Anne Frank stepsister speaks at Chapman

A few days after students at a high school party in Newport Beach formed a swastika out of red cups and gave Nazi salutes, Anne Frank's stepsister Eva Schloss spoke at Chapman about her experience during the Holocaust. Schloss spoke to some of the involved students in Newport Beach a day later.

At the “Sexual Politics of Meat” lecture and art show March 6, students drew on flags, created “menus” of women's bodies and made models of female genitalia out of SPAM to show how women's bodies are compared to meat.

After a freshman year epilepsy diagnosis, water polo goalkeeper Alyssa Welfringer brings ‘toughness’ to final season.
After speaking at Chapman, Eva Schloss met with some of the Newport Beach high school students who saluted a swastika made out of red cups at a party

Jade Yang | Staff Writer

At many parties, red solo cups are a staple. They’re often used for beer pong, or to hold mixed drinks. But at a Newport Beach high school party that reportedly took place the weekend of March 1, red plastic cups formed the shape of a swastika on a table, with students extending their arms in what appeared to be a Nazi salute.

Eighty-nine-year-old Eva Schloss, a Holocaust survivor and Anne Frank’s stepsister, met March 7 at Newport Harbor High School with some of the students involved in the incident, a day after she spoke at Chapman.

“It’s been about 70 years, and the new generation hasn’t experienced anything like (the Holocaust),” said Leslie Susman, the secretary of Chabad at Chapman and event organizer for Schloss’ talk. “Because of the recent rise of anti-Semitism, from New York to Pittsburgh, to as close to home as Newport, it’s nice to bring everyone together.”

The most recent statistics from the Anti-Defamation League show that the U.S. saw a 57 percent rise in anti-Semitic acts in 2017, the largest single-year increase on record. As recently as March 7, students at the prestigious Sidwell Friends School in Washington, D.C., displayed swastikas during an assembly.

Marilyn Harran, the director of the Rodgers Center of Holocaust Education at Chapman, told The Panther that hearing someone’s voice break when they talk about something that happened to them years ago sheds light on why the Jewish community reacts so strongly to imagery like cups lined up in the shape of a swastika.

Those who did that did not have an understanding of ideology behind the swastika and the enormous suffering and death that it perpetrated,” Harran said.

Schloss, who fled to the Netherlands in 1938 after Austria was annexed by Germany, met a little girl, no more than a month apart from her in age, who lived across the street. The two would often play hopscotch together.

“That girl was German-born Jew Anne Frank, known for the diary that detailed her life in hiding from the Nazis from 1942 to 1944. She became Schloss’ best friend and playmate. At the end of World War II, Anne Frank’s father, Otto Frank, was the only one from her family to survive. Otto Frank would later marry Schloss’ mother, Elfriede, the only surviving family member in Schloss’s family besides Eva Schloss herself. As the granddaughter of Holocaust survivors, Susman said that her aim is to better educate students in light of the recent anti-Semitic events across the country and preserve part of history that, to her, should be unforgettable.

“It was an honor to coordinate this event because we are the future, the ones who are going to pass down these stories, make sure they’re never forgotten and that something like this never happens again,” Susman said.

But Jeffrey Koerber, a professor who teaches Holocaust history at Chapman, told The Panther that groups today are still “targeted” and “demonized.”

“The kind of world that Anne Frank and Eva Schloss came from is not that different from our own,” Koerber said. “Some of the things that led to the Holocaust in Europe could potentially happen here.”

Holocaust survivors are slowly dwindling, Koerber said, and hearing a survivor’s story secondhand isn’t the same.

“It’s not going to be very much longer that we have this opportunity to be able to hear survivors speak about their experiences. Koerber said that “the last generation that experienced this who were children at the time won’t be with us much longer.”

“"My biggest goal is to feel like there’s a sense of community," said Leslie Susman, the secretary of Chabad at Chapman and event organizer for Schloss’ talk. “Because of the recent rise of anti-Semitism, from New York to Pittsburgh, to as close to home as Newport, it’s nice to bring everyone together.”

Days after Newport Beach high school students formed a swastika out of red cups and gave Nazi salutes, Eva Schloss spoke at Chapman. Schloss, who is a Holocaust survivor and Anne Frank’s stepsister, spoke to an audience of about 1,000.

Eva Schloss spoke to Chapman students and community members about her experiences during the Holocaust on March 6.
2018 Chapman alumnus runs for Virginia State Senate

Carolina Valencia | Staff Writer

Zach Brown wakes up at around 5 a.m. each day. He finishes his class assignments and heads to his first class of the day at the University of Washington, which motivated him to become a politician. Brown graduated from Chapman in 2018 before moving to Virginia for law school. He is a 23-year-old law student studying constitutional law, Brown balances long school hours and a social life as a one-on-one setting, "It's energizing and inspiring because you are taking on a lot of established forces and people saying, 'Hey, wait your turn.' But we don't have time to wait," Brown said.

Brown's campaign is managed by fellow Chapman University students, with a team of six women, minorities and his friends. At Chapman, Brown was a member of Chapman University Young Democrats – a club that he says motivated him to become a politician due to the experiences it exposed him to. He also worked with Mitchell Rosenberg, student government president, said Smoller.

"He will be the kind of person that people will make people feel comfortable on a one-on-one setting," Leitz said. "It's great to see young people getting involved in politics and trying to make a difference.

Brown's run for state senate until she saw his campaign Facebook page, she isn't surprised.

"I'm not that surprised because I have known him for two years," Papish said.

"Zach is a fighter, he's passionate," Papish said. "People need someone to represent them that is actually fighting for them, not just fighting themself. That's exactly what he would do if he was elected."

Brown's campaign will center around fighting what Brown describes as a "growing wealth gap" in Virginia which, according to The Washington Post, consists of impoverished neighborhoods "tucked inside" wealthy suburban areas. His campaign is also dedicated to raising the minimum wage, expanding health insurance and supporting Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's (D - N.Y.) Green New Deal.

Brown told The Panther that he finds his campaign to be an exciting factor that motivates him to become involved in politics.

"That level of hostility has a causal effect," Shenkman said. "If the council has not made a decision yet on how they will proceed with the lawsuit, said Councilman Fred Smoller, who also serves as mayor pro tempore. "I don't think districts in Orange will have any kind of effect. The districts were formed in order to help those who have a minority in the district," Alvarez said. "When you apply that to the city of Orange, there is really no neighborhood that is dominated by any minority."

Photo courtesy of Zach Brown

Zach Brown graduated from Chapman in 2018 before moving to Virginia for law school. He is now running for Virginia State Senate.

Orange becomes latest city sued to enforce district elections

Dayna Li | Staff Writer

In January, Orange's city council voted to hold a special election that could cost almost half of a million to elect a councilperson to an empty seat.

"For far too long, the state government has not been thinking about my age," Brown said. "You young people are stepping off the sidelines and are getting into the arena and making our voices heard," Brown said. "Young people are demanding a seat at the table." After graduating from Chapman with a bachelor's degree in peace studies and a minor in political science, Brown started his law education, but he has a deeper desire to improve the lives of his neighbors in Virginia, which motivated him to represent the 50th district.

"For far too long, the state government here has not been representing the interests of the people," Brown said.

Brown will run against Democratic candidates Eileen Bedell and Gloria Hashim, both established Virginia residents. But Brown isn't backing – despite his age, he's ready to talk policy with his opponents.

"After that conversation, you will not be thinking about my age," Brown said.

If he wins the primary in June, Brown will run against Republican incumbent Glen Sturtevant, who is backed by the NRA.

Brown's campaign is managed by fellow University of Richmond students, with a team of six women, minorities and his friends. At Chapman, Brown was a member of Chapman University Young Democrats – a club that he says motivated him to become a politician due to the experiences it exposed him to. He also worked with Mitchell Rosenberg, student government president, said Smoller.

"Many people have cancer. Zach is a fighter, he's passionate," Rosenberg said. "People need someone to represent them that is actually going to listen and who is going to fight for them, not just fight themselves. That's exactly what he would do if he was elected."

Brown's campaign will center around fighting what Brown describes as a "growing wealth gap" in Virginia which, according to The Washington Post, consists of impoverished neighborhoods "tucked inside" wealthy suburban areas. His campaign is also dedicated to raising the minimum wage, expanding health insurance and supporting Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's (D - N.Y.) Green New Deal.

Brown told The Panther that he finds his campaign to be an exciting factor that motivates him to become involved in politics.

"It feels energizing and inspiring and a little intimidating because you are taking on a lot of established forces and people saying, 'Hey, wait your turn.' But we don't have time to wait," Brown said.

"Transitioning to district elections might be the largest change to Orange city government in history," Smoller said. "There are a lot of people who are not pleased that the city will go to district elections," Smoller said. "This is the first election of a new mayor, there's no turning back."

Mitchell Rosenberg, Betty Valen- cia's policy director and Chapman student government president, said that the possibility of representation is important. "Our council is not representative of the Orange population," Rosenberg said. "Valencia was focused on inclu- sion," said Grace Papish, a junior political science major who volun- teered for Valencia's campaign.

"She wanted the issues that mat- tered to the people we canvassed to be reflected in the city council," Papish said.

Shenkman described Valencia's politics as being at odds with the city council's politics, referring to a Dec. 11 council meeting where a man pulled a knife after criticizing Valencia's campaign and calling her the 'worst person' to have on the council.

"That level of hostility has a causal effect," Shenkman said. The council has not made a decision yet on how they will proceed with the lawsuit, said Councilman Mike Alvarez, who also serves as mayor pro tempore.

"I don't think districts in Orange will have any kind of effect. The districts were formed in order to help those who have a minority in the district," Alvarez said. "When you apply that to the city of Orange, there is really no neighborhood that is dominated by any minority."

Kevin Shenkman Feb. 13 on be- half of Southwest Voter Registra- tion Education Project (SVREP), a non-profit organization that pro- motes Latino and minority political representation and involvement. "We look at Orange and we're convinced that Orange is violating the Voting Rights Act, and the goal of the lawsuit is to change the way it is electing city council," Shenkman told The Panther.

With diversity at the forefront of the lawsuit, Valencia is confident that all levels of government would benefit from equal representation.

"We need diversity on all levels," Valencia said. "It has been some- thing that has been missing." Valencia's campaign in 2018 ad- dressed issues like homelessness, senior population and infrastruc- ture, according to Valencia. She said it was difficult to compete against other candidates.

"(District elections) will make elections more accessible for indivi- duals to actually run for office," she said. Fred Smoller, a Chapman political science professor who specializes in local politics, told The Panther that the reasoning behind the lawsuit comes from the fact that minority communities in Orange find it difficult to be appointed or elected to the city council.

"The straw that broke the camel's back was that the city would not elect Betty to the third seat," Smoller said. "She's openly gay, she's liber- al; why do you think she didn't get appointed?"

Orange is the latest city to face a general election lawsuit. Cities that have implemented by-
Public Safety stations officer at Chapman Grand gate after burglaries

Carolina Valencia | Staff Writer

In September 2018, there was a kitchen fire. In January, almost 100 students were relocated due to a hot water main break that caused a flood. February saw a string of four burglaries and in March, someone smashed a resident’s car window and smashed purse.

For students living in Chapman Grand, the Anaheim apartment complex opened in fall 2018. This is what some of their life in the $150 million student housing looks like. The cost to live in Chapman Grand ranges from about $1,334 to $2,058 per student per month in a nine-month lease. “It feels like there’s this pattern, but these things happen around campus and residence halls,” Sundby said, noting that a water break took place at Glass Hall shortly after the Chapman Grand water break. “Those types of things happen every year.”

Rick Gonzalez, the deputy chief of Public Safety said that it’s unlikely that the perpetrator in the first burglary, which took place on Feb. 16, was a student. Since Feb. 28, Public Safety has closed the north gate entrance to Chapman Grand and has stationed an officer at the east gate of the parking lot in the evening.

“This is a suspect gained access by piggybacking in after students swept in,” Gonzalez said. “After we saw that on video, we put an officer there who is now making everybody stop and swipe in.”

The first day Public Safety officers were stationed by the gate, officers turned away 10 people who didn’t have Chapman Grand parking permits. “I park on the fourth floor now,” said Jae Stanton, a junior film production major, about the burglary at Chapman Grand. “I would leave my car unlocked sometimes,” she said.

Public Safety sent out warnings via email to Chapman Grand residents on Feb. 27 and again on March 6, recommending that students take valuables with them, lock their cars and report any suspicious activity, like cars following residents as they enter the gate. “These strategies usually work and will force the burglars to move to another location,” Gonzalez said.

While Sundby said that the burglaries at Chapman Grand aren’t students’ fault, he touched on the responsibilities of living in an apartment-style building. “If people aren’t respecting the fact that you need to secure doors on your way in and lock your car, even if it’s in a secure parking structure, there can be problems,” Sundby said. “It’s the same thing with our residence halls.”

Some residents think that the area around Chapman Grand contributes to the burglaries. Anaheim, the city where the apartment complex is located, has 10,569 violent and property crimes each year, while Orange has 2,810. “We are a lot further away from campus and we are not within the Orange neighborhood that everyone knows a bit better,” said Amanda Lindsey, a senior business administration major.

At SGA debate, candidates talk diversity, putting promises into action

Jasmin Sani | Managing Editor
Lou Vanhecke | News Editor

A year after losing the vice presidency vote to senior Arianna Ng-nomine, junior Alex Ballard stood on the Student Union stage against Amid. Ballard, who serves as the allocations chair and upperclassmen senator and is now running for student government president. His opponent, Saba Amid, a sophomore candidate is also running for president alongside Abby Tan, the sole vice presidential candidate.

The three candidates debated their campaign points in front of an audience of about 25 students. Ballard and Amid focused their debate largely on Chapman’s diversity gap and listening to students. Ballard, who has been involved in student government for three years, argued that his knowledge and experience make him the best candidate. He is currently working on a sexual misconduct policy/Title IX resolution with Dodge College senator Lindsey Ellis.

“The biggest problem facing the university is disregarding for the student voices on campus,” Ballard said. “I have been told that he has ‘not seen this in just one instance, but in multiple.’”

“I’ve noticed it is a pattern in the culture of Chapman,” Ballard said.

While Amid, who serves as the Wilkinson College for Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences senator and the university’s Academic Affairs chair, does not have as much experience working in student government, she believes her cultural background as an Iranian-American can help bridge the diversity gap she said she sees on campus.

Although student government doesn’t utilize official presidential and vice presidential tickets, Amid is running alongside vice presidential candidate Tan, who serves as the Schmid School of Science and Technology senator, and believes that their backgrounds as two women of color have given them a nuanced perspective on Chapman’s diversity issues.

“As a community, sometimes we lack that bond that drives us together as a school. We all go to Chapman; we all should be proud that we go to Chapman,” Amid said. “I want to make campus something that we can be proud of. That’s why I’m on student government.”

Amid has also focused her campaign on issues including equal resources to study materials, textbooks and necessities for students of all socioeconomic backgrounds.

“While I haven’t been on (student government) as long, I don’t have as much experience as Alex does, I do think that my passion sets me apart,” Amid said.

But turning promises into action is something Ballard believes he has a strong record of. “It’s one thing to put out a platform and have these ideas and goals, but it’s another thing to follow through on those things and have a plan of action to do it,” Ballard said.

“Personally, I know I’ve done that!”

In response to Ballard’s statement, Amid spoke about representing her constituents by working on the advisory board for the Wilkinson Student Leadership Council. She also spoke on her involvement with the initiative that brought free menstrual products to women’s bathrooms in spring 2018. “I will deliver on the promises I make and I don’t stand here and make empty promises to you, because that’s not what I do,” Amid said.

Voting for the three candidates will close Wednesday at 5 p.m. and the results will be announced shortly after, at 6 p.m. Students can vote by visiting chapmanvotes.com.
About 30 students attend ‘Womxn’s Herstory’ kickoff event

Lou Vanhecke | News Editor

Cassidy Keola | Photo Editor

In Argyros Forum on March 4 stood an easel with a painting of a mother feeding her child, her arms wrapped around his body and her head placed softly atop his. This was one of the four paintings by Irvine-born artist Isabel Emrich that were commissioned by the Cross-Cultural Center (CCC) to commemorate women’s history month. The unveiling of Emrich’s work occurred at the “Womxn’s Herstory” kickoff on March 4. Emrich was joined by slam poets and vocal performers for an evening of celebration.

“My grandma and great-grandma and my mom are all very strong and creative women who have influenced me and have encouraged me to follow my dreams,” Emrich told The Panther.

The kickoff and subsequent months of planned events for “Womxn’s Herstory” at Chapman was spearheaded by graduate student coordinator Victoza Gomez, the CCC and the Heritage Month Programming – a program dedicated to recognizing diverse identities at Chapman.

While the month will focus on women’s history, the goal is to also look at “women now and the issues and struggles we are still facing,” Gomez said.

The month focuses around inclusivity which can be seen in the event’s title. The name, “Womxn’s Herstory,” was chosen by a diverse group of people who identify as women, feminine or nonbinary, Gomez said.

After displaying Emrich’s work in a slideshow presentation for the event attendees, graduate creative writing student Danielle Shorr and senior screenwriting major Jesse Flowers took to the stage and performed a joint slam poetry piece that focused on “the fallacy within how women are treated,” Shorr said.

“We shouldnt have to be taught to protect ourselves from danger but we are; we learn it,” Shorr told The Panther. “I hope people who hear the words can connect to it; I hope women can feel less alone in their experiences and men feel the responsibility to do better, to be better and to hold other men accountable.”

The kickoff event concluded with a performance from Simply Vocale, an all-treble a cappella group on campus.

“Like meat”: Carol Adams talks intersection between veganism, feminism

Lou Vanhecke | News Editor

Two weeks ago, junior Corinne Tam spread the American flag over a gallery wall in Argyros Forum, on quotes from Trump like, “If she weren’t my daughter, perhaps I’d be dating her,” which was about his daughter, Ivanka, in 2006, and “Such a nasty woman,” said during the 2016 election about opponent Hillary Clinton.

The piece was one of multiple art pieces meant to illustrate misogyny, sexism and gendered politics submitted to the “Sexual Politics of Meat” art show and lecture, held in Argyros Forum.

“The flag was angering, and it was difficult to finish,” Tam said. “I did online research before starting, and it was just unbelievable. Trump has been saying things like this since the 1990s. There’s just a continual perpetuation.”

It was joined by fellow student artist Micaela Bastianelli, a sophomore sociology major, whose piece showed a female model and a “man” pointing to listing parts of the body, designed to illustrate the parallels between the “ideal woman” and meat consumption.

“I wanted to focus on body fragmentation, women being sexually objectified and the idea that value is assigned to body parts,” Bastianelli said. “Like meat, we pick and choose what we want from the female body.”

The student gallery also showcased postcards highlighting both the works of Tam and Bastianelli.

Anita Hill and Christine Blasey Ford Congressional testimonies and the gendered politics of meat and veganism. After an hour, g, artists and guests were joined by vegan and guest at the CCC for the next month to commemorate Women’s History Month.

“Women’s History Month has gained prominence since the #MeToo movement and is commemorated on many college campuses, according to The New York Times.

“The reason why programming is so vital is because it is important to feel like you belong to a group where you feel safe within,” Gomez said.

Shorr said.

“We shouldn’t have to be taught to protect ourselves from danger but we are; we learn it,” Shorr told The Panther. “I hope people who hear the poem can connect to it; I hope women can feel less alone in their experiences and men feel the responsibility to do better, to be better and to hold other men accountable.”

Adams, whose book “The Sexual Politics of Meat” was published in 2019, has spent her adult life looking at how advertising tactics equate women’s bodies with meat.

“Companies are hyper-sexualizing animals, they are putting animal heads over pictures of women’s bodies, they are using phrases like ‘Grab both buns and eat it like a man’ to sell a sandwich,” she said. “There is a connection between the rhetoric being used and sexual violence.”

“Companies are hyper-sexualizing animals, they are putting animal heads over pictures of women’s bodies, they are using phrases like ‘Grab both buns and eat it like a man’ to sell a sandwich,” she said. “There is a connection between the rhetoric being used and sexual violence.”

Adams shared some of the critiques and insults she has faced within her career. “A fat chick with hairy armpits wrote this,” read one tweet about her work called, “The Anti-Trump Diet.

“If we had paid attention, we wouldn’t have been surprised by Trump,” Adams said, as she argued that an uptick of gendered advertising and rhetoric present in the first decade of the 2000s contributed to bolstering gender and racial stereotypes. Adams referred to 2008 Burger King’s “Whopper Virgin” advertisement campaign as an example.

“We are flattening diversity into stereotypes,” she said. The lecture finished with a Q&A where students asked about how to bridge the gap between expected roles and diet, and whether being a “conservative feminist” is possible.

“I want people to know that change is possible,” Adams said to The Panther.

Lou Vanhecke | News Editor

Cassidy Keola | Photo Editor

Corinne Tam’s work called, “A Message from the President,” was one of two pieces she submitted to the “Sexual Politics of Meat” art show and lecture. Her other piece used meat product Spam to sculpt female body parts to symbolize sexual violence.
‘The recognition is so gratifying’: The ChapTones talk ICCA Quarterfinal victory

Sativi Sunkara | Staff Writer

Chapman’s a cappella group, The ChapTones, will perform at the ICCA Southwest Semifinal March 30 in Phoenix, Arizona.

Maybe you’re a big Panic! at the Disco fan. But can you imagine listening to “High Hopes” several times a session, three sessions a week, for nearly three months? Now, imagine doing that without any music. That’s what The ChapTones, one of Chapman’s a cappella groups, did to come in first place Feb. 24 at the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella (ICCA) Southwest Quarterfinal.

“It was surreal. I know how much potential we have and how much we worked to get to where we are; it means a lot,” said sophomore Sanaz Bashari, a voice lead performer, assistant music director and vice president of The ChapTones. The group competed against nine different college a cappella teams at the quarterfinal and qualified to perform at the ICCA Southwest Semifinal March 30 at the Herberger Theater Center in Phoenix, Arizona.

The ensemble of 17 group members rehearsed their parts individually over winter break. Once interterm started, they began to practice together. For three weeks they sharpened up their blend with each other and worked on their choreography up until the competition. The set they performed included covers of “Homemade Dynamite” by OneRepublic and “High Hopes” by Panic! At The Disco, along with original music.

“Imagine listening to a song starting from winter break until now,” Bashari said.

Members would begin their practices with short games or talk about their lives to avoid getting caught up with the stress of the competition.

“We’re just a group of people from all different backgrounds, all over the place, who share a love for music and come together to just share that passion with each other and everybody else,” said junior Emma Ballen, the choreographer for The ChapTones and a business administration major.

For everything we put into the set, getting the recognition is so gratifying,” said Avery Roberts, the music director for The ChapTones. Last year, the group made the choice to diverge from their typical competition set. Previous sets began with an up-tempo song, followed by a more emotional song and closing with an upbeat song to hype up the audience. This year, Roberts created a set called “recoveryisnonlinear.” “The songs told a story of somebody who fought their way back up to a higher spot and then fell further than they had before,” Roberts said. “It is a personal story not just for me, but for a lot of the people in our group.”

The teams set used 60 percent of the a cappella members’ original music, an uncommon choice in the a cappella community.

“In recording, pitch, rhythm and tone — those are all things you can fix in post, but you can’t fix a passless performance,” Roberts said. “And The ChapTones, we perform with so much passion, you can tell there is feeling behind our words.”

Look to the stars: Why some are turning to astrology for relationship help

Mitali Shukla | Staff Writer

The question that astrologer Linda Burke, owner of Lindy Burke Stargazer in Santa Ana, gets asked the most about dating and relationships is, “What is the best sign for me to date?”

But the answer to that question, Burke said, isn’t so simple.

“There are so many factors in your chart that your sun sign isn’t the best sign to base that off of,” Burke said.

According to the popular astrology website CafeAstrology, zodiac compatibility is the idea that people are inherently more likely to get along with certain zodiac signs. Burke said astrology compatibility has also reached dating apps. Bumble added a filter feature in December 2018 that allows users to put their zodiac sign on their profiles and filter through the dating pool using the 12 signs.

“The trend has to do with young people choosing to identify with religion and more with spirituality and astrology,” Jess Carbino, Bumble’s sociologist, told Well and Good.

But astrology skeptics believe the practice is more based in superstition than in science.

Rose Albrect, a sophomore chemistry major, described astrology as making large generalizations that could apply to anyone.

“It’s essentially a confirmation bias,” Albrect said. “I fail to see a strong correlation between when you were born and personality traits.”

The resurgence of astrology may intrigue people to seek out the meaning behind their signs and how accurately it relays the true nature of their identity. For Hardy, the obsession with astrology isn’t a bad thing. It’s too accurate.

“I’m really good at guessing people’s signs, part of proof for me is that I can guess and get it right,” she said. “I’ve never really been 100 percent wrong.”

Compatible

| Moods and emotions (Moon) | Taurus - Scorpio |
| Sex and aggression (Mars) | Pisces - Virgo |
| Senses of responsibility (Saturn) | Aries - Aries |
| Philosophies of life (Saturn) | Pisces - Aquarius |

Neutral

| Basic identities (Sun) | Pisces - Aries |
| Intellect and communication (Mercury) | Pisces - Aries |

Incompatible

| Love and pleasure (Venus) | Capricorn - Aries |

Some are looking to the sky for relationship help. Google Trends showed a significant spike in searches for “astrological compatibility” from 2017, hitting an all-time high this month.
What the new LEGO movie taught me about humanity

Christian Hyatt | Contributor

Have you ever seen a movie that absolutely rocked you? A movie that spoke to exactly who you are or what you’re experiencing at the time you watched it? A movie that peers into your soul and pulls you out of whatever personal hell you’re going through? Well, that was what I felt when I watched “The LEGO Movie 2: The Second Part.” I wept like a child whose parents accidentally broke his LEGO Star Wars Ewok Village.

On the surface, the movie is a sequel to the 2014 star-studded, infinitely silly and all-age pleasing “The LEGO Movie.” The plot of the second movie follows Emmet, voiced by Chris Pratt, who is a happy-go-lucky guy living in a post-apocalyptic LEGO world constructed from the ruins of the immaculately crafted town of Bricksburg from the first movie.

Emmet and his best friend WyldStyle, voiced by Elizabeth Banks, along with Batman, Unikitty, Benny and MetalBeard all try to keep a semblance of civilization in an unforgiving world. They are invaded by an adorable alien DUPLO team, which has taken the most valuable members of their post-apocalyptic community. After WyldStyle is abducted by the aliens, it’s up to Emmet to save her with the help of his new mentor – the handsome and dangerous Rex Dangervest, also voiced by Chris Pratt. Together, they try to save their friends from an unlikely foe, General Sweet Mayhem.

The movie does have its flaws. It drags a bit in the middle when Rex is teaching Emmet how to be a tough guy.

While the twist at the end is deserved (so I won’t spoil it), it takes a while to get to, and I thought the movie was over twice before it actually finished. On the surface, this movie is about a LEGO world, but it’s so much more. The movies are so silly and fun, but they encompass relevant themes and lessons anyone can relate to, especially adult children like myself.

Phil Lord and Christopher Miller, filmmaking duo and winners of the Animated Feature Academy Award for “Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse,” have a unique sense of humor, articulate relatable characters and universal themes that touch upon relevant topics through a humorous lens.

In the first LEGO movie, the theme was centered around the idea that you’re special, but so is everyone else. In the second part, there is a theme of coming together even when times are rough. I watched the second movie at a time in my life where I’ve felt lonely, and I was putting on a bit of a mask to get by. It inspired me to reach out to people. I learned to love and cherish my friends rather than turn internally and rely on myself to figure out my own problems, much like Emmet’s character arc.

I wasn’t really expecting a LEGO movie to teach me that lesson, but it did.
He made ‘Thriller,’ but...

I s it OK if I listen to Michael Jackson’s ‘Thriller’? Would it be all right if I played "Ignition Remix" by R Kelly? Will you judge me if I watch "American Beauty," a movie starring Kevin Spacey, or "Django Unchained," a film produced by the Weinstein Company? Is there a way to still enjoy the art if the artist is accused of horrible things? Man, I sure hope so.

After watching "Leaving Neverland," the recent HBO documentary that details the alleged sexual abuse that two now-grown men say they experienced at the hands of Jackson when they were young, I believe that he is guilty. Like many, I tried to disregard the stories of Jackson’s involvement with children at first, but now having, listened to Wade Robson and James Safechuck tell their side of the story, I regret that I didn’t believe them sooner.

In 1993 and 2005, Jackson was accused of child molestation. According to CNN, in the 1993 case, Jackson settled with the accuser, Jordain Chandler, and his family to the tune of nearly $23 million in order to keep the ordeal out of court. Then in 2005, Jackson was taken to court – but was eventually acquitted of all charges. Though he was never proven guilty in a court of law, the documentary has given the public a different view of one of the most famous men of all time.

Jackson’s sprawling 2,700-acre estate in Los Olivos, California, known as “Neverland Ranch,” was where some of the alleged assaults occurred. The ranch was designed to be the perfect place for kids; there was a movie theatre with a stocked candy bar, a zoo with giraffes and even an amusement park in the backyard.

The documentary details that before Jackson had any children of his own, he would invite families over to stay because he told them he was lonely and had no friends. Eventually, he would convince parents to let their sons and daughters stay the night in his bedroom under the guise of a movie night.

In a 2003 interview with a British journalist, Jackson admitted to letting children sleep in this bed with him, but claimed it was harmless. Still, some of the accusations claim otherwise. In a 2005 skit from "The Chappelle Show," Dave Chappelle plays a man who is being interviewed to be a potential juror on Jackson’s case. Chappelle’s character doesn’t believe that Jackson could be guilty of the charges because, after all, "he made ‘Thriller.’" Then when asked if he would let his children sleep in a bed with Jackson, Chappelle’s character said no.

That’s the easiest and most comfortable mindset to have about the accusations. How could someone with such talent and the ability to bring so much joy to people all over the world do something as horrific as molest a child? We tend to give icons like Jackson a free pass because it feels better to us. No one wants to acknowledge that their hero is a real person with real flaws and someone who could potentially cause other people massive harm. We all want Jackson to be the man on the stage moonwalking, not someone who allegedly manipulates and takes advantage of children.

Jackson can no longer hurt children, but we hurt the men those children have become by not acknowledging what allegedly happened to them.

The myth of Michael Jackson has been destroyed. The man is dead. But the music is still here. Personally, I don’t believe we should stop listening to “Thriller” or any of Jackson’s other hits, but we do have to recognize what he is accused of. Once you do that, though, the music might sound a little different.

Hate can be twisted into something lighthearted. In pre-World War II Germany, swastikas were incorporated into children’s board games and anti-Semitism was woven into the cartoons in children’s books.

Last week, high school students at a Newport Beach party crafted a swastika out of red cups, faced the iPhone cameras that were filming the event and extended their arms in Nazi salutes. The swastika is a universally known symbol of hate. But these students used it for a drinking game, thought it was funny and didn’t try to hide that.

Nazis ideology and imagery in America aren’t just concepts we read about in history books. They are not a relic of the past. They exist today, at prestigious East Coast schools, at rallies that draw hundreds of people, like the 2017 "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville and as close to Chapman as a wealthy seaside city 15 miles away.

In a country where acts of anti-Semitism spiked 57 percent from 2016-2017, according to the Anti-Defamation League, it’s hard to believe that no one at the Newport Beach party knew the historical significance and painful background of the symbol. So why didn’t anyone speak up? Charliene Meloyer, the Newport-Mesa Unified School Board District President, told CBS Los Angeles that “more should’ve been done to make sure the students recognize the severity of the symbols they were using.”

But if students are unable to understand the racist, violent and damaging past behind symbols of the swastika now, what will happen in just a few years when the last of the Holocaust survivors are dead?

When Anne Frank’s stepsister, Eva Schloss, came to speak at Chapman this week before speaking to some of the students involved in the Newport Beach incident a day later, she pointed out that nothing like the Holocaust has affected the U.S. in recent years – and that young people need to hear about how dangerous racism, prejudice and intolerance can be.

"Not everyone in Germany knew what was going on, but there were obviously cowards who didn’t speak up," she said. "If you see someone using racist or hateful imagery or rhetoric, do just that: speak up. It doesn’t matter if you’re at school, a family gathering, or a party with new friends."

Being a bystander makes you just as guilty as the people setting up the cups in the shape of a swastika or making cruel, racist jokes. Don’t sacrifice your morality in favor of fitting in.
I've been a student at Chapman for three years. Here, I've had some incredible professional, social and academic opportunities. Chapman has provided me with some of my closest friends and supportive faculty members to guide me along my educational and personal journey. I have a lot to be happy for this university, and it's because I love Chapman so much that I am so adamant about the fact that I believe, based on my conversations with students, that the university needs to do a better job supporting students when dealing with sexual misconduct.

As upperclassman senator on Chapman's student government, I have worked for several months alongside Lindsey Ellis, Doris Dunham, and Katelyn Dykhuis, to talk with students about their experiences and issues with Title IX and the sexual misconduct investigation process at Chapman. Together, we drafted a resolution outlining actions that we want to see taken at the university. About 23 percent of women and almost 6 percent of men experience rape or sexual assault through "physical force, violence, or incapacitation," according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network.

In addition, nearly 50 percent of transgender people are sexually assaulted at some point in their lifetime. Sexual misconduct is a growing crisis nationwide that will not end unless we take a firm stance and commit to change as an institution.

It is essential that we ensure students are not re-traumatized by the investigation process. The emphasis must be on supporting students that report sexual misconduct with appropriate resources. After spending time speaking with students and faculty, I believe there are three core issues that need to be improved in our university's investigation process: communication, efficiency and transparency.

We believe that conducting an external review of Chapman's Title IX policies and practices would serve the university, faculty and most importantly, students. After this comprehensive review is complete, there needs to be a student representative present when reviewing the findings and speaking on behalf of the reviewers. Additionally, it is critical that students who participate in investigations as witnesses or complainants receive full amnesty, not just amnesty from Student Conduct Code violations.

With how the Student Sexual Misconduct Policy is written right now, if a student isn't penalized for conduct code violations, it doesn't mean he or she won't see repercussions. These repercussions can impact a student's campus employment, athletic participation and leadership positions if he or she is a witness or a victim in a sexual misconduct investigation and was drunk or on drugs at the time the incident in question took place.

I want to believe that I have the same goals as my fellow Chapman students, but Chapman has a long way to go before it can claim to. I strongly urge the university to engage in a serious self-examination on this issue, because time's up, Chapman.

If you are a student who has faced sexual harassment or sexual assault on campus, and you feel comfortable sharing your story with me, I want to hear from you.

We can only address this problem when students speak up about their experiences, so I am here to listen so that we can make our campus community stronger.

**Why I advocate for finstas**

"You're so happy all the time. You're just so sweet." Do you ever cry? These are the comments that I've been inundated with nearly all my life. From the moment I was born, it seemed like I've really thought about them until college. Having these comments on a daily basis has caused me to struggle with finding my true personality.

I've questioned whether my enthusiasm and smiles are a facade or simply a style, but the truth is, I'm afraid of commitment. As upperclassman senator on Chapman, I thought an 'influencer' was someone who was responsible for influencing thought in psychology, not someone with a popular Instagram account.

Then the "finsta" rage began, which took me another month or so to understand. I told myself that I'd never create one because who cares about how my banana peel didn't make it into the trash can. This mentality ended up tripping on itself for five minutes later? Eventually, though, through good old friendly encouragement, I created a finsta account — also known as a private Instagram account.

I started with posting silly and memorable photos with friends while I was a freshman my senior year at Chapman, but quickly, the account transformed into an outlet for the stress of juggling commitments and school with being a good friend. It's the perfect platform to express my authentic thoughts and feelings with people who don't judge me for not being optimistic every second of my life. It's an opportunity for me to share part of my life that is so personal and revealing, that faces the world — is beautiful, ornate and flawless.

I don't spend a whole lot of time on social media, so up until I became friends with public relations and advertising majors at Chapman, I thought an 'influencer' was someone who was responsible for influencing thought in psychology, not someone with a popular Instagram account.

I tend to run the other way when my stitched side starts to show. I worry that a slight lapse in my optimism will be construed as a disinterest in others. I worry that if I cancel plans to get work done, I'll be letting people down. But Watts begs to differ. Our stitched sides are what add interest and genuine beauty to our lives, so we should embrace and be more honest about them. An 'influencer' does not have to differ. Our stitched sides are what add interest and genuine beauty to our lives, so we should embrace and be more honest about them. An 'influencer' does not have to differ.

By having a finsta, I've come in contact with my stitched side. It's the part of black culture that is appealing to them and leaves the rest behind, while apparently in the workplace, they aren't accepting.

**Don't mess with my dreadlocks**

Every couple of days or so, I come across a tweet with the idea of dredging my hair. The practice of not creating dreadlocks can happen in a number of ways. You can get your roots twisted every few weeks, or you can attempt to create a super clean side, or you can choose not to touch your hair at all and allow the dreads to form naturally.

My partner has made by British-American philosopher Alan Watts, called, 'Exploring Your Dark Side.' Life is like embroidery, he said. Imagine a piece of embroidered fabric. One side is the portion that faces the world — is beautiful, ornate and seemingly flawless. Flip it over and you’ll find an explosion with wrinkles and rogue stitching zig-zagging harshly across the back. That’s how life is.

We'll have an embroidered side and a stitched side. Our embroidered side is the part of ourselves we consciously share with the world. We choose to show what’s happy, social, involved and intelligent with our lives all planned out. But, inside of us, that stitched side — the one with the imperfections, flaws and shortcuts — still exists.

Now, as a science major, I didn't spend a whole lot of time on social media, so up until I became friends with public relations and advertising majors at Chapman, I thought an ‘influencer’ was someone who was responsible for influencing thought in psychology, not someone with a popular Instagram account.

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After freshman year epilepsy diagnosis, senior goalkeeper brings ‘toughness’

Luca Evans | Staff Writer

In early March 2016, Alyssa Welfringer was a freshman at Chapman, excited to play college water polo as a goalkeeper. She travelled up to Claremont, California, for a weekend tournament. The Friday before the drive, she fell asleep knowing she was a starter in the game against Claremont Mudd-Scripps the next morning. But something quickly changed.

“When I woke up on Saturday, I felt really off,” Welfringer said. When she got into the pool, she was freezing. She tried to tread water, but curled into a fetal position in the pool. She told head coach Eric Ploessel she couldn’t play, and while the team played the game, Welfringer slept on the bench under the team’s robes, overcome with chills.

Later that day, she woke up from a nap in the dorms with a 105-degree fever, so she called her mom to take her home to Huntington Beach. The next day, she was admitted to the hospital, Welfringer, now a sophomore, said she had a goal-against average of 10.25 points.

She played in seven games her freshman season, six of which were before the Claremont tournament. At the end of December 2016, following a grand mal seizure where her eyes rolled back in her head and her arms spasmed, Welfringer was diagnosed with juvenile myoclonic epilepsy.

While she was put on medication, Welfringer soon found that her main trouble was getting through the physical aspect of the brain disorder.

“I was very scared, because I didn’t understand what having epilepsy meant. When you go through season and you do a lot of heavy lifting and physical activities, your muscles get fatigued, so I had muscle twitching all the time,” Welfringer said. “Not getting enough sleep is something that makes me more likely to have a seizure, so I would just end up in these very hard panic attacks.”

But Welfringer slowly started to understand her condition more. The physical toll from hospital visits caused her to lose weight and muscle, but over time, she got back into shape by working out and learning how to get enough sleep.

“Three years after being admitted to the hospital, Welfringer, now a senior majoring in Public Relations and Advertisement, walked down the hallway of the Lastinger Athletics Complex to Ploessel’s office March 5, the night before a game against the Occidental Tigers. Once inside, she repeated different versions of the phrase, “I need ice,” and tugged the bottom of her pants up to her knee, revealing a shin marked with black and blue welts.

“Eric, my whole legs are covered in bruises because I’ve been kicking people,” Welfringer told Ploessel.

“This season, the team’s defense has changed, inviting Welfringer to come out of the goal more than before and make contact with other field players. Her journey throughout college and managing her diagnosis has led her to play her most aggressive season ever. After five straight losses to begin the season, women’s water polo has won four games.

“The biggest change is the toughness,” Ploessel said. “This is what I was probably most proud of, was the toughness I’m seeing.”

Welfringer said she sees herself as more of a leader, which took learning how to balance frustration. She’s more aggressive in the pool, but more measured. She said she’s learning how to transform that frustration into laughter.

“‘I’ve just had the most fun this season, and I think it’s visible,’” Welfringer said. “It’s made me play stronger, to be able to want to be competitive, but also enjoy being competitive and not be angry.”

This season is the most important in her water polo career, Welfringer said, because she feels she’s the strongest she’s been since before her freshman year, before the tournament in Claremont and before she got sick.

In the 2018 season, Welfringer goal tended for 10 games. She accumulated 65 saves and had a goal-against average of 10.25 points.

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After learning how to manage her epilepsy and the panic that it came with, Welfringer has focused more on simply playing the game. “I would rather define myself as just an athlete, not necessarily as an athlete with epilepsy,” Welfringer said. “Because if I do what I need to do, it doesn’t affect my performance.”
Toole becomes first Chapman diver to qualify for NCAA Championships

Kayla Maran | Staff Writer

When senior Kellyn Toole arrived at Grinnell College in Iowa March 1 for the NCAA Region 2 Diving Championships, she thought it would be the last dive meet of her athletic career. Going into the competition, Toole was nervous, but mostly excited to catch up with old friends from other universities. She had no plans to advance or qualify for nationals and for most of the competition, she didn’t pay any attention to the scoreboard.

So Toole was shocked when she was told she had won the one-meter board competition, with a score of 403.55. Earlier in the weekend, Toole also placed third in the three-meter board with a score of 386.25, making her the first-ever Chapman diver to qualify for the NCAA Division III National Swimming and Diving Championships.

“I genuinely had no idea,” Toole said. “My friend came up to me at the end of the day and said, ‘Great job. I’ll see you in a few weeks at nationals,’ and I was like, ‘Wait, what?’”

This is an unexpected accomplishment for Toole because she took up diving at a late age. Her athletic career began with gymnastics as a three-year-old in her hometown of Centennial, Colorado. As a freshman at Regis Jesuit High School, Toole continued to practice gymnastics, but decided to try out for the high school’s dive team when she heard they were looking for new recruits.

From there, Toole experienced a smooth transition from gymnastics to diving because gymnastics had prepared her with the “body awareness” and flexibility required to be a diver.

But now, she said, learning new dives can be a daunting task – especially because she has grown increasingly aware of the “possibility of getting hurt.”

“I wish I started younger, because when you’re younger, you don’t have as much fear,” Toole said.

Throughout high school, Toole juggled gymnastics, diving and track. But, during her senior year, she broke her foot on a beam during gymnastics practice.

“I felt like my bones were giving up on me,” Toole said.

Shortly after, she decided it might be best to give gymnastics a break. By the time Toole arrived at Chapman, she was ready to focus on diving. As a strategic and corporate communication major, she said joining the dive team in her freshman year of college helped her quickly make friends and settle into a new environment.

“Being able to go to practice and see some friendly faces was a good way for me to adjust,” Toole said.

Toole soon caught the eye of head coach Miguel Rodriguez, and in her sophomore year, Toole was appointed as captain of the dive team.

“As our team captain, she brings her positive attitude and strong work ethic and leads by example,” Rodriguez said.

Toole has also earned the praise of fellow teammate and friend, a junior kinesiology major, Katelyn Henderson.

“She’s an amazing captain,” Henderson said. “She’s always able to motivate us during practice and keep us busy, laughing and laughing no matter what dives we’re working on.”

Toole’s fondest memories from Chapman are the moments she has with her teammates during dive practices. Toole particularly remembers a memorable “running gag” with former teammate Cierra Rago, who graduated last year with a degree in biological sciences.

“Whenever it was cold outside, she would look at me and go, ‘Assume the position,’ and I would crouch into a little ball,” Toole said. “She would come and lay on top of me. We would just sit there like that and warm each other up.”

Toole considered her qualification for the NCAA Division III National Swimming and Diving Championships her “proudest accomplishment” yet.

“I’ve never made it this far before and I think it’s pretty cool that I get to go out with a bang my senior year,” Toole said.

At the championships — which will be held in Greensboro, North Carolina, from March 20 to 23 — Toole will compete in the one-meter and three-meter board events.

“I’m looking forward to meeting new people and seeing all the other divers,” Toole said. “I’m ready to just do my best at nationals.”

For Keating, golf is a mental and physical balance

Pri Jain | Staff Writer

During the men’s golf conference championship in 2018, sophomore economics major Avery Keating averaged 73.3 points, compared to his season average of 76.7. Keating credits his success to the mental preparation and competitive mindset he puts himself in before a tournament.

“He’s physically matured, but he’s mentally more mature. He doesn’t quit. He’s a grinder,” said head coach Ming Lao.

Five seniors on the golf team graduated last year, but Lao said Keating will be able to step up and lead by example.

“If he stays the course the younger kids will look up to him,” Lao said.

For Keating, the most important part of playing at a new course is the mental preparation leading up to his matches.

“I learned from last season about the courses that we play and how you need to prepare to play each different one,” Keating said. “They all have different aspects to them and challenge you in different ways.”

During the 2017-2018 season, Keating had the third best scoring average at Chapman at 76.7 points, trailing behind senior Griffin Tso and sophomore Brody Hval, who average 74.5 and 75.9 respectively.

Since Keating’s father was a golfer, Keating learned most of what he knows about the sport from him. While he learned about the game’s ground rules from his father, Keating said his mother taught him to control his emotions during critical points of the game.

“My mom helped me a lot with my mental aspects of golf,” Keating said. Unlike other sports, golf requires a strong mental game more than a physical one, Keating said. In spite of a player reaching his or her athletic prime, Keating believes the mental aspect of golf can drive a player to the next level.

“You need to get into a zone of focus when you’re warming up and you need to prepare yourself to focus for the entire four or five hours,” Keating said. “Each shot, you know you can give 100 percent to.”

For Keating, being a strong-minded individual extends beyond the golf course. The men’s golf team has the highest GPA of any men’s sports teams on campus at 3.39, Lao said.

“I don’t see (the golf team’s GPA) dropping,” Lao said. “(Keating) is a smart kid.”
Nathanyal Leyba | Staff Writer

Growing up, senior Shelby Thompson found herself drawn to two separate worlds: technology and sports. She shot videos with friends, making mini documentaries and submitting them to contests. At Chapman, Thompson, a news and documentary major who plays on the women’s lacrosse team, realized she could combine her interests.

“Sports were a passion growing up, but I was very in tune to the technology around me,” Thompson said. “I realized I was good at it and I liked doing it. Now that I’m older, it’s cool to do all that with sports.”

Playing defense for the women’s lacrosse team, Thompson has been on the team for her whole undergraduate career. During her sophomore year, she had 41 ground balls and 26 caused turnovers. She won second team all-conference along with a conference all-academic award. Her junior year, her statistics improved, with 45 ground balls and 32 caused turnovers.

“It feels good to have your hard work recognized with awards like that. But I don’t pay much attention,” Thompson said. “The hard work will show on the field and in the classroom, where it really matters.”

When lacrosse sparked her interests, Thompson recalled there being few concrete ways for women to get involved in the sport.

“When I first started (in seventh grade), I was part of a club called ‘WAVE’ with eight other girls,” Thompson said. “We were all just trying to learn. We even had boy sticks when we first started. We didn’t really know we needed girl sticks.”

But that didn’t stop Thompson. Growing up in San Clemente, California, Thompson was always involved with sports. Graduating from San Clemente High School in 2015, Thompson was ready to hang up the cleats. She chose Chapman for the leadership skills it seemed to offer, but she didn’t know the university has a women’s lacrosse team.

“I saw them practicing one day,” Thompson said. “I met everyone on the team, I met the coach, and now, here we are four years later.”

Head coach Dan Kirkpatrick said he believes Thompson has found her confidence over the time she’s been on the team.

“As a player, her freshman year, she rarely saw the field. But she was a great teammate and she worked hard,” Kirkpatrick said. “Her sophomore year, she had a breakout year.”

Off the field, Thompson is involved in the youth action sports business DIVERTicity. The project is an extension of the company DIVERT Collective, whose goal is to bring sports to large communities where sports aren’t accessible.

DIVERTicit was inspired by Marty O’Connor, a 2017 business administration alumnus and the now-head of corporate sponsorships for DIVERT Collective. O’Connor, the now-head of corporate sponsorships, was involved in an accident in 2013 when he fell down a staircase in a restaurant, leaving him a quadriplegic.

O’Connor has worked with Thompson throughout her time with DIVERTicity. She began as an intern, but is now the chief content producer and she helps manage the internship program at Chapman.

“What I love about Shelby is her attitude and passion,” O’Connor said. “She is extremely self-motivated.”

Women’s lacrosse senior aims to bring action sports to urban communities

Senior Shelby Thompson has started every game during her four years with the Panthers. She has 18 ground balls and eight caused turnovers in four games she’s played this season.

GABRIELLA ANDERSON | Staff Photographer

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