

ROGUE

JANUARY 2022 EDITION





editorial

Entering this new year of 2022, this issue of Rogue celebrates the new possibilities that await us. A new year gives us a clean slate, where we can grow and take new chances, and hopefully enjoy a bit of normalcy. I want to begin by thanking Basia Molicka for creating the cover for this issue, the incredible art she has done of Scrumpy sitting before the new year's celebrations really captures the energy I'm trying to channel as the year begins.

The mask mandate has certainly cast a negative shadow on the new term, but remembering the reason for these rules has certainly helped me to take it in my stride, especially seeing the benefits to how warm my face can be in these sub-zero temperatures. The pandemic has taken up so much of our lives and I hope this issue can give a reprieve from that and the everyday stresses of life.

Coming up is an incredibly insightful Science section, detailing issues that are becoming more prevalent in our lives, such as the emergence and popularity of 'designer babies and genetic modification'. Articles looking into the recent spiking surge and the perpetuated social media beauty standards shed light on issues affecting the adolescent generation and their possible consequences for the future. Daisy Morrissey also wrote a fascinating piece on the 'fall of the Berlin wall', which brought me back to my days of GCSE History, discussing the historical sequence of events and her own personal ties to the event.

Thank you to all contributors, team members, deputy editors, and of course my wonderful partner Anastacia who put all this together to resemble an actual newspaper!

-BECKY WARD

fall of the Berlin wall

DAISY MORRISSEY

On the 9th of November 1989, the wall that had divided a city since 1961, fell. Günther Schabowski, the spokesman for East Berlin's Communist Party, proclaimed that there was "A change in his city's relations with the west". At midnight on the 9th, East and West Berliners were free to cross the border and meet with friends and family that they may not have seen for decades. They celebrated around the wall, chanting "Tor auf!"- "Open the gate!".

Approximately 2 million Germans from East Berlin traveled to West Berlin that weekend in celebration of their city reuniting since 1945. Bulldozers and cranes pulled the wall down, while citizens used hammers to take chunks off of the wall. These people became known as 'Mauerspechte'. On October 3rd 1990, nearly a year after the wall fell, East and West Berlin were officially reunified.

What sparked the fall?

On the 12th of July in 1987, the U.S President, Ronald Reagan held a speech in front of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin. The speech challenged Mikhail Gorbachev, a Soviet politician, by Reagan stating "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall." It took two years, the political changes in Eastern Europe and unhappy citizens putting pressure on the East German government for some of the regulations about travelling to West Germany to change, and brought the wall to an end.

Why did the wall go up?

After World War 2, Germany was split into 'Allied occupation zones', the eastern being owned by the Soviet Union, and the western was split amongst the United Kingdom, the United States, and later France. As Berlin is the capital city, it was halved between the two. West Berlin was supported by the UK and the US, meaning the economy grew successfully. However, for East Berlin it was an entirely different matter. Supplies were taken and sent over to the rest of the Soviet Union, and the economic situation was crumbling. East Berliners began running from the east into the capitalist West Berlin, causing the Berlin Wall to be set up in the

more than 30 miles of barbed wire across the city, the foundation of the Berlin Wall. Rumours about the wall had been flying around for months before the wall went up; families in the East sent their children over the border with as much money as they could in order to live stay in West Berlin.

I spoke to Ulfert, a family friend who lived in East Berlin at the time. He would commute into West Berlin every day to attend university. As tensions rose between the East and West, Ulfert made the decision to cross and stay in West Berlin in order to keep studying, leaving behind his mother and younger sister. He was in his early twenties when he walked over to a checkpoint where people would usually enter West Berlin, but it was already closed off with barbed wire and he was turned away by soldiers. Next, Ulfert went over to a bridge by the river Spree where a wall was already being built. It was half a meter high, so Ulfert was able to jump over it with ease. Two soldiers who were guarding the area watching him do this, however they turned their backs on him and didn't try to stop him. Ulfert stayed in West Berlin with his aunt and uncle and continued to study at university. Despite this, after only a few weeks, Ulfert began growing anxious that someone may come for him and take him back to the East, he transferred his studies and moved to Hamburg to complete his education. Ulfert later became a history teacher, and still lives in Hamburg today.



pieces of the Berlin wall chipped off, picked up by my dad only a few weeks from the fall of the wall.

What is animal testing?

No, it is not giving rats or bunnies makeovers, or seeing how silky smooth you can make their fur with some shampoo. It's something very barbaric that is still being used in well-known brands and it needs to be stopped.

Generally, animal testing refers to procedures being carried out on animals to test products or diseases as a way to research into the biology of the subject. This may sound all well, but the methods that they use will surprise you. If you are unaware of the atrocities that occur during animal testing, it could include dropping

corrosive chemicals into a poor rabbit's eyes or forcing animals to inhale or ingest toxic substances. This kills over 100 million animals each year, a staggering amount that needs to go down for the sake of nature. These tests are all for nothing, since products that fail the tests can still be sold to consumers.

This horrific cruelty to animals is pointless and is still practiced in popular brands, which includes Johnson & Johnson, Balenciaga, Bobbi Brown, L'Oreal, Clorox, Givenchy, to name a few.

If you are like me and love


animals and want to do anything to prevent promoting animal testing, look into the products that you are using to see if they are doing animal testing!



Cruelty Free
INTERNATIONAL

MAY SULLIVAN





Genetic modification & designer babies

TAHNEE DIONE

As great advancements in technology become more frequent in our modern society, so do topics of discussion ranging from time travel to flying cars. Among these ideas are genetic modification and designer babies, the extent to which DNA can be manipulated, ethical dilemmas surrounding such possibilities and the probability of any of these occurrences in the near future, if at all.

First of all, we must consider what the phrases "genetic modification" and "designer babies" actually mean. Genetic modification in a human being refers to the alteration of an embryo's genetics, only possible because of recent developments in science. Designer babies are the name given to those embryos that are modified in some way and develop fully to the stage of birth.

The main objective of genetic modification to embryos is to attempt to completely erase hereditary diseases and reduce the chances of other health problems. These possibilities include but are not limited to diabetes, cancer, Huntington's disease, Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease. For this reason, many parents, potential parents, scientists and even regular civilians fully support the research into and execution of genetic modification on embryos.

However, many consider the possibility and idea of designer babies to be a highly dangerous concept, one that should not be considered in modern society. Many predict a future where worth is defined by how "trendy" or modified a child is, a new

class system defined by how much money parents could spend to glamourise and alter their child's natural state. The concern is that parents will not only change the baby's genetics to reduce chances and possibilities of certain diseases but also to give the baby specific physical qualities, such as changes in natural appearance, athleticism, intelligence and skills, this creating a survival of the fittest mentality and new hierarchy system. Those who cannot afford genetic modification will be considered lower class and their children will suffer significantly as a result.

Another ethical dilemma regarding genetic modification in embryos and irradiating health problems is what some consider a health problem, others do not. There is potential to diminish neurodiversity in future generations due to designer babies because although many do not consider disorders such as autism, ADHD, ADD etc problems at all, some do and as a result, neurodiversity could be outbred.

There are countless other arguments both for and against human genetic modification and we may never find the answer to such a complicated dilemma, however, keeping educated and aware of such topics will always be important and forming one's own opinions of them is equally so.

unrealistic beauty standards

CAITLIN CHACKSFIELD

Most adolescents tend to spend a lot of time on social media. This is a wide and wonderful place where you can connect with others, post things online and watch cool videos. But it has also created an enormous pressure within each and every person to keep up with the standards of beauty that are plastered all over the internet, for both men and women. Whilst we may believe we are mindlessly scrolling through this all this content, we are unconsciously soaking it up and before we know it, those perfectly formed bodies we are seeing everywhere have become the new standard of beauty.

This is an apparent problem as people are constantly pursuing an unrealistic idea of perfection. Thousands of famous stars and models on social media post about their workout routines, eating habits, and other aspects of their lifestyle that contribute to the way they look. But the problem with this is that most of it is fake.

An Instagram model will post a picture of herself wearing a bikini and looking beautiful and slim, holding up a weight loss supplement. She will uncover that the secret to her beautifully, slim physique is all down to this amazing, new supplement; which most of the time, is not the case. This sends a very dangerous message to the millions of people who see this post, especially the majority who are young and impressionable teens. As they look around and see expectations of what to look like everywhere around them. Seeing all these



expectations can be detrimental to a person's self-esteem and could push them to make unfortunate decisions when it comes to their own bodies.

The reality is that this perfect body being advertised does not exist. Comparing yourself to photos of models is extremely misguided as an immense amount of planning, makeup, finding the perfect angles and photo editing went into the final Instagram picture that is posted for the entire world to see. It's designed to sell a product, not support a healthy lifestyle. Which is something that everybody should keep in mind when seeing these pictures.

Research has found that social media appears to be correlated with body image concerns. In a systematic review in 2016, they found that photo-based activities, like scrolling through Instagram or posting pictures, were a particular problem when it came to negative thoughts about your own body.

Each photo posted only reveals a small snapshot into the person's life and does not truthfully convey what they look like in their day-to-day life. So, make sure that you keep this in mind when you are next looking through social media.

Is spiking becoming a trend?

Imagine you are heading for a nice evening out in the town, you are drinking and dancing and everything is going great. Then suddenly...you start to feel drowsy and then... blackout. You find yourself in a hospital. You've been spiked.

Spiking in general has evolved throughout the years, with 2021 taking the biggest hit. Since clubs have been able to re-open from the pandemic, many women have found themselves victims of spiking. This became apparent in October when both men and women came forward about their experiences of finding themselves injected with drugs. This came as a surprise to some because the 'normal way' that people see methods of spiking was by having powdered drugs put into their drink, usually in an attempt to take advantage of their weakened state. According to the NHS the three main reasons for spiking are: amusement, sexual harassment, and theft. There have been attempts to try and reduce the risk of this happening, by companies, such as Nightcap, supplying covers for your drinks to stop contamination. Additionally, many bartenders will throw away a drink that has been touched by someone who is not intending on consuming it.

This has caused spikers to find a new way to drug someone. This new scheme is by injection of the drugs, such as Ketamine, LSD, and Ecstasy into the skin, causing many people to become very weary of going to clubs in the fear of suffering the effects of spiking with the combination of alcohol. Some problems can arise from this like

nausea to being hospitalised with a coma. In September and October alone, there was 198 confirmed reports of spiking by drinks and 98 by injection.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU THINK YOU'VE BEEN SPIKED

- Notify one of the bar staff
- Get a friend you trust to help you get out of the club
- Go to a safe place, preferable A+E to get checked out
- Tell the doctors everything you know of the incident, they will notify the police as spiking is illegal

Though the media is showing majority of the victims as women, this is not a gendered problem. There has been a nationwide campaign under the initiative, "Girls Night In," where they called for a boycott of all nightclubs to raise awareness and demand better protection for not just for females, but for everyone. It has established support across more than 50 locations, including London, Edinburgh, Bath Liverpool and many more.

However, if boycotts continue to happen due to the lack of change within club security, this could have an economic impact upon the nightclub industry. With the previous impact they have had from the long closures, clubs have had drastic losses in their revenue.

all about STAR

The Weeknd has broken records all year round and it can be easily said he is one of the most influential and inspirational artists of our time. His career has been iconic due to his ability to close himself off from the rest of the world to focus on music, keeping his private life unknown till this day, then returning to the hustle and bustle of life by releasing an

album which propels him to the top of the charts every time. His blockbuster album 'AFTER HOURS' has become a global sensation, breaking records across the world for its hard hitting lyricism and catchy rhythms, with his mind blowing song 'Blinding Lights' being dubbed as 'the greatest billboard top 100 single of all time'.

Not only is he breaking billboards, his fashion choices throughout the storyline of his album have been outrageously fantastic, puzzling fans, keeping them engaged with his story and wanting to know what he will do next. Not only creating unique music, Abel Tesfaye has been heavily involved in many charitable causes helping many people in need across the world. He donated \$300,000 to Global Aid in Lebanon, supporting the victims of the countries disaster of the explosion in Beirut. He also donated \$200,000 to the Know Your Rights Camp Legal Defence Initiative, this organisation is in support to those who were arrested or fell prey to police brutality while protesting the extrajudicial murders of lack people. Furthermore, he donated \$500,000 to the MusiCares COVID-19 Relief Fund and another \$500,000 to the frontline health workers at Scarborough Health Network. The artists humble upbringing and character further aids



RBOY

him in his writing, exposing us to his tough childhood further connecting us to his life and work. A recent GQ interview with the star showed his true human side, talking about his own inspirations and the realities of his pathway to fame. We see the artist being asked the question "what is the difference between The Weeknd and Abel Tesfaye?", a question that really made the artist think. His reply was, like him, mysterious and intriguing. He says "the lines were blurry at the beginning. And as my career developed, as I developed as a man, it's become very clear that Abel is someone I go home to every night. And The Weeknd is someone I go to work as". This answer prompted the interviewer to then ask the question "so am I interviewing The Weeknd or Abel" to which he answers with a laugh "I think your getting a Jekyll and Hyde situation right now", an answer that as we can see confuses the reader further, once again wanting to know more. There we have it, an artist with a heart of gold giving to the world, making it a better place, while still being able to take over the world with a ferocious force with his music, captivating his audience with every note and word. He is not only a man, he is a superhero, THE STARBOY

GLOBAL TOUR DATES 2022

September 10 Helsinki
September 3 Stockholm
September 15 Copenhagen
September 16 Copenhagen
September 18 Oslo
September 20 Hamburg
September 21 Cologne
September 23 Munich
September 24 Berlin
September 26 Vienna
September 28 Antwerp
September 29 Antwerp
October 1 Cologne
October 3 Amsterdam
October 4 Amsterdam
October 6 London
October 7 London,
October 8 London
October 10 Manchester
October 11 Birmingham
October 13 Belfast
October 15 Newcastle
October 16 London
October 18 Paris
October 19 Paris
October 20 Paris
October 22 Bordeaux
October 24 Madrid
October 25 Lisbon
October 26 Barcelona
October 29 Montpellier
November 1 Milan
November 2 Zürich
November 4 Budapest
November 5 Prague
November 7 Kraków
November 10 Mannheim
November 12 Lyon
November 13 Paris
November 15 Glasgow
November 16 London

HAMZAH MUGAL

NOTHING NEW

Within the first five days of its release a new album has made the largest sales week in 2021 across the United States. What kind of innovation in music could have possibly been so well revived and heavily waited for? Nothing new, quite literally from Taylor Swift, as she releases Red (Taylor's Version). The album is the second in her collection of re-releases of previous albums, the first being her second album Fearless. So how did covers of songs we all have heard so many times

before receive so much attention years later? Potentially the lure of songs from the illusive vault may cause intrigue. With each of her albums Swift also releases songs she wrote at the time of the album that didn't quite fit the last time around.

Perhaps these songs evoke a nostalgias dream familiarity while also allowing us to indulge in new music. This may also be accompanied with the new songs on the album having collaborations with newer artists such as Phoebe Bridgers in 'Nothing New'. This allows for a younger audience to be introduced into a world of music that only just passed them by. Whilst these may be contributing factors, personally I think the reason is much simpler. When I first found Fearless (Taylor's Version) on YouTube (due

(Taylor's Version) on YouTube (due to a regrettable lack of Spotify) the first comment I saw said 'There's something special about being able to sing along with the songs even though we're technically listening to them for the first time'. The consensus amongst fans is that despite the repetition, the subtle changes make the music feel fresh, rejuvenated and potentially something new.



ISOBEL LEYLAND

thank you to this editions writers :)

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MAY SULLIVAN

TAHNEE DIONE

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HAMZAH MUGAL

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We couldn't make Rogue without you all, thank you to all those who really appreciate Rogue, read their friends articles, skim read it when they can or just those who really like the designs ;)

If youd like to write for Rogue email me or Rebecca at 16allana@royalrussell.co.uk or 15wardr@royalrussel.co.uk Until the next issue <3

- Anastacia

