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In his first published work since his 2012 hit “The Fault in Our Stars,” John Green’s latest novel attempts to destigmatize mental illness.

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Joe Pack is an Air Force Veteran. He’s also a senior history major and peer counselor who wants you to know that veterans are regular people.

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In order to bring athletics to the 250-acre campus that can actually fit all eight sports, the university would be required to finance a new program that would come from student fees.

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**CEO uses life lessons to help students expand worldview**

By Delaney Brown
delaneybrown@mail.usf.edu

By day, Tim Curran is the CEO of a nonprofit dedicated to promoting the role of distributors in a healthy technological economy, but by night, he teaches a small group of Master of Business Administration students about the role of managers in the workplace.

For some it might be hard to square the professional world with the academic, but for Curran, the relationship is natural.

The 65-year-old spent most of his professional life working among technology giants like Panasonic and Tech Data becoming CEO of the Global Technology Distribution Council and beginning a second career as a professor.

He sees a lot of lessons that transfer between the two worlds and often uses his personal experiences to bring some of the classroom lessons to life.

When Curran was 18, he decided to spend a year studying in Japan. As he flew into a gray and rainy Tokyo and then stepped out into an airport surrounded by an unfamiliar language and culture, Curran knew he needed to expand his worldview.

He was ravenous. He read everything he could about the history and culture of Japan. He became fluent in Japanese.

He took the time to understand the way the Japanese do things.

“Japan has a very different social structure,” said Curran. “Every country has its positives and negatives, but one of the things the Japanese do really well is developing their teams. They see longevity as a priority and put an enormous amount of effort into building and maintaining their teams.”

Curran said that his biggest takeaway from Japan was an appreciation for learning from different perspectives.

“It’s a lesson he never would have had if he learned solely from U.S. business practices. That lesson is something he wants to pass on to his students.”

Curran, an adjunct professor, co-teaches a class on social issues in management every spring with retired Marine Col. Mike Brassaw. The setup of the class is matched in the way they dive into the material.

Each week students are expected to read five to seven articles from the New York Times or Wall Street Journal and then come prepared to discuss the topics they studied.

“Each student has an interesting perspective,” Curran said, “that’s why I put them in groups. I want them to know each other and feel engaged, like they’re part of a team.”

A lot of Curran’s focus is on helping students gain a global perspective. It’s important for him that students are cognizant and receptive to new approaches and techniques.

Each week he divides his class into two teams, each are tasked with presenting and discussing a social issue, but one group explores this issue from a domestic perspective while the other offers an international point of view.

“It exposes students to new ideas and shows them how we can leverage them in the U.S.,” Curran said.

“It’s an important issue for Curran; He knows firsthand how helpful outside perspectives can be.

“The world is changing so rapidly that you have to have the ability to continue to learn,” Curran said. “Even if you can do your job today, you won’t be able to do it down the road.”

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**SPORTS, continued from P1**

right away.

Due to cost and facility issues, the fledging program would likely not include popular sports like basketball and softball. Football, which would conflict with the team housed on the Tampa campus, is not a remote possibility.

Despite the difficulties that come with starting a new program, Patberg thinks athletics could be good for the campus in the long run.

Athletic programs drive recruitment. Schools like the University of North Carolina in Wilmington and University of Texas in Arlington, which both feature Division I athletics programs, have become increasingly popular even among students who aren’t athletes.

At the NAIA level, student athletes generally have higher GPAs and retention rates than the general student body.

Patberg also believes that having its own athletic program would help USF St. Petersburg’s branding and visibility efforts.

“I’ve seen very few schools become movers and shakers in the community without athletics,” said Patberg.

However, not all those in attendance shared Patberg’s vision. Many questioned just how feasible an athletic program would be.

“Students had a hard time passing the Student Green Energy Fund and that was only another dollar per credit hour,” said a faculty member from the audience.

André Sanchez, a sophomore mass communications major, supports the implementation of an athletics program. He just doesn’t think that the university is approaching it the right way.

“It scares me to think of the growing pains we would have to go through to get people to come out and support us if we still can’t get fans in the stands for an already established football and basketball program (in Tampa),” said Sanchez.

For him, it’s hard to imagine attending games when venues aren’t even lined up.

“I am all for athletics on campus. I just don’t think we are ready yet,” Sanchez said.

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**Student fails to grab Council seat**

By Dinatorah Prevost
dprevost1@mail.usf.edu

District 4 candidate and USF St. Petersburg student Jerick Johnston fell short in his race against incumbent Darden Rice on Tuesday. Rice won almost two-thirds of votes cast, 72.64 percent or 41,901 votes, according to the latest results. Johnston, 21, won 27.36 percent or 15,783 votes.

This was Johnston’s first time running for office. From early on it was apparent that his chances of winning were slim because Rice is an experienced, popular progressive on City Council.

“I loved the experience. I had the opportunity to meet some amazing people and expand my understanding about the city,” Johnston said after the election.

A District 4 native, he ran on a platform of bringing a new, younger voice to City Hall, helping small businesses grow and solving the city’s sewage problems in an environmentally friendly way. In an editorial last month, the Tampa Bay Times criticized Johnston’s “vague understanding of other city issues” and downplayed the threat he posed to Rice.

Johnston, a senior business management major, is the third student to run for City Council during this election cycle. Graduate student James Scott and alum Corey Givens Jr. ran for District 6 but both dropped out after losing in the Aug. 29 primary.

For now, Johnston is unsure of his next step in politics.

“It’s a little too early for me to make any major decisions but I’m keeping my options open,” Johnston said.
Lynn Pippenger named Philanthropist of the Year

By Timothy Fanning tfanning@mail.usf.edu

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ter the years, Lynn Pippenger has donated more than $26 million to support the future of undergraduate accounting and finance students. Now the former chief financial officer of Raymond James has been selected as Philanthropist of the Year by the Suncoast Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

“It is a great honor and I’m quite surprised I was even thought of for this distinction,” said Pippenger in a written statement.

Last year, Pippenger donated a $5 million gift to USF St. Petersburg to support merit scholarship for undergraduate accounting and finance students.

In addition to that, she has also given more than $21 million to USF Muma College of Business and helped with a $500,000 donation to fund the new Wealth Management Center, where students apply real-world investment skills in managing an individual retirement account, trading stocks and managing a client’s wealth.

Pippenger, who attended USF in the 1980s and worked at Raymond James in 1969, was hired as a payroll clerk at the then-unknown brokerage firm.

Pippenger says it quickly evolved to become a “whatever comes my way” job, and she worked alongside founder Robert James and chairman Tom James to help build the company.

She served as chief financial officer and treasurer of the firm, while handling numerous special projects as the company grew. She created the firm’s human resources department and launched an internal educational program now known as “Raymond James University.”

Eventually, she helped file the paperwork to take the company public. Pippenger retired in 2012.

Today, the diversified financial services holding company and its subsidiaries employ more than 6,200 financial advisers serving about 2.6 million accounts in 2,600 locations worldwide. Its total client assets are approximately $483 billion.

SG collecting donations to help Hurricane Irma victims

By Timothy Fanning tfanning@mail.usf.edu

H

urricane Irma victims in Pinellas County are still in desperate need of personal hygiene products, such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo and deodorant.

That’s why Student Government is partnering with the St. Petersburg Free Clinic on a food and hygiene drive to support hurricane relief efforts.

“This supplies continue to be in high demand,” said Michael Hanlon, director of external affairs for Student Government in a written statement. “ Irma heavily impacted residents throughout Florida, and especially Travis County residents, with some seeing their source of income delayed by two to four weeks and thus unable to acquire basic necessities.”

If you would like to help,

there are three locations around campus to drop off donations: Room 1500 in the Student Life Center, Poynter Memorial Library and the University Student Center, near the front desk.

Although they are looking for food and hygiene product donations, canned goods and non-perishable items are also accepted.

The drive will go through Nov. 20.
At the 25th annual Tampa Bay Times Festival of Reading vendors and authors alike sold their novels to visitors. Adulthood includes failure, but you’ll overcome it By Whitney Elifstrom

By Brianna Rodriguez

A n inch of free space couldn’t be found as people sat with their eyes glued to Andy Boyle, who sported his favorite gray baseball cap as he shared his 13 tips for being a decent person. Tip No. 17 “Don’t be an asshole.” Boyle, author of “Adulthood for Beginners: All the Life Secrets Nobody Bothered to Tell You,” was one of 45 authors to speak at the Tampa Bay Times Festival of Reading on Saturday.

Boyle came to fame after his blog post “What I learned by not drinking for 2 years” went viral in 2014. “I decided to take a break from drinking, I was only going to do it for a month,” Boyle said, “in that month I got a lot of work done … and I stopped drinking.”

Boyle dished out life tips through anecdotes of his personal life, putting the crowd at ease as they were often overwhelmed by boisterous laughter.

He shared a moment from his childhood where he told his father he wanted to be an astronaut when he grew up. His father, who Boyle called a logical man, said “Well Andy, you know that you wear glasses right?” and then told him that he would have to go through years of schooling and eventually become an Air Force pilot. After that he could reach his goal of being an astronaut.

“And I was like yeah, yeah okay sign me up,” Boyle said. “I could have no way of knowing that mistakes are normal and even engaged in a bit a where he misnumbered his PowerPoint presentation. He showed the audience that mistakes happen all of the time.

However, as long as a person learns from their mistake and takes that knowledge as use to grow then they’re off to the right start. He said “Try everything, fail a lot. College is a great time to learn what you have the opportunity to learn.” Boyle said, “You’re not going to be great at everything and you’re probably going to suck when you start. So try, try (and) fail, fail, fail.”

Boyle was also full of advice for how to cultivate new knowledge in the outside world.

Boyle encouraged the audience to create something to relax your brain from what you’re working on in real life, take care of your mind and body and that your shoes matter because no matter how much it sucks — people do judge you for your appearance.

“More importantly than anything else, Boyle reminded people to believe in themselves.

He said he was pretty cocky when he was younger but still managed to hate everything he did. He was convinced that he was never going to be a success but he slowly changed his mindset and realized that he needed to work hard and take control of his life.

“I literally do that thing where I look in the mirror and I say, ‘You’re going to die someday so this is gotta go well, you’re cool and that is a nice hat,” Boyle said. “Good things will happen, and it does do that. I take it okay. Still believe in yourself and still push forward.”

Ibram X. Kendi talks racism By Tommy Hilliard

Americans need to stop playing the blame game and start playing the game of progression. So said Ibram X. Kendi, an award-winning author and professor of history and international relations. He is also the founding director of the Antiracist Research and Policy Center at American University in Washington, D.C.


Many of his ideas center around the concept that what have had the American dream taken away from them, said Carlson. “We still have a lot of work to do,” she said. “Courage is a building process.”

Gretchen Carlson speaks out By Brianna Rodriguez

Gretchen Carlson has become a leading voice on harassment issues after she accused former Fox News CEO Roger Ailes of sexual harassment. In July 2016, she filed a lawsuit against the television executive, claiming Ailes attempted to solicit sex from her. She declined, and lost job almost a year after.

This sent shock waves through the industry and spurred other women to share their own stories of assault and sexual misconduct.

Now the former Fox News Channel commentator examines the prevalence of sexual harassment and different ways to combat it in her new book “Be Fierce: Stop harassment and take your power back.”

“When I jumped off the cliff on July 6, 2016, I could have no way of knowing what could have been below,” Carlson said Saturday at the Tampa Bay Times Festival of Reading. “I could have had no way of knowing if there were any safety net at all. I could have had no way of knowing what would happened to me the next minutes, hours, days or weeks.”

Carlson didn’t know what would come next or what her future would entail. But she knew the courage to stand up for herself was essential. “The idea that one leap has quite possibly led to a chain reaction of response was unexpected. She received countless letters from women with similar stories of sexual harassment.

“I realized that it was such a pervasive epidemic that crossed every socioeconomic line,” Carlson said. “Every profession from waitresses to lawyers, it has happened to teachers person. So I was like oh well, I guess I’m going to keep doing this science experiment.”

Looking at life through the scope of the scientific method can help people make changes on the fly, Boyle said. If people don’t like something in their life, they should change it. Boyle dished out life tips through anecdotes of his personal life, putting the crowd at ease as they were often overwhelmed by boisterous laughter.

He shared a moment from his childhood where he told his father he wanted to be an astronaut when he grew up. His father, who Boyle called a logical man, said “Well Andy, you know that you wear glasses right?” and then told him that he would have to go through years of schooling and eventually become an Air Force pilot. After that he could reach his goal of being an astronaut.

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The newly-formed jam band Speak Easy showcased its folksy, get-on-your-feet-swinging sound for the first time, at Ale and the Witch last week.

The band is mostly made up of USF students and explores different types of music, fusing rock, alternative and other genres to form their own sound.

Bassist Brendon Porter, a sophomore majoring in biology at USF St. Petersburg, cites the Grateful Dead and The Allman Brothers Band as influences.

Other members of the former band Avenue Icon, Speak Easy consists of Eric Yoder on guitar and vocals and Karekin Sahagian, industrial engineering junior at USF Tampa, on keyboard and vocals.

It’s apparent from watching them perform together and banter back and forth that there is a good blend of both friendship and musicianship.

The up close and personal setting made for an intimate connection with the fans.

The band’s goal is to create something new that can appeal to a wide variety of people.

“We strive to have a personal connection with our fans,” said Porter. “We’re grateful for the support we’ve received and the amazing people around. We’ve met so many shining faces.”

The Tampa Bay area is an exploding cultural arts scene, no doubt, and Speak Easy is thrilled to be a part of that.

Porter said the band is loyal to their city and wants to be involved in the community by collaborating with other creatives and helping each other move up.

The Fault in Our Stars” made John Green one of the most successful young-adult authors in the world. In the novel, he tackled themes like mental illness, the power of friendship and love.

Now his new novel, “Turtles All The Way Down” is likely to do the same.

This is a story of mystery and self-realization. It is a sentimental story and sometimes even borderline cheesy, but most of all it is raw and eternally endearing.

The soul of this story is Aza Holmes, a 16-year-old girl battling obsessive-compulsive disorder and an anxiety disorder. Green uses her character to shed light on his own disorders.

It’s not her repetitive behavior that torments young Aza as much as her repetitive thoughts, which makes her a repetitive narrator.

She will actually plea with some of these repetitive and tormenting thoughts to “please let me go” claiming she will “stand down.”

She ultimately is a prisoner to her own mind, suffering from these mental illnesses, the same ones that Green has dealt with his life.

Aza has an overbearing, outgoing and annoying best friend named Daisy, who ropes Aza into little misadventures. They ultimately make an insecure and rather geeky pair, but their general affection for one another is one of the most endearing components of a truly gritty story.

They are each other’s “favorite person” and they wish to be buried next to each other and share a tombstone.

They couldn’t be more opposite, but they embrace their many differences and prove that a meaningful friendship is worth fighting for.

At first, you believe that this story centers on a missing billionaire and the girls are trying to find him so they can claim the hefty reward money.

In the process, Aza meets the billionaire’s son, Davis, who is dealing with the darkness of his own mind in the wake of his mother’s death nine years ago and his father’s disappearance. She starts falling for him.

They bond over their shared identity struggles and the fact that neither of their minds are fun places to inhabit.

“Turtles All The Way Down” is a poignant coming of age story about falling in love with yourself while embracing those who have seen the darkest parts of your mind. It’s also about trusting them to still see the light.

John Green has done it again.
When people consider what they like about our campus, I’d like to think that having a robust sustainability culture ranks fairly high.

That fills me with so much pride. I’m honored to be the student tasked with coordinating initiatives and efforts that moves us forward. Of course, this is a huge responsibility as well.

USF St. Petersburg faces a challenge when it comes to waste on campus. We are to analyze how much trash and recycling we produce as a campus, according to The American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment past Interim Regional Chancellor William T. Hogarth signed, we are to analyze how much trash and recycling we produce as a campus.

After calculating, the results show that 13 percent of our waste is diverted from the landfill. That means that only 13 percent items that enter the waste stream get recycled.

To put that into perspective, in 2008 the Environmental Protection Agency estimates that 75 percent of the waste stream is recyclable, while the average American recycles around 30 percent of it. This percentage is unacceptable.

Increasing the diversion rate and reducing waste are some of my main focuses as sustainability coordinator. When someone finds out that I’m the sustainability coordinator, one of the first things they tell me is the lack of recycling in dorm rooms.

When it comes to goals, one of them is providing easier access to recycling bins by having a large bin on each dorm floor.

Another is to have the places that serve food on campus move toward less plastic by utilizing paper alternatives and encouraging students to stay and eat on a plate, as opposed to using takeaway containers. Education is a big part of the solution.

My department needs to put in the effort to teach about the specifics of recycling as opposed to just telling people that they need to recycle.

Toward that end we are putting on a Zero Waste Workshop on Wednesday, Nov. 15 from 2 to 5 p.m. on Harbor Walk in front of the University Student Center. There will be do-it-yourself upcycling of recycled items, games and plenty of information about how and what we are doing for recycling on campus. Please stop by.

Byron Baugh is USF St. Petersburg’s sustainable initiatives coordinator for Student Government.
Campus gets first look at Bhutanese culture

By Michael Mcdade
Contributer

Students gathered as they noticed a tent that showcased the history of Bhutan on Wednesday. Tashi Wangmo, an anthropology major, is the first Bhutanese student to attend USF St. Petersburg. Her tent included souvenirs, food and history of her nation.

The tent setup wasn’t just to celebrate her being the first Bhutanese student here, but also to celebrate Bhutan’s fourth King Druk Gyalpo Jigme Singye Wangchuck who brought democracy to the country. Although students couldn’t try the food due to university policy, Wangmo explained the flavors of each dish. At the end of the table was a white grain that Wangmo ate during the event.

Wangmo explained that the grain was a sort of cereal that people in her country have with their tea or milk.

She also talked about a dish that looked like green asparagus, which Wangmo said tasted like dried spinach.

Students took pictures in front of the Bhutanese flag with Wangmo’s Polaroid camera.

The flag has orange and yellow, split by a white dragon going diagonally across it. The white dragon symbolizes purity. “The orange,” Wangmo explained, “represents religions and the yellow represents its politics.”

She had other interactive things for students and faculty to see, such as a bowl of trinkets, where each one had something to do with her country.

She invited everyone who came by to take something. After a large crowd of students and faculty had stopped by her exhibit, she lit incense.

For the future, after she graduates, Wangmo said, “I’m going to live in my country or another country.”

Obama’s photographer shares back-stories behind iconic images

By Emily Bowers
Contributer

Pete Souza, the former chief official White House photographer, is more than just the man behind the camera; He’s got quite the sense of humor, too.

“I had the advantage of a subject who you could recognize from behind, because of his ears,” he joked as he showed a photo of former President Barack Obama’s silhouette.

Souza was the keynote speaker on Saturday at the Atlanta Photojournalism Seminar, a conference that is represented by photojournalists from newspapers, magazines and wire services.

As he spoke, he cracked jokes and took digs at President Donald Trump. Souza also shared the back stories behind some of the photographs in his new book, “Obama: An Intimate Portrait,” which was released Nov. 7.

Souza spent eight years photographing Obama, documenting every moment of history, capturing 1.9 million photos. In addition to his documentary coverage at the White House, Souza traveled with the president aboard Air Force One to all 50 states and more than 50 countries.

The photographer and stories that Souza shared at the conference ranged from inside the White House Situation Room during the Osama bin Laden raid and the moment in the Oval Office when Obama found out about the Sandy Hook shooting.

“I’m photographing him as president for history, but I’m also trying to show what he’s like as a person,” he said.

Souza also shared the stories of Obama getting “zapped” by a tiny Spider-Man and coaching his daughter Sasha’s basketball team. Souza joked that Obama took the coaching responsibility as seriously as if it were “the seventh game of the NBA finals.”

When showing a photo of former vice president Joe Biden and Obama, he joked that Biden was some “bro” Obama had randomly run into.

After his speech, Souza was met with a round of applause so long that he had to motion to the crowd to settle down. His final slide was not a photo but a quote from Obama himself.

“If you’re walking down the right path and you’re willing to keep walking, eventually you’ll make progress,” he said.

What to do this week: Nov. 13 - 19

By Lis Casanova
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MONDAY

Our campus and the Office of Multicultural Affairs is celebrating diversity this week so get ready for a daily event of learning. The kick-off event, Parts of your story talks about the diversity of identities and how these identities make you up. The event begins at 12:30 p.m. at Harbor Walk circle.

Are you a freshman or a new transfer student picking up the paper? Well, well, well, welcome! As you may already know, the COMPASS office is all about giving new students the run-around of campus and making them feel at home. Lunch and Tell, which is being hosted in Coquina 101 at noon, invites you to come and share your college transition story and how different events and peer coaches may have helped you settle in. It’s an informal little gathering that comes with a free lunch, so hey!

TUESDAY

Diversity week’s second event brings us a Living Library at, you guessed it, the Poynter Memorial Library from 11 to 1 p.m. Here you’ll find books that are a little, well, unordinary. You see, these “living books” actually show you a story. Come learn traditions to some amazing stories from people in our community.

There’s a lot going on in the sphere of change, particularly involving the LGBTQ+ community. To help us understand, the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Wellness Center present SafeZone Ally Training, an educational discussion to promote advocacy among student leaders. The meeting will take place in the Student Life Center 2100 from 5 to 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Our university has taken strides to make our campus more culturally diverse. Stories of USFSP brings in a panel of students, staff, faculty and members of the community to talk about their own experiences and perspectives on the subject. Feel free to stop by and ask questions. The event will be held in the University Student Center Ballrooms 2 and 3 at 2:30 p.m.

There’s culture coming our way, El Cultura I mean, the five day festival of creative culture. The event will feature everything from art, music and films, to technology, innovation and community works. To enjoy everything the festival brings, be sure to check out the downtown area, the Warehouse Arts District/Midtown, the Edge District and more. Go to their Facebook page to get tickets to events for all five days.

THURSDAY

There’s little way to escape cultural exchange when you live in a melting pot, but there’s always a way to acknowledge and honor the culture that gave it to us. The Native American Exhibition will be a night centered on Native American oral traditions. Tales and stories will be shared as well as activities and food. The event will take place on the USF lawn from 6 to 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

End your week with the Diversity day of service. Volunteers will be able to work with kids by helping them create their own stories through art. Come by the Student Life Center from 10 to 1 p.m. and do a little teaching and a lot of good.

SATURDAY

We’re not really sure how this works, nor have we heard about this before, but a good Google search proved that Trap Yoga is exactly what it sounds like. Is it actually relaxing? You’ll have to go find out. But, the sure thing is that you’ll probably have a lot of fun. Join Mya Cato, a Tampa yogi, for a free private session in the USC Ballroom 1 at 10 a.m.

SUNDAY

Want to see beautiful projected lights that move and mix to create an awesome visual show? Well then you cannot miss El Cultura’s final show, Pixel Rain on the west wall of the Union Bank building on Ninth Street and Central Avenue from 7:30 to 9 p.m.
Taylor Swift doesn’t give a damn about her ‘Reputation’

By Sav Gibbs

I was tricked. I was fooled into thinking Taylor Swift was hurt so badly by Kanye West that she shut herself off from vulnerability.

After hearing “Look What You Made Me Do” in late August, I put three years of training that August.

Slowly the vulnerable side of Swift resurfaced to her fans on Tumblr and Instagram. She treated them to surprise comments on their selfies and live streams. On the day her album dropped she posted a selfie on Instagram with her cat Olivia.

That is a complete 180 from the first videos she posted as part of her social media re-branding.

Slowly the vows of Swift to stay true to herself are being shattered the world’s expectations of her music with videos and record, “Red.” It didn’t quite fit anywhere between country or pop. Swift broke up with him for her current boyfriend Joe Alwyn.

Sheeran and Swift must have collaborated on his lyrics where she takes on the role of her new love. I think the singles slowly revealed that this album was more than what meets the eye.

The album isn’t about her heads with Hollywood; it’s about happiness being the best revenge. It tells us a vulnerable personal story of her past year or two. After Swift’s very public relationship with Tom Hiddleston, she went into hiding. She broke up with him for her current boyfriend Joe Alwyn.

The central focus of “Reputation” is Swift’s own personal struggle of letting her past go. She talks about her past year or two. After Swift’s very public relationship with Tom Hiddleston, she went into hiding. She broke up with him for her current boyfriend Joe Alwyn.

The album dropped, in order, were: “Look What You Made Me Do” (a song I arguably didn’t like until I heard it on the radio being “Blinding Lights” for it?), “Gorgeous,” and “Call It What You Want.” I think the singles slowly revealed that this album was more than what meets the eye.

The line “don’t pretend it’s over” is such a mystery, think about the place where you first met and the distance you had to go to get away from a relationship that was going to be fleeting.

We hear a genuine laugh from Swift, which makes me feel after a year of no paparazzi pictures, no selfies and nothing from my genuine Mother Taylor Swift.

The singles we got before the album dropped, in order, were: “Look What You Made Me Do” (a song I arguably didn’t like until I heard it on the radio being “Blinding Lights” for it?), “Gorgeous,” and “Call It What You Want.” I think they really captured the struggle of letting her past go. She talks about her past year or two. After Swift’s very public relationship with Tom Hiddleston, she went into hiding. She broke up with him for her current boyfriend Joe Alwyn.

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