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— PANDEMIC EDITION —

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Amelie R., Amelie Z., and Zachary

# Editorial on Coronavirus

By Zachary Wiesch

Social distancing is currently the biggest way we can slow the spread of COVID-19. And yet, although we are leading with confirmed cases, Americans can not grasp the fact that Coronavirus is a deadly disease. We treat this like a vacation, and we walk around outside with others because we aren't open-minded. The people who have the money and power to focus on a vaccine are too busy reopening America. If this country reopens, millions more will die. Another thing that bothers me is the stupid masks. They don't keep germs out, they kind of keep germs in. So if this town wants to actually do something, how about issuing a mandatory stay at home order. Italy did that, and they're doing much better now. This town is smaller than Italy, so a

mandatory stay at home order should do the trick. Also the new rule is you have to wear masks in all public buildings. But almost 99% of the buildings in this town are closed, so that's a stupid way to say: "Hey! Look at us! We're doing nothing, but it looks like we're doing something!" What America should do is team up, and work on a vaccine! That is how we can stop this, and that is how we can reopen. So stop walking in the middle of the road, stay inside, and do something that will help, and isn't just to impress your neighbors. Or mark my words things will get a whole lot worse.

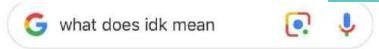
# Need something funny to keep you going?

Me trying to listen to my own advice



**My week is basically:**

- Monday
- Monday #2
- Monday #3
- Monday #4
- Friday
- Saturday
- Pre-Monday



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I don't know



**We are about 3 weeks away from knowing everyone's true hair color** 😂



By: Amelie R.

# Quiz - what sport are you?

Q1: What type of food do you prefer?

1. Italian
2. Chinese
3. Mexican
4. American

Q2: How much do you like exercise?

1. I'll do it
2. It's pretty good
3. It's fun
4. It's the absolute best

Q3: What is your favorite season?

1. Winter
2. Spring
3. Summer
4. Fall

Q4: What pet would you adopt?

1. No pet
2. Cat
3. Dog
4. Other

*If you answered...*

Mostly 1's - Hockey

Mostly 2's - Baseball

Mostly 3's - Soccer

Mostly 4's - American Football

Combination of numbers - Basketball



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By: Amelie R.

# Lengthy Reviews: Board Game Edition

by: Zachary Wiesch

Lord of the Rings is a series of fantasy novels written by J.R.R. Tolkien. His works have been adapted into movies, video games, and other stuff. But arguably the second greatest adaptation of them all, is the board game War of the Ring. The game takes place during the War of the Ring of the Third Age. One player controls the Fellowship, trying to destroy the Ring, and one player plays as the Shadow, trying to find the Ring. The players take turns rolling and spending dice with unique actions on them. These actions are Muster, Army, Character, Muster/Army, Event, Eye, and Will of the West. I will now explain these dice one by one.

Muster: either recruit troops or move a nation down the political track, or bring a minion into play. Army: move two armies one space or attack. Character: move one army one space if it has a leader, move a companion or minion, separate a companion from the Fellowship, move the Fellowship, move a Nazgûl. Muster/Army: do a Muster or Army action. Event: play or draw an event card. Eye: place in the Hunt box. Will of the West: change into a die result or bring a companion into play. That's every die result in the game. Let's talk about companions/minions. Companions are characters you can bring into the game who give you extra dice. They are Gandalf the White, and Aragorn. You bring them according to the conditions on their card.

They are also members of the Fellowship, i.e. Legolas, Boromir, Strider, Gandalf the Grey, Gimli, Peregrin, and Meriadoc. They do not bring you extra dice. Minions are servants of Sauron, so Saruman, The Witch King of Angmar, and the Mouth of Sauron. They bring you extra dice. Now onto the Hunt. The Hunt is at the end of each round. The shadow rolls a number of dice equal to the number of eye dice in the Hunt box (max of 5). They also add an one to any of the d-6's rolled for each blue Character die in the box. For each result of 6, the shadow draws a tile and that is how much corruption the Fellowship takes. And that only scratches the surface of the rules and components. With 209 plastic people, 21 dice, four decks of cards, and for only 65 schmackers, this is a cheap way to get all these things.

With a friend to share it with, I can guarantee good times. But the first game is painful, it takes forever, and most people turn the other way when you ask them to play. But for the few who put in the time to learn everything, this game is pretty awesome. It can go much faster, and you'll understand everything. So, if you like Lord of the Rings, and board games, go ahead and buy yourself this game. If you don't like Lord of the Rings, don't buy it. It's as simple as that. However, I like this game, and I give it 5 out of 5 Gandalf emojis.



# Need Book Recommendations?

Because I know everyone is super bored during quarantine, here's a list of some of my favorite recommended books, with short synopses!

I'm sure you've heard of a lot of these books before, but you may not have read them yet, and they're definitely worth picking up!

- *Fangirl* by Rainbow Rowell
  - Cather Avery, also known as Cath, is going to college. Her twin sister, Wren, decided that for the first time in their lives, she does not want to be roommates with Cath. Cath doesn't want to go out and meet new people, she just wants to stay in and write Simon Snow fanfiction, preferably with Wren at her side. This is the story of Cath's college life as she spends time with her actual new roommate, and her roommates best friend. I love this book because Cath is really relatable, and the story is very funny and heartwarming.
- *Carry On* and *Wayward Son* by Rainbow Rowell
  - *Carry On*, book one, and *Wayward Son*, book two, (Any Way the Wind Blows, the third book, coming soon!), are all about Simon Snow, the worst chosen one ever to be chosen. Somewhat a parody to Harry Potter, *Carry On* plops you right near the end of Simon's school years at Watford, and what he's up to with his best friend Penny, girlfriend Agatha, and evil vampire roommate Baz. This is the author's take on the fanfiction Cath from *Fangirl* (see to the left) wrote. I loved the characters in this book. They were all hilarious, and the story never stopped being interesting.
- *Gentleman's Guide to Vice and Virtue* by Mackenzi Lee
  - Henry "Monty" Montague is going on tour around Europe. What he thinks this will consist of is gambling, flirting, and hanging



- out with his best friend Percy. His little bookish sister Felicity is coming along too, but she will just be ignored. All of these things do happen, of course, but what he doesn't count on are many plot twists that take him through adventure after adventure. These characters are witty, charming, and will continue to surprise you every page.
- *Eliza and her Monsters* by Francesca Zappia
  - To her town, Eliza is just the hermit girl who doesn't talk to anybody and does terribly in school. Nobody knows that online, she's LadyConstellation, creator of the widely known webcomic *Monstrous Sea*. Set in her senior year of high school, this book takes you through what happens when she meets a fan of her comic IRL, and struggles to maintain her anonymity. This book includes several illustrations from *Monstrous Sea*, as well as small passages from *Monstrous Sea* writings.
- *Renegades* by Marissa Meyer
  - I know that many people picked this book in *Battle of the Books* solely for its title, but they should've picked it because it's an excellent read as well. *Renegades* is about
    - Nova Artino, a supervillain who knows that the Renegades (superheroes), have taken everything away from her. When her supervillain gang decides that she, as the only anonymous villain left, should go undercover as a Renegade, she makes an abundance of new friends and is forced to question everything she was brought up to believe. Each of these characters has a unique superpower that will entertain you as you follow the story.
- *Shatter Me* by Tahereh Mafi
  - I've only recently finished this series, but it's one of my favorites. Juliette Ferrars has a power. If you make skin to skin contact with her, you are certain to die a most painful death. Juliette does not want this power. She just wants to be a normal teenage girl, someone who can give hugs and handshakes without worrying what will happen. This story is full of plot twists and surprises and characters that will make you question your own judgement. The writing style is very unique in that the author uses strike through, which is when ~~there's a line through your writing, just enough so you can still see what's~~

- ~~written under it.~~ The story is written from the perspective of Juliette, and whenever she thinks something that she believes to be a bad or a regrettable thought, she uses strike through to pretend it never existed.
- *Heartless* by Marissa Meyer
  - *Heartless* is the origin story of The Queen of Hearts from Alice in Wonderland, and how she came to be. Cath only wants to be a baker. She makes the best sweets in all of Hearts, and everybody knows it. To become a baker, however, she would be greatly disappointing her parents and many others, who have far greater ambitions for her. Set in Hearts, the kingdom is very unique, including characters such as the Cheshire Cat. This book is one to make you cry rivers, and possibly wish to throw and punch things, as well as scream in agony. You may temporarily want to crawl into an abyss with a blanket and never come out. Nevertheless, it's a great read, one of my favorites, and I highly recommend.
- *The Mortal Instruments/The Infernal Devices/The Dark Artifices* (and more!) by Cassandra Clare
  - Cassandra Clare has written dozens of
- stories that all fall into the shadowhunters category. Shadowhunters are a race of magical beings, demon hunters, whose goal is to protect mundanes like us. Each series within the shadowhunters books has a different plot, but each book has a great writing style and fabulous characters. The fun thing about reading multiple of these series is that the shadowhunters family tree is greatly intertwined, so that if you read one of the series set in the 1800s, the next series you read will be about the previous character's great-grandchildren. You get to see how the family traits pass down, and how different families interact with each other. *The Mortal Instruments* has been made into both a tv show and a set of movies.
- *Nimona* by Noelle Stevenson
  - This book is a graphic novel about a teenage girl who is a shapeshifter. Nimona is sassy, tough, and loves villainy. She becomes the sidekick of Ballister Blackheart, supervillain against Ambrosius Goldenloin. This is a very light read, full of colorful pictures and amusing dialogue.

- *Nimona* shows what happens when you bottle in your baggage for too long.
- *The Lunar Chronicles* by Marissa Meyer
  - This series is made up of sci-fi takes on various fairy tales, spun so intricately you have to work hard to connect the similarities to the original tales. Cinder is a cyborg mechanic in New Beijing with an android with a fashion sense as her best friend. Queen Levana, leader of a colony on the moon, has her heart set on marrying Prince Kai of New Beijing, thus bringing her evil rule to Earth. The Lunars have a special mind-control like ability, making them dangerous to humans. The characters in this book are sassy, the world well thought out, and the writing so good you won't put it down.
- *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M. Montgomery
  - This book is clearly a classic, about Anne (spelled with an E), a red headed orphan with a big imagination. Taking place in Canada, this is the story of how Anne Shirley makes her place in a home with Marilla and Matthew Cuthbert, and how she fights for her unique personality in a small

- minded town. This book was made into a tv show on Netflix, *Anne with an E*, that has a great message about equality and being yourself.



By Amelie Zosa