



Arthur's Articles

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Hi everyone, and welcome to the third instalment of Arthur's Articles!

In this issue we cover a range of topics such as:

Conspiracy theories: what's REALLY going on in the world.

New year's resolutions: ideas and how to stick to them.

Book reviews: ideas to fill out your 2019 reading list.

Career Paths: a fun way to show you what your future should hold.

"Bi the way": LGBTQ+ education, advice and fun.

Agony Aunt: solving queries and answering your questions confidentially.

As you can see, there's something for everyone, but as always, if there's something you want to see in here, talk to a member of our team—Mrs Gilbert—or email me directly at 13thorpj@arthurmellows.net with your suggestions.

So, without further ado, let's get onto the articles!

Happy New Year everyone!

-Jem Thorp



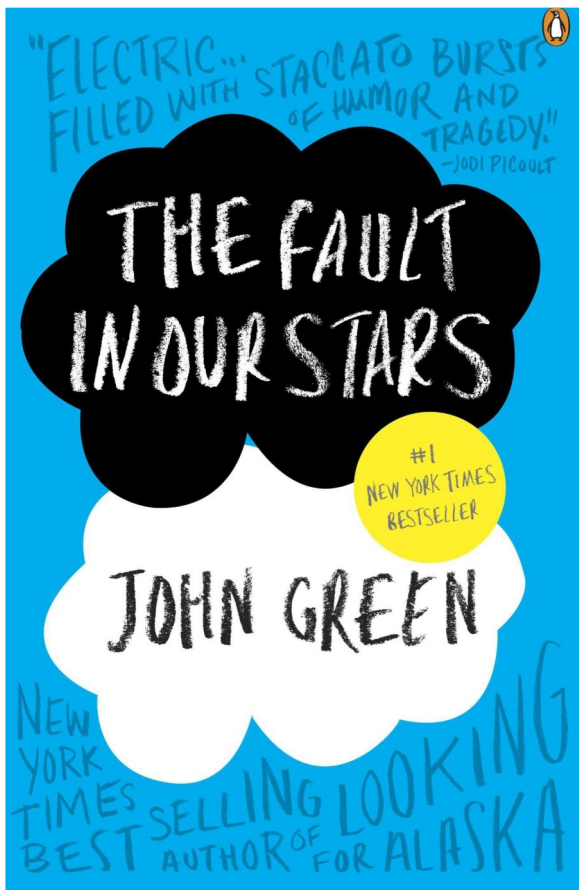
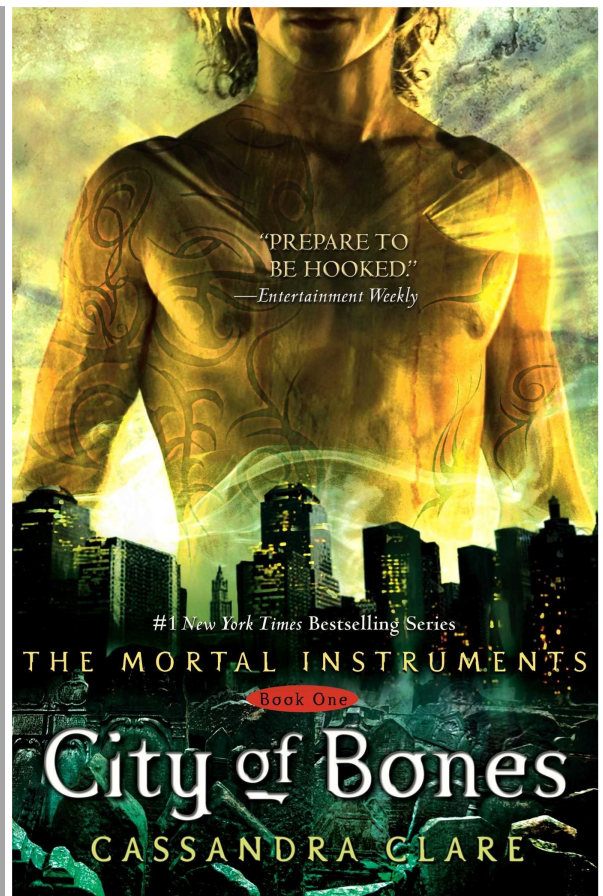
Book Review



Book: City of Bones
Author: Cassandra Clare
Rating: 8/10

My thoughts:

A wonderfully crafted book, yet another book by Clare that I absolutely adored. Being the first book of the series, it is a wonderful introduction to the world around Clarrissa Frey and the many dangers that await her within the downworld. Definitely a must read for fans of the shadowhunter world, or even just those interested in the supernatural world of vampires and werewolves. A series I definitely recommend and that I continue to reread when I need a familiar storyline for comfort when I'm stressed.



Book: The Fault In Our Stars
Author: John Green
Rating: 7/10

My thoughts:

A wonderfully emotional book filled with heartache that really captures a heartbreaking story surrounding the effects of cancer, taking you through the ups and downs of Hazel as she battles hers and the torture that is support groups. The wonderfully crafted plot twist had me in tears to the very end and if you haven't read it yet I definitely recommend it. An amazing read, definitely yet another must read by the talented John Green.

Book Review



Book: Love The Sh!t Out Of Yourself

Author: Zoey Arielle Poulsen

Rating: 9/10

Thoughts:

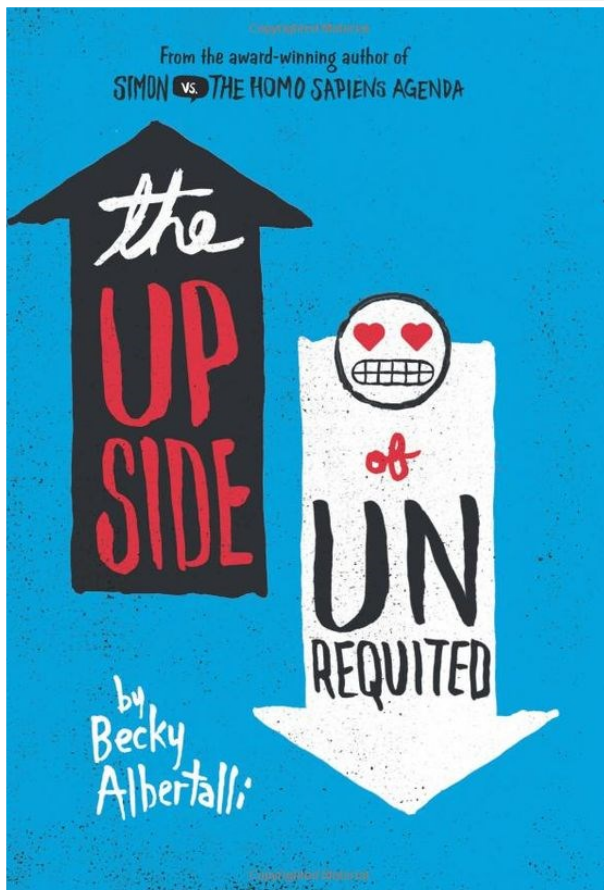
I'm not going to say any more than I really need to here: this is just about everything you could possibly want in a book. Full of sweet and positive affirmations for any situation, it's the perfect way to retune your inner voice to see everything from a more optimistic point of view. Its small size means you can easily carry it with you wherever you go and whenever you need some emergency positivity. It's even divided into useful categories so you can find exactly the help you need. Whether you need advice, cheering up or you just need more of Ms Kavanagh's motivational quotes in your life, this book is perfect for you!

"This book of affirmations can change your life for the better today."
-Varla Ventura, author of *Sheroos*

LOVE the SH!T OUT OF YOURSELF

Because Your Life Depends On It

ZOEY ARIELLE POULSEN



Book: The Upside Of unrequited

Author: Becky Albertalli

Rating: 9/10

Thoughts:

Have you ever read a book and felt like it must have been written specifically for you? That was exactly the feeling I had reading this book, and it's a feeling almost anyone, male or female, can probably relate to. From the author of *Simon vs the Homo Sapiens Agenda*, the story follows teenager Molly and her experiences with issues such as anxiety, body confidence and a never-ending list of unrequited crushes, and her struggle of always being last in the race when it comes to boyfriends, first kisses and everything in between: something which will resonate with so many people. With its beautiful LGBT+ representation, laugh-out-loud moments and relatable characters, you won't be able to put it down.

Film Review



A Series of Unfortunate Events

A Series of Unfortunate Events is a 13 part book series by the author Dan Handler writer under the name of Lemony Snicket. It follows the story of the 3 Baudelaire's (Violet, Klaus and Sunny) after their house is burned down by a fire that also kills their parents. With no close relatives it's unsure where they should go, eventually ending up in the care of Count Olaf, a vicious man who only cares about their fortune they are set to inherit. This is merely the premise for the first book and as the story progresses the plot thickens with strange relatives, secrete organisations and new friends discovered along the way. A Series of Unfortunate Events has been adapted several times including a TV show and a film.

The oldest Baudelaire sibling is Violet who is 14 when the story begins. Klaus is the middle child and is 12 when the books begin. Sunny is only a baby in the books. Each of them have skills which help them in their journey with Violet being an inventor, Klaus a reader and Sunny a biter. Along with the protagonists you need an antagonist and Count Olaf fits that role well with his constant scheming.

The books are:

- The Bad Beginning
- The Reptile Room
- The Wide Window
- The Miserable Mill
- The Austere Academy
- The Ersatz Elevator
- The Vile Village
- The Hostile Hospital
- The Carnivorous Carnival
- The Slippery Slope
- The Grim Grotto
- The Penultimate Peril
- The End



In recent years Netflix has made a TV show adaptation of the books which was even co-written by Dan Handler. The show has just ended with 3 seasons with 2 episodes per book. The first 3 books are in the first season the next 4 in the second and the final 4 in the last. Each of the episodes are as funny as the last and several songs have been worked in to the framework which provides a fun break to all the misery.

These books are an enjoyment to read and are a childhood favourite of mine. Due to the recent TV show however, reading them is not even necessary to enjoy the full story and while they are meant for children, I whole heartedly recommend them to anyone.



Auntie Anne's Advice

For all your agonies <3

Dear Arthur Mellows,

With Christmas over and done with, I've been asked what to do if there is a gift you just don't want. I mean... you don't want to be offensive, but that bright, green Christmas jumper Granny buys you every year just doesn't make the cut! What I am jokingly saying is: it's common to receive presents that either doesn't fit you or rather something that you will just not use.



- ♥ Most people would recommend returning the gifts to the stores (if you have a receipt). In fact, shops are often more lenient around January time and as long as the tag is intact, you can usually get away with it
- ♥ You can always give your unwanted gifts to a charitable cause or other members of your family. Take it as a form of trading...
- ♥ Personally, there are often clothes given to me that are too small and so I sell them online or alter them and use them for fabric as a hobby.
- ♥ Even though this is rather taboo, don't feel ashamed to re-gift your presents as long as you don't give the present back to the original person! This will make sure the presents don't go to waste and will also save you some money when it comes round to birthdays and celebrations. This can also be done with gift bags and sometimes wrapping paper if you really want to save.

Lots of Love Auntie Anne xox

P.S: It's left over cheese and turkey trimming sandwiches for me!

‘Bi The Way’



Hello all, welcome to another issue of Bi the Way. This issue is on more LGBT definitions, the pride flag, and general information.

We hope you enjoy!

LGBT Vocabulary Definitions

Here are some more LGBT+ definitions:

Ally: a person who considers themselves a friend to the LGBT community.

Pansexual: sexual attraction, romantic love or emotional attraction toward people of any sex or gender identity.

Cisgender: a person whose gender identity and biological sex assigned at birth. A simple way to think about it is if a person is not transgender, they are cisgender. The word cisgender can also be shortened to ‘cis’.

Gender identity: one’s concept of self as male, female, neither or other. A person’s gender identity may not align with their sex at birth.

Drag kings and drag queens: people, some who are straight or cisgender, who perform either masculinity or femininity as a form of art. It’s not about gender identity.

Questioning: the process of exploring your own sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

Genderfluid: not identifying with a single, fixed gender. A person whose gender identity may shift.

The Pride Flag

The rainbow flag, commonly known as the gay pride flag or LGBT pride flag, is a symbol of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) pride and LGBT+ social movements. Other older uses of rainbow flags include a symbol of peace. The colours reflect the diversity of the LGBT community, as the flag is often used as a symbol of gay pride during LGBT rights marches.

While this use of the rainbow flag originated in Northern California’s San Francisco Bay Area, the flag is now used worldwide. Originally created by San Francisco artist Gilbert Baker, the design has undergone several versions since its debut in 1978, first to remove colours then restore them based on availability of fabrics. The most common variant consists of six stripes: red, orange, yellow, green, blue and violet. The flag is typically flown horizontally with the red stripe on top, as it would be in a natural rainbow.



‘Bi The Way’



Drag Kids

Drag kids are paving the way for the future. There are children who participate in the act of drag. By allowing the children to participate in such a diverse subject, it shows that open-ness and empowerment of the LGBT+ community is expanding a lot faster than we think. Drag kids are showing that gender is dead, and they are spreading a strong message about gender. This is a big “screw you” to a patriarchal society, as well as gender norms.



Vogue Ball

At first you are probably thinking to yourself, what is voguing? I can easily answer that question: it is **a form of dance and expression**. It is a form of expressionism and release from the stress of the world, as it is accepted as another form of dance. The name vogue comes from the magazine; some of the moves and poses are the ones from front covers of the Vogue magazine. Other inspirations from Vogue are the ancient Egypt hieroglyphs and gymnastic poses, since it is about forming lines and awkward positions with the body and making it elegant. A vogue ball is when many people who participate or spectate voguing come together in one area and hold competitions and vogue collectively.

The vogue scene was created by LGBT+ people to form ‘houses’ of people who are seen as families. These houses are appropriately named after their creator and usually house people of certain standards. They still treat each other like family, as people who identify as LGBT+ may not have a family to rely on. One of the most famous houses is the **House of Labeija**, founded by the drag queen **Crystal Labeija**.

A mother or father is a leader of a house and is therefore in charge of being the leader, and main supporter of the children (people who join the house aside from the parent). The mother of the House of Labeija is Pepper Labeija and the legendary child is Kai Labeija. They usually carry the last name as a form of respect and to resemble an actual family. The house of Labeija is not the only house; there are thousands across America and even some in the UK.



‘Bi The Way’



Coming Out

Coming out is a hard topic to discuss as for many, it is the show of modern time, with it slowly being accepted globally, however, there are still countless people and parents out there who will not allow people the happiness of being themselves. From personal experience, I have learnt several things. The first of these being, come out when you are ready. I know that seems self-explanatory but do not let anyone pressure you into coming out, you do it when you are ready.

Another tip I have learnt, is that telling the closer people face to face, although harder, is more worth it since no one likes to receive surprising messages through text or a random phone call.



Furthermore, make sure you are in a safe environment to come out. If your parents are homophobic or you are constantly surrounded by homophobic people, it would usually be in your better interest to stay in the closet until you are safe and those dangers are gone. Remember that LGBT+ abuse is still around, and people can be targeted because of their identity - which is disgusting but sadly the truth.

Even so, do not let this stop you from being you. There are plenty of accepting people out there. If you ever feel alone, remember there is an entire community out there, waiting to welcome you with open arms and make you feel like you belong.

Confusion or interest

You shouldn't be scared to break outside of your comfort zone. Trial new things with friends or someone trustworthy. More and more people are expanding their horizons on their sexuality, and they still need to be kept safe and private. If you do trial things, make sure you are in a safe, confidential space. Being unsure, curious or just interested on trying something new is completely valid and okay. If you want to be a different sexuality or to explore yourself, it is all completely valid.

Hope you enjoyed this instalment,

Alice x



Self Care



It's January and we're all well acquainted with New Year's Resolutions and the cycle of making one and then discarding it at the first available opportunity. However, if you actually want to follow through then the first thing to do is to set a realistic resolution. Don't set a resolution that everyone else has if it doesn't actually help you- make one with the intention of improving your year. Ask for support if you need it and treat small failures as minor inconveniences, not as a reason to quit.

Common goals include:

Lose weight — Save money — Spend more time with family/friends — Get organised

A surprising amount of resolutions fit under these categories. If you intend to lose weight please remember that being thin isn't always equal to being healthy, so if you are planning to lose weight then do it responsibly and take care of your body! If your goal is to be healthier then you could consider setting a routine to exercise (whether it's a quick workout in the morning or going for a run after school) or meal prepping, which allows you to prepare healthy meals to last you throughout a set period of time.

Saving money can be difficult as you'll find yourself holding back from going out. It's usually a good idea to have a goal: for example, the amount of money you want collect. If you have a motive for saving, like a day trip or a holiday, then it can encourage you to set aside the extra money. Don't be afraid to treat yourself now and then but try to do activities that don't require spending money when possible.

Getting organised and spending time with loved ones can be managed together - if you want to have more social time then you need to be able to manage your time wisely. You might decide that you'll do most of your homework on one night so that you're able to spend the weekend without worrying about it (but please be cautious of burnout and don't overwork yourself). Figure out a way to manage time that works best for you. I would recommend making revision material as you learn new content so that when you have to revise it's already there.

Keep in mind that resolutions aren't meant to be a huge, unmanageable task. Psychology studies show that if a task is broken into smaller goals, that are specific and time-based (also known as SMART targets), you're more likely to succeed since it's not as overwhelming. Don't forget that if you're putting something off there's nothing to stop you and that you can make a new goal in life at any point of the year, not just January. Tailor your year as you need so that you can work towards self-improvement and self-love. Don't forget to take care of yourself!



Discussion



‘Person Christmas’

More than one in four people in the US and UK want Santa to be female or gender neutral, according to a new survey

More than 4,000 people were asked what gender Saint Nick would be if they could rebrand the mystical present-giver for modern society. 10.6% would opt for a female Santa. Yet, many do not agree with the absurd radicalization of the wholesome Father Christmas and would rather carry the tradition of the conventional Santa, which is accepted and beloved by the vast majority of society.

Many who approve the non-binary Santa believe that the new custom will teach their children about deeper meanings connected to the world of LGBT. But in reality, Santa is a fictional character whom was designed to bring excitement to Christmas for children. Therefore, issues of gender within society have taken on new lengths with arguing over a fictional creation, especially with the inclusion on children.

Piers Morgan also chimed in on the subject, saying on Good Morning Britain as a response to the story last month:



“

He's called Father Christmas!...The world's gone nuts. ”

So, has gender equality gone too far?



Undeniably, deep rooted problems were occurring for such a large movement to occur, yet when do we agree that disproportionate measures are taking place in unsuitable topics, such as a genderless Santa? Enter; ‘theybies’. These are babies who are raised completely genderless from birth—they don’t even get to decide! The parents of these babies decide not to reveal their sex, use they/them pronouns for their children, and have a goal to create an early childhood free of gendered ideas about how a child should dress, act, play and be.

For them, society’s gender troubles cannot be solved by giving all children dolls and trucks to play with or dressing them all in the colour beige; the gender binary must not simply be smudged but wholly eradicate from the moment that socialization begins, clearing the way to find persons’ (or in this case, babies’) preferences.

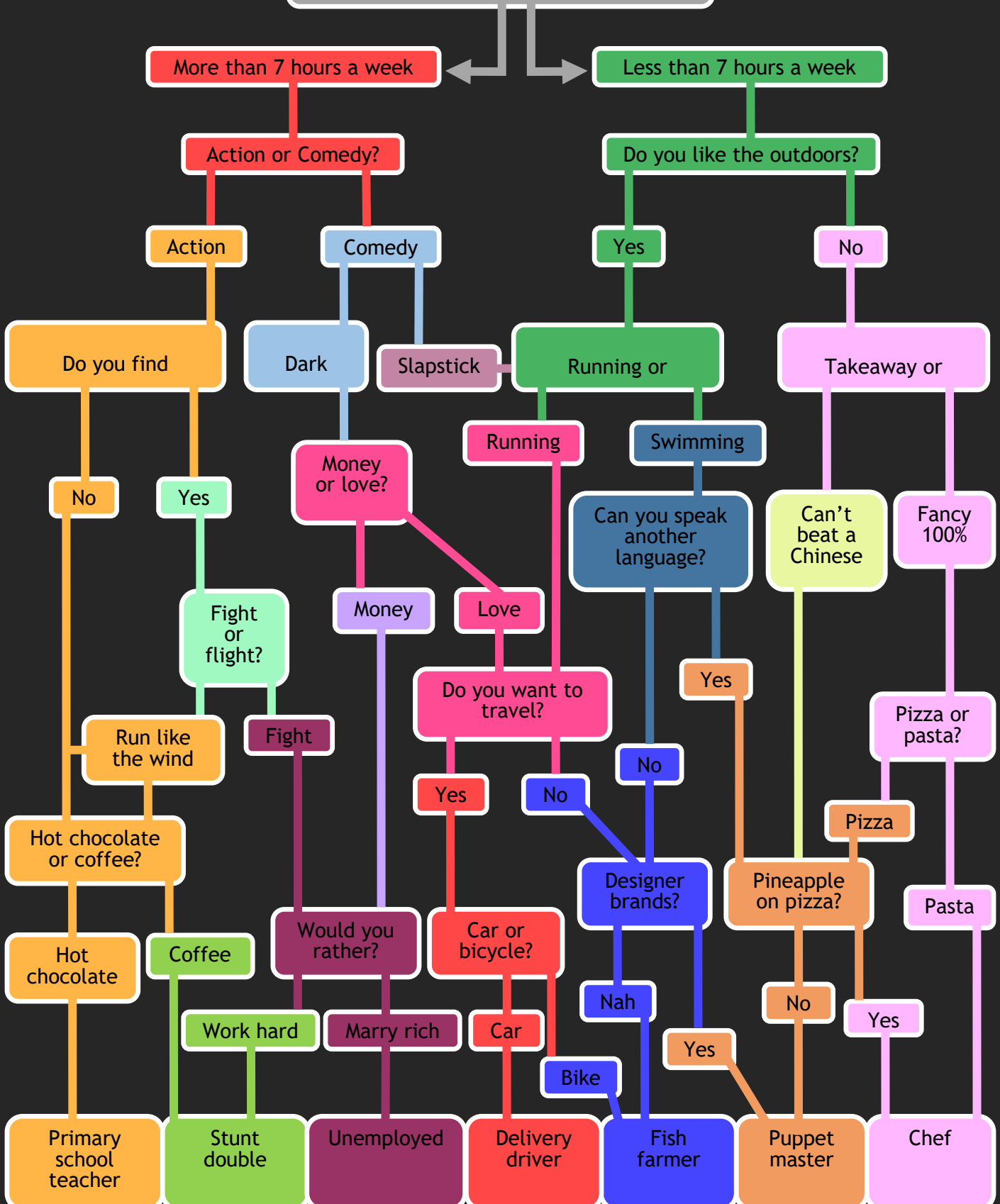
Quizzes



CAREER

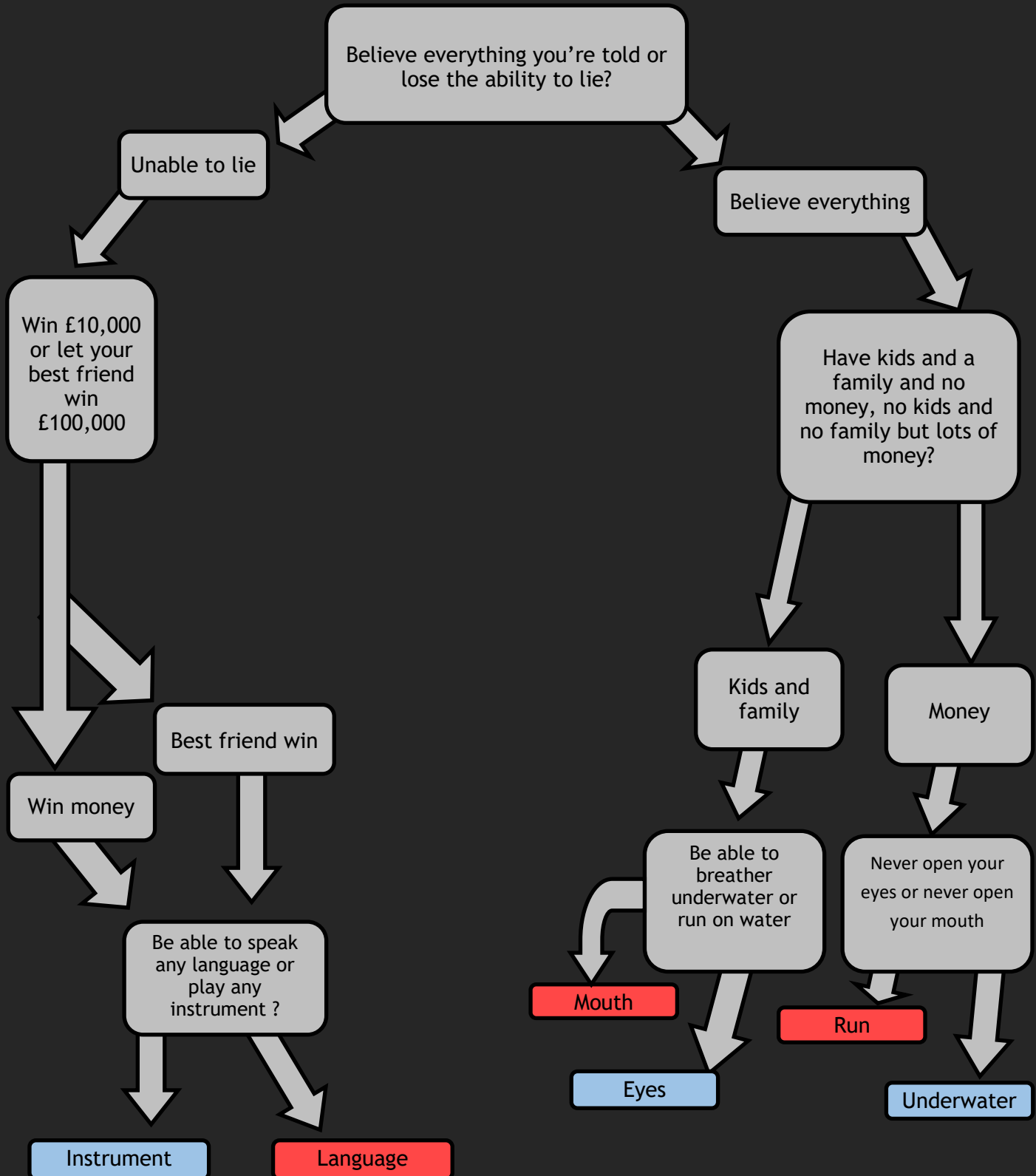
How many hours do you spend watching TV/ Netflix?

QUIZ





INTROVERT or EXTROVERT ?



Star signs



New Year's resolutions for your star sign

It's so important to make a New Year's resolution to start off your year right. But sometimes it can be hard to find the right one for you, a great way to find one tailored for you is by choosing one that is aligned with your star sign. There are twelve star signs and although they are entertaining, they can tell us a lot about who we are as people and answer the questions we are unable to answer ourselves.

Which star sign are you?



ARIES: March 21 - April 19

Due to your enthusiastic energy you often get distracted from the things that are most important in life, this year you need to focus all that energy into something productive-whether it be school or even an extracurricular activity. This is your year to enhance your energy and turn it into success.

TAURUS: April 20 - May 20

You are known for your reliability and stability, but this is your year to take risks and come out of your comfort zone. Although this may be hard it's important that you make the most of this year because if you do it could be one of the best years of your life.



GEMINI: May 21 - June 20

You have great communication skills and social skills but you easily let these qualities go to waste. This year it is important that you use these skills to your advantage, instead of chatting at the wrong times and not at the right, try to start communicating in a way that gets you the opportunities you want.

CANCER: June 21 - July 22

Although you enjoy the company and attention of others, this year try to take a bit of time for yourself and focus on being the best you can be before forming new relationships and friendships. Otherwise you tend to overlook your own happiness.



Star signs



LEO: July 23 - August 22

You are known for having a large group of friends due to your strong and vibrant personality. However, your star sign is known for being a little stubborn, so this year try to become more open minded and friendly towards your group of friends. This will result in good karma and your friends will return this attitude.



VIRGO: August 23 - September 22

You are a perfectionist which is a great trait because it means that you get what you want and produce work of an extremely high quality. However, this also means that you obsess over the little things which can distract you from the good things in life. This year try not to sweat the small stuff and you will find you are much happier as a result.



LIBRA: September 23 - October 22

You are a very open-minded person, you 're happy to try new things and are naturally very easy going. But this can mean that you can be indecisive meaning that you cannot make decisions quickly and therefore end up missing out on things that you enjoy. This year try to not overthink your decisions and you will find you end up trying even more new things.



SCORPIO- October 23 - November 21

You are very good at knowing when you are wrong however this can be a negative quality as you tend to compare yourself to other people. A good new year's resolution for you would be to stop looking at what other people are achieving as it is stopping you from achieving your own goals.

Star signs



SAGITTARIUS: November 22 - December 21

You are a very passionate and determined person who goes for exactly what they want in life. But sometimes this can mean you forget to think about the people affected by these decisions and those that are close to you, so this year try to take into consideration the people around you and make more time for loved ones.

CAPRICORN: December 22 - January 19

Because you're such an optimist, you always tend to see the best in people which makes you a very kind and generous person but also means you can be a bit of a push over. This year you should start to stand your ground and make sure you are doing what *you* want to do not what other people want you to do.



AQUARIUS: January 20 - February 18

You can be a very fearful person meaning that you tend to be quite cautious and apprehensive when it comes to taking opportunities, but this means that you are missing out on your youth. Remember you will never be this young again- you should take more risks and start enjoying yourself!

PISCES: February 19 - March 20

You tend to focus on the negatives in life and not look on the bright side, but this is having an impact on your mood and overall outlook on life. So this year try to take a moment each day to think about all the great things in your life and see the silver lining.



Valentine's Day Roses

Send an anonymous rose to a special someone

£1 per Rose

We'll be taking orders during lunch on:

Tuesday 5th February (Refectory 2)

Thursday 7th February (Main Corridor)

Tuesday 12th February (Refectory 2)

Pre order by Tuesday 12th February

All roses will be delivered to your chosen person on Valentine's Day

Year 12 Young
Enterprise students
will be selling as
part of their
Enrichment.

Please support.

A percentage of
profits will go to the
schools charity