
NOW SHOWING
"Lights! Camera!
Action!"
VILLA JOSEPH MARIE
QUINTESSENCE
2025
Gianna Giordano '26

I. Pilot

The smell of popcorn embraces me as I step into the theater. A cherry red icee stains the dark swirling carpet beneath my feet. It's cold, familiar: the large seats, big screen and neon signs. In front of me a reel plays the highlights of my life, and I smile as I relive it all. The things that felt so serious when I was five are now nothing more than silly memories. I cry through the hardships, laugh at my mistakes, and rejoice in the mountains I've overcome.

Similarly, this year, we have written it all. We have lived through this year and documented every moment, through words, pictures, and drawings. We have loved one another, shared our popcorn, drank our Shirley Temples, sang, danced, and laughed. You will find each and every single one of us here in this edition of *Quintessence*.

So enjoy the pieces of all of us, compiled in these pages. Introducing our own highlight reel–*Quintessence* 2025: "Lights! Camera! Action!"

Valerie Tyshko '25 — Editor-in-Chief

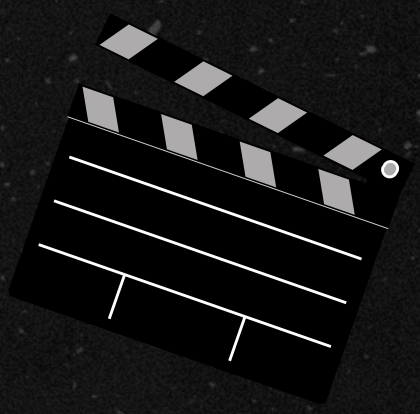
To listen to Villa's 2025 Official Motion Picture Soundtrack, click here or scan below!

II. Noir/Silent

Everything has to start somewhere. In the movie world, we begin with wordless, colorless depictions of real life on the big screen. By relying on visual storytelling, exaggerated expressions, and the use of live sounds (ironic right?), silent/noir films were able to provoke strong emotions from joy and exhilaration to sadness and fear.

In the following section, be prepared to explore the beginning of the cinematic experience through poetry, prose, and art that makes you feel like you're watching a film from the 1920s.





"Women in the Present"



Poets speak of their butter-like skin,
Their comforting, merciful eyes,
Their bearing stomachs.
Historians talk of their purity—
Their almost heroic virginity—
The ones untouched by skin.
Often, we forget their contributions,
Their solemn attrition,
Their faces covered with sweat from fighting—
Fighting wars we honor the men for.
We forget the ones with
Silenced voices—brought only
To light for the mirage
Of unsilencing, repairing history.
To really repair history, though,
We must repair the present.







Audrey Walton '27


MIA MASTROMARCO '25

"WHAT IS GRIEF IF NOT LOVE PERSEVERING?" - WANDAVISION

"What is grief if not love persevering?"

What is pain if not desire refusing to die?

What is anxiety if not the anticipation of greatness?



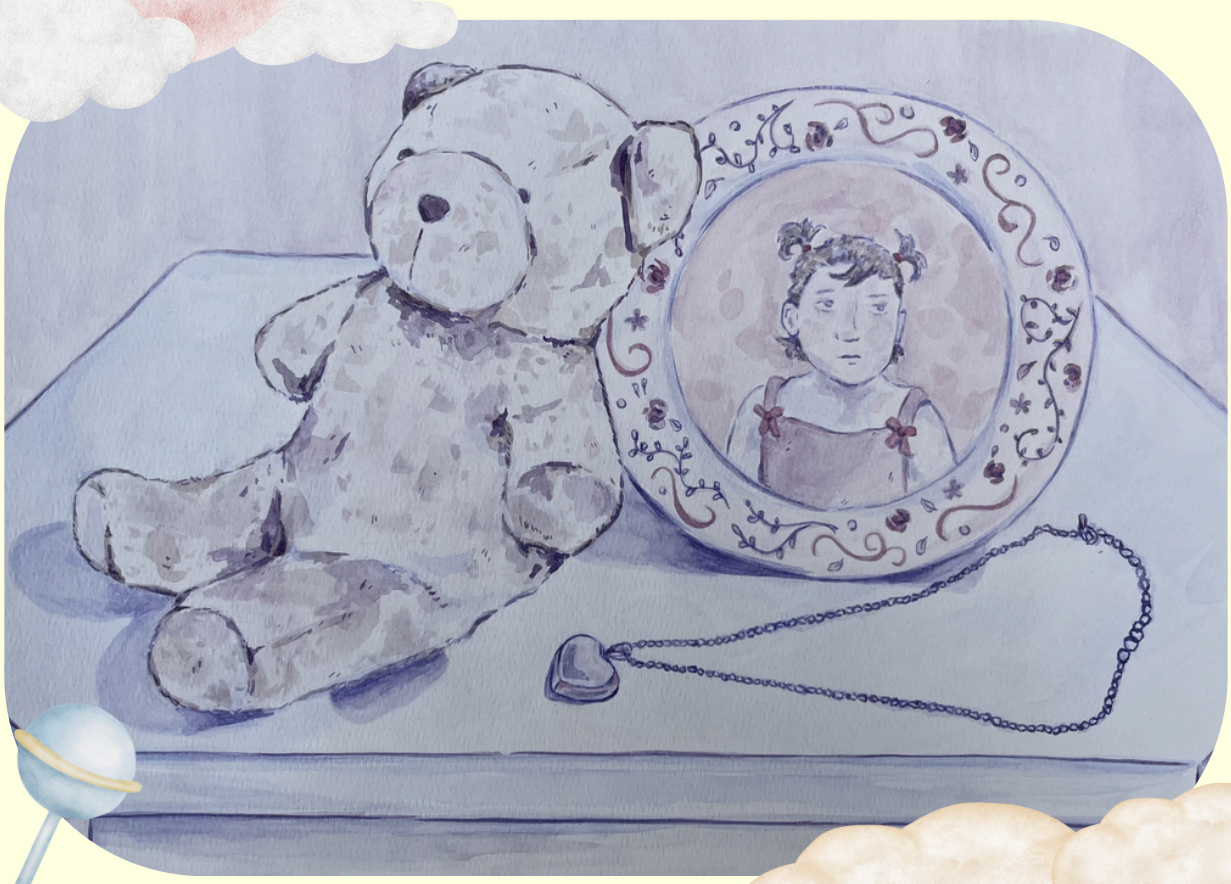


What is self-consciousness if not the acknowledgment of our collective brokenness as a family?

DANIELLE CARRADORINI '26



Gianna Giordano '26



Isabelle DaSilva '25

Are Movies Real?

Are Movies Real?

Obviously not.
The screen presents talented actors
They research their characters
Rehearse their lines
They perform, and it is captured
But then they go home back to lives of their own
Like nothing ever happened

How do they do it?
They become a new person with each role
They express emotion and find identity in the person they created

How do they not get homesick?
Each setting in a new place
Feeling the culture around them
Finding comfort in the time that they are in

How do they know what is real and what is just an act?
But maybe that's a bigger question
One that nobody can answer
Because none of us know what is genuine and what is really just an act.

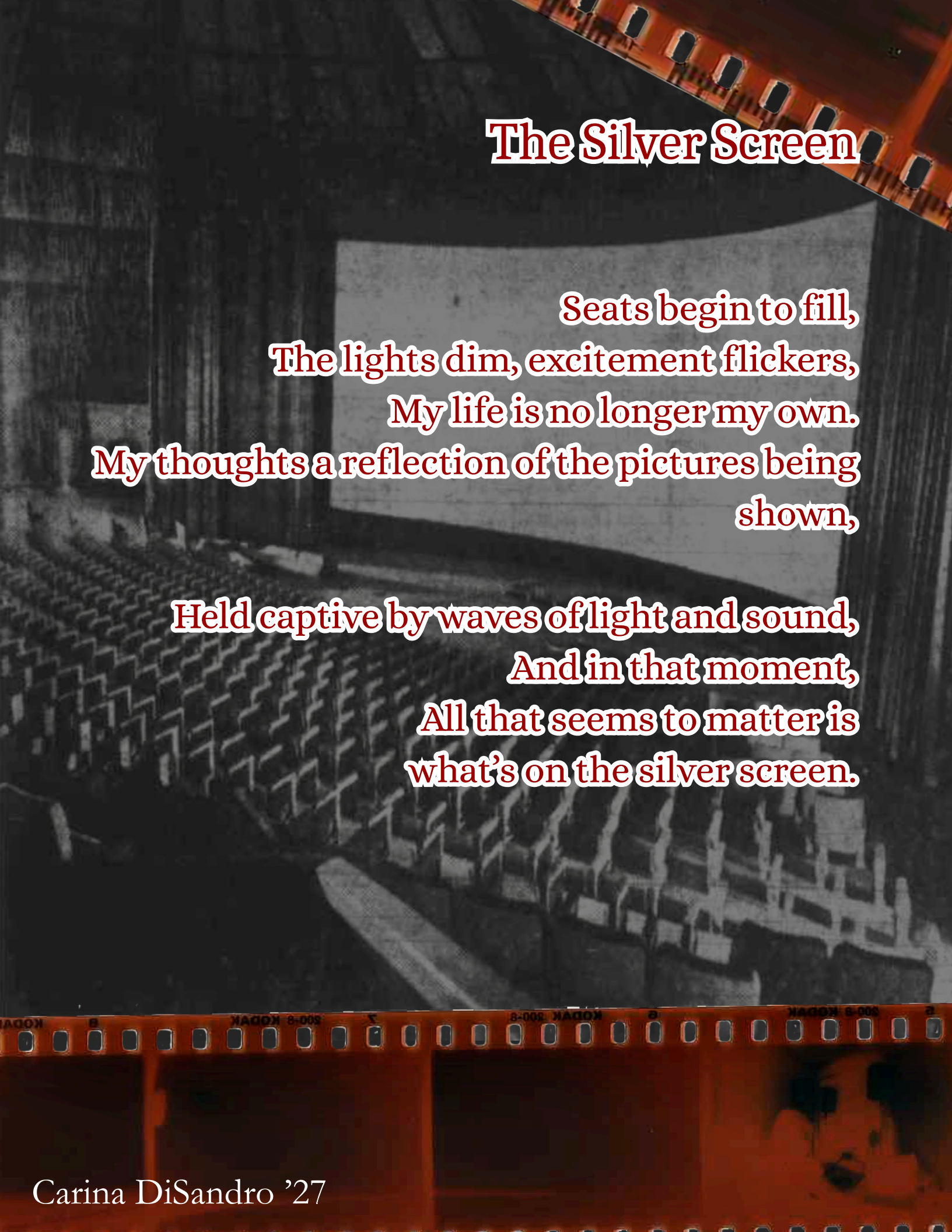


Mia Mastromarco '25

Photo That Feels Like A Movie



Mairead Menarde `26



The Silver Screen

Seats begin to fill,
The lights dim, excitement flickers,
My life is no longer my own.
My thoughts a reflection of the pictures being shown,

Held captive by waves of light and sound,
And in that moment,
All that seems to matter is
what's on the silver screen.

Carina DiSandro '27

Photo

THAT FEELS LIKE A MOVIE



ELIZABETH SLAUGENHOUP '28

PHOTO THAT FEELS LIKE A MOVIE



KENDALL CHAN '28

KENDALL CHAN '28

PHOTO THAT FEELS LIKE A MOVIE

III. MUSICALS

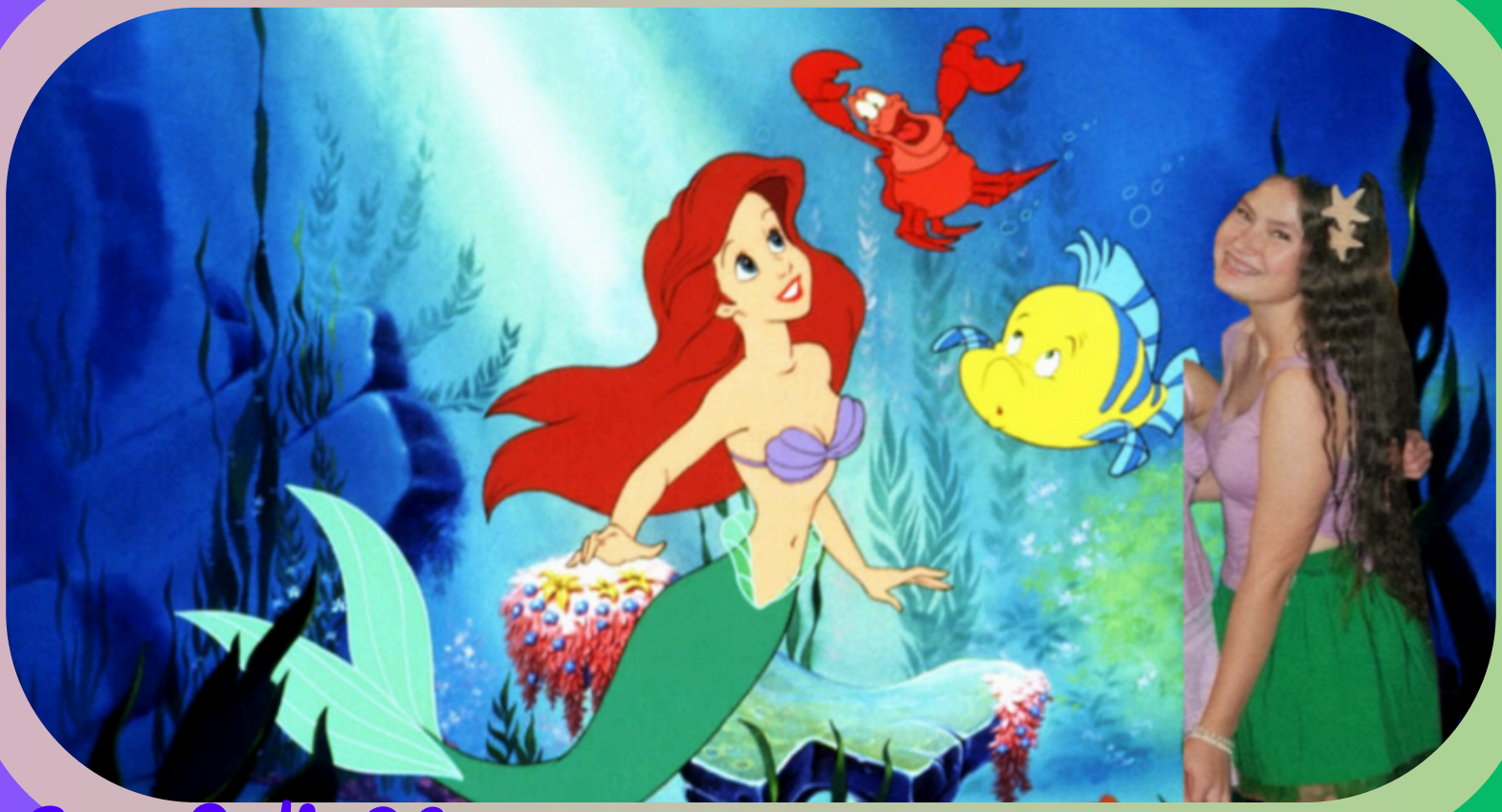
We tell stories through words, actions, and movement. As humans, we are drawn to things that help us to better understand one another –the most notable instance of this being creative expression. The innate craving to communicate with other humans stretches beyond language alone, urging us to indulge in more immersive forms of storytelling. Musicals, for one, blend multiple art forms into one harmonious piece to tell a story in a uniquely striking way. They give stories a rhythm and sense of movement that cannot always be achieved without music. Furthermore, they conduct a narrative that walks the audience through a sort of cinematic melody, while the musical elements provide the ability to access emotions that cannot be captured through any other kind of film.

Musicals invite us into a realm where emotions are intensified and scenes are amplified, forging a connection between the audience and the characters' journeys in a way that words alone cannot convey. Musicals remind us that storytelling does not have to follow a strictly outlined structure, just as long as it leaves the audience cheering for an encore.

Photoshop Yourself Into a Movie



Hannah DiStasio '25



Grace Smith '28

"THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME." - THE WIZARD OF OZ

WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT THE WORD HOME, WHAT COMES TO MIND? MAYBE A BUILDING, AN AREA, A PLACE, OR EVEN A NEIGHBORHOOD? WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT, I THINK OF THE PEOPLE WHO MAKE MY LIFE FEEL LIKE HOME. I THINK OF MY FAMILY, FRIENDS, TEACHERS, PETS, AND GOD, WHO HAVE ALL CHANGED MY LIFE FOR THE BETTER. THESE PEOPLE HAVE HAD MAJOR IMPACTS ON MY LIFE AND HELP ME EVERY DAY TO BECOME A BETTER PERSON.

GOD GAVE ME THIS LIFE FOR A REASON, A CHANCE TO LIVE UP TO MY FULL POTENTIAL. THE IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN MY LIFE SHAPE ME INTO THE YOUNG WOMAN THAT GOD CALLS ME TO BE. EACH DAY I GROW INTO A BETTER PERSON THROUGH MY EXPERIENCES AND INTERACTIONS. I CAN ALWAYS LEAN ON MY "HOME" TO BE THERE FOR SUPPORT BECAUSE I KNOW THEY WILL ALWAYS BE THERE.

CALEIGH DONOHUE '26



Éva Moharita ’28

Under the sea
crystal blue
is where she will be.
She is aloof
until a prince,
with a seagull and a crab,
enchants her with a kiss.
A sea witch will try to grab
her voice, causing ship
wreck,
defeating the witch
they arrive on the deck.
Happily ever after, leaving
her in a ditch.









Grace Smith '25



Mia Mastromarco '25



Ariel experiences a “whole new world” when she enters the human world for the first time. She goes from the comfort of the ocean to experiencing an entirely new reality. She must adapt to the land where everything is foreign. Through her trials and tribulations, she learns that the ocean doesn’t define who she is, and that she can become the person that she always wanted to be. Ariel learns to find comfort in embracing the unknown and finds a new home and sense of self on land. She was fearful of her dream, but she was able to find strength that she didn’t know existed.

Hannah DiStasio ’25



Phantom of the Opera 2004

running time 140 minutes
directed by Joel Schumacher
produced by Andrew Lloyd Webber
starring Gerard Butler Emmy Rossum Patrick Wilson

Alice Takita '28

"There's no place like home." -*The Wizard of Oz*

The Different Sides of Home

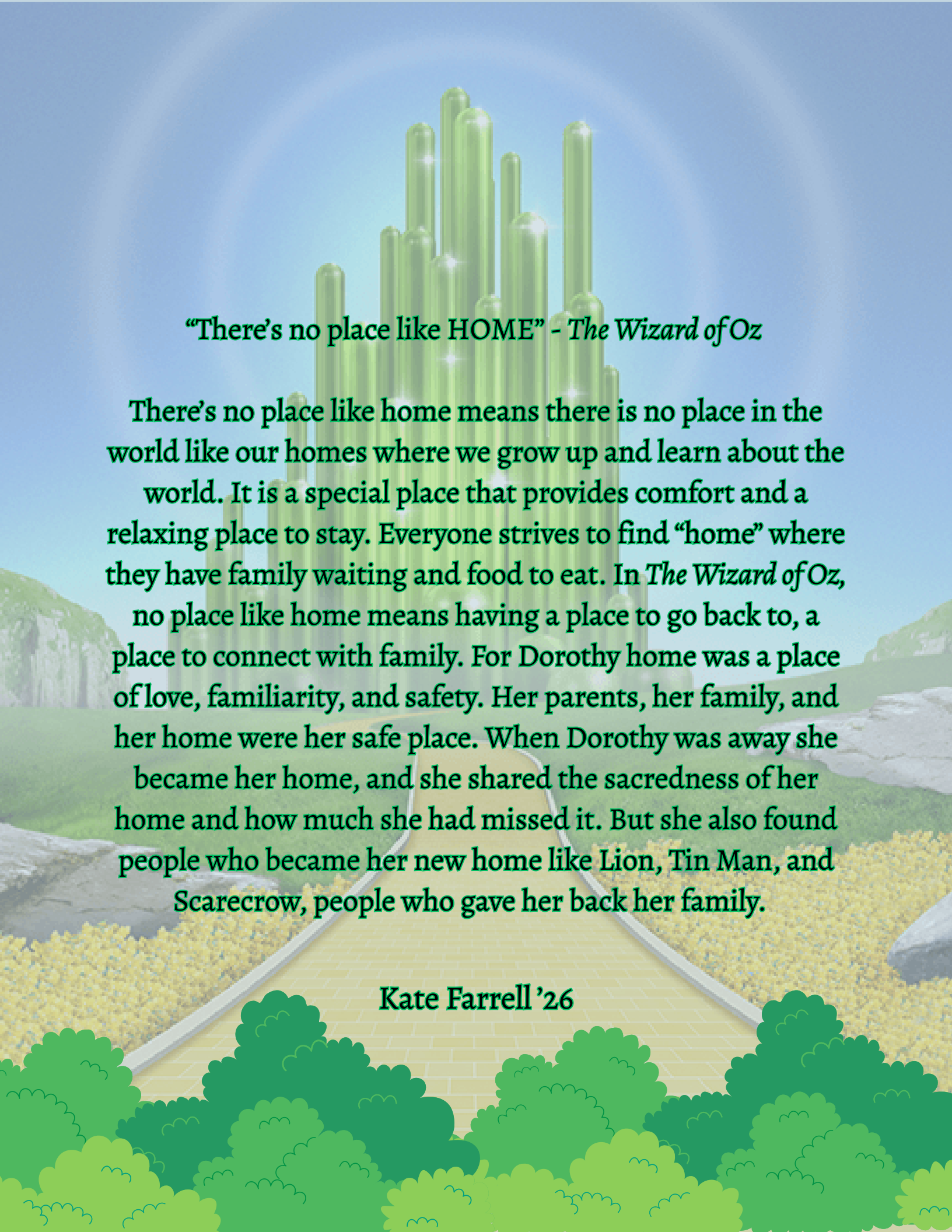
When someone tells me to describe my version of home,
The word "nostalgia" shoots up to my brain.
My childhood
The road to a familiar place after a long trip
Remembering a nostalgic smell from a candle
And getting sent to the past, reminiscing the happy times
Running in the backyard with my first dog trying to catch up with me
Creating sandcastles on the beach at my grandparent's beach house
Baking cookies with the smell of chocolate filling up the house.
The place I grew up in and made my first memories in
For me, home is not just a place built out of walls
It's a family
It's a friend
It's God
It's love
It's my mom's care when I come home from school and she asks me how my day goes
It's my dad's kindness when he learns how to be gluten free just because I am
It's my older brother's support and the way he acts as a role model for me
It's my best friends when I have unlimited laughter and my stomach hurts
Now it's my last year of high school
And one of my biggest questions about college I've been asked is
"Do you want to stay close or go far from home?"
The first time I've been asked this
I almost had tears come down my face
Because the realization hit me that this is my last year I'm staying home as a high-schooler
What happened to the good old days
When all we worried about was being inside before sunset,
after a long day with our first ever friends.
I don't know where I'll end up
But I know my home will always be there for me
Even if it's a phone call away
The home I know is based off love, structure, and support
And throughout my 18 years of life,
My home has shaped me to be the person I am today

Kate Manel '25



NOW SHOWING:
PHOTO THAT FEELS LIKE A MOVIE

PRODUCED BY:
REAGAN MCGROARTY ‘27



"There's no place like HOME" - *The Wizard of Oz*

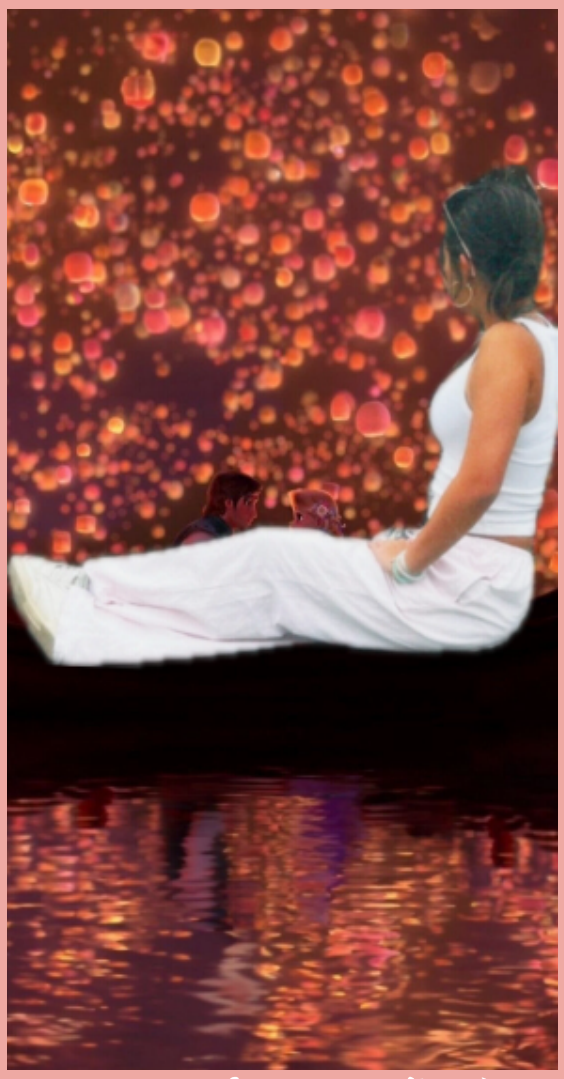
There's no place like home means there is no place in the world like our homes where we grow up and learn about the world. It is a special place that provides comfort and a relaxing place to stay. Everyone strives to find "home" where they have family waiting and food to eat. In *The Wizard of Oz,* no place like home means having a place to go back to, a place to connect with family. For Dorothy home was a place of love, familiarity, and safety. Her parents, her family, and her home were her safe place. When Dorothy was away she became her home, and she shared the sacredness of her home and how much she had missed it. But she also found people who became her new home like Lion, Tin Man, and Scarecrow, people who gave her back her family.

Kate Farrell '26



Katelyn Manel '25

Photoshop Yourself



Into a Movie

Gianna Na '28

The bright lights blinding
I was originally hiding
But my father has been calling
Saying I need to start balling
Or drawing, bowling, jogging
Well, how about singing?
I start, my hands stinging,
“I’ve got my ticket for the long way”
Little did I know that day
Would send me my family, my girls
They love to wear jewels and pearls,
But most importantly, we sing,
We sing together, we bring
What everyone longs for,
Something to stay for,
I’m stuck in the dark, but you’re my flashlight,
You're getting me, getting me through the night

Kristin Taylor ’25

PHOTO THAT FEELS LIKE A MOVIE

Julianna Warshaw `26



A MOMENT FROM YOUR DAY AS IF IT WERE A MOVIE SCENE

I sit in my musical theater class, surrounded by nothing but the music as the rhythm takes over and choreographs the dance for us.

Eden Rosini ’25





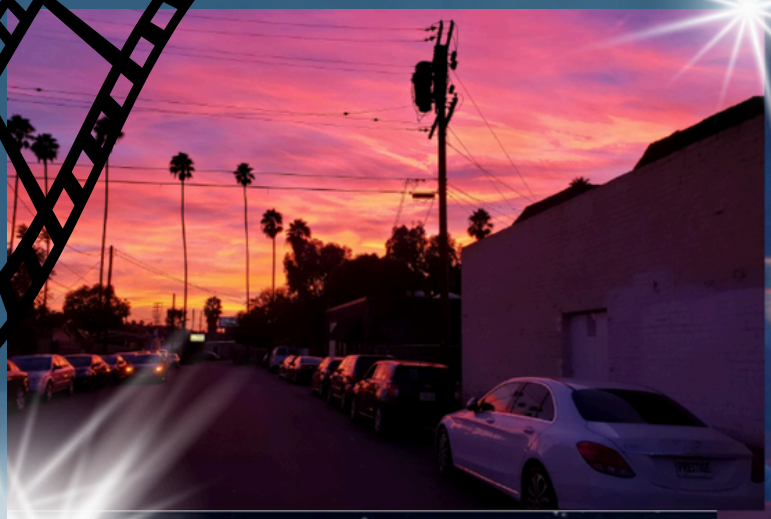
I wake up to the birds chirping and the house is buzzing with joy! I put on my uniform and dance around my room with joy for the new day ahead.

Hannah DiStasio ’25

A girl wakes up to her alarm and opens the blinds. The sun rushes in filling the room. The song "sing your own type of song" plays as she stretches and a getting ready montage plays out.

Reina Caruso ’28







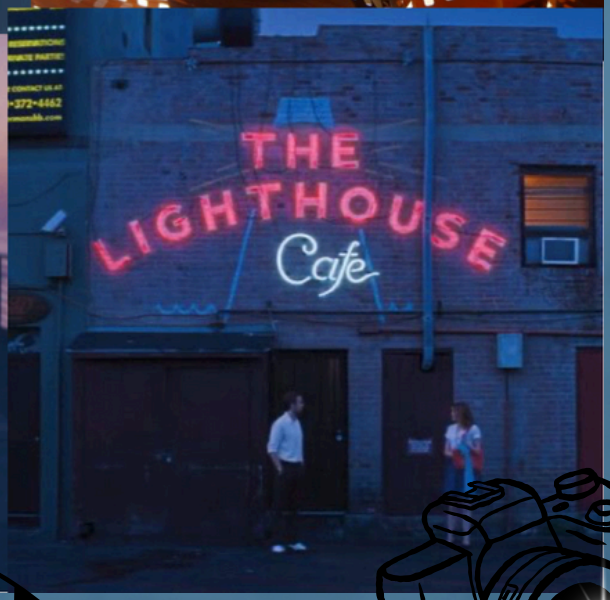
HOLLYWOOD













Nadia Kozij '25

La Amistad

La amistad es especial.
La confianza es fundamental.
Yo aprecio mis chicas.
Cuando estamos juntas es magia.

Siempre me divierto.
Salimos a comprar vestido.
A nosotros nos gusta comprar en los centros comerciales.
Nuestras viajes de compras son especiales.

Cuando los invito, mis amigas están interesadas.
Nosotros nos vemos diario en clase.
El fin de semana tenemos horarios ocupados.
Pero siempre podemos encontrar tiempo.
Para hablanos.

Los sábados nosotros tenemos una fiesta de pijamas.
En el televisor vimos los programas.
Es el tiempo para relajarnos.
Nosotros siempre queremos hablarnos.
Cada vez trasnochamos jugar un juego de mesa.
La ganadora es una sorpresa.

Maddy Smith
el 29 de enero



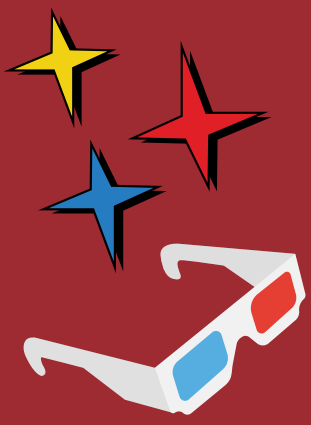


Maddy Smith '26


Edison Lighthouse
What's Happening
LOVE GROWS
EDISON LIGHTHOUSE
EVERY LONELY DAY
EDISON LIGHTHOUSE
edison lighthouse
GREATEST HITS
featuring tony burrows
BEA
Love
Grows
Edison Lighthouse
Love Grows
Edison Lighthouse
0:48
2:13
Violet Katz '28



IV. ACTION



Action isn't just about big explosions or car chases, it's what moves stories forward and brings things to life.

In this section, our artists and writers explore different kinds of action: the rush of a sports game, a reimagined movie scene, or a collage of superheroes. They show that action can be both grand and personal.

Through poetry, visual art, and photography, we see how action is part of everyday life. A hand held in the woods, the strength of pride, the power of friendship. These simple moments push us forward.

Here, action isn't just something we see, it's something we feel.

"GREAT MEN ARE NOT BORN GREAT, THEY GROW GREAT." -THE GODFATHER

Leaders are molded
They don't just appear
They are grown
From experiences, trauma, and fear



Great people are not born
They begin unknown
Great people are not born
They are grown

Our settings and surroundings
To us are well-known
They guide us to our future
Milestone by milestone



MIRA MOLLIS '28



EMILY SCHMIDT '25

The Hike

In a rain, cool and gentle
In the woods, soft and dark
Around me happiness, almost accidental
The wind cries with no snide remark

A hand in mine, walking shoulder to shoulder
A mysterious figure hovers over my breath
Years pass by and I feel no older
Like a kid, I will be, 80 years to my death

I must take my pride, the hardest pill to swallow
Words sparred like daggers
In my pain, I can't wallow
My breathing staggers
My brain filled with horrors
All alone I curl up, with nowhere to hide

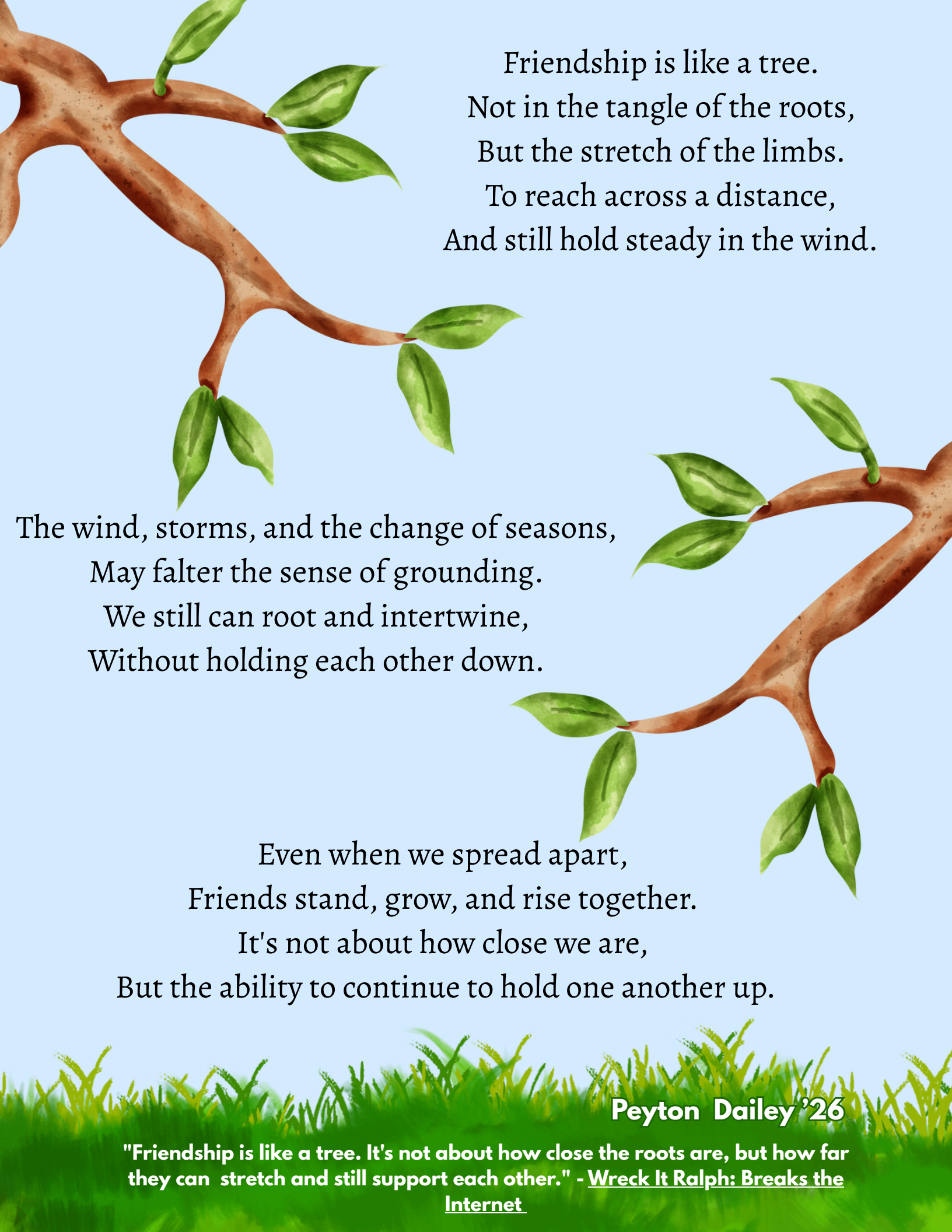
The woods always find me
Whispers deep in my bones
It strips me naked, raw feelings
I have found my new home

Valerie Tyshko '25





Sarah Homnick '25



Friendship is like a tree.
Not in the tangle of the roots,
But the stretch of the limbs.
To reach across a distance,
And still hold steady in the wind.

The wind, storms, and the change of seasons,
May falter the sense of grounding.
We still can root and intertwine,
Without holding each other down.

Even when we spread apart,
Friends stand, grow, and rise together.
It's not about how close we are,
But the ability to continue to hold one another up.

Peyton Dailey '26

"Friendship is like a tree. It's not about how close the roots are, but how far they can stretch and still support each other." - Wreck It Ralph: Breaks the Internet

Photoshop Yourself



Into a Movie

Luciana Rupprecht '27

Photo that feels like a movie

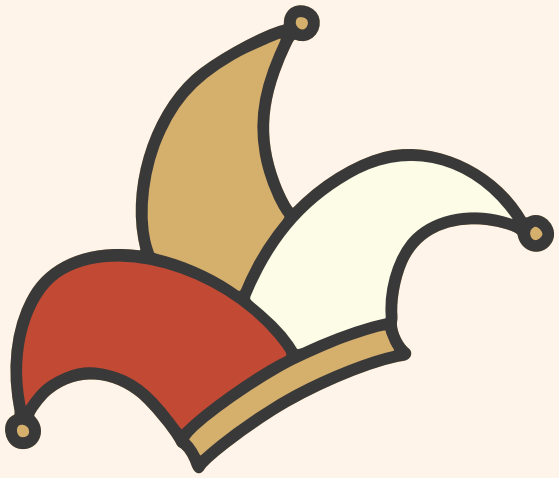
Addison Holmes '26

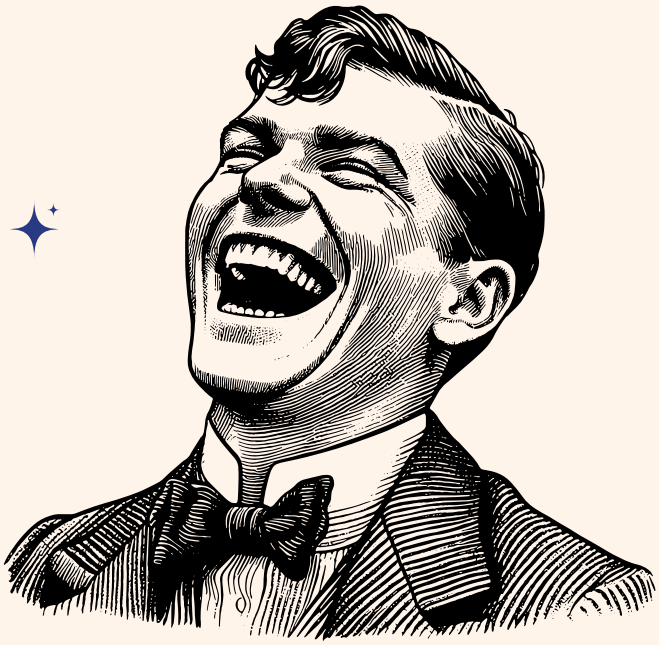


V. COMEDY

Laughter is good for the soul. Who doesn't love a belly laugh that leaves tears streaming down your face?

The art in this section is to be taken lightly—because sometimes we need to laugh at ourselves—and definitely was created by those with a great sense of humor.



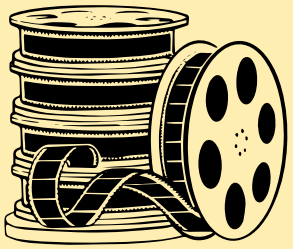


The Secret Life of Brek (Brooklyn Shrek)



Brooklyn Planck ’26

A moment from your day as if it were a movie scene:

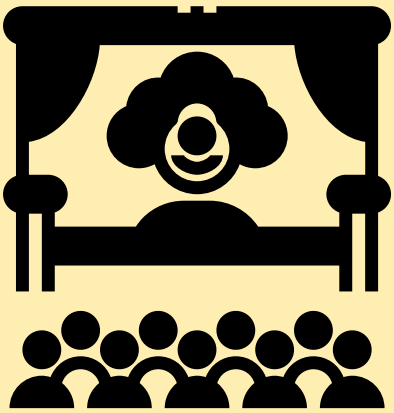


Today I had a free period first period, and it was completely silent in the lounge. I ate a chip , and it was really loud and my friend laughed at me.

JoAnna Stanger ’28

I walk into my room and sigh and lean against the door. The party is in two hours and I have no idea what im wearing. *cue montage of me trying on everything in my room* “I don’t have ANYTHING to wear!” I say standing in a pile of clothes.

Reagan McGroarty ’27





As I went to history class, I found out Mr. Wilson’s kids were with him! Instead of doing our work, our class played hangman with the Wilson boys, having fun and avoiding doing our work for just a few minutes.

Chloe Gumbs ’27

Lunch starts off as any high school movie lunch would with a trip to the lunch line and hilarious conversations with the table. Also, we're much too loud and really give main character energy!

Isabelle Glunz ’25

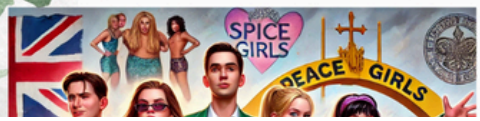


HOPE AND RESILIENCE





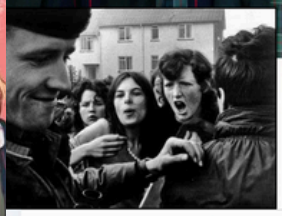
FRIENDSHIP AND FAMILY





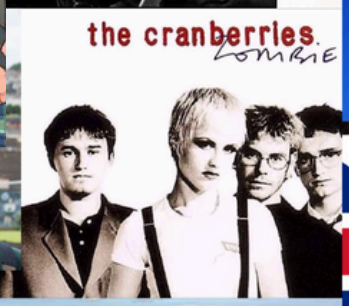
DERRY GIRLS

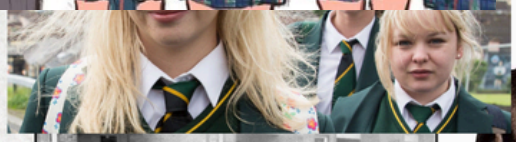




COMING OF AGE





















RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL IDENTITY

Freya Scott ’25

ROSIE CAHILL '28



PHOTOSHOP YOURSELF INTO A MOVIE



BELLA LUNA '28



Jessica Day's Sunny Day

THE ALARM CLOCK BUZZING, MY EYES DART OPEN
TODAY IS A GOOD DAY TO HAVE A GREAT DAY.
THE BIRDS ARE CHIRPING, AND THE SUN IS SHINING
AND EVEN IF IT ISN'T, I'LL MAKE MY OWN RAYS.

I FEEL A FRESH SPRING BREEZE THROUGH THE WINDOWS
AND HAPPILY MUNCH ON MY SUGARY FRENCH TOAST.
BUT WAIT, THE TABLECLOTH LOOKS A LITTLE BARE.
LET ME ADD GLITTER, THE THING I LOVE MOST.

GOING TO TEACH MAKES ME LOOK FORWARD TO MY DAY.
SEEING THE KIDS' FACES, KNOWING I CAN HELP THEM IN SOME WAY
I HAPPILY SING MY WAY TO WORK.
TODAY IS A GOOD DAY TO HAVE A GREAT DAY.

SARA ZINK '25

MOD PIZZA

SINCE 2008

Running Time:

10:30am- 10:00pm

Directors:

Scott Svenson

&

Ally Svenson

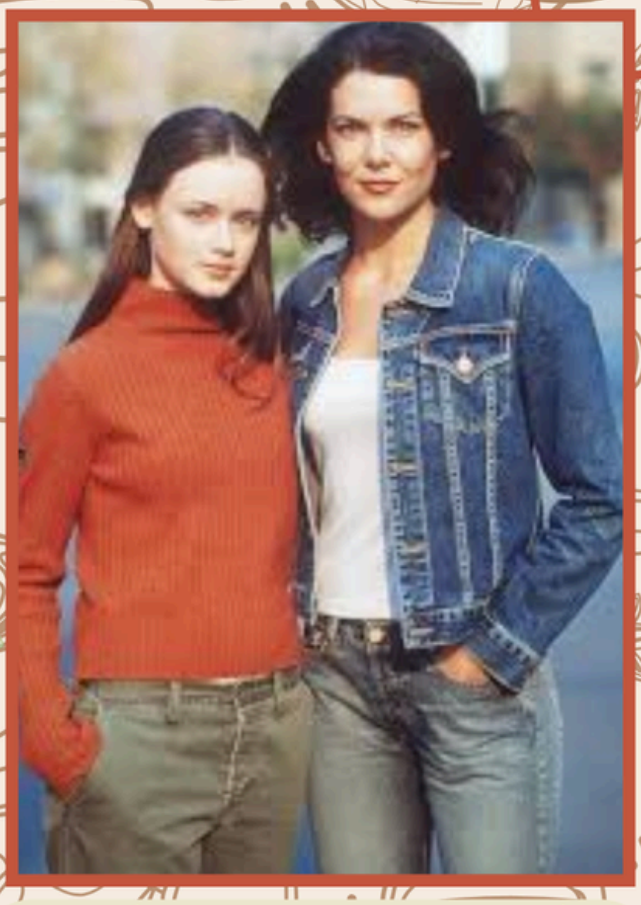




Starring:

Gianna Na ’28

Producer: MOD Pizza, LLC



Gilmore girls

October 5th, 2000

Comedy/drama

Hadley Alemhoca ’28

VI. HORROR

Horror isn't always monsters hiding under beds or ghosts trapped in mirrors—it can be found in everyday life. This section explores the genre through poems that uncover fear in everyday moments from the time we wake up to the end of our day. Whether it's missing an alarm that makes you late for school or the feeling of anxiety before a test, each piece taps into the terrifying moments of high school life. Through prose, photographs, and paintings, our artists reveal what happens when the ordinary turns unsettling.

As you move through these pages you may find horrifying moments that you may relate to. Whether its through forgetting to study for a test or waking up late for school, these horror stories are personal reflections of the average high school student–ones we don't always talk about. The works here remind us that fear isn't always just what hides in the dark, but can be a part of everyday life.



Avangeline Scanlon '28

Hereditary

Taylor Pitts ’27

If I had to add a character to a novel, I would want to add a character to the horror movie Hereditary. In this movie, the main character, Peter, goes through numerous episodes where he seems to act insane. However, nobody seems to pay much attention to this, despite the insane tendencies of the characters, which doesn’t seem too realistic. So, if I could add a character into this movie, I would add some sort of psychologist into the movie, as that would both add suspense to the movie and make the viewer question if what was happening could have been in his mind. This character would be viewed as a professional and would not get much screen time. However, in the amount of time the character would have, they would act very skeptical and almost judgmental towards Peter and would not believe the stories that he was telling her. This character would make Peter question if he was really going insane, and if the voice of his sister was truly all in his head. Incorporating this character into the movie would add to the suspense and the psychological horror elements of the film, creating a sense of insanity within the characters. Overall, this character would serve to cause confusion within the characters, making it harder to get to the conclusion of the movie and uncover the truth.



Evelyn Stickley ’25

A MOMENT FROM YOUR DAY AS IF IT WERE A MOVIE SCENE



I WAKE UP AND REALIZE THAT MY ALARM DIDN'T GO OFF AND I ONLY HAVE FIVE MINUTES UNTIL SCHOOL STARTS. I HURRY TO GET TO MY FIRST PERIOD CHEM TEST ON TIME, BUT MY PLANS ARE PUT AT A HALT WHEN MY CAR BREAKS DOWN AND I AM LEFT STRANDED IN THE MIDDLE OF HOLLAND ROAD.

LUCY JASIONIS '27

I WOKE UP, CUDDLING WITH MY BLANKET TRYING TO KEEP THE FRIGID AIR FROM COMING IN THE CRACKS, DREADING THE MOMENT I WILL HAVE TO GET UP TO GET READY FOR SCHOOL.

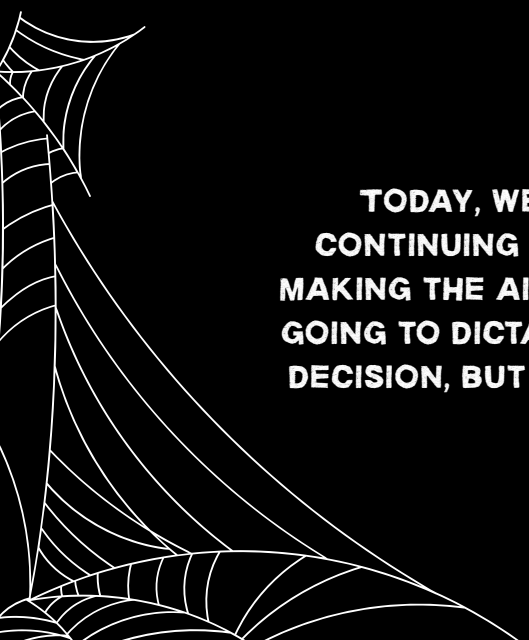
MCKENZIE PETERS '26





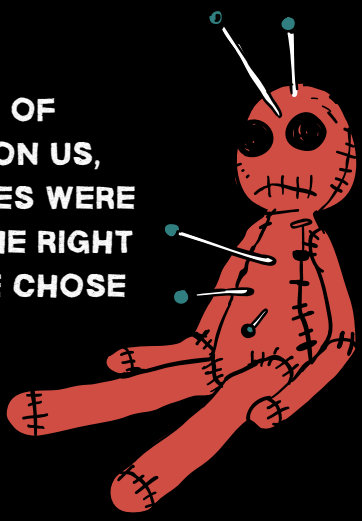
I WAS WALKING THROUGH THE HALLS LISTENING TO THE CHATTER AND FROM BEHIND ME I COULD HEAR POINTLESS CONVERSATION. I WANTED TO LISTEN TO MUSIC BUT DECIDED AGAINST IT BECAUSE OF THE ATMOSPHERE AND THE FEAR OF BEING JUDGED, SO INSTEAD I WALKED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR THE PEOPLE WAITING BEHIND ME.

CLARA CHACKO '27



TODAY, WE WERE FACED WITH THE DIFFICULT CHOICE OF CONTINUING CASE STUDY OR NOT. A LOT OF WEIGHING ON US, MAKING THE AIR FEEL SO HEAVY AROUND US. OUR CHOICES WERE GOING TO DICTATE THE FUTURE. WE THINK WE'VE MADE THE RIGHT DECISION, BUT ONLY THE FUTURE WILL TELL WHETHER WE CHOSE RIGHT OR DOOMED US ALL.

MEREDITH CZYZ '25





El Schwenker ’25



Isabelle DaSilva ’25

VII. DRAMA

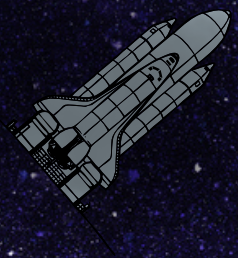
Emotional. Exciting! Unexpected? Drama is what keeps our hearts beating in the silence of suspense, what makes us gasp at a plot twist, and what makes us bawl at a poignant ending.

In this section, be prepared to feel all the emotions.

"And when you find yourself lost in the darkness and despair, remember it's only in the black of night you see the stars."
-Coach Whitney Durham (*One Tree Hill*)

You were sent into space,
Why were you picked to go?
The journey is dark,
You are stuck in the black.
Can you see the stars, planets?
The lights are small, but still there.
Reach for the stars.
Take my advice as a former traveler:
go for the brightest one.
It could lead you home.

Olivia Eldridge '26



Photoshop Yourself



Into a Movie

Sophia Field '28

"Maybe this is what happens when you grow up. You feel less joy"
- Joy (*Inside Out 2*)

The year is 2019
I was 10 but I couldn't wait to become a teen
I looked at high schoolers with fear in my eyes
Counting the days until I could be that wise
Our school days were filled with holiday parties and soccer at recess
Homework was given much less
Lacrosse was fun and stress free
I played every day not worrying, not even worrying about who I would be
My only care was how many minutes until I could play with my friends
Little did I know I would never want those days to end

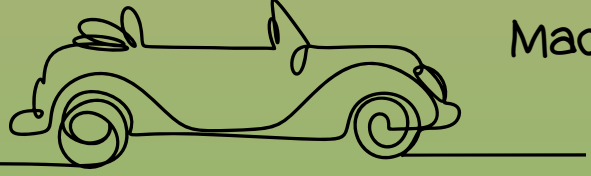






The year is 2025
I am now 16 and I can even drive
I am now in high school and look at little kids with envy in my eyes
Looking back through my days wishing I appreciated youth, wishing I had been wise
School days are now filled with countless tests
Homework seems to never give me a rest
Lacrosse is no longer stress free but filled with ideas of college recruiting
These thoughts and worries are very polluting
My only care is how much work I must do
Barely realizing how fast time flew
Scared to notice that I must still grow up more
But now I know that I must appreciate the present more







Maddy Chan '27

teach ♥ love ♥ learn ♥ hope ♥

faith ♥ discover ♥ family ♥







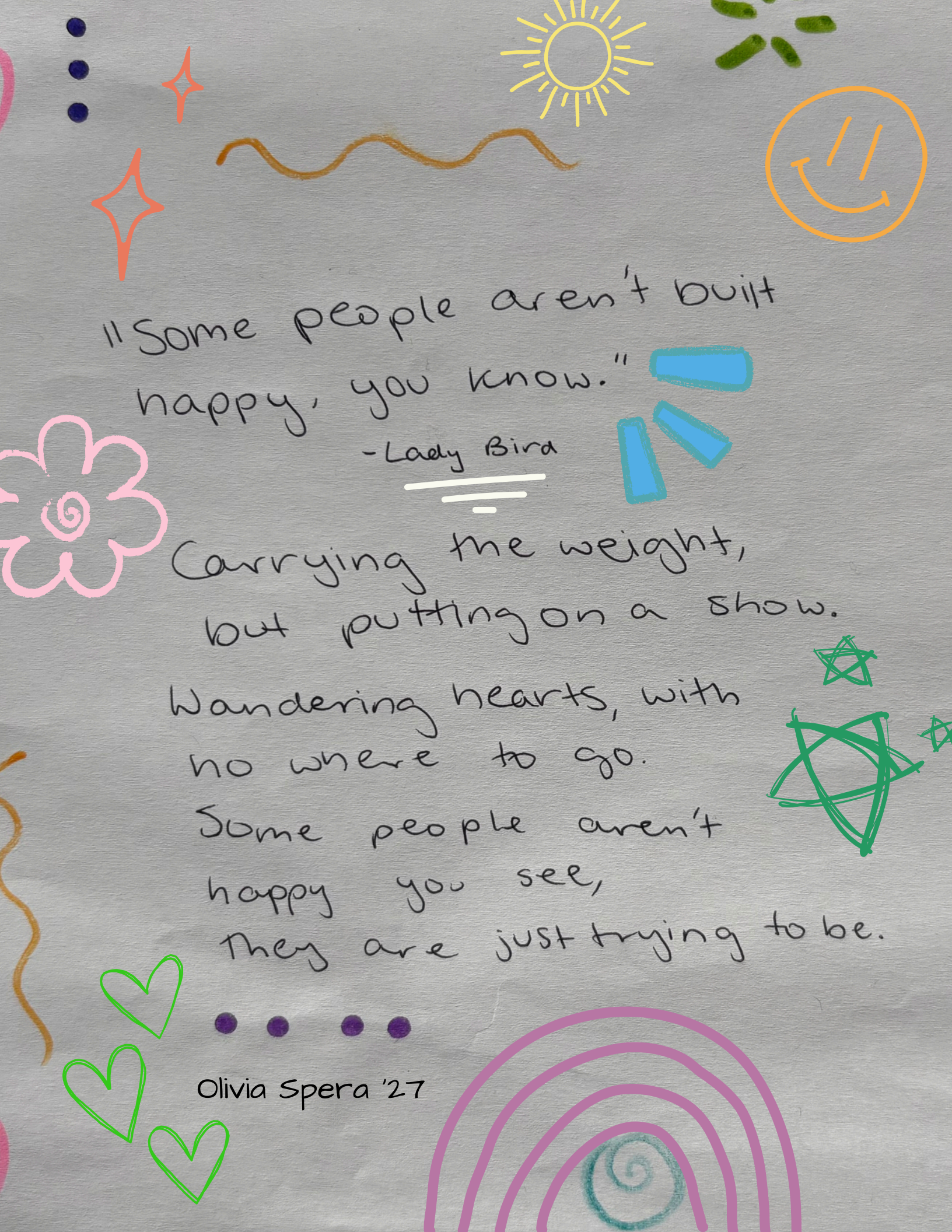








Ally Schultz '25

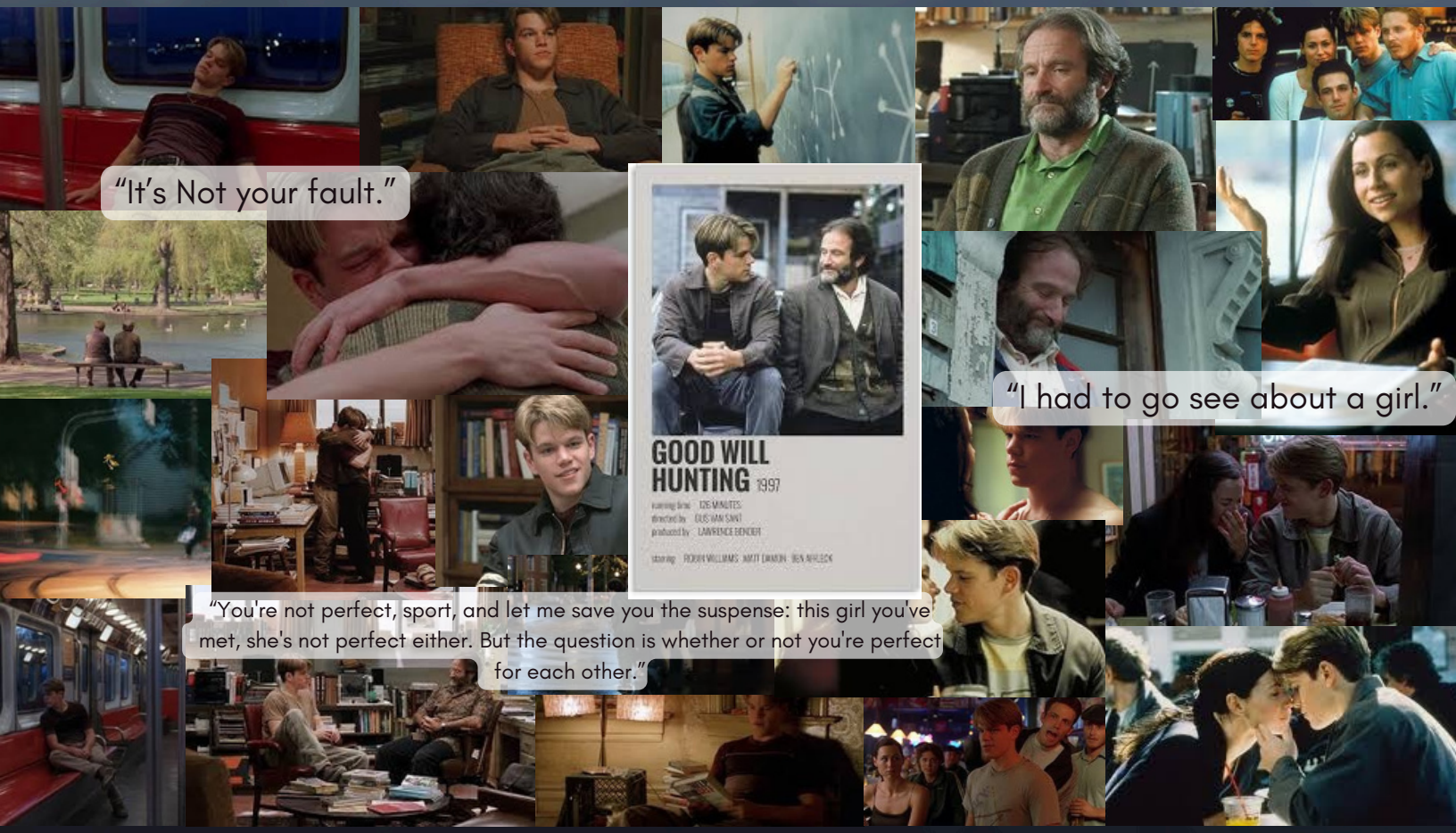


"Some people aren't built happy, you know."

-Lady Bird

Carrying the weight,
but putting on a show.
Wandering hearts, with
no where to go.
Some people aren't
happy you see,
they are just trying to be.

Olivia Spera '27



Gia Sigmund '26

Little Women Movie/Book Review

When reading the novel *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott, people, especially young women, feel a sense of empowerment accurately encapsulated in the 2019 film, directed by Greta Gerwig. Gerwig, also known as the director of the 2023 *Barbie* film, displays a common theme of empowering females in a society in which their accomplishments are undermined.

Beginning with the theme of "gender roles," Jo is used by Alcott and Gerwig to convey this theme. Jo March, the second-oldest daughter of the March family and protagonist, exemplifies the breaking of gender stereotypes through her actions in the novel. Her nickname is an example of this. "Jo", when pronounced, is the same as "Joe", short for "Joseph." Her love interest, "Laurie," however, presents a feminine ring to it. This is done purposely by Alcott, and also visually encapsulated by Gerwig. This switching of names is a subtle, but effective way to express the defying of gender stereotypes. The novel paints Jo as a strong woman who never takes no for an answer. It accurately describes the internal conflict that she possesses because she wants to break free from traditional gender roles but faces backlash with every attempt. The movie accurately depicts Jo's consistent frustration with society's values. Upon looking at her, she is always flustered and considered to be uptight, which was done purposefully by Gerwig, as an attempt for watchers to view Jo from society's eyes. Watchers were able to understand the struggles of women in that time period.

In conclusion, when thinking of an incredible book-to-movie adaptation, *Little Women* comes to the minds of many avid readers. Gerwig accurately represents the struggles that Alcott included in her novel, which allows it to be extremely accurate and enticing.

Gabriella Cherian '26

Photo That Feels Like A Movie



Cassie Gibbs '25

MOST RELATABLE CHARACTER

AND THE OSCAR GOES TO...





and...







PHOTO THAT FEELS LIKE A MOVIE

CHRISTINA STATHIS ’28

The Souvenir Poem

Drama, film, screenwriting, casting
With bitter apartments sharply contrasting.
Art museum, rehearsals, a society of friends
Continuously praying, but the winding never ends.
One plus one, then we have a crew.
A sudden death, shattering gloom
Romance so pure, but ever still cruel
Never did a director feel this doom.
Butterflies and evergreen fields
Ricocheted through her childhood
Family manages to love in the time of dullness
Sincere, yet it still feels so far away.
Back on set to direct
Moving pictures and unfamiliar voices
An eruption of light
And the camera focuses,
Dancing people on the humble, darkened set,
Grief emerges underneath all of it.
Years and years go by with all to see it
More and more people enter this lonely life
Happiness begins to set in this
Almost erasing the confused boy.
The memory still lives in one's head
Soon to break its way beyond the past
Cinematography captures abnormality
But the audience will see tears begin to rise.
A scene occurs, her thoughts rewind
The time is coming for everyone to see it align.
Open the curtains, see the truth,
Watch the movie of ever-so-loving youth.th.

Clara Chacko '27

The poem is based on the movies *The Souvenir* and *The Souvenir Part II*. These movies explore Julie's life as she works on a film for her college, but along the way, she deals with struggles in her personal life as she meets an interesting man named Anthony. She falls in love with him, but he is a heroin addict and continues to let his problems slip into her life. My poem is meant to capture the essence of the movie as Julie balances school and home. The poem focuses on film, but the reader can see hints of grief and disarray seep into her life as it continues. I added a nostalgic and ethereal tone to show her journey as she looks back on the dullness that a lover brought into her life, but it finishes off with the showing of her film, which Anthony inspired. This symbolizes the healing she experienced after accepting everything Anthony brought into her life when he was still in it, and the strength she received afterwards.


Photo that feels like a movie
Isabelle Glunz '25



Gia Sigmund '26





Downton Abbey

5/5 stars

The outstanding television series *Downton Abbey* is the epitome of a timeless period piece that is guaranteed to delight audiences, old and young alike. The characters are well-developed and feel realistic and human, while the plot explores all emotions. *Downton Abbey* allows viewers to enter a different time and enjoy all the historic details and exquisite costumes! The grand manor itself is truly a character, as it changes drastically over the course of the seasons and faces important points in world history. Overall, this show is beautifully created and enraptures audiences' attentions and emotions.



Izzi Glunz '25







GREY'S ANATOMY

21

SEASONS

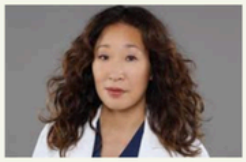




































Lauren Warunek '28



Isabelle DaSilva '25

VIII. Romantic Comedy

the things in life that make us giddy also make us the happiest. From an epic confession of love to a passionate kiss, romance gets us on our feet and brightens our day. Rom-coms simplify real-world circumstances, showing the beauty of human relationships while displaying the pain and heartache that can be received from love.

the following pictures, reviews, and poetry elucidate the vital role a simple, light-hearted love story plays in our lives. It inspires us to live to the best of our abilities, whether it is with a partner or not. It also plants the seed of hopes, dreams, and expectations of the world that will last forevermore.



“Chosen Family”

Family is more than blood in our veins,
More than the names or inherited traits.
It’s laughter that lingers, a shoulder to lean,
Above that constant, unseen yet serene.

It’s the friend who stays when all others leave,
The hands to hold when your heart grieves.
It’s kindness offered with no demand,
A bond unbroken, a helpful hand.

It’s found in voices, soft yet strong,
In those who lift when things go wrong.
Not bound by blood,
But tied by love that sets us free.

So hold them close, the ones who stay,
The ones who chase the dark away.
Families built on love so true,
In hearts that beat the same as you.

Anabelle Walker ’27



ADDISON HOLMES '26

A moment from your day as if it were a movie scene:



The brown eyeliner drew a wispy line next to the soft warm brown eyeshadow. With only a couple minutes until I had to leave, the poorly applied mascara had to be left as is. I wasn't used to putting makeup on after not touching the chocolate brown eyeliner for a couple of weeks.



Catalina Sommer ’25

Beneath the soft morning light streaming through the café windows, I sipped my coffee while the clinking of cups and murmured greetings composed a gentle symphony that felt like the opening scene of a heartfelt film.

Bridget Veitz ’25



Photoshop Yourself Into a Movie



Olivia Spera '27



Alice Takita '28

LOLA TUNG

GAVIN CASALEGNO

CHRISTOPHER BRINEY



17 JUNE 2023

THE SUMMER I TURNED PRETTY

Friendship, love & drama.

Also starring
Rain Spencer, Sean Kaufman, Jocelyn Shelfo, Rachel Blanchard, David Lacono, Elsie Fisher, Jackie Chung, Minni Mills, and more

Ava Bachinsky '28



Catie Holt ’26

I came here tonight because when you realize you want to spend the rest of your life with somebody, you want the rest of your life to start as soon as possible.

I've come here with no expectations. Only to profess, now that I am at the liberty to do so,
that my heart is and always will be yours.

I'm just a girl, standing in front of a boy, asking him to love her.

To me, you are perfect.

I want all of you, forever, you and me, every day.

You saw me when I was invisible.

I wish I knew how to quit you.

I hate the way I don't hate you. Not even close, not even a little bit, not even at all.

It would be a privilege to have my heart broken by you.

Death cannot stop true love. All it can do is delay it for a while.

You have bewitched me, body and soul, and I love... I love... I love you.

Love is scary: it changes; it can go away. That's the part of the risk. I don't want to be scared
anymore.



And sometimes you love a person just because they feel like home.

Standing here, in front of everyone, I'm telling you that I love you.

I'm not a smart man. But I know what love is.

You want the moon? Just say the word, and I'll throw a lasso around it and pull it down.

I want a serious girlfriend. Somebody I can love, that's gonna love me back.



I want the fairy tale.

Being with you is the only way I could have a full and happy life.

Wherever you are in the world, that's where I belong.

I love you.

I know.

Ava Spera '25

"Sometimes we need to be apart to understand just how much we truly love each other"



THE Notebook



Avery Folz '27

"I think I'd love you even if we never met."
- *The Wedding Date*

I think I'd love you even
if we never crossed paths.
If we had walked down the
same street but never stopped to see the other halves.
Because somehow we were meant to
meet.

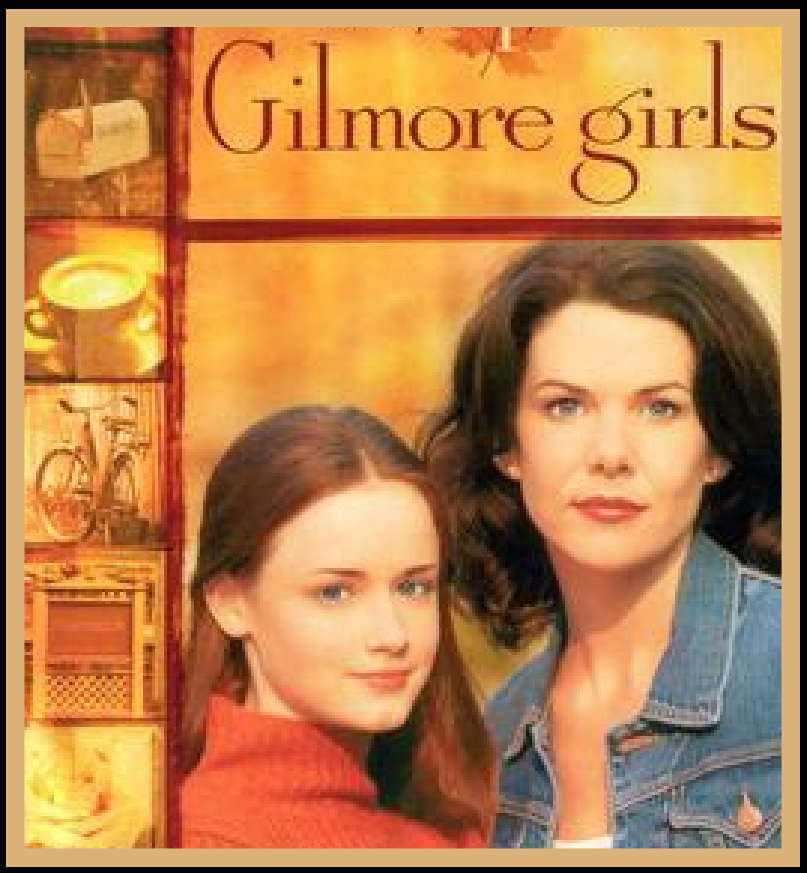
Maybe in another life you were my all,
but just maybe, you weren't at all.
Even if you were my all, at my call, or
far from all,
I think i'd love you
even if we never met.



Emma Sosna '26

COMFORT MOVIE/TV SHOW

AND THE OSCAR GOES TO...



Photoshop Yourself Into a Movie



GABRIELLA COLELLA '28



JACQUELYN MCGINTY '25

Movie Review of 10 Things I Hate About You

This movie is a must watch for anyone who likes rom-coms, especially those filled with love, deception, betrayal, and happily ever afters. The main plot is exceedingly interesting with one character going to extreme lengths to secure the woman of his dreams, such as tricking another character to pay a man to take someone on a date. This deception allows the character to hang out with her, but at what cost? Although deception is present, the movie ends with a happy twist, allowing viewers to feel pleased after watching. From its complex character relationships, the movie creates such an intriguing atmosphere that keeps viewers interested at all times. It is about following your heart until the end, and ultimately a beautiful love story unfolds. The plot twist did seem unrealistic, which may cause some viewers to feel confused with the aftermath. Also, the ending felt rushed from the movie not really elaborating on a true love story between one of the couples after the movie's climax occurs. Therefore, I give this movie a 4.5/5 stars, as it is an enjoyable watch for anyone interested in being a part of a grand scheme all for the hope of love. Ultimately, the viewers are faced with an ultimate question: What would you do to experience true love?

Jacquelyn McGinty '25



Mia Mastromarco ’25

10 Things I Hate About You

In the halls where drama is told
A twisted tale of hatred unfolds
Where love and hatred collide
Live kids full of pride
As mysterious scheming, causes them to lie
They must face a difficult goodbye

Juliet Levy ’28



photo that feels like a movie

Hannah DiStasio '25

Is Hate the Resolution of Love?

One may hate another for ways they can't explain,
But the underlying barrier of love lies within.
To have such passion for another's heart,
Can cause deep hurting in the time's part.

If love is so great than all the high and lows are of worth,
But what if one goes through that all and is left with nothing but dearth?
To have a string between someone from such distance,
Can be resolved with answers of love and existence.

Fate and guidance can lead to the end,
And bring you together with such amend.
Hate may be the feeling of love,
Because of all else your heart resolutes with all else above.

I hate the way I don't hate you. Not even close, not even a little but, not even at all.

- 10 Things I Hate About You



Kara Whalen '26

PHOTOSHOP YOURSELF INTO A MOVIE



Aeva Higgins ’27



Aubrie Windish ’28

Love Is Blind Review and Rating: ★★★★★

Kayla Kiriloff ’25

Love Is Blind is a tv show where a group of women and men willingly go into an experiment knowing that if they make an emotional connection, they could potentially get married in four weeks. The experiment does not allow them to see each other and encourages them to not focus on appearances, but rather strictly personality. When watching this show, I did not honestly know what to believe, whether love was blind or if the people would ruin it for themselves by becoming unattracted to the person they chose. They start off the show asking the question “Is love truly blind?” The people must answer that question for themselves whether they realize it or not. After watching the first season of *Love Is Blind*, there are so many mixed emotions I feel for the experiment and the show. Disappointment, shock, and relief were the main feelings I experienced during and after processing what had happened.

Disappointment. The couple that was so chaotic—and everyone believed and wished could actually make it through despite their extreme issues—ended horribly. In retrospect, I should have seen it coming, but the show displays the hope that their love could be stronger than their problems. Another couple that everyone knew was never going to make it, didn’t make it, which was still somehow disappointing. More disappointment that the show leads people to believe everything would work out, yet it barely does.

Shock. The couple that had the most secure relationship with no issues or arguments ends up broken up. No one could ever see that coming. Shock wasn’t only felt during their break-up, though. Two women, who should want to simply see each other happy, fight over a man who made his decision clear. One stoops down lower than the other and clearly has no good intentions for anyone but herself.

Relief. The couple that knew from the moment they heard each other's voices ended up marrying happily and the couple that went through so many issues did too. The experiment does work. They both stood by each other's sides and prioritized each other through the process. It was not only relieving, but incredibly heartwarming to see their marriage after knowing their struggles and strong suits.

After all of those mixed emotions, one might think that my review could be bad, but overall, the watching experience was one of the best. It kept me engaged with all of the bad and the good, yet I never quite knew what was going to occur. *Love Is Blind* is a show that I not only continue to watch, but would recommend to anyone who enjoys a rom-com. It is almost better than a rom-com to me because at the end of the season, I feel moved to know that they are real people who found love ridiculously on my tv screen, however silly that sounds.

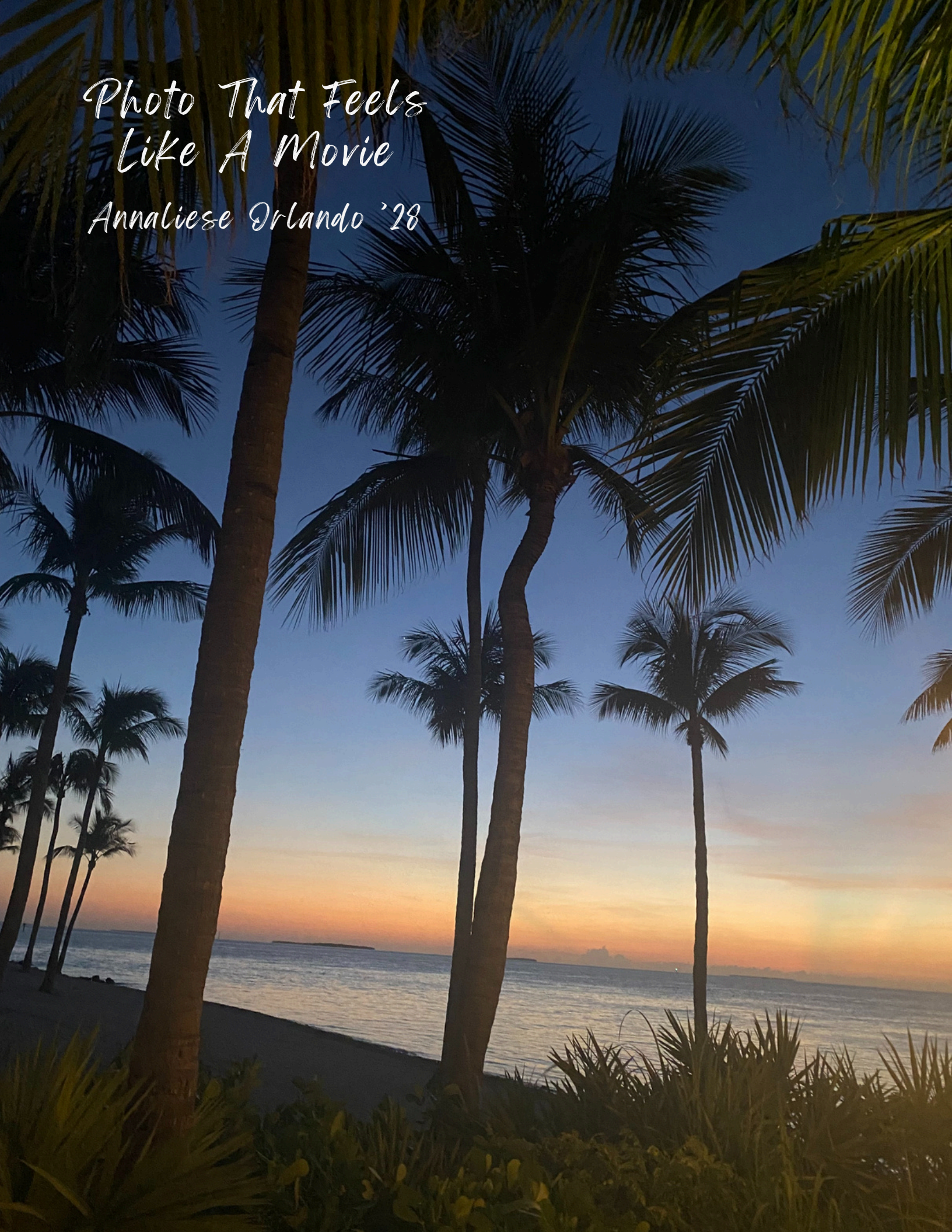


Photoshop Yourself



Into a Movie

Valerie Tyshko '25


Photo That Feels
Like A Movie
Annaliese Orlando '28

“Ain’t no sunshine
when she’s gone”
“Ain’t No Sunshine” by Bill Withers

“I hate it when
you make me laugh,
even worse when
you make me cry.”
10 Things I Hate About You

"I wish I knew how
to quit you."
Brokeback Mountain

“So it’s not gonna be easy.
It’s gonna be really hard.
We’re gonna have to work at
this every day, but I want
to do that because I want
you.” *The Notebook*

“Here’s lookin’ at
you, kid.”
Casablanca

Meredith Czyz ‘25


Photo That Feels
Like A Movie
Bella Luna '25



Mia Mastromarco `25


PHOTO THAT FEELS
LIKE A MOVIE
MEREDITH CZYZ '25













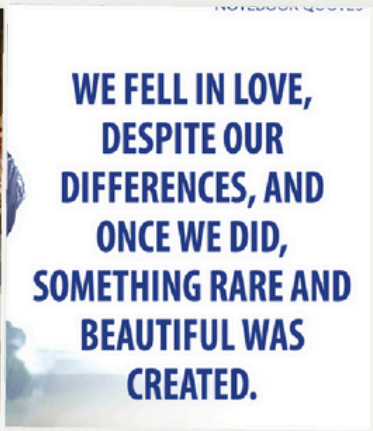
The Notebook

#Lifeism

You can't live your life for other people. You've got to do what's right for you, even if it hurts some people you love.

– *from The Notebook*











Sophia Montalbano '26



PHOTO THAT FEELS LIKE A MOVIE

Sophia Field '28

IX. SCI-FI FANTASY

Sci-Fi and Fantasy are completely different from any other genre. Originating in the 19th century from classic authors such as Mary Shelley and George MacDonald, these genres have always represented far-off realities and the unknown. Today, sci-fi and fantasy have evolved into a reflection of humanity's most magical moments. From space in *Interstellar* to magic in *Harry Potter* to superheroes who reflect the average person, sci-fi and fantasy remain a popular way to reflect life's smallest and largest moments.

In this section, join us in exploring the stories and art that transcend the bounds of our known reality.

SpiderMAN

PETER PARKER

I am Peter Parker, brave and bold
I tell my story which must be told
I am Spiderman yet no one knows
It's a secret I carry and can't disclose
I can't tell anyone it's just what I have to bear
It's sometimes hard and even unfair
But at the end of the day, I'm happy to save
I stay calm and try to be brave
From Uncle Ben's words and humility
"With great power, comes great responsibility."
With my web and my wit, I will find a way
To save my city and save the day



Katie Laufer '26



Mia Mastromarco ’25

Movie: Interstellar

Rating: ★★★★★

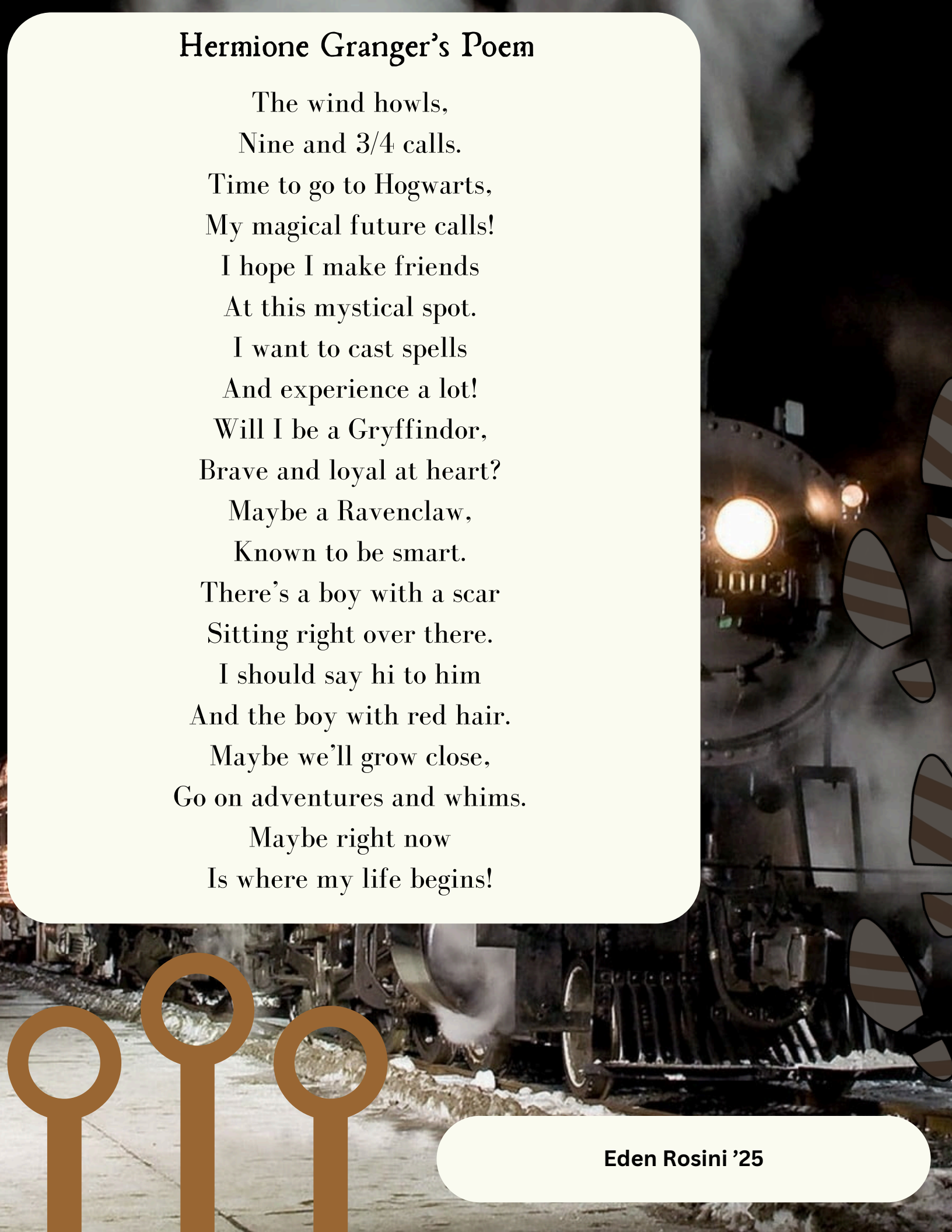
I watched Interstellar for the first time in October. Before I started watching, I was at first intimidated by the fact that it was three hours long; however, I was pleasantly surprised at the level of complexity that this movie incorporates. The first layer of the movie is the most straightforward, and this is that the movie is scientifically accurate, which is impressive considering it is about space and scientific theories. The idea of life beyond Earth is an intriguing, terrifying concept that I love that they explore. The second layer of this movie that I love is the dystopian setting that the humans in their universe create. Not only does this sci-fi display scientific breakthroughs that have been recently discovered, but it warns humanity against the disregard of nature and society. This generational apathy leads those left with compassion to find any possible way that they can save future generations' lives. This movie zooms in on one specific family and how they are affected by humanity's lack of care for the environment and for each other. One man named Cooper is faced with a difficult quandary: does he take the once in a lifetime opportunity to go to space to try to find hope for his kids with the possibility of never returning, or does he stay in the confines of Earth, where he and his kids may not survive anyway? He makes the difficult decision to explore outer space in hopes of finding a habitable planet for humans. Little does he know that the very people who sent him to space had no intention of bringing him home. With Cooper against the universe, he must use his tact and perseverance to make it back home, with only the hope of seeing his family again to motivate him. This science fiction masterpiece perfectly encapsulates the importance of family, compassion, and hope, and warns that betrayal and poor judgement lead to deterioration of society.

Chloe Gumbs '27


KIRA CHIRICHELLA '26
Make a difference
"Well, I'm not just a poet I'm just a woman" ~little women
The change starts now.

Hermione Granger's Poem

The wind howls,
Nine and 3/4 calls.
Time to go to Hogwarts,
My magical future calls!
I hope I make friends
At this mystical spot.
I want to cast spells
And experience a lot!
Will I be a Gryffindor,
Brave and loyal at heart?
Maybe a Ravenclaw,
Known to be smart.
There's a boy with a scar
Sitting right over there.
I should say hi to him
And the boy with red hair.
Maybe we'll grow close,
Go on adventures and whims.
Maybe right now
Is where my life begins!



Eden Rosini '25



Mia Mastromarco ’25

INTERSTELLAR
"MISSING CHARACTER"

Christopher Nolan's movie, *Interstellar*, combined the logic of astrophysics, space, and the 'interstellar' bond of family that transcends time. While this movie is beautifully structured in its correlation between science and the familial love shared across dimensions, there is something missing. This cinematic masterpiece is filled to the brim with knowledge, yet it requires a step further. The lost piece of the puzzle lies with a character that should have elaborated further on the concept of time-travel. The character that I would add in *Interstellar*, would be a mediator between the future humans and Cooper's team. This addition would have appeared during Cooper's time in the black hole, as a guide to explain how he was able to reflect on time. While Cooper did eventually understand that he was in a different dimension as his daughter's "ghost," it would have made the movie more substantial to implement a character to help him navigate. My character is one of the future humans that was able to bridge the gap and manipulate the time-paradox in order to reach Cooper. This character would be named, Doctor Moore, an intelligent male astrophysicist from the future, sent by Cooper's daughter. My character would have specifically been the one who retrieved Cooper and then proceeded to reach Doctor Brand on her foreign planet. While their interactions would be brief, my character would have made an impact by saving Cooper and reuniting him with his daughter.

CARINA DISANDRO '27



Mia Mastromarco '25

Arcane Review

★★★★★

Featuring masterfully utilized literary techniques, an addictive art style, intricate plot, and complex characters, *Arcane* is a Netflix original series that began in November 2021. Out of five stars, I would give *Arcane* a perfect score. The show is incredibly well made. It keeps you hooked, keeps you wanting more, and never leaves you fully satisfied no matter how many times you may rewatch it. It beautifully mixes the importance of perspective and moral ambiguity when analyzing characters. There is so much depth behind the things presented to us on screen. The show encourages observations and analysis of the symbols. I love this show and would absolutely recommend it to people. It covers so many genres including fantasy, science fiction, drama, action, adventure, romance, and more. I have seen this show so many times and it never ceases to amaze me. The detailing in the dialogue, design, and plot is unmatched. Each character is so well developed and has understandable motivations, yet it causes heartbreak. With relatively no moral compass guiding the show in a certain direction, *Arcane* expands on themes of trust, family, trauma, politics, power, and motivation.

Olivia deJesus '28



Mia Mastromarco '25

Photoshop Yourself Into a Movie



Eva Moharita '28


PHOTO THAT
FEELS LIKE
A MOVIE
SARAH HOMNICK '25

X. MISCELLANEOUS

Imagine a time when you watched a film and couldn't quite put your finger on what genre it fit into. Flashback to a moment where you read, heard, or saw something and thought, "Am I feeling happy or sad? Or some emotion that doesn't even have a name?" Consider a mash-up of songs that blend your favorite music styles or a remix of a classic novel adapted for a new time.

Sometimes the media we love best defies categorization. It takes us to unexpected places where things we may never have imagined become possible.

Enjoy the following selections which cross boundaries, genres, and styles to bring you something new.



Mairead Menarde '26



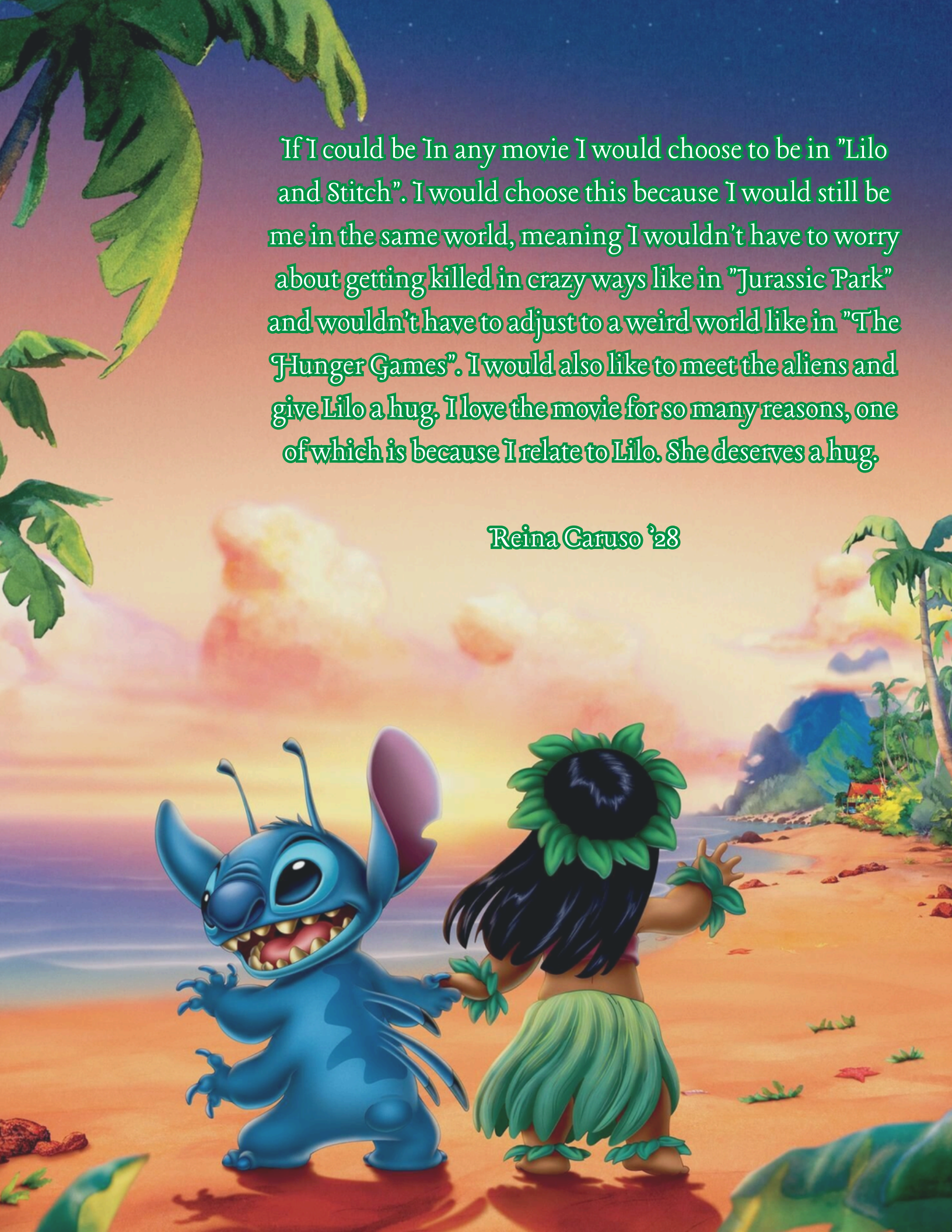
Katie Phillips ’26



Grace Cahill ’25



KATHERINE MYERS '27



If I could be In any movie I would choose to be in "Lilo and Stitch". I would choose this because I would still be me in the same world, meaning I wouldn't have to worry about getting killed in crazy ways like in "Jurassic Park" and wouldn't have to adjust to a weird world like in "The Hunger Games". I would also like to meet the aliens and give Lilo a hug. I love the movie for so many reasons, one of which is because I relate to Lilo. She deserves a hug.

Reina Caruso '28



Mia Mastromarco '25

A Poem Inspired by Mother Cabrini from the Movie Cabrini

Mother Cabrini is my name,
And I have come to change the game.
My mission is clear:
To spread God's love to all those near.
I take care of immigrants and the orphaned,
In hopes that hearts will be softened.
I speak up for those in need,
And fight back against greed.
I pushed for more proceeds
To fund my good deeds.
For my mission, I bleed
As I hope to succeed.
I will not rest
Until I have done my very best.
We are all one people
Under God's steeple.
I took care of every one
Until my time on earth was done.





Mairead McGinley '25



Sydney Houseman '25



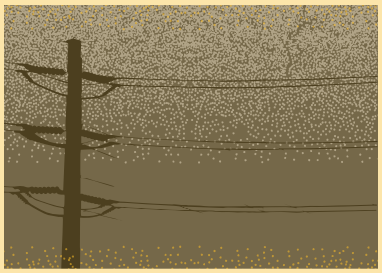
Taylor Pitts '27



Mia Mastromarco ’25


PHOTO THAT FEELS LIKE A MOVIE
Reina Caruso '28

PHOTO THAT FEELS LIKE A MOVIE



GIANNA NA ‘28


Kate Manel '25
PHOTO THAT FEELS
LIKE A
MOVIE


Photo That Feels Like A Movie
Emily Schmidt '25

photo that feels like a movie 🎬📺



Emily Baumann ’28 👯‍♀️

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