

# HOICE

AUK STUDENT MAGAZINE



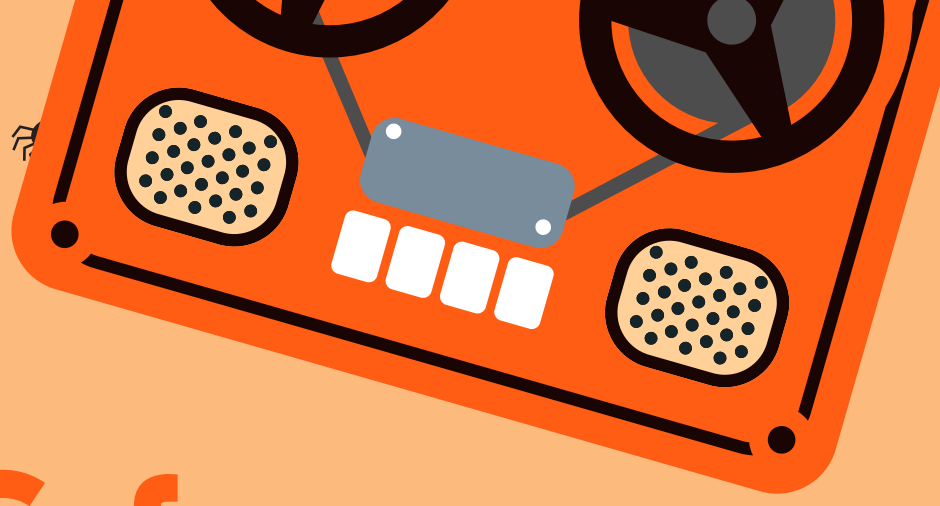
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# Letter from VOICE

Halloween is all about spooky costumes, horror movies, games, and get-togethers with friends. Although the pandemic stole the joy of attending halloween events on campus, AUK celebrated Halloween through the Night of the Wolfpack. We were all still able to meet online and celebrate with virtual games and competitions to keep the Halloween spirit alive. We all may indulge in this holiday differently, but the true spirit of Halloween is about engaging with friends and family in uncanny fun or bringing people together in group events, games and sharing scary stories to celebrate.

VOICE is providing you with all there is to know about this Halloween holiday. Spooky season has come to an end, and whether you celebrated extravagantly or enjoyed a quiet evening, VOICE hopes you had an amazing, nail-biting Halloween.





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Who knew silence was the way to survive a post-apocalyptic world.

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*"The Demon:*

What an excellent day for an exorcism."  
-The exorcist

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*The Silence of the Lambs:*

"A psychological thriller that will leave you on the edge of your seat the whole time."

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**Nuha Alsahli**

*Train to Busan:*

"Killing zombies takes grit, and just the right amount of empathy"

### Reporter

**Bader Al-Hassian**

*Texas Chainsaw Massacre:*

Reshaping the idea of american horror through grit.

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**Dr. Angelica DeAngelis**

*The Shinning:*

The acting is amazing, the cinematography majestic, and then there's the quotable moments – "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," and of course "Redrum, redrum."

### Graphic Design Consultant

**Professor Claire Giddings**

*Nightmare on Elm Street:*

"As a kid, I got freaked out when I saw I had the same 1980s patterned sheets as a victim of Freddy Kruger."

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# Spooky Cultures



# Halloween and Cultural Appropriation

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By: Nuha Alsahli

Cultural appropriation is when a person adopts objects or elements from a different culture in a way that does not respect their original meaning nor give credit to the source. There are many ways in which the merging of cultures can create a positive result, such as several types of music. Many people have trouble understanding cultural appropriation or may not realize they are doing it themselves. This results in the normalization of adopting elements of different cultures for fashion purposes or the most famous example, Halloween costumes. Still, the harmful effects of cultural appropriation lie within using elements, usually clothes, of a minority group's culture in ways that defy its original purpose or make the group feel exploited.



One thing that makes Halloween fun is pretending to be someone you are not, such as a witch, a vampire or a famous movie character you really like. Dressing up grungy and terrifying for one night to bring a myth or character to life is exciting, but crossing the line would be to dress up as a Native American person. A person's culture is not a costume, especially when the point of Halloween is to dress up in scary outfits and there is nothing scary about traditional attire. To have ghost and vampire outfits next to Hula skirts or War bonnets a derogatory act that associates cultural attire with scary costumes without regard for their original meaning or the community whose attire is being worn. People could contribute to many dehumanizing stereotypes by dressing up in costumes that would further exploit or objectify a marginalized group. For example, several famous people on the internet have participated in what is known as "blackface," which uses makeup to portray a caricature of a black person. If you find yourself questioning why blackface is offensive, allow me to remind you that it originated in the nineteenth century in America. White actors would grease paint their faces to portray plantation slaves in mocking portrayals to reinforce the idea that African Americans were inferior.

There is no scenario where blackface would be appropriate, not as a joke and not as a Halloween costume. The unfortunate truth is that every cultural attire belonging to a marginalized group being worn as a costume in Halloween disregards their past and reinforces stereotypes. People belonging to marginalized groups have been facing discrimination socially, politically and economically. So, if you are not a part of a marginalized group in your community or country and want to show your support, spreading awareness about their culture is a far better option than turning it into a costume. Altering your physical appearance to portray a member of a different race or ethnicity for any reason is quite disrespectful, especially when that group is facing discrimination for that element. Whether it is a hairstyle or an outfit, adopting an element belonging to a different group for a fashionable look and getting praised for it is not commendable. Additionally, categorizing them as "unprofessional" or "aggressive" is appropriative. People should be able to exist and flourish in their cultural attire or values without being mocked and without those cultural elements being constantly stolen and misunderstood.

While taking an aspect of a culture that is not your own and using it for personal interest is appropriation, there is cultural appreciation on the other end of the spectrum. It is seeking knowledge about a different culture in an effort to respect, understand and connect with people of different cultures. It occurs when your reason for exploring that culture stems from curiosity and respect, not for personal gain or an Instagram photo. Appreciating different cultures is a wonderful and vital part of being alive today because we all come from diverse cultures, and respecting each other is important for coexisting. Frankly, there is a thin line between appreciation and appropriation, but some things immediately set the difference, such as inclusion, consciousness and education. For example, a Nigerian friend of mine traveled to Korea during the Korean new year and was invited to events where people wear the Hanbok - the traditional Korean attire. She showed her appreciation by wearing this attire and participating with its people in their festivities. A scenario in which she would be appropriating Korean culture would be if she wore Hanbok as a Halloween costume. Despite knowing how it is traditionally worn on holidays or weddings, it has been a part of Korean culture for centuries. Adopting an element of a different culture for personal gain is far different from doing so in ways to show credit and appreciation. It is essential to be inclusive of the people and shed light on them celebrating in their own cultural attire or values rather than appropriating these elements in ways that are uncalled for and that do not pay them respect.

Cultural sensitivity has always been important, but it is crucial now more than ever because we are constantly exposed to different cultures in music and on television, so having a basic understanding of them or understanding how to appreciate them is necessary. Being aware of differences between our cultures and others and examining any prejudice we may have helps us avoid unintentionally or inappropriately adopting practices of a different culture in a way that misuses them or exploits them. It is important to avoid cultural appropriation as it divides people and leads to misunderstandings and prejudice. Cultural appreciation can quickly turn into appropriation if we do it for the wrong reasons or if we do not let the people of that culture take the lead. Therefore, it is always important to ask and listen to celebrate all the diverse cultures in our world.



# Halloween Around the World

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By: Nuha Alsahli

It is that spooky month of the year, and as we are nearing October 31st, we are also nearing scary movies, costumes, pumpkins and those ghostly yet cozy evenings. For those of us who celebrate Halloween, it gives us a fun excuse to dress up and gather with friends for costume parties and indulge in all sorts of scary activities like haunted houses or horror movie marathons. But Halloween does not look like this everywhere. So, here is a brief look at how it started and how it is celebrated around the world.

The tradition originated with the ancient Celtic festival of *Samhain*, when people would light bonfires and wear costumes to ward off ghosts. The day of November 1st, which was also a new year for the Celts, marked the end of summer. It was a time associated with darkness and death. The Celts believed that a day before the New Year, the lines between the dead and the living became blurred, so they celebrated *Samhain* on October 31st, since it was believed that was when the ghosts of the dead came back to life. After the Catholic Church started to incorporate pagan celebrations into its own rituals, this day became a way to honor the dead and celebrate with bonfires and costumes.





# The Night of the Wolfpack

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By: Bader Al-Hassian

I would like to thank Student Life for keeping the Halloween spirit alive this semester after two years of isolation. I know for most of us, it is tough, but they kept the energy going even when it seemed like there was no way to fix it. My thanks also go out to everyone taking part in other events of the Night of the Wolfpack which will be mentioned shortly.

Before the Night of the Wolfpack started, there were two events that I would like to mention. The first is Unwind with Student Life — spooky edition. It was a virtual get-together where the Halloween theme was prevalent. Students shared their scary stories and spooky real-life encounters they had with everyone there. A similar event that happened that week was the Scary Stories from the Arab World, hosted by the Anthropology Club. Students remembered the stories they heard from either their parents or word of mouth and retell them in the event. And, finally, my favorite, the Student Life's AUK Cinema. Again, it was a virtual movie night experience, where students had the opportunity to choose a movie from the three screens. The movies featured were *The Conjuring*, *The Others*, and *Sixth Sense*.



While the small events were a good appetizer, it was time for the next course— The Night of the Wolfpack. Before the pandemic, AUK hosted the Night of the Wolfpack event on campus. That specific day would be a breath of fresh air, apart from cruising around the city or going to diwanis. People had the option to dress up, go to campus and listen to some live music. However, this year it took a different turn. The campus revival was still ongoing. I believe the staff was hesitant to conduct the Halloween event on campus because of new policy and health risks. Although the Zoom version was obviously a lot different than the campus event, it had the same spirit, which is what I really admired about it.

The event started with people showing off their face paint and costumes, which were all unique. Students were amazed at the efforts that some had put in just to win the competition. There were other competitions like the best virtual background and best photograph taking place during the event. However, the highlight of the event was the virtual escape room hosted by a new club started this year, the AUK Gaming Club. Students entered the room and became trapped, and they had to find clues to get out of a room. All of this was controlled by one of the club members. I was surprised by the number of people who joined. I really thought that the event would fail because few have the energy to participate in an online event, which is entirely understandable! And at first this was true. There would be times when the whole room would turn quiet, and then the energy would be picked up again by one enthusiastic staff member trying to encourage the students to participate, and those who did had a great time. I enjoyed the innovative idea of an escape room being virtual. I stayed in the breakout room, just watching people get confused about where the clues were. This did cause arguments that were funny to witness.

It is no lie that most students would have preferred the Night of the Wolfpack on campus. However, as students, we must consider that we are still in a pandemic; even if Kuwait seems to have achieved herd immunity, new strains are still likely to develop. With that, Student Life cannot take any chances to endanger AUK. However, I believe keeping the Halloween spirit alive is all I need for me to be satisfied. I just hope, like many others, that we will not have to endure Night of the Wolfpack online ever again.

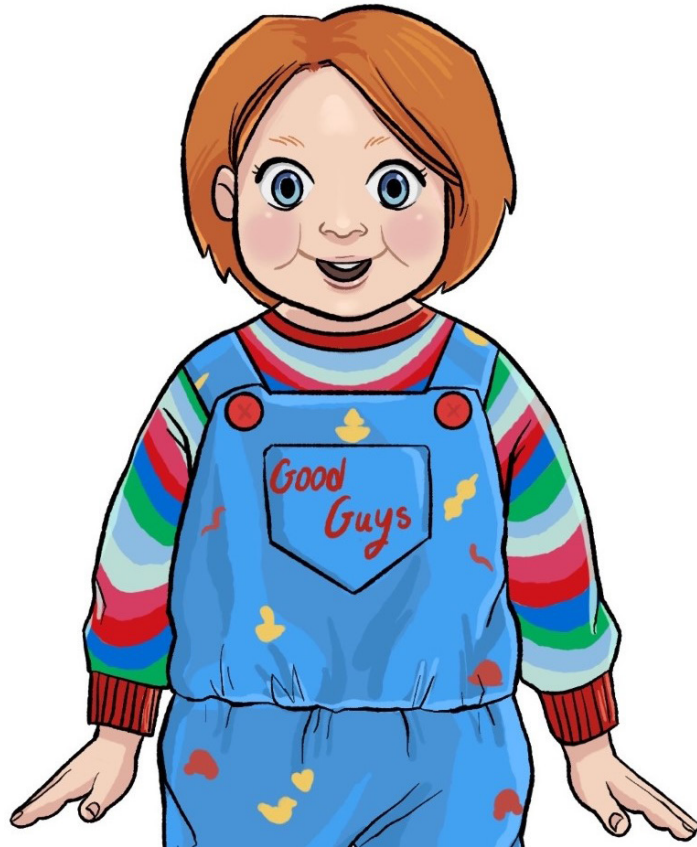




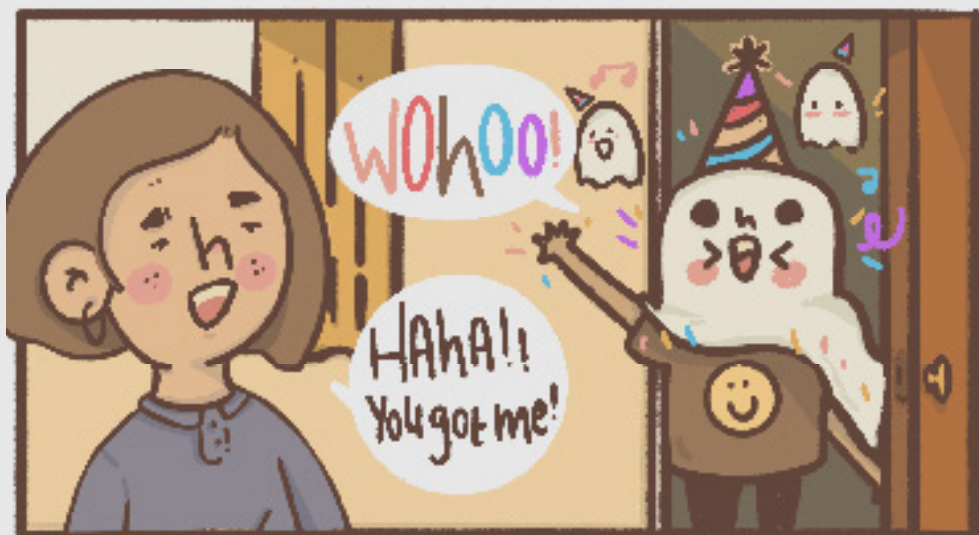
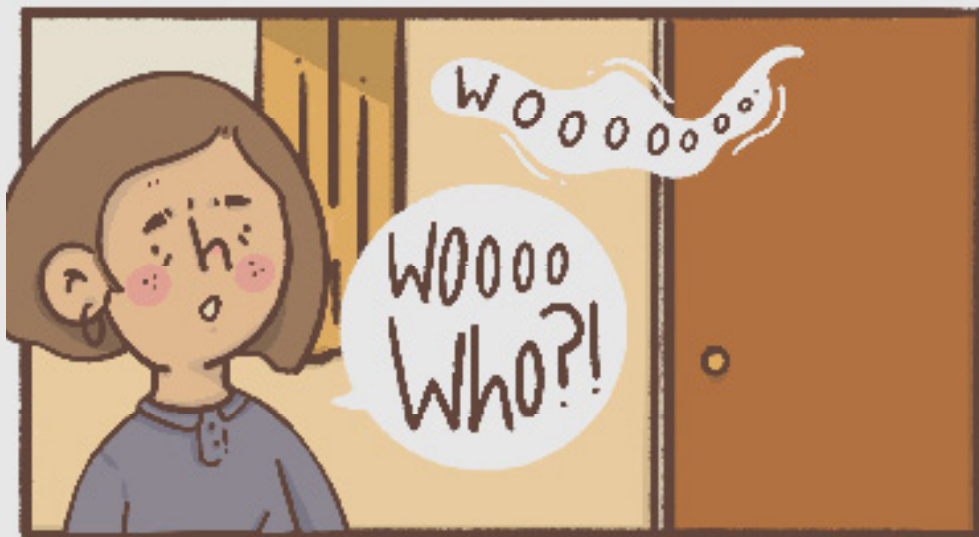
# Midnight Museum



# Chucky



# Woohoo



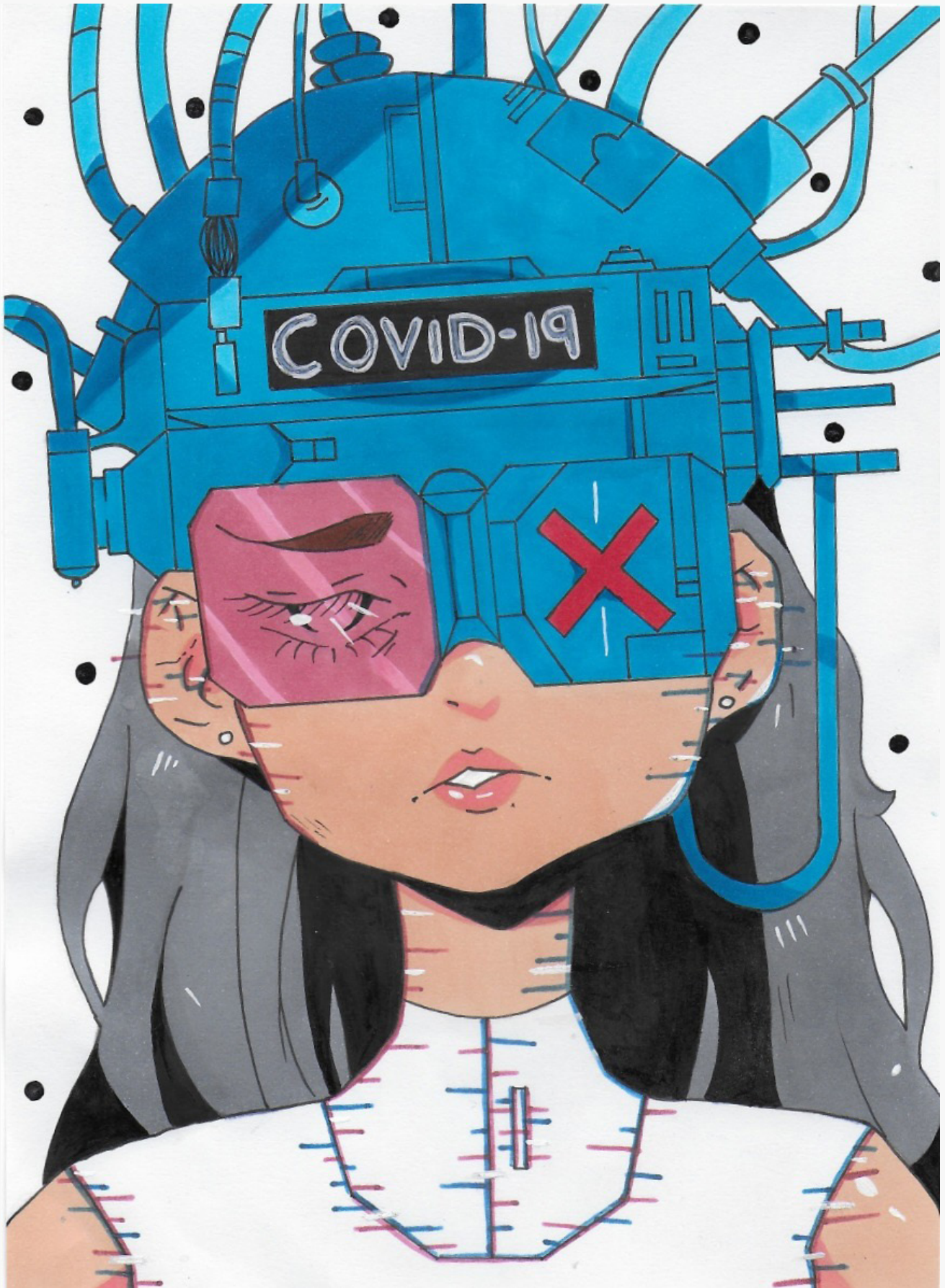
\*MICH\*

By: Mariam B Al-Khudhur



# Sharp Bones

By: Aisha Alsaif



# 2020 Vision

By: Yasmeen K Al Harbi

# Night Wolf

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By: Joud Al Nasrallah



# Student Council: Halloween Art Submission

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The Student Council held an art submission event on October 24, 2021, in celebration of Halloween. The submission was organized with the goal of providing students with a competitive venue to present their creative work. This event drew a large number of entries, with students submitting paintings, drawings, illustrations, face painting and other types of artworks.

On October 31, 2021, the winners were announced, with prizes including tickets to the Trapped Inn's lost escape room, the House of Evil's haunted house, and a movie ticket.



# Winner # 1

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Aisha Alsaif



# Winner # 2

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Fouzeyah Zallami



# Winner # 3

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Yasmeen Al Othman



# Freddie and His Spirits

By: Zakiya Y Al-Mahdi



# Crystal



# How to make Spook-tacular Ghost Sablé

By: Zinab K Hassan



## HOW TO make Spook-tacular Ghost Sablé



1



Mix the butter with the icing sugar until it's smooth.

2



Add the vanilla, an egg yolk and a shredded boiled egg and mix again.

3



Add the sifted flour until you create a soft dough. Then rest it for 15 min.

4



Shape the Sablé as you like, then put them in the baking tray.

5



Bake them for 20 min on 180 C, until it's golden brown color.

6



After that leave it to cool, take the white icing and draw a gohst shape, and the black icing to draw the eyes.

Happy Halloween!



# Psychological Perspective

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# The Logistics of Fear

By: Nuha Alsahli

When we think of fear, we think of an unpleasant emotion that wraps around us in situations where we face a threat or harm. You may be familiar with many signs such as goosebumps, trembling, shaky hands and more. All of which is a vital response our body has in correspondence with fear. Although fear is rational, it can be a devious emotion that could be an obstacle to your life that hinders your mobility. No matter how overwhelming fear may seem, there is always a sense to every fear that leads us to its roots. In this interview, Dr. Juliet Dinkha, a professor at AUK since 2005 and a clinical psychologist, shares her views on fear, its roots, the types and conquerors.

**“What would you say is the root of fear? Or where do all specific fears come from?”**

*“I would say fear has many factors and layers. Primarily, fear is a learned behavior we pick up as children from our homes or our environment. It could be developed after an incident, for example, an incident that occurred to you as a child could interpret later as a fear in an attempt to protect yourself, like a defense mechanism. There are many common fears, such as fear of failure, fear of flying or heights, fear of closed spaces and many more that numerous people share. We all have a fear somehow.”*

**“Are all fears developed from childhood?”**

*“Not all fears are developed as children but, I think a lot of the times it’s exasperated when we are kids, and later it gets worse. For example, some fears people have been genetic seeds, like, do they come from a family with many doubts and anxiety? Those people would have more fear versus people who grew up in households that were more competent and confident. Children of families who teach them to be who they are and accept them are least likely to develop fear and anxiety as they grow older.”*

**“Speaking of anxiety, how does it relate to fear?”**

*“So, people who have anxiety, have some sort of fear. It is when fear becomes overwhelming and becomes a constant worry, it develops into anxiety. Anxiety is very much genetic. That does not mean people who do not have it in their families will not develop it, it just means that there is always a root to anxiety. Some are genetic, and some are not. How it plays out is, you become worried about something, the future, the past, what people think of you, and all these worries you have comes from fear which could surpass the line and become an overwhelming obstacle in your life.”*



**“So, for people who have anxiety, when does anxiety become so overwhelming that it develops into a disorder?”**

*“That’s an important question. I think we all have some sort of anxiety but, as I tell my students in abnormal psychology, there is a thin line between normal and abnormal. It is normal to be anxious on the day of an exam, at a job interview, or when you are starting at a new school. However, it is not normal when anxiety is controlling many aspects of your life and taking a toll on your relationship with other people, your school, performance, etc. It is not a problem as long as you are in control of your anxiety and can still pursue a normal life with your friends and family. For example, it is okay for me to be anxious before a presentation, but it becomes a problem when I am avoiding presentations and can never go through with them. So, as soon as my anxiety is controlling my ability to present, it is a problem. Signs of your anxiety developing into something much more serious is when you experience symptoms such as anxiety attacks or panic attacks, vomiting, inability to go out any more, etc.”*

**“How can anyone experiencing these symptoms take matters into their own hands?”**

*“First things first, I suggest seeing a professional. People who experience panic attacks should see a professional because with panic attacks come physical symptoms that need medication, just like any other form of physical disability. For example, if they are feeling palpitations when driving a car and are worried they might lose control, that puts their lives at risk, so evaluation must be done. Suppose someone feels like they are not living their full potential; they have lost many opportunities or relationships because of their anxiety. They are failing classes because of their lack of attendance or avoiding friends, so an evaluation by a professional is necessary. The professional needs to understand what the root is of that fear. Is it genetic? Or has it been caused by something that happened? They need cognitive behavioral therapy to be able to understand the rationale. A lot of our fears or anxieties are exaggerated, for example, being anxious because a friend did not want to go out tonight, and the first immediate thought you get is that she does not like you anymore and does not want to spend time with you. Fears such as that are irrational and are signs of anxiety; hence, you are experiencing fear of being abandoned in ways that could affect your relationships with others. So, people who experience this need to have the situation evaluated. The most important thing is not to normalize these symptoms. For people who have had anxiety or depression for a long time, it starts feeling normal. These habits of avoiding people, avoiding going out, or any social interaction, are not normal, and they need to be addressed.*

**“Do you think college students, who are so stressed and unsure about the future, are more likely to fall into those habits because of their uncertainties?”**

*“Yes, for sure. I remember being there and feeling that I was a student for such a long time, and suddenly now I am graduating. It is a normal fear for all college students to have. You may not know what you want to do after graduating or which career field you will head into. You are no longer a student now, you are an adult. It is a lot of pressure. Society puts a lot of expectation on us that helps to increase our fears. Okay, now you have graduated, you must get a job, right? Then you must get married, and then you will have to have children. They are rules or expectations society has, so it is normal to be afraid of whether you will meet those expectations or whether you want to in the first place. It is important to understand that this is normal. Even people who do not have anxiety have doubts and worries, they are a part of the human experience.”*

*“So, do you feel scared after you graduate? Yes. But should you feed into your anxiety and just sit at home? No. You must challenge yourself. I think students must maintain a routine after they graduate because school gives us a routine. So, the sudden loss of this routine can make you feel lost or confused as you do not have a project, you do not have a schedule. Even though students complain about all their work, it gives them a sense of routine. And when you graduate, you do not have that sense anymore. It’s important to take time to develop a routine, travel, make a plan, apply for jobs or work on your CV so as not to fall into the pit of constant worry and feeling lost.”*

### **"Speaking of which, what made you interested in this field?"**

*"So, the reason I went into it is, well, I was born and raised in Kuwait while my parents are Iraqi, we left to the USA when I was in third or fourth grade. And I remember I was bullied a lot for being from the middle east. we immigrated to a small town in Pennsylvania and, they did not have a lot of immigrants. So, I felt misunderstood by people including the counselor who did not understand me and was instead trying to get me to be Americanized, which conflicted with my values. So, at that time, I loved reading. Both my parents are illiterate so I would read to them stories in a newspaper or a magazine. There was a column in the newspaper where they would write about people's problems, and I remember reading it to my mom because we loved hearing those problems. So, from the very beginning, I loved listening to people's problems. But then when I was put in this situation where I was not accepted and was always made to feel that I am different and darker than the rest of the people, I felt like I needed to do something to support the rest of the immigrants or Arabs in general and that is exactly what I did. I got my bachelor's degree then decided I was going to work with refugee camps and immigrants because these kids were like me. That is what really motivated me in all my work. My thesis was titled "How to utilize mental health services for Arabs" because of stigmas and lack of awareness, seeking mental health assistance is not common in the Arab world."*

### **"You mentioned being targeted as a kid for being different, would you say that has something to do with fear? The other kids feeling scared or threatened?"**

*Oh, definitely. It applies for all sorts of discrimination. I did not look like them, I did not speak like them, so I feel like they were scared because at least at that time, there were few refugees it was a small town so people could have felt threatened by the "outcast" families that migrated there and that could induce a defensive attitude where they try to exclude the immigrants or mock us for being different. It all stems from fear. We humans tend to stick to people who are just like us and I remember immigrants there who were from the same region forming a clique and always hanging out together. But people who are not used to you or do not look like you would bully you of course, because they are scared. They do not understand you. And that's why cultural understanding is particularly important. We need to be aware of people's culture, so we do not see them as outcasts. We need to be more inclusive."*

This in-depth interview with Dr. Juliet Dinkha has been eye opening to an emotion we all feel but may not fully understand. Dr. Dinkha has been a professor at auk since 2005 and a clinical psychologist and throughout this interview, she explained how fear is experienced by everyone differently and hoped to familiarize you with all its types and signs in order for you to gain insight and a deeper understanding of this emotion.

*"I want to tell AUK students that fear is normal, and you can experience it as long as you don't feed into it. So, be scared, take risks because ultimately, you will live into this "I wish I did" narrative so once you understand that it is okay to be afraid, just take a risk. Take things easy and everything will fall into place. As I always tell my patients, what's the worst thing that can happen?"*



# I Condone it: A Look into the True Crime Community

By: Bader Hussain

True Crime, a phrase popular with Netflix documentaries' resurgence that plagues our suggestion box. Why are we attracted to serial killers? I want to specifically look into a section within the true-crime community that most stirs up controversy, Columbiners. Columbiners describe themselves obsessed with the massacre in Columbine High School, Colorado, on April 20th, 1999. This was when two students, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, went into their high school and shot at students and a teacher. After the massacre, teachers and parents alike took on deep-rooted issues within the U.S. policy of the right to bear arms. And the flawed school system that dare not take a glimpse of mental illnesses within most of these students. Columbiners aren't fantasizing about killing their bullies or blowing up their high school, as much might imagine. In fact, that's far from reality. Usually, Columbiners have this blissful aura, and they are very self-aware of their fascination with the incident. However, this doesn't mean they are not edgy. We should explain why these specific few have this odd fascination and how it correlates with their psyche. Because, as much as Columbiners would like to state that Columbine is only a fascination or hobby, some take the event as a blueprint for their own plans for Armageddon.



When I was researching the community, I'd join many groups on various platforms. And one day, while I was scrolling through Facebook, I found a photo with the caption. 'We found out Randy was in our group this whole time, so with the respect of his family, we'll have him removed immediately.' A few days later, they invited me into another group that investigated the death of Randy Stair. As the months went by, more evidence piled up on who this Randy guy was. Having an obsession with the Nickelodeon show *Danny Phantom*, suicidal thoughts plagued Stair through the made-up characters he had called The Ember Ghost Squad. I'd like you to imagine how I was feeling about all this—finding all the documents through his Twitter account with his last farewells. It seriously felt like the group was getting closer through sharing our findings until suddenly, this unknown figure in our original group we didn't know existed was this Internet sensation. Day by day, he was more exposed than naked roadkill, and by now, we have a complete grasp of who this man is. A Columbiner with a fascination for cartoons and death who experienced gender dysphoria at one point.

Columbine is also subject to its own memorabilia. Like the killer clown paintings in prison, the Columbine killers have amassed a collection of material leading up to the event. This includes journal entries that blueprint the high school bomb recipes and lists of things to obtain before the shooting. These journals also have diary entries that show the two killers' personalities. In my observation, Eric Harris was a narcissistic psychopath who was angry with how the world was treating him. "The human race sucks, the human nature is [smothered] out by society, jobs, and work and school." In contrast, Dylan Klebold was a depressed, shy individual who had a hard time enjoying life for its simplicity. "Fact: People are so unaware... well, ignorance is bliss, I guess... that would explain my depression."

Apart from the journals, Eric had a website, as he was also tech-savvy. On this website, Harris put out alarming statements, going so far as threatening one of his friends, which led him to get reported to the police. One of the holy grails from the whole Columbine incident would be the tapes the boys made before the incident took place. "The Basement Tapes" reported to be destroyed by the Jefferson County police department. However, there have been two videos that were leaked. One of which was a skit called "Hitman for Hire." In it, showed the boys as hitmen, helping a kid in class who is being bullied. Nothing interesting, except the last part, in which both boys are screaming at their camera with threats not to touch the kid ever again. I can argue that this instance would show the bottled-up emotions of the two had before the massacre. The second video shows the two boys in the forest shooting with real guns, this time, nothing alarming apart from the fact they both gained the guns; the same ones that would be found next to their bodies on the day that Columbine happened. Now, I mentioned the tapes were reportedly "destroyed," but we are lucky enough to have the full transcript of every video the two boys made. Most are disturbing, but the one that really takes the cake would be the last video they made, half an hour before Columbine.

"Hey, mom. Gotta go. It's about half an hour before our little judgment day. I just wanted to apologize to you guys for any crap this might instigate as far as [inaudible] or something. Just know I'm going to a better place."  
— Dylan Klebold.

Columbine sparked a cultural phenomenon that is still present in 2021. It brought light to a lot of subjects like the legal age of buying a gun, how schools operate, and violent video games. But the fascination is the one that really shines; how people fixated on a particular event and many others in the true-crime scene. Adolescent angst will always be that, angst. However, if that angst continues till the later years of life, many consider it alarming. So shouldn't we observe it when first blossoming? If Columbiners feel the way they do over the actions of these killers, condoning their actions, then there is something completely broken and far from the hobby of psychology. At that point, it has become an unhealthy obsession. I would argue that such communities do need to be monitored regularly by outside entities in case any conspirators proceed with their blueprints for another massacre. We've seen it before, and we'll see it again until we can figure out the root of the problem.





# What's Your Favorite Scary Movie?

# Exploring *The Shining's* Famed Villain: Jack Torrance

By: Nuha Alsahli

It is Halloween season, which means if you are a horror movie lover, you are delving into horror movie nights from classics to newer releases. The famous 1980 film, *The Shining*, is a classic option that never gets old. It is an adaptation of Stephen King's novel under the same name. The movie has managed to meet the praise and criticism since its release. It has inspired a generation of filmmakers and authors due to its perfect use of tension, atmosphere, and mystery and the portrayal of the main character, Jack Torrance. Torrance is considered one of the most complex horror movie characters due to his character's dynamic psychological elements and developments. Torrance moved throughout different stages from the protagonist to the antagonist at the Overlook Hotel, which carried the film's plot.

In the first stage, we see what appears to be a normal family moving into the Overlook Hotel due to the father, Jack's, new job. Secrets about the hotel's and Jack's past start to slowly unfold, and suspicions arise around his son, Danny, who can "shine," which is the ability to communicate through one's mind and see the past or the future. It is clear that Jack desires to be a good person and especially a good father to his son Danny, which makes him a sympathetic character who gains the audience's liking at the beginning of the movie. The incident where Jack binged on alcohol and hurt his son are mentioned as one of Jack's deepest regrets, which sets him apart from his abusive father, as he seems to care about Danny and tries to maintain a good relationship with him. There were clues that the hotel had influence over every incident inside its walls. Whether that meant the hotel was alive or inhabited by spirits, the hotel slowly drove Jack insane. Jack can be seen drowning back into his alcoholism and his fears of becoming as abusive as his father, which constantly triggered his past trauma. The hotel or the "spirits" eventually drive Jack mad, and he is convinced into killing his family. He chases his wife and son, who eventually manages to escape, and Jack is left to die.



Throughout the movie, a trait that remained with Jack was the abuse he endured and projected onto his classmates when he was young and the times mentioned towards his son. Right before the hotel pushes Jack back into his old habits, he starts to feel himself finally healing after years of drinking and abuse, until the strange experiences with the hotel began. Despite not drinking, he is constantly wiping his mouth, is short-tempered, and swears a lot, which are all the traits he previously had. Jack's character illustrates the connection between alcoholism and abuse, and the potential effects isolation could have on someone suffering from the two. In addition, Jack represents the profound family connection which King implies cannot be broken. Jack could not get himself to hurt his son again. Still, he slowly starts thinking about hurting his wife, Wendy, and becomes obsessed with writing about the hotel after finding a scrapbook outlining the hotel's history. He shows violence and obsession throughout the movie, and his mind starts to break when he does not realize that he has a psychic ability to interact with the hotel.

Torrance has many psychopathic features in his abuse and manipulation, powered by his past in alcoholism. The movie's conflict is carried by his desire to be a good person, and the debate on how he acts is based on his trauma being fed by the spirits of the hotel and played like a puppet. Stephen King was a substance user in his adulthood, and after spending time with his wife at the Stanley Hotel, a near-empty resort, his melancholy, and a slight craving for alcohol-fueled his creativity to create the villainous protagonist, Jack Torrance.

Jack Torrance, has a more realistic kind of horror as he is a human struggling with himself, and no matter how well he thought he was doing, his temper gets the best of him under the alleged influence of the hotel. It could be that violence has always been a part of him, and it is now amplified. It is not all of him as we see, but a part of him is slowly taking over. Not only that, but it could also be a way to show how a "child victim" could project all that he endured under such circumstances. The portrayal of Jack Torrance by Jack Nicholson was award-winning and incredibly realistic. During the famous "Here's Johnny" scene, the actress of Wendy, Shelly Duvall, stated that she was indeed scared during the filming process due to how realistic the acting and script were. The character of Jack Torrance is still considered one of the most psychologically complicated film characters.



# Halloween Movie Posters

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VOICE is featuring a few spine-chilling movie posters done by the students in Dr. Maryam Hosseinnia's GDES 321 – Typography II course. Students were asked to design a poster for Halloween and had the freedom to come up with their interpretations of the Halloween theme posters. They were open to incorporating a movie title, including the tagline, or writing "AUK Premiere" or "Now Showing/Coming Soon." They were free to use imagery and color. This freedom allowed them to experiment and have fun in the making.

By: Rana Fahad

# PARTY HALLOWEEN

JOIN US IF YOU DARE

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3 KD

AUK - THEATER

Sunday , 31st Oct

FOR MORE INFO

[www.auk.edu.kw](http://www.auk.edu.kw)

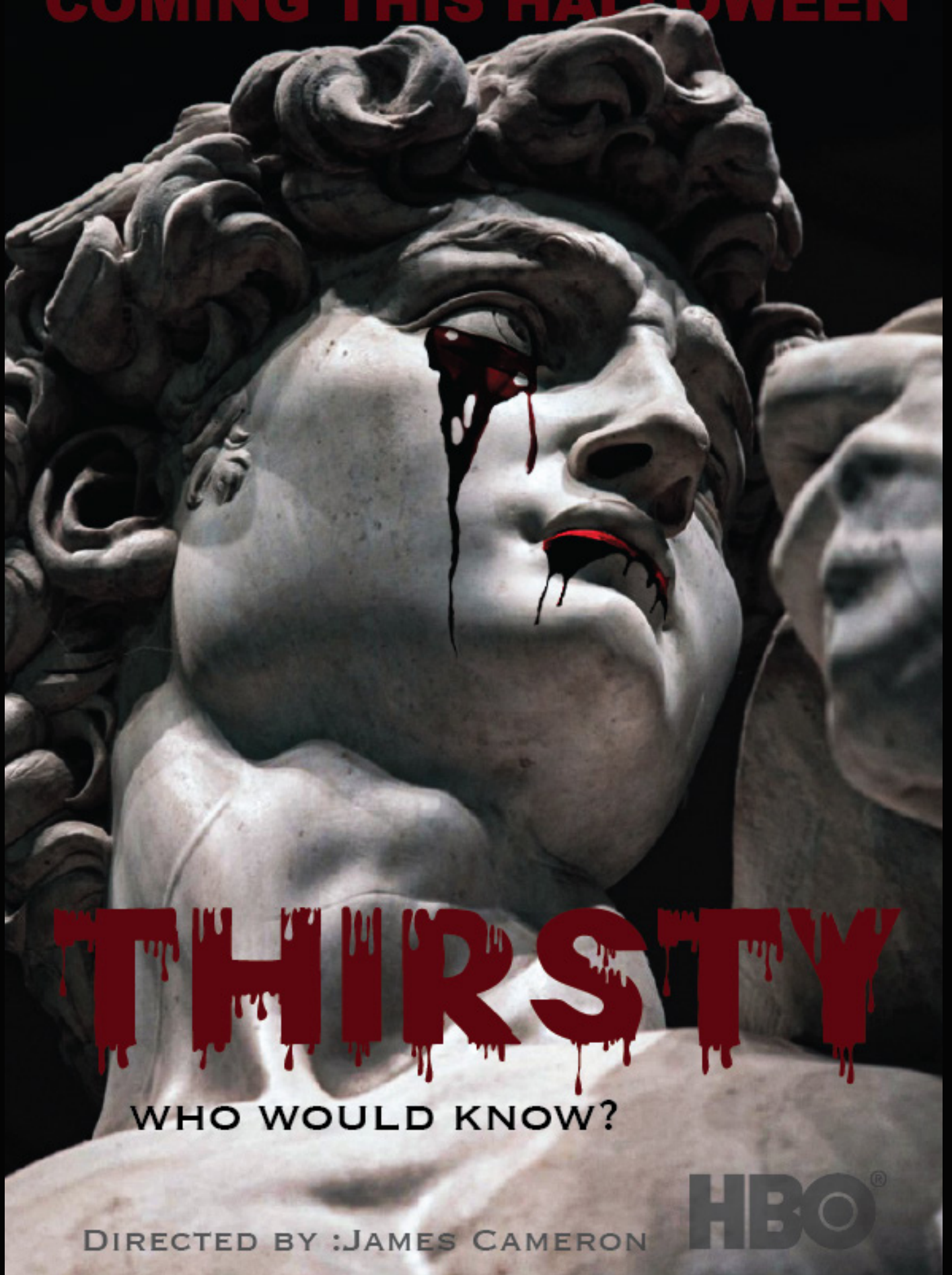


By: Rawabi Alkhamees



By: Muneerah Albkoor

**COMING THIS HALLOWEEN**



# THIRSTY

WHO WOULD KNOW?

DIRECTED BY :JAMES CAMERON

HBO®



# D'EVILS SCORN

Coming Soon  
October 31st

SIR Production



# THE STICHES

*Directed by*  
**Mojdeh Ebrahimi**

*Starring*  
**Wartcast Hazelburg**  
**Jennie Dex**  
**Patrick Raquel**  
**Dean Zane**

*Movie night*  
**Halloween**

*Presented by*  
**Student Affairs**



*October*  
**20th**

**8PM**

*Recreational*  
*Area*

*open to*  
**AUK**  
*community*

*For more information contact: [StudentAffairs@auk.edu.kw](mailto:StudentAffairs@auk.edu.kw)*

By: Mojdeh Ebrahimi

*AUK PRESENTS*

# HORROR MOVIE NIGHT

*COMING SOON*



**AUK THEATER**

*SUNDAY, 31 OCTOBER*

*FROM 8:00-10:00 PM*

*TICKETS: 2KD*

By: MayDina El- Bouamrani

**WEGRAPHICS** PRESENTS A **WEGRAPHICS STUDIO** PRODUCTION WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY **AKUMA YUREI**  
CREATIVE DESIGN BY **MAY EL-BOUAMRANI** VISUAL EFFECTS AND SOUNDTRACK BY **YUMI NEKO**



# THE **EYE** OF BEHOLDER

COMING SOON

By: Yasmin Aldosari

JAMIE LEE  
CURTIS

TONY  
MORAN

DONALD  
PLEASENCE

JHON CARPENTER

DIRECTED BY

*The trick was to stay alive*

# H A L L O W E E N

COMPASS INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

C O M I N G S O O N

OCTOBER

31<sup>ST</sup>

By: Thenainan Al Matoog



NETFLIX AND PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENT A MURDERED  
PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY THUNAYYAN AL MATOUQ BASED ON TRUE STORY THAT WAS DONE ON 2001  
EXCUTIVE PRODUCER ABDULLAH ALMATOUQ PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH UNIVERSAL  
LOS ANGELES AND HOLLYWOOD RED CARPET

OCTOBER 31

By: Nadin Gaballa

JACK NICHOLSON

SHELLEY DUVALL



# ZOMBIE INVASION

**They Eat The Living**

A Film By Peter Jackson - October 31

WITH SCATMAN CROTHERS DANNY LLOYD BASED ON THE NOVEL BY STEVEN KING

SCREENPLAY BY STANLEY KUBRICK & DIANE JOHNSON PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY STANLEY KUBRICK

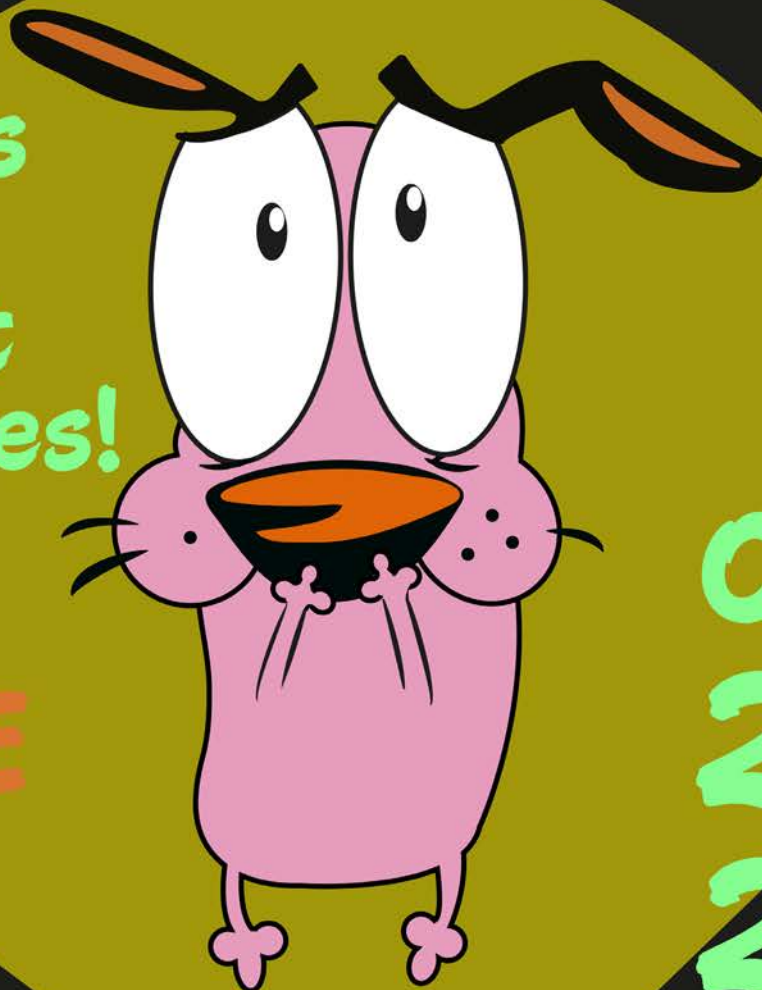
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JAN HARLAN PRODUCED IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE PRODUCER CIRCLE CO.

By: Fatemah Alqattan

# HALLOWEEN week

Show us  
your  
scariest  
costumes!

PRIZE  
for  
winner



Use  
#aukhalloweek

Oct  
28-  
24

# “Evil Dies Tonight”

*Halloween Kills* Review by Bader Hussain

It's that time of the month, one with a long-anticipated film. Only for it to be disappointing in lore. *Halloween Kills* is a movie released this year by Director David Gordon Green, who directed the last *Halloween* in 2018. It was also produced by Malek Akkad, whose father Moustapha produced the first *Halloween* in 1978. Moustapha's other notable contribution to the film industry was directing *The messenger*. Another important name in this film is co-writer Danny McBride who acted in movies like *Pineapple Express* and *This is the End*. The original director of the first *Halloween* film, John Carpenter, is the composer for the newest picture. There is a lot to unpack about this film. Mostly negative, but there are some positive things to say about this film. Like the original soundtrack's remake into something lush and nostalgic. And the goofy violence of the film.

But to say the film was a good bridge between the first of the 2018 franchise to the next one, set to release next year, is far from the case. Frequently, the movie does not know what it wants to be. The inconsistent plot arches can leave newcomers to the franchise very confused. For 80 minutes, we find ourselves being introduced to legacy characters who have had a past with Michael Myers. One of the main characters is the cop who first interacted with Myers at the original *Halloween*; he accidentally shot his partner while kept hostage by the killer. Another is Laurie Strode and her family right after the 2018 incident. And many other characters who have the potential to build up a consistent story. However, instead of being consistent, the film is nothing but a series of short stories by these characters. The main objective is to end evil at all costs.





And because of how flat the characters are in the story, we see weak moments involving the main character Myers, like when he toys with his victims' bodies. In one instance, he is seen putting knives in an already deceased body, or masks on the victims in the playground scene. Myers also seems to be conscious of what he is doing. Sometimes choosing not to kill some victims, only leaving them to suffer or be saved by paramedics. This is a far cry from the real Myers, who wouldn't leave a person behind, killing them in cold blood if they are ever in his way. Most of the characters die at the very end, hence the name *Halloween Kills*. The franchise's protagonist, Laurie Strode, doesn't appear in the movie because of her stab wounds in the previous film. And when she does attempt to make an appearance, she ends up aching in pain and goes back to her hospital bed. That is another flaw in this movie. All the characters make stupid decisions that end up them dying. This is mind-boggling because even a child can predict Michael will kill the characters. For example, not having backup when police attempt to confront the killer also makes all the characters not only stupid but also flat. They're so flat that they repeat specific movie phrases like "Evil dies tonight" or "He's come home." And the worst part of the whole movie is not the dull characters, but the theme that was forced upon the film that makes it irrelevant. The movie tries so hard to portray society as the root of evil with a scene in which Michael Myers was allegedly sighted at the hospital, the movie's primary location. This allegation causes a riot in the hospital. At the same time, the main characters try to stop the people from chasing down the person believed to be Myers. Eventually, that person, who has a mental health condition, kills himself by falling off the building.

Michael Myers, however, is portrayed perfectly in the antagonist motif. He's cold and vicious when it comes to his killings, but I will deny that Michael avoids getting shot by most of his victims. Is Myers that impossible to kill, or are these characters really lacking the luck they require? For instance, there is one scene where a nurse tries to shoot Michael from inside the car, and he then opens the door, causing her bullet to ricochet and hit her instead. Unrealistic violence is where the movie shines. For gore fans, I can guarantee that this movie will be enjoyable in that regard.

Green's sequel of his new *Halloween* trilogy is, unfortunately, a waste of time, with many arcs that ultimately leave the plot inconsistent and confused. Nevertheless, I would recommend you watch it when the DVD release is out. Or even better, go back and watch the 2009 reboot of the same movie, which I argue is better. But if you do love pointless violence, then you won't be disappointed. *Halloween Kills* is out now in cinemas during the writing of this article. Happy Halloween!

# Adam's Family

---

By: Sarah A AlKhateeb



# The Undead

Drama Queen, is a term I dislike.

Ignore the torments,

The humorous laugh.

I am the Queen of Drama.

Ego, it is my identity that is at stake.

To forgo it, is to be insane.

And that my dear girls, is the epitome of my own interiority.

Forgo the laughs,

the crude interior smiles,

there is so much more to the world

than those lying beyond the grave.

Even though the undead are my friends,

I dare not laugh among them.

For before you know it

They go to sleep

And fall asleep aloud in the juncture that is my laughter.

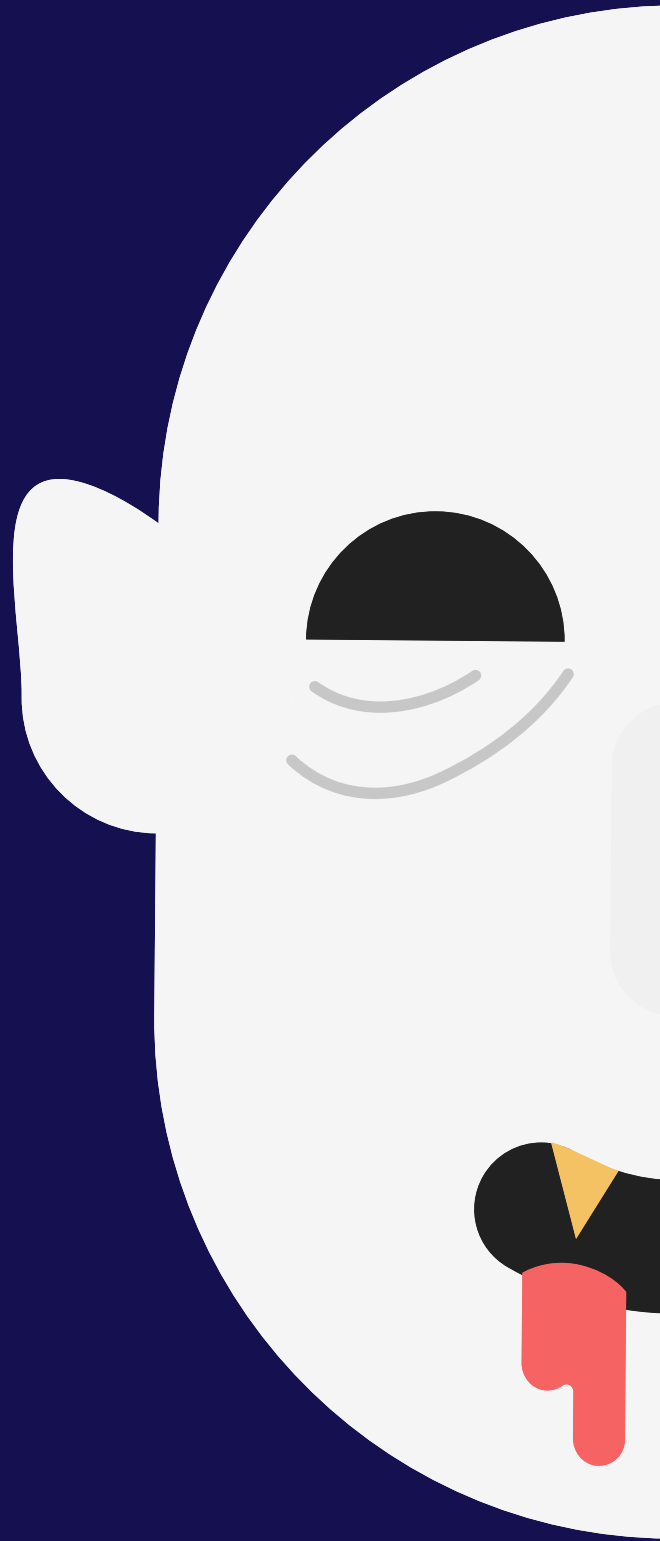
And that bugs them more than I care to admire.

And so bug them I shall, when they are alive again,

And for that I would wait for eternity collapsing, and the sun rising again,

But sadly, I must go to sleep, and the schedule is hard for me.

So see you soon, friends, and tomorrow we will have our day today.

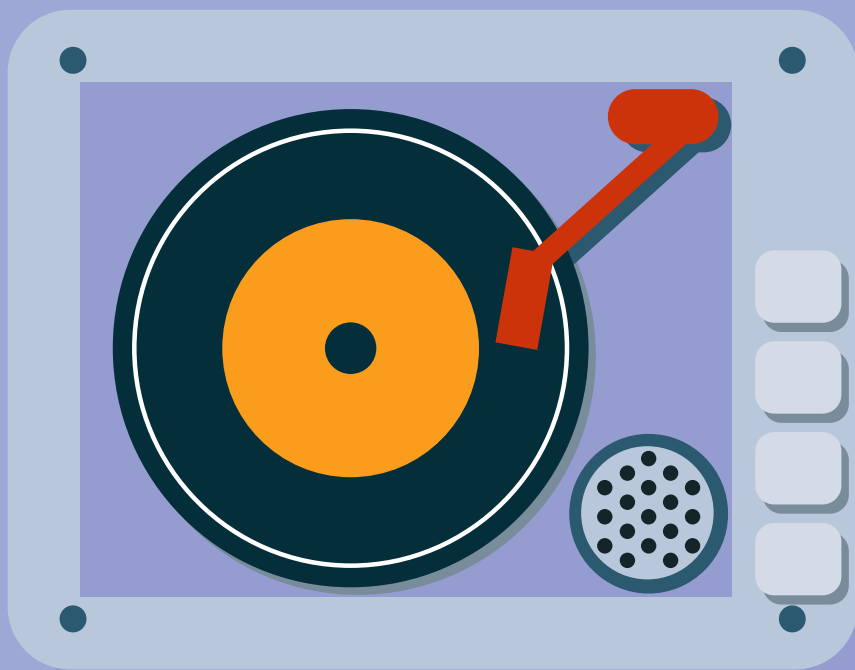


# Bader's Picks for a Groovy Halloween.

As many of you know, I am a music fan of all genres. Exploring entirely new territories has been a passion of mine ever since I could remember. This is well translated through the picks I have for all of you to jam out to. Keep in mind there will be mainstream for our ears to comprehend and others that our ears can barely handle. I would like my audience to take a look through my album picks with an open mind. That aside, it's been a pleasure to have to write about something as passionate as music. Having been a drummer before a reporter. I sincerely hope you all have a groovy Halloween; all pun intended. Now, without further a due, here are my five picks for a groovy COVID- free Halloween!

5. Album: *Hillbilly Deluxe*  
Artist: Rob Zombie  
Genre: Rock  
Release date: 1998

You all may recognize who Rob Zombie is. Still, he made the awfully rated Halloween reboot for those who don't know in 2009. Which I will argue is far from bad- and actually decent. After parting ways with his band "White Zombie," Rob shocked fans with his debut album *Hillbilly Deluxe* and proved to be an outstanding album in the industrial rock scene, and helped solidify his career a solo musician. Good songs within the album include "Dragula," "Living Dead Girl," and "Demonoid Phenomenon," which I will add was my introduction to rock music.



4. Album: *Walk Among Us*  
Artist: Misfits  
Genre: Punk  
Release date: 1982

You may know the band for the iconic skull logo found around cheap T-shirts these days. But they are far from the logo they have created. The Misfits are known for sonically fast beats and their horror-inspired lyrics that come straight out of a Hammer film. Fronted by Glen Danzig, who is noted to be the Elvis of punk rock, it is accurately terrifying, and *Walk Among Us* proves it. The album is pretty short at 24 minutes, but it will satisfy your ears for this Halloween. Notable songs are: "All hell breaks loose," "Vampira," and "Astro Zombies."

2. Album: *Blizzard of Ozz*  
Artist: Ozzy Osbourne  
Genre: Metal  
Release date: 1980

After his dismissal from Sabbath, Notorious singer Ozzy Osbourne started his career by releasing a debut solo album. The trio made a sonically fascinating album, paired with guitarist Randy Rhodes, bassist Bob Daisley, and drummer Lee Kerslake. I believe Ozzy was at his peak with this album in terms of singing and lyricism; Osbourne talks about his self-destructive habits and, of course, magic. Notable songs include: "Crazy Train," "Mr. Crowley," and "Suicide Solution."

3. Album: *6 Feet Deep*  
Artist: Gravediggaz  
Genre: Hip-Hop  
Release date: 1998

Did you know Rza was part of this group? Me too! While the birth of Horrorcore hip hop is credited to the Memphis-based "Three Six Mafia," the New York rap group "Gravediggaz" for their intricate lyricism. Like WuTang, It felt like a competition between the rappers, and each had their own signature flow. Songs I would recommend are: "Diary Of A Madman," "2 Cups Of Blood," and "Bang Your Head."

1. Album: *Thriller*  
Artist: Micheal Jackson  
Genre: Pop  
Release date: 1982

What's Halloween without a thriller! Despite the lousy pun, Micheal Jackson is a name known by billions, which cannot be argued. The album was known for having so many hits in one album. This was what Micheal wanted, after all: to make an album with hits with creative freedom and minor altercations with production. Notable songs include: "Beat it," "Thriller," and "Billie Jean."

I know this Halloween won't be the same. But that's the beauty of Covid. It allows students to communicate intimately through the power of social media, and it's quite the same with the Voice. While three are odd, two are even and to be able to communicate the way we do through this pandemic is honestly a timed blessing. Whether you like my picks or not is honestly up to interpretation. There will be those individuals who actually enjoy my taste, and my message to them would be "Thanks?" and for those who don't want, "I completely understand." So long as you took the time of day to sit through the picks and give your own interpretation. Please take the time to email me and let me know your thoughts on these picks.

# Midnight Mass Review

Riad Kahale

It is not quite often that religious horror media is regarded highly. This is mainly because when religion is discussed in a horror movie, it has little to do with the religion itself and is regarded more as a backdrop for some narrative device to kick the movie into gears. This is best seen in films like *The Exorcist* or *The Conjuring* series, and yet there are examples on the other end of the spectrum as to how to properly incorporate religion into a film, with examples like *Apostle*, *The Witch* and *Midsommar* to name a select few. But in my humble opinion, the television show *Midnight Mass* does this perfectly. There are two levels which show just how amazing this horror television show truly is: characters' religious conflict and the excellent direction from Mike Flanagan.

It must be stated that the characters seen in *Midnight Mass* have been expertly crafted in all areas to make the audience either love them or hate them. This is best seen with the characters of Sheriff Omar Hassan and Bev Keane. Sheriff Omar Hassan, a devout muslim is seen as the outsider within the television show's community since most people within the show are in fact Christians. The visible tension between Bev Keane and Sheriff Omar Hassan are moments to enjoy as Bev continually talks discouragingly about Islam to make her religion seem more presentable. Yet I truly loved the scenes in which the sheriff talks about what makes Islam great, going into detail about the differences between the two religions and stating that it is perfectly fine to be confused Islam, but it is wrong of them to talk poorly about something which you have little information about.



Mike Flanagan is well known for having directed films like *Oculus*, *Hush*, *Gerald's Game*, *Doctor Sleep* and television shows like *The Haunting of Hill House* and *The Haunting of Bly Manor*. I felt like the performances from Hamish Linklater, Rahul Kohli and Kate Siegel who played Father Paul Hill, Sheriff Omar Hassan and Erin Greene as absolute highlights of the show. I have been following Rahul Kohli's rise to stardom and I could easily say that he is on the track to success after portraying Owen Sharma in *The Haunting of Bly Manor*, Dr. Ravi Chakrabarti in *iZombie* and Dr. Jonathan Crane / Scarecrow in *Harley Quinn*. His performance was the most captivating in the show, I enjoyed the additional perspective he brings into the religious context of the show, with him being one of the two muslim characters, it was enjoyable to see the reaction of someone within the situation that encapsulated the series itself which can be summarized in three words: Us Or Them.

The television show is a seven-episode miniseries, which uses music and cinematography perfectly, reminding me of *Midsommar* as well as *The Wicker Man*, this television program is most definitely one to watch. I would give this show a rating of 8.5/10, I was just hoping that the show would go on for another season. But knowing Mike Flanagan and what a perfect job he has been doing so far in terms of films and series which he directed. The future is looking quite bright.



# Horror Movies in Real Life

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By :Moustafa K Hassan

Everyone knows that watching horror movies is exciting and pushes a lot of adrenalin into your blood; despite that, let me tell you a story about horror movies.



One day we booked five tickets to a horror movie called *The Nun*, we were only four after my fifth friend couldn't come. My uncle said, "I will come." I told him, "it's a horror movie uncle." He replied, "why not!" The day we drove to the cinema was at midnight, and we barely arrived in time. The cinema was fully booked at that time because of the number of people who were there that night. My friends and I went to grab some popcorn for the night, and my uncle went to the bathroom. Then, we met at gate number 18, and there was a long line to enter the theater. We enjoyed the popcorn and the posters hanging in the hallway, planning to go to another movie next weekend. Finally, we arrived at the gate, but we finished our popcorn, regardless we entered and sat on our seats. After that, my uncle suggested getting more popcorn for us, so I agreed and joined him. We took the popcorn as fast as possible and hurried back in because my friend texted me saying the movie had started. Fortunately, we weren't late, and we didn't miss anything. The movie's beginning was okay, nothing scary worth mentioning. But maybe after one-third of the movie elapsed, things started to get scary. People were covering their eyes and ears as the movie played. People screamed at the scene where the nun scared the young girl at the church, but surprisingly my uncle laughed hard and loud on that scene.

Not only that scene but until the end. People in the theater started looking at us angrily, and the supervisor came to my uncle twice, but nothing changed. When people looked at me, I said, I don't know him, but I didn't know what to say when my friends looked at me. Thank God the theater was dim so that people couldn't mark my uncle's face. I was sinking in my chair during the movie while my uncle was watching a stand-up comedy show. After we left the theater, I heard people mumbling about my uncle in the hallway and heard things.

As we drove the car away from the cinema, you could tell that my friends were not happy at all. Finally, my uncle broke the silence by asking when we were going again, and the "NO" came from the four of us simultaneously. My uncle hit his head on the steering wheel from the shock, and the car left its lane and crashed on the side road. I opened the door and hurried to my uncle; I opened his door to see his face covered in blood.

Immediately, I called the ambulance, and they took him to the hospital. After covering his forehead with bandages, we entered the room with a cup of juice and sat to cheer him up when he said, "I am sorry." We were shocked and said, "No, we are the ones who should apologize for what we did." He said: "I was laughing in the theater to cover how scared I was, but I really wanted to come with you guys."

