# Viking Runes &

Viewmont High School's Literary Magazine — Bountiful, Utah — February 2019

#### Who Decides That?

by Brielle Lewis

Who decided that? Because I did not decide the color of my skin. I did not decide that the wood-brown hands of my ancestors would be covered in blood. I did not decide that as a child I would be spit upon because of the hazelnut colored skin on my face. And I did not decide that my little sister would come home crying, asking me "Why?" So who? Who decided that my skin color would define my character? That is *my* choice, that is *my* right. *I* decide. My bloodline does not define me, and nobody decides that.

## Viewmont

by Dutcher Lines

Lonely individuals, looking for their place in life Searching for a meaning, a purpose, Making mistakes and messing up



Needing help but never asking for it Following trends and pop culture Making more enemies than friendships Finding new passions and losing old ones Creating new habits and breaking old ones Sleeping during the day and staying up at night Laughing at memes and crying over homework More kids becoming stressed and depressed by the day, Yearning for an answer to the meaning of life, Never quite knowing what's going on.

#### Ríse

by Jordan Farnsworth first line by Joshua Born

In the dark, a child at play; A destiny bright as the sun at mid-day.

A people in shadow, heads bowed in gloom,



Bring back the light, put an end to their doom. Cursed to be lowly, but born to be great— The spirit within you will no longer wait. Cast off your trinkets and pick up your sword, Fight with your weapons, but also your words. Shrouded in dust, filled with mem'ry and shame, Let those great halls ring once more with your name. Though your crown is long broken, your heart is still strong,

So rise, little prince, to the victory song!

## 1deology

by Manny Nunez

A word has killed millions,

from right to left the war rages on;

years pass and nothing

changes,

and why should it?

In the endless struggle we find men are many things:

selfish, power-hungry, cruel-

and what of it?

Isn't that the way of the world?

Ideology controls men,

that and fear.

There's no escape from its all-inclusive gaze.

All who indulge in its rays of false hope see a future for themselves.

Capitalism, Communism, Fascism, Liberalism,

Conservatism, Patriotism, Socialism,

and many more-

all ideas that cost life,

one way in another ...

Oh, who am I kidding?

With the 4 for 4 at Wendy's, we all have nothing to fear.

Wendy's 4 For \$4 Meal Deal Now Includes 8 Sandwich Options. Wendy's celebrates the arrival of 2018 by expanding its popular 4 for \$4 Meal deal to include eight sandwich options. Each 4 for \$4 Meal includes fries, chicken nuggets, and a drink, plus one of the following: Double Stack, Crispy Chicken Sandwich, Crispy Chicken BLT, Grilled chicken wrap, Spicy Chicken wrap, Jr.

#### Prompt Response

The prompt from January was as follows:

A viral video suddenly puts you in the limelight. You're not rich (yet) but you're famous, and people are listening to you. What do you do with your newfound fame?

Thanks to everyone who submitted their responses. Here is our top pick for January's prompt.

## Untitled

by Ellie Castleton

I woke up bright and early that morning. I had so much homework to do that day, and I wanted to get an early start. I lost my charger, so my phone was dead. I had to wait



till my mom got home from the gym, so I could beg her for some money for gas to get to the store.

As I was doing my homework, I heard my parents walk through the door. I went upstairs, but before I could ask her for money she said, "Have you looked at your phone?"

"No, it's dead. I lost my charger."

She handed me her phone, and I saw that the video I had posted on YouTube the day earlier had over 100,000 views. I could not believe what was happening. I never imagined a video of me reading a poem would be seen by so many people.

I went downstairs and immediately began planning on how to capitalize on my fame. Of course, I only made an outline of a plan; I didn't want to get ahead of myself. I started writing down ideas I had for poems that would change the world. I knew I was definitely going to solve all the world's problems.

After I wrote down my ideas, I looked in my closet to decide what to wear when Ellen called to invite me on her show. I wanted something that I would look good in if she scared me. I thought about my outfit for Jimmy Fallon, but I didn't really think it would go that far.

I wrote another poem titled, "Ten Ways You Can Make a Difference." I posted it and waited. I kept refreshing the page, waiting for the views to pour in. Sadly, the second one didn't have as much as an impact. My Ellen dreams were crushed, and the world remained hideously the same.

#### February Prompt: Open Letter

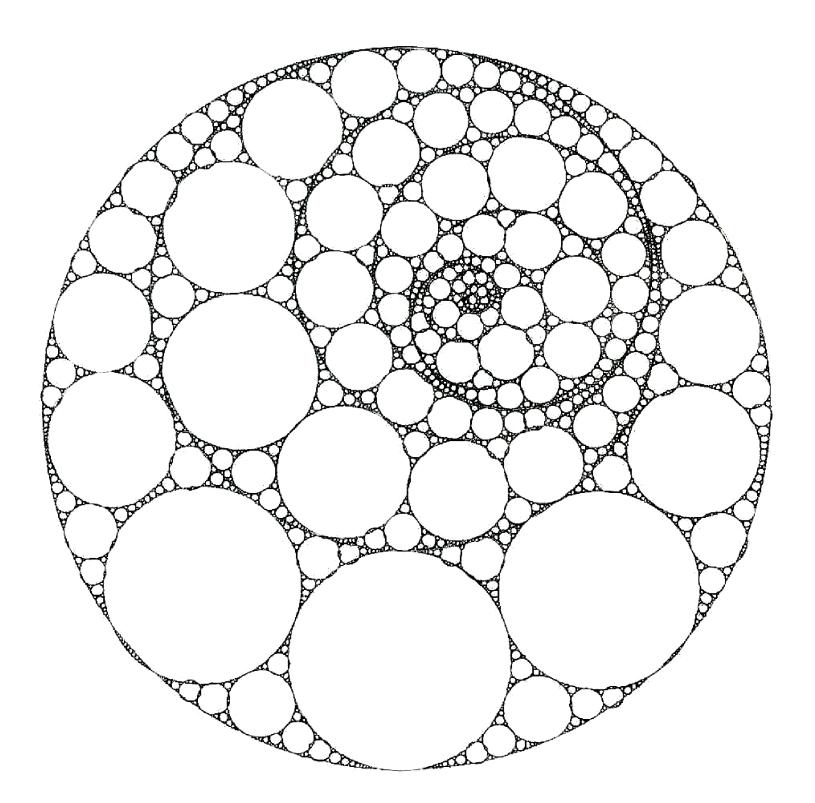
This prompt is a little different. We're giving you an opportunity to write an open letter to the school. What do you think the Vikings need to hear? Send it in for a chance to have it published!

Submissions should be 250 - 500 words.

Send all work to: ViewmontVikingRunes@gmail.com

## **A Fractal** by Rebecca Turnblom

Look closely at this piece, and you'll notice a pattern that swirls around and around until you can no longer see it. This is called a fractal. Rebecca defines a fractal as "a shape that divides infinitely into or out of itself." She enjoys creating these fractals while listening to lessons in class. She says that "[her] brain is running 50 miles an hour," and doing something with her hands helps her stay focused and engaged.



#### Last Month's Puzzle: Crossword

In January, you had the chance to complete a Viewmont-themed crossword puzzle. The question most people missed? Our school motto: "A Tradition of Excellence." January's puzzle was a very popular one, and we hope that February's will be too! The winner of January's \$10 Amazon gift card was Jordan Farnsworth!

But next month it could be you! See February's puzzle on the right, and check back each month for a new puzzle and a chance to win.

## February's Puzzle: Selfie Scavenger Hunt! by Zeb Rhodehouse and Mr. B

We've got something special planned for February's puzzle! We're sending you on a selfie scavenger hunt

throughout the school. The catch? You'll have to solve a few riddles to find the right photo ops!

The prize this month is 2 free Cinemark movie tickets. You only need pictures of yourself at 3 different locations to enter the drawing—but you'll get an extra entry if you get pictures at all 5!

Look for the Viking Runes symbol (right) at each location to know you're in the right place.



Take a selfie there and send the pictures to ViewmontVikingRunes@gmail.com to be entered.

Everything's better with friends, so feel free to enter as a group-but there's only one set of tickets for the winner! Hint: #5 is not a typo...

## Clues

I stand and shield the school when most other thresholds are barred.

## 11.

1

When you open the covers, you open the door to places where your mind can soar with the wingéd pets of the Father of Thor and you shall be bored ... nevermore.

## 111.

"When the wind doesn't blow—" well, you know, but these ones don't have to, though they can *snack* and *train* below the frame if they do.

## **1***V*.

"It means if there's something wrong, those who have the ability to take action have the responsibility to take action."