



You better 'Werk Witch': campus drag show celebrates 8 years of hard 'werk'



Professional drag performer and Werk Witch judge Kenya Belowe (to the left) started the show and made way for contestants like Sweet Magnolia (top right).

PHOTOS BY MADDIE HONOMICHL

Daisy Sanchez
Staff Writer

The annual spook-tacular drag show Werk Witch cast a spell on the Otter Student Union (OSU) ballroom Friday night, with local drag performers, students and even CSUMB alumni all 'werk'-ing the stage in this year's Werk Witch All Stars Drag Show.

The beloved on-campus drag show has graced the OSU ballroom stage every October since its first show in 2018, with tickets for the event premiering a week early on MyRaft and notably selling out rapidly. Each performer in this year's show was a returning participant.

While the drag show celebrates LGBTQ+ culture and history, many show participants noted that the show feels different this year. Show participant and fourth-year psychology major Breyon Harris (drag alias Kitty De Creme) shed light on why.

"There's been a lot of push-back on drag and on the queer community in general. So it's important to have Werk Witch every year to let, you know, people who disagree with it [know] that we're not going anywhere," said Harris.

CSUMB alumni and returning performer Quinn Sedona, performing under the name Saint Sallos, also said that a lack of applicants for this year's Werk Witch played a part in the decision to solely feature returning performers in the show.

"I think people are scared of the current state of the world. I think especially a lot of queer drag artists are afraid to perform. I think it's so vital that now more than ever

we are louder than ever," said Sedona. Through the controversy and the chatter, over 400 hundred attendees eagerly filled the OSU Ballroom seats with witch hats and fans, provided by organizers, in hand, ready for a night of radical fun and joy.

The night kicked off with a stunning stage introduction given by Werk Witch student lead coordinators Nurayah Alvarado and Jacky Flores, who introduced the panel of judges made up of three professional drag performers: Kenya Belowe, Xinistra and Papi Churro. Another notable figure introduced before the show was CSUMB alumni and Santa Clara University professor Ari Perez Montes, who was one of the main creators of the first Werk Witch Drag show in 2018. Montes gave a short speech speaking on the history of Werk Witch along with his role in its creation, and was then given a legacy award on stage from The Otter Cross Cultural (OC3) center. Then, it was time to werk.

The first performance of the night was delivered by Sweet Magnolia, a returning drag performer from Werk Witch 2024. Magnolia brought together goth and rock culture as she performed "No More Tears," by Ozzy Osbourne decked out in all black with fishnets and Doc Martens.

At the end of her performance, Magnolia even recreated Osbourne's iconic bat head biting moment (with a rubber bat, of course).

The second electric performance came from Buzz Kill, who performed a remix dressed as Count Orlock from

the famous 2024 horror movie "Nosferatu." Kill had the audience clapping, dancing and cackling as they lip synced to the audio quoting the internet famous Nosferatu meme, "You must bounce on it, crazy style."

The next performer was Saint Sallos, who was also a participant in Werk Witch 2024. Sallos performed "Save a Horse (Ride a Cowboy)" by Big & Rich, and even utilized their walking cane topped with a horse stuffed animal to ride on around stage. Sallos' performance was followed by a fan favorite performer from Werk Witch 2024, Ms. Kitty De Creme.

Creme sported a wedding dress and veil in honor of her recent change in marital status and performed "Hot N Cold" by Katy Perry, dazzling the audience with her energetic choreography. Next up was Xochitl Cempasúchil, who stayed true to her name as she peppered the stage with hundreds of marigold petals while performing "La Gata Bajo la Lluvia" by Rocio Durcal, paying homage to Mexican and Latinx culture.

Last, but definitely not least, was all-star drag performer Shorty D Elle. Elle closed the show with an electric performance that fused together Halloween, camp and classic drag, which won her both the Werk Witch Drag Show All Stars trophy as well as the title of Mx. Congeniality.

"Audition for Werk Witch, it's not scary," Sedona said. "You will have the most fun of your college career and possibly your life."

Racist graffiti

Recently, a handful of black student residents have been subject to racial slurs written outside their dorm doors. Read ahead to hear how the BSU has taken action.



Ski Mask the Slump God

Sweaty, loud and electric from top to bottom. Keep reading to hear how Ski Mask the Slump God took over The Catalyst stage.

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Column crossover

What's better, the book or the movie? Find out which medium best suited "The Woman in Cabin 10" in this week's column crossover.



Black students faced with racist graffiti on dormitory doors



ILLUSTRATION BY AMANDA RICHMAN

Sean Tubo
Staff Writer

Racist graffiti reportedly was written on and near the doors of multiple dorm rooms occupied by black students in both Promontory and First-Year housing. The graffiti, while so far seemingly a one off incident, was also only of many for black students on campus.

The incidents, which many students learned about from an Instagram post by the Black Student Union (BSU) occurred between Sept. 29 and the weekend of Oct. 5, according to BSU President Deejay Thornton. Thornton says they were told of at least three incidents, one of which they saw first on the @mbconfess Instagram page.

The graffiti, which is extremely graphic, included slurs (notably the n-word) and profanity, has now been removed. According to a statement acquired by local

television station KSBW, a police investigation is still underway. Additionally, an email sent out to the “campus community” addressing the issue, calling it unacceptable and calling for more inclusivity.

While many are shocked by the incident, many in the BSU are less surprised.

“It kind of irritated me that people, not students but faculty and staff were astonished that this is something that happens. To us, if this didn’t happen back-to-back-to-back, we would have all probably moved on with our lives,” said Thornton. “We’re not surprised at all. A lot of us have been called racial slurs by other people on campus, have experienced racism in our classrooms.” It was only after multiple students had been affected that they decided they needed to act and the incident

was escalated.

In the aftermath, the BSU is calling for yearly training on racism and microaggressions, as well as an apology letter from and expulsion for the students responsible. “We want to talk about what policies are in place for students to have their own safety and what students are supposed to do. Thornton also called attention to a lack of functioning cameras in the residence halls, an issue which affects safety for all students.

“We would just like everyone’s support. The political climate is really tense right now, and that’s dangerous for all of us. There’s things going on in the queer community and people are also targeting Latino students,” said Thornton, “We need to all be there for each other.”

the Lutrinae

The Lutrinae is a weekly campus newspaper covering CSUMB and its neighboring areas. Here at *The Lutrinae*, our goal is not only to educate and inform the public, but to entertain, to spark creativity, to encourage diversity of opinion, and to build a sense of community on campus and with the neighboring cities.

The Staff

Editorial Policy

The Lutrinae is a student-run publication produced for the students of CSUMB. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of *The Lutrinae*, CSUMB administration, faculty, or staff.

The Lutrinae serves two purposes: It is a training ground for students who wish to develop journalism skills and build their resume, and it is a forum for free expression of campus issues and news. *The Lutrinae* Editorial team will determine what to print and reserves the right to edit for libel, space, or clarity.

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Adviser

David Kellogg
dkellogg@csumb.edu

Operations Manager

Monica Conner
mconner@csumb.edu

Contact

Office Phone

831.582.4066

General Inquiries

thelutrinae@csumb.edu

Advertising Services

advertising@thelutrinae.com

Mailing Address

Wave Hall

100 Campus Center,

Seaside, CA 93955

Website

www.thelutrinae.com



@thelutrinae



Peers and Careers: students network at campus job fair



The University Center welcomed local employers to network, connect and promote internships to CSUMB’s on-campus community.

PHOTOS BY GABRIEL OLVEROS

Gabriel Oliveros Jr.
Contributing Writer

More than 150 students got together in the University Center to connect with employers, inquire about internships and prepare for the professional journey ahead of them at Wednesday’s Job and Internship Fair.

Attendees were welcomed to grab free snacks, glasses, bags and even have their photo taken as a headshot for resumes after filling out a brief survey.

“I would say dress like you come with an intention to find a job ... First impressions are huge!” said Bianca Salinas, a recruiter from Northwestern Mutual. “I actually used to work at CSUMB, and one of my favorite things is to come out and see my seniors now, or my students looking for jobs and asking questions. And seeing them out here actually doing what they need to do is really beautiful.”

The Job and Internship Fair was sponsored by Career Services, which included tables representing organizations such as: the Monterey Plaza and Hotel, the City of Monterey and Hollister School District, just to name a few.

“This is my first event here at CSUMB, but in all the job fairs that I’ve been to, this is one of the more engaged groups, very good response, very engaged group of people. I feel like it was a great turn out overall,” Camaron Melena from Behavioral Intervention

Associates (BIA) said. “I think having resumes ready to give to employers is very beneficial for students and for the employers.”

Students or workers seeking long-term employment were encouraged to arrive with resumes in hand and dress to impress in business casual apparel to appear as presentable as possible for professionals and employers. Many people in suits or specific uniforms were present representing different organizations to answer questions and provide more insight on the duties and responsibilities that someone hired might do.

“We’ve had a lot of students stop by our booth, a lot of kinesiology students interested in internships and shadowing our physical therapists and our rehab,” Enza Sanchez, representing Montage Health said. “I think it’s important students do keep that in mind when they are inquiring about job opportunities, just come in a little bit more of a professional manner, but also come with questions and maybe knowing who is being represented.”

People were lined up and signed up to be contacted about further upcoming job/career opportunities or events. While connections were being made, information was being shared and new faces were becoming more familiar; service learning opportunities were offered as well.

The third annual Monte's 5K provides runnin' fun



PHOTOS BY JOCELYN CORONA

Jocelyn Corona
Staff Writer

Over 600 participants filled the Main Quad in front of the Otter Student Union Saturday morning for the third annual Monte's 5K.

The run was part of RAFT (Reunion And Family Traditions) Weekend where family, alumni and friends, according to the school, can all "come together, as otters do." The 5K cost each entrant \$20, with proceeds going toward student scholarships. This entry fee was waived for current CSUMB students, who were - surprisingly - outnumbered by off-campus attendees including alumni, family members, faculty and staff.

At 9 a.m. the 5K participants started on their journey. The 3.1-mile course took place all around campus, going through Main Quad, North Quad, Cardinale

Stadium and University Center. At each mile there were water stations to rehydrate and recover. Throughout the course there were volunteers from various organizations on campus (Exercise is Medicine, OSU and Recreation), all with encouraging words, creative signs ("In my Running Era!" and "You Otter Run Faster!") and cowbells to cheer on participants through their race.

The winner of the race was Derek Sun, a 17 year old from San Leandro, California. He won with a 17:41 5K time, averaging a 5:49 pace per mile.

JayCee Light, a second year collaborative health and human services major, was extremely motivated to return to the 5K this year. "Me and my roomie went to

run the 5K because it teaches you about determination and strength," Light said.

Being a part of the women's soccer team, Light was interested in furthering their wellness goals. They said, "I think CSUMB raising money for scholarships is a nice gesture because prices are going up and such for many students."

One of the event volunteers was Amelie Norris, a computer science major and a part of the social media team for the OSU, more specifically Mini Monte's handler. During the run, she got to take pictures and interact with runners. Mini Monte even got to contribute to the conversation, revealing his favorite part of the event was, "seeing all of the happy faces cross the finish line and receive their medals."

With Silent Disco, AS brings the party - very quietly

Tom Nolan
Contributing Writer

In a first for Cal State Monterey Bay, Associated Students (AS) hosted a silent disco event Thursday night. Dozens of students filed into the Divarty Quad, donning colorfully lit headphones and enjoying an evening of singing and dancing - much to the bewilderment of some passerbys.

At silent discos, attendees use wireless headphones to listen to music broadcast via radio signals. They often feature multiple channels, which enable a variety of music within a single event.

"I did, like, a test run at a conference I went to last year, but I've never actually attended one...I'd honestly never really heard of it until I went to that conference. So I feel like it's something different, something new that's not one of our original programs," said fourth-year kinesiology major and AS Campus Programs Specialist Amber Dimassimo.

Each of the three channels available at Thursday's event corresponded to both a headphone display color and a genre of music; channel one, for example, largely played dance music and was represented by blue displays. As attendees noticed their neighbors belting the words to their favorite songs, they would quickly switch channels and join in, resulting in alternating waves of blue, red and green reflecting the three DJs' most popular selections.

"You have complete control, and I kind of like that because hopefully it gains more audience, even with those who don't like music that loud. If they want to be in the environment, they have complete control over the volume and what they want to listen to," said Dimassimo.



To the delight of nearby student residents, attendees gathered quietly in Divarty Quad to party, dance and mingle for Associated Students' first Silent Disco.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

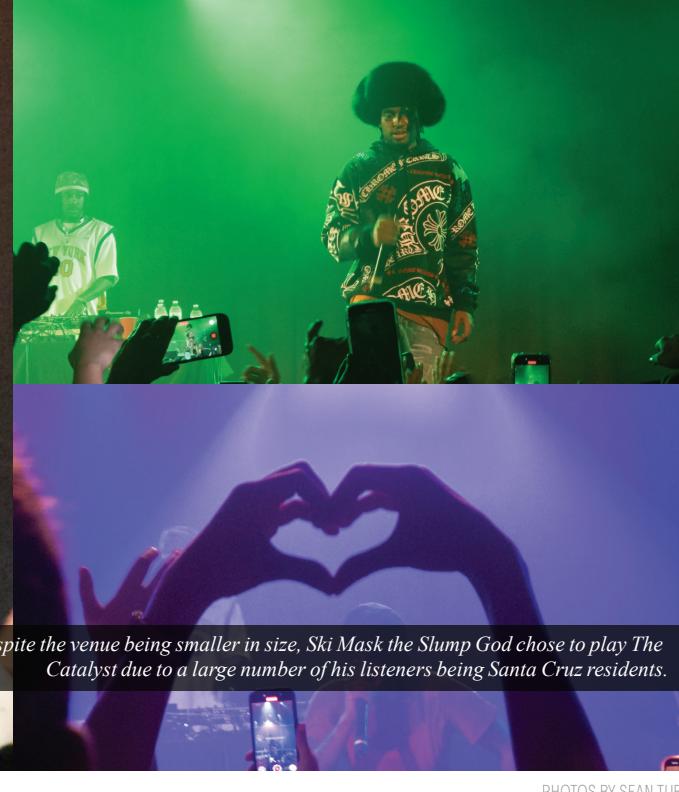
Along with being more accessible to would-be listeners than traditional concerts, silent discos are also inoffensive to nearby non-participants - an important detail, given that the Divarty Quad is nestled between several residence halls.

"I think the space really brings a lot of uniqueness to it. We're very small. But I think just the fun, quirky ambience of a silent disco attracts a bunch of people, and I think especially for this campus's atmosphere, a silent disco is a lot more engaging," said Sarah Pronge, also an AS campus programs specialist.

The unconventional and mildly awkward nature of the event seemed to break the ice between students, who could often be heard piercing the quiet of an otherwise ordinary evening on campus to shout questions at each other. "What are your names?" "Are you a freshman?"

"I feel like a lot of students come here not really knowing anybody. But hopefully by the end of the night, they at least make a friend," said Bethzy Cisneros, a second-year Human Development and Family Science major in training as a student orientation leader. "I definitely recommend people come out at least once every semester."

Sweaty, loud and surprisingly intimate: Ski Mask the Slump God at the Catalyst



Despite the venue being smaller in size, Ski Mask the Slump God chose to play The Catalyst due to a large number of his listeners being Santa Cruz residents.

PHOTOS BY SEAN TUBO

Sean Tubo
Staff Writer

I was in the pit at Ski Mask the Slump God's "Lost Files" tour, and I didn't break my glasses. For people who know me or Ski Mask as an artist, that's a detail worth noting.

The Catalyst in Santa Cruz was packed Thursday to watch Ski on the second stop of his tour, which the artist described on his Instagram as more "personal and intimate." Santa Cruz was chosen as a location because the area had a high number of Ski Mask listeners on Spotify, rather than its popular appeal as a venue.

The crowd supported that choice of venue, a rowdy mix of locals and college students that all knew his music by heart, cheering loudly for tracks before they were even played.

The songs the crowd cheered the loudest at were also

his loudest songs, "Take A Step Back" and "Nuketown." Both blaring rap songs that elevate the already high energy of a live concert to thundering levels. The hype never died down across an hour and half set.

The font of that endless energy is of course Ski Mask himself, an artist who has mellowed in his late twenties only in the sense that he only crowdsurfed once this show, a special treat he brought back specifically for this tour. At one point a water bottle was thrown on stage, which he addressed by saying "you're lucky I'm a changed man, there would have been a fight up here."

Despite the often violent nature of Ski's music, in both sound and content, Ski Mask himself is surprisingly wholesome. During the show he often talked about the history of each song or the memories attached to a lyric. He took multiple moments to eulogize his fellow rapper and self-described brother XXX Tentation, who

died tragically young in the middle of his career. Ski described making his first verse with XXX, hiding in a closet with a snowball mic to avoid making noise.

For those familiar with his songs though, the contrast is not as sharp as you may think. A large part of Ski's appeal for me has always been his clever wordplay. He isn't necessarily the kind of artist you would describe as a poet, but his bars have this innate ability to not make sense while carrying a surprising amount of poetic force.

"Faucet Failure," one of his most popular songs, and the one I looked forward to all night. The chorus "I'm flyer than a f---ing ostrich," is kind of nonsense, but not it makes a perfect kind of sense when attached to a bass-rending trap beat.

'The Life of a Showgirl': A comprehensive review from a lifetime Swiftie



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TAYLOR SWIFT'S INSTAGRAM AND SPOTIFY

Paige Francis
Senior Staff Writer

Taylor Swift's 12th album, "The Life of a Showgirl," came out on Oct. 3 and has been receiving some mixed reviews from fans, the internet and everyone in between.

As one of the Lutrinae's resident Swifties, I generally enjoyed this album – it sounds great, with good beats and a pop-centric energy – but some of Swift's lyrics fall flat.

Swift produced the album with Max Martin and Shellback, who worked on other hit albums of hers like "Red," "1989" and "reputation."

"Showgirl" serves as a peek behind the curtain of Swift's life while on The Eras Tour and dealing with fame, love, finding happiness and her ultimate growth during this time.

The first four tracks of "Showgirl" have been on repeat for me since the album came out.

The lead single, "The Fate of Ophelia," is extremely catchy and a pure pop song. The song blends the story of Ophelia, an iconic and tragic Shakespearean character, and retells it in a way of happiness and changing your fate. I will say, if you haven't seen the music video for this song, it's amazing. It references a lot of famous art, has fun dance moves and is honestly one of Swift's best music videos.

"Elizabeth Taylor," named after the actress, is a motif

of what she went through in her life, paralleling Swift's life. I love this song, and it sounds like it could easily fit onto the "reputation" album.

"Opalite" is a song that makes you get up and dance, with a catchy and fun chorus. Swift sings about "dodging lightning strikes" and moving out of an "onyx night" to "opalite skies."

"Father Figure" is a hit in my opinion. Fans have speculated that this song is about Scott Borchetta, founder of the Big Machine Label Group and the person who sold Swift's first six albums to Scooter Braun without her knowledge.

After that, the album started to kind of lose and disappoint me. "Eldest Daughter" really let me down. As an eldest daughter myself, I was eager to hear some deep lyrics about this significant role in a family.

I understand what Swift was trying to do in this song, but it just came off as cringey and unrelated.

The bridge is really sweet and I think the most relatable part of the song is "But I'm never gonna let you down, I'm never gonna leave you out."

For those familiar with Swift's album format, you know that track five is significant in some way – they're usually the deepest, most emotional song on the album and this track five was a huge let down, knowing how lyrically talented Swift is.

Some of Swift's other songs encapsulate what it means to be an eldest daughter better than the title track, without even explicitly mentioning it.

Swift sings about her upcoming future with fiancé Travis Kelce and how he has brightened her life. She sings about the life they could have together, checking off her "wish list."

Finally, the title track featuring Sabrina Carpenter is about all we get for a "showgirl" sounding song. The bridge has a fast tempo and quick lyrics, sounding a bit like a musical.

The song tells a story of Swift and Carpenter wanting to have the showgirl life, and learning it isn't as glamorous as it's portrayed to be. To me, this felt a little bit like Swift passing the torch to Carpenter, as her popularity continues to grow rapidly.

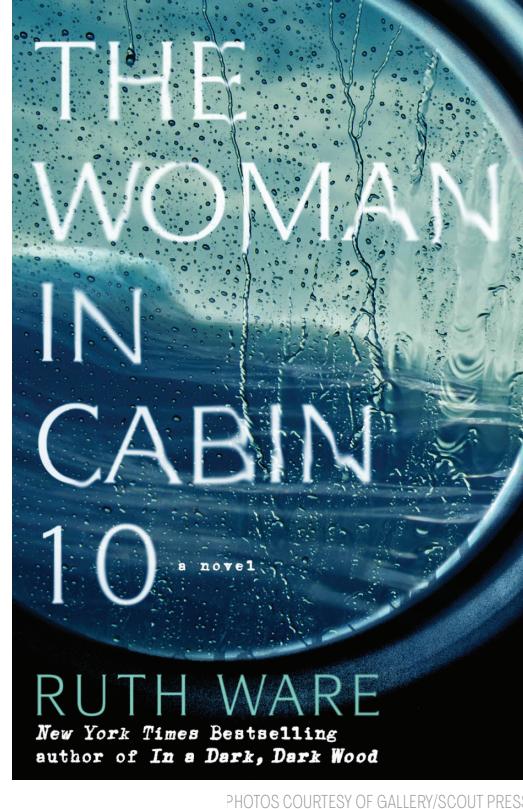
The album was missing some quintessential Swift elements, like her expertly crafted lyrics and strong bridges. Swift has shared fears that people won't enjoy her music when she isn't feeling miserable and writing sad, lyrically complex songs.

I'm not sure if "Showgirl" will become one of my favorite Taylor Swift albums, but I will definitely come back to it when I need some fun, carefree pop music to enjoy. I will always be a fan of hers, and am always happy for new music from my favorite artist.



An elegant descent into madness: “The Woman in Cabin 10” book review

SPOILERS AHEAD



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GALLERY/SCOUT PRESS

Eli Heck
Staff Writer



Attention-grabbing, claustrophobically suspenseful and beautifully written, “The Woman in Cabin 10” was a surprisingly enjoyable read that has quickly shot to the top of my recommendation list with 4.5 stars.

Laura Blacklock (Lo) is a travel journalist still reeling from a traumatic burglary at the beginning of the novel, which has left her shaken and haunted by dreams of locked doors and grasping hands. Hoping to shake free of her fears, she accepts an assignment for a once-in-a-lifetime press trip on the Aurora: a small but lavish luxury yacht gliding through the misty Norwegian fjords.

When Lo hears a splash in the night and realizes one of the passengers may be missing, though no one else seems to have noticed, author Ruth Ware pulls us into Lo’s unraveling perspective. The result is a deliciously

tense mystery where every shadow hides another question and escape is impossible miles from shore.

The guest list itself only deepens the intrigue, featuring a mix of journalists, socialites and very powerful players, all hosted by the enigmatic and immensely wealthy Lord Bullmer. His lavish hospitality seems designed to dazzle and draw you in, though behind that glittering surface and the dozen of loose smiles lurks the possibility of motives, cover-ups and lies. Each passenger becomes a potential suspect or victim, heightening the claustrophobic paranoia that drives the novel forward.

While at first I was skeptical of the plot and perhaps the characters’ sometimes frustratingly absent-minded decisions, I quickly fell head over heels for the story and atmosphere it takes its readers into. Ware masterfully spins suspense and dread, leaving you feeling as though you are grasping through the same fog surrounding the Aurora.

One of the strongest aspects of this book is the way it places readers into the mind of Lo as she feels like she is slowly unraveling at the seams, as no one else believes her story of the strange missing passenger. She begins to doubt the things she sees, and I, as a reader, begin to doubt her perspective as well. Right up until the turning point in the novel, pieces were slowly shown to the reader, to keep you convinced that neither you nor the trapped and desperate protagonist could really tell what was going on.

Lo is a very compelling heroine because of her deeply rooted flaws. She is anxious, irritable and constantly questioning her own perception of things. This vulnerability, instead of adding frustration as a reader, adds a sense of believability and grounding to the story in a way the “perfect” infallible protagonist never could. While surely Hercule Poirot could have solved this mystery faster, the main character of Lo brings you deep into the story and the psyche of a troubled and traumatized human, in a way that adds so much beautiful layering to the story.

In my opinion, the strongest feature of this book, and possibly Ware’s place of expertise, is atmosphere. We are taken from gloomy London to a beautiful luxury yacht. We are told about the glittering decorations,

the gold adornments and the endless amenities for esteemed guests and passengers. However, as the story progresses, instead of finding comfort in those things, they are contrasted against the ever-present fog of the Norwegian Fjords and the growing sense of dread as you realize that Lo is trapped miles out at sea, with a missing body and a murderer. You can feel Lo’s terror as she is locked in her room, desperate, alone and slowly starving. Feel her paranoia as if it were the fog itself that is swallowing the boat.

Ware took a story we may have heard told in similar ways before, with Agatha Christie’s “Death on the Nile” and “Murder on the Orient Express,” and modernizes the formula by adding the complex layers that come with psychological depth and trauma, rather than simply external clues. One of my favorite lines from the book showcases this below.

“My friend Erin says we all have demons inside us, voices that whisper we’re no good, that if we don’t make this promotion or ace that exam, we’ll reveal to the world exactly what kind of worthless sacks of skin and sinew we really are. Maybe that’s true. Maybe mine just have louder voices.”

My main complaints lie in the underdeveloped relationship between Lo and her partner, Judah, back in London. It felt like there was an opportunity for emotional depth and weight to be created in their relationship that was lacking when I read it. As well as that, her motivation for wanting to go on this trip after just previously experiencing an extremely traumatic event where she was confined in a small space with an intruder felt off-putting to me and slightly unbelievable. However, for the most part, I could look past those issues.

This book is a beautiful slow burn of tension, mystery and complex topics like anxiety and PTSD. For anyone who wants to break into the genre of psychological thrillers, I would recommend this book as an excellent jumping-off point. To any veteran fans of the genre, I would still recommend this book because of the way it tackles deep themes and plays so heavily into the claustrophobic atmosphere of life trapped at sea. This book takes a somewhat classic mystery trope and adds a surprising twist to it that I am still thinking about while writing, which altogether has earned its 4.5 stars.

A pathetic plummet into the film ‘The Woman in Cabin 10’



Hayley Motto
Staff Writer



In honor of spooky season, Reading Raft’s Eli Heck and I decided to do a column crossover covering the book and film adaptation of “The Woman in Cabin 10.” The freshly released film hit Netflix Oct. 10, instead of the big screen. That should have been a red flag for me coming into this yacht-centered whodunit style film.

In stark contrast to the above described book, director Simon Stone really dropped the ball on this one. From the lack of backstory, to the insanely fast paced nature

of the film, right through its plot hole filled storyline that drastically differed from the book’s storyline, this film fell far from the ranks of my watch list.

It starred Keira Knightley, David Ajala, Guy Pearce, Gitte Witt and Lisa Loven Kongsli. As a long time fan of Knightley, and with a loose understanding of the premise of this film, I was initially so excited to see her acting skills come to life as the character of Laura. However, the plot was so lacking that it even made her acting feel clunky and out of place alongside her costars. It felt like she had so much emotion to give and entirely no story behind her to help elevate it or work cohesively alongside her talent.

The only positive note was that the chemistry between Knightley’s character and Ajala’s felt believable. Even then the two’s backstory felt haphazardly placed into this movie as a means to move the story along and give some sort of stakes, doing the work for the virtually nonexistent plot.

Speaking of the plot, this movie completely diverged from the book’s storyline. Erasing key elements that helped build the character of Laura. Such as her partner, her previous traumas and job experience, all pretty important characteristics in helping flesh out her as a likeable protagonist instead, were not given to this audience.

The book also offers a much more detailed and long journey on the yacht. The movie gives you only three days worth of story with zero suspense and does not follow the mystery the book so wonderfully reveals to the reader.

Because of this, the movie fell flat in its predictability, especially for advertising itself as being a whodunit-

thriller. It took me all of 30 minutes to figure out who had committed the crime, not allowing for there to be any suspense or confusion for the viewer. Essentially the opposite experience the readers of this story received, feeling like they were just as lost and confused as Laura.

In contrast to the movie, Laura made choices that felt rushed and not really thought through, like they happened to keep the story going but without any rationalization, common sense or insight to her thought process. As a viewer, it made you fall out entirely with the believability of this story. Instead of yelling at my screen “don’t open that door!” I was shouting, “who is dumb enough to open that door?” Taking whatever thrill one might have found in this movie right out and replacing it with annoyance.

Lastly, the audience could tell this was a low budget film. Which is not entirely a bad thing at all when done correctly. However, for this film it was evident in the small details, like they were on a boat but outside the windows we never see the water moving. Or blatantly obvious continuity issues with luggage, wardrobe and movie magic. This left life-threatening situations unexplained that were resolved with zero effort but instead simply because the plot needed to continue forward.

Unfortunately, for me this movie falls into the lowest spice level receiving a 1 out of 5. A total skip. Instead, from the comfort of your couch at home you should switch off the TV and crack open the book. Keep an eye out for more future collaborations of the “Reading Raft” and “Hayley’s Hot Takes” and for next week’s review as I move into something a little more thrilling and scary as we inch closer to Halloween.



Photo of the Week

Looking to showcase your photography? Enter our ongoing photo contest throughout Volume 9 for a chance to have your work featured in our weekly issues. Check out our Instagram @thelutrinae for more details!



The Vanishing Point

Lesly Villanueva



What is your favorite scary movie?



Maddie Honomichl
Social Media Manager

Are you a horror movie fanatic? Do you love a good scare? If so, be sure to tune into our Instagram to find out what your fellow Otters' favorite spooky flicks are!

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Skip out on the seasonal sickness and get a free flu vaccination in the Otter Student Union from 1 to 4 p.m. Schedule your appointment through the event details on MyRaft.

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Matcha and Brownies
Celebrate the opening of the Undo-cu-Success Team's new space in El Centro with matcha and brownies from 2 to 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

Partake in a Paint & Sip in the Helen Rucker Center (Building 12 Rm 120) from 5 to 7 p.m. Enjoy a signature mocktail and a mid-week break.

Wednesday, Oct. 15

Calling all theater kids...AS is hosting a "Wicked" film screening in the OSU Ballroom from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Come in your most wicked attire for a chance to win their costume contest!

VOLUME 9

Puzzles

WORD SCRAMBLE

Let's see if you were paying attention, can you unscramble the list of words related to this week's issue?

wboebc

dreips

ptisir

easnfkkeirtnn

vmeripa

gtsho

ezbiom

nwolc

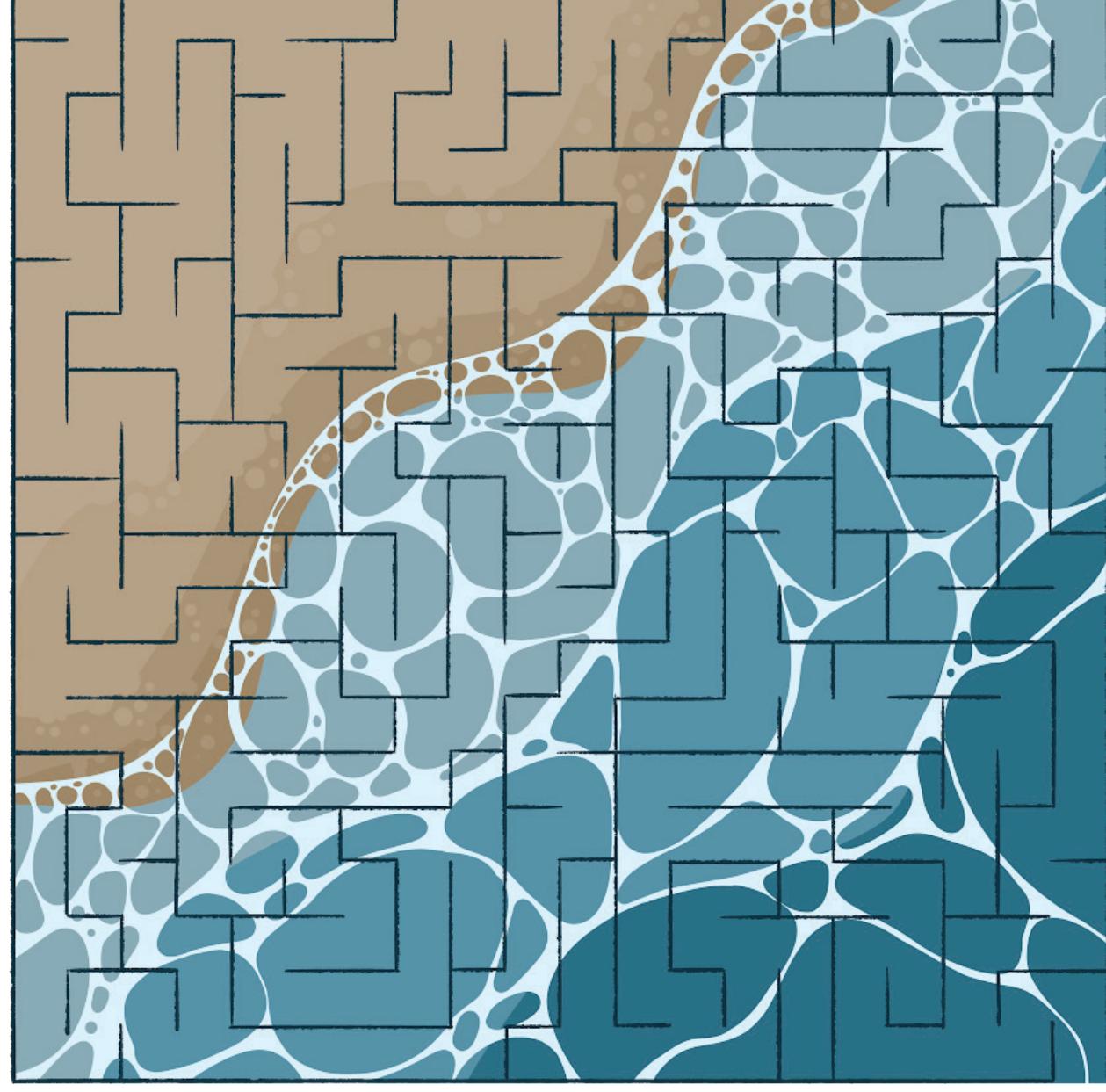
wrwoeelf

larsehs

Monte's Maze!

Start!

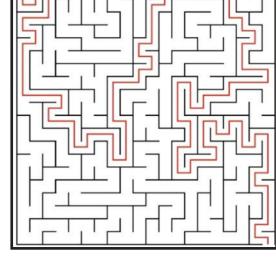
MAZE ILLUSTRATED BY AMANDA RICHMAN



Can you make your way out of Monte's Maze?

End!

ANSWERS:



slasher
frankenstein, ghost, clown,
zombie, werewolf, spider,
cobweb, spirit, vampire,