

# Panther Press

Published by the Students of Orchard Valley Middle School



April 2018

## IMPORTANT DATES

- April 27: Early Dismissal
- May 24: Early Dismissal
- May 25-28: Memorial Day Break
- June 12-18: Early Dismissal / No Lunches
- June 18: Last Day of School



## NEWSPAPER STAFF

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Room 219  
New members welcome!

## SHORT STORY— FORGOTTEN HILLSIDE

EMILY DOTO

With a deep breath, I opened the piece of paper. With every unfold I wondered what it could say. When I finally got to a full sheet of paper, I was dumbfounded. It was only an address. It wasn't nearby, maybe an hour or two away, though. It wasn't her house, I know that. Since I had no idea what the building

was, I asked myself if I should go or not. If I go, I'll at least know what's there. But it could also be just a random address, too. That would be a serious waste of my time. However, if I didn't go, I would never know what was hidden there...or if there was anything hidden there at all. I decided that since it was al-

ready late I would get a good night's rest and decide in the morning. *The house was dim and gray. I knew that house, I'd seen it a million times before. It was Diana's. Everything was the same. The shiny windows, the springtime flowers (now turned brown and shriveled because nobody took care of the garden), the creaky old door.*

*Continued on page 2*

## MUSICAL TO MEDIA

EVA GALLAGHER



It all started with the book. Then a movie surged into popularity, and now the musical is the new craze! I'm talking about the mythical land of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, which can also be known as *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. Adapted throughout the years, standing the test of time. But what are the similarities and differ-

ences? Just like everything, things can get lost in adaptation. This may contain minor spoilers.

Here are the similarities. The plot has always stayed the same throughout every adaptation. All of the main kids and Willy Wonka have been in each adaptation. Willy Wonka, the amazing chocolatier's, factory has been the main set-

ting through and through. The fates of Augustus Gloop, Violet Beauregarde and Mike Teavee don't change. In all stories the kids get to go to the factory after getting a golden ticket from a chocolate bar. They each get to bring a family member too. If you were wondering, the Oompa Loompas are in all of the versions!

*Continued on page 2*

## HELENE'S BOOK BAG

HELENE HORAN

### *Ghosts* by Raina Telgemeier

Catrina and her family are moving to the coast of Northern California because her little sister, Maya, is sick. Cat isn't happy about leaving her friends for Bahía de la Luna. Her sister, Maya, has cystic fibrosis and will benefit from the cool, salty air that blows in from the sea. As the girls explore their new home, a neighbor lets them in on a secret: There are ghosts in Bahía de la

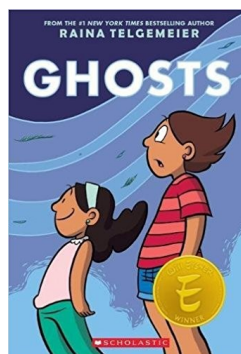
Luna. Maya is determined to meet one, but Cat wants nothing to do with them. As the time of year when ghosts reunite with their loved ones approaches, Cat must figure out how to put aside her fears for her sister's sake - and her own. (Publisher's

**S u m m a r y**)

**#ParanormalActivity**  
**#HealthIssues**

This graphic novel, in my opinion, Raina Telgemeier's best book so far. The book was very funny, and the characters were

easy to love. If you're into paranormal books *without* horror, this may be right up your alley.



**Helene's Book Blog**

<http://lenniland.my-free.website>

## MUSICAL TO MEDIA

EVA GALLAGHER

### *Continued from page 1*

Now for the differences! In the musical Veruca Salt is Russian, instead of being British. Mike Teavee isn't TV obsessed anymore, new thing is video games. Veruca Salt instead of falling into the garbage, is teared apart from limb to limb. Out of all the kids Violet whole personality changed most instead of being a hometown girl, she is a the Queen of pop becoming a celebrity after having the record of

chewing gum for three years. Something technical, instead of story, is the casting, like how the children in the movie are played by real children, while in the musical all the kids, with the exception of Charlie, are played by adults. The biggest difference, of course, is that this is a musical, so the plot is mostly told by song. Both the musical and the movie deserve to have a good watch,

and you won't be disappointed. Keep trying to find the golden ticket! Look out for more differences, from musical to media!



## THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN

JAKE METVINER

It was a normal day in Pinesheat, Maine, with pine trees blowing in the wind. Everything was fine, but there was something weird going on in my hometown. It was divided into two sections. The side I'm on was the normal side, and the other side was a part that no one has visited in years. It was called the Other Side.

That side was surrounded by walls so no one could enter, but it had always been a part of our town; just the abandoned part. Today, I started wondering what they were trying to hide. Was there an apocalypse going on in there? Or aliens? No, all of that was just science fiction. I wondered what had happened, so I was going to try to figure it out. I just had to find some way inside.

Later that day I asked my friend Will what he thought. He didn't really care about anything, but he would be the best person to choose. Then, my brother had a bunch of conspiracy theories. Maybe I should team up with the two of them to find out.. I thought to myself. Although Will said he didn't care,

*Continued on page 3*

## FORGOTTEN HILLSIDE

EMILY DOTO

*Continued from page 1*  
Creaky old door?!? There was no creaky old door! With an unexplainable force, I was pulled towards the door. It opened, slowly, making a creaking noise you would only hear in horror movies. I closed my eyes tightly, not wanting to look at whatever was inside. After what seemed like thirty seconds, I peered inside.  
Just a staircase. Odd. No rooms, no hallway, just a staircase. I slowly went upstairs. There was one door leading to a room. The door did-

*n't creak when I turned the doorknob. As soon as the door was opened, memories rushed into my head. Diana's purple walls, huge TV (her parents were quite wealthy) and her huge walk-in closet. When I turned my head around the room, I saw a figure laying on her bed. I couldn't believe it.*

*"Oh my gosh, Diana," I screamed, "It's really you, and I just can't-- just wow--I saw you at the coffee shop, and you said some weird name-- wait."*

*She wasn't moving. She just lay there, not mov-*

*ing. I walked closer and closer to the bed and prayed that she wasn't...gone. I picked up her wrist to feel a pulse, but horror struck me when there wasn't any, pulse and— I sat up, panting. It was only a dream. Thank goodness. I got up and walked out into my kitchen, got a glass of water, drank it, and tried to get back to sleep.*

*The same house stood there again, and I ran to the door and stepped inside, running right towards the staircase. I climb up to the room and open the door and-*

*Continued on page 4*

## THE OTHER SIDE OF TOWN

JAKE METVINER

*Continued from page 2*  
I'm pretty sure he's always wondered and has been trying to find out, too. The next day I asked my brother. He said that he would help, but only because he has been interested by those things and was really curious. "Hey, Jimmy!" I said. "Yeah?" He asked. "Um, do you want to help me figure out what is behind the

wall?"

"Sure," he said.

"Ok. Thanks," I said. Later, that evening I researched a little. But all I found were conspiracy theories and nothing about what is actually behind the wall.

The next morning I smelled a delicious chocolatey scent coming from the kitchen. It was my mom making our weekend breakfast: chocolate chip pancakes with whipped cream.

"Hey honey, what were you doing last night, since you were up so late?" Mom asked.

"I was still trying to figure what is behind that wall," I replied.

"You're still into that? I thought you stopped caring about that years ago," Mom said.

"Well yeah, but I'm interested in it again," I said.

*Want to read the rest? Wait until the next issue to find out what's really behind that wall!*

## SPOTLIGHTS

EMILY WESTENBERGER

"You'll mess up!" I hear in my head  
My mother's voice echoes instead

"Do not worry about a thing

For spotlights and music will help you to sing"

I watch as the lights dim into shadows

Cameras flash catching the last photos

The other singers seem fearless and graceful

Compared to them I feel unstable

Finally, it is my turn on stage

The story of my life gaining a new page

My bones start shaking and they won't stop

All of a sudden I feel my heart drop

The curtains open and the spotlights are on

And when the music plays my fear is gone

Music takes over and I start singing

The microphone starts its ringing

Before I know it the music has ended

The silence in the room almost suspended

Suddenly there is an ovation

Clapping enough to please a nation

There was no need to worry about a thing

For the spotlights and music helped me to sing.

## SPRING CRAFTS

EMILY DOTO



### Fancy Flowers

#### Materials:

Several flowers,  
Like daisies, food dye  
(any color), water,  
cups.

#### Directions:

Fill the cups about  $\frac{3}{4}$   
full of water. Add food  
coloring until it reaches  
the desired shade. Put  
the stems of the flowers  
in and let them sit until  
the color seeps into the  
petals. Enjoy your  
colorful flowers!

### Flower Globes

#### Materials:

Styrofoam globe

(medium-sized ), small  
fake flowers (any kind;  
need stems), hot glue  
gun if needed.

#### Directions:

Cut the stems of the  
flowers so they're  
about an inch long.  
Push the stems into the  
sphere until the entire  
globe is covered. (If  
this doesn't work, cut  
the stems off and hot-  
glue the flowers on.  
Remember to be care-  
ful, and that hot glue  
takes only 2 minutes to  
dry.) Enjoy!

Have fun with these  
spring crafts!



## FORGOTTEN HILLSIDE

EMILY DOTO

### Continued from page 3

*"You could've saved me,  
Melissa." she said. She  
repeated these words, over  
and over and over again. I  
looked at her. Her lips  
weren't moving. It was her  
voice, though. She just  
kept repeating it louder  
and louder until I thought  
my ears would explode.*

*"You could've sa-"*

My eyes opened wide,  
my breath quick. That  
entire night, I tried to  
sleep again and again.  
Each time I had a  
dream about Diana.

When dawn finally

rose, I looked into my  
mirror. I looked like I  
hadn't slept all night.  
Which I hadn't.  
An hour later I was  
ready for my journey.  
I had my phone, a  
flashlight, and a can  
of pepper spray. *Do  
people even use pepper  
spray anymore? Oh  
wait, almost forgot my  
keys!*

I ran back to the kitch-  
en table, grabbed my  
keys, and walked out  
t h e d o o r .

~Is this the end of the  
story? Of course not!

G o t o - >  
<https://goo.gl/forms/PNSOIXumNINNjVt83>  
to get an email  
sent to you when the  
rest of the story comes  
out.~



## ASTA FESTIVAL

TAYLAR SPANN

This year's 33rd annual  
ASTA Festival was a  
BURST of energy,  
laughter, and music!  
The festival was held on  
March 1, 2018, at  
OVMS for sixth and sev-  
enth graders from all  
three middle schools. In  
my opinion, this year's  
festival was the best.  
Even though all of us  
were crammed into one  
big room, it was so  
much fun!

Orchestra members in  
sixth and seventh grades  
went into different  
rooms organized by in-  
strument. We played in  
front of professional mu-  
sicians, who critiqued  
our playing, so we could  
become better. In the  
beginning, the musicians  
played a few of their  
own songs, which was  
so cool. During the festi-  
val we listened to others  
play as well. Before I  
performed with my  
group, I was nervous  
and scared. After the  
performance, I was re-  
lieved and proud of my-  
self and my group. The  
musicians were sweet,  
kind and gave valuable  
feedback.

At the end, we got to  
play a song with the  
whole group. All in all,  
it was an awe-  
some musical  
experience!

