



# THE HERALD

## A NEW BROKEN REALITY

**“The Unspoken Reality of  
the Lebanese Youth”**  
Dania Al-Boukhari

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**“Feels Like Home”**  
Alyag Momjian

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**“Overcoming Stress During  
Times of Struggle”**  
Jack Jizmejian

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**“Our Society”**  
Andrea Khatchadourian

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A person is sitting at a wooden desk, writing in a red notebook with a black pen. The person is wearing a dark blue shirt. A laptop is open on the desk, and a glass of iced tea is visible on the right. The text "HU WRITING CENTER" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

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It is the first time that I have had to write something like this. I am not sure whether I should write about my journey up to this point or leave a note? So why not both. I consider myself an amateur writer at best and never thought I would ever take up the position of chairperson and editor. I thought it was too much work and that it was going to be a challenge. Let me tell you why I went against my very own judgment. It was during the last days of summer when I was reminded how dull life was. One could say that I required a purpose, some sense of belonging that was missing, but the truth was I was bored and uninterested. I had managed to reach senior year without having to experience campus life and without having to deal with people.

I felt like everything went by like a blip. So, I required something new. I never thought about The Herald as something I needed. It was fun at first, setting meetings, designing posters, coming up with ideas, and managing a team of great writers, but the best part was getting to know them and having them show up for my meetings. I wish everyone to read this new issue. The work my colleagues and I have put into it is breathtaking, considering the amount of time we had. Something that started from being bored turned into something remarkable. But, it still needs time to grow and blossom, to have strong deep roots, and to have the ability to stand on its own two legs. A lot remains to be. The Herald is changing, and with the coming semester, it will become something new. The journey has only begun.

# Feeling Up for a life changing Chat?

Joyce Al Hayek



**Isn't it funny that Lebanese people take pride in things they cannot take credit for?**

Lebanon's "مناخ معتدل" ("temperate climate"), our ability to drive from the snowy mountains to the warm beach in a single day, and my personal favorite: the religious diversity.

We are proud of a diversity we never utilize, proud of the shameless question "what is your name?", closely followed by "where are you from?" and "what's your father's name" as a cheap attempt at uncovering someone's religion with an outrageously loud and obvious subtlety.

I don't see pride, not when my aunt, with bulging eyes and a fearful yet mocking sneer, jerks her head violently in my friend's direction – who was thankfully looking away – only to ask me quietly "is she one of them?"

As I was looking around me, in my community, friendships, churches, and even within myself, I saw a world infested with division. And yet, as I became aware of these schisms that are built on baseless stereotypes and irrational misconceptions, I saw the hand of God in my life nudging me to take action. Who knew that He would speak to me through an email from the Student Life here at Haigazian? That very email prepared me to do something, and I'd like to share my – still ongoing – journey with you!

Last summer, thanks to the US Embassy and to Haigazian University, I had the privilege to take part in a program hosted by the Dialogue Institute at Temple University in Philadelphia (though due to the threats of COVID-19, I attended it online). I took part in the program about Religious Pluralism in the Study of the U.S. Institutes (SUSI) for Student Leaders, which is administered by Meridian International Center.

That summer, my computer screen became a window through which I was able to look towards a new world, one that was filled with possibilities and hope. I caught glimpses of leaders, that I am proud to now call friends, who are changing their communities as we speak. For a few hours every day, I was aware of a world and of communities beyond the borders of my own country.

I could describe for days the shift in perception the program allowed me to experience (and if you catch me on campus, I might just do that!), but there is one skill I want to share with you today. You see, Lebanon's diversity is dripping with potential, potential that cannot be fulfilled without an equally, if not more powerful partner: dialogue.

While diversity is the mere presence of more than one group in the same place, dialogue brings those groups together in peace and turns their mere coexistence into something positive. It creates pluralism, which adds a positive value to the lives of each member of the community. It makes it so that we no longer just live with one another, we actually know, understand, and accept each other.

Dialogue is not just about connecting with others; it means feeling free to question your beliefs without feeling like you are betraying your own religion or your community by doing so.

It means not settling for the easy answers, the ones that have been passed down generations, and taken in mindlessly.

It means challenging yourself and pushing your beliefs the furthest you can take them.



The first time I witnessed the power of dialogue was in previously mundane conversations with members of my community. Sitting together, it came to my attention that we are guilty of letting the conversation slip to prejudice and towards less-than-kind topics. But this time, I was different, and as soon as I uttered words of defense towards the 'other', confused looks were painted across the faces of my friends. I could almost hear their thoughts saying: has she become one of them? It was almost a look of... betrayal? As if defending the people who, at that moment didn't have a voice, was disloyal. Somehow, I found a striking similarity between us and a group of children building a Lego tower (if the Legos were awful lies and cruel misrepresentations of other people).

Discussions with my close circle were not enough, though. The realization of how much work was needed invited questions in my mind. They pushed each other in my head as methodically as a line of dominos falling on each other, each one inviting more thought pieces to fall. How deep do these stereotypes go? Are there some I am unaware of? What can I do about it?

This meant so much to me, especially as a psychology student: Am I truly ready to be dealing with the human mind if I cannot think objectively?

Suddenly, what I had previously seen as a societal issue, what was my family's stigma and my aunt's infuriating comments, became my concern.

My next step was putting together a workshop in which healthy dialogue can take place. In my journey to rid myself of bias, I wanted to rope in my crusade as many people as possible. I compiled resources, activities, and reflections all in 3 sessions, where I would sit down with my peers and dialogue about the taboo topic of religion. And where better to hold it than in our very own Haigazian University campus, who very generously offered me the auditorium.

There, I was met with stories of injustice and hurt, coming from the very people I was taught to stay distant from. It was an incredibly powerful moment for me, and I found myself conflicted with heavy feelings of elation.

The heaviness came from years and years of missed opportunities at valuable friendships and meaningful bonds. It came from intense feelings of guilt over all the silent comments I had spent my life making. It came from a lifetime of those judgments being justified and even praised.

The happiness – the joy, really – was coming from the hope I got for a brighter future, for the friendships I had built over those 3 weeks, for the answers that satisfied my soul and challenged my preconceptions. It came from seeing just how many chances at creating peace I had available both within and around me.

Before I invite you to join me in more discussions, I would just like to express how honored I am to be part of the SUSI community. Taking part in that program shifted many things in my outlook of my surrounding. There is truly no value I can put on my transformation in the past 6 months. I am extremely grateful for my university, Haigazian: I had never seen myself as someone fitting in a position of leadership, and yet now, thanks to the safe space I was provided with, a small leader is peaking out of me, and she is only getting started.

I am on a journey to embody, live, and speak about the valuable lessons I was taught, and what better way to do so than by getting together and simply talking... to you! I don't know who the person reading this is, but I know for sure that I want to hear you speak, I want to hear what you have to say, know about your perspective, and truly understand who you are. So, stay on the lookout for more dialogue events to happen on campus!

# Grief

## Melissa Mardigian

### Grief is a tunnel, A hollow tunnel.

If you're in it, you only hear your own screams.  
The vibrations of the exterior world cease to enter inside.  
Alone in the tunnel,

I have seeds in my pocket,  
I can grow new plants and flowers,  
But there's no sun.

The inevitable numbness is devouring me.  
There's only the light of my cigarette in the dark tunnel,  
But the light is constant  
Because I've made a habit out of it.  
My throat is burning from the alcohol that I've been  
consuming for days now.  
And the pills,  
The sleeping pills,  
I've been hiding them in my Christmas socks.  
I even threw away my grey converse that had remnants of  
my poetry on its edges.

### 3 months later

I get out of the tunnel.  
Everything in my body has changed  
I've stayed in the dark for so long.  
It's difficult to feel the warmth of the sun on my skin  
again.  
My skin has built several layers to cope with the coldness.

### 5 months later

I start to identify myself with my pain and grief  
Like there's no me without them  
And there's no them without me.  
I paint the canvas with the color red  
Not yellow anymore.

### 7 months later

I associate everything with her  
And I still replay the same vinyl record over and over  
again.  
I go to university with the small rock in my pocket  
That rock I took from the grave.  
I always read the little note that I've put at the back of my  
cellphone case  
The note that she had written  
I stole it from one of her diaries:  
**'It's when things seem worst, that you must not quit'**  
I read it before every exam.





## 8 months later

I bake a strawberry cake on her birthday.  
I still wear her sweater on days when I feel that I need  
her more than ever.  
I still have breakdowns in public bathrooms sometimes  
And life doesn't make sense sometimes.

## 12 months later

But then flowers bloom out of the pain  
Out of the grief  
Yellow daffodils, to be exact.

## 13 months later

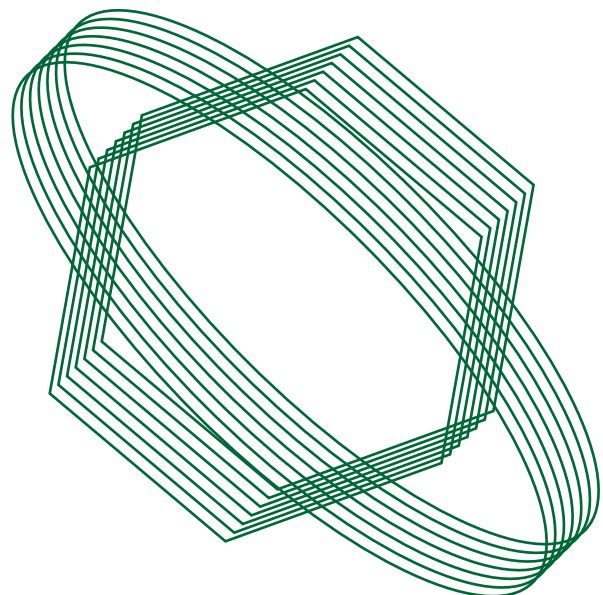
Now she's everywhere around me.  
The yellow leaf that falls on my book while drinking my  
morning coffee in my favorite spot  
The yellow cardigan that I wear with black jeans  
The wind that blows in my hair.

Things that I have learned throughout this process:

- 1.You never know when you'll see a person for the last time
- 2.You don't know the worth of something/someone until it's gone
- 3.It's not necessary to be alone to feel lonely
- 4.'The first' everything-s are different for the heart
- 5.Nobody can be replaced
- 6.The process of grief is not linear
- 7.Vulnerability is not weakness

## 3 years later

My lust for life has saved me.





# The Unspoken Reality of the Lebanese Youth

Dania Al-Boukhari



When I was younger, watching November 22nd 's march always gave me a confirmation of my identity. It made all the concepts I connect with being Lebanese make sense. It would remind me that some of the practices that I would regularly do such as mornings with Fairuz, walking down Hamra Street, and afternoon coffee breaks were the essence of being Lebanese. In other words, that day made me create my definition of being Lebanese. That extended to creating my definition of the Lebanese youth: ambition and ultimate confidence. Lebanese youth always seemed to be full of love and life, ready to take on every adventure that comes their way, driven to fulfill all of their dreams, and convinced in their next step. For me, Lebanese youth always carried a symbol of revolution within them to change their situation and to grow beyond the standards.

I correlated all of these concepts until this year. Enduring the country's multidimensional free fall, not only has our lifestyle been redefined, but a generation of youth has been remodeled. This had led me to redefine the concept of youth that became connected to pain and sorrow rather than the brighter image I used to have. I've noticed that many of the youth are constantly overwhelmed because of carrying an unavoidable heavy load. Many of the things we try to do whether it was personal, social, or academic seem to almost always get hindered incomplete. This accumulation of continuous "partials" devastates us at one point. On top of that, we tend to be our families' rocks who consider us as a reason to continue fighting. This holds us back at times from turning to them for support. We attempt to avoid contradicting the perspective they have. That's because we find it difficult to be fragile when our loved ones are dependent on us; we must be strong to provide strength for others who need it.

This extends to our social circles where others are also burdened by the situation and seek support. We find ourselves, again, depicting strength for others to rely on. It adds to the responsibility of providing others with the help they might need to carry on in these circumstances. While it is easy to self-isolate and ignore delegating such a heavy responsibility on our behalf, such circumstances are a crucial time to support each other. In the end, don't we rise by lifting others? Yet, while watching our beloved country fall apart, parents attempting to hold it together, friends leaving after the other, dreams shrinking by the day, and opportunities fading away, we realize that we have demonstrated resilience while dealing with several levels of heart-breaks.

In this way, we carry weights around. What most people might see is young individuals living "la vie en rose". But the truth is said, we have been able to portray that flawed image for some time now. We do this on purpose in our effort to decrease the burden of the situation, the part that we can control. It is important to debunk that image and remember that the youth today are carrying a heavier load than they should at this age even if we do not show that. While youth in other countries are pursuing their goals, traveling, going on adventures, and thriving in life; we find ourselves alone on a different spectrum where we feel three times our actual age. Instead of building the basis of our dream lives and looking forward to the future, we are living day-by-day anticipating which disaster would unfold first.

What makes the matter more painful is the idea that our thoughts and feelings may be the same ones our parents went through thirty years ago while witnessing the civil war. It is the fact that generation after generation, the youth continue to be weighed down by the country's circumstances instead of being pushed forward. However, if we learned something from our parents' experiences, it would be to deal with the situation as if it was a physical illness: we try to find a medicine that would ease the pain. In our case, we are sick from the deteriorating situation and the most effective medicine is to continue drinking shots of hope. While other remedies from self-care and rest are important, it is hoped that will help us heal and choose to continue regardless of the deteriorating circumstances. The same way winters' storms are followed by the spring's blossom long dark nights are followed by bright dawn, our hope will be our strength until we rise again.

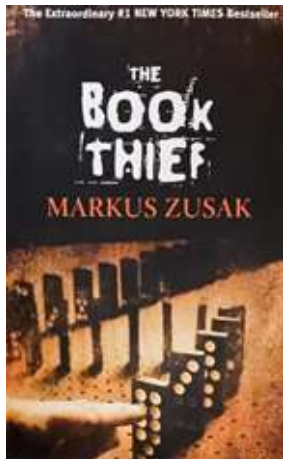
# Four Books You Should Read During Christmas Break

## Liliane Mohamad

We are all eagerly waiting for the Christmas vacation to arrive so we can finally take a break from studying and rest for a while. Some of you are maybe looking forward to catching up on a couple of your hobbies or practices you usually like to do. You can also use this vacation as a chance to pick up some amazing books that discuss different themes and topics. Reading will bring you comfort and a sense of peace amidst all the chaos that is happening. As soon as you start reading, you will escape reality and enter a new magnificent world.

The books listed in this article are easy to read, informative, and enjoyable. They're suitable for young adults because they focus on important issues that every person our age should know about.

- 1- The Book Thief by Markus Zusak  
(Nazi-Germany, WW2, family, loss)



This book is narrated by death himself as he follows Leisel Meminger after she moves in with her foster parents in Molching during WWII. Her journey begins when she steals her first book and slowly learns how to read. And it all starts from here! She starts finding comfort in reading and stealing books. However, her life starts to unfold and change when her foster father hides a Jew in their basement.

It is a fearless look into the horrors of the Nazi regime narrated in a very clever and creative way. This historical fiction novel will undoubtedly move you in many ways.

- 2- The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas  
(racism, police brutality, strong female protagonist)



The Hate U Give follows Starr Carter, a sixteen-year-old black girl, who witnessed her unarmed childhood friend Khalil being shot by a white police officer.

This book is one of those books that stick with you long after you've finished it and make you question many things.

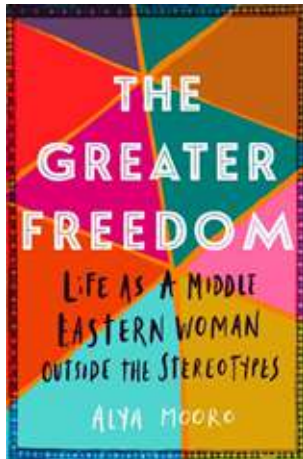
I believe it's a very significant book because of its important political message. It deals with systemic racism that is deeply rooted in American society and with police brutality, which makes it super relevant to real-life events. Even though the story and the characters are fictional ones, Thomas still manages to convey this message by taking the realities of black people in American society and making them very understandable.

You should pick up this book if you're interested in knowing more about the fight against racism, injustice, and inequality.



# Four Books You Should Read During Christmas Break

- 3- The Greater Freedom by Alya Mooro  
(feminism, Arab women, Arab society)



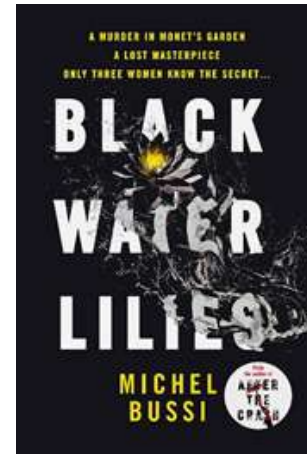
This book is for every woman who's struggling with her identity. For every woman who has left her hometown and found it difficult to "fit in" or get accustomed to the new set of norms, she's facing. It is a simple yet engaging collection of the author's personal experiences along with other girls who have had similar experiences.

One thing I loved about this book, is the variety of topics it discusses. The author touches upon very controversial and taboo subjects that Middle Eastern women don't usually talk about. Each chapter is full of experiences and statistical figures that dive deeper into the issue at hand. I loved how transparent and honest the author was, and how all the different narratives connect.

It also contains many powerful statements that will leave you staring at the book in awe. Some of the things mentioned in it are not new to me. As a Lebanese woman who has never traveled yet, but already feels the pressure of being stuck between two divergent sets of values and beliefs, it was nice relating to most of what was discussed in this book.

As we grow up, we are taught to act, behave, and speak in a certain way. We are taught to follow all the societal norms that were set to control every aspect of our lives. The Greater Freedom opens up your eyes and helps you construct your freedom, even if it means letting go of all the embedded standards that have shaped you from the moment you are born.

- 4- Black Water Lilies by Michel Bussi  
(murder mystery, impressionism, Claude Monet, art)



This novel follows the investigation of Jerome Morval's murder, a rich ophthalmologist who had an interest in art and paintings. A postcard was found in his pocket with the following words written on it "Eleven years old. Happy Birthday". Entangled in this mystery are a young girl who is excellent in painting, an old widow who knows everything about everyone, and the village teacher. What secret do all these women share? And how is all of this related to a mysterious Black Water Lilies painting?

What is unique about this murder mystery novel is that it is set in Giverny, France where the well-known impressionist artist Claude Monet lived and painted his famous water lilies paintings. It will keep you hooked and hungry for more information on the murder and investigation. You will also learn more about the impressionist art movement and Claude Monet and his life in Giverny.

# Bankers, Prostitutes and Charlatans

## Andrea Khatchadourian

The modern-day Lebanese banker has evolved or it is better to say devolved into an inconspicuous entity, one devoid of all spirit and purpose, it is a being whose sole purpose is to suck up what remains. Like a prostitute, the banker has lured us not in the hope of sexual gratification but with the promise of more reward, and in the process has locked up our fortunes, it has stolen what it can and like a Charlatan begs to differ on the matter and requests more in return. How funny it is that a group of people in a room somewhere have knowingly done this. They're probably laughing right now.

Laughing they are, at our ignorance and division. We can talk about how we need to unite, stand together, become one strong hand that will knock out the demented brigands from their pedestals. We are not going to though, we need to be focusing on all that, but we are here to demean and tarnish the once glorified and mighty bankers.

We turn to Freud to understand a banker; who lacks sex speaks about sex, hungry talks about food, a person who has no money - about money, and our oligarchs and bankers talk about morality. So how can we trust them? In short, we can, but the problem with our "special little" bankers is that they developed an appetite, one that they thought could replace their missing moral compass. Bankers, in general, know that their existence is dependent on their customers, a symbiotic relationship where everyone thinks they're winning. Our bankers decided to forget about their customers and instead loaned our money to the government so they'd cover the deficit. It was working for a while until the government couldn't manage to pay back what they owed, and that's when everything started to turn sour. It's not like our government had a solid plan for managing the deficit; the solution they came up with was to borrow more to cover the losses, a perpetual cycle of borrowing, how ingenious. So what happened next? You'd probably be mistaken if you guessed someone was held responsible. The people were left to beg for their money, some had to sell their possessions, others were forced onto the streets, and the country was classified as having the third-worst economic crisis in history, endless straws that never seemed to break the camel's back.



Red Light District, Amsterdam

Rightly so, they burden us with their surplus, not the type that we would enjoy having, but the ones of vices, I believe to a certain degree that they have all but forgotten about us. How should we move next? If such a thing as a reset button were to exist we would be pressing it till we reached the age of the primates even then we would dissuade them from their evolutionary path, all to save us from the burdens we face.

Although not all the bankers can be categorized in that regard, most however fall within that category, actively taking and lending to a lost cause, misleading the people, and at the same time putting the blame on them. They ignore the truth and try to avoid responsibility, bringing us a bastard child of chaos and maleficence not even of our own making. they have slept with their prime customer one too many times. thus we experience the fallout of their unholy union.

We return to the comparison of the bankers, the Lebanese bankers. They have become something even more degrading than the thing we try to compare them to. No one is to blame but themselves. The grave they dug to bury us in is still empty, and soon, we'll be pushing them in.



Central Bank, Beirut



# Overcoming Stress During Times of Struggle

Jack Jizmejian



The world today is under tremendous pressure regarding mental health, especially after the covid-19 pandemic. The pandemic has not only caused psychological and emotional distress, but it has also caused economic changes that have damaged the next decade as we know it. These negative changes within society have in part affected the younger generations of the world, who are in schools and universities. The amount of pressure and obstacles that we are currently enduring in our studies and our lives have become a burden to many of us. The obstacles we face daily in Lebanon begin to transform into deep stressful patterns, which cause many of us to believe that we can no longer continue to fight our battles. Usually, in such cases, people begin to find themselves feeling negative about themselves. In the most severe cases, it leads a person to the point of exhaustion or even causes others to lose themselves within the process.

Whenever we find ourselves struggling with circumstances that have to do with either depression or anxiety, we begin to think that we are the only ones going through these obstacles. As a result, we begin to doubt ourselves and our highest potential to break free from our pain and allow our deepest scars to become the fountain of our growth. However, in reality, it's completely okay and normal to feel these emotions and accept them as they are. Almost every human being has or will go through these circumstances at some point in their life because life is full of surprises it won't always provide us with exactly what we desire, but that doesn't entail that we have to give up on ourselves and close the book. In this life, we will fail no matter how good we are at the things we love doing most. Failure is the first attempt at learning without failure and pain we would never appreciate the things we take for granted at the moment, which is why there is always another opportunity for us to turn the page to write a different chapter and allow it to heal our lives.

# STRESS

No matter what happens, we must develop a strong mindset and never give up on our goals and our dreams. Everything that happens, whether good or bad happens for a reason, every challenge has a “why” and every adversity teaches us a lesson. We must never regret or become prisoners of our past, but instead, we must accept it as our mentor, training us to become the spiritual warrior we are destined to become. The great English poet D.H Lawrence once said “We’ve got to live no matter how many skies have fallen”. You are unique; your life, your beauty, your intelligence, and everything you do are truly marvelous, which is why others' opinions and your insecurities should never bring us down. Instead, we should love ourselves for who we are because it is impossible to expect to be loved by others or become successful if we first don’t love and accept ourselves.

A way to face stress and overcome any challenge in life is by knowing that our lives are shaped by paradigms. A paradigm is a mental program that has almost exclusive control over our habitual behavior and almost all our behavior is habitual. Paradigms control the way we think, feel, believe, and most importantly they control how we approach challenges in our lives. To shift our paradigms and change the way we feel, we must make a decision and begin to take action by doing exactly the opposite of our present habits. As Tony Robbins once said, “It is in your moments of decision that your destiny is shaped.”


If we want to break through what’s holding us down, we must understand that things are created twice, first in mind then in reality. This will help us realize that the reason we get negative results is that our mind is stuck on negative beliefs which is why we’re always getting the same results we don’t want. Once we see the problem, we can influence our results by thinking differently by using our imagination. We must be aware of the fact that the state of our life is nothing more than a reflection of the state of our mind. Winston Churchill said that “The price of greatness is the responsibility for each of our thoughts.” If we were to form a mental picture of ourselves living the life that we wanted to live and act as if we had the things we wanted to have, we would start to feel differently and that powerful thought leads to another powerful thought which would give us the motivation to chase our dreams and overcome adversity.

You see it’s not what’s happening to us in our lives at the moment but rather how we react to it that matters most. No matter what our current circumstances are, we should never worry too much. Worry, as Mark Twain once said “is like paying a debt you don’t owe.” Worrying will also cause our mental energy and potential to leak, just like air leaking out of an inner tube. Soon we realize that we no longer have energy and all our creativity, optimism, and motivation is drained leaving us exhausted. This is why we must always be happy and grateful for what we have in our lives and believe that something wonderful is going to happen to us no matter how much we lack at the moment. If we believe that things will work out, we’ll see opportunities. If we believe they won’t we’ll see obstacles; in the end, it’s our choice. I hope this special message accompanies all of you with whatever it is you going through in life and helps you overcome it. I would like to end this article with a quote by Mahatma Gandhi where he writes that “Happiness is when what you think, what you say and what you do are in harmony.”



# Why Your 20's Are Important

Vana Agopian



Dear 20's,

...

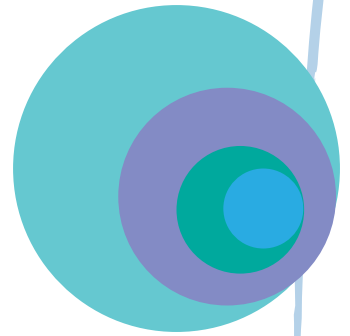
I'm assuming the reason why you've chosen to read this article is that you are either in your 20's, nearing your 20's or just want to reminisce about your 20's; either way, welcome to my article. I would like to start off with my all-time favorite quote:

**"Your 20's are your 'selfish' years. It's a decade to immerse yourself in every single thing possible. Be selfish with your time, and all the aspects of you. Travel, explore, love a lot, love a little, and never touch the ground."**

**-Kyoko Escamilla**

The best and worst part about being a twenty-something is that every decision you make will most probably affect your life. Once you're in your 30's or 40's, it gets harder and harder to reinvent yourself. Why you might ask? Because your personality changes most in your 20's than in any other decade in your life, the brain is on its last growth spurt, and because it's the time frame where you lose a lot of people in your life. Without you even noticing, you are slowly developing into the best version of yourself (mainly in your 20's)). But what's the most important thing to remember throughout all of this is not to think that you have to have your entire life together by the time you hit this milestone. Too many good and precious moments in life are wasted due to stress, worrying, and setting too many expectations; Lebanon is filled with too many 20-year-olds

that are facing unprecedented amounts of uncertainty. Many people have no clue what they will be doing, where they will live, or who they will be within two or ten years. They have no idea when they will be pleased or able to pay their debts. They debate whether they should be photographers, attorneys, or event planners. They're not sure if they're a few dates or several years away from a serious relationship. They are concerned about having children and if their marriages would endure. Simply put, they don't know whether or not their lives will work out, and they don't know what to do about it. Uncertainty causes anxiety, and distraction is the drug of the twenty-first century. Too many 20-somethings are inclined, if not encouraged, to just turn away and hope for the best. That is not the way to proceed.



Many of us have been led to believe that our 20s are for thinking about what we want to do and our 30s are for when we automatically turn into adults and face real life. But there is a big difference between having a life in our 30s and starting a life in our 30s. Even Erik Erikson, the father of the identity crisis, warned that young adults who spent too much time in “disengaged confusion” are “in danger of becoming irrelevant.” If you want to be more intentional at work and in love, try working in a field you’re curious about. Try dating someone who is different from that last person who turned out to be a disaster, and try conducting yourself a bit differently while you’re at it. Sure the 20s are for experimenting, but not just with philosophies and vacations and substances. The 20s are your best chance to experiment with jobs and relationships. Then each move can be more intentional and more informed than the last.

One piece of advice I’ve found a lot of people (30 or above) offer is don’t let culture trivialize your life and work and relationships. We’ve all heard of the phrase “Show me your friends & I’ll show you your future”, which is why your 20’s should be devoted solely to quality friendships, people who bring out the best in you and not waste any time or energy on anything that disturbs your peace. As the saying goes: One rotten apple can spoil the whole barrel.

In other news, the majority of 20-year-olds are frightened of being pinned down. They're concerned that if they select a career or a job, they'll be limiting their alternatives and, as a result, their freedom and life would be cut short. Obtaining a good job is, in reality, the first step. It's the first step toward not disliking

the question, "What do you do?" It's the start of having something on your CV that might help you get that next job you really desire. It's the first step in not overdraw-ing your bank account due to a flat tire. It's the first time you've felt like you could truly consider dating since your time isn't spent working those three part-time jobs you have to avoid a "real job." In fact, starting for example a job that might seem intimidating is the first step toward feeling happier, more confident, competent, and emotionally stable in adulthood. You don't have to stay in the job you like forever, you don't have to stick to the major you decided to go with at 18 because at that time you deemed it interesting; life is all about changes and ups and downs because that's where the beauty of it lies.

What you do every day is single-handedly carving you to be the adult you will be. That's one reason to love being in your 20's, that it's so darn easy to change our lives so quickly and so profoundly. So, sit back, relax and enjoy the ride!





# THE YEAR 2021

## January



January 25 – Protest and clashes in Tripoli erupt against nationwide COVID-19 lockdown measures.

## February

February 16 –  
An oil spill in the Mediterranean caused hundreds of tons of tar to wash up on beaches including environmentally sensitive areas such as the Tyre Coast Nature Reserve.



# THE YEAR 2021

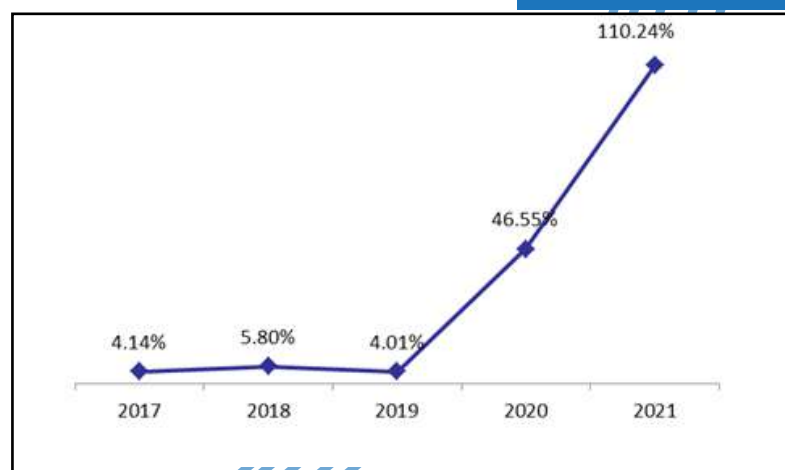
## March



March 26 – The first 50,000 Sputnik V COVID-19 vaccine doses arrived in Lebanon, adding to the 224,640 Pfizer-BioNTech doses received over the previous six weeks.

## April

April: For the first time, Lebanon's inflation rate accelerates to 110.24% compared to the 80.25% registered the previous year.



THE YEAR 2021

May



During the month a total of 13 rockets were fired into Israel, in retaliation to its war with the Palestinians.



June

**Fuel queues at  
gas stations  
become common**



June 1, 2021: World Bank says Lebanon is experiencing one of the most severe economic crises globally since the mid-nineteenth century.

July



July 15 –  
Lebanese Prime Minister  
Saad Hariri resigns from  
his position, further deep-  
ening the country's politi-  
cal crisis.

July 16  
Health Ministry announces end  
to subsidies on many imported  
medicines; shortages nonethe-  
less persist.





August



Lebanon marks its one-year anniversary since the 2020 Beirut explosion which killed more than 200 people

August 15 –  
Fuel explosion in Akkar occurs,  
killing 33 and injuring 79





September



September 10 –  
A new cabinet is formed with the re-appointment  
of former Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati as  
the country's Prime minister.

## October



October 9 –  
The country's two largest power stations shut down due to a fuel shortage resulting in a nation-wide power cut

October 14 Beirut clashes



## November



November: Nearly 245,000 Lebanese living abroad have signed up to vote in next year's parliamentary elections.

## DECEMBER





# Ernest Hemingway's A Moveable Feast

## Jack Jizmejian

Within the world of literature, there are certain pieces written by the literary greats which make the reader feel as if they belong in a different world full of events that inspire a person in many different ways. Hemingway's: A Moveable Feast is the sole definition of that statement.

When it comes to Ernest Hemingway, he did more to change the style of English prose than any other writer in the twentieth century, and for his efforts, he was awarded the Nobel prize for literature in 1954. What's special about A Moveable Feast was that it was an autobiography about Hemingway's own life which he began to write before his death in 1961, where he left behind a substantial amount of manuscripts that account for his years as a struggling ex-pat journalist and writer in Paris during the 1920s, trying his best to meet the literary giants of his time to mentor him and guide him into the journey of becoming a published author. The book was published posthumously in 1964, three years after Hemingway had passed away. One of the special elements within this particular masterpiece is the simple poetic writing style that Hemingway had adopted to write about his career and the special events which Hemingway himself encountered in his life.

The book consists of details about Hemingway's first wife Hadley Richardson and his special bond with both her and his son. Other important details include his associations with cultural and notable figures such as Ezra Pound, Pablo Picasso, and F. Scott Fitzgerald; all prominent figures who shaped the world of both art and literature. The book also discusses the special locations of bars, cafés, and hotels which Hemingway often visited to write his stories. The way Hemingway had chosen to write about these notable figures and the soul of Paris itself during its golden years in the 1920s, makes the reader feel as if they are walking alongside Hemingway himself in the streets of Champs-Elysees or sitting beside him in the café's while he is having conversations about art and culture with figures such as Fitzgerald or Pascin. Personally, it is truly seen as a readable work of art unlike any other book I've read in the past and it will surely make others who are lucky enough to hold this book in their hands the same way.

In one of the chapters, Hemingway introduces the readers to the most important figure who mentored him and also revolutionized the world of literature in the 20th century, Gertrude Stein. Stein was seen as a tough personality who was known to fearlessly criticize the works of well-renowned artists. Her style of judgment and mentoring helped Hemingway gain tremendous experience to become a disciplined author with impeccable perseverance during times of struggle and difficulty. Eventually, her opinions and criticisms were able to aid Hemingway in writing his novel "Fiesta: The Sun Also Rises" which helped Hemingway lay the cornerstone of finally becoming a published bestselling author.

Throughout the book, the reader will not only discover about Hemingway "the author" but will also begin to understand about Hemingway "the man" and what kind of beliefs, interests, or habits he had in his life until his later days in Cuba. What I enjoyed learning about Hemingway "the author" was that he used to write about the most realistic things in life in the simplest way possible. When it comes to Hemingway "the man" however, I realized that even though he was seen as part of the group of men who served in the First world war and were victims of heavy drinking due to the amount of trauma they had gone; Hemingway never allowed his drinking habits interfere while he began to write because the writing was seen as a religion to him and it had to be done in the most precise and ethical way possible for him to bleed his thoughts and his ideas in front of the typewriter.

To this day, Ernest Hemingway is seen as one of the literary giants who continue to inspire the next generation of authors in adopting his writing style and forming stories within the same framework that Hemingway himself was able to do.

# **Join the MUN Club**



**The MUN Club is back on  
campus**

**So, buckle up and join us for an  
adventure of a lifetime.**

**For any and all inquiries, feel  
free to contact us.**

**Feel free to contact the student  
life office**

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In an ever-globalizing world, connectivity has become one of the most important aspects in creating a visionary world of smart cities, cutting edge technological innovations, efficient healthcare systems, and practically making the lives of human beings much easier, faster, and more entertaining. With every iteration of wireless mobile connectivity; (**2G, 3G, and 4G**) the bar is set higher, with faster speeds and more capacity. **5G**, the next generation of wireless connectivity, is set to usher us into a world of automation and communication like never before, revolutionizing how we interact with other humans and machines.

### 5G explained.

**5G** is the 5th generation wireless mobile connection; it is designed to connect everything and everyone via a network of communication, in unprecedented speed and capacity. **5G** network will enable the development of next-generation mobile services, that deliver and transfer information at higher, more reliable speeds, with lower latency; expanding nearly every sector of an economy and industry to new and interesting realms. One drawback, however, would be the shorter range of **5G**; this will require building completely new infrastructure, and installing hundreds, if not thousands of small cell sites on buildings, walls and poles to keep up a seamless experience, costing billions of dollars' worth of investments.

### 4G vs 5G: How is the new generation of mobile connections better?

- Faster speeds: the fifth generation of mobile connections (**5G**), will increase speeds up to 10 Gbps. Hundredfold (100x) more than **4G LTE**
- Higher capacity: up to (1000x) more capacity than **4G**, lowering the risk of network congestion in crowded areas.
- Lower latency: **5G** will substantially decrease the latency compared to **4G**, transmitting data less than five milliseconds. "Latency measures how long a signal takes to go from its source to its receiver, and then back again."
- Increased bandwidth: significant increase in speed and capacity will potentially allow the transfer of large data much faster and efficiently. "bandwidths are a range of frequencies that transmit a signal, usually within a given band."

### The era of automation: The Internet of Things (IoT)

Despite the massive increase in speed, reliability, and capacity for the average consumer, this alone is not a good reason to justify the billions of dollars that would go into building the **5G** infrastructure. The "**Internet of Things (IoT)**" is a network of interconnected devices that share and transfer data without needing the interference of humans; some of the well-known services include self-driving cars and smart homes, which can be quite data-hungry. Implementation of **5G** networks will provide the best opportunity for the "**Internet of Things (IoT)**" to flourish. With the advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology, coupled with machine learning and 5G network; this will make it possible for automated technologies like self-driving cars, smart homes, connected health care, and more to seamlessly connect and communicate with each other, to provide a far more interconnected, efficient and accurate automated services; thus, lead the world to an (AI) revolution. Possibly bringing to life the tech gadgets and machines that we usually see in sci-fi shows and movies.







### Effects on the global economy.

According to Qualcomm, an American tech company that conducted the “**5G Economy**” study; it revealed the sheer impact **5G** would have on the world economy at an optimal potential, which would likely be achieved around 2035. The numbers are staggering:

- **\$13.2 Trillion of global economic output**
- **22.3 Million new jobs created**
- **\$2.1 Trillion in GDP growth**

As a result of a massive increase in efficiency and speed of access to information, businesses and the world economy will see substantial growth of economic output, upwards of \$13.2 Trillion.

### Practical benefits: How will the average person benefit?

The average person with a mobile phone and online services will see a massive boost in internet speeds; downloading Quad HD movies in mere seconds; lag-free multiplayer cloud gaming, instant access to cloud-based services, no network congestion in highly crowded areas such as a stadium, seamless streaming, and high-resolution video playback, and much more.

**5G** will benefit many aspects of daily life; it will provide us with new technological innovations and industry, make transportation safer and more comfortable, widen the scope of health services, digital precision, and countless more; affecting the way people live, go to work, play and entertain themselves. Moreover, the development of a more accurate and versatile artificial intelligence and advanced technological innovations seem ever more possible to create, as a result of unprecedented connectivity that we will witness as the fifth generation of network connection begins to expand and roll out around the world.

# Feels Like Home

## Alyag Momjian

Life offers us many opportunities, sometimes we tend to take them and sometimes we decide not to risk them. Sometimes we excite over the smallest things, sometimes we feel indecisive, and later on, doubt that excitement. Home is one of my favorite words, when we look up the meaning in a dictionary, we find countless definitions. For me, home is my safe place, where I feel loved, where I give and receive unconditionally, a cozy place where I feel myself.

Living abroad, away from home and family, has pros and cons, just like every other thing in life. You get more freedom and independence, which pushes you to get out of your comfort zone. You meet new people, many of them, who make you see the world from their perspective which might change yours, awakens you in certain life decisions, helps you find genuinely real people, and you see yourself creating a new home. This is a change, a good one. You are growing, evolving to your better self, experiencing life in ways you have never thought of, getting wiser while having fun. All of a sudden, you remember who you were, and you see who you have become, and you get this mixture of feelings, where you do not know who you are anymore.

I am a third culture kid, which by definition means that I grew in an environment that differs from my identity, which puts the feeling of not belonging here and there in me, and the feeling of which says home is nowhere and everywhere. With time and with various ups and downs, I assured that home is not a place, but a home is a person. You might find people who turn into family, who become your safe space and eventually be your home. At this particular stage in life, where I am away from home, I found the features of the home in Beirut. I call Beirut home while having that longing towards my home not leaving my heart.



I could not hear Beirut calling itself to be my home when I first came here, as it looks nothing like home and did not feel like it. While I was trying to adapt, chaos stepped in, blasts took place and as I was turning it into a home, I was frightened and felt the urge to leave. Time passed, I came back by holding a fear inside of me, and while it was still chaotic, I felt in peace, I started sensing the warmth in it, which felt familiar and somehow brought me closer. But then again, it just feels like home, it is not truly home.

There are days where I cannot feel the warmth or some days where that warmth is a bit cold. I believe it is okay, as things should not always be perfect, they should not always be the cozy place we love. We should feel the cold to appreciate the warmth a little more afterward, as the weather should change for us to see different colours. Throughout this journey in which I still have a long way ahead, I have realized that differences are not always truly different, they have many similarities which we need to convince ourselves to accept. Be your unique self out there, find the hidden beauty in people, and wherever you go try to find the resemblance in whatever you see, connect it to you and make it home.



**My mind is blank.**

**I have nothing to think about.**

**What is it to think anyway?**

The nerves in your brain send signals back and forth. Back and forth... back... back in time. I wish I'd known life would bring me to this point. I wish I could put a finger on the destination of this train. But why wish? Don't you already know? It will fall off the incomplete bridge. Yes. You see the terrific terrain before you and the train, falls. You think you'd have a gratifying smoke below those tall pine trees... but your movement towards the long-awaited moment of pleasure ceases in an instance. The fall comes unplanned for. So, why not have it on the train? It's true, you see. I should have it on the train. A cigarette it is. But my mind is still blank. Even when I sense the mesmerizing simplicity of those trees. Why? I think... Oh! Thoughts again. They're back! Accept them as they are. Don't put up against their being. I see you're smiling now. What's the matter? Are you happy? Bold of you to assume that a smile and happiness are one. I'm not happy. I've just realized the unity. The bridge still stretches to the terrain. Even if incomplete.

... I set my canvas to paint.

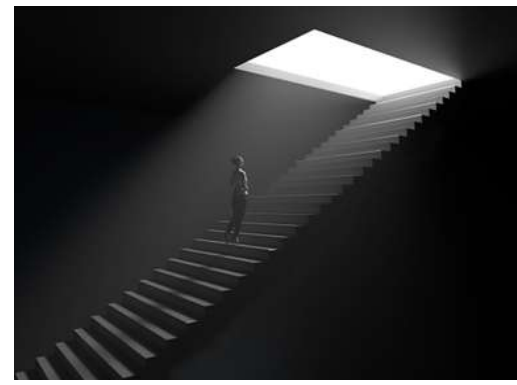
I look at it. I am paralysed.

It is blank. The next move might ruin the beauty of nothingness. It might as well add on to it... I don't know. Is it worth the risk? I take a glance at the colours I have. Red. Red catches my eyes, as always. I hastily take the tube... One violent squirt on the canvas and then a furious brush stroke. A deep breath. What did I let out? I keep staring at the patterns created on the canvas.



I'm not satisfied. I recklessly keep hitting my brush on the canvas. It is all red now. A deeper breath. I'm almost there. Let the paint dry. It was exhausting, I need a break. I look out the window and embrace the simple beauty of the street I live in. The mountain of junk at Bernard's workplace, the pine trees at the end of the street all trimmed and tidy, the plants my grandmother once took care of, and the birds. The free and careless birds flying around in flocks. No responsibilities. Just free flight. Isn't it beautiful? To be in that flock and fly around... to enjoy the soft breeze gently caressing my face as I flick from one branch to the other... but... what if I get shot by some hunter? The soft blue sky would turn red I'd say. Eh... being shot or not, death is there... Oh. The canvas, I almost forgot about it. I go back to the painting. What should I add? Black, white, yellow. These are the colours of the day. The next move is always a risk. Should I take it? Something bursts within me. I start laughing like a madman. Laughing at myself. Laughing at the red-coated canvas. I tightly grab the brush. A stroke of black... not enough. More, I need more. More strokes of black. And this is it. I ruined it. I regret the move I made. I enter the valley of despair. How to get out? Change the brush size. I need white. A gentle stroke of white. Oh... it is back, isn't it? I feel at ease. I'm not frustrated... not anymore. The white did it all. Another deep breath. Yes, time to balance the black out. Careful touches of white should do it. And they do so. Ah. Yes, yes, yes. This is it. I take the palette knife to add some yellow in the middle. Yellow. A bit more white. Almost there. What am I missing now? I turn my head and gaze at the red tube. Red in the middle. Yes. I take a step back and look at it... couldn't it be more rubbish? Laughter bursts out of my lungs again. I really can't control it. I'm detached. A name should give it what it needs. "Red Death" I whisper to myself. I had read Poe a day before. "Red Death" it is. Another look at it and a deep breath. I am satisfied.





Not all the kings' horses nor all the kings' men can fix the fracture that now bids us. We have reached a time where we ask ourselves what we value most and what we would sacrifice for it. Any sacrifice would solely be based upon our perception, and we as a society have allowed ourselves to perceive freely and without restraint. As we enter the 28th month of our economic crisis, we realize how the failure of our perception has directly caused insurmountable damages and how it has almost stripped our people of hope. Therefore, it is necessary to understand how value is derived and most importantly what to value. Generally speaking, value is derived from three things: Time, Material, and Association and as a society one of the first things that we should value are public goods. This essay will attempt to outline how societies define the value of public goods, how they are culturally and ethically utilized, and my position as a Lebanese citizen and a stakeholder in the local economy regarding this.

Almost all societies that have existed or continue to exist have had a basis of valuation. So what qualifies as a public good? Well, public goods are commodities and services that are available to everyone in the community. They cannot be rivaled or excluded, and the government through taxation ensures the continued availability of these goods. Examples of public goods include the police, fire department, street lighting, drinking water, public parks, public beaches, knowledge, etc. Societies value the availability of such goods and make sure of their presence. Their absence will negatively reflect on the happiness and overall mood of the population. According to The Centre for Economic Policy Research of Europe, social satisfaction and happiness will increase proportionally with the quantity of the public good. As a result, the productivity of said society will increase. However, as is the case, problems arise. One such problem is the "free-rider problem" this is when people who do not contribute in any way to the upholding of these goods retain access to them and abuse them indefinitely.

The use of these goods has both cultural and ethical implications. When we think of using public goods it is crucial to remember that we aren't the first nor the last person to use them. As members of society, we need to ensure the fair usage of these goods not to overburden the service and offer the best example of ourselves thereof. Culturally speaking, due to Globalization the effect of native cultures is low and almost absent in public goods. Instead, it is modeled after the western world and how they value and use it. As a result, most countries are becoming similar in their public offerings and image. However, cultural identity still plays a large role in the way we interact with each other and the way we use these goods. It is, therefore, important to differentiate between the way we use a good and the type of good we offer. Our culture plays a large part in how we use it, but the western influence ensures the availability of it.

As Lebanese, we are taught from an early age to value our land, image, and public goods. We grow up with the belief that we will use them and teach our children how to use them. However, no such thing exists, or what does merely exist is a facade of our current deterrent. The lack of national identity and cultural unity has destroyed whatever attempts there have been on maintaining these goods. The youth, on the other hand, remain ever more hopeful in restoring order. They remain confident in their ability to take lead restore balance and establish a new order, something, which we still dream of. As a stakeholder in the Lebanese economy, it is of vital importance to start the process of building on whatever remains and grow from there even in the absence of a government. We can band together and do wonders on our own.

Public goods are important, no matter what anyone tries to tell us. They are vital in how as a society we function and how we present ourselves to the world. The absence of them is seen as pure barbarism. Furthermore, as a people, we need to see beyond our current needs. We need to envision a future not only for ourselves but for our children as well. A future where we all live together and enjoy the fruits of our labor, where we pay our dues to society and are rewarded based upon it.

# An Eye in the Sky: The Matryoshka Effect

Suha Naimy



Pablo Picasso, Guernica, 1937, oil on canvas, 349 cm × 776 cm. (Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid)

**"I am the eye in the sky, looking at you;  
I can read your mind.  
I am the maker of rules, dealing with fools;  
I can cheat you blind.  
And I don't need to see anymore to know that  
I can read your mind (looking at you)  
I can read your mind (looking at you)  
I can read your mind (looking at you)  
I can read your mind (looking at you)..."**

This song entitled "The Eye in the Sky" is composed by the British band Alan Parsons Project and was first performed in 1982.

The lyrics of the song highlight man-made up-down power, the hegemony of powerful nations over less powerful ones, and the control of posts and statuses over less potent individuals.

What can be inferred is:

**'I am the satellite in the sky, looking at you;  
I can read your mind.  
I am the mighty nation that makes the rules;  
I can cheat you blind.  
I am your boss at work, dealing with fools;  
I can read your mind,'**

and so on so forth ...

People are ruled in their professions, in their civic lives, in the political and economic patterns

of their countries, and in many other radii where each radius is contained within a larger sphere, on a trajectory where the bigger is continuously circumventing the smaller. The stronger nations and the significant positions are the driving force of the contemporary world.

The reigning power of this modern world is the man-made power that is dominantly unjust. In the name of the potentiality of progress, of civil expansion, and of human development, the actuality of regression has been steering the globe. In the year 2020, famine, poverty, slavery, injustice, sectarianism, racism, sexism, classism, wars, greed, and many more still prevail and still define the reality of our planet. Humanity has carried these notions within its folds from the time of Adam and Eve until today. So, what is wrong with this man-made power that has failed miserably in conquering its flaws but has succeeded extensively in controlling its Earth cohabitants? How close are these man-made laws to the natural law?

The natural law thrives from the inside towards the outside: a seed metamorphoses in growth from the nucleus out, a sperm cell and an egg cell meet to emanate life, the sun spreads outwards its effulgent light; The Big Bang theory of creation expanded exponentially outwards.

The nature of life, as well its law, flourishes outwards.

Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz (1646 – 1716) explains how we live in “the world of monads”. Life is made of monads. Monads are individual ethereal invisible entities that are not destroyable since they are not material. From these tiny unseen worlds, the entire universe is formed, so from these monads, ‘Being’ spirals outwards. This is the power of growth, and it is true because it is not breakable, not dividable, cannot be brought to or out of life. It is there, not created nor destroyed, juxtaposing with how Antoine Lavoisier (1743 – 1794) describes the true nature of existence where, “Nothing is created and nothing is destroyed.”

However, the man-made motion and notion of power are the exact opposite. Man’s definition of power involves “looking down” for the purpose of ‘reading the mind’. Man’s power functions downwards for the goal of gain, it creates itself for the target of added value, and it eventually gets veered since it is created. Nothing created can withstand change, and everything created will eventually be uncreated. The only unchanging “unmoved mover” is God, as Aristotle defines the creator; the unmoved mover is the Final cause of existence to which everything purposefully moves.

The contemporary world is subdued by the direct and the stealthy annexation powers of affluent nations. These are the nations of convex powers, the powers that bulge a nation out (convex). With their appetitive measures, they take over the less enabled countries, the concave. And with both, the convex and the concave powers, reality is distorted.

But, when the entire world moves viably from inwards out, instead of upwards down, it will be in synchrony with the system of the universe. Being harmonious with the universe means being peaceably evolving, without pretentiously reading minds and boastingly believing in the illusory artificial man made power and hierarchy.

Injustice is another highlight to man’s power “looking down, I can read your mind” attitude. For the sake of fake power and its lame hierarchy, Socrates was sentenced to death, Jesus Christ was crucified, and myriad examples can testify to the limitations and the artificiality of man-made power.

The flower blooms inside out, not stifled by any convex or concave deficient power. Its blooming is full because it is far from the hubbub of daily life and from the snarling realities of so-called powerful nations.

The Russian doll, the Matryoshka, encloses the other figurines, all the way to the tiniest one. The man-made power may read the Matryoshka as the leading immanent hierarchy. But from the perspective of the law of nature, the biggest Matryoshka must fall off to lead to the smaller one, and the smaller one splits respectively, all the way to the miniaturized figurine. The greater powers must bend and break for the sake of reaching the smallest characters. These minute characters are not lined up to break or to divide; they are to truly grow outwards unlike the artificial man-made system of hierarchy which is ultimately unvaryingly changing, falling, and always missing the core: the essence of outward motion.

The Matryoshka breaks to reach the nucleus while the nucleus expands to reach the universe.



## Where is Home?

Samaher Alondra Yehya

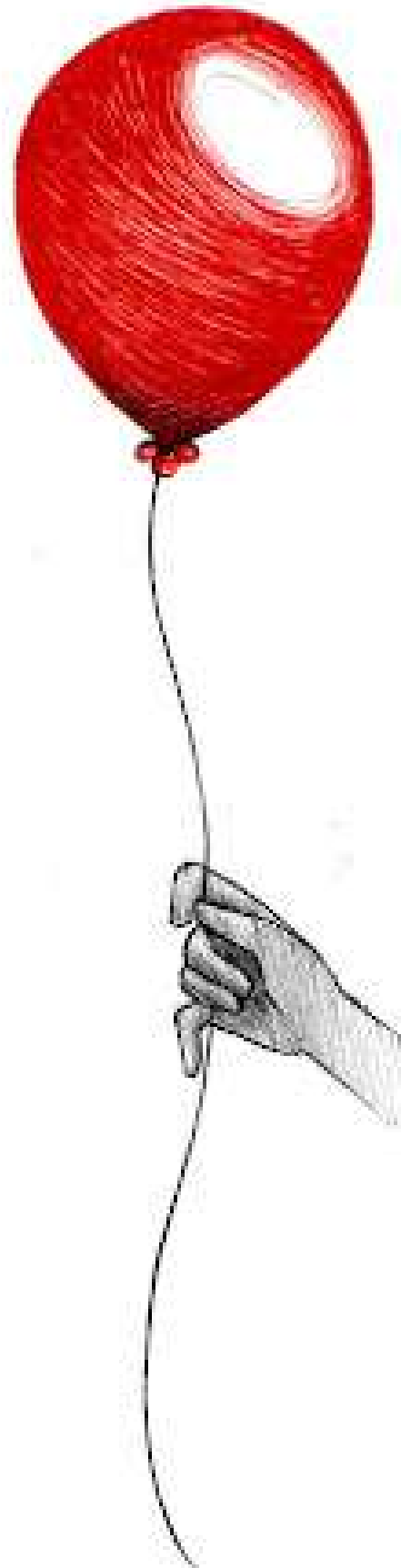
They say home is a person or home is where the heart is, but what happens when you don't know where your heart is? Or if it's scattered in multiple places? What happens when you don't know what home is?

Many of us have spent years jumping from one place to another, feeling like we don't belong or are outsiders. Knowing we are here but also feeling lost, and missing something we never knew we had. In reality, it's because whether we like it or not, who we are is closely tied to where we were born, because even if we see ourselves as unique individuals with multiple characteristics, talents, and traits, that's now how we are seen. So, we end up being too Western for the East and too Eastern for the West. Too much for too many people, and where does that leave us?

It leaves us with pieces of cultures, beliefs, and traditions that we cherish and carry wherever we go. Sometimes, we can appreciate them because they signify individuality and diversity, it makes us feel that we are more than just one thing. But other times they just make us feel lost, without a set identity or place to turn to when we need it. It's during these times that we wish we were a little bit luckier to be stable, boring, from just one place, or simply not caught up in the mess of the world. Because now we have no clue where to go, we wish we didn't even have to go in the first place, but we have to, for our future, we have to let go of a piece of us to gain more pieces.

Answering the question "where are you from?" is harder than it should be for most of us because we are from many places at once, so answering with only one means betraying the other. It's even more complicated to decide if we should stay or go, and if we want to go, where? Everywhere seems an option but in reality, we have no place to go.

And that's the story of how we wander and feel lost for the longest of time. Maybe some of us are never meant to find a home, and maybe being lost is just the essence of being alive. Who says we need to be found?



# 10 Must Watch Money Youtubers for Students

Liliane Mohamad

If you are a curious university student and you are looking for different methods and ways to save money, make money, open up your own small business, or just learn about investing and budgeting, then I believe that YouTube offers you a huge range of videos related to all these different financial literacy topics.

Many of us struggle to make money and learn how to save money. I would normally resort to books or reading the news to learn more about money and finance. As much as all of this helps expand our knowledge, YouTube is a far more entertaining way to learn and grasp information. I am sure most of us have spent hours watching random YouTube videos, but this platform can also be used to enhance your understanding of financial topics. Here are 10 YouTube channels that help you as a student learn more about money, finance, investing, and many other similar subjects:

## 1. PRACTICAL WISDOM:

The main purpose behind this channel might not be money and financial topics, but it does offer a range of helpful videos that discuss important business and money tips for students. Several playlists include videos about entrepreneurship, trade, job tips, how to make and save money, etc.

## 2. CLEVER GIRL FINANCE:

Starting a side hustle, building assets, investing our money, etc. These are all financial topics that most of us know nothing about. Clever Girl Finance is the perfect channel to start learning and discovering what all these terms mean. The videos will not only explain everything in detail, but they will encourage you to start making money and how to properly use it.

## 3. The Better Man Project

According to the description of this channel, the main purpose of The Better Man Project is to help build a community of people who know how to choose what they want and to teach them how to make important financial and social decisions. And it is safe to say that this channel delivers what is stated. It does so by a variety of animated videos that discuss essential topics for people interested in empowering themselves by using the proper financial tools. The knowledge that you can receive from this channel is impeccable. You will learn about Money, Income, Investing, Success, Leadership, etc. The list goes on and on.

## 4. The Financial Diet:

Have you ever felt like you do not know how to save your money and make better use of it? Does this also make you feel like you are not in control of your life? The Financial Diet can definitely answer these questions for you. Most of the videos shared on this channel will help you figure out what you need to buy, and what unnecessary products you can avoid. If you are new to saving money you are willing to a better environment from scratch, then this channel will usher you towards the right path.

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## 5. Beat The Bush:

Beat The Bush teaches you basic techniques and information on money and finance. The target audience is also beginners and individuals who might not have previous knowledge on these topics. The difference between Beat The Bush and the channels mentioned beforehand, is that this channel, in particular, is entertaining in its own way! There are no animated videos or special features in the videos, but the host certainly knows how to deliver his point and easily explain things.

## 6. Charlee Wayne

“Get Financially Fit”

This is what you will read on the cover photo when you click on Charlee Wayne’s YouTube channel. Similar to the previous channels, all topics related to financial education, investing, and banking are explored and discussed. You will learn how to organize your income and save money while you are still in your 20s.

## 7. Whitney Hanson

Whitney Hanson tends to target a younger audience or anyone who is trying to figure out how to start investing, paying off debts, and enjoying life while managing your financial life properly. As you skim through her list of videos and playlist, you will notice that she also offers several tips and advice on the simplest matters for those who do not know to do them. Some examples are budgeting, buying a new car or house, and creating a website.

## 8. Fifi Finance

If you’re looking for a fun and easy way to gain knowledge about house prices, mortgages, money habits, and other subjects related to your personal fiancé, then Fifi Finance is the right channel for you. No one at school or at university teaches you these topics, so you are left to figure them out all on your own. This is the main purpose behind her channel. She wants her toddlers to grow up knowing what these terms mean, so she decided to create this channel for other young adults to learn wisely how to invest, how to make money etc.

## 9. Graham Stephan

Graham Stephan shares his 10-year experience in the real estate industry with his audience. He uploads videos that focus on tips to get into this industry, what to expect, and all that you need to learn about it. The advice that he offers is very beneficial. He is definitely your go-to guy if you have no knowledge of real estate and would love to start learning.

## 10. Andrie Jikh

Not only does Andrie Jikh talk about money, credit cards, personal finance, and budgeting, but he also covers topics related to real estate and the stock market. He also offers several tips and advice because of his experience.



## The F1 Championship Battle Between Max Verstappen & Lewis Hamilton



Over the past seven years, Mercedes and Lewis Hamilton have made history by dominating Formula 1 in breathtaking ways in terms of both performance and engineering, which has made their competitors such as Ferrari, Red Bull, and McLaren struggle to compete with the challenge.

However, after years of ongoing victories, both Hamilton and Mercedes have finally been threatened by a new challenge to test their perseverance which comes from non-other than their main rivals: Red Bull. In the past, Red Bull had similarly held a winning streak like Mercedes from 2010 to 2013, but they somehow struggled to win championships since Hamilton started to gain the pace from 2014 onwards. In fact, after winning the Turkish Grand Prix in October 2020, Lewis Hamilton equaled his title record with the likes of Michael Schumacher by winning his 7th world title, and this year he anticipates winning his 8th world title which has never been done in Formula 1 before. This Season However, Red bull alongside their main driver Max Verstappen, has gained enough momentum and experience to finally impose enough pressure on Mercedes to break their championship streak and snatch away Hamilton's dream of becoming an 8-time F1 World Champion. When it comes to the opinions of experts Verstappen is favored to win the 2021 season and secure his first world championship, but tensions between two championship rivals have never been this strong for decades.

The season began to go well on Hamilton's side when he won the opening race of the year in Bahrain, but both Mercedes and F1 analysts were aware of how well the Red Bull car was performing and expected that they will show their advantage in the following 22 races, which is exactly what took place. The following 4 races were seen as quite a struggle for Mercedes to keep up with the Red Bull car, especially when it comes to the race in Monaco where Valtteri Bottas suffered a puncture in his Mercedes car and Hamilton finished the race at 7th place due to a mistake within the team orders. Nevertheless, it was time for Mercedes to realize that they no longer contain the proper leverage to maintain their balance and it was time to step up their team strategy.

The rivalry between Both Verstappen and Hamilton intensified during the 2021 British Grand Prix, where both drivers collided during turn 2 of the race track and Verstappen suffered a heavy crash and was out of the race. Hamilton went on to win the GP in his hometown for the 8th time and regained the championship lead. Tensions between the two teams escalated when Red Bull complained to the FIA that Hamilton was the cause for the Verstappen's crash but their request to re-investigate the incident was ignored and no penalties were given to Hamilton in terms of the accident. The race in Britain only made Verstappen and Red bull more determined to win and regain their lead to the championship. During the USA GP and the Mexican GP

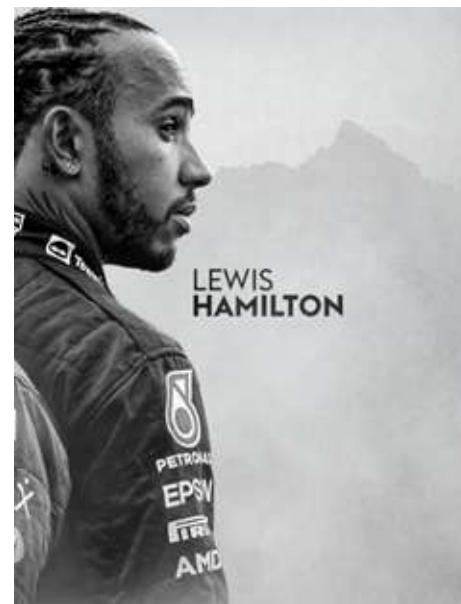
# The F1 Championship Battle Between Max Verstappen & Lewis Hamilton

Verstappen fired back at Mercedes and won both races to expand his championship lead over Hamilton by 16 points.

The following race in Brazil which is seen as the monument of champions since it has hosted legends such as Ayrton Senna and Michael Schumacher, was the main race that was either going to crown Verstappen as the champion of the world or allow Hamilton to continue his fight to win the world championship. Brazil for Hamilton was a very personal track since it was in this very location where he won his first title back in 2008 with McLaren and it was a track which he knew well. After a devastating weekend, Hamilton started the race from P10 due to a penalty he received due to technical issues. But during the race, Hamilton put on a spectacular performance and was able to win the race and cut Verstappen's championship lead down to 14 points. Qatar was the next destination for both drivers to continue their competition with each other. During the race, Hamilton was performing unlike any of the past races this season and was seen outperforming the red bull cars of both Verstappen and Sergio Perez and was able to win another race to further cut Verstappen's championship lead down to only 7 points.

Currently, with only 2 races left on the calendar, one in Saudi Arabia and the other in Abu Dhabi, Verstappen leads by (350.5) points, whereas Hamilton stands on (343.5) points. If Hamilton can win the race in Saudi Arabia and Verstappen finishes in second place, both drivers will be equaled by (368.5) points and the winner of the championship will be decided in the final race of the season in Abu Dhabi, which for Mercedes it will be seen as "de Ja Vu" since the same circumstances took place in 2016 between Hamilton and his teammate Nico Rosberg who is seen as the only driver this decade to defeat Lewis Hamilton in his prime. In an interview which Rosberg was part of he mentions how difficult it was for him to beat Lewis Hamilton back in 2016 and argues that Hamilton is most dangerous when he is pressured and is always seen to fight back in the final remaining races, which is exactly what is happening currently.

With such a critical season under our hands and with 2 races remaining, it's quite uncertain what the outcome of this championship battle between both Max Verstappen and Lewis Hamilton will be, but until then "It's lights out and away we go!"



# The Narrow Cracks of Suffocation

Serge Nasr



to repress again? They came to your rescue and did not strip you naked or spit on you, they are trying, but you chose to scatter your dust anyway you decide to scream into the vast nothingness of the oceans and claim that no one wants to take a dip and feel what you are feeling. What are you feeling? Do you even know; do you want to know? If you know, then half the problem is fixed, what will you worry about then? What will you philosophize your world for?

You feed on this tragedy it is your meat, it sustains you to go on but you don't admit it. I do not blame you, it's hard to have your tireless mind spiraling day and night ruining what's left of the beauty that you so incessantly feel. You do deserve more. The events keep on rolling in one after the other, you choose to romanticize once again. you don't want to be helped, you don't want someone to pull you out of the oceans. It is your haven, after all, you are safe in the melancholy and awing to something so observable yet intangible by those who are still staring from afar, those who are terrified of what they might discover if they dig deep enough. This is not the out you have been yearning for, it's too surface level for you. What will you write about then, what will your unconscious troubles force you to dream about, what will you paint, how will you scream? Will you dream of a field of sunflowers and wake up to your soothingly elegant brush exploring the canvas? Will you scream out of excitement while your glowing eyes burst with awe at the beauty of everything around you?

No plea of his had helped no plea was ever even understood. But he waits. He waits for help to come, waits for his plea to be heard, waits for the dust to scatter, waits for his words to be understood. He keeps on waiting.

Oftentimes, the messiness leaves you scathed and unhinged. It leaves you shouting in sea-deep waters waiting to grab someone's attention. But do you want to be heard anyway? Do you want them to know your story?

Your hands still shake at the thought of it. You copiously sweat, your heart races as if the nakedness of your body is a condition of what you're about to utter. As your bendy back faces a crowd of people waiting to strip you further and leave you on the sidewalk with nothing but the pouring rain and the burning transparent scars on your belly. Why are you even shouting if you only want

I choose to use my eyes to tell a story without using words to expand on it, I would rather wake up in the middle of the night gasping for air from the frightening dream my mind constructed and I'd rather write about how the plea was never heard even by those who wanted to listen but couldn't because they were stuck in between the narrow cracks of suffocation. That's what artists do, it's what poets do, it's what philosophers do, they all do it. They create scenarios in their heads and agonize about them, they suffer in the shadows even with an equal probability of either igniting all that they are or accepting the empty nothingness that the lack was a result of. They shatter their lives in an attempt to build it up again for the sole purpose of creating something resembling, and once again, the continuous cycle remolds itself at a difference of speed and circumstance to perpetuate a still movement of the quaint process of ecstatic wholeness.

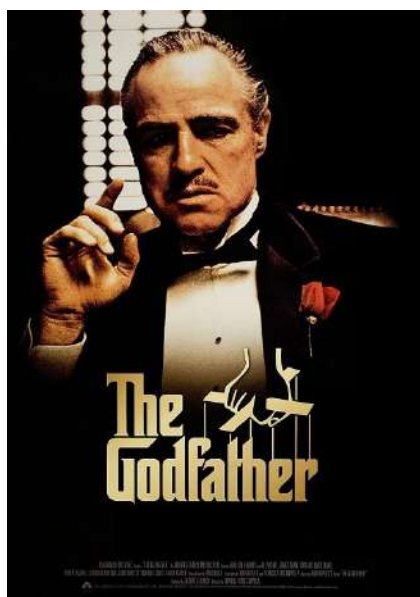


# Movies to Watch During the Break

Andrea Khatchadourian

Not everyone has the same taste when it comes to movies or anything for that matter. It is hard to recommend movies to people and even harder to impress them with. However, there is a fine line of movie-making magic that I believe will have most people stuck to their screens.

It's not possible to include all the great movies, some might even be disappointed by the selection. One important thing to keep in mind is that taste is subjective. Here are 10 movies to watch over the break, more are to come with each passing semester.

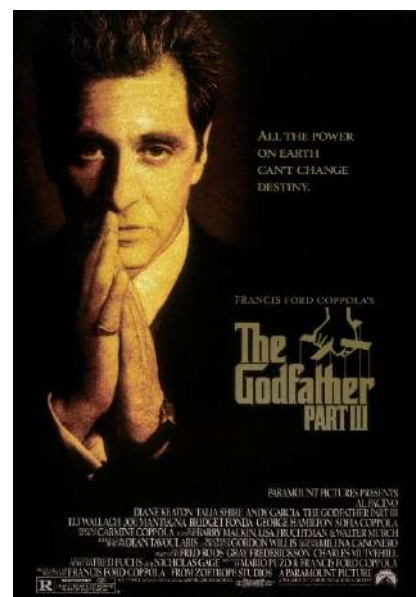


The Godfather is one of the most revered movies of all time and its contribution to cinema is remarkable. This movie will make you intrigued by its astounding depiction of the mafia and immerse you into its world from the very start.

Based on the Mario Puzo novel of the same name, The Godfather spans ten years and chronicles the history of the Corleone family under its patriarch, Vito Corleone, nicknamed the Godfather. But when Don Corleone refuses to enter the drug business, a series of events are set in motion resulting in the assassination attempt on the Don and leading his youngest son to rise and take over his father's business.



The Godfather: Part II is superior to the first film. Nothing lulls like the original, and the dual story is a genius conceit that allows new depth. It is vaguer, stuck in history, and not just a single fictional, self-contained story. The Godfather: Part II is a story with no borders, crossing decades, timelines, and without a beginning nor an end. Francis Ford Coppola and Mario Puzo continue their epic saga into the lives of the infamous Corleone family. It is a film which does better than its predecessor, "The Godfather". The film flip-flops gracefully and beautifully between the struggle over the family business and the life of young Vito Corleone in his rise to power.



The Godfather, Part III continues the Corleone family history in 1979, as the sins of the parents are visited upon the children. Despite every attempt to go legit, to become respectable, the past cannot be silenced. It is an epic ending to the beloved series. Although it is by far the weakest movie of the trilogy, it still manages to bring the epic story to a close.





Casablanca is cinematic perfection in every way conceivable. The dialogue, the plot, the acting, and the music are just a few reasons why Casablanca is a masterpiece. Humphrey Bogart plays Rick Blaine, a cynical bar owner who is in love with a beautiful woman named Ilsa, played by Ingrid Bergman, but the relationship is put in a difficult position when a love triangle forms. Rick separates himself from Ilsa, being reminded of the song Ilsa loved: "As Time goes by". This movie has everything! It has action, comedy, romance, war, and drama, all packed finely into one masterpiece that will not be forgotten.

EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT IT! EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT IT!

*It's Terrific! Terrific! Terrific!*

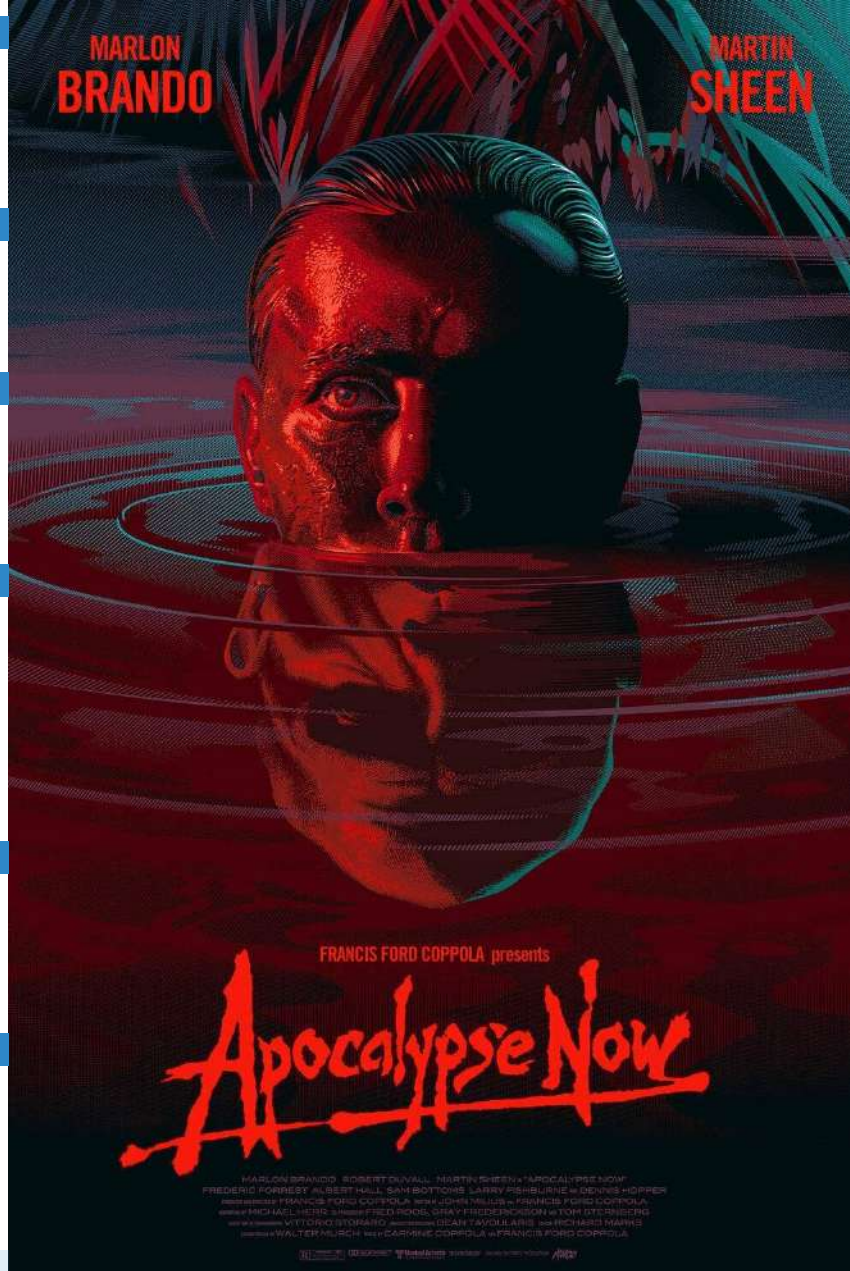
ORSON WELLES ORSON WELLES

It is one of the miracles of cinema that in 1941 a first-time director; a cynical, hard-drinking writer; an innovative cinematographer, and a group of New York stage and radio actors were given the keys to a studio and total control, and made a masterpiece. "Citizen Kane" is more than a great movie; it is a gathering of all the lessons of the emerging era of sound, just as "Birth of a Nation" assembled everything learned at the summit of the silent era.

When a reporter is assigned to decipher newspaper magnate Charles Foster Kane's (Orson Welles) dying words, his investigation gradually reveals the fascinating portrait of a complex man who rose from obscurity to staggering heights. Though Kane's friend and colleague Jedidiah Leland (Joseph Cotten), and his mistress, Susan Alexander (Dorothy Comingore), shed fragments of light on Kane's life, the reporter fears he may never penetrate the mystery of the elusive man's final word, "Rosebud."







1979's war epic *Apocalypse Now* is based on Joseph Conrad's novel "Hearts of Darkness" and is directed by Francis Ford Coppola. Originally developed by George Lucas who had planned to adapt the book and shoot the film in guerrilla-style 16mm, but when production of *Star Wars* took over, Coppola (hot off *The Godfather I & II* and *The Conversation*) took the project and to quote the director, "We had access to too much money, too much equipment and little by little, we went insane". The originally planned six-week shoot took fifteen months to complete nearly bankrupting Coppola.

The production of this film is legendary, with Martin Sheen suffering a heart attack and a near breakdown. Coppola suffered an epileptic seizure while shooting, and had a breakdown, too. Brando showed up overweight and under-prepared, and not to mention Dennis Hopper hoovering up any drug he could get his hands on. The documentary "Heart of Darkness" (directed by Eleanor Coppola, the director's wife) is a fascinating journey that delves deep into chronicling the insanity of the film's production.

Martin Sheen gives a career-best performance as Captain Benjamin Willard who suffered a breakdown caused by his last tour of Vietnam. He is tasked with tracking down a war hero who has gone rogue, Colonel Walter (Marlon Brando), and terminating him "with extreme prejudice". Martin Sheen gives a career best performance as Captain Benjamin Willard who suffered a breakdown caused by his last tour of Vietnam. He is tasked with tracking down war hero gone rogue, Colonel Walter (Marlon Brando) and terminate him "with extreme prejudice".



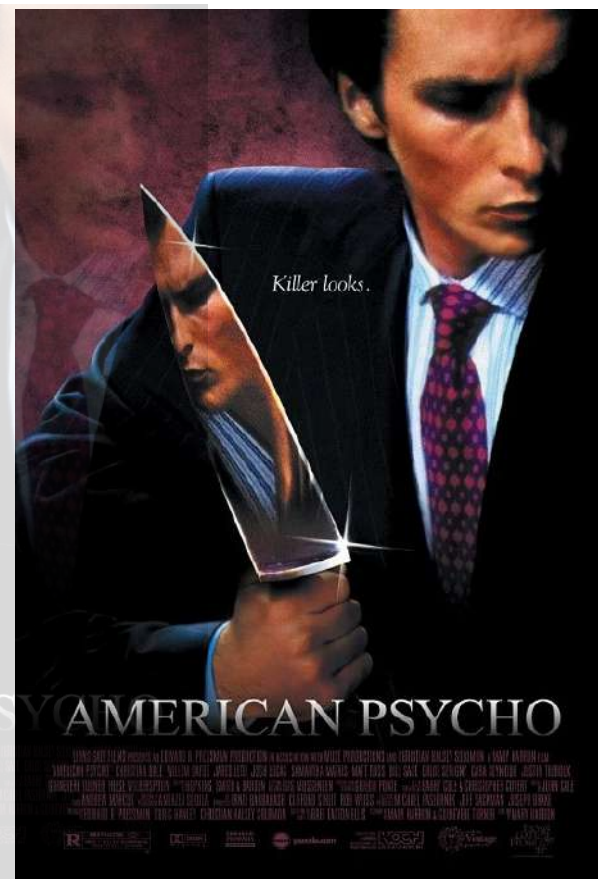
Killer looks.

Killer looks.

Killer looks.

Based on the 1991 novel of the same name, *American Psycho* is a 2000 American psychological thriller that focuses on a self-obsessed Wall Street banker named Patrick Bateman, who lives in the narcissistic, self-obsessed, and stereotypical yuppie culture of the 80s and is slowly revealing to life a second life as a serial killer preying on prostitutes, work colleagues and eventually people on the streets.

The film brilliantly establishes the preppy culture of the 80s, a generation built around self-deprecation, greed, and narcissism, and manages to poke fun at the society that has no individuality on its own. The late 90s and early 2000s were a time where movies went against consumerism and the self-deprecation of our society.



# CRUISE KIDMAN KUBRICK EYES WIDE SHUT



# CRUISE KIDMAN KUBRICK EYES WIDE SHUT

*Eyes Wide Shut* is the scary connection between the erotic and the anonymous. It explores the role that fantasies of strangers play in our sex lives, and it suggests that married people are, ultimately, also strangers to each other.

It is dark and bitter to a fault of no one's other than the viewer as we are exposed to a Marquis de Sade undertaking. This film depicts and marginally exposes the lavish yet depraved world of ritualistic debauchery that the financially elite aspire to. Competent in its nihilism, this film is overall destruction of the senses. Cruise is overly desperate at times to rendezvous unapologetically into a sexual encounter, due to wife Nicole Kidman admitting to unrequited appetites. But the film adds a sense of occultism during the mansion scene, where Cruise is found out as a trespasser and almost handed a fate that would have resembled a satanic sacrifice.

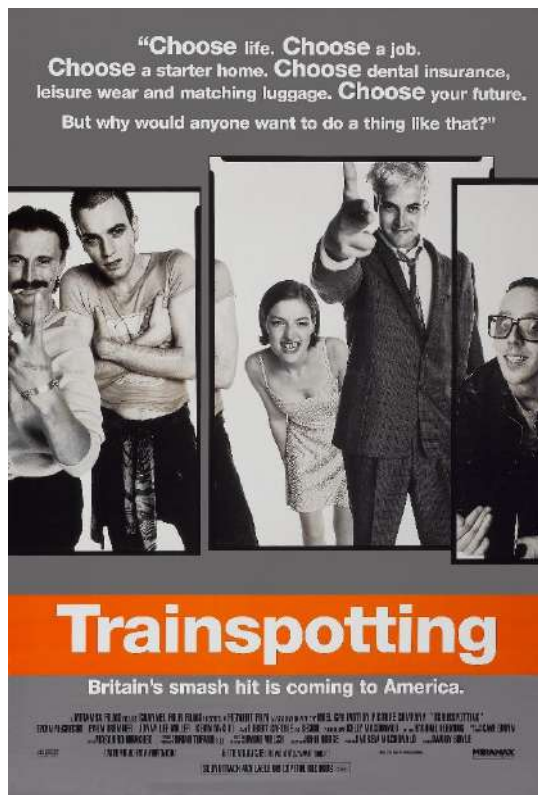




Based on the beautiful novel by Kazuo Ishiguro. *Never let me go* leaves the audience with a heavy heart and an undulating mind, ultimately questioning the ideal of fate. Brilliant individual performances from Andrew Garfield, Keira Knightley and Carey Mulligan makes the movie a slow yet engaging piece to watch. The theme of love and relationships existing over non-existent time, and what remains constant is the eventual fate or 'completion' one seems to near every moment in this dystopian drama.







The movie, based on a popular novel by Irvine Welsh, is about a crowd of heroin addicts who run together in Edinburgh. The story is narrated by Renton (Ewan McGregor), who will, and does, dive into “the filthiest toilet in Scotland” in search of mislaid drugs. He introduces us to his friends, including Spud (Ewen Bremner), who confronts a job interview panel with a selection of their worst nightmares; Sick Boy (Jonny Lee Miller), whose theories about Sean Connery do not seem to flow from ever having seen his movies sober; Tommy (Kevin McKidd), who returns to drugs one time too many, and Begbie (Robert Carlyle), who brags about not using drugs but is a psychotic who throws beer mugs at bar patrons

The Big Lebowski" is about an attitude, not a story. It's easy to miss that, because the story is so urgently pursued. It involves kidnapping, ransom money, a porno king, a reclusive millionaire, a runaway girl, the Malibu police, a woman who paints while nude and strapped to an overhead harness, and the last act of the disagreement between Vietnam veterans and Flower Power. It has more scenes about bowling than anything else.







# Why Repatriate to Armenia

Garen Kazerian



As most if not all readers should know, Lebanon isn't in its best days, with every day proving to be ever challenging. Hence, it is no surprise that many Lebanese people have plans to emigrate from Lebanon with many Lebanese, already having started the process of emigration out of Lebanon to various countries. Countries include, such as but are not limited to, Canada, Australia, the Gulf, etc. Though one destination that Lebanese, including Armenians, should consider is Armenia.

**But why Armenia?** Well to answer this question, first various facts should be highlighted.

## Our World

To begin with, it should be acknowledged that no country is perfect. Whether the USA or Nigeria, every country has its inherent advantages and disadvantages. With each country catering to different subjective needs of individuals, in forms such as individual lifestyles. For example, it can be argued that a country like the USA is one where those who like work routines with long-term plans for social mobility, aka getting wealthier, would thrive. However, not everyone might be ready for such long-term commitments with many people despising a life of work routine.

Europe, specifically Northern and Western European countries such as but limited to Germany, France, Denmark, etc., on the other hand, are countries where because of strong government intervention, services such as healthcare, welfare, education, are guaranteed to almost all citizens. Nevertheless, not even the European countries are perfect, where even though strong government intervention aims to protect the rights of citizens, it is usually very hard to climb the socio-economic ladder, unlike the USA, as taxation and regulation are pretty strict. Europe as mentioned is opposite to the USA, where in America, the acquiring of wealth is more feasible, though with little government safety nets like Europe.

Africa on the other hand can be described as a place where you either make it big, as seen by the many successful Lebanese businessmen in Africa or go bust, with factors such as war, crime, epidemics, etc. causing serious injury or even death of many businessmen. Henceforth, Africa is more appealing to bold risk-takers.

All this being said, a diversity of countries with their advantages and disadvantages can be seen. With each country, catering to a specific lifestyle. Armenia can be argued to be a mix between the money-making possibilities of the USA, safety nets of Europe, with a certain degree of risk, but not as bad as Africa.

## Why Armenia

To understand the appealing nature of Armenia, one must first understand the developments in Armenia that are occurring on the ground. In addition, the three markets of Armenia should be understood. Even though on a macro level, Armenia currently suffers security issues, specifically border incursions from Azerbaijan, internally Armenia is very safe. With the 2020 Gallup, the world-famous management and analysis company, Report of Law and Order, gave Armenia a score of 85 in its Law-and-Order Index, making Armenia amongst the highest countries in terms of safety ranking.

**Huge Investments + Economic Growth & Development**

In addition, many developments are occurring in Armenia including the pouring of massive investments into Armenia in various sectors. These include sectors, such as but not limited to, energy (recent opening of Armenian / German / Italian Gas power plant + Armenian / Emirati Aug 1 solar power plant + 2026 construction of new Armenian / Russian nuclear power plant, etc.), agriculture (massive government subsidies of up to 75% of costs of production, Dutch + Kuwaiti investments, etc.), tourism (launching of Armenian / Moldovan Fly One Airlines + Armenian / Emirati Fly Arna Airlines), tech (growth of companies and initiatives such as Pics Art, Service Titan, Scylla, TUMO, Armath Engineering, etc.), infrastructure (North-South highway, Gyumri + Kapan airports, etc.), medicine (universal healthcare of all children 0-18, subsidized cancer and heart diseases treatments, production of Sputnik vaccine, etc.), education (education system reforms + construction/renovation of schools, youth centers, kindergartens, etc.) among others.

These foreign direct investments are causing Armenia to have a steady and real economic growth of at least 5.0 to 7.0 %. In addition to a decline of state debt from 63.5% to 60% of the GDP. A 3.5% decline in state debt.

Thus, the various foreign direct investment presents a snippet of the money-making potential in Armenia. These FDI, along with various government reforms in taxation (20-23% income tax), administration, transparency, etc., as well as the three markets of Armenia can show a more complete picture of the lucrative nature of Armenia.

### The 3 Markets

Simply put, Armenia has three major markets. These include the external global market, the Diaspora market, and the local market.

**1. The Export Market:** This includes any country outside of Armenia. Notable trade partners of Armenia include the Eurasian Economic Union and Partners such as Iran, Vietnam, Singapore, etc., EU + Switzerland (CEPA Agreement), China, Arab countries such as but not limited to Iraq and UAE, India, among others. Exports include tech services and products, raw materials such as metals, agricultural products, alcoholic beverages, etc.

**The Diaspora Market:** This includes any product sold to the Diaspora. Real estate is the most common product sold to Diaspora including post-USSR collapse Diaspora.

**2. The Local Market:** This includes any product and services sold internally. Since Armenia was in decline for around 30 years because of corruption and mismanagement, Armenia has a lot of sectors that need investments to help satisfy the local market. For example, there was a milk shortage in August, September, and October 2021. There usually also are shortages of eggs every easter. Both shortages are a result of local production not fulfilling the local demand for said products. Other local products and services that are demanded include restaurants, manufacturing of clothing (which is booming as a result of the ban on Turkish products), skilled labor (there is a significant shortage in skilled labor explaining why wages for such positions are very high, such as but not limited to software developers, network managers, dev ops, specialized manufacturing jobs, agricultural experts, mid to high-level managers, e.g., shoemakers, tailors, welders, interior design contractors, among others), etc.





## **The Armenian Lifestyle**

And by understanding the three markets, as well as realities on the ground, with the various day-to-day developments that are happening on the ground, the appeal of Armenia can be established. So basically, to succeed in Armenia, one must either work in the highly demanded and paid specialized labor positions, as mentioned above, or open a business that fulfills, supplying, the demands, goods, and services, of any of the three markets of Armenia. Both actions require individuals to be SMART (Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and timely), open-minded, and patient. Such a mindset requires that individuals do not spend their wages on living luxurious lifestyles just for showing off, aka renting in central Yerevan and spending lavishly on daily pleasures. One instead can rent in the suburbs of Yerevan, or even outside of Yerevan, where rents are lower and houses/apartments are usually larger. Transportation not being a major problem as Armenia has modern and extensive public transportation including buses, trains, metros, etc. In addition to private cars, used but clean and with gas, costing around \$1500-6000 on average. This sustainable way of living and mindset, enabling individuals to climb up the socio-economic ladder over time. This all occurs without the over-regulation and over-taxation of the EU, the ground lifestyle of the USA, and lack of major risks like those of Africa.

## **Repatriate to Armenia**

So yeah, to all Lebanese, including Armenians, I would highly recommend that repatriation to Armenia be done. And as someone who has been to Armenia at least 10 times, for months on end (the latest was February-October 2021), I can personally vouch for Armenia as the future home for many of us. Just remember that no country is perfect, with Armenia having its fair share of challenges. But, as highlighted in the article, Armenia is an underrated country with many opportunities awaiting to be taken. So, hope this article starts a train of thought for many of you, and that this leads to many repatriating to Armenia shortly. Feel free to contact me for further inquiries. Let us all make Armenia Great together while having a sustainable and self-actualizing lifestyle (Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs; yes, Armenia can help you rise along the hierarchy, aka fulfilling your needs and wants / desires)

*A special thanks to the writers of the Herald, who continue to show their resolve in these hard times. To the readers, the future might be bleak right now, but know that nothing is written for certain.*



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