

# POLLARD POST

Trimester 2

Issue No. 2

We Know Where You Live



By Amelie Rijnbout, Amelie Zosa, and Zachary Wiesch

# HOW TO WASTE TWO HOURS

By: Zachary Wiesch

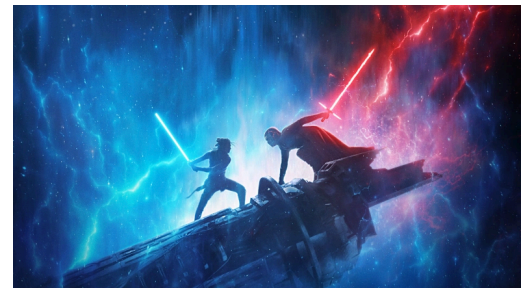
The Rise of Skywalker stands up, only to fall right back down

Ok. Let's face it, the movie, Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker, is not good. They introduce new plot points willy-nilly and it's just a giant jumble of nostalgia. Some people might like that, and if you come across those people, tell them they're wrong. You can't just have a bunch of good things from the past spilled onto a platter, you need something fresh. This movie is no exception. Now that I've stated my opinion, it's time to get on with the facts. The whole premise of the movie is that Emperor Palpatine has a fleet of Death Star Destroyers. Which are a mix of Star Destroyers and Death Stars.

spherical and impenetrable. The Emperor also named it "The Final Order". Why is there no Second Order? Is this franchise not profitable enough to make another movie to explain it, hmm? Also Rey turns out to be Palpatine's granddaughter, which totally kills her story. She was fine when she was Rey from nowhere, but by giving her this new name you get rid of her originality and make it part of the same old story. Rey returns to Luke Skywalker's old home, which looks spanking brand new in this movie if I don't say so myself. But if I remember correctly, Luke's house burns down in "A New Hope". When the Resistance rides off to fight the Final Order, they use an old Rebel Blockade Runner, which looks like a Tantive IV. If it is, that's super stupid, because that means the Empire just dumped it somewhere, and didn't scrap it for parts, didn't blow it up, didn't leave it in space. When Rey goes to Palpatine's planet, Luke appears and randomly gives her two lightsabers. One of them he claims is Leia's, and then there is just a flashback to when Leia took training, which no one has

mentioned ever. This movie feels like Spider-Man 3, where they thought that if they had enough cool stuff and nostalgia in it, it would be great with the fans, but it just ended up flopping like a wet noodle. Probably the only good part of this movie was the visual effects, which are always good in these types of movies. But it's overshadowed by a shallow plot, and forgettable characters. This movie would be fine if it played off of what happened in "The Last Jedi", but instead it doesn't show us anything that happens in between it, and it fasts forward like two years. When we last saw the resistance, they had like fourteen people. In this movie, they have an entirely new fleet of star fighters and maybe two hundred more people. But all in all, this movie does improve on some things from "The Last Jedi." There is more action and less driving through space, which is always good, and they found a way to not kill one of the classic characters. But they still

introduced too many new characters, like Zorii Bliss, Snap Wexley, and like seven other people. The worst part, to me, is that they didn't kill C-3PO. That droid was finally about to be killed, and they somehow found a way around it. It's so annoying that this droid, who has been in almost every single Star Wars movie, won't die. They killed Han Solo, Princess Leia, and Luke Skywalker, who haven't been in nearly as many movies as C-3PO. He isn't even anyone's friend because of how annoying he is. In conclusion, the reason people hate on these movies so much is because everyone wants them to live up to the legacy that the original three left. But those are probably the biggest shoes on the planet to fill. This still isn't an excuse on Disney's part to make terrible films. So I give this movie a two and a half stars, out of five.



This is the stupidest death weapon the villains have ever made. It contains all of the flaws of the original Star Destroyers, those being, exposed reactor core, exposed shield generators, and vulnerable backside. The benefit of the Starkiller Base and the Death Star was that they were



Sorry if we missed your favorite animal. There is only so much room on the page.

Amelie Rjinbout

# Ski/Snowboard Club!



50 kids. 5 Chaperones. 1 Club.

Amelie Zosa

# Best of the 2010s!

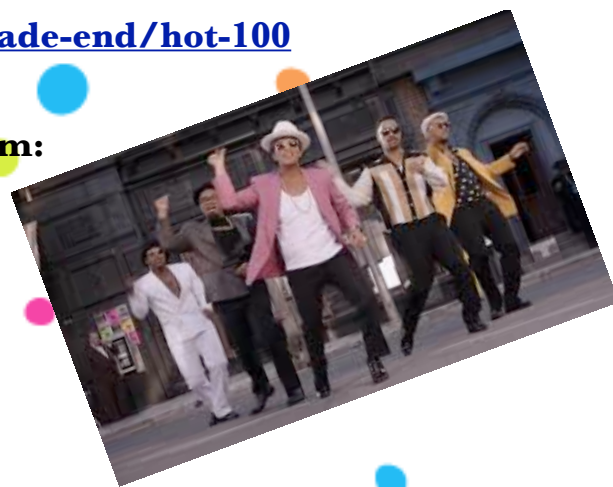
- **Uptown Funk!** by Mark Ronson ft. Bruno Mars
- **Party Rock Anthem** by LMFAO ft. Lauren Bennett, GoonRock
- **Shape of You** by Ed Sheeran
- **Closer** by The Chainsmokers ft. Halsey
- **Girls Like You** by Maroon 5 ft. Cardi B
- **We Found Love** by Rihanna ft. Calvin Harris
- **Old Town Road** by Lil Nas X ft. Billy Ray Cyrus
- **Somebody That I Used to Know** by Gotye ft. Kimbra
- **Despacito** by Luis Fonsi and Daddy Yankee ft. Justin Bieber
- **Rolling in the Deep** by Adele
- **Sunflower** by Post Malone and Swae Lee
- **Without Me** by Halsey
- **Call me Maybe** by Carly Rae Jepsen
- **Blurred Lines** by Robin Thicke ft. T.I. and Pharrell Williams
- **Perfect** by Ed Sheeran

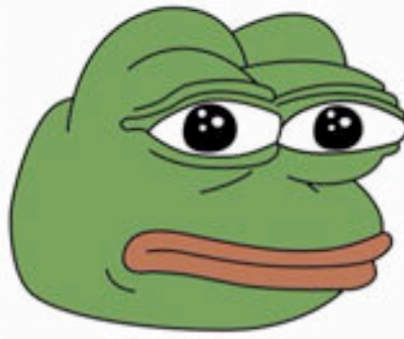


2010s

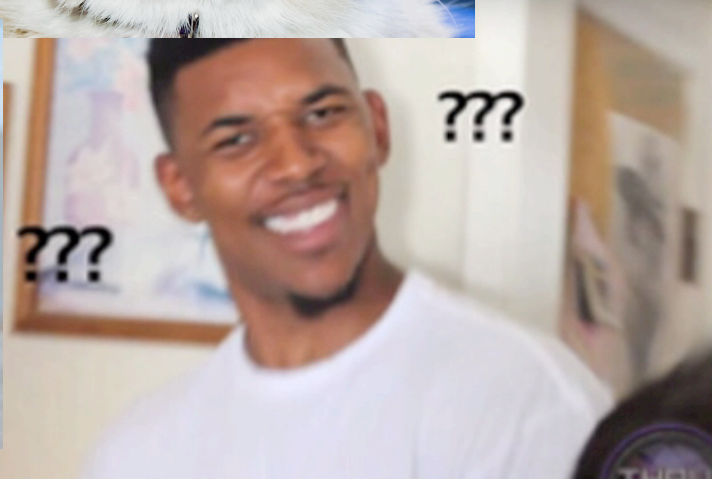
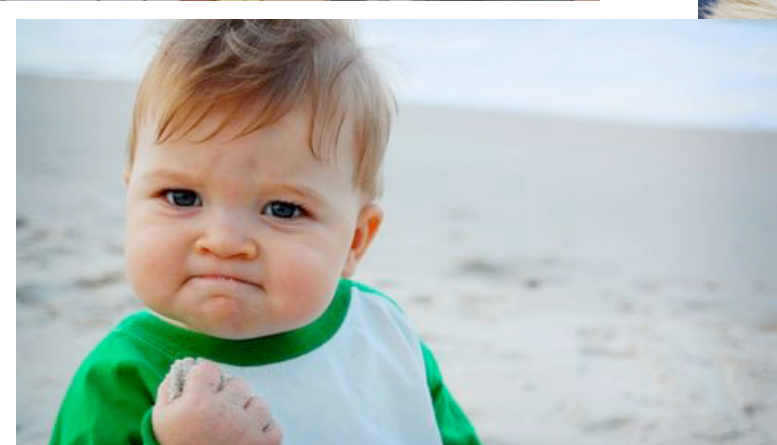
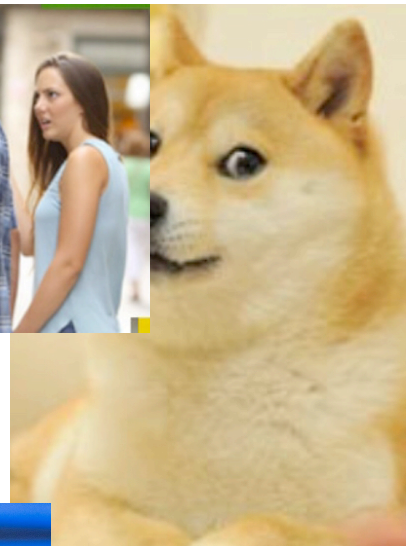
More at: <https://www.billboard.com/charts/decade-end/hot-100>

DECADE OF POP 100 Song Mashup by DJ Earworm:





**BEST MEME TEMPLATES OF THE DECADE**



Amelie Zosa and Amelie Rjinbout

Whether you write for school or at home, use these tips to enhance your words!

- Take notes!
  - Although this can be annoying, and sometimes even intimidating, taking notes on your work can be really helpful! Keeping track of everything from character descriptions, backstory, what's expected to come next, locations, or even just the overall plot can really help you remember all the small details. You can do this in a separate document, in a notebook or notepad, or in anything you won't lose. This way, when you're stuck or just need to add in a little something to kick the scene up a notch, you have all the right resources in one place.
- Brackets as fillers.
  - Sometimes you just can't put your thoughts into words. That's when you can use brackets! Brackets can help you organize your thoughts so you aren't stuck in one spot for a long period of time. Even mid sentence, you can put the brackets there, write a small summary of what you wish to fill them with, and close bracket. There are even easy ways to make sure you *do* fill all the brackets before you're done! Which leads me to my next tip.
- Find and replace.
  - You all probably know about this already, but do you know all it can be used for? If you're in google docs, click edit in the top left corner, and then hit find and replace. There, you can search for letters, words, sentences, or brackets, that you may want to change. Sometimes I don't even use the replacement portion. If I want to see how many pronouns I've used rather than descriptions, or if any word I've said is overused, I can check back on that. If you realize you've been spelling something wrong this whole time, you can use this! Changing names at the last minute? Find and replace.
- Use a thesaurus.
  - This is a really basic tip, but sometimes words really are too bland.
- Beta readers.
  - Ok. Everyone has their own style. You don't have to take all of their opinions, but sometimes having someone look over your piece is great. It's good to get some constructive feedback from an audience, rather than what the voice in the back of your head says. Just make sure you feel everything you've written is solid and you're ready to share. You can use your teachers, friends, or anyone you feel comfortable reading your work! Taking criticism is a basic life skill we'll all have to master someday.
- Keep it interesting.
  - Nobody wants page long descriptions of minor objects that play no role. Even if nothing much is happening in the moment, fill your empty space with flashbacks, internal monologue, dialogue, or anything else that may be important.

- Keep it real.
  - Although fantasy means that unrealistic things can happen, keep your characters real. Nobody is going to walk for hours without complaining or make forty impossible shots in a row (unless, of course, there are extraordinary circumstances).
- Lessen the confusion.
  - Going back to the take notes section, especially if you're writing a fantasy story, make sure it all makes sense and there aren't any loose ends. Coming up with your own world can be tricky, especially if it means you're making up all the rules. Add in all the details, even if you think it goes without saying. Anything that's different from our human world today should be included in your description. Be sure that nothing contradicts and when asked a question, you are able to give a solid answer that you can support. This is crucial for the readers to understand your creations as well as you do.
- Characterizations are everything.
  - I don't know about you, but if I want something to read, I'm not looking for a specific genre. I look for something with characters that I can relate to, characters that might be silly or stupid or fiery tempered but always interesting. Make them stand out. I don't want to read about five teenagers with blurred personalities that never say anything that would alter the way I think. Sure, it may be stereotypical to have a smart one, a funny one, and the one with all the problems. But it sure is more interesting that way, and there are a lot of other people describing adjectives you can use. Think of it this way: if there's a line of unique dialogue, you should be able to pinpoint one character where, "Oh, that totally sounds like something they would say." That's why nobody's favorite character in *Harry Potter* is Harry Potter. He's just a boring boy who only ever wears two shirts without his two best friends, who both have very distinct personalities.
- You've heard this a million times, but here's one more. Show, don't tell.
  - Teachers say this all. Of. The. Time. But what exactly does that mean? It's like the difference between a statement and an image. The difference between a smiley face and the Mona Lisa. It's going between all the fine lines of an idea and stretching it out so it's something you can see, hear, or feel. Find how quickly 'I live on a busy street,' turns into the sound of screaming New Yorkers in your ears.
- Don't get hung up on the little things.
  - Don't have a title? Haven't named your characters? You're not quite sure what they look like yet? Don't sweat it. Use those brackets to



- add it all in later. Don't worry much about spelling or grammar while you're drafting, either. That's what editing is for!
- Make a playlist.
  - If you're one of those people who can listen to music while they work, please do. Just make sure your playlist fits the vibe of the piece. You shouldn't be writing a sad scene while playing *Happy* or *Don't Stop Me Now* in the background. Music may help you focus or inspire the flow.
- Leave traces of you.
  - Generally speaking, writing is better and bolder when you know a lot about your topic. What do you know better than you? Write about your own character traits or hobbies to better understand what to say.
- Read!
  - The best way to learn to write? Read! You can never go wrong with this. Observe how your favorite authors phrase things, their dialogue patterns, how they start off sentences or set scenes. Don't ever copy them, but this should give you a pretty good idea on what you should be doing.
- Observe *everything*.
  - Along with authors, observe everything else around you too! I don't mean sit outside and watch the birds with a pen and notepad (unless that's what you want to do), but see how different people react to different situations. Look at the
    - way the trees move in strange weather. The sound a car makes when it starts. Store it all away until you need it.
- Think about joining a group.
  - This doesn't have to be a set in stone group, but especially if you're writing as a hobby, try to find like-minded people to help give you advice. There are some camps and other programs that you can work with, or you could just find some students right here at the school. If you love to write, see if you can find someone (or multiple people) who also like to write. Fast questions can be answered quickly, thought out well, and thoroughly discussed with an actual human who isn't Google.
- Do whatever works for you!
  - Whatever weird quirks you have, if they improve your writing, if they make you more comfortable, go for it. When it comes to writing, don't let anyone tell you what to do. You can only think when you're writing in green pen longhand? Go for it. You have to be standing up? Sure. Whatever it takes to bring your writing to its peak.

Whether you write about dragons, teenagers, or possessed plant holders, use this list whenever you need a little push in the right direction.

# Pollard Primary Results

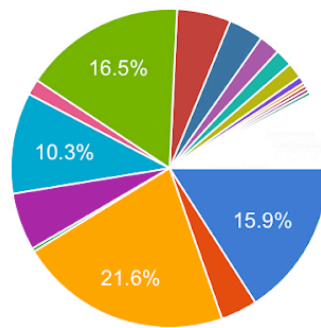
Survey by Zachary Wiesch



The candidate with the majority of the 565 votes is former mayor of New York City, Mike Bloomberg. but he dropped out of the race, making Pete Buttigieg the winner. Unfortunately, he dropped out making the real winner Donald Trump.

Which candidate would you vote for?

565 responses



- Donald Trump, Republican
- Joe Biden, Democrat
- Michael Bloomberg, Democrat
- Tulsi Gabbard, Democrat
- Bernie Sanders, Democrat
- Elizabeth Warren, Democrat
- William Weld, Republican
- Pete Buttigieg, Democrat

▲ 1/8 ▼

POLLARD BOOK DRIVE  
MARCH 16 - APRIL 9  
By

Finn McKeon, Emme Ward,  
Arie Shalita, Cacee Reid, Ava  
Amaral, & Rebecca Gold

Did you know The  
National Institute for Literacy  
estimates 32 million American  
adults are unable to read?



Being illiterate can lead to  
increases in the dropout rate,  
unemployment, low self-  
esteem, and low quality of  
work. That's an unbelievable  
statistic! That's why we, the



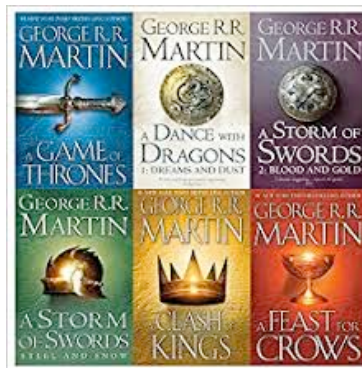
students on the Pollard Book  
Drive, are collecting used  
books from  
March 16th  
- April 9th.  
It is our  
hope to



collect as many books as we  
can so that we can donate  
them to a school in  
need. Many schools  
in Massachusetts no  
longer have  
libraries and  
teachers are  
paying out of pocket



to buy books for their  
classrooms. This is  
an expensive  
endeavor. This is  
important because  
we love to read and  
we want other kids  
who want to read to have the  
same opportunities as we  
have, so they can succeed.



Being literate is essential in  
today's world because it  
leads to career  
advancement or  
success. We  
want to help  
bring the gap by  
providing books to those in  
need.

Parents, please drop your  
unused or lightly used books  
off in the front office at Pollard

Middle School. Students,  
please drop off  
your unused or  
lightly used books  
in the boxes in  
your English  
classroom.

## All About Us

Amelie Zosa is in Cluster 7-4 and loves to dance! Her other hobbies include writing, reading, listening to music, and talking a lot.

Amelie Rijnbout is in Cluster 7-3 and is obsessed with dogs. Her other hobbies include reading, playing sports, and annoying some of her friends.

Zachary Wiesch is in Cluster 7-3 and watches a few too many movies. He enjoys a good cut of red meat, is a part of the improv troupe Jet Blue (Not Sponsored), and enjoys some good old fashion controversy.



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