

WOKSAPE

“The Wise Book”

Gravity Is An Intense Space Thriller Worth Viewing



BY
HUNTER
KOCH

Gravity is a space thriller film directed and written by Alfonso Cuarón.

In the near future, two astronauts, played by Sandra Bullock and George Clooney, are the only survivors of a debris strike that completely destroys their shuttle.

The two astronauts are alone in space without any communication to Earth. The two travel blindly to other space stations with the hope of returning home.

I cannot elaborate much on the plot without revealing the entire story.

This is perhaps my one complaint with *Gravity*: there is not a large amount of substance in regards to theme and plot. The film is not the most ambitious film I have seen.

While some films attempt to convey a message or to look at the many layers of human behavior and condition (such as in *Prisoners*), *Gravity* is mostly



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focused on telling the story and creating suspense.

The characters in the film fit the adventure movie archetype: strong-willed, courageous, dedicated, and always prepared.

The plot is straightforward and takes place over the course of a few hours. The central source of conflict comes from the ever-present danger of more debris striking the protagonists and the helplessness

that comes from this, though there is some internal conflict.

Despite this, the film does an outstanding job of keeping the mood tense and suspenseful. The film can be compared to *Jaws* with its singular point of tension and unique way of deriving this tension. No other film in recent memory uses the emptiness and loneliness of space to build suspense.

The visuals in *Gravity* are also incredible. The zero-gravity scenes and satellite explosions are something to be seen in 3D on the big screen.

Though *Gravity* won't start deep conversations or leave the viewer uneasy about humanity like other films this year, *Gravity* is no doubt an extremely enjoyable film and one that is worth seeing in theaters.

Editor's Note

Some may glamourize time away from school. However, my experience leads me to abhor being away from class for an extended period of time, especially while sick. This past week I missed three consecutive days of school due to sickness, and I will be quick to say that it wasn't a modern *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*. I mostly sat in bed or lay on the couch watching TV in pain.

Though I had a great time watching *Fistful of Dollars* and some foreign films on Turner Classic Movies channel, I would have preferred to have been in school. Missing three days is awful when you consider how much homework can accrue in that amount of time. Of course, school is not the most fun I can have, but having the burden of making up three days of work is exponentially worse than going to class.

Luckily, I have an entire weekend to catch up on my assignments, but it is still no fun. When one misses a chunk of school he misses the benefits of being in a live classroom, such as discussion and asking for assistance. When I miss school I have to do a lot of independent study to understand analysis and discussion that was done in class.

It's easier to be in class to actively engage in the lesson and comprehend what is being taught. Unfortunately, I can't plan when I get sick, so I just have to get through the days making up my work. Hopefully I can avoid missing many more days in the future.

Hunter Koch

Pink Is The New Fall Color As Yankton Schools Promote Breast Cancer Awareness Month



BY
MADISON
DANGLER

October is designated breast cancer awareness month, and the district, including the Yankton High School student body and sport teams, are showing their support through many events.

"Seeing students and staff support the effort to raise awareness is cool to see," said YHS senior Ashtyn Haak.

On Oct. 21 the students and faculty were asked to participate in support and awareness of breast cancer by wearing pink to school.

Both the Yankton football and volleyball teams designated a game that supported breast cancer by encouraging the students who attended the game to wear pink.

The Bucks football team had the theme "Pink Out" where they asked the students who came to the game to dress in pink attire. Many

students, who came to this game on Oct. 11, sported all their pink-wear in support of breast cancer awareness and research.

"I think it's awesome that the high school has involved all students and staff. It's great to see students getting involved like they do," said YHS senior, Kate Schaa.

On October 22nd, the Yankton girls volleyball team also showed their support for breast cancer awareness.

The team had special-ordered pink jerseys and bows for their game against Brandon Valley.

They made the theme of the night "Dig Pink" and encouraged anyone coming to watch the match to wear pink and make a donation that would go towards breast cancer awareness and research.

"I think it's great to see all of the students getting involved in raising awareness for the cause," said



PHOTO BY PAULINE RHOADES

The Yankton seventh graders pictured wore pink on Oct. 22 to show their support of those impacted by breast cancer.

YHS senior Abbey Slaterry. The volleyball team has been having one designated match each year in support of breast cancer awareness.

"The Yankton Volleyball Program along with the SDHSAA (South Dakota High School Activities As-

sociation) have been large advocates for breast cancer awareness and research for many years now," said Tiffany Beste, one of the YHS volleyball coaches.

Many people are affected in some way by breast cancer. Students and faculty in

the Yankton School District hope to show their support for those who have fought or are currently fighting cancer.

"It's truly heartwarming knowing that so many individuals care about breast cancer. I think it is remarka-

ble the compassion people show by donating the time and money to help prevent and cure such a terrible thing. It is a huge step in the right direction," said YHS senior Tessa Hacecky.

Life of Pi By Yann Martel Sure To Be Deemed a Classic Novel

Themes of survival and hope prevail, cause readers to think deeply



BY
MORGAN
TESSIER

The Life of Pi tells the three segment story of Piscine Molitor Patel; the sixteen-year-old Indian boy who survives 227 days at sea in a lifeboat, suffering with only the company of an adult Bengal tiger.

Pi's religion also plays a key role in the novel. He chooses to practice and believe not just one religion, but three diverse religions.

Throughout the novel Pi's faith is tried and tested. He faces many struggles and fears during his journey.

Pi faces many conflicts from the beginning of the book to the end.

Before Pi and his family leave India his father wonders why he even bothers with religion. Modernity/secular vs. religion plays a role in the novel.

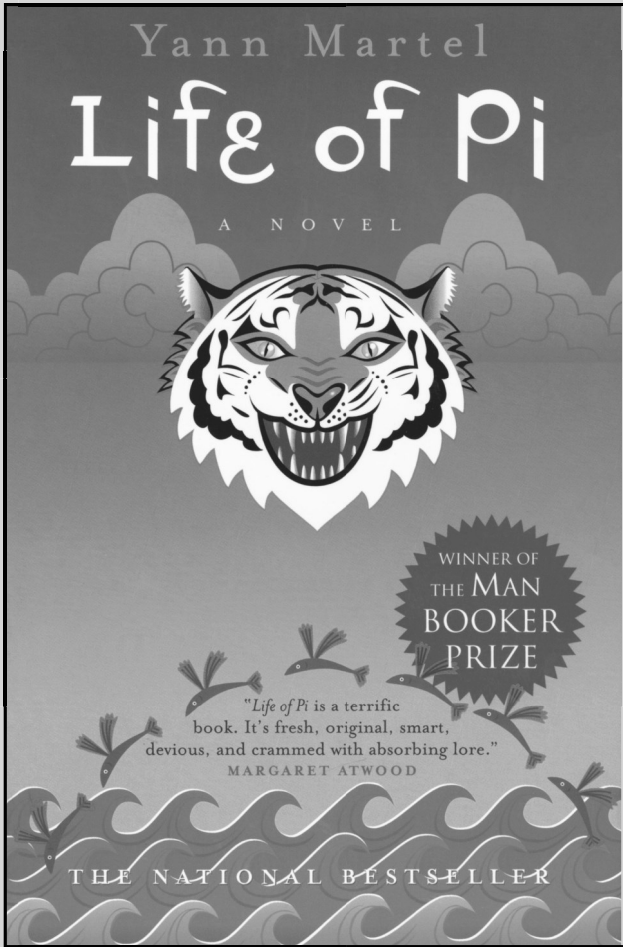
Also Pi faces a conflict of human vs. animal. After the ship sinks and Pi is entrapped in the lifeboat with the tiger, he begins to behave like an animal in order to survive.

Food and freshwater are a constant item on Pi's mind also. The weather also determines Pi's outlook in the middle of nowhere on the Pacific Ocean.

Yann Martel wraps the novel up in an intricate yet sensible way. The only way to understand the novel is to read the whole book cover to cover.

Deep meanings hide behind the obvious questions by which readers are distracted. *The Life of Pi* will no doubt become a classic.

I would recommend this novel for readers searching for depth and meaning in a book. However, be forewarned: this is not a novice level book, and readers must make inferences to fully grasp its themes.



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Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences Tonight



Final fall conferences are slated tonight for the high school.
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