

# TEENS' VOICES

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## CHILDREN'S LABOUR

EVERY DAY, IN THE WORLD  
MILLIONS OF CHILDREN  
ARE HEAVILY CARRYING  
SCHOOLBAGS  
WHERE  
BOOKS HAVE  
**NO PLACE**

TOUS LES JOURS  
DANS LE MONDE  
DES MILLIONS  
D'ENFANTS  
SUPPORTENT  
DES CARTABLES  
OU LES LIVRES  
N'ONT PAS  
DE PLACES

CADA DIA  
EN EL MUNDO  
MILLONES  
DE NIÑOS  
LEVAN  
MALETAS  
EN LAS CUALES  
NO HAY LUGAR  
PARA LOS LIBROS

**World Federation of Trade Unions**  
WFTU

12 juin : Journée Mondiale contre le travail des enfants

**"STOP CHILDREN'S EXPLOITATION"**

Have you ever heard of child's labour? No! Well, let me tell you that every three seconds a child dies due to poverty, so.....1.200 per hour! Every country exploits the innocence of its own children. As time goes by, the numbers of the children that people take advantage of goes higher and higher. This is due mainly to the low quality of education that people have. Although the majority of people try to give the best they can to their children, many of them give up school because they are forced to raise money for a specific group of adults who live in the margin of the society. Those children have every

right to play and have a happy childhood. However many times they are forced to work in order to make a living for themselves and their families. Every single person has to avoid giving money to impoverished and wandering children that ask for money because that way, more and more children are forced to work! The government should give better education and parents should be more careful with their children. But how can we solve a problem when the majority of people just don't know its existence and those who do know it ignore it?

Emmanuela Pediaditaki

## TATTOO



The decision of whether having a tattoo or not is a really tough choice. It has to be thoroughly considered first as it will stamp your body for the rest of your life; for example if you make a wrong option and have a tattoo that will be regretted after a while, you can do nothing about it as it is permanent; even if you are willing to erase it -whatever the cost- you will have to get through a painful and dangerous procedure that may risk your life. Recapitulating, it would be wise to initially have a discreet one to see if you are really in for it!

Elina Houstoulaki

# Berlin: The bright capital of Germany

On the second week of Easter my family and I went to Berlin, the capital of Germany. This travel was an unforgettable experience, an experience of a lifetime. Here are presented some of the most significant monuments of the capital. Enjoy your reading! *Christina Koumantzia*

## BRANDENBURG GATE (BRANDENBURGER TOR)

The Brandenburg Gate is one of Berlin's most important monuments - a landmark and symbol all in one with over



two hundred years of history. A former symbol of the divided city, it drew visitors who used to climb an observation platform in order to get a glimpse of the world behind the Iron Curtain,

on the other side of the barren "death-strip" which separated east from west Berlin, geographically and politically. The Brandenburg Gate was erected between 1788 and 1791 according to designs by Carl Gotthard Langhans whose vision was inspired by the Propyläen in Athens' Acropolis. When visiting the monument and before crossing over to the other side, the Raum der Stille (Room of Silence) situated on the north wing provides a restful place for a short break. Two additional important landmarks just on the side of the Gate are the Pariser Platz with the Akademie der Künste (Academy of Arts) and the restored American embassy. The Platz des 18. März, commemorates with its date, the demonstrations during the 1848 revolutions for democracy.

## BERLINER FERNSEHTURM (TV TOWER)

Everyone is supposed to remember that Berlin's Fernsehturm (TV Tower), which is located in Alexanderplatz, is 365m high and is the tallest building in Berlin. As urban legend has it, the tower's height was a decision taken by Walter Ulbricht, Leader of the SED, so that every



child would be able to remember it, just like the days of the year. In fact the tower's summit today is 368m. Construction for the GDR transmitter started in the 1950s and the tower erected be-

tween 1965-69 was intended as the tallest tower in Europe second only to Moscow's own TV tower. It was built by East German architects Fritz Dieter, Günter Franke and Werner Ahrendt.

## MUSEUMSINSEL (MUSEUM ISLAND)

Berlin's Museumsinsel (Museum Island) is a unique ensemble of five museums, including the Pergamon Museum - built at the small island in Berlin's Spree River between 1824 and 1930. The Neues Museum hosts the Egyptian and prehistoric collections. Over 200 million Euros have been earmarked to renovate the museum, which displays

the Egyptian Papyrus collection and the Library of Antiquity and Nefertiti in much reduced circumstances in a reflecting glass box. It's really worth paying a visit.

## POTSDAMER PLATZ

Berlin's Potsdamer Platz (square) is the most striking example of the urban renewal that turned Berlin into the 'New Berlin' in the 1990s. The area today consists of the three developments known as



Daimler City or the DaimlerChrysler Areal (1998), the Sony Centre (2000) and the Beisheim Centre (2004), which literally transformed the dormant wasteland where the Berlin Wall stood between east and west Berlin until 1989. Potsdamer Platz is reached by public transport on the U and S-Bahn lines, just off the Tiergarten(zoo). The new downtown centre is a prime business location. And for a touch of glamour the prestigious Berlin International Film Festival, Berlin's most glamorous calendar event, held in February every year, moved its headquarters here in 2000. The red carpet is rolled out every February for A-list stars outside the Berlinale Palast, where stars, cineastes and public mingle on the new Marlene Dietrich Platz.



## MADAME TUSSAUDS

Just down the road from the Brandenburg Gate is located Berlin's Madame Tussauds. The museum gained worldwide attention due to the inclusion of a controversial figure: Adolf Hitler. At the 2008 public opening, a guest leapt into the display and ripped the mannequin's head off. The figure has since been restored and placed behind glass in order to be more protected. Among those on view are German politicians through the ages, a few American presidents, Albert Einstein and Sigmund Freud, and musical legends from Ludwig van Beethoven to Tokio Hotel. The museum hosts the wax figures of many famous athletes, singers, actors and TV people. In a 'behind the scenes' area, guests learn about the real Madame Tussaud, And in the exhibition's final room are hosted celebrities from around the world like Nicole Kidman and Brad Pitt.





# ROGER FEDERER

Roger Federer. Role-model. Mentor. Phenomenon.

He is believed to be the best tennis player in the world. Certainly one of the best tennis players in the world.

Roger Federer (born 8 August 1981)

is a Swiss professional tennis

player. As of 4 April 2010, he is

ranked world number one by the

Association of Tennis Professionals

(ATP), having previously held the

number one position for a record

237 consecutive weeks. Roger

Federer has won 16 Grand Slam

singe titles, more than any other

male player. Federer has appeared

in an unprecedented 22 career

Grand Slam finals, and as of Janu-

ary 2010, has reached the semi-finals or better

of the last 23 Grand Slam tournaments, a record



streak that spans over six years. Federer also holds

the record of reaching 10 consecutive

Grand Slam finals and has appeared in 18

of the last 19. Federer has won 4 ATP

World Tour Finals and 16 ATP Master Se-

ries tournaments, one fewer than all time

winner Andre Agassi. He also won the

Olympic Gold Medal in doubles with his

compatriot Stanislas Wawrinka at the

2008 Summer Olympic games. As a result

of his past accomplishments and continu-

ous successes he is called the Federer

Express, Swiss Maestro or simply Maes-

tro.

Jimmy Connors' statement: "In an era of

specialists, you're either a clay court spe-

cialist, a grass court specialist, or a hard

court specialist...or you're Roger Federer."

Mike Milathianakis

## BOOKS

### "THE CALL OF THE CTHULU"

*Tales of fiction and horror by  
H.P.Lovercraft*

The "Call of the Cthulu" is a compilation of fictionary tales that flirt with the fear of the unknown and paranormal until they fully delve into these elements. Lovecraft's ingenuity and fluency with words is almost certain to haul anyone into these stories of weird and terror.

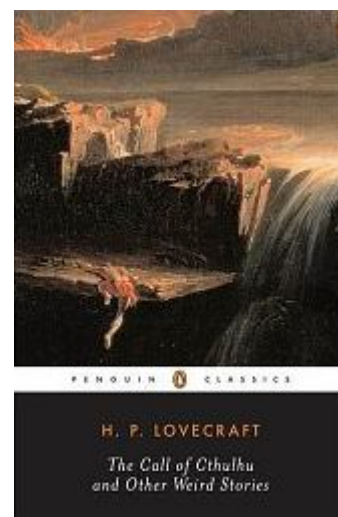
Concerning the plot, it could be characterized as typical horror story, set-up with little originality. Ordinary folk get involved in a paranormal frenzy combined with a lot of occult and ancient God- worshipping rituals.

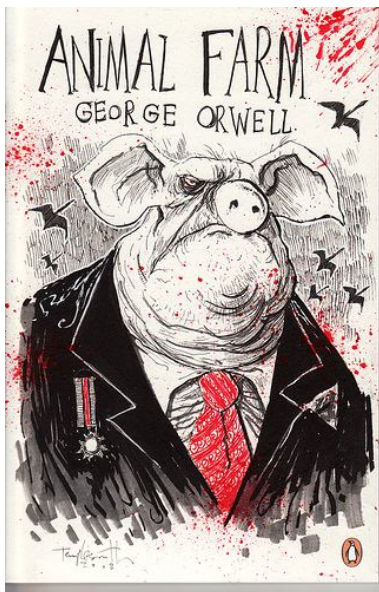
The protagonists change from story to story and so does the narrator. He is usually male and is the definition of a normal person; or so it seems. However he gets tangled in all sorts of oddities; mainly due to some mysterious relative.

The author's writing is captivating and haunting. Lovecraft has managed to open a window to a brand new world and has actually crafted a mythology of his own based on this book. That mythology is based on the existence of ancient Gods that lurk in the shadows that existed before time. Those Gods are evil and almighty. However odd this may seem, the readers are sure to find themselves spellbound by the mystery of this book and although the ending seems sometimes predictable, it never fails to amaze and shock.

I would recommend these tails of occult and horror to anyone who can appreciate a great range of vocabulary that can bring about anything to life. "The Call of the Cthulu"- Cthulu is actually one of the terrible Gods- is justifiably characterized as a classic reading.

Filomila Fraidaki





### ANIMAL FARM

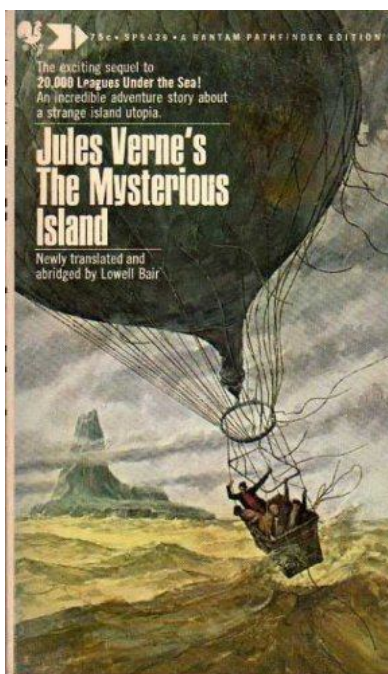
At a first look *Animal Farm* seems to be a tale for children. However at a second look it is a story which represents with the help of animals the conditions of the Russian Revolution and life after it.

In the beginning, we are shown the way that life is before the revolution as well as the main points upon which life will be based after it. In addition animals are introduced and we learn the qualities of each one of them which resemble a lot human ones. The plot is interesting and gets across many messages some of which are the struggle for

power, the corruption that each form of power exerts on anyone who has it and at the same time the lost dream for equality among the animals. The main character is Napoleon who along with the pigs exploits the other animals and leads a "perfect" life while the rest of the animals are exhausted due to hard work, necessary to keep up the farm.

This book is a very good choice both for children, who will think that it is just a story, and adults, as it offers a lot to think about.

Bill Skoulas



### THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND

The mysterious island is an exciting tale of mystery and adventure as a group of castaways struggle to survive on an uninhabited island. The novel was written by Jules Vern in 1874.

It's March 1865, the final days of the American Civil War and five prisoners of war are held captive in Richmond. Desperate to leave the city, they make a daring escape in a hot air balloon during a terrible storm. Carried by the storm for four days, the balloon crashes near an island in the South Pacific. The castaways are stranded on this unknown shore with nothing but their clothes on and each other. Fortunately the island is rich in natural resources necessary for their survival. They name the island after President Lincoln and make it their home until they can find a way off. As time goes by the colonists become aware of strange happenings that they can't explain most of which are considered to be work of

Providence. Eventually, they begin to realize that they are not alone on the island...

The most noticeable thing about this book is that Vern leads his characters in dramatic paths. Some descriptions are clearly exaggerated -beyond belief. The exclamation mark is used heavily even in places you wouldn't expect it. But you get used to it after a while and it becomes a running joke! Vern has a very effective narrative style too. He engages the reader with questions and creates a sense of conversation; as if he is sitting opposite you and narrating the tale. Also each chapter's heading is a list of highlights of what will happen during the chapter. I've never seen this done before; it gives away pieces of the story so I ignored them after the third or fourth chapter.

For all the above reasons I strongly recommend this book to you. It's suitable for all ages but mainly for those who seek suspense and adventure in their readings.

John Tamiolakis