

CEDAR CHIPS

Group Chat Etiquette

By Sophia C.

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Inside...

*Did you love **Toys R' Us**? Then read Tristan's article about their rise, and eventual fall.*

*Love hockey? Then make sure you read Callahan's article about the new team, the **Seattle Kraken**.*

*And make sure to read Rowan's article about **Squid Game**, the latest Netflix show that has been sweeping the world!*

In this day and age, texting, calling and social media are definitely a main form of communication, but there are still a lot of issues. One being the etiquette group chats. While they're an incredibly effective way to connect with many people at once, group chats are sometimes bothersome and frustrating. Here are some of the top three rules and basic etiquette of group chats!

1. **If only two people are active, have the conversation on a private chat.**

People often think group chats are a chaotic place where many people can talk over each other in text form, but, in reality, there are typically only two or three people really active at one time. If you are two of these people, please have the conversation on a private chat! Unless it pertains to the whole chat, we don't need to hear.

2. **Spamming the chat**

Just no...spamming in general is reserved for people you hate and best friends. If used outside those bounds, there might be a problem. Spamming one person individually is bad enough, spamming an entire chat is just cruel. Sending an extraordinary amount of pointless texts is a quick way to get kicked off the chat.

3. **Don't have an Android (Just get an iPhone already!)**

As of 2021, 88% of the U.S. teens of have an iPhone. What does this mean for group chats? Most, if not all, of the members in the group chat are likely to have an iPhone. But what happens if someone doesn't? You can't add or remove anyone from the chat, you can't FaceTime and sometimes, depending on your phone plan, it can even cost money to send or receive texts from a different brand of phone. So, it's safe to say get an iPhone if you want to join the group chat!



2021 MET Gala Scoop

By Sophia C.

This year's 75th annual MET Gala, though delayed by Covid, did not disappoint! The theme was 'American Independence', a fitting idea after all the unrest and turmoil our country has faced this past year. But, don't worry these stars stayed safe, all following the strict Covid precautions while showcasing their looks and the MET.

The New Steps

While Covid has sent the world to a screeching halt, it's finally starting back up again...with new rules, of course. This year's MET Gala is no exception! All attendees had to show prior proof of vaccination, along with wearing masks once indoors. Though they could be temporarily removed once the food was served, they had to be promptly replaced when done. Guests were also required to get a Covid test the day before the event as a last line of defense. Some celebrities actually turned down their invite because of these new protocols, like Nikki Minaj. Nikki states in a short tweet, "If I get vaccinated, it won't be for the Met. It'll be once I've done enough research..."

Met Facts

The MET gala is an annual fundraising event for the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute in New York City. The large gathering of stars and outrageous style marks the premiere for the museum's Costume Institute's annual fashion exhibit. This fundraiser does its job well! Tickets allegedly starting at \$30,000 and tables, usually bought by big name brands and fashion houses, can start around \$275,000. This event raises a minimum of 11 million dollars for the Met every year. The Vogue editor-in-chief, Anna Wintour, has raised around \$200 million for the museum since taking her position at Vogue in 1988.

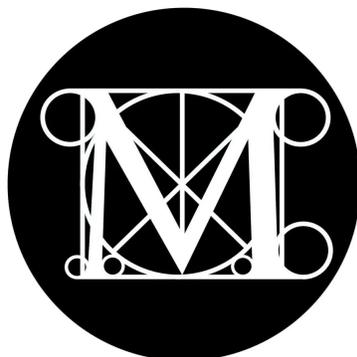
Most of the celebrity faces you see on the red carpet have received invitations, and have tables paid for by brands. Some, even having their outfits donated by designers who want to show off their creations.

Best Dressed List

This year saw many familiar faces, but lots of new looks! The best dressed list was lengthy, but it seems that these celebrities took the top spots:

- Iman -wearing: Dolce & Gabbana x Harris Reed
- Billie Eilish-wearing: Oscar de la Renta
- Rihanna- wearing: Balenciaga
- Normani- wearing: Valentino
- Timothée Chalamet- wearing: Haider Ackermann

For more looks go to the [Harper's BAZAAR](https://www.harpersbazaar.com) website and see for yourself!



THE RISE AND FALL OF TOYS R' US

By Tristan M.



Millions of people have been to Toys R' Us at some point in their life. Not only have they grown up with the tons of toys that fill up the stores, but the stores themselves have been experiences themselves, with many massive aisles filled with all kinds of toys and games, from dolls, to board games, to action figures, marbles, sports gear, and even the latest video games and game consoles. But, after 70 long years, Toys R' Us declared Chapter 7 Bankruptcy, and ended up having to shut all of their stores down.

So, how did Toys R' Us have their huge rise, only to end up having their huge fall? Let's start all the way back in 1948. That year, a man named Charles Lazarus opened a store called Children's Bargain Town, which was located in Washington, D.C. At the time, it mainly sold goods for babies, and once Lazarus realized people weren't coming back to purchase his products, he started to add toys to the store. They started out cheap, but as they became more popular, Lazarus began to add more and more toys to the store. Soon, Lazarus had a big idea. What if he could open a store that was not only massive, but had every single toy ever?

In 1957, Lazarus renamed the company into Toys R' Us, and ended up creating the world's first big box toy store. The store ended up being a major hit, and in the following decades, more and more Toys R' Us stores opened. In 1973, Toys R' Us introduced Geoffrey the Giraffe, who was an anthropomorphic giraffe that ended up becoming the company's mascot, and in 1982, they introduced their iconic Toys' R Us kid jingle, which many people who grew up throughout the 1980s and 1990s will remember fondly.

Although Lazarus stepped down from the company in 1994, Toys' R Us' success continued, while they started to have major competition from stores such as Target and Walmart, and especially Amazon during this time, and in 1999, they had a large overhaul, with not only a brand new logo, but Toys R' Us also renovated plenty of their stores and opened a lot of new ones as well. And in 2001, Toys R' Us opened what was their biggest store to date, with a massive store located in Times Square, which spanned over 100 thousand square feet (it was open for 14 years, before it closed down in late 2015). Unfortunately, this was at the same time that Toys R' Us was starting to enter its most troubling age, which they would never recover from.

Toys R' Us began to suffer from massive debt during the 2000s, to the point that they had to discontinue being a public company in 2005, and ended up going private that same year. Sure, Toys R' Us was still making billions of dollars from toy sales, but by this time, they were already overshadowed by Amazon, Target, and Walmart, and they never recovered since. They started to shut down many stores, and a decent chunk of the closed stores still remain abandoned today.

But the 2010s (especially at the very end of that decade) was when Toys R' Us was really at their lowest point. As more and more stores started to shut down, and the stores that were open were starting to pile up tons of debt, Toys R' Us had no choice but to enter Chapter 11 Bankruptcy in late 2017. Toys R' Us tried their best to rely on strong toy sales during the holiday season that year, but with online toy sales now dominating the market at that time, on top of Target and Walmart still staying strong with toy sales, it was sadly not enough, and in early 2018, Toys R' Us had to enter Chapter 7 Bankruptcy and start shutting down all of their stores (which at the time, there were 700 stores in the US, far less than the 1,400 plus stores they had during its peak in the 1990s), and by the end of that summer, all of Toys R' Us' stores closed down in the US.

Well, not for too long. Toys R' Us has attempted several comebacks in the US in recent years, by opening new smaller stores in New Jersey (which closed down last year because of COVID) in late 2019, and making a deal with Macy's to open smaller stores and big box locations earlier this year. Not to mention that Toys R' Us has been continuing to do well in both Canada and South Korea, too, but only time will tell if they really come back in a big way.



The Seattle Kraken

By Callahan R.



There is a new hockey team this season. Their team name is the Kraken, and they are based out of Seattle. Every new team has a draft to determine who will be on their team. They drafted veteran defenseman Mark Giordano as their Captain. They also drafted Yanni Gourde and Jordan Eberle. There has been a long long history of expansion teams and doing things people didn't think were possible. Most recently, the Vegas Golden Knights made it to the Stanley Cup Final but lost to the Washington Capitals. Here is a list of all the players Seattle drafted:

- Colorado Avalanche — Joonas Donskoi (forward)
- Chicago Blackhawks — John Quenneville (forward)
- Columbus Blue Jackets — Gavin Bayreuther (defenseman)
- St. Louis Blues — Vince Dunn (defenseman)
- Boston Bruins — Jeremy Lauzon (defenseman)
- Montreal Canadiens — Cale Fleury (defenseman)
- Vancouver Canucks — Kole Lind (forward)
- Washington Capitals — Vitek Vanecek (goalie)
- Arizona Coyotes — Tyler Pitlick (forward)
- New Jersey Devils — Nathan Bastian (forward)
- Anaheim Ducks — Haydn Fleury (defenseman)
- Calgary Flames — Mark Giordano (defenseman)
- Philadelphia Flyers — Carsen Twarynski (forward)
- Carolina Hurricanes — Morgan Geekie (forward)
- New York Islanders — Jordan Eberle (forward)
- Winnipeg Jets — Mason Appleton (forward)
- Los Angeles Kings — Kurtis MacDermid (defenseman)
- Tampa Bay Lightning — Yanni Gourde (forward)
- Toronto Maple Leafs — Jared McCann (forward)
- Edmonton Oilers — Adam Larsson (defenseman)
- Florida Panthers — Chris Driedger (goalie)
- Pittsburgh Penguins — Brandon Tanev (forward)
- Nashville Predators — Calle Jarnkrok (forward)
- New York Rangers — Colin Blackwell (forward)
- Detroit Red Wings — Dennis Cholowski (defenseman)
- Buffalo Sabres — William Borgen (defenseman)
- Ottawa Senators — Joey Daccord (goalie)
- San Jose Sharks — Alexander True (forward)
- Dallas Stars — Jamie Oleksiak (defenseman)
- Minnesota Wild — Carson Soucy (defenseman)

Rating The Picks

I think their best pick by a wide margin is the 37 year old defenseman, Mark Giordano. He has been a Top 5 defenseman and has been awarded because of it, winning the Norris Trophy in 2019. He is not only good at keeping goals at a minimum, but he also could get on the board once in a while. His best strength offensively is his ability to pass the puck with great proficiency.

I think another great pick is Joonas Donskoi from the Colorado Avalanche. He is not the best goalscorer, but he is 6 foot and can win puck battles in the corner. I like this pick, because he was not scoring a ton of goals but last season tallied 17 of them which means that he is improving and doing so at a speedy pace.

My next favorite pick is former Dallas Stars D-man Jamie Oleksiak. The most notable thing about him is that he is 6'7", 255 pounds. He also was one of the ice time leaders last season for the Stars. Even though he has been playing for nine seasons, his physical play has not decreased, if anything, it has picked up.

They made a very great pick by choosing Philipp Grubauer as their starting goaltender. He performed great in Colorado and even in Washington where he started his career. I think he played well enough to win the starting role for the Avs, but they decided to go with the two goalie system which did not work out great for them. I sure hope that he is "that guy" for the Kraken.

Jordan Eberle played great last playoffs and the Kraken believe that he could continue with his goalscoring. He has scored 20 or more goals for the past six seasons and got plenty of assists playing with Matthew Barzal. He will get that same opportunity playing with Colin Blackwell and Brandon Tanev.

The former Tampa Bay Lightning Yanni Gourde fills the much needed left wing position. His small size helps him get body position and win Puck battles against people twice his size. Last year he recorded 17 goals and 19 assists. He might not be a top 25 forward, but he can cause a huge impact in a game.

The Kraken will play their inaugural game against the Golden Knights on October 12 at 10 p.m. I think everyone who follows hockey is very excited to see how this new franchise performs and whether they could go all the way.



The History of DVDs

By Tristan M.



CDs have been around for almost four decades, giving many music lovers the chance to listen to music on the go, as well as giving out better sound than any other cassette or vinyl record could. But what would you do if you could not only watch movies much easier than you could ever imagine, on top of having them on a disc as well?

That's when DVDs come around! Introduced in 1996 in Japan, and 1997 in the rest of the world, DVDs have become a convenient way for millions of people to watch movies anywhere they go, especially at home or on the road, or especially for home theater usage. They were finally able to take down VHS (which was still the number one home media format in the mid-late 1990s) as the number one home media format, and they haven't looked back since. Even with the rise of streaming (with services such as Netflix, Disney+, HBO Max, Apple TV+, and Prime Video), and better quality home media formats around in the market (such as Blu-Ray and 4K Blu-Ray), DVD still remains as the number one home media format to this day.

Optical disc based media had been around since 1978, when Laserdisc was introduced (it was discontinued in 2001, five years after DVD was introduced), but DVDs didn't begin their inception until 1995, when respected Japanese electronic companies Sony, Panasonic (then called Matsushita) and Toshiba, and Dutch company Phillips started work on the disc format that would later become DVD. One year later, in 1996, Toshiba ended up selling the first ever DVD player, the SD-3000 player. Then, in 1997, Toshiba started to roll DVD out to everywhere else in the world, with WB/Time Warner (now called WarnerMedia) being a major supporter of the format, releasing over 15 films on the format on its launch date in March 1997, with a mix of classics (*The Wizard of Oz*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *GoodFellas* (even though that film at the time was only seven years old), *Bonnie and Clyde*, *The Color Purple*, and *The Exorcist*) and recent box office hits (*Goldeneye*, *The Mask*, *Seven*, *The Fugitive*, *The Birdcage*, and *Space Jam*). The first DVD players were very expensive, costing at least \$600-\$1000, but it did not take long for DVDs to start becoming a huge home media format, and by 2002, DVDs ended up taking VHS' place as the number one home media format.

There's a reason why DVD has remained the number one home media format for almost 20 years. Not only has it remained a convenient format for many people to watch movies, but it has also remained an easy format for both major studios and small filmmakers to use, especially to publish their films. Will DVD last for an even longer time than it already has? We shall see!

Hugs

- ☺ brisk temperatures
- ☺ crunchy leaves
- ☺ holidays
- ☺ mixture of cool and warm weather
- ☺ breezy days



&

Hits

- ☹ no more shorts
- ☹ less daylight
- ☹ static electricity
- ☹ freezing in am, hot in the afternoon
- ☹ getting TOO cold



The History of the Stanley Cup

By Callahan R.

The Stanley Cup is the trophy given to the winners of the NHL playoffs and marks that team the best in the NHL. It is the oldest trophy in North American sports history.

The first cup was awarded 1893. The names were first engraved in 1906, which is still a tradition to this day. In 1917, the NHL was created and the Stanley Cup was named its trophy.

The first ever team to win the cup was the Montreal Canadiens. They are also the oldest team in the NHL and have the most wins as a team in NHL history.

The cup has been measured at about 8 inches and has a diameter of 12 inches. The most astonishing thing about its size is that it weighs about 40 pounds. That is about the same weight of a two person canoe or an average three year old child.

Every player lifts it over their head and kisses it after they win the cup. This is usually a very emotional moment, because some of these players have been waiting years to do this.

One of my favorite traditions with the cup is that every player on the active roster of the winning team gets to take it to their home country. Back in 1906, most of the players in the NHL were American or Canadian. In this day and age, hockey has branched out, and we now have players from almost every country imaginable.

There is usually a huge celebration when the players go home, but a cool thing is that some of the players will let little kids touch it, or if the kids are small enough, get into the top of the cup. The Stanley Cup is one of the most coveted trophies in sports.



What is the Penalty Box?

By Callahan R.

The penalty box is where a player goes to sit for an offense that is not bad enough for them to be kicked out of the game. There are two penalty boxes, one for each team.

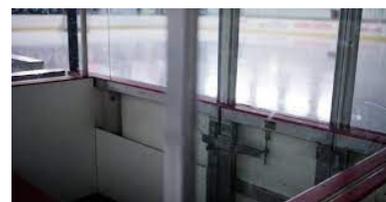
Players have to be careful about penalties because the time that players are in the box, they cannot sub someone in for them, so the other team has a five on four advantage. This situation is called a power play.

There are three types of penalties for which you would sit in the penalty box. The first one is a minor penalty. This is a penalty that is against the rules but does not cause severe injury.

The second penalty is a double minor which is called when a penalty causes blood. A high stick penalty is a good example for this rule. If you hit a player with your stick by accident and it causes blood, you would have to sit for four minutes in the box.

The final and worst penalty is a major penalty. This usually results from either you fighting another player, or causing a player severe injury. A ten minute penalty is rare, but that means that you go straight to the locker room and can't play the rest of the game. They call it a ten minute penalty, but it goes down in the stats as a five minute penalty.

Any penalties awarded to the goaltender or to players on the bench must be served by a player on the ice.



Randy's Candy

By Tristan M.



Randy ate a bunch of candy.

The sugar sure came in handy.

Randy thought that candy tasted dandy,

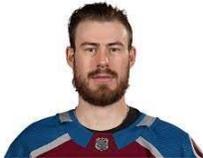
And he made sure to get his massive batch of chocolate candy.



Top 10 Goalies in the NHL

By Callahan R.

1. Andrei Vasilevskiy (TB)
2. Connor Hellebuyck (WPG)
3. Marc Andre Fleury (CHI)
4. Semyon Varlamov (NYI)
5. Philipp Grubauer (SEA)
6. Igor Shesterkin (NYR)
7. Robin Lehner (VGK)
8. Juuse Saros (NSH)
9. Thatcher Demko (VAN)
10. Frederik Andersen (CAR)



Top 10 Underrated Disney Channel Movies

By Sophia C.

1. Let it shine (2012)
2. Lemonade Mouth (2012)
3. Princess Protection Program (2011)
4. Wizards of Waverly Place (2009)
5. Cloud 9 (2014)
6. Geek Charming (2011)
7. Star Struck (2010)
8. Twitches (2005)
9. Sky High(2005)
10. How to Build a Better Boy (2014)

All about Squid Game

By Rowan G.

Over the past few weeks, the South Korean TV series known as *Squid Game* has taken the world by storm. All across the globe, the show seems to be flooding public discourse, with countless YouTube videos, news articles, and even late-night hosts all referencing it. But what is *Squid Game* all about, anyway?

To the average viewer, the plot synopsis of *Squid Game* might seem like a carbon copy of Suzanne Collins' famous *Hunger Games* series. In both shows, a disenfranchised protagonist must participate in a competition, endangering their lives in pursuit of a prize. However, *Squid Game* deviates from the formula by making the "games" portion an actual game competition.

During the show, it is revealed that the protagonist is in a rough spot. He is poor and has overwhelming debt, causing him to be convinced into playing in what he believes is a normal competition. Although he is not initially aware of the games' true nature, he soon realizes that there are deadly consequences: If you lose the games, you lose your life.

At this point, you may be wondering how such a dark series became so prevalent in pop culture. Perhaps it twists the seemingly innocent nostalgia of childhood entertainment into something terrible, perhaps in a similar manner to *Five Nights At Freddy's*. Perhaps the dark themes around desperation and greed also were major factors. I believe, however, that it is a combination of both.

After the COVID-19 pandemic, many people felt disillusioned with the status quo. Many people fell out of their sense of security, and I think that *Squid Game* appealed to this demographic by offering commentary on modern society. Managing to appear in the right time and place, the messages of *Squid Game* have proven impactful to a generation of people.

Did You Know? Top 7 Weird Facts

By Rowan G.

1. ...that William Henry Harrison holds the record for the longest inaugural address, despite holding office for only one month?
2. ...that prior to founding Microsoft, Bill Gates led a traffic analytics firm?
3. ... that the EPA was founded by Richard Nixon?
4. ...that there is an asteroid named after the titular protagonist of the *Asterix* comic series?
5. ...that dynamite was originally designed as a construction tool?
6. ...that the coldest place in the universe is only about three degrees cooler than the rest of space?
7. ...that Venus is the only planet to spin opposite of the Earth?
8. ...that the Mayans chewed chicle, a precursor to chewing gum?

Haunted Ha Ha's!

1. How do you open a haunted house?
2. What do you call a witch's garage?
3. What does a panda-ghost eat?
4. Why is Halloween the most liked holiday?
5. Where do ghosts buy their food?
6. Why don't mummies take time off?



Answers: 1. With a skeleton key 2. A broom closet
3. bamboo 4. Because all the rest are BOO-ring
5. At the ghost-ery story 6. They're afraid to
unwind.

Top 10 Candies for Halloween

By Rowan G.

10. Hershey's. These chocolates are the boring ones, the default options when you don't really want anything else. But come on, it's chocolate!
9. Whoppers. They're alright, but they feel weird if you try to bite down on them.
8. SweetTarts. These candies are like a sour version of Smarties. I like Smarties, and I like sour.
7. Dots. They're probably the most chewy candy on this list, and I like that. Completely fine.
6. Yorks. These mint patties are very tasty and are larger than Junior Mints.
5. Jolly Ranchers. Although they look small, these hard candies can last longer than entire bags of soft ones. However, the flavoring feels too synthetic for my taste, preventing them from getting a higher spot on this list..
4. Mike and Ikes. These candies are chewy and fruity, and are filled with many flavors. In my opinion, the lime ones are the best!
3. 3 Musketeers. This is my favorite type of chocolate bar as it is softer and less crunchy compared to Snickers.
2. Atomic Fireballs. They are like spicy cinnamon jawbreakers. They have a really unique taste and last for a very long time.
1. Sour Patch Kids. I personally like these candies as they are both sweet and sour, bringing an interesting mixture of flavor.





Halloween Word Search



H S K D K T D C T H X N Q W Y T O U P Z G C B Z P
 U R H T R D I C R L R H V I H C H F N M Z H L D T
 E J W E E B F R U E H F T T H A K W G O B L I N P
 T A A A V E A A T L T R D C Z N I A G G D H H J M
 M T D W J D E N T D Y Y O H E D I S S Y F O R P U
 S I A T S Q A Q W V K B S F R Y O E V E P M B O M
 P W I M V L H T V F N R A J Y S V S C J J J J U K
 W Z N V O U L F U Y I A Y T Z A B D V T Y U F B L
 R X Q K F B A T F V K P X C T F R K T B A Y R Z S
 L Y C W N E I W O F X O K X R B Q I D U Z X N D E
 R A M K V K N B E M K Z O E P F R V K F H P H Q I
 J N B O P S J G V O W G T P H F H N B V C R W Q B
 Z V I M O A X C G O H S I V S F A C O J Z O B V M
 C D J E M M X S E N N O H C S N L D S T N E B O O
 J S H F T Y J R K O K X F I R S W Z C T E M J M Z
 P V Q I R S I L M F X C X N W G F K P S J L A R P
 C C A N D P N D B I Y X A T C Z P J P O H J E A F
 C H R D M Y S E G Q C S H K D V H M C H Y D Z K X
 O W O A N C K M K Y T V A O R Y T K L G Y H S P S
 Y C V C A E Z C N N Y Q U R R S D Z N E H I P M B
 G Q T T O H L I A D A S A B Q R M A N S I O N C I
 J T P O U L N M O M D R F H K S O S C A R E T D X
 F F C H B T A J O I S V F J J V L R C X C M G C C
 W Y U V V E M T G L E M U T S O C D E T N U A H N
 B A S R A W R Z E D I R Y A H W S N W D O N P L O

- Bat
- Candy
- Cat
- Chocolate
- Costume
- Dead
- Frankenstein
- Ghost
- Goblin
- Haunted
- Hayride
- Horror
- Jack o'Lantern
- Mansion
- Mask
- Monster
- Moon
- October
- Scare
- Skeleton
- Spooky
- Treats
- Vampire
- Witch
- Zombie

