

JUNE 2021
ISSUE EDITOR: ELENI PLEMMENOU

THE TITAN CHRONICLES

Special Summer 2021 Edition!

ARTICLES TO HELP
YOU THROUGH:

"True Story" - 2

**Summer Book
Suggestions - 3**

Sweet Summer Story - 4

**"The Sea Restores My
Senses" - 4**

**"123 Years of
Independence and
Counting" - 6**

**Dear Abby Q&A,
Summer Special! - 7**

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Titans,

Welcome to another TTC issue! Our Editors' Team hopes you had a fantastic Spring 2021 semester and that you're already on the line for your next vacation tickets. Our student community did an amazing job staying strong this year and you all deserve to have a refreshing, beautiful, and safe summer! From our side this month, we wanted to wish you a sweet summertime on a very positive note, so we delivered a collection of pieces on topics chosen entirely by our talented readers — and with that our warmest wishes for a summer full of memories, carefreeness and fun ♥

Thank you for supporting The Titan Chronicles throughout the year! See you in September,

Eleni Plemmenou



TRUE STORY

BY ARTHUR ANTONOPOULOS

It was Wednesday afternoon and I had decided to grab my bicycle and head down to Floisvos Promenade. A good friend of mine lives near the beach and I thought it would be a great opportunity to catch up.

I hooked a pocket-pouch on the handlebars and placed my iPhone inside.

And headed off.

When I ride I always do two things. Firstly, I wear a helmet and secondly, I traverse our Athenian concrete jungle with awesomeness. I live the experience by bunny hopping curbs, swerving parked cars and conquering the jagged streets of broken pavement and uneven sidewalks. So, it came as no surprise that my pocket-pouch had loosened its grip on the handlebars and... fallen off.

I realised, when near my destination, that where once I had a iPhone, I now had a headache and a mouth full of expletives.

I peddled back at the same route as fast as I could and scanned the street. But it was all to no avail. The pocket-pouch and my new iPhone had been gobbled-up by the concrete abyss.

I cursed and peddled. Cursed and peddled.

Then reached home, eager to climb three flights of stairs (carrying my bicycle) and call my iPhone, or at least use the "Find my iPhone" app.

I called and waited.

It rang. And a man spoke.

"Don't worry my friend. Your phone has fallen into good hands!"

"I thank you so much," I replied with relief.

"Where should I come to pick it up?"

"No need. Your friend called by chance and he is coming to get it."

A smile garnered my face. It was my lucky day.

"How could I ever repay you?" I eagerly interjected. I always believed that niceties should be valued.

"Well, there is something you can do," he said, and I pursed my lips with slight concern.

He continued.

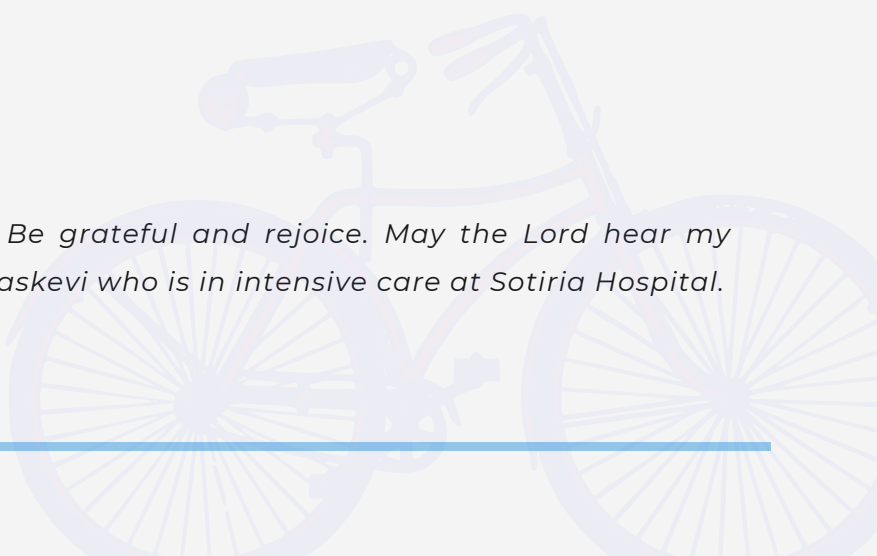
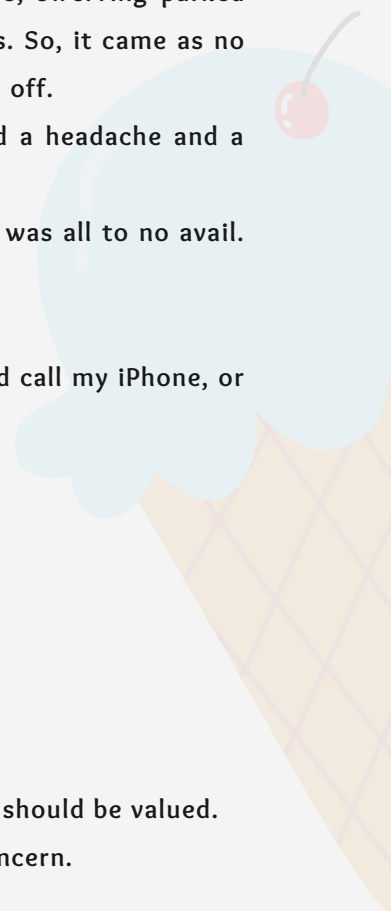
"Well, you dropped your phone outside of Sotiria Hospital. My mother is in intensive care here. She is dying of Covid."

I froze.

"Could you say a prayer for her, please?"

I lowered my gaze.

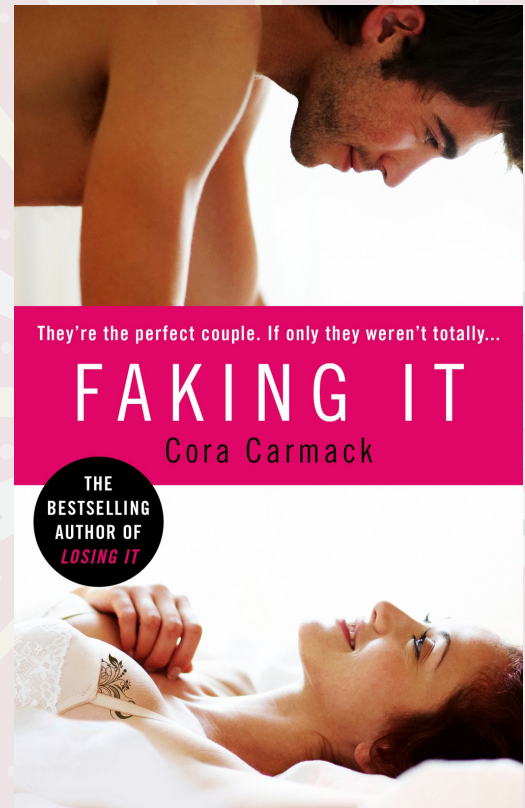
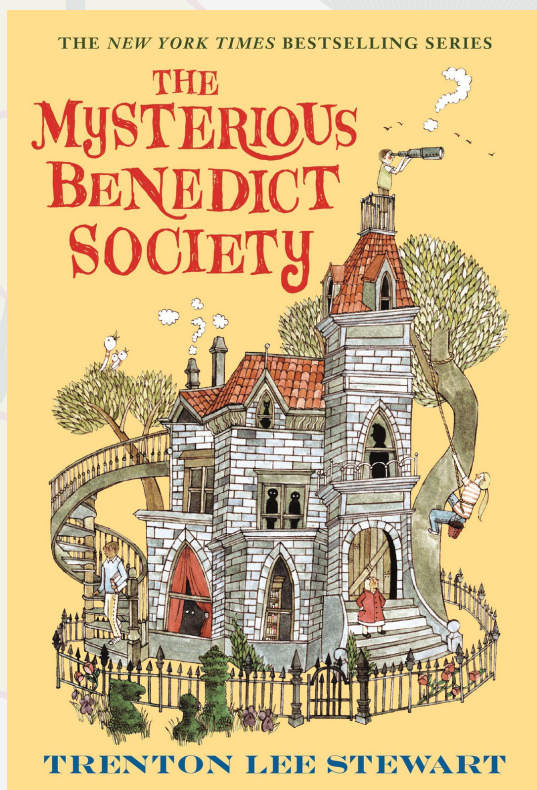
This is the day the Lord has made. Be grateful and rejoice. May the Lord hear my prayers and bring health back to Paraskevi who is in intensive care at Sotiria Hospital.



SUMMER BOOK SUGGESTIONS

BY THE CREATIVE READERS' BOOK CLUB

In our last meeting in Creative Readers' Book Club, we chose two books to keep us company during our holidays. The first one is "Faking It" by Cora Carmack and the second one is The Mysterious Benedict Society by Trenton Lee Stewart. Faking It is from a New York Times bestselling author who likes to write about young adult characters. It is a romantic book about a wild and edgy to the core girl and a guy who is different from her usual taste in men. When she approaches him with a crazy request to pretend her boyfriend, he agrees to play the part. Can a fake relationship feel real? Choose this book and find out!



The second book is from an award-winning and New York Times bestselling author, and it is the best choice for fans of puzzles and mysteries. "Are you a gifted child looking for special opportunities?" it is just a question in a newspaper, but do you know any children who like newspapers? Follow the story of four children in a secret mission that only the most intelligent and inventive children could complete. Their challenge: To go undercover at the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened, where the only rule is that there are no rules. So, if you're gifted, creative, or happen to know Morse code, they could probably use your help. Both books are part of a series, but they can be read separately, too. Pick one or both to read this summer and we will be waiting for you in the next semester to let us know what you think! Enjoy your vacation and get wild ♡

THE SEA RESTORES MY SENSES

BY ANNA ROMBOTIS, TTC EDITOR

I go to the sea to let my thoughts drift away into the deep blue abyss
My hair is loose and flowing in the cool breeze
The air carries the scent of salt and seaweed, it smells of familiarity
The sun's rays reflect on the water creating a magical glittering effect
I watch the waves creep up to touch my toes and then pull back
My feet dig deeper into the sand as the water gushes through me
I am grounded, I am whole, my senses are restored

SWEET SUMMER STORY

BY E. ♡

In the summer of 2016 I asked my family to drive me off of Athens to a beautiful ranch camp I used to go to when I was a kid. The last couple of years had been tough with me having changed schools twice, not to mention how some family situations that had really started to get to me on top of having exited my first relationship because long-distance was no longer working with me falling apart. Let me call it what it was, I was going through a huge "teenage depression" and wanted to get away from everyone. Little did I know the sweetest summer story was about to unfold, and I would be the protagonist. My parents knew the owner of the ranch, so I had permission to help out with the different services, such as the telephone center for younger campers and the administration office, for new campers coming in each period from June to August. I spent my days strolling around the camp, listening to music, and the relationship problems of my new friend A (you know like in "Pretty Little Liars"), trying to help her out as much as I could, but really just trying not to think about anything. So in reality I was just waking up, doing chores and going back to sleep. And that didn't go unnoticed. After my second or third week there, other employees were encouraging me to hang around with them during midday break, when campers were supposed to be sleeping. I was 16 and registered as a camper, so technically I was supposed to be sleeping too, but one hot day I really wanted to follow them to the pool — outside was awful Selsery! Once we got there, the son of the owner who was a childhood friend introduced me and A to some other employees and she started socializing. "Please get it over with...", I was thinking the entire time. I did not want to be rude or anything, but like I said I wasn't exactly sociable at the time. We left after 4 o'clock hit to assist in the telephone center. Later that night, we went to the grand food hall after the campers had finished eating to have our dinner. It was employees' time to dine, so there must have been around 40 people in the room. I was serving myself some pizza as A was going on about how she wanted to head back to Athens as soon as possible to see her boyfriend, and that got me thinking about my time to go back

home... and I wasn't looking forward to it.

"So I don't think distance is good for us after all, like he calls me every night and—", A paused abruptly.

"Yeah?", I turn around to face her.

Her eyes were following a boy who was walking around the dining hall, so my eyes fell on him too, as he was coming towards our direction, then turned to me.

"I think you have something on your shorts", he said and smiled.

"Where?", I said and started looking down on my shorts.

"No", he chuckled, "It's on the back".

I must have turned red. I bit my lip and looked at him, showered with shame.

"It must be from that swing...", I said, which it was, as I would spend hours after lunch sitting on a swing at the back area of the ranch, where younger campers would play around. And that thing was old so its color was literally melting on me. "Thanks." I said and looked at him as he continued to smile.

"I'm Christos, nice to meet you", he said and stretched his hand towards me.

"Nice to meet you too", I said and smiled back, dropping occasional anxious eye contact with A, who was giggling.

Next evening I was hanging around on the swing at the back of the ranch, checking out messages from my socials, and trying to see if I had any note of the medication I was taking for my allergies, which were going wild. Suddenly I heard steps and quickly turned around to see who it was, since I was typically alone in that part of the camp, and to be honest wanted it to stay that way.

"Hey!", Christos walked in with a smile, "I was hoping to scare you there", he chuckled.

"Hey", I said and smiled softly. "How come you're here?"

"Well," he said and sat on the swing next to me, "I figured you'd be here, since you clearly like sitting on that swing so much".

"Yeah", I blushed. I still can't believe our acquaintance had began on the basis of my dirty shorts.

"So, you don't really like me do you?"

"Huh? No, I mean — Why'd you say that?", I sincerely wondered.

"I gave you my hand at the pool and you just said 'hi', and then in the infirmary I gave you my turn and you didn't say anything".

"What...", I sat back and thought for a while. I did not even remember meeting him before the night at the dining hall, or anyone for that matter. I certainly remember being at the pool and visiting the infirmary for my allergy medicine, but I did not remember him. I would have remembered him, right? I mean, he looked gorgeous, probably the most handsome boy I know to date, and funny.

"I'm so sorry!", I said louder than I'd expected. I blushed.

"It's fine", he said with a giggle and smiled at me, locking his eyes to mine. "You know me now".

In our recent anniversary on June 24, while watching a movie on his bed and eating pizza, I was thinking back at our story and asking him if he remembered it.

"Oh I remember very well", he said, implying I'm the one who didn't even remember meeting him. "Who would have known then", he chuckled.

"Yeah", I thought, "Who would have known then..."

123 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE AND COUNTING

BY YASMEEN TRISA CARDENAS, TREASURER OF THE LANGUAGES & CULTURES CLUB

Saturday, June 12th, 2021, marked the 123rd year the Philippines declared independence from Spain in 1898. The Revolution represents the Filipino struggle that individuals faced for more than 300 years of Spanish colonial rule. The Spanish-American War brought Spain's rule in the Philippines to a close in 1898. However, this precipitated the Philippine-American War, a bloody battle between Filipino revolutionaries and the U.S. army.

During the Spanish-American War, Filipino rebels, led by Emilio Aguinaldo, declared the independence of the Philippines after 300 years of Spanish colonial rule. The Philippines was colonized by the Spanish in the late 16th century. Opposition before 1872 was primarily confined to the Filipino clergy, who resented the Spanish domination of the Roman Catholic churches on the island. In the late 19th century, Filipino intellectuals and the middle class began protesting for independence. Subsequently, in 1892, the Katipunan, a secret revolutionary society, was formed in Manila. Membership grew rapidly, and in August 1896, the Spanish uncovered the Katipunan's plans for rebellion, forcing premature action from the rebels. Revolts broke out across Luzon, and in March 1897, 28-year-old Emilio Aguinaldo became leader of the rebellion. By late 1897, the revolutionaries had been driven into the hills southeast of Manila, and Aguinaldo was forced to negotiate an agreement with the Spanish. In exchange of financial compensation and a promise of reform in the Philippines, Aguinaldo and his generals would accept exile in Hong Kong. The rebel leaders departed, and the Philippine Revolution was temporarily put to an end.

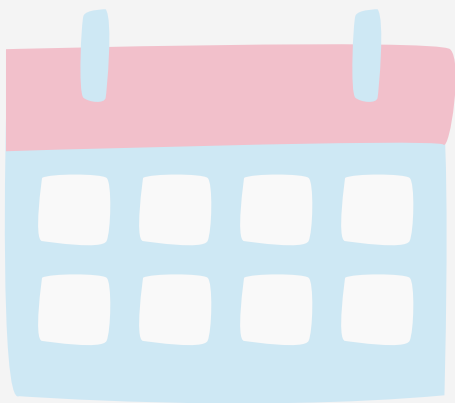
In May 1898, the U.S. Asiatic Squadron, under the command of Commodore George Dewey, annihilated the Spanish Pacific fleet at the Battle of Manila Bay in the Philippines. Following, Aguinaldo immediately returned to the Philippines. Spain then relinquished its colony of the Philippines to the U.S. in the Treaty of Paris. However, before the treaty was approved, fighting emerged between the American and Filipino nationalists. This triggered the Philippine-American war which lasted three years and resulted in the death of thousands of American and Filipino combatants. Some reform-minded Filipinos took refuge in Europe, where they carried on a literary campaign known as the Propaganda Movement. Dr. José Rizal quickly emerged as the leading Propagandist. His novel *Noli me tángere* (The Social Cancer) exposed the corruption of the Spanish rule.

Today we can celebrate the bravery and courage of the Filipino revolutionaries who fought and sacrificed their lives for independence!

Dear Abby

"Dear Abby, I want to have a fun summer but I'm worried about COVID. What can I do?"

Follow the rules!! We are finally getting some of the normalcy we have missed for over a year, this is exciting!! Try not to worry too much! Think about all of the new safety measures people and businesses have adopted; we are cleaning more, taking care of our health, and being more cautious overall. It's as good a time as any to enjoy this Summer! Stay safe and only do what you are comfortable with.



"Dear Abby, summer has arrived and I feel like it's going away so fast. What can I do to get the best out of it before school starts again?"

PLAN!!!! Make a list of all you would like to see or do and stick to it! Quit worrying about something that hasn't even started yet and just enjoy your summer! I hope you get the opportunity to try something new or go someplace new!

Thank you all for reading & contributing.
Have a beautiful summer!

Eleni, Abby & Anna

