

PHOENIX

Issue 1 | 2015-2016

Tea Time with James Griffiths
"I miss decent beer."

Phoenix ranks the halls

Q&A with Lisa Geijtenbeek

*"We all just loved reading and the English language,
but how does that prepare you for the future?"*

Anne van Engelen *showcases*
her passion for cosplay

and much
more...



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Letter from the editor

Dear readers,



What you see before you is a product of the one and only Order of the Phoenix. YES – that's what we proudly call this reborn and reshaped committee. New people bring new ideas, but before rattling on about what we have in store for this year's Phoenix, I would like to seize the opportunity to say thank you to last year's Phoenix committee. Marijn Brok and his editorial staff have done an outstanding job in developing Phoenix as an online magazine and it's because of them that Phoenix has become well-known and well-read amongst Albioneers. We, as a new committee, will do our utmost best to keep this high-flying bird airborne.

So, what to expect? We'll endeavour to expand Phoenix where possible – broaden its wingspan, if you will: longer articles, more columns and more reviews. Another point on our priority checklist is to combine the fluffiness Phoenix is known for with a bit more criticism and social engagement; we know that many (if not all) students of English are into Harry Potter and the like, but why not bring some American electoral madness to the party? Some all-time favourites like Tea Time and Bookshelf will return. Not nearly all teachers of the UU's English department have put the kettle on for us, and we're sure the scrumptious literary taste of your fellow students will remain interesting. And don't be worried about Albioneers studying abroad, as they will continue to share their experiences via Phoenix.

New stuff as well? Yes! To inform you about study-related issues, we bring you two new features: Minor Market, in which students tell you about their minors, and Q&Alumni, an interview with a graduate of English who actually found a job (it's possible!). Following a trend in contemporary journalism, we'll also be making lists! The first Phoenix Ranks gives an unbiased account of UU's famous lecture halls. You'll Be Amazed By Number 3! Lastly, there's Showcase, in which Albioneers are given a space to present their unusual hobbies, hidden talents or peculiar collections. For this edition, Anne van Engelen introduced us to the world of cosplay.

Excited already? I won't bore you much longer, but hang on – as editor in chief of Phoenix, I owe you some self-introduction. I have aspired to become a journalist for a long time and Phoenix provides me an excellent opportunity to gain some editorial experience. Having been on Albion's board and having graduated university last year (this is so cool to say), I'm still not done with you guys. I'm currently enjoying a gap year in which I'm working my buttocks off in several jobs to pay for something I'm going to do next year. Perhaps a master in journalism?

Enjoy reading this Phoenix! I hope that you'll like it.

Jos de Groot
Editor in Chief



Meet the committee



Name: Jos de Groot
Age: 21
Job: editor in chief
I love: Utrecht, shoes, fine pieces of journalism, Snapchat, Pokémon, skinny jeans, my mum's cooking, Tom Hanks, flunkyball, and wearing a suit.
I hate: mosquitoes, picking the wrong queue, and Rainbow Road on Mario Kart.



Name: Inge van Nimwegen
Age: 20
Job: copy editor
I love: singing along to music, occasionally moshing to music, and especially listening to and writing about music. Apart from this slight musical obsession I like reading, I love making lists of literally everything, and I adore alliteration and the wonders of language. I am also a big fan of black clothing, black coffee, and (black)cats.
I hate: anti-social driving.



Name: Ilse Bruls
Age: 20
Job: writer
I love: The Great Gatsby, melodramatic TV series, Christmas, broccoli, and the Oxford comma.
I hate: people who walk/talk/drive/bike slowly, bad grammar, most critically acclaimed TV series.



Name: Kiki Drost
Age: 21 (which means I'm closer to 30 than to 10, and I'm still not over that fact.)
Job: writer
I love: long walks on the beach, deep conversation, holding hands, dinner for two, and your smile. Call me.
I hate: "Hatred does not cease through hatred at any time. Hatred ceases through love. This is an unalterable law." - Buddha



Name: Erik de Vries Lentsch
Age: 21
Job: copy editor
I love: Beethoven, carnival, facts, 'your mum'-jokes, the feeling of taking off my socks at the end of the day, jazz, your mum.
I hate: fruity tea, pretentious and complicated academic language, BuzzFeed-type clickbait.



Name: Iris Pijning
Age: 20
Job: art director
I love: cats, tea, Netflix, seaweed. You know, the usual stuff.
I hate: 'the system' and wet socks.



Name: Lucinia Philip
Age: 18
Job: writer
I love: books, (indie) films, Comic Con, tattoos, James Franco and zombies (I played too much Resident Evil as a kid)
I hate: my height. Yes I'm only 1.55m, but that does not give you permission to use me as an armrest. Oh and pictures, so enjoy my awkward picture-face.



Name: Simone Schoonwater
Job: writer
Age: 20
I love: the usual things, like cats, food, trees, coffee, travelling, sleeping, and stufi.
I hate: books (just kidding)



About James

Favourite book

Can I consult my bookshelf? I should settle for one, just to be different than the other teachers. The Sheltering Sky by Paul Bowles.

Favourite music

Rock music. The Jesus Lizard is the band I listen to most.

Favourite film

Funny Games by Michael Haneke.

Favourite animal

To eat? No, hmm, I'm not much of an animal person. Maybe a llama?

Favourite colour

I've never been able to decide: yellow or green.

Tea Time with James Griffiths

A new schoolyear: a new Tea Time. We decided to start off by sharing a cup of tea with one of our newest teachers: James Griffiths. James lives in Leiden, so that's where two of our reporters headed on a Friday afternoon. After a short walk from the station and a few stairs too many for our taste, we are welcomed by James, who offers us tea and something to eat. "My girlfriend suggested I should offer you food. It's also a good excuse for me to eat cake." With a plate full of cookies and cake and a nice cup of tea, we start our interview.

By Kiki Drost and Lucinia Philip

What did you study yourself?

"I started off studying dentistry, but I quit after my first year. I came to the realisation that I hated teeth. I wanted to be rich, but I could not work with teeth. I then changed to philosophy. I think I was the first and the last dentistry student to switch to philosophy. Purely accidentally I chose an elective course in syntax, which I really enjoyed, although I didn't expect I'd ever

do anything with it."

And how did you end up teaching linguistic courses in Utrecht?

"After two years of working in the British Civil Service – which is enough for anybody – I came to the Netherlands to study, and I chose linguistics. I did a one year master's degree in Leiden and then did my PhD in theoretical linguistics in Groningen, where I met my girlfriend – also a linguist.

She had just started a research position in Leiden, so we moved to this part of the country. The English department at Utrecht University were looking for a temporary teacher. I was lucky enough to fill the post."

Do you have any hobbies?

"Yeah, I guess so. There are things that I do, so I suppose you could call them hobbies. Ever since I was in university I've been playing in rock bands, although I'm not currently in one. I also write and read and paint. I like painting. I use acrylics and chalks. I mostly make portraits of my friends, which I



give to them on their birthdays, so I don't have to buy them presents. I prefer faces over landscapes; the human face is more interesting than trees, I think. So just the usual, really. I'm in humanities, so I try to make music, read and paint."

Is there anything you miss about the UK? And what things do you like about the Netherlands and Utrecht?

"I grew up in Nottingham, which was totally typical. Although, now that I think about it, my friends from my village all live abroad now, so maybe it wasn't so good after all, as we all fled to the continent.

I miss decent beer. Is there anything else I miss? I think the Netherlands is superior in every other way. Oh yeah, hills, I miss hills. That's it, really. You can buy anything else here; there's a Marks and Spencer in Den Haag.

I like the students at Utrecht, they're very inquisitive – more inquisitive about phonetics than I was at that stage in my education, anyway. I also like my colleagues; they're a nice bunch of people."

After the interview and our tea it's time for us to go. We take some pictures and chat a little about Harry Potter and the Lord of the Rings. "I've never read them, but I'm now trying to read the first Harry Potter in Dutch." We then descend the (slightly too many) stairs and find our way back to the station. Thank you once again, James!



PHOENIX RANKS

No matter how long we've been strolling around Utrecht, all of us still remember the time when we were about to start our first year here and first laid eyes on our Osiris timetable. Remember the mild panic you experienced upon seeing the incomprehensible abbreviation that was supposed to tell you the location for your 9 AM lecture the following day? What does D23 207 even mean? What is RUPPERT ROOD and why is it aggressively capitalized like that? Why are all of my classes in different parts of the city? Dear first years, hopefully you've survived the first block without getting lost, but you ain't seen nothing yet. Fret not, however! Phoenix is here to tell you whether you should be overjoyed (1) or acutely depressed (5) when spotting one of the following lecture halls on your schedule!

By Ilse Bruls

1

DRIFT 21, 032

I have fond memories of this place because I had my very first lecture ever here, so I may be biased, but really: what's not to love? D21 032 is a good old traditional lecture hall with plenty of seats to choose from, those funny folding tables and an occasionally malfunctioning beamer. The view of the garden is perfect for boring lectures better spent people-watching, and the Albion shack is just four torturous flights of stairs away.



KROMME NIEUWE-GRACHT 80, 006

As pretty as the KNG looks from the outside, as boring and grey is it on the inside. This lecture hall is no exception: I cannot for the life of me remember what any of the lectures I attended here were about, and I completely blame this hall's mind-numbingly boring interior. Also, isn't it always either too hot or too cold in here or is that just me? KNG80 does deserve bonus points for being near the city centre, but much likely you'll only end up in one of its study areas when the library is absolutely packed; it's just never your first choice.



2

ACHTER DE DOM, 202

Ah, ADD. Without a doubt the most ramshackle location the UU surprisingly still uses, but it has its charms – the ridiculous number of steps you have to climb to get to this room not being one of them. Any lecture you attend here will just not seem quite right without the teacher complaining about the terrible acoustics, and a seat in any of the back rows guarantees that the bottom half of the PowerPoint will remain a mystery – but if you get the angle just right, you might be able to catch a glimpse of the Dom Tower through one of the windows and that almost makes up for it.

3

LECTURE HALLS



4

INTERNATIONAL CAMPUS UTRECHT, AUDITORIUM

Isn't the ICU lovely? Don't you just wish you were an international student, rolling straight out of bed and into the Auditorium for your first lecture of the day? Sure, this hall is always a little dark and gloomy, but there is nothing terribly wrong with it. Unfortunately, the unlucky Dutchies not eligible for a room on campus: getting here by bus is an endeavour not to be taken lightly. Alas!



5

RUPPERT ROOD

"Gee, I sure didn't expect this one to be at the bottom of the list!" said no one ever. De Uithof tries hard to be a hot and happening location for students, but it just... isn't. The only ones happy to have classes here are those living here, but since they make their home in buildings that are downright insulting to both the art of architecture and anyone with eyes we should just feel sorry for them anyway. Ruppert Rood is in all fairness a pretty decent lecture hall, with much better electronic equipment than the other locations on this list, but since it is located at de Uithof it really never did stand a chance of winning.



Minor market

Brains and Bodies: Cognition and Emotion in Humanities



Cognitive neuroscience is gaining popularity in both the academic world and popular culture. We all encounter facts about our brains in our daily lives. The idea that we only use 20% of our brains is an example of that. Should you complete this minor, you could be the insufferable know-it-all and tell anyone who shouts this, exactly how and why they're wrong. Brains and Bodies is an interdisciplinary minor which shows that the soft humanities and hardcore science are in fact closer related than one originally might think.

By Annemay Schaap

In Cognitive Neuroscience, you will travel through the brain. You'll get to grip with its structure, its many functions, and you'll finally get to know where your anxiety for rabbits comes from. As I didn't take biology, the first few lectures were quite overwhelming. Fortunately, the course starts at the bottom and builds up its difficulty as weeks pass, so it was absolutely doable.

The Story-Telling Brain is a bit closer to home, and covers little neuroscience. As students of English, we're used to reading books and discussing their content, but rather than thinking about themes, metaphors etc., this course focuses on why literature exists in the first place and how it helps humanity to survive and develop.

The Thinking Body was the course with epiphanies. A short

summary: we only perceive a tomato as being a tomato because we remember what it feels like when we touch it, squeeze it and throw it. We also know how it would respond to these different actions. This way of perceiving doesn't just go for tomatoes, but for the entire world. We can only understand because our bodies know how to act and react to other objects. Throw in Foucault, Darwin, Derrida, and a bunch of others, and tadaaa: you're ready to perceive the world.

The last one covers Emotion. We produce and recognize emotions both in ourselves as in others, but how do we do that? This course looks at cognitive neuroscience through the scope of emotions and communication. It answers the question posed here and many more.

This minor offers the opportunity to expand your horizon, and look into the scary world of synapses, scientific methods, MRIs and other stuff that, at first sight, are not meant for alpha students. Are you prepared, willing, and able to forget everything you've ever learned about human beings and see them in a whole new dimension? Then this is a minor you should definitely look into.



Gender Studies

Last year when I started this programme I actually did things, got good grades, was asked to do the honours programme (I know right, what were they thinking?) and was kind of bored so I decided to go ahead and start my minor a little earlier. Primarily because, being a tiny bit homosexual, I'm interested in minority studies, and since this university doesn't offer a queer studies course (take note UU), I chose the minor Gender Studies.

By Dirk Versluis

I took the first 2 courses of the minor last year and am currently doing the third. The first course that I took (which is technically the minor's 3rd) was Gender, Ethnicity and Religion and it was amazing. I wasn't expecting much, it was just something I did on the side but I really enjoyed that course. The topics the course deals with are very interesting and very diverse. Religion, ethnicity, sexuality and gender, as well as how they intertwine, all come up. (Also, there was this transsexual guest lecturer and she was literally all the goals, sweetie.)

This course definitely changed the way I see things at a fundamental level and I think that's pretty special. One of the first things you'll hear about, for instance, is Adrienne Rich's Politics of Location. Long story short: you'll explore how your position in the world as well as in society changes the way you experience things and

how you express that experience. It's sort of like: it's okay if you're one of those skinny white bitches that orders a venti, soy milk, no foam, five shot, half-caf, pumpkin spice latte at 97.3 degrees at Starbucks, as long as you are aware of it and know what it means.

There's something really different about the Gender courses in comparison to the regular Bachelor of English courses. The Gender groups are a lot more interactive, people are actually interested in and passionate about the topics and everybody participates (yes, even yours truly). I'd make a comment about how straight men can take this course as well, but considering there are about 1.5 straight men in our year (hi straights) that seems like a waste of everyone's time. This course will just make you feel so much better than everyone else, and isn't that what university is all about?

Seriously though, this course is great. Take it. Bye Felicia's!

Albioneers

Charlotte in Binghampton

America. The land of the free. The American Dream. The Promised Land. That's where I am right now. I've been here for over two months, and I've got to say, I love it. The nature here in Binghamton, New York is amazing. Fall is more amazing than I ever could have imagined. There are only bright red, yellow and orange colors. Bye bye boring brown leaves in Holland. This is my new home

By Charlotte Knoors

Being away from the Netherlands for this long – longer than I have ever been away – has given me the opportunity to reflect on my friendships, my family, my country, and myself. I appreciate certain things a lot more about our small country. I like its direct and straightforward people, I like its food a lot better (fresher, healthier and a lot less expensive), and I like that everything is so close by; I miss my bicycle in Utrecht very much because I could be anywhere in a matter of minutes.

However, I feel like I would want to live in America for a couple of years. There is just something intriguing about this country that makes me want more. The nature is diverse, the country feels so big and free, the people are very friendly, and the supermarkets are just huge. I think many of us English students think we know much about the English speaking countries, but once you've actually lived in one, you'll find out that

you really don't. There's only so much that books and TV can teach you. Culture is something you can only experience by being there for a longer time. One of the things that is a big part of American culture is racism. It's something I see every day in all its nasty and unfair glory; I'm exposed to my white privilege every day, and that's a good thing. There needs to be more awareness about white privilege. But it gets difficult too sometimes, and I struggle with it. But I consider this a learning experience, and if you ever get the opportunity to live/study abroad, I highly recommend you do so. Step out of your comfort zone, learn something new about yourself, learn something new about another country; I promise you it's worthwhile.



Abroad

Ellen in Bangor

S'mae! Ellen dw i. Dw i'n astudio ieithyddiaeth yn y Brifysgol ym Mangor yng Nghymru. I'm sure all of you can understand what I just said in Welsh, right? But just to make sure you all get it, it means "Hi/how are you! My name is Ellen. I study linguistics at Bangor university in Wales." Many of you have probably never heard of this lovely small city in the north of Wales, but it's great!

By Ellen Collée

You might expect that everything is in English here, considering I'm in the UK. Well, it isn't. The official first language is Gymraeg (Welsh). This means that this is a bilingual community; everything is written in Welsh and English. Street signs, advertisements, even some PowerPoints are half Welsh, half English. A few weeks ago the fire alarm went off and the first message was spoken in Welsh! After that, an English voice urged me to get out of the build-



ing. This really surprised me, but it's their first language and after a while I got used to it. This elfish language really started to fascinate me, so I'm taking a course Basic Welsh now!

Then something else about Wales: it is beautiful. When you leave the city and look around, it's just like you're in Middle-Earth. Did you know that Tolkien's inspiration for The Lord of the Rings-books came from the Celtic culture? The green fields, the trees and the hills are beautiful and there are castles everywhere. However, those beautiful hills also have their downsides. I have to walk them. Every single day. I live on top of the steepest hill you've ever seen. When I have to go to my lectures, I first need to walk down the hill. That's okay. Then I need to walk up Bitch Hill (it's not the real name but everyone uses it), which is the hill up to the university. But once you have arrived at the Main Arts university building after an exhausting 15 minutes, the sights are incredible and worth the effort. You can see the green fields of the island Anglesey and the blue Menai river. It's like watching The Lord of the Rings all over again. And once you enter the university, it's like walking into Hogwarts. So even though I didn't receive my letter at eleven, I feel like there is enough magic in this place to compensate for those Hogwartsless years. Diolch Bangor (Thank you Bangor).



Q & Alumni

Some Jurassic Albioneers might recognise her as the secretary of Albion's 18th board, but for everyone else: meet Lisa Geijtenbeek (27), Master of Arts, currently working a job and the first alumnus to appear in this brand-new Phoenix feature. Curious to hear what opportunities are out there for a graduate of English Language and Culture and how to navigate today's job market? Lisa shares her experiences.

By Jos de Groot

Q: Why did you first choose to study English?

A: "I didn't! When I finished school I started off studying ICT and Media Design in Eindhoven. Unfortunately, I didn't like it as much as I had expected and I quit. After that I took a gap year in which I worked and tried to figure out what to study next. I found that I really love languages and reading and that I have loved English since forever, basically. Choosing the right study eventually turned out not to be that hard."

Q: Did you know, at that time, what you wanted to do after studying English?

A: "Not really. I liked all the reading bits the most and I really enjoyed Creative Writing with Simon Cook, but I think I really just liked it; I didn't see it as my life's purpose. Most of my fellow bachelor students started a master right after graduating, which motivated me to do the same. There are so many masters you can choose from, but

in my opinion, only two are actually practical: teaching and translation. To increase my chances on the job market, I chose to do the latter, as I really can't imagine myself in front of a class. Halfway through the master I found that I actually didn't like it that much, but I did finish it; I really wanted that master's degree. I took me two years, instead of one."

Q: Did you find a job in your field of study right after graduating?

A: "Hell no. Jobs weren't actually growing on trees in 2012, let alone in my field of study: people were getting fired rather than hired. I don't think I immediately wanted a 'serious job' anyway. I enjoyed having a bit of free time next to working on several jobs and creating some projects of my own, like the Facebook page I know this great little place in Utrecht. It took me three years to find a job related to my degree. After searching via LinkedIn and many other websites, I came across my current job on Facebook, via a fellow student of my Master in Translation."

Q: What is it that you do these days?

A: "I work as a project manager at a translation agency in Woerden. To put it simply, I keep track of the translation projects our account managers send us. I assign them a category and I look for a suitable translator. If the translator accepts the project I make the contract and put the translator to work. As soon

as I receive the finished project, I revise it – for grammar, but also for certain terms which need to be in the text – and send it back to the client. That's it in a nutshell!"

Q: How tough would you say finding a job after having studied English actually is?

A: "It's difficult to say, as it depends on a lot of things; whether you did a master's degree, and what master's degree for example. Experience is even more important: did you do an internship? Did you go abroad? Those really count. Determination is another important factor: most of my fellow students found jobs relatively easily, as they were really focussed on finding one; I did fool around a bit at first. It also depends on your chosen work field: friends of mine who did the master of education found jobs really fast, but any job that has to do with translation, publishing, or research is very hard to find."

Q: Do you think English Language and Culture is comprehensive enough to prepare a student for postgraduate life?

A: "After finishing, no. I can tell that there aren't that many jobs that you can do, really. Only when I started wandering through the job market, I was confronted with how limited I was. How I see it, studying a language is mainly for fun; I believe many other studies are way more practical. Thinking back of my fellow bachelor students, I can say that we all just loved read

ing and the English language. But how does that prepare you for the future?"

Q: If you were to have the chance to start studying all over again, would you make the same decision?

A: "Definitely not. If I were to choose another language, I would go with Italian or another language that's less common in the Netherlands. That way, if I chose to go into translation anyway, finding a job would be much easier. Having better knowledge now of both myself and the economy, I think I'd choose something more creative after all, or something along the lines of starting my own business. But not English, even though I absolutely loved every bit of it! I have no regrets."

Q: Do you have any tips for alumni and current students of English with regard to finding a job?

A: "Find as many internships as you can, try going abroad: like I said, experience is much more important than your degree. And a bit of a weird advice, perhaps: don't do a master. At university, theory weighs heavier than practice. And although I cherish my time at university, it didn't help me on the job market. Try finding internships or some smaller jobs; they probably don't pay that well, but they do help you gain experience. I don't see the added value in a master, not in this economy and time. If you really want to study more, I'd advise to do an extra bachelor or to do a master abroad."

Q: What do you like better: life as a student or as an alumnus?

A: "Student life, for sure. Because I was younger! It's something you only realise when you're done, but as a student you have so much free time and it's relatively easy to earn money. You can have some shit job with lousy pay and don't mind, simply because you're a student. And don't forget the enormous amount of parties! I enjoyed all of it. Life doesn't have to be so serious yet and that's perfectly okay."

Curriculum Vitae Lisa Geijtenbeek

Experience

Aug '15 – now	Junior Project Manager at DaVinci Translations
Jan '15 – now	Editorial Staff "Made in 030"
June '14 – now	Freelance translator
May '14 – now	Editor-in-chief "USE-IT"
June '13 – now	Owner Facebook Page "I know this great little place in Utrecht"
Nov '12 – now	Barista at <i>Broodnodig</i>
'13 – '14	Hostess at <i>Kapitaal</i>
'07 – '13	Customer service at Utrecht's public library
'12 – '13	Advisor at Utrecht's public service desk

Education

'10 – '12	MA Translation English – Dutch
'07 – '10	BA English Language and Culture
'00 – '06	VWO

Associations

'09 – '10	Chairwoman of Albion's Activities and Culture Committee
'08 – '09	Secretary and deputy chairwoman of Albion
'07 – '09	Chairwoman of Albion's Travel Committee



I'm Not Dull



"You know, research has shown that drinking is good for your learning abilities!" It was Thursday night and the day before my exam, so as any good girl would I was planning on staying in, learning, and doing some more learning in the morning. Emphasis on the 'was planning,' because after the infallible "don't be dull" from my roommates, vodka had magically appeared in my hand. Saying I'm 'dull' is to me basically the same as saying I'm wearing white leggings with Crocs. It's just not done. I like to live on the dangerous side. I build IKEA furniture without reading the instructions. I eat pizza for breakfast.

By Laura van Lokven

So, being the diligent dame I am, I got my drinking on. Beer, shots, and something that tasted like lighter fluid all passed under review and it wasn't long before I was in the 'I can totally do vogue'-stage, which was - as always - followed by the 'I can totally sing like Whitney Houston', and ended in the 'I can totally create world peace by hugging everybody at the bar.' During this overall very entertaining process I'm always heavily supported by my roommates, who cheer in the same way people cheer for that one Down-Syndrome candidate at every talent show. There is no real talent, but you can see she is really enjoying herself so 'let's encourage her.' Unfortunately, I had to miss their final standing ovation because I was obliged to do some serious self-reflecting above the loo.

The next morning, my alarm screamed regret. Well then, time to rock that exam. By quickly throwing on some clothes and covering up the bouncy cushions under my eyes, I tried to ignore the tequila and beer dancing a passionate tango in my stomach. But I knew the bastards were up for an open-air show. Spoiler alert: they got one. After making it on the bus and finding a seat in the back, my pale face and red bloodshot eyes were apparently so inviting that this wonderfully unfortunate man decided to sit next to me. All was well. 'Well' is used here in a somewhat nonchalant way because in reality I was sweating and breathing like a broken air-conditioning, until the person in question saw the bus ride as a great opportunity to have breakfast. Taking out his little container, I could read hell a.k.a. tuna salad from its label. As he curled his fingers around the lid, opening it to let out its characteristic odour, I looked at him in great despair. "I want you to know that I'm really sorry." And I am not dull.

Banana of Doom



Dear reader, I am an addict. I am addicted to cuteness. Now, I know many people enjoy their daily dose of fluffiness, but I can't seem to help taking it that bit further. I often leave parties in the middle of the night to look for a cat to pet, I've spent actual money on an app of chinchillas licking my phone's screen, and I find I sleep better when I stream a baby goat cam on my nightstand.

By Iris Pijning

I'd never seen my addiction as anything other than quirky. That is until I encountered one of the most insanely cute creatures the internet has to offer. Behold the slow loris, famous for the clip 'Slow Loris eating Banana'. However cute it may be, this clip taught me that people with my addiction can really take it too far. These people buy slow lorises, put them in a guinea pig cage and overfeed them bananas for their own and millions of youtubers' enjoyment, while illegal trade threatens these animals in the wild.

The kind of people who buy a slow loris are too rich for their own good. Perhaps they're too stupid to realise the impending extinction of their furry friends. And if they're not ignorant, they are like those awful people who say rape victims brought it on themselves by not wearing enough clothing; when asked about the danger that the slow lorises are in, they'd say something like: "Well, it's their own fault because they're just so damn cute."

Unfortunately sometimes it seems that that's just kind of how the world works. People take whatever they want just because they can. But I'd just like to tell these people they don't have to feel obliged to be selfish pigs. Just because you have the power to maximise your company's profit by making underpaid Bangladeshi toddlers sew the jeans you sell doesn't mean you should and just because you can afford to put this helpless big-eyed baby Ewok on display in your living room doesn't mean you should.

If you are rich and you can't control your cuteness addiction, there are other ways to claim ownership over one of these wide-eyed cutie pies. At the International Animal Rescue website, you can adopt a slow loris for about 16 cents a day. You don't even need to be very rich to do that. You won't actually get one to put in a cage in your living room, because that would still be very wrong. Instead, the rescue centres take care of the lorises until they can be released back into the wild. If that still doesn't satisfy your needs, I'd recommend buying a licking chinchilla app.



Electing Character



In American politics, everything is big: ideals, words, budgets, crowds – but not personalities. A big personality is somewhat of a handicap for a serious politician, or at least for a politician who is serious about winning. Obama, admittedly a man of extraordinary temperament. His list of idiosyncrasies is short, as is his list of personal flaws. The same goes for Jeb Bush, Hillary Clinton, John Kerry, and Mitt Romney: they are the vanilla ice cream of presidential candidates and it is because of this that they had or may have a shot at the highest office.

By Erik de Vries Lentsch

I suppose this is only natural. The television age demands it: you have to aim for blandness if you wish to represent millions of people. You must become a blank canvas on which they can project their hopes and dreams.

However, this rule does not seem to apply in the more extreme regions of the political spectrum, especially the territory of right-wing populism. Leaders of that movement are generally more eccentric, and more flawed. Their followers seem to value personality over nuance and intelligence.

Right now you might be thinking of Geert Wilders, and you'd be right. What the PVV lacks in ideology and respectable members of parliament, it makes up for in eccentricity and loudness. Peroxide replacing principles. Looking across the Channel we can recognize this pattern in UKIP's Nigel Farage, another high-volume politician who is consistently photographed holding a pint of Guinness in the same recognisable way that Saint Paul carries a set of keys. (Normal politicians, of course, also drink beer, but they are supposed to do so only occasionally to show that they are 'just like the rest of us'.) Even in Borgen, a Danish TV-series that depicts a fictional parliament, the populist leader Svend Åge Saltum is a pipe-smoking part-time pig farmer with a bad set of teeth and a worse haircut.

All this culminates in Donald J. Trump. What can I say about him that hasn't already been said? He is the embodiment of self-confidence. His ego has an ego. And although one American tabloid announced his candidacy with the headline 'Clown Runs For President,' he currently has the lead in several leading polls. His personality is huge, as is his fortune. A powerful combination.

Word of the Board



My dearest Albioneers,

Congratulations on surviving the first block! I hope you've all taken sufficient time in the reflection week to rest, relax and recover from all the last minute, late night essay writing and are by now already neck deep in the academic wonders of block two. As for myself, I can say that I've definitely made good use of the reflection week, as the Friday prior to the exam week marked the release of the new Assassin's Creed. As a proper gaming addict it brought me pain not to have it delivered in Utrecht, but at my parents' house instead. Logically as a direct result my week was filled with digital fun and much less daylight than would probably be considered healthy. During all this I was properly rolled into my huge blanket like a very snuggly human snowball, enjoying life to its fullest.

For those of you who don't know, Assassin's Creed is a series of games set in different time periods and places in history. There is a very complicated story behind it, but what everyone cares most about is that you can basically hit and stab everyone in a fantastically beautiful historic environment. No doubt this hasn't got you convinced, but take my advice and ask a friend about it. Millions of people play it, so there is bound to be one who can show you its wonders.

Since I was little I've always had a love for history and besides visiting historic and exotic sites in games I also really love to visit them myself. A few years back I went on a road trip through Italy, visiting Florence, Rome, Venice and multiple other cities. I adored everything I found there, the buildings, sculptures, people and obviously the food.

In fact I think that's all there is to know about me. I love games, culture, English and before I die, I want to be able to say I travelled all around the world and met the most wonderful people.

Nick Breedveld
Chairman 2015-2016



SHOWCASE

Anne's Cosplay

It is true that many Albioneers enjoy reading books and watching films and series. However, this isn't all they do. Some Albioneers have been shown to have fascinating hobbies, which Phoenix will help you discover and explore. For this issue, I met up with Anne van Engelen, a 23-year-old 3rd year student of English who loves to immerse herself in the wonders of cosplay.

By Inge van Nimwegen

Could you give us a quick explanation of what cosplay is?

"Basically, cosplay is taking costumes from series, films, etc., and recreating them in real life: wearing the costume yourself and going to conventions."

When did you get involved with cosplaying?

"I'm not quite sure when I first encountered cosplay... I think the first time I started playing around with the idea of actually doing it was back in 2010, which was the first time I went to a convention. Then, about two years later, I started actually making costumes. It feels like it's been longer, but that was only three years ago!

I think that to cosplay you have to be kind of a nerd anyway... Which I've always been, so that certainly helps! I think it's a really nice way to interact with source material and also to interact with other fans. Also, the moment I started sewing I really liked it; this is just a way to think of things to sew. Some people buy their costumes online, but I personally really like the making part."

How do you pick the characters to cosplay?

"I usually just pick a character I really like, but I also really have to love the costume itself; it's something I'd want to recreate and if it looks very normal and contemporary, it's not that interesting to make. It's more interesting to make a beautiful dress than a jacket. As such, I tend to lean towards female characters, which also kind of has to do with the fact that my face isn't very masculine at all. And their characters have to be well-rounded."

How many costumes do you own?

"That's a really difficult question... Depending on whether I count my very first attempts (which were really just pulling together things to make a costume), I think somewhere between ten and fifteen. All of these I made by hand. It depends on the costume, but some can become pretty pricey. There's costumes where I got lucky and I found really cheap fabric at the market, but there have also been costumes where it got pretty expensive. I try not to keep count too much! There's also the cons that cost money, but that really depends on the convention itself."

Let's talk about these conventions; this is what you wear your costumes to. What goes on, typically, at a convention?

"It depends on what kind of convention you go to, because anime conventions are very different from the more comic and western media type conventions. I mostly go to the western type of conventions. At bigger conventions, there are actors and a lot of stands that sell merchandise, that kind of stuff. Of course there are plenty of cosplayers, which results in mostly

just meeting other people who have similar interests and talking to them, taking pictures, that kind of idea. Cons usually take up three days and can range from having 5,000 visitors to 100,000."

Do you base your costume on the theme of the convention you're attending?

"To a point. My favourite convention is Hobbitcon, which is really restricted to The Hobbit and Tolkien, and to those conventions I only wear my Tolkien-related costumes. This con works out so well because everyone has this exact same interest! But for others, it's usually more general. If you're going to a comic convention, most people wear more comic-related costumes. For Elfia and Castlefest, it's more fantasy-related. It's not like they wouldn't let you enter in a different costume, but most people do kind of keep to the theme. It's more fun!"

So do you go abroad a lot to attend conventions?

"I do! I usually go to Germany twice a year, and I've also been to London last two summers. But it can be a bit risky with classes, with cons like MCM Expo being held in October and May. That might be fun for when I'm done studying! I almost always go to cons with my best friend. And then there are a lot of people who go to the same conventions I do; technically we don't go together, but we do meet up there. A lot of those people live in Germany or England or some other European country. That's one of my reasons to go abroad for it – it's one of the charms of cosplaying for me. I'll keep doing it until I no longer enjoy it!"

Do you have any tips for people who are interested and want to learn more about cosplay?

"The internet has a lot of resources. If you have no idea about sewing, YouTube can help you a lot. There are videos of people showing how to do certain costumes, which really helped me as well. If you can think of a costume, it's probably been done already!"

The photos show some of the costumes Anne has done over the years. You can find more of her work on her Facebook page, Lavinia Cosplay.



Culture Corner

Concert

Bobbing silhouettes in a smoke-filled room: that would aptly describe the view during CATCH. ADE has come and gone, but for those of us loyal to the city of Utrecht or simply too lazy to venture out into Amsterdam, there was CATCH in TivoliVredenburg. It describes itself as PITCH's little brother and I couldn't have said it better myself. This festival might be a little different than most events you'll find in Phoenix, but for the second year CATCH delivered on their promise to bring innovative artists in the field of electronic music to Utrecht.

By Maarten Gooskens

CATCH

TivoliVredenburg was transformed (not visually, metaphorically) into an electronic music wonderland. Using the Ronda, Pandora, Cloud Nine and the Cloud Nine Pit, TivoliVredenburg went all out to create the festival atmosphere under a single roof. This did mean that you had to climb the stairs to Cloud Nine several times if you had a particular line-up in mind, but you do what you got to do work off the pints. Now it would be a drag to go through my entire line-up, but I will take you through some of the highlights. The most literal of highlights would be Purity Ring, which delivered not only musically but also with intricate lighting and a tremendously colourful display created by passing over beams of light with gloves covered in bits of mirror. A more musically centred highlight would be Floating Points' live set, which aside from keys, drums, guitar and bass, also had 3 violins, a saxophone (delivering one hell of a solo), clarinet, trumpet and flute. With a set-up of orchestral levels (as pictured) the music did not disappoint. On the innovative front I was pleasantly surprised to discover some new artists. Nao, a performance rich in funk in both music and dance, and Shamir, a loveable mix of house and synthpop.

Of course the music can be on point, but you also visit a festival for the atmosphere. Regrettably, TivoliVredenburg isn't the most welcoming location when you're not at one of the stages, but they did make an effort and it showed. The crowd was great, most people came to enjoy the shows, discover new music, and see their favourites. And unlike ADE, the

number of people stomping around the dancefloor with ever-expanding black holes pushing back their irises wasn't all that big. Should you have thought that it was all a bit too laid back, you could always catch Tiga's show for that rough-around-the-edges, '80s porno vibe.

Should CATCH return next year, and given the success I am assuming that it will, I can highly recommend it. Who knows, you might even encounter a teacher or two like I did.



Spectre-regularly Good

Film

Blond, blue-eyed, too muscular for a spy and possibly unfit for the role of James Bond: Daniel Craig had to prove himself when he took on the role of the world's most famous spy in 2005. Today, 10 years and 4 films later, we might ask ourselves: have we been watching the best Bond as of yet all along?

By Jos de Groot

The twenty-fourth addition to the James Bond legacy is called Spectre and combines every aspect one could wish for in a Bond film. A mysterious message sets Bond on the trail of a global criminal organisation and, while political forces endeavour to shut down the secret service and thus the Double-O programme, Bond starts his crusade to discover and dismantle Spectre. The Bond bad guy is as good as it gets: Ernst Stavro Blofeld, brilliantly portrayed by Christoph Waltz, is as horrifying as you'd expect him to be. In terms of beauty, the same goes for this time's Bond girls. Spectre has a go at seizing the intrinsic elements of sexism the Bond films are known for, as Bond beds a woman his own age. Yet, with so much having been written about Monica Bellucci's (51) appearance, her minor role does disappoint a little.

On the road to world security, some classic Bond features that were lacking in Craig's earlier films make a comeback in Spectre. Miss Moneypenny (Naomie Harris) returns and so do Q (Ben Whishaw) and his gadgets. Whereas Bond had to settle for a fingerprint-recognising Walther PPK and a pocket radio in Skyfall, Q outdoes himself in Spectre by re-introducing a car equipped with finger-licking technological knick-knacks. The audience can only hope Bond doesn't run his Aston Martin DB10 to shreds within seconds. The many hints to Bond's rich history aren't too plentiful to become stodgy to a mainstream audience, but will occasionally throw Bond lovers into ecstasy.

The loose ends Craig's first three Bond films may have left behind are neatly tied together in Spectre, which makes the plot a rather satisfactory one. Yet it obviously raises the question whether Craig's series of Bond films has come to an end with Spectre. If Craig is to return as Bond, the film director – and let's just hope Sam Mendes is willing to do the trick one more time – will have to find a new approach to the character, since Craig's Bond films have put great effort into exploring, modernising and perhaps re-inventing the iconic character that is James Bond, Spectre being a closing chapter of sorts.

From the mesmerising Day of the Dead opening scene in Mexico City to an on-train brawl and an Aston Martin car pursuit through nocturnal Rome, Spectre is an utter joy to watch for both Bond newbies and –lovers.

To prevent gems of the past from falling into oblivion, Lucinia reviews an under-exposed or forgotten film that she believes is absolutely worth a watch.

Film

Directed by Bernardo Bertolucci, The Dreamers is a film based on Gilbert Adair's 1988 novel The Holy Innocents. Set in 1968 during the student riots in Paris, it tells the story of American student Matthew (Michael Pitt) who befriends Parisian twins Theo (Louis Garrel) and Isabelle (Eva Green). Bonding over their love for cinema, the siblings invite Matthew over for a stay at their apartment while their parents are on holiday. Here, Matthew gets sucked into their world of film trivia and reenactment, sexual forfeits, narcotics, and conversations about politics, war and art. While they live in their own private world, outside protests against the French conservative government are becoming more violent and eventually bring the trio back to reality.

By Lucinia Philip

The Dreamers

The Dreamers was one of the first controversial and highly-sexual films I ever watched and it changed my perspective on films aiming to push the boundaries of cinema. Bertolucci discusses topics that go against conservative morals, such as incest, (homo)sexuality, disbelief in the existence of a higher entity, and Marxism, with a sense of beauty. He shows a new, more open-minded generation and incorporates footage of the actual '68 riots, making for a more realistic and powerful setting. I also want to give credit to the actors who not only had to act out sexual acts, but did so completely naked, making them very vulnerable. Especially Eva Green and Louis Garrel were brilliant and made me sympathize with their characters. However, I did not really enjoy watching Michael Pitt act. He resembles Leonardo DiCaprio, who turned down the part of Matthew, in many aspects; so much even that it felt like a poor attempt at getting a DiCaprio look-alike in order to gain more attention. The casting of Michael Pitt is the only real complaint I have, because The Dreamers is a strange, yet beautiful film with many great references to pop culture and a generation that resembles our own.

Film

I suppose every English student has read at least one Gothic romance novel. If you happened to like this experience, I have good news for you: there is now a film which revives a genre that seemed to be forgotten on screen. It's called *Crimson Peak*.

By Simone Schoonwater

Crimson Peak

First and foremost, this film is absolutely stunning. Director Guillermo del Toro has done everything in his might to create a visual spectacle; the costumes, houses, and surroundings are beautiful and hand-made, with a great eye for detail. Gothic romance actually proves to be a genre well-suited for film, because it allows Del Toro to use all this splendour to create an increasingly scary atmosphere. Edith (Mia Wasikowska), a young American woman, is persuaded to marry the English 'gentleman' Edward Sharpe (Tom Hiddleston). Once she has arrived in his remote and decaying mansion, she discovers that there are many things not right with her new husband. The house is built on a strange red clay pit and is occupied by ghosts, and Edward's sister Lucille (Jessica Chastain) is acting unpredictably and aggressively. When Edith is walking around the house at night, when the red clay is dripping down from the walls and a skeleton can suddenly break through the floor, you cannot help but be scared, while marvelling at the scenery at the same time.

Following the rules of such a well-known genre has one downside, however: things can get predictable. In the beginning of the film, Edith appears to be a smart and witty woman, but as soon as she lives in *Crimson Peak*, she starts doing stupid things. Seriously, Edith, why do you keep roaming the house at night all on your own and why do you leave behind important evidence for everyone to find? The eventual revelation about the ghosts will probably not surprise you either, nor will the perfectly timed jump-scars. The ending has a little twist, but it could have been a bigger one in my opinion.

While it's somewhat disappointing that Del Toro does not bend the Gothic rules a bit, this authenticity also has its charm. *Crimson Peak* is, within the boundaries of its genre, a well-made and suspenseful film of the kind you will probably not see again on screen anytime soon.

Book

Waiting for the Barbarians

By Maarten Gooskens

I am all for more critical reviews in Phoenix. However, critical as I may be, I can't say a bad word about Coetzee's *Waiting for the Barbarians*. If you're a fan of postcolonial literature you need not look any further. Coetzee creates a world built on imperial tropes, a world of black and white, of us and them. Between these hard opposites, between the cold and calculated Empire and the brutal barbarians, stands an imperial magistrate (see what I mean by imperial tropes?). This magistrate of a far-away imperial outpost is the grey area in the picture painted by Coetzee. Unlike most imperials, he is a man open to the idea of respecting different cultures, rather than seeing them as lower or higher. When the line between the empire and the distant barbarians fades through his relationship with a formerly-imprisoned barbarian girl, the price for broad-mindedness becomes too great. The reader is shown imperialism for what it is at different levels: the magistrate's personal battle against injustice, and the imperial mind-set when faced with an unknown threat. And that fear of the unknown runs throughout the story. With much frustration will you be reading about the imperial lack of understanding and the stubborn refusal to improve it. It is when the realisation sets in that this scenario is all too applicable to many bodies of power in our world that the book reveals its strongest message.



Concert

Once every Friday at lunchtime, TivoliVredenburg hosts a classically-inspired 'lunchpauzeconcert'. Knowing close to nothing about classical music myself, I thought it would be the perfect opportunity to step out of my comfort zone and into the alien world of ClariNext: a Utrecht-based clarinet choir, existing only of students of HKU Utrechts Conservatorium. Believe me when I say that I wouldn't be able to distinguish a bass clarinet from an alto clarinet if my life depended on it, but surprisingly enough, the first thing I noticed was how familiar the whole setup appeared to be. The recital showed a clear DIY-ethic, although my neighbours begged to differ about the scuffling of chairs and music stands and rustling of sheet music being a charming and disarming factor: 'Jan, de hele tijd dat geschuif met die stoelen - het is maar wát vervelend!' I heard the elderly lady next to me complain to her husband.

By Inge van Nimwegen

Stepping Outside the Musical Comfort Zone: TivoliVredenburg's Lunchpauzeconcert presenting ClariNext

Musically, the one-hour recital was made up of a total of five pieces, two of which were composed by guest conductor Antonio Fraioli, who had the honour of introducing his musical scores himself. One of his pieces was strongly inspired by early jazz; a thrilling, exhilarating, fascinating experience, with its seemingly dying out into silence after every part, only to spring to life again subtly different than before. His other piece was built around the recreation of sounds of nature with the use of electronics and a single clarinet: again, fascinating, and as Fraioli himself explained, it was to be seen as "another language" more than a musical piece. Here I must agree; it wasn't necessarily pleasing to the ear.

But I am not a good judge of musical quality in this genre, and it needs to be mentioned that throughout it all, I couldn't distinguish more than a single flat note: a sharp, especially uncomfortable sound, which was received by the audience members with nervous laughter. The musical 'lunch break' ended in a sitting ovation (no surprise, considering the average age of those present), and in my opinion rightly so; I'd recommend anyone to check out TivoliVredenburg's upcoming lunchpauzeconcerten.

Theatre

A social housing project was destroyed before the construction was even finished. The project had looked very promising; the design of the buildings was both revolutionary, cost-efficient, and stylish. Bureaucrats from the contracting company, however, had adjusted the plans of the architect behind his back, even though he had demanded for his work to be carried out without compromise. When he found out, he rigged the apartment buildings with explosives and detonated them, because he felt his vision and his terms had been violated. He is to appear in court soon. How would you judge him?

By Erik de Vries Lentsch

Fountainhead

This is the moral question at the heart of *The Fountainhead*, a play by Toneelgroep Amsterdam based on Ayn Rand's novel of the same name. The play tells the story of Howard Roark (Ramsey Nasr), the idealistic architect described above, and his fight against the conformist forces trying to hold him back. Chief among these are his sleazy colleague Peter Keating (Aus Greidanus Jr.) and the cynical media tycoon Gail Wynand (Hans Kesting). Roark's rocky relationship with a woman named Dominique Francon also plays a role. Unfathomable and deeply conflicted, Dominique is probably the most interesting character of the story. She is played by Halina Reijn, who did a great job of expressing a convoluted personality in a coherent and human way. All actors faced such a challenge with this play, because the story at its core is a philosophical manifesto, meaning that the characters are not written as flesh and blood but as ideas. The acting managed to bring those ideas down to earth. The performances were enhanced and given a cinematic touch by the clever use of live cameras and projectors. In fact, all technical aspects of the production – set design, fluid scene transitions, live background music – were excellent.

Still, this is all in service of a particular philosophical vision. You feel that the moral question posed by the play, although very interesting, is mostly a rhetorical one. You are expected to side with Roark. For those who don't mind that, *The Fountainhead* is a powerful drama with an impeccable production and with radical ideas worth discussing.

Apart from new courses, books, and exams, a new year also brings new students. To introduce you to one of those freshers, I met up with Chrystel Philipsen on a rainy Monday afternoon to discuss her bookshelf. When not focussing on schoolwork, the lustrum committee or volleyball, Chrystel, like a true English student, enjoys spending her time reading books.

By Lucinia Philip

Chrystel's Bookshelf

What was your favourite book growing up?

"I can't remember the name of the book, but I do know it was about Tinkerbell. My sister gave it to me and I liked it because it had beautiful illustrations. Also, it was a Disney book and I was a huge Disney fan when I was little. I still am, but who isn't?"

What is your favourite book now?

"The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde. The cover and binding of the book are gorgeous and I also love Wilde's writing style. Love & Misadventure by Lang Leav is one of my favourite poem collections. I don't really read a lot of poetry, but Leav's poems are short simple poems about love so it's easy to understand. Also the cover feels really nice."

What is the last book you read 'for fun'?

"I reread the Harry Potter books as preparation for our introduction camp (the theme of the introduction camp was Harry Potter) and because I hadn't read them in quite a while. The last book I read was of course Deathly Hallows."

Which book are you most ashamed of for reading?

"The first book of the Fifty Shades

of Grey trilogy. One of my teachers was talking about it so I decided to read it, however, I found E. L. James' writing horrendous. It was like reading fanfiction written by a teenage girl. Terrible! I obviously didn't bother to watch the film."

Which book are you most ashamed of not having read (yet)?

"Uhm... I can't really think of anything at this moment. Do you have a suggestion?"

Are there books you only read halfway or less?

"Possession by A. S. Byatt and An Abundance of Katherines by John Green. Every first-year student will understand why I didn't finish Possession. When reading An Abundance of Katherines, I got distracted by something else and never picked it up again."

If you could recommend me one of your books, which one would it be?

"A Sneaky Suspicion by John Dickson, which looks at the Bible in a different, more philosophical way. Dickson is not only critical, but also gives advice on subjects such as sex and how the media has an influence on our lives. I'm not religious, but after reading this book I became more curious and



learned to look at the Bible in a new way, and I am now more understanding of how religious people such as Jehovah's see the Bible."

What, for you, is the ultimate page limit of a book before you decide against reading it?

"It depends on the book. I don't like wasting time on a book when the story doesn't interest me. With Possession, I was done after 20 pages, but I couldn't get enough of the Harry Potter books. When a book is good the number of pages doesn't matter."

If you were to write a book, what would it be about?

"It would be a fiction based on my own life and mental illness. If I were to write a book I would want it to mean something to me, something close to my heart. You get the best result when you put your emotions in your story."

Which author have you read the most books by and why?

"No surprise here: J. K. Rowling. I've read all Harry Potter books multiple times and also the others written by Rowling."

What is your favourite English word and why?

"English cuss words such as 'wanker.' They just flow so easy and they're fun to say, haha. Also 'serendipity', which is a word with a beautiful meaning. There are no Dutch words to describe the

meaning of serendipity; 'finding something good without looking for it.'"

And your least favourite word?

"That has got to be 'possession.' I am done with that word!"

Are you team literature or team linguistics? (Team Lit or Team Ling)

"That's a difficult one... I find linguistics interesting, but literature more fun, because I like reading books. I don't know a lot about linguistics as of yet, so I can't really say whether I like it or not. I guess, for now, I am both Team Lit and Team Ling."

What is your favourite movie adaptation?

"The Hunger Games. The first Hunger Games film is actually the reason why I started reading The Hunger Games. I really enjoyed watching the films. The story is good and so are the actors."

What is your least favourite movie adaptation?

"Divergent. I had high expectations after reading the books, but it was very disappointing. That is also the reason why I advise people to watch the films before reading the books, so that the films don't disappoint you."

Which book are you planning to buy next?

"Dirty Pretty Things by Michael Faudet, another poem collection."





Calendar

November

23	svMT Sinterklaas celebration
24	Albion Symposium
25	Futurama5

December

1	Monthly Drinks: Grote Reis destination and sign-up
16	svMT Kerstgala

COLOFON

This issue of Phoenix was made possible because of:

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*“Those who dream by day
are cognizant of many
things which escape those
who dream only by night.”*

- Edgar Allan Poe

