

ISSUE N°27



The Summer Day

by Mary Oliver (1935–2019)

Who made the world?
 Who made the swan, and the black bear?
 Who made the grasshopper?
 This grasshopper, I mean—
 the one who has flung herself out of the grass,
 the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,
 who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up
 and down—
 who is gazing around with her enormous and
 complicated eyes.
 Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly
 washes her face.
 Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.
 I don't know exactly what a prayer is.
 I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down
 into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,
 how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through
 the fields,
 which is what I have been doing all day.
 Tell me, what else should I have done?
 Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
 Tell me, what is it you plan to do
 with your one wild and precious life?

1 n d e x

- 3 Word of the Board: Lotte
- 3 Colofon
- 4 Astrid Lindgren by Tess
- 4 Nostalgic Hobbies with Lola
- 5 Return to Analog
- 6 A Child's Perspective on Life
- 7 An Elder's Perspective on Life
- 8 The Girls Who Saw It All
- 9 Nostalgia Collections
- 10 Genius Verified with Lotte
- 10 Minor Market
- 11 Semester Abroad by Tess
- 11 HoA: Anna Drukker
- 11 Mary Poppins Returns (2018)
- 12–13 Tea Time with Elena Tribushinina
- 14 Q&A Alumni with Minthe Woudstra
- 15 Roxy '79 by Sven
- 15 Record Store Day
- 16–17 Bookshelf with Loes Boers
- 18–19 Committees!
- 20 Comics by Roos



Pippi Långstrump illustration by Cecilie
 Balemans-Højberg

word of the board



When I was asked to write the Word of the Board for the last issue of the Phoenix, I was a bit scared, because I didn't really know what I wanted to write about. They told me that the theme of this issue was 'nostalgia', so I started to think about what is currently making me feel nostalgic.

We're already in the last block of the year, and I feel like time is going way too fast, it's almost like last block never happened. I think it's because I'm so busy with all the activities and the board. Since this is the last block of this academic year, it also means that our amazing board year is coming to an end. While we're training our successors to make sure they know all the ins and outs of being a board member of Albion, I, and I hope my fellow board members too, am realising that I will no longer be a board member anymore in a while. This makes me feel nostalgic about all the wonderful activities that we had during the past year and the everlasting friendships that we made with Albioneers and board members from other

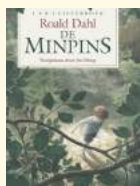
from other student associations. However, I know that I'm not the only one feeling scared about what I'm going to do next year, so together with my fellow board members we will make sure that it will all be all right.

Love,

Lotte Murrath
Commissioner of Education



What We Used To Read



INDIE: **DE MINPINS** BY ROALD DAHL



LAUREL: **CASPER EN HOBBS** BY BILL WATERSON



NURAI: **HART VAN INKT** BY CORNELIA FUNKE



TANISHA: **HOE VERZORG IK MIJN DRAAK** BY TIM KENNEMORE



FLEUR: **GERONIMO STILTON** BY ELISABETTA DAMI



TESS: **BRAMME EN TISSIE** BY GABRIËLLE VINCENT



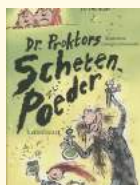
ROBERT: **BETSY & NAPOLEON** BY STATON RABIN



PATRICK: **THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR** BY ERIC CARLE



ROOS: **MATILDA** BY ROALD DAHL



CELONIE: **DOKTOR PROKTOR'S SCHETENPOEDER** BY JO NESBO



CECILIE: **KENDER DU PIPPI LANGSTROMPE?** BY ASTRID LINDGREN



ANGELA: **HOE OVERLEEF IK HET JAAR 2000?** BY FRANCINE OOMEN



HANKA: **DE GEBROEDERS LEEUWENHART** BY ASTRID LINDGREN



TESSA: **WIJ GAAN OP BERENJACHT** BY MICHAEL ROSEN EN HELEN OXENBURY



PHOENIX

Magazine for students of English language and literature at Utrecht University.

Issue n° 27 — Summer 2019

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Astrid Lindgren by Tess Masselink.

Interview with Lola van Scharrenburg by Tanisha Wetsteen.

Astrid Lindgren's Fantastical Stories

"Tessje eigen zin!" I would chant, running barefoot around the garden. My dad could never catch me because I was doing whatever I wanted and not even he could stop me. Or at least, so I thought and dreamed. This phrase, roughly translating to "Tessie do what she want", was taught to me by Pippi Langkous. The stories where she would go on adventures with her friends Tommie and Annika were the first ones, that I remember, which really inspired me. Pippi was courageous, clever and funny. She went against what adults told her she ought to do, built her own airplane, fought with pirates and lived on her own, all while still being full of childlike innocence. That was the kind of person I wanted to be! Pippi taught me, and many other children, to always continue having fun and always see the possibilities rather than impossibilities in life. She taught us the beginnings of how to get through life. Whenever I wanted to dream and escape the real world for a bit, I would turn to other stories by Astrid Lindgren. Most notably *The Brothers Lionheart*. It feels like I have always owned a hardcopy of this book and it has continuously been a gateway to a fantastical world for me where weakness and illness can be overcome through bravery of heart and doing what is right. It has been ages since I last read this book and yet, I clearly remember the feelings I experienced because of it. The brothers in this book both die very young and end up in a gorgeous house in some kind of afterlife where many fantastical things are possible. They have to fight a dragon, interact with the other people there and learn the values of life, which they did not get the chance to discover in the mortal world. Their story greatly influenced my fantasies. Whenever I would go out riding on my sweet little pony, I'd imagine myself riding through these fantastical worlds, going on quests to fight dragons, find treasures and defeat evil.

"It illustrates very nicely the importance of children's literature."

Wilderness and adventures are a recurring theme in Astrid Lindgren's work. *Ronia the Robber's Daughter* is the story of this fierce little girl who, through adventure, tries to unite the two tribes of robbers who have been feuding for a long while. One scene from this book has always stuck with me: Ronia tries to capture two wild horses so she can tame and ride them. This scene inspired little me a great deal because I loved horses as well. Unfortunately, I did not have to tame my horses in order to be able to ride them. Still, Ronia, just as Pippi and the brothers *Lionheart*, taught me to be strong, to try new things and not to shy away from challenges. But most of all: to be good. Be a good person to the ones around you and you will lead a good life.

All this sounds a bit corny and cheesy, and it is. Still, it illustrates very nicely the importance of children's literature, and the way in which it can inspire kids to never stop discovering, getting their hands and feet dirty and making new friends. In the end, that's part of what makes life worth living.

Nostalgic Hobbies

Lola van Scharrenburg is a third year BA English student and the previous editor-in-chief of our very own Phoenix Magazine. I went to her house on a rainy Wednesday morning to ask her about her hobbies. We went back in time and talked film photography, hooping, and crocheting.

How did you get into photography?

As a child, I had one of those disposable cameras and I really liked taking pictures with that. As I got older, I didn't do much with it anymore, until I got to know Thom (Lola's boyfriend). He was into analogue photography and a friend of mine knew that. Her father had an old camera and she asked if Thom would like to have it, but then I kept it myself. That's how it started.

Do you prefer analogue or digital photography?

I prefer to use film, so analogue photography. If you shoot digital, you make 2600 photos that are roughly the same and then you have to pick out the best one, which I don't really like. With film, you develop them and hope that they come out nicely, and it feels really good when they do.

How many cameras do you own?

I have six cameras in total, which are all from different brands and from different time periods, like the sixties and seventies. I have a few Pentax cameras, which I like to work with most.

Is there something you want to capture specifically in your photographs?

I mainly work with people. I would approach someone and ask if they would like to be in my pictures and I also make an effort in terms of styling to make it like a real shoot. There is not really an idea behind them. Most of the time it is just about the aesthetics and taking a cool photograph. I think it's cool if people do have a thought behind it, but I am not that person.

Analogue photography is getting more popular again these days, why do you think that is?

I think people are kind of done with the polished photos, which I notice on Instagram as well. It seems like everything has gotten so easy to do and people are finding ways to put more effort into it. It is really rewarding when you put more time and work into it.

I also see a hoop there in the corner, which we all used to play with as a child. You have started hooping again recently, right?

Yes, and it is really fun! What I do is called hoop dance, which is also doing tricks with it and not just swerving it around the waist. It is very rewarding, because you go out and practice a few hours, and you will have learned a new trick which can be incorporated in other movements. It is also a conversation starter. When I am hooping in the park for example, people come up to me and they will start to reminisce about how they also had a hoop as a child. One time, a group of people gathered around and applauded when I was done, which was cool even though I don't think I am that good yet [laughs].

Lastly, you also started crocheting, how did you get into that?

I have been crocheting for about a year now. Normally, people associate crocheting with pot-holders they or their grandparents have at home, but I came across someone on Instagram who made clothing items, which looked really cool. It was Christmas, and the weather was bad, so I asked my mum if she knew how to crochet and she taught me the basics. It is fairly easy and forgiving, compared to knitting for example. With knitting you have to know how big you want something to be and if you let a stitch fall it is difficult to solve, but with crocheting you can kind of go with it.

Is there a favourite item you like to make?

I have only made clothes so far. I do like the idea of really using something you made instead of putting it somewhere where the dust gets to it. I like making bralettes. You can make them quite fast, and they look really cool. I have also made skirts, halter tops, and recently I made a pair of shorts.

Do you also make items for other people?

At first, I only made clothes to wear myself, so I had never worked with different sizes. I did want to practice this, so I asked on Instagram if people would like me to make something for them. That is what I am doing now and if I am more skilled I think I would like to sell the items online.

Return to Analog

For the Nostalgia issue we wanted to do something special: we gave each member of the Phoenix team a turn with a disposable camera and told them to document their student lives. Here are the results!



A child's perspective on life

Marijn (7) is the middle-child in a family of 5. He has an older sister Annika (9) and a younger brother Simon (5). Together they can be quite a handful, always on the lookout for new games to play. One afternoon when his brother and sister were busy playing, I sat down with Marijn to play a game of Four-in-a-Row, and we had a chat all about him.

What do you like most about yourself?

I have no idea! Maybe it helps if I look at my compliment sun. If I count the compliments, and there is one which I count the most, then that must be it.

Proud of his clever solution, Marijn carefully investigates his compliment sun, which is a craftwork tradition at his primary school in which all the classmates compliment the 'child of the week'. Marijn points his finger in the air and says:

I think I know the answer! On most of the little rays people say that they think I'm sweet!

Why do you think people say you're sweet?

I help people a lot and I am just nice to them, and people think I'm fun to play with because I'm also a bit funny. And Victor - people find him the funniest kid in class - he does that differently, because sometimes he acts super normal and then sometimes he tries really hard to be funny. I'm just a bit funny all the time [smiles].

Is there something you'd change about yourself?

Eh... No!

What's your favourite memory?

The first time we went on a holiday to France. It was super fun there and we had to get used to everything and our neighbours were also Dutch and we made friends with them and we also made friends with a lot of other kids! You could play a lot there and build things with stones. A lot of times we also roasted marshmallows and then everyone could join us, and one time we were also allowed to join someone else when they were roasting marshmallows! We roasted marshmallows almost every day! [laughs].

What's the most difficult thing you've ever had to do?

Not bullying for a week. I think that's super, super, super hard. I get angry a lot with Simon, my little brother. He gets angry easily, and that makes me angry as well. I find it difficult not to get very very angry and hurt him.

Do you know what I always do? In the evening, if I'm playing outside and I get mad, I walk the streets around the house and that makes me calm. When it's during the day, or inside, I go to my room and I count the flats I can see from my window. That helps me calm down. I can see 5 now, but when I'm bigger I'll see 8! Because first there were 3, and now they're building 2 more, so there are 5 now. And then there are 3 when I look up, so when I'm a little bit bigger I will be able to see 8 really tall buildings from my room!



INTERVIEW BY INDIE REIJNIERSE
ILLUSTRATION BY ROOS SPEELMAN

Do you have a collection?

Not anymore. I collected Pokémon cards for 3 years. I would go outside in the evening and trade with friends in the streets and sometimes at school. I still want to collect them but no one in my street wants to trade anymore, so I can't continue. I even have 3 special cards, 1 giant Break, 1 EX and 1 GX!

Is there something you're afraid of?

Yes. This is something that really happened to me once. I was home alone and there were a lot of sounds of things that weren't even on, the coffeemaker, the laundry machine, the dryer, and a lot of other sounds that I didn't even recognize. All of these sounds formed a kind of song and it was very scary. When daddy came home, I was very glad, but the sounds were still there. I don't hear it anymore, but I'm still afraid of it. I still know how afraid I was, and I even get a little scared when I think about it. It was super scary!

What's something that would make you really happy?

That I could do everything I want and that no one could stop me from doing it. I find a lot of things fun and it would be super fun to be able to go to the theme park with my whole family and do all those fun things, without losing something in return, or having to do something stupid. Like for example with 'heitje voor karweitje', you have to do a silly chore to get money.

What's something that makes you sad?

I get sad when daddy gets mad at me. When he gets angry and puts me in my room, he does that in a very not nice way. We made a rule now that we won't act angry and not nice towards each other anymore.

While answering the last question, Marijn plays with his little brother's toy - a puzzle ball - and holds it up to his nose, and laughs: "Toot toot. I am a clown." On that note, I figure it's time to end the interview and we begin a game of Yu-Gi-Oh, his favourite.

An elder's perspective on life

Carlos (85) is a father of 4, a grandfather of 9, and a great-grandfather of 1. He was, like us, an English student when he was 20 years old. According to him the language moves so fast now that he can't understand a word anymore without subtitles. On a rainy afternoon my mother and I drive down to Koewacht to visit him, so he and I can sit down and have a chat all about him.

What do you like most about yourself?

My sense of humour. I think humour is very important and at one point I decided to never distance myself from it in the way some adults do. Being able to tell a good joke is an art form, and I've perfected it!

Is there something you'd change about yourself?

I'd love to have curls! Your grandmother had them and your mother does too! But unfortunately, you and I will have to do with straight hair. Or no hair, in my case.

What's your favourite memory?

Oh, that's job related. When I still worked for the Rabobank in Koewacht, it fused together with the other banks in the area, which made my job a lot easier. Everything was much more professional and efficient after the fusion, and our customer service improved a lot too. I liked having my own office. I made less than the average teacher, but I didn't mind!

Do you have a favourite school memory?

Mmm... I didn't attend school against my will, but I can't say I enjoyed my time there too much. Learning a new language was interesting but I was too restless to be in class for so many hours a day.

What's the most difficult thing you've ever had to do?

Very few things in life are easy, unfortunately. I studied law for 3 years because, after I finished English, I got a job as a secretary in city hall. It was very interesting, but very difficult too. Also, getting my driver's licence! Back then the theory test was still taken orally, with a man in a room who pointed at a map and told you to find your way from point A to point B, and then we had to do the same thing in real life! After 20 to 25 lessons and 2 failed attempts I finally did it, but one of the women in Koewacht actually gave a party to celebrate her 25th failed attempt. After that she just gave up.



INTERVIEW AND ILLUSTRATION BY
ROOS SPEELMAN

Do you have a collection?

I like to archive life. I write a lot of happenings down on my calendar, so it's become sort of a diary to me. I also collect paper snips and keep important articles in a big map, though now that we have the internet, I don't really need to do that anymore. I can read whatever I want whenever I want.

What about your hobbies?

Music! I love Glenn Miller and even have a little Glenn Miller collection. I play accordion and piano, though I've never learned how to read notes.

Is there something you're afraid of?

Flying! I've never been on an airplane and I don't mind at all!

Is there something that would make you really happy?

Right now? I want my TV to be fixed! The remote is working but whenever I try to turn it on, it says that all channels are disconnected! If you or your mother can't fix it, I'm gonna need to call the TV-repair-guy, and then I'll miss my shows for tonight!

Just as he says this, my mother calls from the living room that she's tried everything, and pleads if I can take a look at the damn thing instead. With me having asked all the questions I wanted to ask, we head out to the living room to face a much more daunting task: understanding modern technology.

THE GIRLS WHO SAW IT ALL

Season I, Episode 2 - Between the Jaws of the Lion

written by Robert Ziolkowski

Marie was dumbfounded. She gazed at the student standing in front of her, her eyes locked onto his charming, somewhat roguish smile, which had taken on an entirely different, much more menacing hue. As she gathered the courage to answer, doing her best to suppress any shudder or outward sign of distress, she straightened her back and looked the man right in the eye.

"I am not sure I know what you're talking about. I don't even know y—"

"Oh come now, let's not play dumb, shall we," he interrupted her, even having the audacity to wink mischievously. "We're both adults. Yes, young adults, I'll grant, but we can deal with this situation in an entirely mature manner," he continued. "Unless, of course, you'd prefer to go about it in a more complicated manner, which is totally fine by me, mind you."

Marie felt as if she had found herself between the jaws of a lion who was ready to bite her head off any second. One wrong move, one wrong word and she would be a goner. She didn't dare divert her gaze from the man's face, but she fiercely hoped that Emily wouldn't leave the bathrooms now, that she would stay inside a little while longer so that this guy, this monster wearing a handsome mask, wouldn't get his hands on her as well.

"What do you want?" she asked him eventually, adopting a diplomatic tone so as to not provoke him. In response, he smiled more broadly.

"I would like us to go for a walk. Just a pair of lovers going out for a stroll, nothing suspicious or noteworthy," he replied, moving his right arm in her direction while keeping the hand in the pocket, gesturing for her to take him by the arm. Although she was sickened by the thought of touching him, she did as he asked of her and let herself be guided out of the library, shooting only one glance at the door to the bathrooms, which remained closed.

"Would you mind if I had a look at your phone? Because that's a really neat cover you have there," he said once they were outside, gesturing with his head at the device she clutched in her hands.

"That's n—"

"I really would like to see it from up close."

She did as he had asked her to. He turned Emily's phone around, pretending to study the cover, which had little kittens on it.

"That is just adorable, so cute!" he said almost gleefully, subsequently putting the phone in the inner pocket of his jacket. In that instance, Marie felt as if her own phone, which remained in the outer pocket of the bag she carried, became scaldingly hot. Yet she didn't dare to look in that direction or acknowledge it in any other way, because it was her only hope for survival, her only hope to somehow make it out of this mess. The man who had led her out of the library thought he had confiscated her phone, never even considering it could have been someone else's. And in that instant, in that very moment, she realized how thankful she was for Emily's existence in her life.

Emily walked out of the bathroom, still shaking the water off her hands, when she noticed her girlfriend was nowhere to be found. She frowned, looked around, then raised her eyebrow and eventually started studying the people in the hallway.

"No, not you, not you, definitely not you... Ah yes!" she exclaimed inside her mind as she started towards a girl listening to some music and reading a book, who she had seen sitting on the bench when she and Marie had entered the library. Once she stood before her and the blonde had looked up from her book, Emily gestured whether she could remove her earbuds, smiling in a friendly manner. "Hi, I am so sorry to bother you — I love your jacket by the way — but I could really use your help."

The studying girl smiled a bit, briefly looking down at her brown leather jacket when she had received the compliment, and eventually nodded while returning her gaze to Emily.

"Yeah sure, shoot."

"So, here's the deal... My girlfriend just did an unannounced magic trick and made herself disappear. Now, I am convinced this is her revenge for the fact I had her carry our stuff like a mule, but as you can imagine, I'd really like to make her appear again," she began, the girl she talked to chuckling a bit at the way Emily explained the situation. "It's not like I love her or anything, or well, I do, but, you see... she was holding my phone and I love it more, so I really need to get both of them back. Did you happen to see anyone looking like a mule, standing here waiting for someone?"

The blonde girl grew pensive for a moment and then seemingly had a moment of clarity. "Yeah, I did actually! Some guy, he looked like he was from the fraternity here, chatted her up and afterwards they left together. I thought they were a pair because she took him by the arm and—"

"W-w-wait, wait, wait. He took her outside of the library? Like, dragged her or something?" Emily asked, anxiety taking her in a solid cold grip. The blonde nodded and frowned.

"No, nothing like that but... She did seem a bit tense. I just assumed they had a falling out earlier and he came to apologise or something."

Emily didn't need to hear any more, because every cell in her body was certain of it. If this was Marie — and her gut urged her it was — she never would have left out of her own volition. This guy, whoever he was, must have had something to do with that man outside Emily's window and the murder of the student on the eve of Halloween.

"And we have waited too long with it, we have let it sit for far too long..." she allowed the thought to echo through her mind. Yet she wouldn't lose Marie, she wouldn't allow for her to disappear or for anything to happen to her. She looked at the blonde girl still sitting on the bench, looking up at Emily with a quizzical look on her face.

"I need your phone."

"Eh, why?" she asked, wary now.

"Because the guy that took her outside probably had something to do with the murder of that student a few days ago, of which my girlfriend and I were witnesses. I really need to call 911."

"Oh... oh shit, sure!" the girl said as she handed Emily her phone.

Yes, she had been afraid ever since that man had appeared outside her window. Yes, she had been scared into silence, into feigning ignorance. Yet now, whoever it was that was responsible, had taken the woman she loved, the woman she cared for more than anyone before. They — the ominous invisible 'they' — had stepped onto her tail and now they would pay the price. When a voice appeared on the other end of the line, Emily spoke with the utmost conviction.

"Sir, I am calling because I am convinced that whoever killed that student in Utrecht on Halloween, has now kidnapped my girlfriend. And before you ask, I am not joking."

NOSTALGIA COLLECTIONS

Coins by Indie Reijnierse

When I think about my childhood, I vividly see myself sitting on my father's lap behind his desk, flipping through my personal coin album, completely in awe of how big coins were back in the day. We'd always be on the lookout together for special coins online or even go to a collector's fair! At some point, my dad decided to buy a metal detector and although we mostly found rusted cans and nails, sometimes we'd find coins and would then look them up in a special book to determine their worth. I remember the thrill I felt when the detector beeped, and we were digging and digging and actually found an old coin ourselves! What I like most about our collection is the fact that it's become a family heirloom. My grandpa used to collect them together with my dad, and now my dad passed it on to my sister and I. Even though I do not collect coins anymore, I still feel a wave of nostalgia wash over me whenever I flip through the coin albums, and I hope I can share that feeling with my own children in the future.

Movie Ticket Stubs by Angela Kroes

In 2009, when I was 11 years old, I went to see *Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian*. I liked it so much I decided to save my entry ticket. Ever since then I've collected tickets of films I've seen at the cinema. Over the years I've been to many different screenings: *How to Train Your Dragon* (2010), a live stream of *Hamlet* in 2015 and *Arrival* in 2016. Reminiscing about films I saw years ago is fun in and of itself, but what I treasure most about flipping through this ticket pile is remembering who I saw them with and how I felt. Every ticket makes me relive astonished glances I exchanged with a friend after a plot twist, the wiping away of happy or sad tears or simply feeling a bit underwhelmed. I'm looking forward to making the memory pile grow bigger!

Money by Eric Balemans (via Cecilie Balemans-Højberg)

I used to travel around the world a lot, and I have always enjoyed visiting places that are nowadays seen as unusual or even countries that don't exist anymore. I always brought the remaining money I had from those trips home with me. So now I have a collection of 'old' money from places like Czechoslovakia, The Soviet Union and even North Korea. Collecting the money is a sort of token to remind me of those special trips, and I love telling stories about it to my kids. They are especially interested in the stories about my visit to North Korea, as it's a place that not many people have been able to visit.

VHS Tapes by Fleur Pieren

When I think of my childhood, I think of all of the Disney movies I watched and loved. My sister and I used to watch *Mary Poppins* on loop; *The Little Mermaid* was always on and we were constantly singing "Colours of the Wind" from *Pocahontas*. This (debatably) healthy obsession has resulted in a drawer full of VHS tapes of Disney movies and despite not having touched them in years and my parents' wish to get rid of them, I still get this nostalgic feeling whenever I look at them. Those movies shaped my childhood, like they did for many others, and perhaps made me the person I am today. Of course, the newer Disney movies like *Frozen* or *Moana* are great but the original Disney movies have a certain charm and appeal that can't be beaten. Although I am now 19 years old, I will always fondly return to those movies and watch them with child-like wonder.

Illustration by
Celonie Rozema



GENIUS VERIFIED

For this year's final instalment of Genius Verified, I knocked on board-member Lotte Murrath's door to talk about what role music plays in her life.

Who inspired you to get into music?

I think that would be my mum. She plays the flute, which is the instrument I started playing as well about twelve years ago. Prior to that, I had played the recorder at school, but I would say that starting music school and after that choosing the flute as my first instrument is when I started playing properly.

What else, besides the flute, do you do in terms of music?

I also sing classical music actually!

You don't hear that a lot!

No, you're right [smiles]. Whenever I meet someone that does so as well, enthusiastic questions such as "Who is your favorite composer?" and "Which pieces do you sing?" immediately come up, probably because it is not a very well-known style of singing for the students here.

Are there any other genres you particularly like besides classical music?

Lately I've been getting into jazz and pop a bit more, mainly because of the influence of my friends and step-dad, who plays more instruments than I can count on my two hands. I'm now able to do a bit of improvising, which is really fun! In terms of what I like to listen to; my taste is a mix of everything. A while ago I went to see a classical piece at Bozar in Brussels, which was incredible, and I went to a Jacob Collier performance recently which I also really enjoyed. In addition, I have a Snarky Puppy show coming up that I am really excited about, but I also really like drum and bass, which just about shows the mishmash that is my music taste.

What keeps you inspired and motivated to continue making music?

For about seven or eight years now, I have been going to a summer camp with my friends from Belgium. Each year, we write our own songs and music and create a CD with it. Everyone writes about their own feelings, emotions, and experiences, which then inspires me to write more as well.

Lastly, if you weren't an English student, what would you be doing right now?

Oh, I think I would be at the conservatory! Before making the decision to study English, I was planning on going there actually. The thing is that when you decide to do that, you turn your hobby into your job, which I was not sure I wanted to do. I might still decide to do something with music after completing my degree, a BA in classical singing is something that still interests me. Either way, music will definitely continue to be an important part of my life.



Interview and photo by Tessa Karsten.



Minor market with Laurel Sanders

One of the principal International Relations (IR) theories is usually introduced with a quote by Greek historian Thucydides, famous for chronicling the Peloponnesian War: "The strong do what they have to do and the weak accept what they have to accept." If you feel fiercely about this statement in any way (either heavy agreement or disagreement), this minor might be for you.

Political scientist Toby Dodge once said that there are two distinct groups of International Relations students: One half of them is serious about a professional future in diplomacy, and the other half is in it for pure inquiry: the intellectual pursuit of simply understanding why things in global politics happen the way they do. I'm paraphrasing, but he definitely called the latter group "the most interesting".

International Relations

Here's advice that, of course, goes for just about any student who's about to choose a minor: choose something you're genuinely interested in and feel compelled to learn and write about. Your intellectual pursuit is your greatest asset as a humanities student. International relations is a mix of political science and history, and it features the fields of economics and law as well; this serves to provide a framework for understanding a changing world. Topics include: transnational issues like conflict and migration, foreign policy, terrorism, environmental issues, collective security, human rights, and also the ethical issues that come along with them. Class participation and discussions about the assigned literature among students are also essential to the courses. I can already recommend two books for anyone interested in IR: Mark Mazower's "Governing the World: The History of an Idea" and Ronan Farrow's "War on Peace: The End of Diplomacy and the Decline of American Influence".

I've heard from people within my degree that such a study could never be for them since it would be too hard, but that's just not true. I'm one of two English majors currently enrolled in IR at Utrecht University; the subject is not at all outside of your reach, as long as your interest is genuine.

The Struggles and Hypes of Applying for a Semester Abroad

By Tess Masselink

So, you are thinking of going abroad for a semester? You're in luck! Here, I will tell you about my experiences with the process of applying for a semester abroad. My application for the University of Bergen in Norway during the first semester of 2019/2020 has been handed in and accepted by Utrecht University, but much is left to be taken care of.

The first steps of the process consist of deciding whether you actually want to go abroad, where you want to go and what modules you want to follow. Your choice should not only depend on whether the destination is cool, but also on whether the university there actually offers the subjects you wish to incorporate in your studies. This first part is more difficult than it seems, since UU has over 200 partner universities all over the world which you can visit. Some of these university websites have clear tabs for international students through which you can easily find the available courses, but others may be more like a virtual maze.

I, personally, was torn between Australia, New Zealand and Norway. Out of consideration for my budget combined with the fact that I have been to Australia before, I decided that Norway would be my best option. Furthermore, the university of Bergen offers a Norwegian language course that the university of Oslo doesn't offer, and with that my final decision was made. I had compiled my study plan, which then had to be approved by either Lieke Stelling (literature) or Rias van den Doel (linguistics).

Once that had been arranged it was time to write my motivation letter. This was no easy feat, but I made it! It is important that you try and attend all the information markets organised by the International Office, since they tell you exactly what you need to do. There was a seminar on how to write your motivation letter, which helped me immensely! If you really want to go abroad, this seminar is a must to attend.

With my motivation letter and study plan complete, it was time to hand in my application (make sure to have a first, second and third destination choice) via Osiris before the first of December 2018. And then, I had to wait. About two months. It was long. Eventually, that fateful email came with the news that I had been selected to go to the University of Bergen!

Now I'm incredibly busy with actually applying to the University, finding a room there, having the modules that I want to follow there approved by the Examen Commissie and also requesting an Erasmus scholarship!

If you want to read more about my experience, you can check out my Facebook page on which I will be posting links to my blogposts that will be about my experience going abroad (which I have been neglecting for far too long, but I will be getting back to it soon).

Soon it'll be you that will go through all this. Good luck!



Anna Drukker (20)

When I was 10 years old, the *Hoe overleef ik...?* books by Francine Oomen were my absolute favorite. There are 13 in total and they follow the life of Rosa van Dijk and her friends from age 12 to 18, so you really grow up with them, relate to their problems and become invested in their lives. I wanted to be just like Rosa—at one point she became a vegetarian and this inspired 11-year-old me to become a vegetarian, too, which I still am to this day!

Illustration by Cecilie Balemans-Højberg.

Mary Poppins Returns (2018), dir. Rob Marshall


While the original *Mary Poppins* (1964) contained a myriad of (technical) innovations the audience had never seen before, featuring Julie Andrews and Dick van Dyke straddling through and interacting with the animated English countryside, *Mary Poppins Returns* is contrastingly traditionalist as a sequel. It shows that director Rob Marshall, known for his energetic adaption of *Chicago* (2002) and the intriguing *Memoirs of a Geisha* (2005), tries to reduplicate the ambience of its predecessor, and it was certainly refreshing to see a 1964 *Mary Poppins*-esque 2D animation sequence in a 2018 blockbuster.

But, as is the problem with many sequels today, it lacks that spark of experimentation and creative excitement, that feeling of goodwill, warmth and authenticity which permeated the original. It misses that sense of adventurous audacity in its exclusion of even a wink to real world socio-political issues, which is in sharp contrast with "*Sister Suffragette*" and the tongue-in-cheek way in which Mr. Banks's Edwardian patriarchy was portrayed in the first movie.

by Patrick van Oosterom

That poses the question, however, if such a thing should (and could) be expected of a family-movie sequel targeted at the underaged. While the film may not work on such a level, it cannot be denied that *Mary Poppins Returns* is anything less than a rousing piece of entertainment. Emily Blunt is a gem, and it is clearly visible that she passionately studied Julie Andrews's interpretation of the British nanny. Most of the songs work pretty well, the cast is at the top of its game and the script is well-paced. All in all, the film feels like a sweet confectionary, like a bite of semi-cheap white chocolate, with a sugar rush immediately following it but with a dubious aftertaste.





Tea time

WITH ELENA TRIBUSHININA

Angela and I were welcomed by the delicious smell of tea and freshly baked blueberry muffins when we entered Elena's beautiful Amsterdam house. The house's interior decoration is an intriguing combination of Russian and Dutch cultures, finished with a dash of Englishness: the shelves are adorned with matryoshka dolls and Dutch Tolkien translations alike, and a collection of academic textbooks is situated next to a vitrine filled with fragile Russian cups. We eventually settled down, and had a long, lovely talk about Siberia, linguistics and the importance of friends.

In conversation with Patrick van Oosterom & Angela Kroes
Photos by Angela Kroes & Written by Patrick van Oosterom

Could you tell us something that we wouldn't expect to hear about your home country?

I'm a Siberian. I was born right in the middle of Russia, in a town called Kemerovo. It's a bit smaller than Amsterdam, with about 600.000 people. I followed a five-year programme in English Language and Literature there, but we were actually trained as real literature people, with lots of Russian and world literature. One unexpected thing is that the city was founded at the beginning of the 20th century, by Dutch people. It was, I think, around 1922, so just after the great October Revolution: Siberia was largely unexplored, there wasn't much back then, no big cities. But people had discovered that there were natural resources, like coal. Lenin invited a friend of his, Sebald Rutgers, a graduate from Delft university, and they established an industrial autonomous colony in Siberia. They decided to combine Western management technique with the Siberian natural resources.

A famous Dutch architect, Johannes van Loghem, was invited to plan the city, and there are still a few buildings there that are monuments of Dutch architecture. So where I come from was a semi-Dutch colony, and perhaps it's interesting to know that in the university I was working at, in the English faculty, we founded a minor in Dutch language, you could take it as an elective, and it became a real minor: I was the person who introduced that around 1999/2000, and it is still successful. An old student of mine is still teaching Dutch at a Siberian university.

"To enjoy life, whatever that means, while keeping the balance between working hard and having a social life, that would be the ideal balance for me."

Why did you want to study English Language and Literature?

Well I didn't choose it for the literature. I did well in the literature courses, but language and linguistics courses were the ones that I really liked. Where I come from, people don't see foreigners at all. Doing a degree in English meant opening up the world. It was the only possibility to really learn a language. I remember reading English books during the summer holidays as a schoolkid, and making my own dictionaries. My parents were always like "what are you doing with that? It's holiday time, relax!" My English teacher, an amazing woman, who is also in the acknowledgement of my Ph.D., she was the person who really opened up the world for me. We still maintain very good contact, and my mum lives in the same city as her, and they regularly call each other. I think it was my interest in language on the one hand, and my interest in the world on the other. I also went on an exchange with a translation institute in Antwerp, and I was there for a semester. This spark and interest in other countries and the world continued to grow.

What was your English teacher like?

She was a very calm, very sweet woman who was always willing to spend extracurricular time with students who were interested. She didn't have that mentality of "I'm getting paid only from 9 to 5, and then I go home." She noticed my interest, and we often had after-class meetings. She felt I needed some extra encouragement and material and she offered a bit more of a challenge after classes. It was amazing. A really kind and interesting person [smiles].

Do you think you can express certain things better in Russian than you can do in English or Dutch?

There used to be times that I could only argue with my husband in Russian. That emotion was really rooted in one language. Even for balanced bilinguals, I think that there are those domains which are associated only with one language. Russian is definitely the language of emotion: the language my mum spoke to me, and the language I speak to my kids. Actually, I think it feels rather unnatural to speak Dutch or English to a cat, I don't have a cat but I used to have one in the first year in the Netherlands. That kind of emotional talk, I just couldn't. I have been here for about 15 years, and I have not been using my Russian for professional purposes. I do notice that - because my work is in English and Dutch - some parts of Russian do not come as natural as they used to.

"You are really getting old when you take pride in your gardening."

Is there something you miss from your home country?

Snow. It usually starts in November, and it melts away in April. Another thing in terms of climate is the transition from winter to summer. It's a real change. It can get as cold -40 degrees Celsius, and the summer is hot, with temperatures averaging 25 or 30 degrees. Every day in the transitional period you see things changing, and my husband and I were actually there in Russia to witness it only a few weeks ago: we saw the ice breaking in the river. The first day the river was covered in ice, and then it started moving and crumbling and melting, and the next day the river was completely ice-free.

I also miss my friends, the friends I made in my student years, and also my first students. I was really young when I started teaching, I was only 19, so many of my students were almost of the same age. Lots of lovely friendships emerged from those first teaching years. I still maintain contact with many of my friends, but obviously not with all of them, with this huge distance of 7000 kilometres.

Could you tell me something about your life as an academic? What academic achievements gave you the most satisfaction?

I think it's quite special that I did my Ph.D. in two years (compared with four years, which is normal for a Ph.D.), and I was also already a mother back then. My son was one year, and I was still in the Russian spirit of working hard. Previously I had to teach quite a lot: approximately 20-25 hours. Back then we also needed to do other things like private lessons, translations, tutorships, etc. Because I used to work so hard, I think it actually helped me in those two years during which I had no teaching obligations or private lessons, and I could just concentrate on my research. My Ph.D. was pure linguistics, but I was always interested in language acquisition.

Could you tell us about your time as a student?

I worked hard, I was a good student. I think it was the best time of my life, it was when I met most of my friends. We were like a gang. The proficiency classes were very small and intimate, and I had them with the same 10 people for five years. We were together all the time, almost like a family, we gave each other presents - for girl's day and boy's day in Russia - and we did all kinds of things together. We did make it through some difficult times together though.



Elena in her home

One of my friends, who was married, her husband died in a car accident. We were really close and supported each other, almost like a family. It was good to have experienced those true friendships. I never participated in lots of parties, especially in the beginning, when they used to be quite wild. In the course of time they became less wild, and people got married (people get married rather early in Russia). I have a lot of nice memories of those times. I had to stay up late to read a lot of books for the literature course, until like three or four in the morning. It was hard work, but we did have long summer holidays, for about three or four months. You were done in the first or second week of June, and then you had the whole summer off. We had a summer house just outside the city, but I missed my friends during those months.

What's the thing we would most likely see you doing in your spare time?

I like cooking a lot. I'm always reading and trying to find new recipes, never trying to cook the same thing, if possible. I also like gardening! I have a lot of seedlings: zucchinis, cucumbers, tomatoes. A friend of mine from Russia remarked that you are really getting old when you take pride in your gardening [laughs]. I also am a traveller. I really love travelling. My husband and I try to travel to as much locations as possible, discover new places, new people, new languages. We enjoy that.

Do you have a favourite destination?

No not really, we try to go to different locations each time, but I do have a most impressive destination: the Baikal lake, in Russia. We road-tripped through Siberia last summer, and we drove all the way to the Baikal lake. I have never seen anything like that before. It is the biggest and deepest lake on a continent, and it is like an ocean, but also continually growing where the earth's crust is pulling apart. It is extremely cold, but it gives you such an enormous sense of tranquillity, more than an ocean. The feeling that you experience when you are there, I can't compare it to anything I've seen before.

If I gave you the opportunity to address us students directly, what would you say to us?

You know, as I told you, my student years were hard work, but it paid back. I have achieved what I wanted to achieve, and I am now doing the kind of work that is my hobby. I'm paid for doing my hobby. That becomes possible if you work hard towards the goals that you have. But perhaps it's even more important that you are open to friendships, and that you support each other. I really hope that my students try to make their dream come true on the one hand, but on the other hand have time to enjoy the student life. It is probably the most special time of your life. To enjoy life, whatever that means, while keeping the balance between working hard and having a social life, that would be the ideal balance for me.



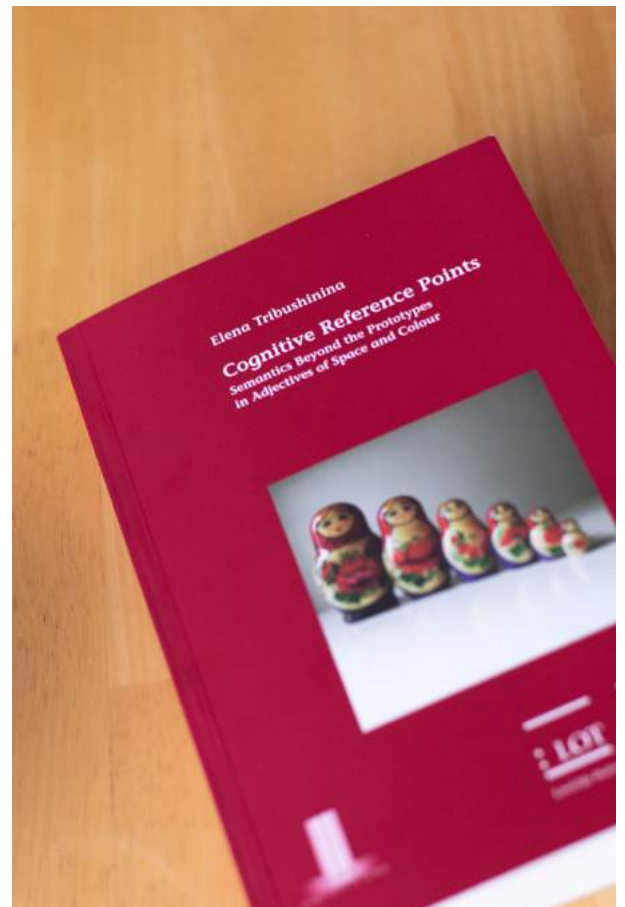
Russian children's books



"There used to be times that I could only argue with my husband in Russian. That emotion was really rooted in one language. Even for balanced bilinguals, I think that there are those domains which are associated only with one language."



^Tea time, more like, muffin time!



>Elena's Ph.D. thesis

Q&A LUMNI WITH MINTHE WOULDSTRA

Minthe Woudstra (24) is a recent ETC alumnus, creator of our very own Humans of Albion column, and a master's student at Leiden University. On top of that, she has a full-time job and is the owner of her own translation company. We sat down to talk about her time here at Utrecht University and the busy life she leads now.

How did you land on studying English?

The decision to study English was a pretty natural one. Ever since I was young, I have been taking English classes. From the first year of primary school onwards I had English classes. Seeing as I went to a bilingual high school as well, the choice to study English seemed a logical continuation.

Prior to studying English here at the university, I studied law at the University of Applied Sciences. After two years of doing that, however, I realised that university was a better fit for me.

Is there anything you're nostalgic about regarding your time as an English student?

I definitely miss being a night owl! Waking up early is definitely not my thing. I'm also nostalgic for classes where all we did was goofing around with friends. There were certainly some lectures where I didn't pay a lot of attention and did some stupid stuff, especially when I lost a bet again.

How do you look back on your time here at university?

I enjoyed it! In my opinion, the teachers really are what makes this degree. I also always felt at home here in the programme, which is mostly thanks to Albion. The study association of English truly is just a bunch of nerds grouped together, which is absolutely perfect.

Speaking of Albion, you were on the board for a year; how was this experience for you?

Yes, I was! Board twenty-seven's Commissioner of Internal Affairs! Working on organizing activities for students was always my favourite thing to do. A board year gives you the opportunity to do something completely different than simply study and provides you with a lot of lessons for the future. You're constantly organizing activities, sending out emails, following up on events you're planning; learning how to do adult things really. Through doing this, you can see what you do and don't like to do, which is helpful for the future.

What have you been up to since graduating from Utrecht University?

Currently, I'm enrolled in a master's programme in Leiden and working full time. I got a job offer from the Utrecht University to work for the education and student affairs department, which is what I'm doing now. This means that I work at the Student Desk and Examination Office of the Humanities faculty. Here, I handle all kinds of student affairs for the University, such as course registrations, internships, all kinds of questions from students, and the graduation procedure. Besides that, I also started my own translation company last year where I get assignments from for example DUB, the digital magazine of Utrecht University, but I also get random medical translation assignments. It is an interesting mix from several different sectors. Before this, I worked at the International School here in Utrecht as an academic tutor. I helped international students with their English academic writing skills within the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme there. This is a tutoring gig that requires a bit more knowledge of English than a regular tutoring gig, so definitely something to check out as an English student if you're interested in tutoring!

*"The teachers
really are what
makes this degree"*



*Written by Tessa Karsten.
Photo by Angela Kroes.*

Can you tell a little bit more about your master's programme?

It's the MA Literary Studies in Leiden. It's an English literature degree with a lot of options and possibilities, which really sets it apart from other universities in the country. It is quite intense, especially combined with a fulltime job, and also quite different from a bachelor's programme. It seems like a master's is simply an extension of a bachelor's degree, but it definitely is something else. I find it a lot more difficult than my bachelor's, but nevertheless really interesting. I'm currently working on the proposal for my thesis, which I'll start writing in September and will hopefully be finished with in December 2019.

What are you planning to do when you finish your master's? Any aspirations for the future?

I'm not quite sure to be honest. I've been working on some traveling plans, but nothing is set in stone yet. I'm enjoying my current job, and perhaps want to continue doing something like this. Perhaps more along the lines of longer projects, organizing events, something like that. Before I started my master's, I was working on setting up a project about problems students face while studying, so I'll have time to continue with that once my degree is completed. But like I said, nothing is set in stone yet. I'm first going to finish up my degree and then I'll see!

Lastly, do you have any words of advice for current students of English?

Don't worry. People often say that there is nothing you can do with an English degree, but that is not the case. There are plenty of jobs out there for you, so don't sweat it. Oh, and don't start a fulltime job while doing a master's degree [laughs].

Roxy '79 Vintage



by Sven Verouden

My favourite store is located somewhere east of the heart of Utrecht. It's called Roxy '79 Vintage and you can find it on the beautiful Nachtegaalstraat. It's basically paradise. When a friend introduced me to the store almost a year ago, I fell in love with it right there and then. Every item is second-hand but in the best way possible. It's everything but the stereotypical idea of vintage: dusty, musty and crusty. Instead it looks as if it's as good as new, it smells good (if you've been to the store before I bet you can smell that scent right now), it's stylish and most of all: it's unique.

That's what I like most about vintage. It's literally one-of-a-kind. I can confidently say that 85 (maybe even 90) per cent of my wardrobe is second-hand. They're from vintage stores, kringloopwinkels and, it's true, my grandma. Going thrifting is an adventure. I like how you never know what you'll come across and what you'll end up taking home with you. I also like how you have to find the treasures yourself. By that I mean that you have to browse through everything and pick out the prettiest things. It's basically a sport. (Does that mean I'm doing sports after all?) Shopping becomes more fun, your wardrobe will be filled with unique items, and we haven't even mentioned how thankful mother earth will be. Looking good and saving the planet? Who doesn't want that?

If you're into slow fashion but you're a little scared by the idea of going thrifting, I'd say Roxy is a good place to start. It feels and looks like a 'regular' store, but with cooler things. Oh, and you might even catch me there. I'm part of Team Roxy now. The fact that I get to work in a store that I loved before I even thought of applying is so cool. I guess that's it. See you soon?

Record Store Day

by Fleur Pieren

On the 13th of May, I travelled to Utrecht to attend the 10-year anniversary of Record Store Day and see what all the hype was about. RSD was first held back in 2010 in the Netherlands to celebrate record stores and, of course, vinyl records. Because vinyl is an old medium it is often considered vintage or at least dated. However, vinyl has made a huge comeback in recent years which is why RSD was set up and this day has helped the sales of vinyl records to go up even more. It is celebrated throughout the world and around 2000 record stores in more than 23 countries participate.

A charming part of RSD is the overwhelming amounts of passion for vinyl records and music, which is present everywhere, from the bands that are rocking the stage in a record shop to the RSD tote bags that you get with your purchase. There is also a mix of old and new music on vinyl, which goes to show how popular it actually still is. Perhaps the biggest charm of RSD is the differences in age you see. This day shows that vinyl records are not just for people from older generations but also for the younger generations, and that vinyl is ageless, just like music itself. In short, RSD celebrates the timelessness of vinyl and gives you a chance to fall in love with it, no matter your age, and I recommend RSD for anyone who loves vinyl, wants to learn more about it or just wants to have a fun day filled with great music!

BOOKSHELF



On a sprightly afternoon, this Albioner found himself in Veenendaal, a charming village in the province of Utrecht, and he was made at home with a strong cup of tea and a banana by Loes: a fellow Albioner. Loes' room was filled with little porcelain cups and classic English novels, and we had a lovely conversation about gothic novels, Austen's social criticism and inferior adaptations of Jane Eyre.

What's your most recent read?

That would be Wilkie Collins's *The Woman in White*. I wanted to read a novel that had a gothic ambience in the same style as *Rebecca* or *Jane Eyre*, which I both really enjoyed, and I settled with this one. I thoroughly enjoyed it, and it read like you, as a reader, were part of some sort of investigation. You get this huge urge to read on, because when a chapter ends, one mystery is solved but another appears. It is quite a big book, but it didn't feel that way at all. It is basically about this male governor, a drawing teacher, who marries someone from the family where he is employed, and the girl he marries resembles a woman who he has recently encountered. The man tries to unravel the connection between that woman and his wife. I don't want to spoil anything, but it's a very complicated plot.

Do you have a favourite author?

I'm rather hesitant to pick one. I really liked all the Daphne du Maurier books that I've read so far, but I think I'm gonna go with Austen. I love period dramas. It is a totally different time than ours, but I admire that romantic feeling, with the parties and the fancy dresses. What I find particularly admirable about Austen is that she constantly imbeds some kind of social criticism in her work. That's what makes her novels so interesting. She has a clear message for the reader.

Do you have a least favourite classic?

In the last year of secondary school, I read Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. It wasn't bad or anything, but it wasn't great either. The novel didn't grab my attention and I found that disappointing. I also can't seem to remember the plot, and that says a lot. It is famous though, which must be for a valid reason, but it just isn't my cup of tea.

Is there a poem that particularly touches you?

Ooh that's a hard question. I was very intrigued by the beauty of Wordsworth's "We Are Seven". It is a rather simplistic poem, but there is something beautiful in its simplicity. I looked up what the number seven symbolises, and it had something to do with life on earth and beyond, and everything between that. The older man in the poem doesn't count the children that are passed away as part of the family, whereas the young girl still does, and that's where the number seven matters. It touches upon the interesting question of whether or not people are still there when they pass away. I love the way the girl argues why her passed away siblings still matter, and it juxtaposes the man's ratio with the girl's innocence, nese language, and they are just such a fun couple to listen to.

How would you describe your reading taste?

I love period dramas, the ones written by Jane Austen and the Brontë sisters for example, but I also like gothic novels! I don't like explicitly scary ones, but I do admire whenever there's an ominous feeling present. I love it when a novel is more mentally or psychologically centered. It does not have to have a lot of dialogue, as a person's thoughts and the way they are influenced are so fascinating to read about. Take Woolf's *To The Lighthouse* for example: it was tough, yet rewarding. It really added something.

What's the saddest book you've read so far?

I think that must be *Jane Eyre*. I enjoyed it, but it was saddening to read about her youth, which was heavy. She didn't receive any love at all. She does find love in her relationship with Rochester, but her sense of duty makes her leave him, and there is this very somber bit where she leaves his home and hears him pacing up and down his room. After that she also has to beg again for her living, and you do wonder if she's ever going to find happiness and luck again.

"I love it when a novel is more mentally or psychologically centered."

What is the longest book you've read?

That would definitely be *The Woman in White* – my edition has 714 pages. In the summer I plan to read Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*, which has almost a thousand pages, so that's going to be a challenge. I plan to read it with Tessa (Karsten). It is motivating to have a reading buddy.

Do you have a favourite adaptation of a novel?

Yes, I do! That would be BBC's 2006 adaptation of *Jane Eyre* with Ruth Wilson. This is the best *Jane Eyre* adaptation I've seen so far: I enjoyed it so much, and I laughed out loud at some bits. I've seen an older one from the '70s or '80s, and I've seen the 2011 one with Mia Wasikowska, but she wasn't in line with how I interpreted Jane as a person. I feel like she ought to be very modest and humble, and Mia was a bit too rebellious for this part, too much at ease with herself. I also love the *Pride and Prejudice* miniseries with Colin Firth, of course.

Which character do you most identify with?

I'm inclined to say *Jane Eyre*, because she is calm and spends a lot of her time in the background, just like me. She doesn't enjoy being the centre of attention, yet she does stand up for herself. After a certain point she's just done with things, and she's not afraid to speak her mind.

Who are your favourite characters?

I love Mr. Knightley in Austen's *Emma*. He can be a bit immature, but he is the only one who corrects Emma and keeps her in check with reality. Everyone seems to be saying to Emma "Oh you are so pretty, I love it that you visited me", and he seems to be the only one who does not mindlessly compliment her. I think we can say that he helps her with critical self-reflection.

What is the most beautiful book cover you own?

Jane Austen's *Seven Novels*, which has these gold-edged papers, and it almost reads like a bible. I also have a very lovely edition of the Brothers Grimm stories. I knew that edition existed, yet when I wanted to order it, I couldn't find it anywhere, but luckily they still had one at Waterstones [smiles]. I love fairytales, and I'm really happy with this edition.

Can you name an author, a book, or both, which you haven't read yet but would like to read?

I would love to read everything by Austen or du Maurier, but I also want to read more Woolf. For a specific book I would say *It's Not About the Burqa* by Mariam Khan. It is about the burqa-discussion, and that discussion is often led by people who don't have any experience with a burqa. It seems so interesting to me to read firsthand accounts of people who do come from that religious background and for whom it means a lot.

Is there a book you'd recommend to your fellow students?

Definitely *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier. It is beautifully written, and it is written from a perspective of a wife who has to deal with the lasting influence of her husband's first wife, who died. It is interesting to read how she still has this competitive urge with her husband's first wife, and there are some lovely plot twists in there..



Commitees!

2018-2019

THE PHOENIX TEAM
(COLOFON PAGE 2)



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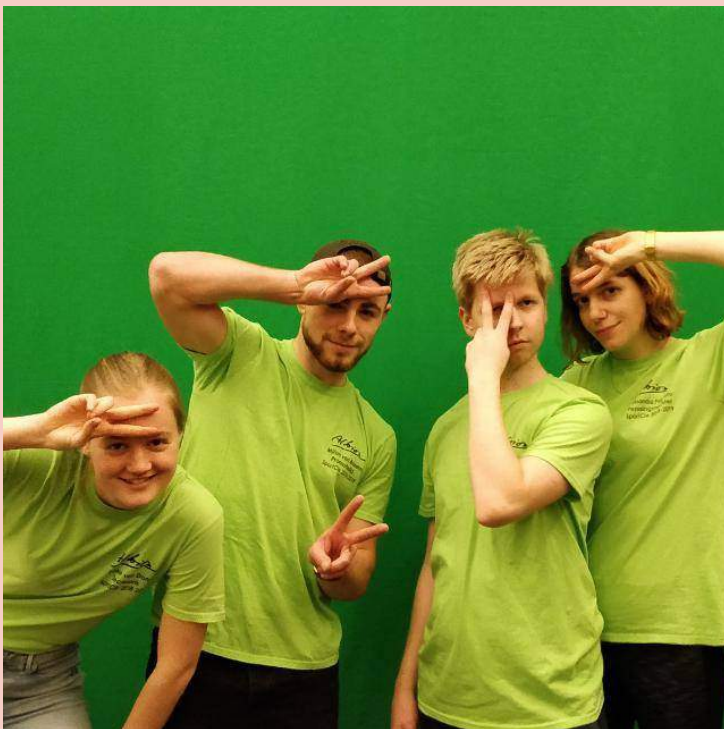


ALUMCIE



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SPORTCIE



IMKE VAN DAM (SECRETARIS)
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SUDS



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WITHOUT PHOTO

FEESTCIE

LISANNE STIGTER (VOORZITTER EN SECRETARIS)
 MAAIKE SMIT (PENNINGMEESTER)
 TIM BERGSMAN (PROMOTIE-LID)
 CAITLIN KROOT (ALGEMEEN LID)

INTROCIE

SKYLER VENEMA (VOORZITTER)
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 DAGMAR NAN (PENNINGMEESTER)
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SYMPOCIE

LAURA KOOLEN (SECRETARIS)
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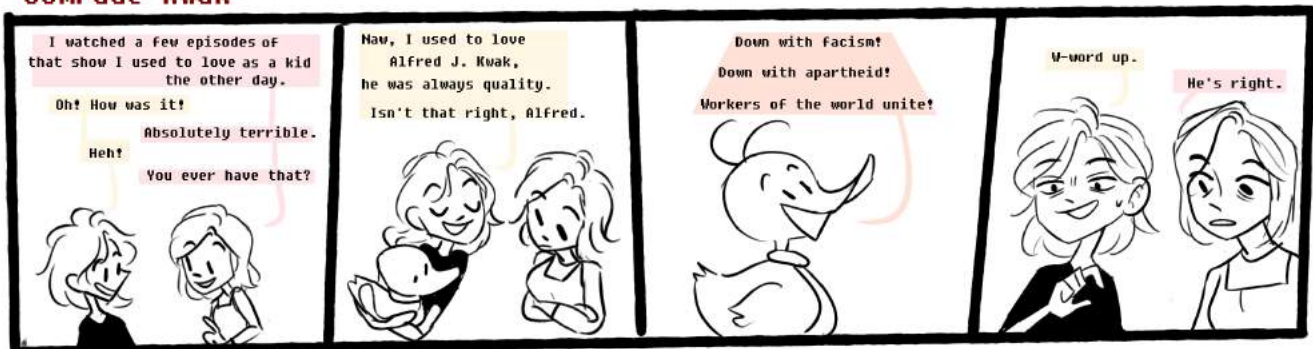
NOSTALGIA COMICS

By Roos Speelman

Pre-ruined childhood



Comrade Kwak



Nostalgia patrol

