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THE CREATIVE REPORT



The Amazing Digital Circus:

An Op-Ed on Age Ratings and Their Failings

By Marley Love

Age restrictions protect you from things you shouldn't view, but have you ever felt annoyed by them? Have you ever seen things that get rated PG that aren't? For example, the web series and now Netflix show "The Amazing Digital Circus" (ADC) has been on Netflix for five and a half months, but fans and their parents have realized that the show is rated PG, not PG13 (as they previously thought).

For those who may not know, the rating PG is recommended for ages 8+. However, on a site trusted by most parents (Common Sense Media) the show, ADC, is rated 13+. That is five years of development missing for children who watch this show without knowing the suggested age rating. Reasons why "The Amazing Digital Circus" is rated 13+ includes the fact that dark humor is used often, and characters often make jokes about others' misfortune. At times, this can be okay, but not usually for an average eight-year-old. To bring this into perspective, the average eight-year-old child in America is in the 3rd grade.

Censored cursing is also prevalent throughout the series. Though it is censored, it's clear to most people that they are saying fairly extreme curse words. Many reviews say "There's no cursing that is suitable for kids..." but often that isn't true. Lastly, there are INCREDIBLY dark themes in the show ADC. Stop for a second and think about a 3rd grader watching a show where a character pushes another character into a horror story where they will end up getting dragged to Hell! That doesn't seem appropriate to me, so something to think about the next time you're scrolling on a streaming platform; try comparing the listed age rating to what you think it is.

Political Report

By Zoey Harrington

On Monday, January 20th, 2025, there was an executive order signed by President Donald Trump saying that in the U.S. there are now going to be "only two biological genders (female/male) recognized by the U.S. government". This means that anyone who identifies with a gender other than their gender assigned at birth may now struggle to be accepted in school and work environments, depending on where they are located. Here at CASS, you are still safe to be who you are. President Trump also said that this order would end "radical and wasteful diversity, equity, and inclusion programs," such as gender and sexuality alliance programs. Ending these programs doesn't make sense to me, because it doesn't hurt anyone, but helps queer and trans kids feel more included and accepted.

Jennifer C. Pizer, the chief legal officer at Lambda Legal, a civil rights organization that litigates on behalf of Americans in the LGBTQ community, said she expects her organization and others to sue the United States administration over the executive actions. Suing the administration is one way to protect trans kids in the United States. "The president can't, with a wave of a pen, change the reality of who people are and the fact that we as a community of people exist," Pizer said. "We have equal protection rights, just like anybody else does." What Pizer is saying is that the president can't just erase a whole community of people, you can't stop people from being who they are.



Jennifer C. Pizer (left) at a Pride protest.

Book Review

By Veah Betancourt

"If He Had Been With Me"

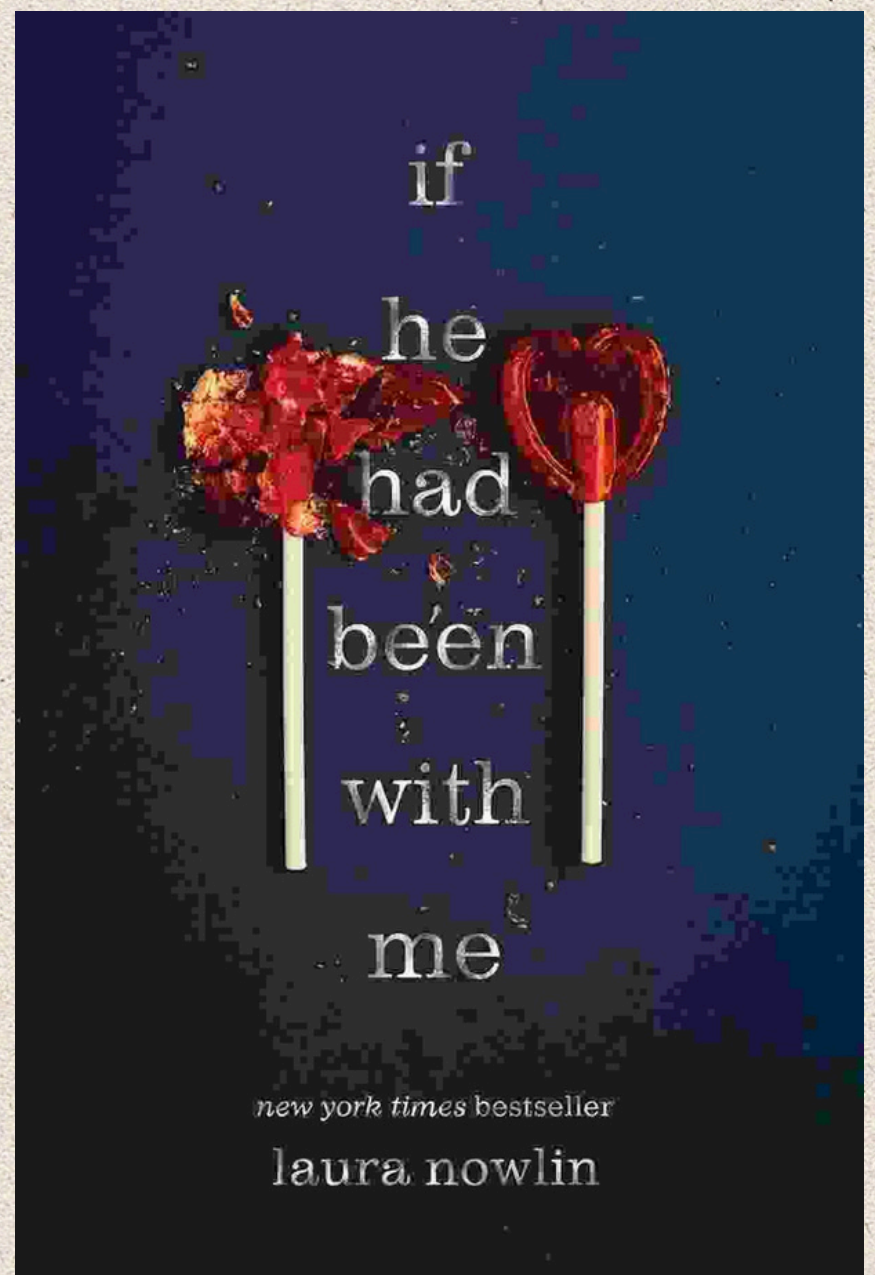
By Laura Nowlin

Genre: Fiction & Romance

Likes: The characters & the ending.

Dislikes: The beginning & Sylvie (Finny's girlfriend).

Finny and Autumn used to be best friends since they were born. Their mothers have been best friends since high school, being inseparable. One day, they randomly stopped being friends... Or was it random? Autumn is now dating Jamie and Finny is dating Sylvie. They are now in high school. Will they become friends again or more than friends, confessing their feelings for each other? Read and find out!



Questions for Cam



About This Advice Column

This Column is a place where people can submit questions. One question will be answered by an anonymous student writer (Cam) every edition. Questions for Cam is completely anonymous, so no one will know who sent in a question!

Question: What do I do if people are making fun of me but telling an adult will make it worse?

If someone is threatening or causing harm to you, or someone you know, please seek help from a trusted adult first! If you find yourself in this situation, I suggest that you tell an adult you trust, but emphasize that if someone says something to the people making fun of you it will get worse. If that's not an option, then you could try and ignore the people making fun of you, typically, people do things like that to get a reaction out of you. Only ignore IF you feel safe doing so. In a situation where none of that works, you have the option of confiding in a friend. Stay near people you trust. If you know you will be around the people making fun of you, even if you can't or don't feel comfortable telling someone, staying near a group can help discourage the people from making fun of you.

"Rent-A-Hero"

A story told by Jayden "JB" Bell

It's 2088 and a strange epidemic of unordinary abilities spreads across the masses, causing 0.48 of the total population to hold them. The United States of America's government starts a new branch, the Federal Bureau of Powers (FBP). The FBP requires that, in order to be used legally, all existing powers will need to be recorded in the Department of Legalized Powers (DLP). A branch of rebelling powers is formed to fight against the USA's government control over powers as they are a function in the body. The government starts a military branch with specialized power forces to fight them.



Editor's Note

The Creative Report is a student-led newspaper written by reporters here at Creative Arts. This is a space for students to share their perspectives and experiences at CASS as well as what is happening in our world. Supporting this newspaper is one way that our school community can make space for student voice. Student-led groups are a powerful way to build student leadership at our school and distribute power equitably across our school community. We believe that opportunities to grow the connectedness between adult and student leaders is integral to a strong school community. Please support this newspaper by reading it, and also by bringing us the stories you want heard at our school.

Questions for Cam? Submit an anonymous question to our column here!

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