

THE GLOBE



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LOVE RINGS TRUE



Photo by Kachina Choate

Student finds the perfect wedding bands - by designing and crafting them himself

Kachina Choate
Contributing Writer

With Valentine's Day approaching, Salt Lake Community College visual arts student Benjamin Wood is letting people know that there is hope even for those who have given up on love.

When Wood took ART 1040 Jewelry: Culture and Creation, he never thought that the class would help him with his wedding plans. He is currently in the intermediate jewelry class and creating his own wedding rings.

"When I got into the class and saw the things I could make, it

just kind of took off," said Wood. "From there, it was almost like an explosion of ideas happened all at once, and I didn't have enough time to make all of them."

Wood has always like working with his hands and found out how much he enjoyed designing and making jewelry.

"I just decided to take the class," said Wood. "I never really thought I would be interested in jewelry; I am mainly an illustrator."

Wood has always enjoyed creating art, but when it came to love, he had all but given up on ever finding 'the one.' He was about to sign off of an online

Ben Wood designed and worked his rings in ART 1040 Jewelry: Culture and Creation.

dating site for the last time and give it all up when he decided to talk to one last woman to see what would happen. The woman, Katie Black, agreed to meet Wood for a date.

"On the way [to the date] something said 'you know it's about time,' on the drive there I'm like 'about time for what?' Right when I saw her it was like 'okay, I get it. I get it. She's the one,'" said Wood.

After a few dates, Wood asked Black to marry him, and she said yes. Wood, however, didn't have a ring to give her at the time he proposed but wanted to

do something special for her that would stand out. He decided to design and make the wedding bands himself. After Wood had drawn out his ideas on paper, he asked Black to pick the one she wanted.

Wood enjoys the feel of the metal he works with. Metal needs to be worked gently, too much heat and it melts. Too much hammering or bending could break the metal. He also enjoys being able to take scraps and making something useable or wearable.

Patterns and color, especially

Ring/ continued on page A3

A symphony in Taylorsville

>> SLCC Orchestra enters 10th season

Djinni Yancy
Contributing Writer

On Friday, Feb 22 at 7:30 p.m., the Taylorsville-SLCC Symphony Orchestra (TSO), under the direction of Adam Larson, will perform the first concert of their tenth season.

The evening, titled "Black Tie and Latin Flair," will include musical selections such as Somewhere in Time, Theme from West Side Story and Aria.

"The orchestra is filled with your friends, family, and neighbors and is the most accessible and exciting way to see the classics come alive," writes Larson.

Since 2003, the TSO has been entertaining local audiences with their harmonic music. This concert will be held at Taylorsville High School. Admission is free,

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Nutrition

The cold warrior
pg. 3

Movies

'Identity Thief' review
pg. 5

Men's Basketball continues to dominate league

>> After win against Snow College, conference championship looks very promising

Walker Gale
Staff Reporter

A 22-3 overall record proves that the Bruins Men's Basketball Team is having their way with the competition. On Saturday, Feb. 9, SLCC flexed their muscle once again and defeated Snow College in a hard nose battle to the finish.

Bruin players knew going into this game that they would have to compete at a top level and play through any type of adversities.

"Snow has always given us a tough rivalry game, and you know they are going to keep it close,"

said combo guard Skyler Halford. "You have to stay mentally tough throughout the entire game no matter how far ahead or behind you might be."

Competing at a top level and playing mentally tough is exactly what the Bruins did. Defining moments came from SLCC player Gary Payton II, who had another exceptional game, scoring 18 points, four rebounds, and four assists.

Five of Payton's 18 points came from a three possession transition

Basketball/ continued on page A3

SLCC rocks at registering

Derrick Gainsforth
Staff Reporter

With the 2012 election season now in the history books, Salt Lake Community College is celebrating a landmark victory.

SLCC will be crowned victorious for registering more students to vote than any other higher education institution in Utah. The competition, which was sanctioned by the office of Lt. Gov. Greg Bell, was part of campaign to get students more engaged in the political process.

"It really shows the overall attitude of the students," said SLCC student body president Aaron Starks. "It shows the direction and the leadership that our student leaders have at the school, and that is to promote civic

engagement."

President Starks wants students to take pride in this achievement for the student body at SLCC.

The inaugural trophy presentation will be held Wednesday Feb. 13 from 11:00am to 2:00pm at the Student Event Center on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus.

The event will include a trophy ceremony, presentations from the lieutenant governor and the Education First initiative, along with food and drinks for all who attend.



STUDENT EVENTS

WED/13
11am-12pm
Crush Box
@ TR Campus, SEC

12pm-1pm
Pizza and Politics
@ TR Campus, SEC

5pm-7pm
Valentines/Unvalentines celebration
@ SC Campus, East Entrance

6pm-8pm
Shall We Dance?
@ TR Campus, SEC

THURS/14
Valentine's Day

12:00pm-1:30pm
Speed Dating
@ TR Campus, SEC

5:30pm-7:30pm
Women's Basketball vs College of Southern Idaho
@ TR Campus, LAC

7:30pm-9:30pm
Men's Basketball vs College of Southern Idaho
@ TR Campus, LAC

FRI/15
SLCC Libraries Exhibit

1:00pm-2:30pm
Club Meeting- Latinos in Action

7:00pm-10:00pm
Dance Across the Ages
@ TR Campus, SEC

8:30pm-10:30pm
Stupid Cupid Dance
@ Jordan Campus, Student Pavilion

SAT/16
3pm-5pm
Women's Basketball vs. North Idaho College
@ TR Campus, LAC

5pm-7pm
Men's Basketball vs North Idaho College
@ TR Campus, LAC

7:30pm-9:30pm
The Voice of the Prairie
@ SC Campus, The Grand Theatre

MON/18
Presidents Day-- No School

SLCC Libraries Exhibit


TUE/19
SLCC Libraries Exhibit

12pm-1pm
Mindful Awareness Group
@ TR Campus, SEC Rm 035

2pm-5pm
Rape Awareness Expo
@ TR Campus, SEC

5pm-7pm
Minute to Win It
@ Library Square Campus, Main Foyer

Submit student events to calendar.globe@slcc.edu
Visit www.globeslcc.com/calendar for more student events



Each week a different picture from an SLCC campus will be featured. If you know the location and campus of this week's featured picture, enter to win a prize by emailing your answer to contest.globe@slcc.edu.

Deadline for entries is Tuesday February 19th
Entrants may only win once per semester. Mass Communication staff and SLCC faculty are not eligible to win.

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Due to the high volume of requests for articles we receive, The Globe may not be able to reply to every letter. Due to our limited staff, The Globe may not be able to attend or cover every event or issue submitted. The Globe encourage emails/notices of events. However, any request of coverage of an event or issue should be made within a time frame of at least one week.

The New York Times

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0109

ACROSS

1 Repair bill segment

6 They may be checked at the door

9 Have being

14 Essential ___ acid

15 Siesta

16 Big name in rental trucks

17 Plant used as ground cover

18 Did or didn't agree to end the illustrators' strike?

20 Did or didn't dilute the prom bowlful?

22 Whirling water

23 Rumple, as hair

24 Suffix with Marx

26 Like the base-8 number system

29 Dean's domain: Abbr.

30 Apr. workhorse

33 Did or didn't perform a New Year's ceremony?

37 Butt out?

38 Org. based in Langley, Va.

39 Fox talent show, for short

40 Did or didn't surpass a DJ's mark for accident-free days?

45 Set, as a price

46 Pal

47 Earns the booby prize

48 Part of a terza rima rhyme scheme

49 Corner Monopoly square

51 Gem for some Libras

54 Did or didn't play a good round of golf?

60 Did or didn't participate in the Boy Scouts outing?

62 Dinero

63 With 44-Down, features of some Greek architecture

64 Pro vote

65 Zaps, in the kitchen

66 Ream unit

67 Ready for war

68 High, pricewise

DOWN

1 Source of pumice

2 In the thick of

3 Tight spot

4 In a past life

5 Item in a gas station kiosk

6 Pakistan's chief river

7 Works on socks, say

8 Design detail, briefly

9 Disco ___ (1970s)

10 Woody tissue

11 Reply of confirmation

12 E-mail command

13 Long basket, in hoops lingo

19 "This or that?"

21 Orange juice option

25 Cow or sow

26 Landfill emanations

27 Shepherd's aid

28 Honky-___

29 Sirius, e.g.

30 Core group

31 Moves laboriously

32 Detergent brand

34 Lover of Narcissus

35 Thing with pips

36 Head shot accompaniers, maybe

37 Wall St. hire

41 Fall back

42 Wreck, as a hotel room

43 Bush 41 and Bush 43, for two

44 See 63-Across

48 DT's sufferer, for short

49 One of a deck pair

50 Mr. T TV group

51 Singer Redding

52 Milne's bear

53 Super-duper

55 Casual greeting

56 Ring contest

57 Elbow

58 On the sheltered side

59 Stereotypical mobster's voice

61 Insincere display

The Globe is an independent student newspaper published Wednesday during Fall and Spring Semester (excluding holidays) and Wednesday during Summer Semester. The Globe editors and staff are solely responsible for the newspaper's content. Funding comes from advertising revenues and a dedicated student fee administered by the Student Media Council. To respond with questions, comments or complaints, call (801) 957-4019 or visit slccglobelink.com. The Globe is distributed free of charge, limit one copy per reader. Additional copies may be made available upon request. No person, without expressed permission of The Globe, may take more than one copy of any Globe issue.

CAMPUS

campus.globe@slcc.edu

The Language Center a place of opportunity and learning

Kami Michelle Gallagher
Contributing Writer

Many universities in Utah have a language center, but not many offer tutoring for free, by appointment and in nine different languages. The Language Center, located in room 418 in the Technology Building of the Taylorsville Redwood Campus, offers these services. Still, according to Language Center staff, the opportunity is missed by a large number of students. “Not many students take advantage of the resources offered in the Language Center,” said Language Center lab aide Jaime Balderas. SLCC offers a variety of

language courses, including American Sign Language, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Navajo, Portuguese, Russian, Samoan, Spanish and Tongan. According to Language Center coordinator Lin Chen, the hardest part to learning a language is getting the needed interaction and communication with others. The Language Center provides hands on experience for its students to be able to communicate in the language that is their focus. “[The Language Center] creates an environment for interaction,” said Chen. A part of the Language Center’s mission is to help

students develop a broader knowledge of culture around the world. The lab’s computer-based language programs also help students to speak, read, write and understand their target language. Many language professors require Language Center hours with tutors or for homework, and students sometimes see the hours put into the Language Center as a burden. “If you see it as a burden it will be a burden, but if you see it as something else it will be something greater,” said first time SLCC Spanish student Emily Merrill. More information can be found at www.slcc.edu/languagelab.

Symphony

continued from A1

though cash donations are welcome, and the orchestra requests guests wear Sunday dress attire. Larson has performed in a variety of music groups such as the Utah Wind Symphony, The Park City Brass Quintet, and Portrait Brass Band, and is also the director of Instrumental Music at Skyline High School. Larson has worked with accomplished artists such as Colonel Arnald D. Gabriel, Commander/Conductor of the internationally renowned U.S. Air Force Band and the famous Dutch composer Johan de Meij, best known for The Lord of the Rings Symphony. According to TSO President Katrina Thatcher, The SLCC Orchestra

combined its members with the Taylorsville Symphony Orchestra in 2005 to create an outstanding ensemble, and the orchestra has a unique style all its own. The TSO is made up of students from SLCC, as well as individuals and families from along the Wasatch Front. This diverse group of performers is complemented by an equally diverse lineup of instruments throughout the orchestra. The TSO is a non-profit organization which is sponsored by the Taylorsville Arts Council and public funding from the Zoo Arts and Parks program. They have several concerts throughout the year, and always offer free admission, though they also partner with theatrical productions that charge at the door. The symphony orchestra is always seeking to audition new members who

are at least sixteen and can commit to a minimum of two concerts over time equal to a semester. Rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in room 167 of the Administration building at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus. “We don’t care where you come from or who you have played for, just love the music and enjoy yourself as you perform,” said Thatcher. “Rehearsals are something to look forward to. It’s relaxing, fun and the time flies by.” More information about the TSO is available at taylorsvillesymphony.wix.com/site.



Basketball

continued from A1

play, where he snatched a monster rebound, then launched a daggering 3-point shot, then came back down for a throw down dunk. The senior Gary Payton, a former NBA point guard who was an all NBA defensive first team player and considered one of the best point guards of all time, was watching from the stands as his son and his

team dominated. “I just think of him as another person in the stands, but if I had a bad game, I was going to hear from him,” said Payton II. Although Payton stepped up and produced, Snow College is a tough team that always brings their A-game, and the Bruins still found themselves down eleven points at the end of the first half. Beginning the second half, SLCC came out with a tough mentality, but it wasn’t until the game’s final

12 minutes that the Bruins finally decided to put their opposition away. It started with an impressive high arching 3-point shot from Halford. A crowd erupting ankle breaker came next from Bruin JuWan Buccanan, who came down the court to put a move on the Badgers’ Casey Taylor, who could not keep up and ended up on the ground watching Buccanan elevate to complete the play with a nothing-but-net jump shot. After the series of good

basketball from SLCC they finally managed to tie up the score at 62-62 with nine minutes left in the game. “I feel like, as a team, we all step up and take charge at certain points of the game, and I think that’s why we are successful,” says Halford. After tying the game they extended the lead and sealed the deal with an 86 to 81 win against Snow College. The Bruins now face two more big home games and two more away games until they reach the conference tournament. “We have a few difficult games ahead, but they are at home, and if we are able to win those, we should be fine,” says point guard Tyrell Corbin.

Ring

continued from A1

patterns in metal, are Wood’s design inspiration. This semester Wood has been experimenting with mokume, which is layered metal that is given a wood grain pattern. Wood is making the rings out of fine sliver and copper. Black’s ring will have a fire opal in its setting. “A ring like that would cost more money than I have

at the moment or am able to make,” said Wood. “Plus, I wanted something that no one else could give her. I wanted something made by my own hands to put onto her finger. Every time she looks at it, it’s a part of me.” Wood says that it is important to not give up on love. Finding love was unexpected for him but good. “I am just really surprised that this is happening when I was ready to give up,” said Wood.



Photo courtesy of David Hubert
Tyrell Corbin slashes to the basket and finishes strong.

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14

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Armed with vitamin C, the orange excels at cold combat

Nadhirrah
Staff Reporter

Flavius Stan’s essay The Night of Oranges takes place in Romania after the fall of the Communist Government. In the story, many Romanian children had never seen or eaten an orange, and when a big brother has the chance to gift his little brother an orange, he stands for hours in a long line using his movie money to buy the oranges.

Can you imagine living at a time when an orange is something special and of great value?

In America, oranges are very commonplace and often taken for granted, but that was not always true. If you were really good, Santa would leave a real treat, a prized orange in your Christmas stocking. Today the wholesome orange has been replaced by the chocolate orange rendition.

Varieties of the orange date back about seven thousand years to India. They were highly valued by Chinese nobility in the first century, and it is believed that was the beginning of China’s orange orchards.

When the Roman Empire elite tasted oranges in the first century, they began

developing orchards in North Africa. These orchards lasted until the Islamic Caliphate dominated North Africa in the seventh century. In the sixteenth century, Portuguese traders brought oranges to Europe.

In 1493, Christopher Columbus brought orange seeds to the New World where he planted them and started an orange orchard in Haiti.

Oranges made their way into Florida with Spanish explorers after plundering South America in the mid 1500’s.

The orange came to California in 1856 when Judge Joseph Lewis bought three orange seedlings. One of the original trees is still producing fruit today.

There are both sweet and sour varieties of oranges. The most common sweet oranges are Valencia, Navel and Blood oranges. Valencia oranges have smooth skins, are widely available March through June and make up about half of the orange crop.

Navel oranges are thick skinned and have a “belly-button” shape on the blossom end. They are seedless and their season is November through April.

Blood oranges are given

the name for the red color of the orange’s flesh. These are mainly imported from Mediterranean counties, and their season is March through May.

Places like Florida, which have warm days and nights, can produce fully ripe oranges that may still have green tint on the skin.

The color of the orange depends on where it is grown. An orange left on a tree will go through the process of re-greening. Warm temperatures cause the chlorophyll pigment to go back into the skin giving it a greenish tint.

Oranges are high in vitamins C and B1, beta-carotene, folic acid, calcium, potassium and pectin. Research has found that the essential oil limonene, found in oranges, could shrink

tumors.

Not only do oranges contain almost 100 percent of the daily recommended dose of vitamin C, they have flavonoids that are required for the body. The orange has long been used to combat colds and flu.

The orange has historically been used in treatment of scurvy, as a circulatory stimulant and a cardiac and immune tonic. The orange zest or peel has been used historically as a digestive aid.

Pesticide residues are frequently found on oranges and are often waxed when sold in stores. For this reason it is recommended that organic oranges be used especially if using the zest.

For more tips about living a balanced life, or Nadhirrah visit Summer Bear at www.summerbear.org.



Photo courtesy of Summer Bear

Navel oranges are among the most common sweet oranges.

Orange Cucumber Salad

Ingredients

- 1 cup cucumber, thinly sliced
- 1/4 tsp. Himalayan crystal salt or natural sea salt
- A dash of black pepper
- 2 medium oranges, peeled and sectioned
- 1/2 red bell pepper, chopped
- 2 Tbs. parsley
- 1/4 tsp. thyme
- 1 head lettuce
- 1/2 cup nut mayo

Directions

Peel and thinly slice the cucumber and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Peel and section the orange into its parts. Chop the 1/2 red bell pepper and place in a bowl with the orange sections and cucumber slices, gently toss with parsley, thyme and other seasonings. Add the nut mayo and mix. Wash and tear the lettuce into bite sized pieces and place on plates. Place the orange and cucumber mix on top of the lettuce and serve.

Nut Mayo Ingredients

- 2 cups cashews
- 3 Tbs. onion powder
- 1/2 cup cold pressed olive oil
- 3/4 cup water
- 1-2 Tbs. Himalayan crystal salt
- 1/2 lemon, juiced

Directions

Place the cashews into a blender. Add the olive oil, onion powder, salt and lemon juice. Blend until creamy slowly adding enough water until a creamy consistency is achieved.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

arts.globe@slcc.edu

You won’t feel ripped off by *Identity Thief* at a dollar theatre

Stephen Romney
Staff Reporter



From the director of *Horrible Bosses*, we get yet another outing where crime and comedy collide, but instead of murder we’re dealing with identity theft. While the crime itself is no laughing matter, *Identity Thief* looks to poke fun at the disconnect between what we imagine criminals to look like and reality.

Jason Bateman stars as Sandy Bigelow Patterson, an accountant whose identity is stolen by a female criminal played by Melissa McCarthy, who proceeds to run up a debt of over \$12,000 in addition to committing various crimes.

Since the local police in Patterson’s home state

of Colorado doesn’t have jurisdiction in Florida, where the crimes are being committed, Patterson travels to Florida to bring the thief to justice, all while running from a bounty hunter (Robert Patrick) and enforcers from a drug cartel (T.I. and Genesis Rodriguez). Hijinks ensue.

While the story is okay, there are scenes where the film drags, with some jokes being too drawn out. It also is unable to avoid the trope where the story takes a turn for the dramatic towards the end, but it’s not as bad as other comedies.

Identity Thief follows the road trip “enemies become friends” formula, hitting a lot of the same formulaic beats. Some aspects of the formula don’t make sense in the full scope of the story, particularly when it

comes to the actions of the main character.

There were also times where the comedy left a few things to be desired. While there’s some pretty good humor strewn throughout the film, there are times where some jokes felt a little unnecessary.

This is mostly observed in a mild subplot focused on McCarthy’s character and what I presume to be her issues with beauty and confidence. It doesn’t really go anywhere and doesn’t add all that much to the story. If I had to cut out parts of the script, that would be one of the first bits to go.

From a technical standpoint, the film is put together pretty well, with decent visuals and editing. The dialogue is okay, but not all that memorable, and the pacing, although



Photo courtesy of Universal Pictures

Bateman (right) and McCarthy (left) have decent chemistry, but it's not worth sitting through the two-hour run time.

formulaic, at least stayed fairly progressive and kept the story moving.

Identity Thief was mildly enjoyable. While there were some funny moments, there wasn’t anything that elicited that much laughter out of me personally. There

was some laughter in the theater, so there are some bits worth watching.

In the end, it felt like they attempted to replicate the style of *Horrible Bosses*, but toned it down considerably given

that there’s only so much you can do with a film about identity theft. It’s a decent film, but not one worth seeing at a full price theater. You’re better off either going to a matinee or waiting for it to come to the dollar theater.

Music on the spot: Tegan and Sara go pop with ‘Hearthrob’

Derrick Gainsforth
Staff Reporter

I first heard about Tegan and Sara (T&S) from the controversial song by punk rock wacky pack, NOFX, titled *Creeping Out Sara*. Without detail, I have been a fan of the indie-pop Canadian duo ever since. I fell in love with their past two albums, *The Con* (2007) and *Sainthood* (2009) which both saw a rich blend of coffeehouse guitar, synthesized backbeats and hopeful lyrics of loves gone lost. With my lust for much of the same, I had set the dial to normal in anticipation for the Jan. 29

release of their new album, *Hearthrob*.

To my surprise, this collection is different right from the opening track, *Closer*. The synthetic buzz of modern pop music had me searching the album’s booklet thinking that surely Madonna had co-producer credits. I was worried that the sisters had refilled their small town lattes with Starbucks house blend. At least on the surface, it certainly felt that way.

Although this album does have a more mainstream feel, the talent and timeless love lost lyrics remain unchanged. The key tickling, downbeat track,

I Was a Fool reflects the feelings of staying in a failed relationship. This song is a testament to the ability Tegan and Sara possess to pull the listener into the situations presented in the lyrics.

I have to admit, the upbeat synthpop feel of *Drove Me Wild* was almost too much for me as a fan, bias for the stone ground acoustics that made me respect T&S in the first place. I also understand that these kinds of songs have their place and will surely help T&S bring their unique brand of twin magic to the mainstream masses. If Top 40 music is

not your cup of joe, Tegan and Sara take it back to the coffee shop with an acoustic/synth true love song in *Love They Say*. Tegan and Sara have come a long way for two indie girls from Calgary; the release of *Hearthrob* debuted at #3 on the Billboard Top 200 charts. The duo seem deserving to reap the benefits of mainstream success all the while leaving me confident they will not forget how they got there.

BOTTOM LINE: If you enjoy a latte with your studies, Tegan and Sara’s *Hearthrob* should soundtrack perfectly.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Further exploration of monster romance – the sex factor

Stephen Romney
Staff Reporter

In last week’s article, I attributed the sudden interest in vampire fiction to two major thought processes. The first was the pursuit of a “fairy-tale romance.” The second was the thrill of rebellion and taboo, at least as it would be felt in the mind of a teenager.

To further explore the teenage appeal of this sort of fiction, we’ll have to delve into a topic that fills parents with dread and is usually avoided in most journalistic media save for the few “specialized” news sites. The topic in question is sex, at least how it is discussed and portrayed in the media and how that portrayal can affect the mind of a teenager.

In the media, adult entertainment notwithstanding, sex usually appears to be either glamorized or demonized depending on which program you are watching. If it’s a soap opera, a romance film or even a primetime drama, then it’s usually depicted as a blissful experience, the ultimate expression of love.

On the other hand, if you’re watching something like *Criminal Minds* or *Law and Order: Special Victims Unit*, then the depiction is not-so-pretty, as shows such as these depict the criminal aspects of sex, such as rape, molestation and other forms of abuse.

In some shows that



are geared towards older audiences, sex is also depicted as the end goal for the protagonists, with negative consequences such as unplanned pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases being played up for comedy, depending on the nature of the show.

All these conflicting messages and ideas about sex, combined with an upbringing in areas where “abstinence-only” education is the standard, can create a very weird and somewhat idealized depiction of sex in a teenager’s mind.

In the mind of a teenage boy, sex may be something that happens on impulse – an action that begins to fuel an obsession. In that boy’s mind, it could be argued that it’s seen as an action that’s natural, but hidden away by “the man” in an attempt to keep him in line.

Teenage girls on the other hand have a different set of factors to contend with. Some of these factors stem from thought processes that teenage boys have about sex, but they are also confronted with societal pressures of body image, maintaining virginity and the overall implication

that their body doesn’t necessarily belong to them.

From childhood, they are bombarded with various stimuli that fuel the idea of women being almost like a trophy or prize, a princess to be rescued from a castle with a fire-breathing dragon by a white knight in shining armor (or a pair of plumbers in blue overalls, just saying).

Combine this with the constant reminder that reality is not like fairytales and is, in fact, far more terrifying that you realize, you get the mindset of someone looking for a “perfect romance” that is free from all of the work that is actually needed to maintain a healthy relationship.

While the scenarios listed above don’t apply to all teenagers, or all people in general, it is something that many people go through at some point in their life. They become dissatisfied with their current circumstances and long for something more ideal, like what they’ve observed in movies, television and books.



Photo courtesy of Summit Entertainment

Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart, left) and Edward (Robert Pattinson) get close in “Twilight.”

Once again, it boils down to the idea of escapism. Life is hard, confusing and ultimately terrifying, so it’s easy to retreat to worlds of fantasy, where aspects of the world and human nature are broken down to a simple battle of good and evil, right and wrong.

While not all escapism is that simplified, many of the multi-faceted works of fiction, such as the works of J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis, were created to quantify and cope with various negative events in their lives and the world. In the case of Tolkien, that was World War I.

There is the remaining

piece of my theoretical study – analyzing the societal and psychological factors of lust and how it applies to the success of really any escapist fiction.

While it may not apply to everyone, it’s at least a nice starting point for anybody who wishes to understand the appeal of franchises such as *Twilight*.





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