I found out that this is a song about death (more specifically suicide) — I had no idea. That said, I still think this is a good song for horses, but make sure you



never explain the song's true meaning to them. I would also recommend keeping it away from any horses that have a particularly keen ear for symbolism and metaphor.

### 3. The Horse by Dexys Midnight Runners

[Instrumental song]

This is a great song to get your horses excited and pumped up! The horns and melody are all very enthusiastic and fun and make you feel like you're at some sort of parade, almost. There are even saxophone (??) noises that sound like neighing! Your horses will feel right at home, if home were a horse-only dance hall specializing in group tap numbers or something. I would not recommend playing it to help your horses fall asleep, but I think it's a great song to wake them up and get them all energetic and ready for a big day of horse things.

### 2. Sometimes a Pony Gets Depressed by Silver Jews

"Where does an animal sleep when the ground is wet?"  
"How does an animal see once the sun is set? ... Sometimes a pony, sometimes a pony, sometimes a pony gets depressed"

When my Pony Pals Club meets once a month to discuss our equine going-ons, there is always inevitably a newer member fretting about their relationship with their horses. "Casey," they fret, "I feel like my horse doesn't think I care about him — His neighs imply that he's unhappy with my inability to see life from his perspective! How can I show him that I understand?" Every single time, my answer is the same: play "Sometimes a Pony Gets Depressed" by Silver Jews, and every single time, it works like a charm.

Everyone needs to feel represented once in a while, and the recent introduction of neurodivergent narratives into mainstream media is something many cite as incredibly important to them. However, those narratives are strictly (and quite bigotedly, in my opinion) human-centered, with no depiction of equine depression at all. If your horse feels like you just don't understand him, playing this song will show him otherwise. In doing so, you acknowledge the difficulty of the day to day struggles of horses — from the daily existential questions revolving around the struggle of being a horse ("Where does an animal sleep when the ground is wet?" "How does an animal see once the sun is set?") to simple day to day oft-overlooked equestrian woes ("Grass in the pasture / is sharper than a bayonet") to the news coming in from the South about the latest Horsian Riots ("Bandits in the capitol / Limited civilian unrest") — so comprehensively that your horse will have no choice but to realize you understand more than it

further in a characteristic stroke of lyrical brilliance — he says, stating bluntly and factually, that sometimes, a pony gets depressed. I've seen horses brought to tears by this simple acknowledgement of their pain, this simple naming of their struggle. Whether you're playing this song for your oldest horse or your youngest foal, this song is exactly what you need to facilitate a dialogue about the importance of mental health and begin to build a necessary foundation of trust.

### 1. My Horse is A Great Horse! by The Singing Animal Lover

"I have a horse / A really great horse / An awesome awesome horse / A great great horse"

"My horse makes me happy / So very happy / That I'm filled with smiles / Cuz he's a really great horse!"

This song kind of speaks for itself, I think. Your horses will whinny with joy for hours and bowl you over with their love. Play this song for your horses at all costs.



by Phoebe Crooks

# News Of The World

by Dylan Wysocky

## Europe

Lake Resia is an Italian lake in the north of the country, it is a great spot for all sorts of activities, but is best known for the church steeple emerging from its deep waters. The picturesque scene has even inspired a book and a Netflix series. But after the lake was temporarily drained, locals have been able to witness the remnants of Curon, a middling sized village once home to hundreds. This was before it was flooded to create a hydroelectric plant in the 1950's. The once quaint village of Curon was sunk in 1950 when Italian authorities decided to construct a dam and combine two nearby lakes. Despite the many objections of its townspeople, it was too late. Upwards of 160 homes were submerged, and Curon's population completely displaced. The remaining residents moved right next to the now flooded town. As of today Lake Resia is a fantastic place to hike and picnic.

## Africa

In Zimbabwe, earlier this month, A 33-year-old Zimbabwean citizen has made an appearance before a South African court. The reason being is the illegal possession of copious amounts of gold with an estimated value of 11m ZWD (\$785,500). Tashinga Masinire, the man responsible, who has yet to plead, was granted bail of 100,000 ZWD in the Kempton Magistrates Courthouse in mid April. under his bail conditions he is forbidden to leave South Africa. The Pending outcome of the case will be decided soon, as of now Masinire must check in with the police every three weeks.

## Antarctica

When it comes to predicting how much sea levels will rise as global temperatures warm, the fate of Antarctica looms all-important.

The hulking mass at the bottom of the Earth is home to the world's largest land ice reservoir. If Antarctica's entire ice sheet were to melt, it could raise sea levels by nearly 190 feet, more than nine times as much as Greenland could potentially contribute. The world's other glaciers and ice sheets contain more than enough water to cause major problems for coastal cities.

## North America

Tech Man Elon Musk has recently said he is now accepting "Dogecoin" a crypto currency named after the popular 2013 "Doge" meme as a way to fund his recent space endeavours thanks to his ownership of the company SpaceX. The announcement came via twitter when Musk said "DOGE-1 Mission to the Moon" early next year. This comes as dogecoin continues to fall after the technology billionaire said on television that it was a "hustle". Musk also tweeted that SpaceX was going to put a "literal Dogecoin on the literal moon". This was very confusing to write about.

## South America

You may have seen or heard via social media platforms about the rising levels of tension in the South American country of Columbia. This comes after sweeping tax law proposals that have stoked fears about further dividing wealth inequality within the country. This unrest is also the product of increased hostility between the government and the citizens, police brutality is a massive problem within Columbia and is a great factor in the growing concerns over the safety of the people. Due to the violence of the government to its people and the retaliation, 42 people are dead as of May 13. The president of Columbia, Iván Duque, has blamed "drug trafficking mafias" for the acts of vandalism and offered a reward of up to 10 million Colombian pesos (about \$2,600) to those who help identify and accost the "perpetrators"

## Asia

Numerous Asian countries are experiencing new coronavirus surges, with some struggling to keep up with vaccines and testing since the beginning of the pandemic. While India was responsible for a little less than half of the global infections this past month, this from the World Health Organization. Cases are rapidly rising in the countries Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Cambodia, CNN reports. This is what the numbers say: "The Southeast Asia region reported over 2.7 million new cases and over 25,000 new deaths, a 19% and a 48% increase respectively compared to the previous week," WHO was quoted as saying in a press conference at the beginning of the month.



# Shadow & Bone, or Shadow & Bore?

By Addy Santianni

Okay, I loved this show. From the actors to the sets, and all the way to the visuals, Shadow & Bone is everything I would expect from a show like this. I loved it, but, and this is a very, very big but, it was long and drawn out. The show consists of eight episodes, ranging from 45 to 58 minutes in length.

It's not too long, but the way each episode is structured makes them feel so much longer. I'd always end up checking how much time I had left in the episode, thinking it'd be just about 5, maybe 10 minutes until the screen reading "Jessie Mei Li" would pop up. But with every single episode, the remaining time would be closer to 20, maybe even 30 minutes until the credits. Again, this is due to the structure of the episodes. When I checked for the remaining time, it's because I thought the episode should be over. The stories the episode was telling had come to an end, but then something new would be introduced which ramped the action back up, and the last 20-30 minutes felt like another, shorter episode. The only episodes this didn't apply to were episode 1, A Searing Burst of Light, episode 7, The Unsea, and episode 8, No Mourners. The first episode had to introduce the characters and their stories, while episodes 7 and 8 brought the overarching story, as well as the subplots of each character, to a beautiful close, whilst also leaving the necessary room needed for Season Two.

Now, onto some positives, starting with the acting. The cast isn't super "star-studded", the biggest name in the cast being Ben Barnes, who you may recognize as Prince Caspian from the second 2 Narnia films, Prince Caspian, and Voyage of the Dawn Treader, playing General Kirigan in Shadow & Bone. But despite being lacking in big Hollywood names, the series is far from lacking in talent. Every character seems to be captured perfectly by the actor who portrays them, especially Alina Starkov, who is played by Jessie Mei Li. Li can be seen in the upcoming 2021 film Last Night in Soho, starring Anya Taylor-Joy and Thomasin McKenzie.

While the acting made the series, it simply would not have been the same without the visuals and the costumes. The special effects were absolutely amazing. There were entire sfound on Netflix). I choose to compare the costuming of Shadow & Bone to that of Reign because they both have a very specific aesthetic the costumes are meant to fit, and they fit together somewhat. Both shows are based in a historical setting, Shadow & Bone's being fictional, while Reign is based in 16th century Scotland and France. However, both shows have an element of fantasy to them, and this is reflected in the costuming. The most common criticism of Reign is that the costuming is not historically accurate, but it matches the fantasy element of the show, just as the costuming of Shadow & Bone does. This is also me telling you to watch Reign, and enjoy its gorgeous, not at all historically accurate, costuming.

Finally, I want to start this by saying I am in no way a music person before I talk about the soundtrack. There are many things that can make or break a show, and it's important to be able to separate these things when determining whether something is good or bad. One of these factors, the one I always consider last, is the soundtrack. Many people don't think about soundtracks outside of musicals, but all television and film have soundtracks. The ultimate goal of a soundtrack should be to complement the story it goes with, while also not being over-done. The Shadow & Bone soundtrack is great, but it's basic. It doesn't complement the story very well. It sounds like they were given an idea of what the soundtrack should sound like, but didn't take the show into account when creating it. It's a very beautiful, fantastical, and dramatic soundtrack, but it just doesn't complete the series as a great soundtrack should.

Overall, I would recommend watching Shadow & Bone if you're looking for something new to watch. It's a beautiful show with a wonderful story, starring an absolutely gorgeous cast. And if television isn't your thing, the series is based on the Grisha Trilogy, written by Leigh Bardugo. I have yet to read the books, but I am going to check them out as soon as possible.



# Does Social Media Allow Users to Represent Themselves Authentically?

by Tiyasha Sarkar

“In order to maintain social approval, we lose who we truly are. That is, we lose what is best about ourselves - our individuality,” stated an article published by The Independent. Various social media platforms have been under scrutiny when it comes to the argument of whether individuals are being represented authentically. Millions of users daily fall prey to this as the number of people increases, the number of people who are sharing their opinions grows, and judgment becomes an important factor.

All social media platforms are created to connect people and facilitate their communication with others. Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat are some of the more popular apps for connecting. I believe cyberbullying makes people uncomfortable in their own skin, which results in many people changing their posts, appearance, tone, and behavior in order to fit into society and to meet the standards of other social media users. In the HuffPost's blog titled The Social Media Effect: Are You Really Who You Portray Online? it states “Because we live in such a largely global-society, creating and maintaining an online presence has become most relevant in promoting your brand and expanding your social network.” Pursuing this further, I decided to check a dictionary for the definition of individuality. Individuality is “the quality or character of a particular person or thing that distinguishes them from others of the same kind, especially when strongly marked, synonymous to unique and original.” However, according to HuffPost's blog, “As the use of social media continues to evolve; the concept of presenting our ideal selves versus our real selves has become more and more prevalent on social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Google+, Pinterest, and even LinkedIn” (The Social Media Effect: Are You Really Who You Portray Online?). As the days go by, more people want to represent their ideal selves to the world rather than showing what they are like in reality. Furthermore, social media platforms encourage this by releasing new filters and ways to hide and make yourself look better.

Despite all of this, there are many people advocating for the right to show individuality on social media. These people share a deep understanding and connection with those who are not comfortable portraying their real selves on social media websites. Social media-related problems require a lot of change on our part, as a society. The involvement of the community is crucial for the process of researching and developing solutions. As they say, the more the merrier.

To summarize, despite the positive benefit of rapid information sharing, social media enables people to create false identities and superficial connections. Finally, since social media is a relatively new phenomenon and the impact studies done are also reasonably new, I feel as though the advantages of social media are emphasized quite often, as opposed to its negative aspects which are very rarely discussed. This trend must change. Social media has many positive impacts such as enabling communication globally with friends and family. But it also has many negative impacts such as cyberbullying and harassment on the web.

[Green, R. Kay. “The Social Media Effect: Are You Really Who You Portray Online?” HuffPost, HuffPost, 7 Oct. 2013, www.huffpost.com/entry/the-social-media-effect-a\\_b\\_3721029.](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/the-social-media-effect-a_b_3721029)

[Green, R. Kay. “The Social Media Effect: Are You Really Who You Portray Online?” HuffPost, HuffPost, 7 Oct. 2013, www.huffpost.com/entry/the-social-media-effect-a\\_b\\_3721029?ir=Australia.](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/the-social-media-effect-a_b_3721029?ir=Australia)

[“The Real You Vs Social Media You: How Social Media Is Shaping People's Perception Of You.” EarthLink., 30 Nov. 2018, www.earthlink.net/real-vs-social-media-social-media-shaping-peoples-perception/.](http://www.earthlink.net/real-vs-social-media-social-media-shaping-peoples-perception/)

[Suchanek, Anne Marie. “Is Your Social Media Presence An Accurate Portrayal of Who You Are?” Information Space, 2 Nov. 2016, ischool.syr.edu/infospace/2012/03/08/is-your-social-media-presence-an-accurate-portrayal-of-who-you-are/.](http://ischool.syr.edu/infospace/2012/03/08/is-your-social-media-presence-an-accurate-portrayal-of-who-you-are/)

<https://www.independent.co.uk/student/istudents/our-need-to-maintain-social-approval-is-actually-making-us-lose-what-is-best-about-ourselves-our-a6827316.html>

# The Abbe Garden

This spring under the guidance of Cari Nelson, Solebury students worked hard in the Abbe Garden. In addition to the usual crops, they worked with Angelo's Honors World History 9 class to plant the three sisters (corn, beans, and squash) in two dedicated history department beds. The goal is to expand to include other historically significant and climate-appropriate crops such as potatoes, flax, and beets and to use the garden as a regular feature in world, U.S., and European History classes as well as anthropology electives.



Photos by Nate Myers







# What *To Kill a Mockingbird* Has to Say About Prejudice

By Alexandra Zisk

Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*, is regarded as one of the greatest books ever written. It's tackling of themes such as race and racial injustice is a large reason for this. And while those themes are an important part of the novel, there is also a lot more that the novel touches upon. The themes of *To Kill a Mockingbird* work together to create a novel that discusses peoples' places in society, the advantages and disadvantages that come with those places, and how those people are shaped because of it.

*To Kill a Mockingbird* is set in the fictional town of Maycomb Alabama, and takes place between 1933-1935. The story is narrated by Jean Louise "Scout" Finch, who is six years old at the beginning of the novel. Scout lives with her middle aged father, Atticus, an attorney and widower, her older brother by four years, Jeremy "Jem" Finch, and their African American cook Calpurnia. Over the course of three years, we watch Scout, and Jem as well, mature and grow, and we see how the events of the novel affect their view of the world. Early on, they view the world through the innocent lens of young children. But various events, with the trial of Tom Robinson being the most notable, shed light on the dark side of the world they live in. Their innocence fades and the faults in their society become all too apparent and real.

Throughout the novel we see many cases of how the book tackles society's prejudices and views on people depending on who they are. Let's look at some examples.

**Racism:** The most obvious and well known societal prejudice tackled in *To Kill a Mockingbird* is racism, particularly against African Americans. A huge chunk of the novel centers around a trial where Scout and Jem's father, Atticus, defends a Black man, Tom Robinson, whose been accused of raping a white girl. Many people in Maycomb don't approve of Atticus's defending Tom Robinson, and children at school bully Jem and Scout because of it. The acts of these children reflect just how much racism has been ingrained into society and how destructive it can

become. At the trial, Bob Ewell, the alcoholic and abusive father of the girl Tom is accused of raping, shows an extreme amount of racial prejudice as well as other destructive characteristics that only grow more apparent after the conclusion of the Trial.

An example of this is when he targets Scout and Jem near the end of the novel in an attempt to get revenge on Atticus for defending Tom, because while Ewell won the case, Atticus managed to humiliate him at the trial and help him lose any respectability he had by the town. His attempt to kill Scout and Jem fails and he ends up dying after the children are saved by Boo Radley. Mayella Ewell, the supposed victim, claims that Tom raped her and beat her up, when in reality, she is lying so as to cover up the fact she kissed Tom without his consent, whereupon her father beat her after witnessing the action. This action by Mayella out of a desire for affection that is driven by abuse, neglect, and lack of love from her father and the town, but would be considered scandalous and disgusting by many white people. Ewell covers up his and Mayella's actions by saying Tom raped Mayella, knowing that people would be more likely to believe his word over Tom's.

As the trial unfolds, the evidence of Tom's innocence becomes quite clear, and Jem becomes convinced that the verdict will be in Tom's favor. Unfortunately, the all white jury, driven by their racist values, convict Tom of the crime. Atticus hopes for an appeal, but Tom is later killed when he tries to escape from prison. The reaction of the townsfolk to Tom's death also shows how racism and racial stereotypes have become ingrained in society. As Scout puts it: "To Maycomb, Tom's death was typical. Typical of a \*\*\*\* to cut and run. Typical of a \*\*\*\*'s mentality to have no plan, no thought for the future, just run blind first chance he saw." (Lee 275).

Jem's faith in justice is shattered by the outcome of the trial and he struggles to comprehend how a jury could convict Tom Robinson despite the evidence of his innocence. Jem and Scout, by this point, are starting to understand the severity of racism, and how much damage it can cause.

Another more minor example of racism is when Scout and Jem's aunt Alexandra comes to stay with the two and their father, and she doesn't approve of the presence of Calpurnia, the African American who acts as a cook for the Finches, and a maternal figure to Jem and Scout. It is this latter role that Alexandra can't stand, as she doesn't believe a black woman is a good influence for two white children. When Jem and Scout want to go with Calpurnia

to church, Alexandra tries to bar them from going as she sees African Americans as trash and that Jem and Scout shouldn't be associating with them.

**Sexism:** Another prominent society prejudice tackled in *To Kill a Mockingbird* is sexism. Scout, the main character, is very much a tomboy. She hates wearing dresses, loves overalls and climbing trees and early on isn't afraid to get into fights with people. She hates the idea of acting like a lady, causing those with extreme stereotypical southern ideologies to criticize her. Mrs. Dubose, an extremely intolerant and prejudiced old widow who lives near Scout's house, at one point, Scout for not wearing a dress and camisole. Scout's dislike of anything ladylike intensifies when her aunt Alexandra comes to live with her and her father and brother. Alexandra tries to get Scout to act more like a lady, believing that Scout's tomboyishness will disgrace the Finch family name.

Scout has several masculine influences, mainly Atticus and Jem, but she isn't without female role models. The main two female role models for Scout are her neighbor Miss Maudie and Calpurnia. Both of those women are shown to be strong, independent, and kind. Scout can be viewed as a feminist character and throughout the book, it becomes evident that Scout is becoming a feminist.

Mayella Ewell presents a different side to sexism. It's implied that her father molests her, and it is shown throughout the time she appears in the book that she is at his mercy and is isolated and lonely due to his neglect and abuse and her family's poverty. In her loneliness, she kisses Tom Robinson, a Black man. Mayella is considered among the lowest of the low due to her gender and her poverty and without anyone to care about her, she hopes to receive some positive form of affection from someone, and Tom Robinson seems like the only person who can give it to her. Mayella also may see her advances towards Tom as giving her power, something that she lacks, due to being a girl who is poor and largely uneducated and at the mercy of her abusive father.

Unfortunately, her father sees her kiss Tom and beats her up. He covers up the crime and claims Tom raped Mayella. In this society, when a white girl kisses a Black man, she is seen as a whore for kissing a man that she isn't married to and one that is a different race from herself. Mayella doesn't defend herself or Tom because she possibly feels ashamed of her actions and maybe because her mental state and views make her think it would be hopeless to

defend herself and permit herself to ridicule. Instead, she and her father cover it all up, and she chooses to allow Tom to be punished for a crime he didn't commit.

**Classism:** Where to begin when it comes to classism in *To Kill a Mockingbird*? Let's start with Scout's family. Scout is a member of a reasonably well-off family, something her aunt, Alexandra, takes very seriously. She is not only critical of Scout's tomboyishness, but she is critical of who she associates with as well. Scout goes to school with a boy named Walter Cunningham whose family is poor. Aunt Alexandra sees people like the Cunninghams, who are poorer than she and her family are, as trash. She fears that Scout's association with Walter will ruin the family name. She believes that Scout's tomboyishness and other aspects aren't fitting of a girl of Scout's station, and that she needs to act like how she views a person of Scout's station should act, which is like a lady.

Class is also a big part of *To Kill a Mockingbird* when we talk about the Ewells. The Ewells are extremely poor, and live near the town garbage dump. They have no money, no education, and no background. The only thing that elevates them at any level in the community is their race. Their patriarch, Bob Ewell, is the major reason for their poverty. He was fired from the WPA for laziness and it's clear that while he may want to elevate his family's situation, he doesn't want to work for it. The family receives relief checks, but Bob spends all the money on alcohol and the only way the family stays fed is because the town lets Bob hunt even during the times of year when it's forbidden.

As I said previously, the only thing that elevates the Ewells in society in any way is their race, and Bob Ewell takes that to heart. He is incredibly racist and when he discovers his daughter making advances towards a black man (Tom Robinson) he is enraged. He beats Mayella up, and may have raped her too, and then covers it up by saying Tom raped and assaulted Mayella. There's a sense that believes that by having Tom Robinson convicted, he may be more respected having ridden the town of a "dangerous" Black man, and not have to deal with talk about his daughter's actions, saving what little he has for a good reputation and bettering his own station. Unfortunately, while he succeeds in getting Tom Robinson convicted, his actions backfire. The town hates him even more, now that they know he's a sexually and physically abusive father, a liar, doesn't provide what is needed for his family, and that his daughter made sexual advances towards a Black man.



*To Kill a Mockingbird continued...*

Their reputation as trash is forever cemented. Jem talks to Scout later on in the book about different classes. He says: "You know something, Scout? I've got it all figured out, now. I've thought about it a lot lately and I've got it figured out. There's four kinds of folks in the world. There's the ordinary kind like us and the neighbors, there's the kind like the Cunninghams out in the woods, the kind like the Ewells down at the dump, and the [African Americans]... The thing about it is, our kind of folks don't like the Cunninghams, the Cunninghams don't like the Ewells, and the Ewells hate and despise the colored folks...we're still different somehow." Scout responds saying: "Naw, Jem, I think there's just one kind of folks. Folks." (Lee 304) But then Jem asks: "If there's just one kind of folks, why can't they get along with each other? If they're all alike, why do they go out of their way to despise each other?" (304)

Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* poses questions and ideas about society and humanity and how people are placed and seen depending on who they are. Issues concerning race, gender, and class are among the most prevalent in the novel. The novel was published in 1960, but the themes and topics it touches upon are still important to realize and consider today, sixty one years after the book was published.



by Phoebe Crooks



Photo by Nate Meyers



# Thank you, Solebury School!

from *The Scribe* staff

Being a teacher is always a difficult job, but this year the pandemic took it to a new level. Despite the obstacles of physical distancing, having students in the classroom and on Zoom at the same time, and having to juggle new challenges in their own lives, all of the teachers at Solebury have done a great job keeping students encouraged to keep learning. We believe we speak for the entire Solebury community when we say we are grateful for the patience, time, and attention the teachers have spent on us, the students. We were unsure how the virtual experience would work, and in the beginning, we had our doubts. Would we be able to participate, ask questions, and learn the way we were used to? But our apprehensions went away during the second week of school and we were talking, participating, asking questions, and meeting with teachers after school whenever we needed help.

The year comes to an end, with the hopes of returning to a normal school year. We believe it is time to thank all the faculty, teachers, and staff of Solebury School for making school fun, enjoyable, and feel normal amidst a pandemic. The hard work and dedication you all have put into this year are truly commendable. On behalf of the Solebury community and *The Scribe*, thank you to all the faculty, staff, and teachers who made it possible for such an amazing year.

Thank  
♥ you

8th Edition, 2020-2021

Mike Cook '22

Phoebe Crooks '22

Noelani Croud '23

Casey Epstein-Gross '21

Paul Falzon '24

Benjamin Gregory '21

Hunter Hughes '24

Alex Li '21

Aline Lu '22

Nate Myers '22

Addy Santianni '23

Sara Sarioglu '22

Tiyasha Sarkar '24

Dylan Wysocky '23

Alexandra Zisk '24

Designed by Escher Nadeau '22