



Martin Luther King Jr. - Why do we Remember Him?



Martin Luther King Jr. is a name not easily forgotten, prominently associated with the achievement of civil rights. While he is renowned for his I Have A Dream speech, what else did he contribute to the movement that is often looked over? With January 18th having been national Martin Luther King Jr. day, it is a perfectly apt time to look at what he did and how he helped to make such strides in history.

Martin Luther King's involvement in civil rights most famously began in the Montgomery Bus Boycott of 1955, following on from Rosa Park's famous refusal to give up her seat to a white American man. King, leader of the newly formed MIA (Montgomery Improvement Association), helped to continue a boycott started by the Women's Political Council, involving taking virtually any other means of transport other than the bus/public transport, such as car sharing or walking, in order to make a political statement through economical means. This put enormous strain on the economy as the majority of bus takers were often African Americans. This continued for just over

a year before the long-awaited ruling of Montgomery federal court in June 1956 which stated that any law requiring racially segregated seating on buses violated the 14th amendment of the U.S. Constitution which guaranteed all citizens, regardless of race, equal rights and protection under the state and federal laws.

From this point on, Martin Luther King's involvement in the civil rights movement grew, using non-violent acts of protest to gain public attention and create change. Some of the events in which he did so include the Greensboro sit-ins of 1960 which protested in favour of desegregated establishments such as public eating areas, libraries, beaches and hotels and the Birmingham Campaign of 1963 also protesting for desegregation. The Birmingham Campaign is an infamous example of unwarranted violent police brutality in response to peaceful protest that led to Martin Luther King's arrest. King wrote the famous A Letter From Birmingham Jail while in prison, partly on toilet paper, to President John F Kennedy, resulting in his release and federal support of enforcing desegregation.

Delivered also in 1963 was King's I Have A Dream speech which helped to achieve the support of one of the most important groups of people needed to create change - middle class white Americans who made up the majority of voters. Last minute, King changed his speech to become the words that will forever remain historic legend -

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin, but by the content of their character."
 "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.'
 "I have a dream that one day little black boys and girls will be holding hands with little white boys and girls."

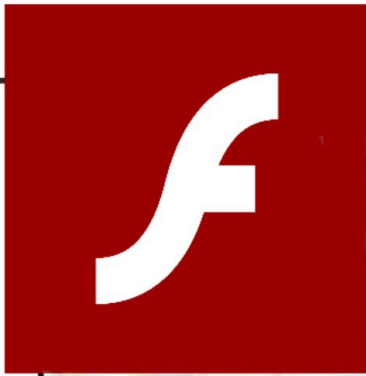
The true achievement of civil rights however was finally introduced under the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by President Lyndon B Johnson, the delay in such perhaps partly due to Kennedy's assassination. Regardless of who invoked the long-awaited act, the impression and impact of Martin Luther King's actions were undeniable and certainly contributed to rulings that forever changed the fate of the American people and black Americans in particular.



- Emily Paradice-Ruan

Flash Games Can Still be Played, Here's How

- Gregory Williams



The new year was held with great anticipation and hope that it would bring better times, but for some of us, it was something to feel a certain sadness about. Adobe would be ending support for their Flash Player, which had been going since 1996



(25 years), which would mean an end to part of our collective childhood. Some games have been updated to H.TML5, but that is only some. Many young people, including myself, have fond memories of growing up playing online Flash games. Not only were they free and easy to access, but they were also perfect for those of us that didn't have consoles or were looking for something to do while bored and a computer happened to be at hand. Friy, Kongregate, Miniclip, Armor Games, Newgrounds, Agame and so on – countless readers will recognise these websites since they are in so many cherished memories.



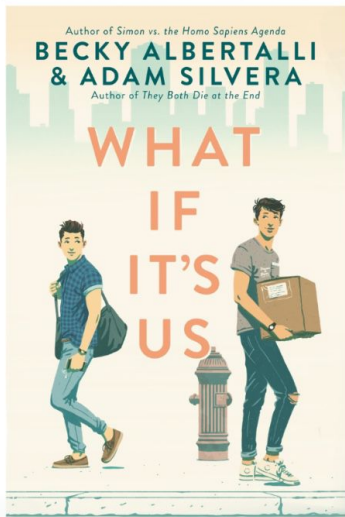
So to get to the point of this article, there is a way to play Flash games. Flashpoint is an international project, non-profit, started by internet user BlueMaxima. It is a webgame preservation project built with mostly open-source software that can run web-based media. Both versions can be downloaded for free on bluemaxima.org and the main version, Flashpoint infinity, works by allowing you to download and play content at your leisure. It isn't affected by the end of support for Flash Player as the versions of Flash used are held in a portable environment that isn't affected by Windows updates. Flashpoint is available on Windows 7 and up.

So far they have 70,000 games as well as 8,000 animations! The full lists can be found on the website. Flashpoint is easy enough to navigate through and games are mostly found via the search bar. Once a game is downloaded, you can then play them offline! It also supports players other than Flash such as HTML5, Unity Web Player and Java Plug-in. For those concerned about storage, I have found it takes up minimal space and performance.



I wish you a fun time on any subsequent nostalgia trips you may take - it's great rediscovering good memories and creating new ones!

What If It's Us: A Spoiler Free Review by Liberty Saleh



Originally published: 2 August 2018

Authors: Adam Silvera, Becky Albertalli

Genre: Fiction

Quick Stats:

- Overall: 5/5 stars
- Characters: 5/5 stars
- Writing: 5/5 stars
- Plot and themes: 5/5 stars
- Review in a nutshell: this book just makes everything seem worth it, even if the end doesn't seem possible. Sometimes, a 'what if?' is worth the risk.

Suitable for readers 13+

What is *What If It's Us* about?

From NYT bestselling authors Becky Albertalli (author of *Simon vs. The Homo Sapiens Agenda*) and Adam Silvera (author of *They Both Die At The End*) comes a long-awaited collaboration about two very different boys who can't decide if the universe is pushing them together or pulling them apart.

Meet Arthur and Ben.

ARTHUR is only in New York for the summer, but if Broadway has taught him anything, it's that the universe can deliver a show-stopping romance when you least expect it.

BEN thinks the universe needs to mind its business. If the universe had his back, he wouldn't be carrying a box of his ex-boyfriend's things.

But when the boys have a chance meeting at the post office, they leave wondering what exactly the universe does have in store for them. What if - in a city of eight million people - they can't find each other again? What if they do ... and then can't nail a first date even after three do-overs? What if Arthur tries too hard to make it work and Ben doesn't try hard enough? What if life really isn't like a Broadway play? But what if it is?

WHAT IF IT'S US?

My thoughts and feelings:

Okay, I won't lie... this book took me three weeks to finish. But it's not because of the quality or writing style of the book. I actually loved the writing style, and I would get through a page quicker than normal, but I was in such a reading slump and could not find the motivation to pick it up, even though I really wanted to. I was so happy when I finally finished it and even more excited because around about the same time I was finishing up this book, the sequel got announced and is set to be released Autumn this year! It is titled *Here's to Us* which I find to be really fitting.

Now, time to talk about the actual book itself!

One of my favourite things about this book is that we get to see both Ben and Arthur's points of view. You are able to understand them as people, even though they're fictional characters and experience their first thoughts and feelings all the way to end. But of course, it was not always sunshine and rainbows (no pun intended) in this love story. There are times where you want to shout at the characters that it's okay and to just ignore whatever bad thing that just happened, but that's unfortunately not how it works. All you can do is carry on reading and hope that everything turns out okay in the end.

Another thing that I absolutely loved about book is the representation it includes. I'm not just talking about this book surrounding a gay couple, I'm also talking about all the different backgrounds each character has and how they are not just there to help the main couple end up together. Although they do play that role also, it's not their only purpose which happens way too often in books, movies and tv shows in my opinion. There's a diverse cast of characters and there's even diversity in character's family situations and classes. We get to see the insecurities people may feel about their families when introducing someone new and special into the family. "Dinner is almost ready, and I feel like the world's most unnecessary tour guide as I show them around the living room. But when I see Arthur studying every picture hanging from the wall, I remember that home isn't about how big the space is but how we fill it." This book also encourages you to be yourself and if you really like someone, you shouldn't have to try to hide parts of you for them to like you back. And if you ever feel like you do, that person is not worth it and never was. You deserve someone that loves every part of you because you're you. Being you is what really counts. How are you ever meant to be happy if you're not being yourself? And that goes for friendships too, not just romantic relationships. Be you and only you, platonically and non-platonically.

"I was almost tempted to ask my parents to fry some chicken and mash some potatoes and grill some corn on the cob, but that would've only stopped Arthur from discovering more about me. The little things that form the bigger picture."

This book is all about how one risk can change everything, for good or for worse. I mean, you never really know how something will end or even if it will end. And even if it doesn't go the way you wished it to, you will most likely learn something new, even about yourself!

"I guess that's any relationship. You start with nothing and maybe end with everything."

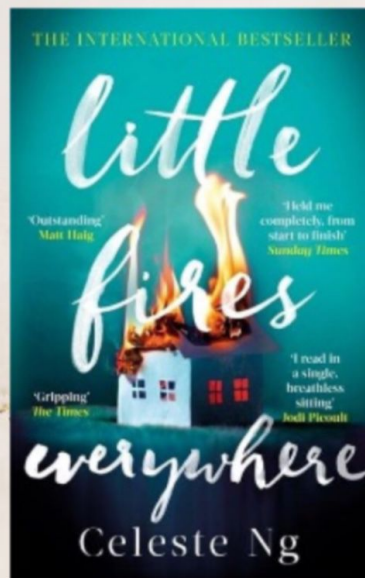


Bringing Something New to Video Calls and Keeping in Touch

In the past year, we have been in enough lockdowns to know that keeping in contact with our loved ones can be difficult. Finding ways to create exciting conversation on our video calls can be quite challenging, especially since that's all we've known for a while and there isn't much to report on. One thing you could do to incorporate a change in your calls could be to start a book club with your friends!

You and your friends could decide on a book as a collective which you are all interested in and haven't yet read. You could then dedicate a day in the week to discuss a range of chapters that you've all agreed on reading. In these sessions you can discuss parts you found particularly interesting, explore various themes or topics, and ask for other opinions from your loved ones. This can bring about new and exciting discussions with topics of conversation that may not have arisen naturally otherwise.

How should we start? Here is a gripping read that might help you to get started by the name of Little Fires Everywhere - a very exciting read which keeps everyone guessing. This book is an excellent way to encourage everyone to exchange a variety of views on issues the characters face in the book. Read on to hear the book's blurb:



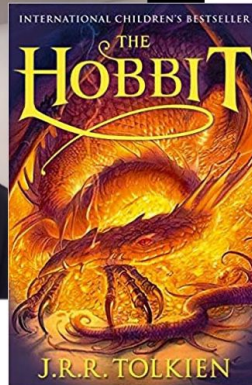
Age rating: 15 years
In Shaker Heights, a placid, progressive suburb of Cleveland, everything is meticulously planned - from the layout of the winding roads, to the colours of the houses, to the successful lives its residents will go on to lead. And no one embodies this spirit more than Elena Richardson, whose guiding principle is playing by the rules. Enter Mia Warren - an enigmatic artist and single mother - who arrives in this idyllic bubble with

her teenage daughter Pearl and rents a house from the Richardsons. Soon Mia and Pearl become more than just tenants: all four Richardson children are drawn to the mother-daughter pair. But Mia carries with her a mysterious past, and a disregard for the rules that threatens to upend this carefully ordered community. When old family friends attempt to adopt a Chinese-American baby, a custody battle erupts that dramatically divides the town - and puts Mia and Elena on opposing sides. Suspicious of Mia and her motives, Elena is determined to uncover the secrets in Mia's past. But her obsession will come at an unexpected and devastating cost...

- Laduna Alkarim

BVS News

Journeys Through the Imagination: A Celebrity Reading of *The Hobbit!*



Through the creation of a new project by the name of *Journeys Through the Imagination*, Bishop Vaughan pupils have had the opportunity to listen to regular readings of the classic novel by J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*. This was kickstarted in the most exciting way with special guest reader Michael Sheen! We were all very thankful to Michael for giving up his time to deliver a very engaging read of the first chapter of the book, and have similarly enjoyed every subsequent reading by staff and thank them for dedicating time to bringing the story to life for us and creating new and exciting activities to partake in.

The Hobbit - Chapter 1 (Part 1): An Unexpected Party

1,355 views



Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening 2021

This month Bishop Vaughan once again rose to the occasion and dealt with the challenges presented by the pandemic in an admirable way, providing prospective Sixth Form students with an opportunity to learn more about life in Years 12 and 13, course content and student perspectives. If you didn't get the chance to take a look before, the information is still on the website for you to look at at your own pace and think about what subjects might be best for you at A Level. A range of videos guiding you through the subjects at A Level created by staff are a very helpful tool to understanding how subjects are built upon at AS and A Level and how you will be examined on them. If you have any further questions, teachers have provided their email addresses to answer any queries.

While the Sixth Form Open Evening wasn't able to take place in the usual way this year, the work put into creating this virtual version is clear to see and has provided a wonderful tool that can be referred to at any point.

SIXTH FORM VIRTUAL OPEN EVENING

>Welcome to our Open Evening for entry into our Sixth Form in September 2021. We hope that you will find all of the links useful and give you an idea about life in Bishop Vaughan's Sixth Form.

Click the Course Information buttons below to view our subject presentations and get links to live chats with staff via Microsoft Teams from 6pm until 8pm. You will only need to submit a request once and then you will have to access to all the Teams channels.



A welcome message from Mrs Pate (Headteacher), Head Boy and Head Girl, and Mr Davies (Deputy Headteacher)

Courses Information - Level 3

Courses Information - Level 2

Our Sixth Form Prospects

University Applications

SIXTH FORM SUBJECT INFORMATION LEVEL 2 COURSES

For students who may not gain enough level 2 qualifications to progress to level 3, we offer a suite called the Skills Passport. You will gain skills which will result in various BTEC qualifications provided by Pearson Edexcel. Additionally, to comply with Welsh Government legislation, the Welsh Baccalaureate post-16 National qualification will be studied. Results in English Language and Mathematics will also be compulsory for those students who do not have grade C or above.

Skills Passport and GCSE Results



SIXTH FORM SUBJECT INFORMATION LEVEL 3 COURSES

Here you will find links to information about the subjects offered in our Sixth Form at level 3. Please join us via the linked Microsoft Teams chats to ask any questions you may have.

Applied Science (Forensic)

Click here to join the Teams chat



Art and Design

Click here to join the Teams chat



Positive Quotes and Affirmations Board

**IT'S
OKAY**

- * TO MAKE MISTAKES
- * TO HAVE BAD DAYS
- * TO BE LESS THAN PERFECT
- * TO DO WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU
- * TO BE YOURSELF.



NO RAIN, NO FLOWERS.

*"Talk to yourself like
someone you love."*

- Brene Brown

*Be kinder to
yourself. And
then let your
kindness flood
the world.*
- Pema Chödrön

*"The happiness of your
life depends on the quality
of your thoughts."*

- Marcus Aurelius

@WETHEURBAN

**BE PROUD
OF HOW
HARD YOU
ARE TRYING.**

REACH OUT.



OPEN UP.