

WORD

SPRING 2019 ISLA VISTA ARTS & CULTURE MAGAZINE



ISSUE 37

free

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LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Once upon a time, there was a lily.

This particular lily was a torch lily. It was tall, slender, and its flowers glowed a fierce, fiery red. It lived in a little town called Isla Vista, on the corner of a long street by the ocean.

One day, the lily gazed across the street and noticed an unfamiliar neighbor. The lily bent to get a better look.

A happy, bright yellow flower waved from the park opposite its corner. The lily leaned, reaching to its new friend—but alas, it could not break free from its roots.

And so the two flowers remained where they were: on opposite sides of a long street by the ocean.

It wasn't until mid-November that the wind began to bite with cold. Every day, the lily perked up at that glimmer of yellow. Soon, winter arrived with sharp winds and icy nights.

One night, the lily did not see any yellow through the rain. It flailed in agony through the stormy night.

The next morning, the lily sullenly lifted its head and found a wilted yellow flower, torn from its roots, laying limply in the dirt. The lily solemnly embraced it. It nudged the yellow flower underneath the dirt and bowed its neck.

The winter carried on with pounding rains, and the lily wished for the color yellow every day. Soon, the sun began to appear more and more often. Spring had blossomed.

The lily grew tall and strong. One afternoon, it noticed something peeking out of the dirt—it was a tiny yellow flower sprouting from the ground.

The lily rustled its leaves in joy! It gazed fondly at the young yellow flower and the sun felt warmer on its petals than it ever had before.

And so the torch lily and the yellow flower enjoyed the springtime on the same side of a long street by the ocean.

We hope you find yourself in the story of the lily, and our words can be your yellow flower. This season will give you time to grow from whatever storm you've come out of and enjoy the beauty that comes from it. And this magazine is here to brighten your cloudy April showers and make your May flowers dazzle.

Now let's enjoy the sunshine together.

Cassidy Brown & Zoë Jones
Editors in Chief

COVER ART // HANNAH FORD-MONROE

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A ONE SQUARE MILE TOWN

MIXED MEDIA // DANIA ASCENCIO





TUMBLING INTO SPRING

PHOTOGRAPHY + DESIGN // ANTHONY BOLDEN
MODEL // JARRAD RADIN

PRESSING RESTART AT DEVEREUX

In Defense of the Polar Plunge

WORDS // EVA JUENGLING BEAN

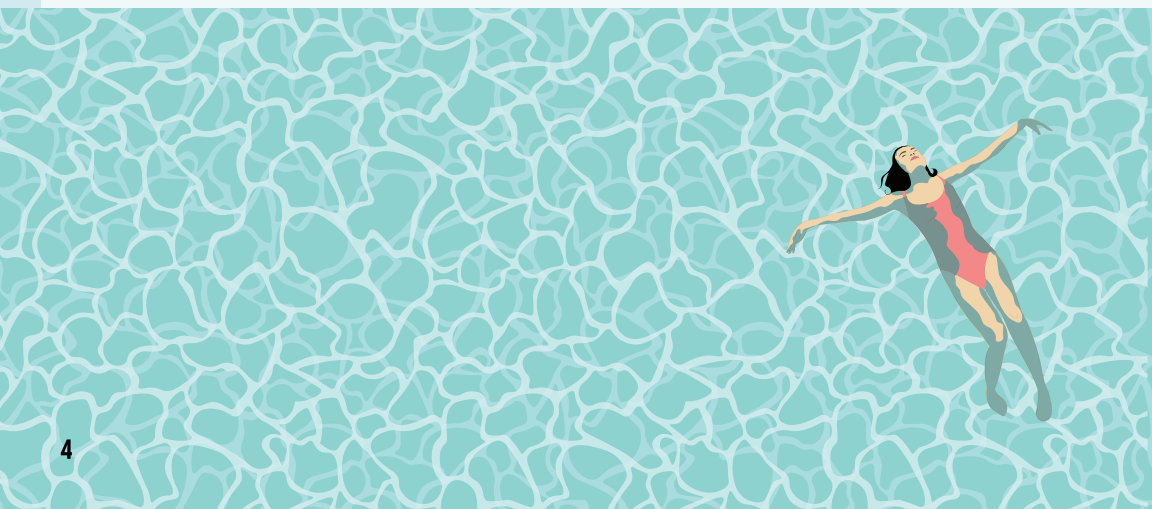
ILLUSTRATION // THERESA PHAN DESIGN // HAVEN KATO

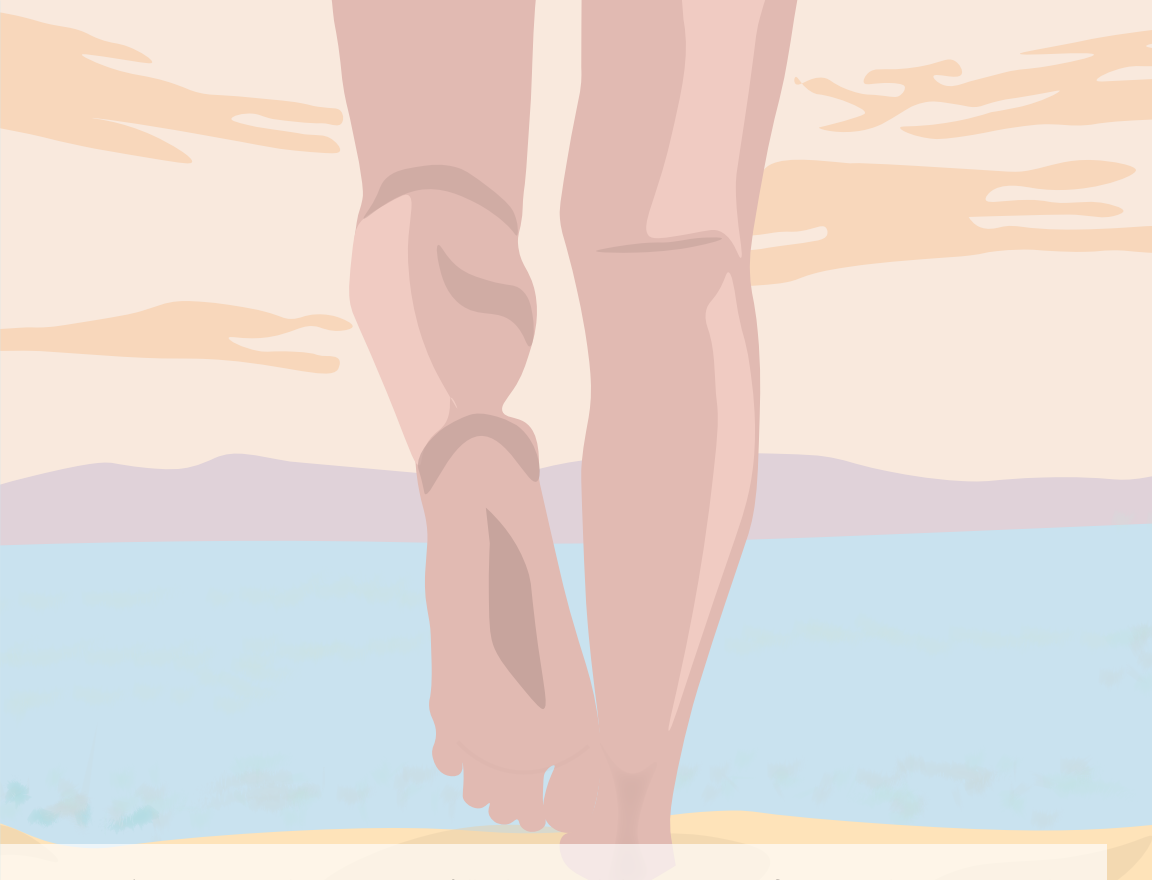
PICTURE THIS: Devereux Beach, a few good friends, a few good tunes, and the sun slowly setting behind Oil Platform Holly. You can see the dark outlines of surfers as they soak in the last little bit of a sunset session and the last little bit of light. Maybe you've just come back from a long day of work or class, you're stressed from the pile of coursework you've already managed to neglect, or you're just enjoying the luxury that is living within walking distance of the Pacific Ocean. You watch as the low sun glistens off the water and turns the sand shades of purple, pink, orange, and blue.

You've finally made it through the rain, wind, and general gray feeling that is so quickly associated with winter and you're officially on the home stretch to successfully conquering (or maybe just barely surviving)

another year in IV. At this point, the storm-induced, bacteria-infested brown water has faded back to a healthy, appealing blue. The sunbathers are slowly returning to their favorite beach-lounging spots, and the wetsuit-clad surfers, kayakers, and paddle-boarders are once again regularly enjoying the waves (or lack thereof).

This is the perfect setting for a polar plunge: a quick, refreshing dip in the ocean (wetsuit not recommended). It's the ultimate refresh button, no matter how stressful the day. There's something about diving headfirst into freezing cold water that just makes everything else disappear. Smart, sensible people would warn of the dangers of hypothermia and the importance of the stingray shuffle on IV beaches to avoid a potential Steve Irwin situation. However,





you've spent your day trying not to fall asleep in your 8 a.m., consuming your body weight in caffeine from your post in the library, and navigating the hell that is the bike paths at rush hour. You have every right in the world to throw sensibility out the window for ten minutes of the body-and-stress-numbing happiness of a sunset dip in the ocean.

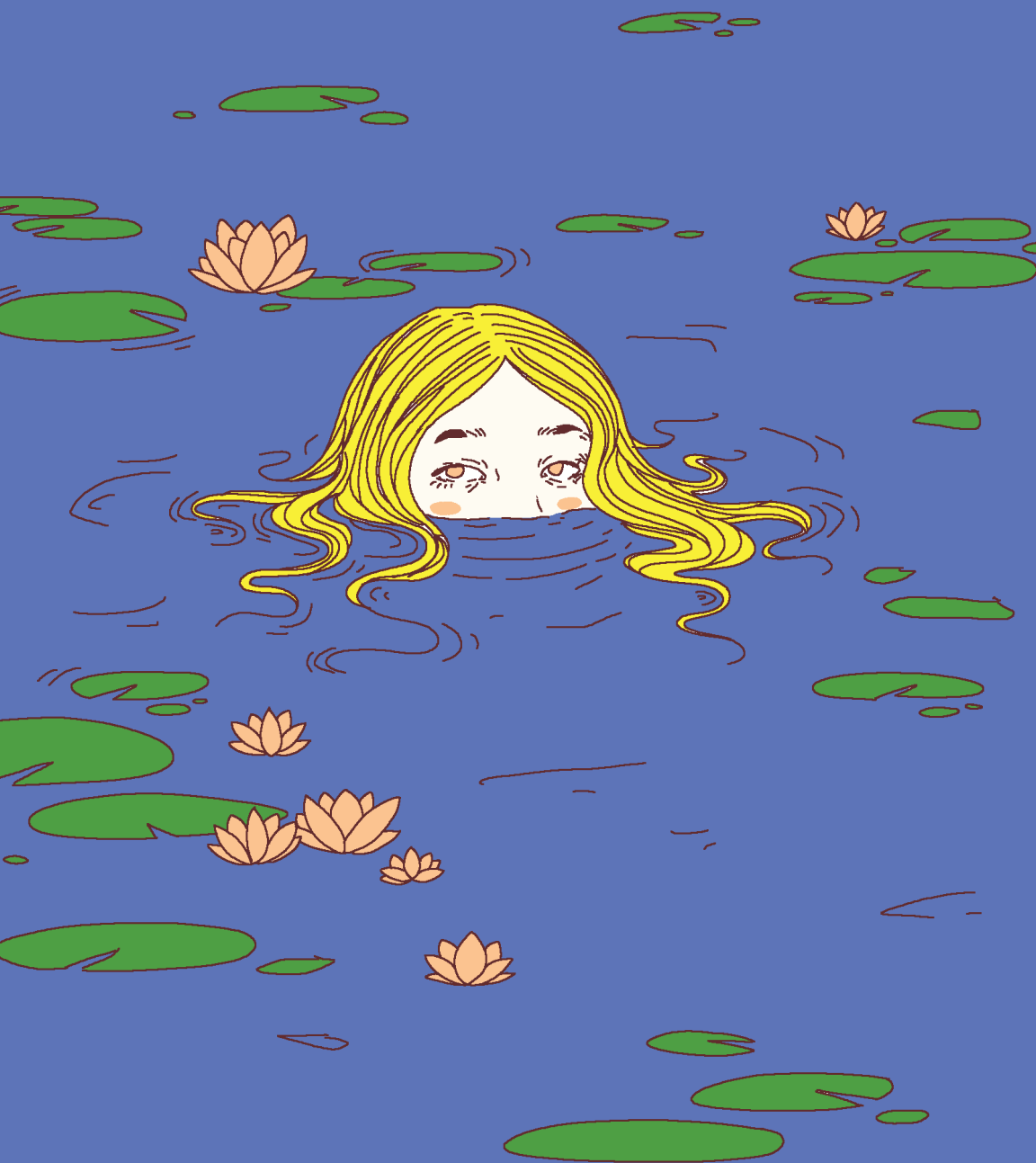
In a way, the polar plunge is the perfect metaphor for springtime. During spring, you haven't quite reached the seemingly endless warmth of summer, but life is finally starting to come back to the world. Everything is restarting from the hibernation months. Everything is refreshed. You're officially two-thirds of the way through the school year, and there are only ten short weeks until the late-night study announcements on the library intercom become more of a distant memory than a

daily occurrence. Springtime brings a second wind—with it, you can take on the world.

Taking a polar plunge is exactly the same. It might take a little effort to build up to it, but once you dive through the first wave, everything gets better. You feel your body adjust and your senses sharpen from the shock of the cold water. You dive through a few more waves and when you resurface it feels like you're swimming into the sunset. There's nothing else important around you—it's just you and the water. Finally, when the cold starts to get to you and you wander back onto dry land, you realize that you're completely refreshed, and, hopefully, most of your stress has melted away. At the very least, you're alive enough for a blissful (and maybe a little chilly) bike ride home, just as the final bit of sunset color fades from the sand. W

FLOATING

ILLUSTRATION // KIYOMI MORRISON

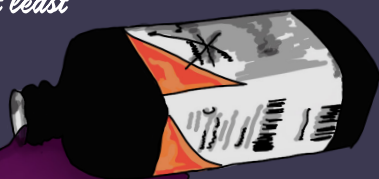


FROM PURPLE DRANK TO CHINA WHITE

Opioids in Isla Vista are here to stay...for now, at least

WORDS // SUMMER VAN HOUTEN

ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // MARINA SONN



ONE REASON the opioid epidemic flourishes in Isla Vista is that, well, opioids feel fucking great.

“Everything slows down with Percocet,” UCSB student Pilar Herrera Land explains to me on a rainy afternoon as she recovers from her third ACL surgery. Her pupils are pinpoints and rest upon me with a heavy-lidded gaze, a lazy grin spreads across her face. “It’s not really about the absence of pain in itself, but rather the overwhelming relief I feel to be finally free from it.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Herrera Land is just one of the roughly 200 million individuals in the U.S. who are legally prescribed opiate medications for pain management each year. These drugs can range from the Vicodin you begged your doctor for after your wisdom teeth removal, to OxyContin, commonly referenced in rap music by its street name Oxy, to Fentanyl, a medication that the Drug Enforcement Administration lists as up to 100 times as powerful as morphine and is administered only to patients suffering from terminal cancer or other severe traumas. As synthetic derivatives of the opiate chemicals sourced from opium poppy plants, these prescriptions fall under the same umbrella as their illegal counterpart, heroin.

In 2017, opioids were involved in 68.7 percent of all drug overdose deaths (CDC). In October of that year, the acting Health and Human Services secretary, Eric D. Hargan, declared the U.S. opioid epidemic a public health crisis under the guidance of the Trump administration, with the President himself proclaiming, “If we can teach young people not to take drugs, it’s really, really easy not to take them.”

If only the world could be as simple as it seems to be for Donald Trump.

“The human memory doesn’t want to remember pain”, notes Jenna Blackman, the Pharmacy Director of UCSB’s Student Health Services (SHS). The release of endorphins in the human body naturally counteracts pain signals released through the nervous system, but in cases like a torn ACL or nerve damage, the body can only suppress so much on its own. Opioids don’t just counteract the pain, they suppress the transmission of pain signals in users’ brains, so they forget they were even feeling poorly in the first place. For individuals suffering from chronic pain, this relief can give them their lives back; for those who fall through the cracks of the healthcare system, it’s easy to understand the desire to escape reality for a while.

Here in Isla Vista, drugs like cocaine, MDMA, and magic mushrooms are popularly circulated and consumed like chemical candies by students, many of whom have left the constraints of home for the first time and are curious to experiment with mind-altering substances.

Even in this drug-worshipping world, asking around about the recreational use of opioids feels taboo, and many IV residents brush me off, vehemently denying the possibility that these drugs exist here. Yet in March of last year, nine IV residents overdosed at a house party after consuming OxyContin, and this isn't a recent phenomenon. The UCSB Alcohol and Drug program notes that back in 2010, five UCSB students died from opioid overdoses alone, their bodies often discovered by their roommates or friends. The 2018 College Prescription Drug Study (CPDS) reported that 8 percent of UCSB students use legally prescribed opioids for non-medical purposes, the most common source of motivation being the desire to get high, particularly during high-intensity academic periods. With a total enrollment of 24,346 students for that year, that means around 1,948 students. Campbell Hall doubled would not provide enough

room for our dragon-chasing peers.

UCSB student Owen Medlin (name changed to protect privacy) describes his annual winter tradition of smoking tobacco to the point where he is easily able to mimic the symptoms of bronchitis to the nurses at Student Health, who then write him a prescription for Codeine. "I'm a clean-cut white boy," he remarks. "I just have to cough a little, say I have midterms and can't sleep, and eight hours later I'm pouring Codeine into a glass with some Sprite and Jolly Ranchers." He also sells his prescriptions to friends when he's short on cash, making up to \$300 for a single bottle. I ask him if he's ever concerned about the students he sells to and he shrugs. "I wouldn't underestimate the depths of people's individual stupidity when it comes to drugs, but this is medicine. How bad could it really be?"

The CPDS reports that over 50 percent of UCSB students obtain opioids through friends in a similar fashion to how Medlin sells his prescriptions, but the curious part is that nearly 40 percent of students listed pharmacies as their main providers, a percentage significantly higher than other universities that participated in the survey.



"If these drugs are in IV, they're not coming from here," Blackman assures me, and while Student Health's Blackman drug purchases and prescriptions are tracked by the DEA, this directly contradicts the accounts of Medlin and other students who have been prescribed these medications for symptoms that may not require them at all. The assumption that drugs from SHS are not circulated in IV at all feels ironic, considering Blackman herself said that despite the tightening of regulations, people always find a way around the rules. "It's like they want to give it to you," comments an anonymous graduate student at UCSB. "They're not aware of the magnitude of the problem, even though every other kid at the library is clearly spun out."

While the nationwide epidemic is largely exacerbated by companies like Purdue Pharma, who have monopolized the opioid industry by preying on American consumerism through back-door deals with doctors and the steady leaking of misinformation to health-care professionals, the silence shrouding recreational opioid use in Isla Vista leaves the community especially vulnerable to dealers from Los Angeles who arrive on the weekends to sell to students looking to experiment for the night.

According to the College Prescription Drug Survey, only a minority of opioid

users in IV get their drugs from a dealer. Sr. Deputy Justin Schroeder of the IV Foot Patrol maintains that the medications sold by these individuals are much more likely to contain substances other than what students think they're buying.

Given the popular assumption that heroin is the bad girl of opioids, many students here underestimate the risks of freebasing, snorting, or orally consuming legally prescribed medications in comparison. "Heroin is a dirty drug, we don't see it here," remarks Sr. Deputy Schroeder, a sentiment mirrored by Medlin, who took offense to the question of whether he'd ever experiment with it. "I'm not a drug addict," he protests. Yet heroin abuse is definitely prevalent in Isla Vista, according to Dr. Jacqueline Kurta, director of the UCSB Alcohol and Drug Program. "Students are smart enough to know that intravenous use isn't a good idea," she states, "but regardless of whether you're snorting heroin or rolling it into blunts, you still don't get to choose how it reacts in your body."

Mixing alcohol or popular benzodiazepines like Xanax with medications like Oxy has become commonplace in our community, popularized by mainstream rap music, yet students and police alike are incredibly resistant to the suggestion that heroin use is alive and well in IV. In January 2019 alone, Narcan (a nasal spray that blocks the effects

"Opioids let you escape your reality while still feeling present within it"



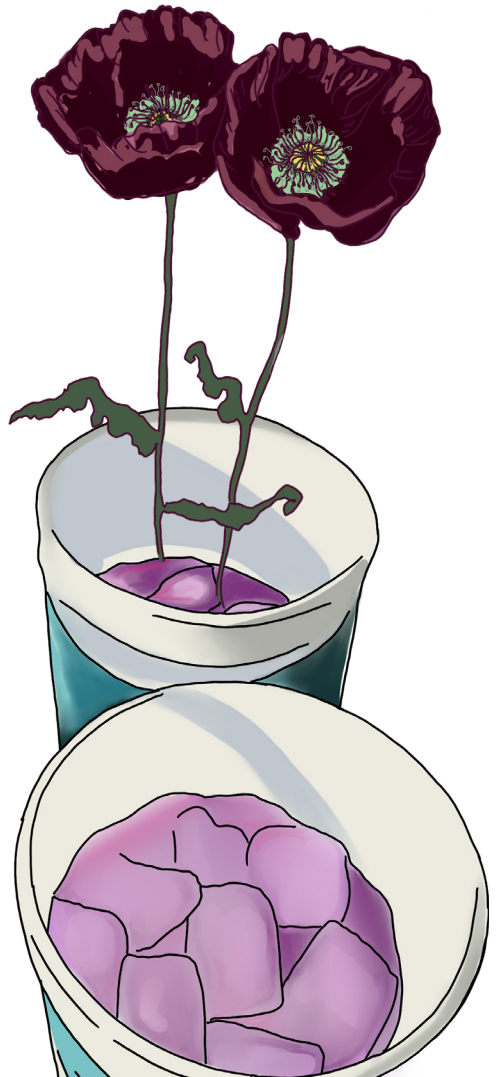
"I just have to cough a little, say I have midterms and can't sleep, and eight hours later I'm pouring Codeine into a glass with some Sprite and Jolly Ranchers."

of opioids in the brain) has been administered on four separate occasions in order to prevent an opioid overdose.

Students see their friends popping pills every night and assume they'll wake up the next morning—that is, until one day, they don't. Opioids are IV's latest and most fatal fashion, but the stigmatization of heroin has resulted in a learned ignorance by students and institutions alike of how harmful the effects of these legally prescribed medications can be.

Dr. Kurta notes that the majority of students who seek out the UCSB Alcohol and Drug Program to help ease an opioid dependence or addiction are looking to relieve emotional pain, be that grief, trauma, or an underlying mental disorder. "Opioids let you escape your reality while still feeling present within it," explains SBCC student Dominic McCleod. For those growing up in a society where mental health is not considered a priority, where boys are still shamed for crying, and where access to medical services is determined by your class and race rather than your level of need, these drugs provide a sense of ease.

The opioid epidemic is not going to be solved with education or as Trump suggested, "really tough, really big, really great advertising." The human condition is fragile, and pain is inevitable. I can understand the desire to escape. **W**



IS YOUR DRINK SPIKED?

A Resource & Info Guide to Get Through This Together

WORDS + ILLUSTRATION // KIYOMI MORRISON

More than 1 in 13 college students have reported being drugged.
Compared to men, over twice as many women reported being drugged. (Swan et al. 2017)

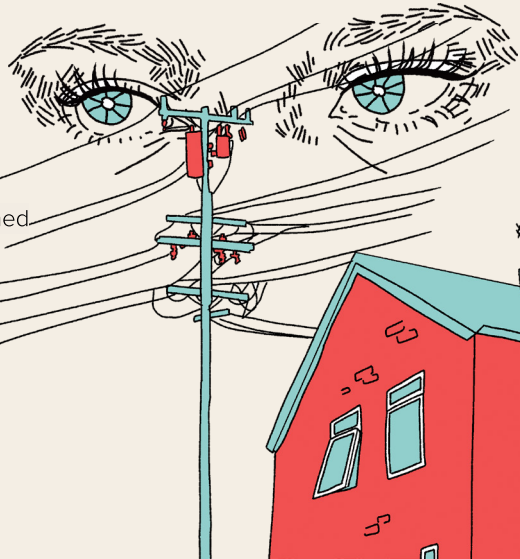


COMMON DRUGS

Alcohol
Gamma-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB)
Rohypnol
Ketamine
Ecstasy
Xanax

SYMPTOMS

Feel more intoxicated than usual
for the amount of alcohol consumed.
Reduction in inhibitions
Sudden increase in friendliness
or happiness
Drowsiness
Dizziness, nausea & vomiting
Agitation
Slowed breathing
Difficulty communicating
Loss of coordination
Erratic body movements
Memory loss



STEPS TO TAKE

ALERT SOMEONE YOU TRUST AND STAY WITH THEM.

If you think a friend is in danger follow the **3 D's**:

Directly intervene. **Delegate** intervention to someone else. **Distract** to diffuse the situation.

REMOVE YOURSELF FROM THE SITUATION.

CALL 911 OR GO TO THE HOSPITAL.

TIPS

It is free to call an ambulance to check on someone.

You and your friends will not be prosecuted in the event of a medical emergency.

If you don't have insurance, you will still receive treatment.

AT THE HOSPITAL

If possible, avoid activities that may damage evidence (showering, using the restroom, changing clothes, etc).

The decision to report a crime is entirely yours. Drug tests are available.

Note: These tests do not account for all possible drugs, and drugs may have left the system already.

If sexual assault is reported, rape kits are free and available.

DNA evidence needs to be collected within 72 hours to be analyzed in a crime lab.

A CARE advocate can accompany you (contact provided below).



SUPPORT OPTIONS

CARE provides confidential advocacy and support.
805-893-4613 // CARE@sa.ucsb.edu

CAPS provides confidential individual counseling at no charge.
805-893-4411

**DON'T BLAME YOURSELF.
IT'S YOUR CHOICE
IF YOU WANT TO REPORT.
WE BELIEVE YOU.**



REPORT OPTIONS

University of California Police Department - Public Safety Building
Office of Judicial Affairs - OSL - 2nd floor of SRB
Office of Equal Opportunity & Sexual Harassment - 3217 Phelps Hall
No Report.

EMERGENCY RESOURCES

NEAREST HOSPITALS

Goleta Valley Cottage Hospital

805-967-3411 // 351 S. Patterson Ave.

Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital

805-682-7111 // 400 W. Pueblo St.

24-HOUR Nurseline

800-539-1387

Counseling and Psychological Services

(CAPS) 24-hour confidential crisis counseling
805-893-4411

Campus Advocacy, Resources & Education

(CARE) 24-hour advocacy line
805-893-4613

UCSB CSO

805-893-2000

Standing Together to End Sexual Assault

(STESA) 24-hour crisis line
805-564-3696

RAINN - National Confidential

Sexual Assault Hotline
800-656-HOPE

Digging Up IV

The Future Findings of Isla Vista

ARCHAEOLOGIST // KAILAH KORSH

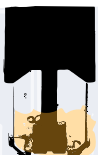
Location: 34.4133° N, 119.8610° W

Date: April 25, 3097

Findings: Table, Animal Fossils, Transportation
Devices, Spherical Metal Object, Vessel,
Small Cartridge

Small Cartridge

Scattered
where the streets
used to be
Sold by local
vendors
Helped prove
masculinity

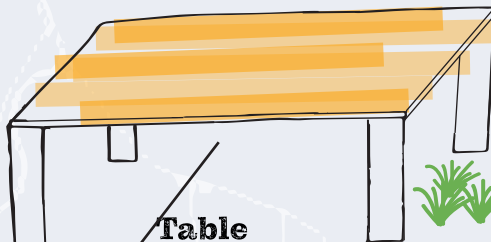
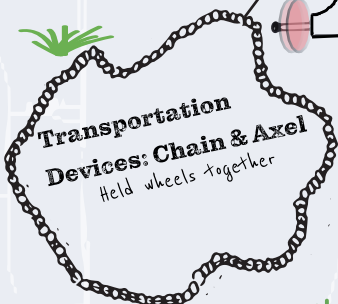


Spherical Metal Object

Worn as a bodily
decoration
Substantial in diameter
(4 inches)



**Transportation
Devices: Chain & Axel**
Held wheels together



Table

Found at most households
Liked to dine outside?



Vessel

Popular among
residents
Water found inside
still cold



Animal Fossils

Albino Raccoon
Ancient Bird?

FROM THE BIG HOUSE TO THE IVY COVERED HALLS

Pursuing Education After Prison

WORDS // JANET WANG

PHOTOGRAPHY // MARCOS REYNOSO DESIGN // KAILAH KORSH

AMIDST A LECTURE hall of chatting, anxious students on the first day of a new quarter, Oscar Soto sits in the first row and waits for Storke to chime in a new hour. When the buzz dies down, Soto approaches the front of the classroom and introduces himself as the professor. People are shocked—some laugh, others glance with a skeptical eye. Casually dressed in a pair of jeans, a graphic-printed sweatshirt, finished with a baseball cap, Soto doesn't strike students as a typical sociology graduate student and instructor. He wasn't always focused on entering the academic realm. Life wasn't all about higher education for Soto. In fact, he only started to pursue higher education after spending two years in and out of prison.

Soto grew up in Valley Center, a farmer-industry town near San Diego with a predominantly undocumented community. With occasional conflict at home, Soto began translating his angry emotions into school life. At school, Soto became involved in the tension between two racially-segregated groups. "Chicanos would fight with the Native Americans," he said. "We saw it as defending ourselves and defending our homies against a different group of homies. It was just mutual hatred against each other."

When Soto recalls his experiences with early education, he says that the system deliberately pushed him out. In an institution meant to set children up to succeed, he found himself failing. "Once I got into high school,



Oscar Soto at work in his office

“Yeah, I’m incarcerated. So what?”

my grades started plummeting,” he said. Although he was excelling in his subjects before, Soto was placed in an English as a Second Language class where they would watch Disney movies, read *Cat in the Hat* books, and practice their handwriting. “I was thinking, ‘This class is chillin’—I’m going to just watch a movie and kick it with the homies.’ Sometimes we’d ditch and smoke weed,” he said. “I never thought about it as a structural issue. I never thought, ‘Oh shit, people are pushing me out.’”

Soto experienced his first encounter with law enforcement in 2008. Over the next two years, he spent time in and out of jail as a result of two felonies and eight misdemeanor charges. “I’d have a court date and they’d arrest me,” he said. “Then I’d get out and have another court date and they’d arrest me and say, ‘We’re adding more charges,’ and kept putting me in and out.”

Some people strive for jail time as a mark of manhood, according to Soto. But it was different for him. “For me, I wanted to be with my family,” he said. “I didn’t want to go back to jail.” After being released for the final time, Soto was required to go back to school in accordance with his probation terms.

Enrolled in a community college, Soto struggled with his grades and motivation, until he met Dr. Juan Santos, a sociology professor who Soto could relate to. This was his turning point. “When you have mentors, when you have people that look like you, when you have someone that comes from the same background, you’re like, ‘Oh shit—maybe I can do it,’” he said. “He had a different perspective. I started to say, ‘I should start fighting for my community instead of just fighting for my survival.’” After attending community college, Soto finished his undergraduate studies in Psychology at CSU San Marcos.

For English graduate student Clint Terrell, education had merely seemed like an unattainable concept. But after prison, it was also an experience with a professor that pushed him to go beyond what he thought

he was academically capable of after being incarcerated for three years. While finishing his undergraduate education at UC Berkeley, Terrell met Jeffery O’Brien, a professor that offered to work with him and evened out the playing field by mentoring and guiding him to pursue a career. O’Brien directed him towards academic opportunities and provided hands-on support with schoolwork.

Like Soto, Terrell grew up in a community where education wasn’t a given priority. Instead, he faced a drug-and-alcohol-impacted home where domestic violence and fighting were the norms. Education was never on Terrell’s radar, as there were no role models at home to push him in the right academic direction. “My parents would punish me and scream at me for messing up in school. But my mom dropped out of high school in tenth grade, so she wasn’t in a position to help me,” he said. “It was always instilled in me that you go to school for class mobility—you go to be a doctor or lawyer and be rich, but we didn’t have any of that capital. All I saw around me was just chaos—fighting, drug use, knock-down-dragged-out fights between my mom and whoever she was dating at the time, cops showing up at the house, and shit getting thrown at the windows.”

Terrell’s actions reflected those around him, and he soon found his way into a juvenile hall. When Terrell was 14 years old he was charged with burglary and drug possession, and he transferred in and out of juvenile hall until he turned 18. Juvenile hall offered little academically, and its educational program was far from a stimulating experience. Instead, inmates were assigned packets for each subject for a certain amount of units



Clint Terrell on campus at UCSB

“It was always instilled in me that you go to school for class mobility—you go to be a doctor or lawyer and be rich, but we didn’t have any of that capital.”

that would count as credit in a regular high school.

Terrell found himself just choosing the ones that he thought were interesting—often completing humanities over math and science. “By the time I turned 17, I had a certain amount of units in one subject and no units in another subject—so my units were really messed up by the time I got into a regular high school,” he said. While his peers finished up their senior courses, Terrell juggled his imbalanced course load. “The teachers didn’t know what to do with me because my units were all over the place,” he said. “I was in some freshman classes and some senior classes. I was like, ‘I’m never going to graduate. This is stupid.’”

In 2005, Terrell was sentenced to four years in prison with half-time, which meant that with good behavior and minimal altercations, he would be released in two years rather than four. “I broke into a house and there was a car in the garage. I loaded up all the stuff in the house that I wanted in the car and drove away in it.” He said. “I would store

my stuff at different people's houses just doing little hustles—everyone in the scene that was involved, we were in competition with each other to see who could pull the most fucked-up hustle.” Prison, however, was where Terrell laid a foundation for his passion for literature.

Out of the three years Terrell spent in prison, 15 months were in a security housing unit—commonly known as the SHU or solitary confinement. Here, Terrell recalls a specific incident with a fellow inmate where he was exposed to literature. “When I got to the SHU, someone knocked on my wall and asked me if I liked to read and passed me over a copy of *Romeo and Juliet* and *Beowulf*,” he said. “I remember looking at these texts and looking and kind of thinking and imagining the person in the cell next to me. All of these texts I felt like I was supposed to read in high school, I was now reading.” Following his release, Terrell enrolled in a community college. Through monetary resources and grants for previously incarcerated students, he was able to finish his undergraduate education studying English at UC Berkeley.

Soto and Terrell are using their past experiences to influence their communities and mobilize previously incarcerated people instead of building platforms for personal glory. “Since the first prison was built, there have always been people who got out of prison and went and got Ph.D.s and became lawyers and bankers and whatever,” Terrell said. “There have always

been profound stories about people who have made it, despite all odds. Now we’re organizing and making a movement out of this shared experience—it’s crossing racial boundaries and crossing class boundaries.”

At the forefront of Soto’s educational goals lies changing the narrative and misconceptions around people from stigmatized communities. Having ended probation just last year, Soto is now focused on changing the lives of those around him, especially supporting youth and influencing policy. Defying what he calls the “bootstraps mentality,” Soto rejects the idea of becoming a model minority for people who have shared the incarceration experience. More specifically, Soto does not want to be portrayed as someone who dug their way out of their previous circumstances to inspire others to attain the same social mobility. “I don’t believe in the bootstraps mentality because I like to wear *huaraches*, which are flip-flops,” he laughed.

Both passion and determination drive Soto and Terrell to dedicate their work towards impacting people and ultimately influencing generations of communities to come. They refuse to let their pasts define them and instead use their knowledge of their experiences as a catalyst to influence reform, empowerment, and community.

“Yeah, I’m incarcerated. So what?” Soto said. “Once we’re gone, we’re gone, but what are you going to leave? Are you going to leave destruction—or a path to success?” **W**

A VALEDICTION TO VIRGINITY

Reimagining Conceptions of Sex and Virginity in IV

WORDS // MAYA CHIODO

ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // KIYOMI MORRISON

CARNAL CHARGES pulse through Isla Vista. Sex is everywhere. Like rock outcroppings constantly exposed to the elements, Isla Vistans are steadily barraged with the sights, sounds, and sensations of sex. We hear it through paper-thin bedroom walls, experience miniature earthquakes on bottom bunks, and are sexiled to couches and living room floors. Even if you succeed in avoiding episodes such as these, there's no escaping sex talk.

I think this is great. The more we talk about sex, the more we reduce the taboo that surrounds it in our country. Take, for example, the status of our nation's sex education. According to the Guttmacher Institute, only 18 states require that students learn about contraception, while, in contrast, 37 states require students learn about abstinence. As a direct consequence of this, U.S. youth are thrust into the world with a distorted conception of sex, as most of their knowledge is derived from pornography and mainstream media.

Fortunately, Isla Vista seems to be a place where people's understanding of sex grows and diversifies. It's college, after all—the time when you'll likely experiment more than any other point in your life. I have observed firsthand an awakening in many of my classmates over the past four years, mostly in our comfort level talking about sex. Over beers at Pizza My Heart, during the drive to Ventura to go thrifting, or as we “study” at Cajé, my friends and I talk about sex. Good sex, bad sex, solo sex, boring sex, fun sex, confusing sex, drunk sex, all the sex.

But not all of us are part of the conversation.

Late one night on the arduous walk from the 65 to the 68 block, my good friend confided in me how ostracizing it is to be a virgin in Isla Vista.

“People assume that at this age if you haven't had sex, you're either holding out for religious reasons or you're just inept,” she told me. “There are underlying rules that are made up here. And the rule is that you should be hooking up with whoever at all times.”

This friend, who I will refer to as Emma, has told only her closest friends that she is a virgin. The reason she has kept this information so under wraps is largely due to the various condescending and judgemental responses she has received over the years. She reiterated to me some common replies:

“Wow, I never would have guessed!”

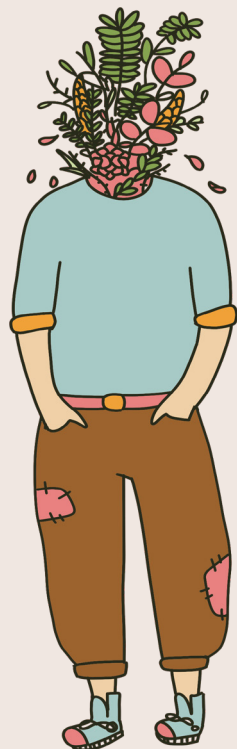
“Oh. Are you religious?”

“I'm really proud of you. That's impressive.”



What's disheartening for Emma is the fact that she is a virgin simply because that's how the chips have fallen. Not because she is religious, not because she is picky, and definitely not because she is shy. She simply hasn't done the dirty yet.

And Emma isn't the only member of the IV community in this camp. According to the anonymous surveys conducted in UCSB's Sociology of Human Sexuality course every quarter, typically about 20 percent of the 750-student class claim to be virgins. Kevin (pseudonym) is a third-year student athlete on one of UCSB's Division 1 teams. Since our first interview, he has had sex for the first time—but his experience as a male virgin in IV for almost three years is still insightful. For Kevin, having sex for the sake of no longer being a virgin had never been appealing. But



“people assume that at this age if you haven't had sex you're either holding out for religious reasons or you're just inept”

that didn't mean he wasn't thinking about the fact that he wasn't having sex.

In the past, when Kevin had reached the point in an intimate interaction with a girl where it seemed like sex was inevitable, he had trouble performing. Questions reverberated through his mind in those moments: “Am I too scared? Am I too nervous? Am I just not supposed to be with this person?” As a result, he interrogated his sexuality, wondering if he was into girls after all. Or maybe it was something else entirely, like a physical or mental problem. Even after he investigated on the internet, the source of his reluctance remained a mystery.

All of this undeniably impacted Kevin's self-esteem. In an environment where everyone around him seemed to be copulating on the

daily, being unintentionally celibate wasn't easy. For example, in the locker room before practice, while the single guys on the team would recall their sexcapades from the previous evening, Kevin had always hung back, listening uncomfortably. Though Kevin has never been interested in this kind of talk, it's pretty much impossible for him to refrain from comparing his own experience to that of those around him.

For the most part, those on the team whom Kevin had been honest with weren't vitriolic about his virginity. Most of the time, they would just ask if he needed any tips. However, Kevin says there was never a chance he would have told his younger teammates. If he had, he knows he would have been endlessly “ripped on.”

Why does it have to be this way?

If Isla Vista were truly an inclusive community, virgins wouldn't have to feel ashamed or self-conscious. If that were the case, I'd be using Emma and Kevin's real names without hesitation. So, what would it take for IV to remedy its aversion to virginity? Figuring that all out starts with how we define virginity.

Etymologically, the word virgin is derived from the Latin "virgo," which translated into English means "maid, young woman, or girl." Once upon a time, virginity only concerned girlhood. But not anymore. Today, the definition of virginity we find on Dictionary.com is "the state of never having had sexual intercourse." Which begs the question... "what exactly counts as sexual intercourse?" Rather than turning to the internet in search of an answer, I decided to ask some Isla Vistans what sex means to them.

In the beginning of my conversations, people tended to use society's interpretation of sex: the whole "moment penis penetrates vagina" phenomenon we grew up hearing.



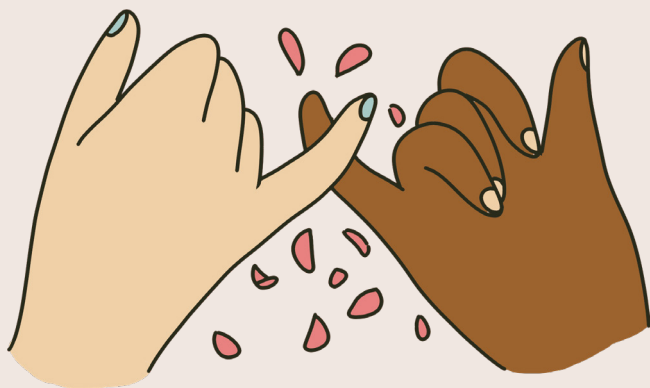
This sexual formula is what leads to euphemisms like the breaking of the hymen or, more popularly, "popping the cherry." To this day, ideas of sex and virginity continue to fixate on the heterosexual experience.

Fortunately, things don't have to be this way. Some I spoke with have a more critical and subjective interpretation of virginity. One friend of mine turned the tables by not following the narrative that virginities are "lost." Instead, she decided when and how she would give it away, since it had been taken from her unwillingly years before she was ready.

Meanwhile, for those who are not heterosexual or who are gender non-conforming, the penis-and-vagina model of sex doesn't work at all. My friend Cami, who self-identifies as "homo," helped me unpack this sexual quagmire. The first thing Cami told



**"am I too scared?
am I too nervous?
am I just not supposed to
be with this person?"**



me was that she doesn't need another person to have sex. For her, sex is about pleasure—and she can get that with or without a partner.

As progressive as this may seem, Cami wasn't always able to see sex and virginity this way. Growing up in a Catholic household, liking girls hadn't even been a feasible option. Back then, she believed that a man had to be involved in order for her to no longer be a virgin. She thought penetration had to be part of the equation, so when she experienced sexual intercourse with a partner (male) for the first time, she didn't even enjoy it.

But now, Cami knows what satisfies her. And with that knowledge comes the power to own her sexual past, present and future. Consequently, the whole idea of virginity doesn't even exist for Cami. In her mind, categorizing yourself as a virgin or not a virgin is an option. It can also be a personal identity—something that doesn't need to be shared with anyone else.

Kevin also feels this way. What has really always mattered to him is how he perceives himself and how those closest to him treat him. "All my friends still like me. They're still cool around me. If they think I'm weird because I [was] a virgin, well they can just fuck off."

At the end of the day, sex is ambiguous. And thus, so is virginity. You can choose your own definition. Or you can choose to ignore it altogether.

This is all easier said than done while living in Isla Vista, but you're not alone. Consider

some firsthand advice from Cami, who's lived here for five years: "Own whatever you believe and stay true to whatever you believe in. Know what you want, but you can take your time figuring [it] out. If you're a girl, get toys for yourself. If you're a guy, do whatever your fix is.

"But don't think that you need someone else to really feel pleasure." **W**



BIRDS OF THE LAGOON

Quack Quack From UCSB's Backyard

ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // PHOEBE JIN



Ruddy Duck



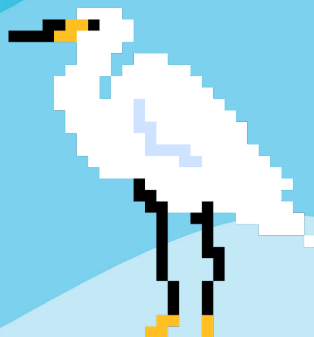
American Coot



Great Blue Heron



American Wigeon



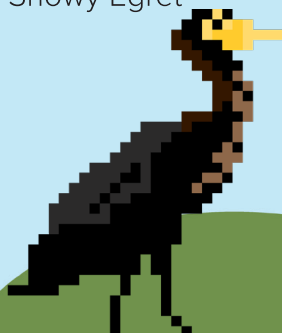
Snowy Egret



Green Heron

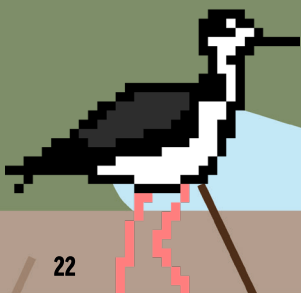


Mallard



Double Crested Cormorant

Black Necked Stilt



Long Billed Dowitcher



Least Sandpiper





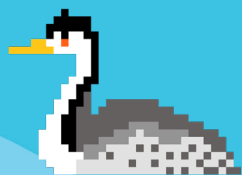
Redhead



Gadwall



Pied Billed Grebe



Clark's Grebe



Brown Pelican



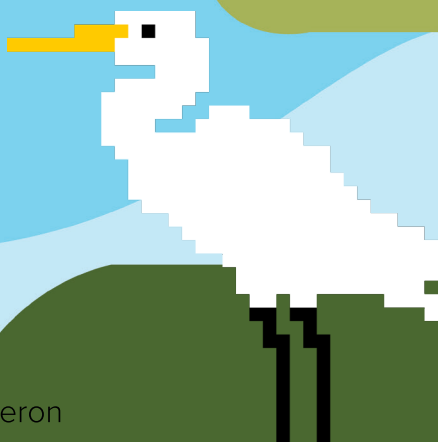
Eared Grebe



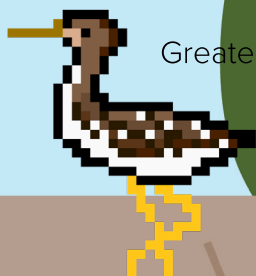
Lesser Scaup



Black Crowned Night Heron



Great Egret



Greater Yellowlegs



Killdeer

For more information visit:
www.ccber.ucsb.edu/ecosystem/management-areas/campus-lagoon

IV'S MOST WANTED

WORDS + ILLUSTRATIONS // HANNAH FORD-MONROE

WANTED



PEOPLE THAT WATCH VIDEOS
IN FRONT OF YOU IN
LECTURE



AT LEAST
PUT THE
SUBTITLES
ON!

WANTED

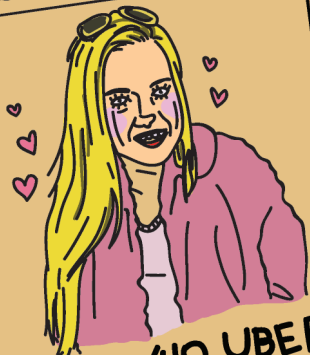
★ ON CAMPUS
ROLLERBLADERS ★



THEY MAKE
THE REST OF
US LOOK LIKE
LOSERS,

WE'LL NEVER
ACHIEVE THEIR
LEVEL OF PAZZ.
BRAVO!

WANTED



PEOPLE WHO UBER
ONE BLOCK

REWARD



BIKERS WHO DON'T
USE HAND SIGNALS

WANTED



★ GYM SNAPPERS ★

SOMEBODY HAD
TO TELL ME TO
WRITE THIS
POSTER- I'VE
NEVER BEEN TO
THE GYM

★ NOTICE! ★
FIVE YERBA
REWARD

WILL BE PAID FOR THE CAPTURE OF



NEIGHBOR WHO BLASTS
MUSIC AT 2AM

WANTED



PEOPLE WHO TAKE OFF
THEIR SHOES IN THE
LIBRARY

WANTED



PEOPLE WHO CARRY
A SPEAKER



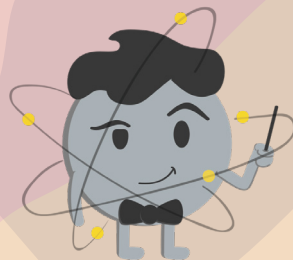
you aren't self
conscious
about the
smell
permeating
from your
feet?

THE NAME IS BOND, COVALENT BOND— OR WAIT... AM I?

Chemistry To Reflect On

WORDS // LUIS MARTINEZ

ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // JASMIN TAYPAN



A concise description of included bonds:

LDF: An instantaneous induced attraction between neighboring atoms.

H-Bond: Strong induced attraction, bridges together regions of a molecule via attraction to hydrogen atoms (protons).

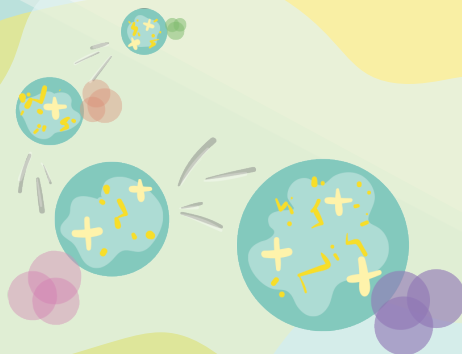
Ionic: Opposite charges attract very strongly, unequal sharing of electrons provides the magnet-like attraction.

Covalent: Equal, (or close to equal), tug on bonds large overlap in bonding intersections.

To all who've taken chemistry in high school, taken CHEM 1A, or are die-hard "I'm-not-Biochemistry-I'm-Biochemistry-Chemistry" majors, you have studied what matter is composed of, and the varying relationships atoms have with each other to form aggregates: bonds. Well, this piece is for everyone, regardless of academic background. My goal is to provide a greater appreciation for fundamental principles of matter, while also prompting introspection on your own interpersonal relationships. Here is an anthropomorphized analogy of each type of bond. Play some Khruangbin, and enjoy.

A disclaimer to all my die-hard Chem friends and peers: This is far from a rigorous analogy. If you have an issue with that, sue m-

Wait, on second thought, please don't. I really can't afford another lawyer right now; she took everything.



London Dispersion Forces (LDF):

Remember that spark with that cute guy in your dorm freshman year? The squad pulled up into your room. You were really tired, but there was a cutie there, so you followed through with the energy of the group. At some point y'all ended up next to each other. You spent all night talking about mundane things, then somehow ended up at Campus Point to watch the sunrise. That was nice, but later you had a fallout from something stupid. Now they seem foreign, alien, a UFO. That moment is forever embellished with a rose-colored finish, which gets even prettier as time moves on.

What we see in our rearview mirrors may be deceptive. Subsequently, we're provided an opportunity to analyze our experiences. See below for follow-up questions to consider:

What kind of bonds did you have with said person at the time?

Do you continue to have similar experiences with new people?

What are the majority of your current (romantic or platonic) relationships like?

You had a bond there, a transient bond, which you can closely equate to an LDF: a momentary dipole (two poles). Think of the N and S poles on a magnet, created by swarming charges (electrons) that polarize an adjacent atom, creating a dipole. This relationship is the weakest of dipole-dipole interactions. Amongst the swarm of students, the two of you managed to create a temporary attraction to each other. Only then to dissociate, integrating back into the swarm.

Hydrogen Bonds:

This is the strongest of the dipole-dipole interactions. What distinguishes hydrogen bonds from the others is not purely the attraction of opposite charges, but a particular ensemble of atoms with a propensity to attract small electropositive atoms: hydrogen. These atoms provide stability for long-distance interactions in the dynamics between molecules. You can equate this bond to the extroverted individual in your group of friends. The person who wants to have their various cliques of friends hang out. This is efficient for them, but not always a social success—an all too familiar scene when I visit home for the holidays. There is simply not enough time for this person to interact with their large group of friends in a meaningful way. I've made amends with the fact that large groups and I do not mix well, and my social-butterfly of a friend understands that as well. They know better than to invite me to their social outings, because the probability of me showing up is very low. Though I live my life as a proton,





readily accepting and dissociating bonds, I am attempting to change that. This is the freedom we have, as we aren't solely bound to a single type of relationship, and we aren't solely a singular kind of atom. We can alter the chemistry we generate and the subsequent dynamics of our interpersonal relationships.

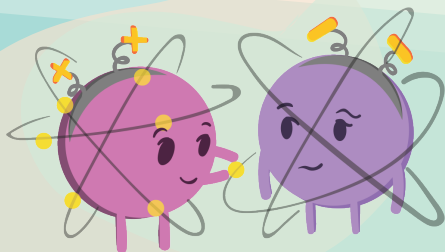
Cool Fact: The summation of hydrogen bonds is what provides water its high boiling point (BP) at 100°C , relative to another similarly sized molecule, CH_4 , whose BP falls at -161.5°C . Much hot.

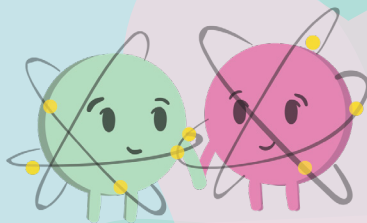
Ionic Bonds:

Along the same lines as dipoles, ionic bonds focus on electrostatic charges, leading to the common adage of “opposites attract.” What holds together NaCl (table salt) are the electropositive sodium ion (Na^+), and electronegative chloride ion (Cl^-), that give and take part of their outer shell of electrons with each other. This prompts a more stable configuration amongst them. Let's take a look at a transactional dynamic between you and a study partner. You may be tra\$h at writing an essay (@my stem friends, lol jk), but your neighbor in the ANTH 5 section from freshman year who you started a conversation with—someone with impulsive decision-making—

writes a damn good essay. You talk every week, figuring out you were right next to each other at the YG 2016 Halloween concert. You lend your strengths to each other. Sometimes on the weekend, they run their decision-making process by you, varying from going over to the house of their Tinderella without a condom to carb-overloading. For this, you solemnly advise against, and hand them a few condoms. They help you structure and organize your thoughts for assignments in your sociology class. You finesse an A, and you help them with their personal discipline. They avoid gaining a few kilos (because the imperial system sucks, and we need to normalize the use of the metric system, 1 kilo ≈ 2.2 pounds), or acquiring an STD. Look at that! Equal trading opportunities are what make this dynamic successful.

** Disclaimer: ionic bonds, although stronger than covalent bonds, in a biochemical context (within an aqueous solvent—existing in water), the solvent stabilizes the dissociated products, so ionic compounds readily separate and exist as charged atoms. Covalent bonds, meanwhile, can remain bound in this context. **





Covalent Attractions:

The bond of an old friend or relative can be parallel to a covalent bond—a strong m'f'ing bond. You both know what you mean to each other and you carry each other through tough times. This kind of relationships is further ingrained with time—where both parties equally share an integral part of their bonding constituents in order to achieve a stable configuration. This differs from ionic relationships, where one party tugs at the bond more so than another. These bonds help us to reach the social stability that we, as human beings, seek and crave—they are highly rewarding, yet limited in our lives.

Covalently binding means that you are dedicating a part of yourself to someone, which takes time and energy. This kind of energy must be worth your time. Therefore, this limits the development of other relationships you could be making. Choose wisely with whom you decide to covalently bind to, as your time is the only commodity which is non-refundable.

*Proceeds to add to Tinder Bio: looking to covalently bind *

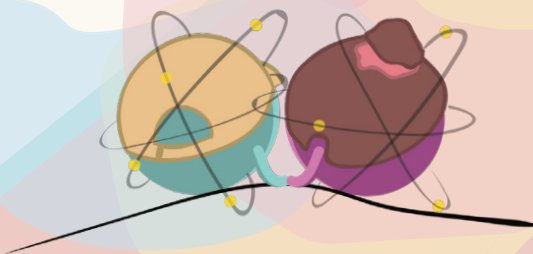
Banned from Tinder

Not all atoms share electrons equally. Some elements tug more at our bonding constituents, while others can provide an equally reciprocal relationship. Some can be uneven and even downright dysfunctional.

We all want to be like carbon: stable. Unfortunately, in some instances, we end up as fluorines: explosive and chaotic.

Cue “Piss On Your Grave” by Travis Scott
The fact of the matter is, we aren't atoms (okay, we're composed of them). We don't strictly carry a select few strong or weak bonds. In fact, we carry a combination of these kinds of bonds with the people around us. We may change the importance of each bond in our day-to-day relationships depending on differing environments. We are shaped to reflect the sets of conditions we reside in—whether that be isolation, joy, altruism, selfishness, or indifference. I touched on this when I made the disclaimer of the relative strength of ionic vs. covalent bonds. In a vacuum (meaning that if you simply had an ionic compound), the energy of dissociation would be insane: take the melting point of NaCl for example, at 801°C! Within water though, it doesn't take much heat or energy to dissolve salt; context matters. Because I chose covalent bonds to be the strongest within this analogy, the framework in which this analogy lives in, is a biochemical context.

Thank you for your time. W



LET'S WALK TOGETHER

Campus Spirituality and Community

WORDS // BELLE MACHADO

PHOTOGRAPHY // HAVEN KATO

ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // HANNAH FORD-MONROE



EXPLORING YOUR spirituality can be a rewarding and healthy practice—it introduces you to new ideas and guides you in coping with the stress of daily life. However, it can be hard to find what works for you or how to go about it. With so many welcoming organizations tabling on campus, it might be intimidating to start your journey in discovering just where you want to go. But worry no more—there are over 20 religious and spiritual organizations registered here at UCSB, each with a loving community that seeks to unite people in the journey of self-improvement. Here is a look into what some of these organizations do, along with a comprehensive list of the religious and spiritual organizations by affiliation. Check them out and start exploring!

GauchaCatholic:

GauchaCatholic is dedicated to the pursuit of bettering themselves through Jesus, and helping each other to do the same. They are a Catholic organization that meets on Sundays for mass and has an open hour on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. for confession and adoration (a time of prayer). That's not all they do—they also have open socials like salsa nights, game nights, hikes, and bowling excursions. Additionally, the club goes on quarterly retreats for members to escape the stress of school, connect, and grow in Christ. Their weekly mass meetings are on every other Monday at 8 p.m. at St. Mark's University Parish, which is at 6550 Picasso Rd.



Muslim Student Association (MSA):

The Muslim Student Association (listed as Muslim Student Organization on Orgsync) prioritizes acceptance. President of the Muslim Student Association Huda Faiz says that MSA's beliefs are "to love and accept everyone without judgement, to spread positivity and peace, to be humble, moral, and lead meaningful lives." Their organization holds four kinds of activities. Their social activities consist of potlucks, s'mores night and kayaking, while religious events include Imams as guest speakers and celebrations

for Ramadan or Eid. They also have political awareness events and educational events to educate students on their rights, how to take care of themselves, and the injustices Muslim communities face throughout the world. MSA's weekly meetings include discussions on a Qur'an or hadith verse (a saying of Muhammad), educational activities to raise awareness for struggling Muslims, and games. The MSA meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Middle Eastern Resource Center, which is located in the SRB.



Real Life:

The people of Real Life say, “Real Life is a community of students on a mission to follow Jesus and share His love.” Their meetings include testimonies (personal life stories of finding God) told by students, to students, to establish connection and understanding. They show compassion to those outside of their organization by holding community service events—like wandering IV and cleaning kitchens for free. Additionally, Real Life has a plethora of socials like flamingo football, beach days, and galas. Real Life also has various Bible study groups and weekly meetings where they sing worship music, listen to student testimonies, and host the occasional guest speaker. Real Life meets every Thursday at 8:30 p.m. in Embarcadero Hall.


Secular Student Alliance:

The Secular Student Alliance is a new organization on campus that wants to build a welcoming community to all people—religious and non-religious alike—and provides a safe and comfortable sphere for those who don’t consider themselves religious. They fight to de-stigmatize the idea of atheism as a religion and show that people are not defined by their disbelief in the divine. This organization cares about open discussion and the exploration of ideas from various perspectives, focusing on a different theme every quarter. To encourage diverse opinions, they reach out to other groups on campus for an increased scope of discussion. The Secular Student Alliance has weekly meetings and monthly socials, like movie nights and barbecues. They meet on Tuesdays at 7 p.m., but because they are a new organization, their location changes often. See their Facebook page for details.

SGI-USA Sun Lotus Nichiren Buddhist:

The Soka Gakkai International (SGI) group at UCSB is a Buddhist community of individuals who support one another in their journeys of self-improvement. They aim to discover and unlock their hidden potential through faith (either in themselves or in God—whichever speaks to the individual), practice, and study. They have weekly meetings and larger monthly gatherings with other SGI groups in the greater area. These larger meetings have guest speakers who inspire and guide students in their journeys toward enlightenment. Their group values forming friendships and encouraging one another through their pursuit of a better life. The SGI-USA Sun Lotus Nichiren Buddhist group meets Mondays at 5:30 p.m. in Girvetz 2116.

To explore your spirituality is to explore yourself, even though religion may seem intimidating.

To explore your spirituality is to explore yourself, even though religion may seem intimidating. With the organizations on campus waiting with open arms, you can rest assured that a loving discourse awaits your discovery. These groups are looking for people just like you, so don't worry about going out there and learning something new. For more information on the various groups registered with UCSB, visit orgsync.com. 

RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL ORGANIZATIONS

(Registered on Orgsync)

BAHA'I

Baha'i Student Association at UCSB

BUDDHIST

SGI-USA Sun Lotus Nichiren Buddhist

CHRISTIAN

Acts2Fellowship

Alpha Omega Campus Ministry

Asian American Christian Fellowship

Chinese Christian Fellowship

Destino

Enjoyers of Christ

EPIC

GaucheCatholic

Global Medical Missions Alliance at UCSB

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Korea Campus Crusade for Christ

Korean-American Campus Missions

Latter-day Saints Student Association

ONE Body (United For Christ)

Orthodox Christian Fellowship

Real Life

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF)

The Impact Movement

JEWISH

Chabad of UCSB

Jewish Awareness Movement (JAM) UCSB

MUSLIM

Muslim Student Association (MSA)

SECULAR

Secular Student Alliance (SSA) at UCSB

AROUND TOWN

ILLUSTRATION // THERESA PHAN

Magic Lantern Films

IV's personal movie house screens the best of current cinema and occasionally keeps you up all night with a Harry Potter or Lord of the Rings marathon! Friday and Monday at 7 & 10 p.m. in IV Theater.

Only \$4. Free treats.

www.facebook.com/MagicLanternFilmsIV

AS Program Board Films

AS Program Board is a student-operated, non-profit organization that provides fun and educational events for the UCSB community. You can depend on AS to show a terrific free movie every Tuesday night in IV Theater.

<https://aspb.as.ucsb.edu>

Shakespeare in the Park

These performances bring a modern twist on classical drama to the heart of Isla Vista.

Shakespeare in the Park provides free, family-friendly productions. This year's production will be Twelfth Night. Performed the weekend before Finals Week, June 8 and June 9, 2019.

www.facebook.com/IVShakespeareinthepark

UCSB Theater & Dance

Just 30 seconds from Isla Vista! Walk through the flashing Pardall Tunnel and your world opens up to thrilling theater and dance performances. Check out their current season and low-cost student tickets.

www.theaterdance.ucsb.edu



The BOX

Do you wish your visual art could be ogled by thousands every day? Display it in The BOX, a student-curated gallery located in the lobby of IV Theater. Exhibits range from skateboard art to watercolors.

Open to all students!

Jasmine Bushehry at jasmine01@ucsb.edu

IMPROVABILITY

Start your weekend with a laugh. Join the audience of UCSB's award-winning improvisational comedy team and be a part of their fast-paced show. Voted Best Late Night Entertainment at UCSB! Fridays, 8pm in Embarcadero Hall. Only \$3.

www.facebook.com/islavistalive

Be the Producer

Need advice on producing your own show or performance in the wilds of Isla Vista? Ellen Anderson, the director of Isla Vista Arts, will happily help.

Ellen Anderson at eanderson@ucsb.edu

Jeffrey's Jazz Coffeehouse

Swing by one of their free jazz concerts!

Jeffrey's is more than a music and poetry venue; it is a place of healing and solidarity that welcomes all Isla Vistans.

<https://www.facebook.com/JJCIslaVista/>

Laughology

Live stand-up comedy shows. Past comics include Vincent Oshana, Rory Scovel, and Andy Hendrickson. Always funny, always free, most Saturdays at 8 p.m. in Embarcadero Hall.

www.facebook.com/Ucsblaugh

MultiCultural Center

Make MCC your "home away from home." They host a thrilling program of culturally high-powered events on campus, in Isla Vista, and in Santa Barbara.

www.mcc.sa.ucsb.edu



WORLD CLASS WOMEN

Isla Vista's Fearless Leaders

PHOTOGRAPHY + DESIGN // MARINA SONN



JULIA FELDMAN

SOFIA WILLIS

"Julia was the fire that I needed to be with. I was all in and then Julia came all in and we were all in together."

*Julia
Sofia*

Julia and Sofia delegate Isla Vista Trading Post, working toward environmental sustainability through reclaimed fashion.

"After the election, I promised myself my main focus would be to propel women forward and contribute toward the growth of feminism. Everything I did would be purposeful and mindful."

Vianna Cecelia

Vianna is a College of Creative Studies creative non fiction writer, surfer, and visionary.



VIANNA CECELIA



NORA SIEGLER

"Being a good leader is about seeing the potential in people."

Nora Sieglar

Nora is a coxswain for the women's rowing team, a yoga teacher, and a biochemistry major with a focus on using bioluminescence research to provide clean water for communities in need.

"My concepts revolve around communication and the quirks of human narrative and interaction." PEHL

Pilar is an art major whose work aims for accessibility and delightfulness. Her artwork explores the question "why" through celebrations of the openness of a child.



PILAR HERRERA LAND





FROM DYLAN TO DRAKE



30 Years of UCSB Events with Marilyn Dukes

WORDS // NIKO JORDAN

ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // RYANNE ROSS

PHOTOGRAPHY // ANTHONY BOLDEN

MARILYN DUKES has seen it all. Maybe she's heard it all too. From bringing legendary Bob Dylan to the college stage, to battling with Drake's entourage, Marilyn has been a part of entertaining the UCSB and Santa Barbara community for thirty years. She is currently the assistant director of student programs, events, and services for Associated Students at UCSB, where she advises AS Program Board, Women's Commission, Take Back The Night, Judicial Council, and The Her Story. In this conversation with WORD Magazine, Marilyn recounts her experiences of bringing some very memorable acts to campus.

Marilyn's answers have been edited for clarity and accuracy.

How is booking artists today different from 30 years ago?

One thing that has been so interesting for me to see is how artists can become viral so quickly. In the past, bands had to cultivate a fanbase by having a catalog and moving up the ranks to play in bigger and better venues. Now you see people put out twenty minutes worth of music, something catches viral, and all of a sudden, their asking price is more than you could even book in The Hub.

Every year students want to do it bigger and better, so often that means bringing bigger artists. In those early years, they had to negotiate hard in order to get the best possible deal on an act because the budget was much lower. Right now, we often lose money and subsidize the shows. We can afford to do that, but, we also might not be learning to be tough negotiators.

I tell people it's like buying a car. When you're negotiating with a car dealer, you have to be able to walk away if it isn't the price you want to pay. Most of the time, students really want certain acts, so they don't want to walk away.

How is working with students today different than it was 30 years ago?

When I first came, I was closer in age to the students, so I would go to concerts with them. We would go down to Ventura Theater or the Anaconda Theater, which used to be where Embarcadero Hall is now in IV. Then, I wasn't going to shows as much with you, but I still listened to the same music.

The progression for me has been: I listen to the same music and I'm going to the same shows, I listen to the same music and I'm not going to the shows, I'm not listening to the same music but I've heard of the bands, and now it's gone up to where I have not heard of some of the bands before they are proposed.

I still try to do things like read Rolling Stone, watch the Grammys, and follow who is playing SXSW. One of the things that I appreciate is that I listen to music that I wouldn't have listened to if I didn't have this job. I know I wouldn't have reached out that far to listen to certain music, and read lyrics to try to understand what people have to say in their music.

What are some memorable shows from your time at UCSB?

Pretty early on we had Adam Sandler a couple times, and he was much bigger than Campbell Hall, but that's where he wanted to do a show. He was super nice and hung out with the students before the show started. I think the ones I remember most are when the entertainers are really nice to the students, and really down to earth.

We've had Bob Dylan a couple times. The first time they came, they were really hesitant to come do a college show because they didn't like working with college program boards in the past. They came and had certain standards and a certain way they wanted things to be done. At the end of the show, Bob Dylan's manager said 'This is the best college show we've ever done. Your crew is great.' The production coordinator at the time was just over the moon.

What is a bad memory you have from a show?

Right after the University Center was renovated around 1995, the very first show we had in the new Hub was Pennywise. The fans started lining up way before the show and people were really intoxicated. I think we were a little bit late to open because of soundchecks, so the fans were pressing up against the glass and they broke the door to the UCEN. They went into Corwin Pavilion and somebody vomited onto the new carpet in Corwin.

There were people trying to sneak into the show everywhere. There were places that we didn't know to secure, because this was one of the first events we had done in this new UCEN and there were a lot more doors. Not only were people sneaking in, but the band was letting people in by pulling them in through a window. So, security was working hard to try and address all of the problems that were coming up.

The band played their set, and it was pretty rowdy, and they wouldn't stop. They were supposed to stop at midnight and we gave them a warning at 11:45. After midnight we told them that they had to stop, but they still kept playing. We eventually cut the board, so they played through their amps. I had been talking to the tour manager at the time, and he couldn't get them to stop, either.

We ended up having to turn the power off at around 12:45. They were mad and ended up trashing their dressing room, which was one of the newly renovated meeting rooms.

I was here until about 3:30 in the morning that night. The next day there was a big meeting about it and Program Board had to cancel their next event while we met with UCPD and worked out a better security plan. I don't think we realized how much more challenging security would be when the Hub was renovated and having a difficult band as one of the first events made the problems much worse that night. The student event coordinator went through a very stressful evening and it is still an event that haunts me!



How are concerts at UCSB, different from other venues?

At the end of a Hub show, people just leave. They'll think it's just over and they won't wait for an encore, whereas a normal show you'd probably stay and hangout. There's been a couple times when artists have an encore prepared, but nobody stays, so then it's just over. It's a little funny.

When was a time something went wrong at a show?

An amp caught on fire in the Hub once. I think it was a Flogging Molly show. Fortunately, it was before the show and during the sound check. But they had to actually use a fire extinguisher to put it out and then go scramble to try to find a substitute amp at that late hour.

When have you had to deal with artists acting unprofessional?

Once in particular, we had someone who just didn't show up. It was a rapper who will go unnamed. We were trying to find him and we were calling the agent, who finally said, 'Oh there was a death in the family.' So, then we cancelled the show.

In the next day's paper, there were pictures of him downtown in a bar (and rapping) on the night of the show. We called up the agent saying, "Well, he was at the bar last night, but he was so grief stricken he couldn't come to the show or come to the venue?" And then the agent said, "Well, people deal with grief in different ways." We asked for a copy of an obituary for the person that had passed, because they were trying to use the cancellation clause in their contract. And the agent just said, "What are you going to need?" So, we compiled a list of our expenses that we had spent to have the show and they wrote us a check to reimburse us.

What have you heard about concerts at UCSB before you arrived?

The year before I came, Extravaganza really went poorly. They had big plans and I think they underestimated what was going to happen. MTV used to sponsor college events and would air parts of them live and advertise them live on TV. MTV was pretty big in the late 80's/early 90's, so ASPB got them as a sponsor. A ton of people showed up that weren't expected.

That was one of the ones where they really got into a lot of trouble for not trying to work things through, problem-solve, and troubleshoot with the campus before the event happened. It was a very big event, and so from a lot of students' perspectives, they probably would've said, "wow this is so great," but there are things behind the scenes that didn't go so well. They couldn't have it in Harder Stadium for a couple of years after that.





What was it like when Drake headlined Extravaganza in 2010?

We booked him in January, and then he really blew up in popularity. Other schools like Santa Cruz had chartered buses and were driving up busloads of people and dropping them off at the gate. It was a pretty hot day and we were running out of water because there were so many people. People were overheating, so the EMT's were getting slammed.

Drake's management was really difficult to work with and they were not happy with the Program Board students. They felt like runners should be just theirs and not run for anybody else, so they would get mad if they wanted something and a runner wasn't right there to do it. It was very stressful for the student that was in charge that year. They were demanding of things that should've already been worked out because we had modified the rider and there had been discussions beforehand.

When they got here, they wanted to change things and they wanted it immediately, which isn't always possible with a festival show. They also drove their tour bus in, which they were not supposed to do, and they parked right in front of the fencing that separates backstage and the rest of the crowd. People were pushing up against the fence and it was bending backward. We were afraid it might come down.

So that was the last year it was open to the public and from then on it became student only.

What accomplishments are you most proud of?

There's a proposal I have from 2004, ten years before our first Halloween concert, where the commissioner at the time proposed a Halloween concert for the exact same reasons that the campus ended up wanting us to do it. It was originally denied because the campus felt like it would strain the service providers too much. How these concerts have changed IV is a great accomplishment. You just can't even imagine how many people crowded into IV on Halloween, how many people were arrested, and how many incidents happened before these concerts. The change has been unbelievable.

What advice can you give to those who want to work in the arts and music industry?

You have a lot of opportunities on campus to get experience. Most of the people on Program Board that want to get a job in the industry are able to use their experiences to move into a position. I think there are a lot of other opportunities on campus that give you some experience to get a leg in the door for a career.

I would tell people to do it, and to take that leap and risk and try to pursue arts or music, if that's what you really want to do. Especially when you're young, because that's the time to take those risks. Also, be open to ways that you can combine your interests. Those kinds of opportunities can come to you in surprising ways. **W**

SPRINGTIME SKINCARE

A Self-Care Guide

WORDS // LINDA CHONG
ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // PHOEBE JIN

Sometimes I wake up with a big pimple on my face, wondering what I did to deserve it. I could blame the seven slices of pizza I ate last night, but it's most likely because I have oily skin and I didn't take care of it properly. Knowing your skin type is so important because otherwise, how would you know what's best for it? We're all different. Do we just cleanse our face with soap and hope for the best? Follow this guide and find out what to do to take care of your body's largest organ. Regardless of your gender or skin tone, we all need to be kind to our skin.

Dry



How do I know if I'm dry?

Throughout the day, even after you moisturized in the morning, your skin feels tight and sometimes will flake or look patchy. You might see some visible lines and also notice some redness.

How do I take care of my dry skin?

Moisturize! Give your skin what it needs!

Drink more water.

Avoid using too harsh of a cleanser, so you don't strip away your needed moisture!

Oily



How do I know if I'm oily?

If you have oily skin, your skin typically looks very shiny and slick when you wake up. Oily skin also generates a lot of oil throughout the day, making you feel greasy. This also means you are prone to blackheads and whiteheads because your pores are probably big! If you have glasses, oil might build up around the bridge of your nose.

How do I take care of my oily skin?

Avoid oil based products.

Exfoliate! Oily skin can lead to a buildup of dead skin cells and preservation of them.

Cleanse every night to create a clean palette.

Don't touch your face. You'll add the bacteria on your hands to your oil.

Combo



How do I know if I'm combo?

You have both dry areas, and oily areas. Usually the T-zone is oily and the rest of the face feels dry. T-zone includes forehead, nose, and chin. It could be vice versa! Sometimes the T-zone is not oily, but your cheeks are!

How do I take care of my combination skin?

Exfoliate often to prevent T-zone's buildup of dead skin cells.

Use a non oil-based moisturizer to prevent extra oils.

Consistently moisturize non-oily parts. Don't forget about them!

Normal



How do I know if I'm normal?

Normal skin usually doesn't have issues with skin feeling dry or tight, patchy or flakey. There aren't excessive oils and you don't feel especially shiny, unless it's the extra glow from sleep. However, your skin might look and feel dull.

How do I take care of my normal skin?

Moisturize daily! Do not let your skin dry out!

Use a scrub from time to time and make sure your dead skin cells don't pile up.

To get more dewy skin, use face masks and treat your skin every once in a while.

Don't use face masks daily, but do use them once a week (if you can).

Use sunscreen with high SPF! Do not let the sun damage your skin.

Sensitive



How do I know if I'm sensitive?

Usually you know you have sensitive skin right away when you have any redness or stinging. People with sensitive skin have small bumps in their sensitive areas and are prone to hyperpigmentation due to sensitivity to the sun's UV rays. Sensitive skin reacts easily with fruit enzymes in products or any other harsh ingredients. This can lead to a burning sensation when you use certain products.

How do I take care of my sensitive skin?

Use gentle cleansers or soaps when washing your face.

Beware of different ingredients in your products such as salicylic acid, fruit enzymes, and sodium lauryl sulfate.

Give your skin time to rest with a sleeping mask every night.

***To all skin types: sunscreen should be used everyday!*

PRODUCTS THAT DON'T BREAK THE BANK

Cosrx Pimple Stickers (\$3, Amazon):

Sometimes you have a nasty pimple, and it leaves a scar or it stays bumpy and red even after you pop it. Cosrx stickers help those pimples go away after popping them. No pain, yes gain!

Glossier Skin Toner (\$25, Glossier):

Cleans the skin and picks up impurities even after cleansing the skin. Gives you a nice clean surface. Advice from Eunice Bak, a freshman living in Anacapa Residence Hall.

Dr. Jart Rubber Face Masks (\$12,

Sephora): Gives skin the nutrients and moisture it needs depending on the mask itself. Shrinks pores because of its cold rubber mask.

Cetaphil Daily Facial Scrub (\$10, Ulta

Beauty): Such a good scrub, gets off all

the dead skin cells, cleans your pores, and smells amazing. Testimonial from Zach Belugum, a freshman that lives in Santa Rosa Residence Hall.

Yes to Tomatoes Makeup Wipes (\$6,

Target): "I credit my clear skin to thoroughly taking off my makeup at night even when I'm exhausted after a long day," said Sophia Castro, a freshman that lives in Santa Catalina Residence Hall.

Biore Charcoal Scrub (\$6, Target):

"I use cleansers that scrub off all my makeup and dirt from throughout the day," said Arabella Compton, a freshman that lives in Santa Catalina Residence Halls.

Physician's formula Vitamin C Oil

Stick (\$10, Ulta Beauty): Helps prevent hyperpigmentation for those with sensitive skin in the sun.

IF SPRING WERE A MOVIE

WORDS // ZOÉ JONES DESIGN + ILLUSTRATION // HANNAH ANDERSON

Imagine a mild, sunny morning, where what you need is falling right into place and things are going impeccably well. It's almost as if a director is setting the scene for a perfect day. Cue the happy-go-lucky montage. You are the protagonist in your own film – here's your soundtrack, from sun up to sun down.



OBVIOUS BICYCLE
L VAMPIRE WEEKEND



HOW LONG HAVE YOU KNOWN – DIIV



WARM (feat. MIA)
L DRE'ES



GOLDEN DAYS
L WHITNEY



BART SIMPSON
L PRINCESS NOKIA

YOU CAN HAVE IT ALL
L YOLA TENGO



CALL ME UP TONIGHT

DOWN THE LINE – BEACH FOSILLS



THE SOUNDTRACK TO A PERFECT



Listen to this playlist on Spotify by opening the app, going to the search bar, and scanning this code with the camera icon in the top right corner.



SEXTROLOGY

ASSTROLOGIST // HAILEY GROSS
ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // RYANNE ROSS

a spring whorecast

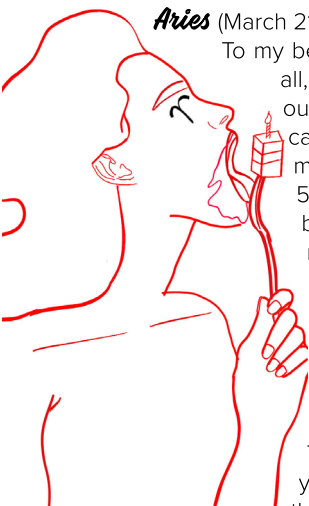
WARNING: The following contains mature content. If you're easily offended, this sure as hell is not for you. If you are unwilling to channel your sexuality and hidden love for your ass-trological sign, by all means turn the page. This is an acquired taste. If you don't like it... maybe acquire some taste.

The writer is not a professional astrologer and cannot be held responsible for anything that might go wrong should you, for some odd reason, choose to take everything that follows seriously and follow in blind faith. Please proceed with caution.

The time has finally cum.

Spring of 2019. It's gettin' hot in here and layers of clothing not left in Mexico are slipping away—just like all the fucks we have left to give. Maybe you had too much fun during spring break and are ready to take it easy, or maybe you wish you could simply fast-forward to summer altogether—but the fact is, we have one more quarter to survive before attaining any sort of freedom. So let's make the most of it and explore all that IV and its inhabitants have to offer us youthful and glorious creatures. For many, Spring is the quarter to blow off steam—so let's get steamy, shall we?

Aries (March 21-April 20)

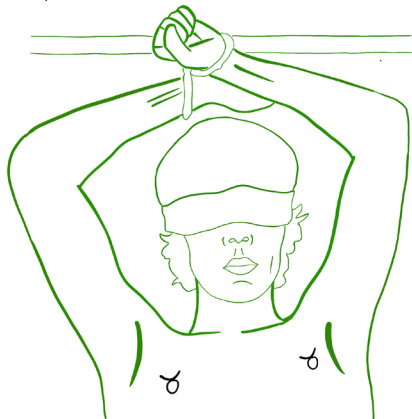


To my beloved, horniest-of-them all, rams: I implore you, go out and get some birthday cake, on me! Your team may not have won the 53rd annual Superbowl, but that certainly does not mean you can't still score. You are known for your aggressive, impulsive nature, and this season is the perfect time to follow your lusty desires! This month is all about you, you, you! Look at those that wish to tame

you dead in the eyes and say, "Sit down, bitch, it's my birthday." So please, let's channel that fiery passion and aggression this birth month into that wild ride we've all been waiting for.

Taurus (April 21-May 21)

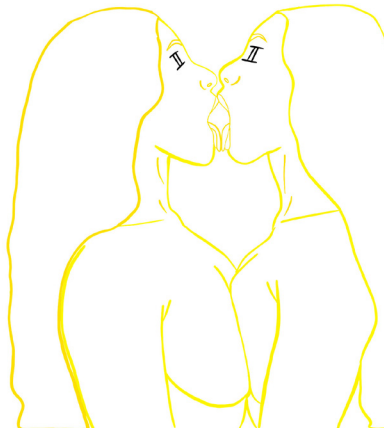
If you mess with the bull, Taurus, do you really get the horns? Let's find out! As your raw emotions and stubborn nature work in conjunction, you may find yourself coming in hot to debates, armed with banter, and bull almighty, you are not holding back! Your desires may not be for the faint of heart, and it will take a resilient being to handle your intensity. Eventual conflicts are inevitable in your feisty mood, but that might just make foreplay all the more interesting. Is that makeup sex I hear?



Gemini

(May 22- June 21)

To all my Geminis: they say you have two faces... ever wonder which one's the better kisser? You're adorably curious and always down to try



new, exciting, endeavors— so why not experiment? Get ready to take on the next few months with a sprightly spring in your step and be open to exploring what comes your way! As you cross paths with new friends, lovers, and everything in between, be cautious not to put all your eggs in one basket. You may find yourself happiest when you go with the flow—trying out new positions, locations, or even partners. And, remember twins, no one knows better than you that two is better than one. Do with that what you will.

Cancer

(June 22- July 22)

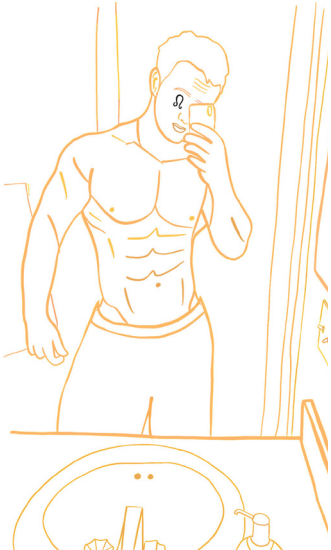
My dear Crabs, who knows better the value of an intimate, sensual experience?

Probably no one.

But hey, that's okay, because the time for the crab to come out of its shell is now! As your

confidence approaches an all-time high, it is your best asset! Right now, you are in the driver's seat of relationships, hook-ups, or solo endeavors, so start acting like it. And remember that communication is key—you want a lil' more of this? A lil' less of that? Take charge, maybe even hop on top—you won't be sorry when you discover what's possible when you're running your own show.





Leo

(July 23-August 22)
Mirror mirror on the wall, who's the baddest of them all? Leos **THINK** they are, and that's all we care about. No one loves you more than you do, Leo. In your mind, every season is Leo season. That said, surround yourself with those who make you feel as sensual and special as you

know you are! Find someone who's giving you the attention you deserve, and making love to you how you always fantasized. Why not give your biggest fan a VIP view? After all, if you're going to do it, do it right. And yes, you can do it in front of a mirror.

Virgo (August 23- September 22)

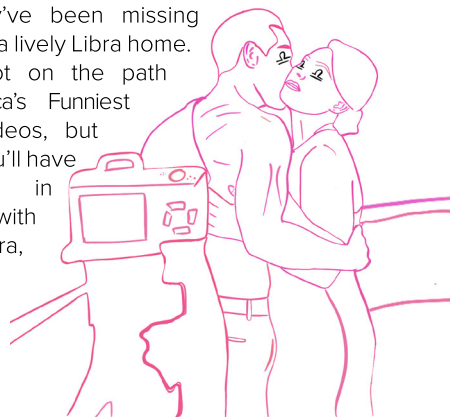
To all my down-to-earth Virgos lookin' oh so ripe for the pickin' and feelin' juicier than ever! Keep this in mind through Spring and especially entering your birth season, Summer! You may be one headstrong specimen, but that's because you know what you like, how you like it, and who you like it with.

Be open to all opportunities and possibilities that come your way in the next few months. If you feel like it's time to step out of your comfort zone and spice up the usual routine, treat yourself to some sexy lingerie or consider adding some toys to the mix. A lil' extra kink. Make like a tree and branch out!



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Oh Libras, what devoted lovebirds you are. And when you make love, you make love. You are getting to know who you are emotionally, physically, and sexually, and everyone else is sure to notice as you embrace this confidence and love for relationships with some harmless flirting. Always your genuine self and never a fan of posing, but why not invest in a video camera? Do us all a favor and show the world what they've been missing not taking a lively Libra home. Maybe not on the path to America's Funniest Home Videos, but at least you'll have something in common with fellow Libra, Kim K.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

My reclusive Scorpios, you value your privacy but this month it's time to lay it all out on the line—take it public! For you, connection and shared chemistry are crucial for a good time and a fulfilling physical encounter—if you're worried about how to even begin forming these bonds, start out slow and classic with the movies, take advantage of the Santa Barbara scenery and take it to the beach. Maybe make it intimate and spicy with Freebirds then go for a walk and find out for yourself how DP really got its name. It's time to get out on the town, get around town, and make action happen DOWNTOWN.



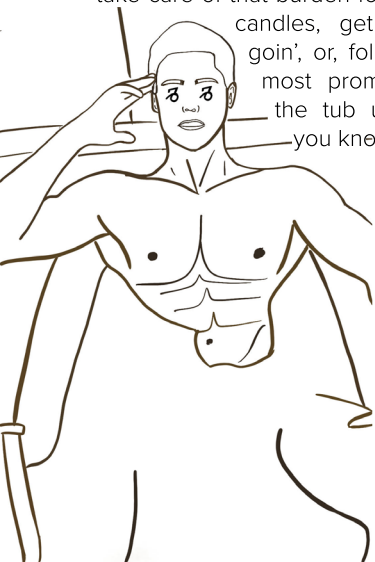
Sagittarius (November 22- December 21)

You've earned the less than glamorous nickname, "Saggies", but this month it's time to make things nice and tight! Hit the gym, find that locker room, and show off all your goodies. Take that argumentative attitude of yours, and let it be your foreplay. As a fire sign, it is your duty to be hot and steamy, and we don't mind where you do it! Make us proud.



Capricorn (December 22-January 20)

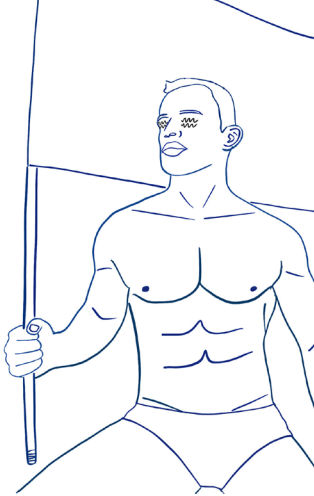
To all the darling, workaholic Cappies: remember to mix business with pleasure. Forget about deadlines and discipline (for now)—think about smashing or passing! Sexy and sophisticated, every Capricorn knows the value of a long productive day. Don't be too hard on yourself—let someone else take care of that burden for you. Light some candles, get a bubble bath goin', or, following Beyonce's most prominent advice, fill the tub up halfway and... you know the rest.



Aquarius

(January 21-February 19)

We all know you think you're hilarious, but you know what would be really funny? If you decided to take the back seat, and let someone else handle your stick shift. You value your independence, but there's nothing wrong with putting the car in neutral, and riding shotty for a while. Did you know they got the names of the gears wrong? Instead of PRND, what they really meant to say was BDSM. Let your freak flag fly high, speed racer, we know you've got it in you.



Pisces (February 20-March 20)

Pisceans, bless your souls for putting your partner's pleasure above your own so often—you truly are a rare breed. But let's not forget your desires! Your birth-season may have cum and gone, but that doesn't mean you can't have intimate evenings all about you. Don't fear experimenting with the unknown, maybe dabble with some fire signs—you may be pleasantly surprised! We already know you are the epitome of steamy sensual in the bedroom. Thinking of spicing things up, my fish out of water? Quench that thirst. Get down and dirty, then take it to the shower. **W**





Gnome Studies

HEISENBUDZ

SLIPPERY



ARE YOU
HAPPY

TROGDOR
the
BURNINATOR



AVATAR
THE LAST
BACTERIA



INSPECTED BY
BRITISH BOARD
OF AGRICULTURE



KNOW
SMOKING



A COLLAGE OF GRAFFITI
AND FOUND OBJECTS
ILLUSTRATION // EMILY KOMESSAR

[illegible][illegible]

PLANT TRADING CARDS

ILLUSTRATION // HANNAH ANDERSON
DESIGN // THERESA PHAN

Feel free to cut out these cards
to find and identify the plants
around campus and Isla Vista!



Orchid Tree

(aka, Butterfly Tree)

Location: Chemistry Building



Ice Plant

Location: Campus Point Bluffs



Yerba Mansa

Location: Lagoon, Manzanita Hall



Torch Lily

Location: HSSB,
In front of Excursion House

For more information, visit:

[https://www.ccber.ucsb.edu/
collections/campus_flora](https://www.ccber.ucsb.edu/collections/campus_flora)

[http://www.anth.ucsb.edu/
ivplants/database](http://www.anth.ucsb.edu/ivplants/database)

<https://localwiki.org/islavista/>



Lavender

Location: SRB, all over IV



Bird of Paradise

Location: San Rafael Hall, all over IV

IN VERSE

DESIGN + POETRY EDITING // MARINA SONN

Untitled

O' love
Who are you
to flutter the hearts of passersby
What are you
to make birds go from maddening to mirthful
in minutes
to make the moon resemble another,
the sun a reminder of their scorching heat
How do you seize control
making bones quiver and crumble at your
gentle,
gentle touch
How dare you change their lives,
leave me on the sideline
collide with their hearts
swerve from mine
O love
why won't you give me a chance
to feel you, endure you
Where are you
O love
Please, find me.

- AARUSHI KHANNA

Doing My Own Laundry

Pour the soap slowly
and greet the bubbles
a kid woman
not concerned with white or red
I toss it right in.
Damp clothes sound
like tennis balls hitting
brick walls at recess.
Sometimes the timer breaks,
I toss it right in.
Rain makes warm clothes
extra blankets
only my fingertips get to touch
mountains on my bed
I want to jump right in but
I just fold.

- OLIVIA CATANIO

Looking at Paintings in Young Adulthood

I can rent them
from time to time
these eyes
there is nothing
to behold
there is nothing
to hold
all the art in the world
will never make me whole
or perhaps I can be held
just for a moment
by something
someone else made

- JACK GREENBERG

Untitled

Twenty one words on strings

Reeboks hanging from
Power-chord
Swing

Crowded horizon
Southward wind

Leaves circle
Shadowless afternoon
Bikes assume plastic-bags

Sapphire eye
Reflects distant mist

- STODDY CAREY



ODE TO 68 BLOCK

WORDS // NICK WILSON PHOTOGRAPHY // MARCOS REYNOSO
ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // ALASKA YOKOTA



Deep in the jungles of IV,
Exists a place, shrouded in mystery.
Where lonely streets
Meet sandy paths,
Wandering slowly to the sea.
Where nature abounds:
Adored, celebrated.

To find it is simple:
Go west along DP,
Towards the dome in the distance.
With every step, a weight is lifted,
As the noise and chaos vanish behind you.
Chase the fleeting rays of the dying sun,
For the sun sets last on 68.

A home awaits,
Restless and brimming
With endless possibilities.
Where the ocean's calls pass,
Unhindered, over hopeful ears.
Where bare feet march,
Stained with adventure.

A home away from home.
A place to seek refuge
From the storms of the world.
Where art and creativity
Are found in abundance.
Where the broken streetlights
Cast our gaze to the stars.

It's difficult to believe,
That in a place as crowded,
As chaotic, as exciting as this,
One can journey a few blocks
To find an oasis, both familiar and new.
So distinctly different,
Yet so unmistakably, IV.

So I beg of you,
Run towards the setting sun.
Ignore the clamor, clutter, and commotion,
The chaos, crap, and confusion.
For it is stripped away as you enter the 68's.
And as it settles into the dust behind you,
IV's true essence slowly becomes visible.

A home for all.
A community of youth,
Creativity, and love.
Where friendships are born,
And former selves
May be laid to rest.
Where souls flourish.
The real IV.
Home.



JOINING THE ARMY

Sierra Hotel

WORDS // KYLE SHIPE
DESIGN // RYANNE ROSS

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kyle Shipe is a former U.S. Army field artilleryman. He is currently majoring in History at UC Santa Barbara. His interests are punk rock, surfing, and his pit bull, Jameson.


"That's probably a good idea," the judge said to me when I handed him a letter from the Army recruiter asking for leniency so that I could enlist. "Your enlistment in the military would benefit the community," he continued. At the time, I thought that was a really cool thing to hear in a courtroom. A few months later, when I thought more deeply about his words I realized what the judge had meant. My hometown of Santa Cruz, California, would benefit from my leaving, wherever I might be sent. It was clear that I was out of harmony with my community and that I needed a timeout of sorts. It was January 2010, and I had graduated from high school six months earlier. Though I never fancied myself a criminal, I was cultivating a very respectable

rap sheet for someone who had just become legally an adult. Already I'd been in court four times since I'd graduated.

The word "potential" had been floating around me since I was a child, but its meaning had changed throughout the years, from "He has a bright future" to "What went wrong?" When I began flirting with the idea of joining the military, I was living at home and playing baseball at the local junior college, having recently lost a scholarship to University of Oregon. Late one night, I decided to check out the Marine Corps website. "The Few, The Proud" mantra seemed pretty badass and I liked the idea of an anchor and globe tattoo on my forearm. I figured that if I couldn't play D-1 baseball, being a warrior was the next best

thing. After filling out some basic information on the website, a recruiter called me the next day eager to get me to come in to see him. I went in, heard what he had to say, and walked out of his office with some pamphlets, feeling unimpressed by his presentation and giving little thought to enlisting. Later that night, I totaled my car and spent the night in jail.

A couple of days later, I went back to the same recruiter and told him the good news—I was ready to join. After explaining what happened, he looked at me as if I were a sewer rat and advised that maybe the Army would still be interested. “Damn,” I thought. “Not even the Marine Corps wants me.” I was devastated that even my backup plan had fallen through. I walked across the hall to the Army recruiting station, figuring they would be willing to pick up the Marine

Corps’ scraps and saw some guy looking at me like he was expecting me and I was right on time. I told him about my most recent arrest, and he assured me that it wasn’t an issue, that the Marine Corps was stuck up and their uniforms were the only thing cool about them. I’d do the same stuff in the Army but with better equipment in the Army. When I called my dad later that day to tell him that I had gotten arrested again, but that it was all good, because I was joining the Army, in a worn-out, emotionless voice he said, “That’s probably a good idea.” 

ABOUT THE SIERRA HOTEL

“Sierra Hotel” presents writings from participants in UCSB’s creative writing workshop for veterans and military dependents. The workshop, which began in 2012, provides the opportunity for this unique group of UCSB students to write about their military experiences as they study the craft of creative non-fiction. To read more work by UCSB student veterans and military dependents, visit Instant Separation, A Digital Journey of Military Experience from the University of California: www.instantseparation.org.

ALBINO RACCOON: A RANT

The Tea on the "Easy" Majors

WORDS // SAM DREITZER ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // THERESA PHAN

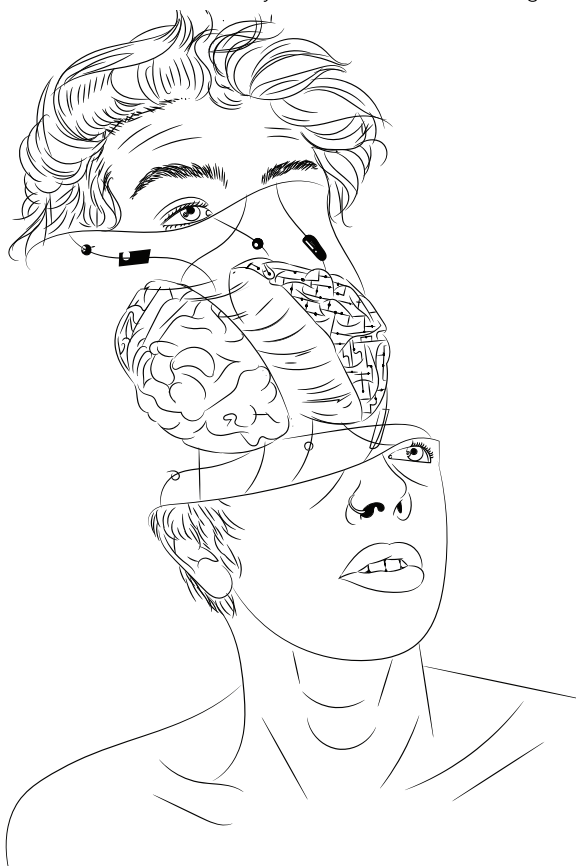
ON DECEMBER 12, 2018, at 12:31 p.m., Twitter user and apparent authority on anything academic, @2_3Rings tweeted "I don't mean to disrespect anyone AT ALL, but having a 4.0 or good grades in non stem majors just isn't impressive to me. Taking foreign language, polo-sci, physical Ed, and sociology electives or pre reqs is SUPPOSED TO RESULT IN AT LEAST a 3.4." In case this didn't do an adequate job of revealing this person's thoughts on the matter, they followed up with, "Even getting a 2.8 in a stem major is more impressive and challenging than getting a 3.5 in a non stem major. Like salute to you for securing your own bag and doin' what you need to do, but we get

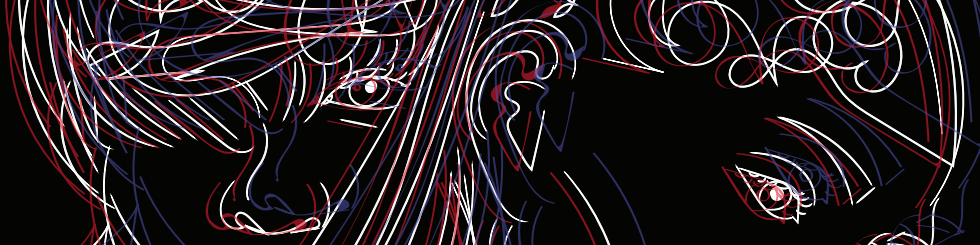
to flex different." As a passionate sociology major who has had the privilege of studying in one of the best sociology programs in the country for three years, who has spent night after hair-tearing night in the library trying to understand extremely dense theoretical texts or get a ten-page essay just so—I've got a bone to pick.

Don't be fooled: I am completely secure in my decision to get a degree in the social sciences, and I couldn't care less if someone from another discipline feels that they get to "flex different." I am secure in the knowledge that social science majors work extremely hard, and face an entirely unique set of academic challenges. I'd like people to understand that, but I don't need them to. My problem with this Twitter user's mindset is not that it attempts to make the humanities and social sciences seem like an easy ride, but that on a larger scale, it is suggestive of a larger devaluation of the actual work done in those fields. It implies that the humanities are less deserving of attention and energy than STEM disciplines, and that the work done in the humanities is less valuable. For so many reasons, this is harmful, ignorant, and just plain wrong.

When STEM majors treat humanities classes as disposable and irrelevant, they are not only doing themselves a disservice, but the world around them.

I strongly believe that this instinct to discount the humanities (including the social sciences, for the purpose of this article) is one that has been deliberately constructed within us by the late-capitalist society we all find ourselves smack in the middle of. Maybe it's the sociology major in me speaking, but it's clear to me that for decades and decades, society at large has increasingly elevated STEM as far more valuable (read: profitable) than the humanities, and this





sentiment is clearly expressed by our Twitter friend. We have been conditioned to value the pragmatic, linear thinking of STEM fields, and taught to center a notion of technological progress as the most important kind of progress.

The perspectives of the humanities and social sciences tell us something else entirely.

The humanities help us understand what it means to be a human being.

When STEM majors treat humanities classes as disposable and irrelevant, they are doing a disservice not only to themselves, but also to the world around them. There's no denying that scientific and mathematical disciplines have brought us to a greater understanding of our world, and have in many ways turned it into a better place. But the humanities and social sciences teach us the intricacies of how people function, help us think critically and communicate with each other, and delve into how human society works and why. They help us to understand what it means to be a human being, and to think about the tremendous inequality in the world with empathy and clarity. It is irresponsible to assume that these things are important only to those who focus on studying them; in our era of data, automation, and cold, hard numbers, diverse methods of thinking and analyzing are more crucial than ever in STEM fields. The human touch and the intersectional sort of empathy encouraged by the humanities are anything but disposable, and they are essential for good decision-making in every field.

The goal of the humanities is to make the world a better place based on an understanding of the people who live in it. To reduce them to an academic walk in the park only serves to give certain STEM majors an unfounded sense of superiority. The truth is that an aspiring doctor will be a better doctor

for the critical thinking skills they gained from that introductory sociology class they took during their freshman year, and that a climate scientist will be able to see their work from a different perspective once they understand how marginalized communities are differently impacted by climate change.

As a young person pursuing an education, you are the future of our world and society. The way you think and the perspective you have are part and parcel to that future, and it is on you to expand your mind and diversify your thinking. It is on you to do your part to make our future a brighter one for more people. So if you're a STEM major being forced to take humanities classes, lean into it. Be genuinely open to what that race relations class has to teach you. Listen to the stories of Chicanx activists with awe for their dedication and respect for their humanity. And before you knock a ten-page analytical essay as nothing more than an easy A, try getting an A on one yourself.

You might learn something along the way.

Recommended Humanities/
Social Sciences classes for
expanding the mind:

Black Studies 4:
Critical Intro to Race and Racism

Sociology 1:
Intro to Sociology

Anthropology 2:
Intro to Cultural Anthropology

Philosophy 4:
Intro to Ethics

Feminist Studies 50:
Global Feminisms and Social Justice

Chicanx Studies 1C:
Intro to Chicanx Studies

SO THIS IS GOODBYE

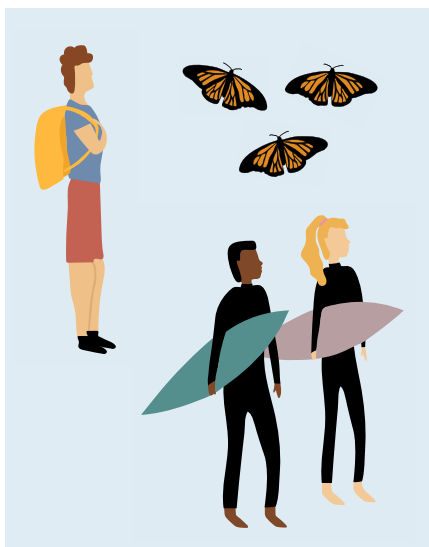
Bidding Farewell to Isla Vista

WORDS // CASSIDY BROWN

ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // DANIA ASCENCIO

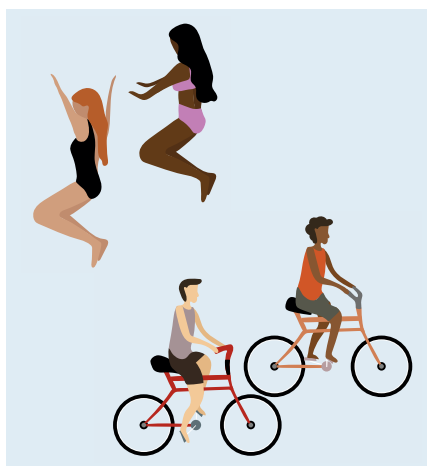
REMEMBER THE first time you stepped on campus? The nerves, the chaos, the bike paths. You had no idea what was in store. But eventually you found your place, and this weird, unpredictable, beautifully unique community became your home.

Now here you are, at the beginning of the end of your adventure. You're getting ready to move on to bigger and better things, and June will arrive before you're ready for it. But right now, you're here. All good things must come to an end—so you should embrace your temporary home while you can. Here are some ideas to get you started.



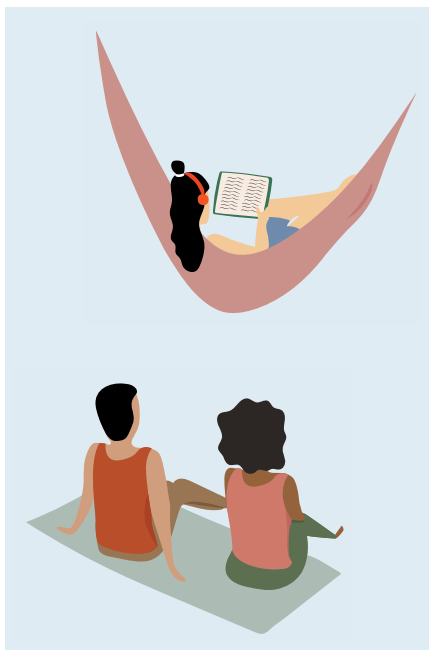
Be a Santa Barbarian

Santa Barbara is a beautiful place. Don't spend your last months here indoors. Camp at Lake Cachuma, take in the Botanic Garden and the Monarch Butterfly Grove. Soak in the Gaviota Hot Springs and watch the sunset from Lizard's Mouth. And if that sounds too daunting, you can still go on adventures in IV. Surf as much as possible (or give it a try if you haven't before). Go to Extravaganza (and remind your friends to wear sunscreen this time). Take advantages of resources like Bill's Bus and CSO walks that keep you safe. And, of course, you should totally pee in that ocean-view bathroom on campus.



Cherish Your Friends

You're lucky enough to live within walking distance of all your friends. Take advantage of it. Show up at their door with Freebirds! when you know they aren't busy. Go for a walk on the beach with them for a study break. It isn't too late to try new things and meet new people—in fact, it may be the best time to do it. Take advantage of local college nights, dollar slices at Woodstock's, and free events on campus. Anything to make new memories with the friends you've shared these years with. Jump off Goleta pier together—it's not as scary as it sounds. (Actually, there's even a ladder and a staircase to get you back up from the water. Seriously, just go for it.) You can be timid later.



Put Your Toes in the Sand

UCSB has a campus beach. The waves kiss the edge of IV every day. Even if you live all the way on El Colegio, the ocean is only a ten-minute walk from your bedroom. If you find yourself stressing about graduating, adulting, leaving IV behind—let the ocean ease your mind. Watch the sunset at least once a week (but preferably every day). Finish up your reading in a hammock on the bluffs. Or if you're too lazy to read, take a nap in said hammock. Catch up with your friends while watching the waves. Honestly, catch up with yourself while watching the waves and do some long overdue introspection. Stargazing, killing time between classes, or even just pulling over to take in the view is exponentially more enjoyable at the beach. Relish it while you can.



Indulge One Last Time

Think back on your memories of IV cuisine: the first time you inhaled late-night buffalo chicken cheese fries, the groggy Portola Dining Commons brunches on Sunday mornings, the Woodstock's weekly deals that you've basically memorized. Now is your chance to indulge in IV's finest before you leave. Fork out that \$12 to relive the glory of dining commons mac n' cheese. Get everyone together and spend an evening eating the food that's given you the best memories—whether it be pint night at Woodstock's, a game day at Sam's, or bringing home Freebirds nachos to savor while you binge-watch *The Office* for the millionth time this month. You'll start craving this food just a few weeks after you leave, and you'll be happy you splurged on eating out before moving on.

IV is unique, quirky, and different for us all. For some, it's a beachy haven of beauty that cultivates peace, acceptance and contentment. For others, it's an exciting and unpredictable array of thrill and adventure. You know how you spent your time here. You know the places that brought you joy, the people who made you laugh, and the memories that make you grin. Remember them. Your time here is coming to a close—use it well, and prioritize doing the things that make you never want to leave. **W**



IV GIVES YOU CREDIT

ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // RYANNE ROSS

MAGIC LANTERN FILMS FILM/MEDIA 119ML ISLA VISTA FILM EVENTS

Magic Lantern Films teaches the ins and outs of film programming using IV Theater as a lab. Students gain experience in budgeting, publicizing, and curating, culminating in the execution of screenings that come out of students' own pitches. Contact DJ Palladino at djpalladino@ihc.ucsb.edu.

IV LIVE! THEATER 42/142 PR AND ON-SITE EVENT MANAGEMENT

Experience promoting and producing weekly improvability comedy shows along with additional live performances in Isla Vista. Learn backstage and front-of-the-house skills. Explore public relations, advertising, and production management in this real-world setting. All majors welcome. Contact Ali Albanese at alialbanese1@gmail.com.

WORD MAGAZINE INT 185ST THE CREATION OF THIS MAGAZINE

This issue of WORD: Isla Vista Arts & Culture Magazine is brought to you by the student artists and writers in INT 185ST and its partner OSL campus organization.

We welcome new writers, designers, photographers, and illustrators from all majors at our Friday meetings. Contact Ellen Anderson at eanderson@ihc.ucsb.edu.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK THEATER 194A GROUP STUDIES IN ACTING & DIRECTING

Study Shakespeare while producing a theatrical performance for the Anisq'Oyo' Park amphitheater. Students play assigned roles, execute specific production duties, attend rehearsals, and finally perform their work during the final weekend of classes. All majors welcome. Contact Dave Mancini at dmancini@ucsb.edu.

STAFF PHOTO: WRITERS ARTISTS



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Cassidy Brown (Editor) Kailah Korsh
Marcos Reynoso Haven Kato

ILLUSTRATION + DESIGN // THERESA PHAN
PHOTO // ALASKA YOKOTA

UC SANTA BARBARA
THEATER
/ DANCE
PERFORMANCE / TRAINING / RESEARCH

SPRING 2019

PERFORMANCE SEASON

SPRING DANCE CONCERT

April 11 - 14 / HATLEN THEATER

NEW WORKS LAB

May 9 - 19 / PERFORMING ARTS THEATER

THE HUNGRY WOMAN

May 24- June 2 / HATLEN THEATER

