

CULTURE VULTURE



🎃 To Read or Not To Read 🎃

One of the recommendations this week was for *Fight Club*. Now, as is the first rule of *Fight Club* (not to talk about *Fight Club*), the suggestion gave very little away. Of course, most would assume that this suggestion was for the 1999 film, starring Brad Pitt and Edward Norton, directed by David Fincher, which has become a canonical name in the history of cinema.

But, *Fight Club* was actually a novel first. Written in 1996 by Chuck Palahniuk, the story follows an unnamed protagonist struggling with insomnia who meets a mysterious Tyler Durden and establishes an underground fighting club. What follows is an intricate plot, which explores the depth of an unreliable narrator, and leaves the reader questioning what really happened.

In fact, many of the most successful psychological thrillers have been adapted from novels. *Fight Club*, *American Psycho*, *The Devil All The Time* and *The Woman*

in Black name just a few. Even Stephen King's horror films (*IT*, *Carrie*, *Misery*, *The Shining*) started out their lives as novels, with King being one of the most adapted authors of all time.

Most of these films come with a high certificate, to match the content. *Fight Club*, *American Psycho* and *The Devil All The Time* are 18s, meaning technically they shouldn't be watched until that point. However, the novels that form the basis of these films don't often come with age restrictions allowing the stories to be explored as the author intended.

What comes from reading the novel first can be an even scarier insight into the author's imagination, as you get into the twisted mind of the protagonist. So, this Halloween if you are debating whether to watch the latest horror film, why not pick up the book first and see what you find.

Miss Pope suggests:



"Having seen Sigrid live a few years back (and immediately wanting to rebook to see her the following night) I have really enjoyed listening to her music and her new album is great - uplifting, dark, reflective - with a sort of spacey vibe at times!"

RAG week returns

After a break due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Gordano's Sixth Form RAG week returned in full capacity. The week saw students and staff dressing up each day for various themed events. This included Staff v Students dodgeball, which ended at a 2-2 draw, the Rag Fayre which had a large attendance, and finally, the famous RAGFEST which took place on Thursday 20 October evening. This was accompanied by a festival themed dress-up day for the Sixth Form students, which saw bucket hats and bum-bags replace the usual lanyards and backpacks.



The Florida Project

Premiering at The Cannes Film Festival in 2017, *The Florida Project* was released theatrically by A24 of *Moonlight*, *Euphoria* and *Lady Bird* fame. A24 specialises in thought-provoking narratives, characterised by their focus on cinematography alongside the outstanding acting. *The Florida Project* is no different, with the vibrant landscape juxtaposing the harsh reality of life. The film follows six-year-old Moonee (Brooklynn Prince) and her young mother Halley (Bria Vinaite) over the course of a single summer. Living in a motel just outside Disneyland Orlando, owned by stern but compassionate Bobby (Willem Dafoe), Moonee spends her summer playing with her friends, unaware of the struggles her mother is facing to provide for her.

Suggested by a Sixth Form student, it is described as "a very compassionately told, deeply emotional story. In a way, not much happens, but it is very character-driven. [The film is also] aesthetically beautiful with a pastel colour palette. Most importantly, Willem Dafoe is in it! What more could you want from a movie?"

The Florida Project is available to rent on Amazon Prime for £3.49, or to buy for £5.99.

This week's Wit & Wisdom:

"What's done cannot be undone"

MACBETH, WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

As the weeks progress, we are hoping Culture Vulture will become jam-packed with student articles, recommendations and reviews. If you would like to make your own creative suggestion, or have a piece of work that you would like to see in the next magazine, scan the QR code.



Alternatively, if you would like to contribute an article, film, album, book or podcast review, or have an itching to write a features piece about a current cultural affair, email either theysham@gordanoschool.org.uk or pramsay@gordanoschool.org.uk with your idea and they can point you in the right direction. Who knows - you may see your name in print!

Make sure to encourage your tutors and friends to get involved, and let's make creativity central to the Gordano Sixth Form experience!

