

21+: Light and fluffy



By Joshua Baird
Arts & Culture Editor

Oh my god! This stuff is good.

Whipped Cream Vodka is possibly the most popular of Pinnacle's new line of flavored vodkas. In fact my favorite part about the stuff isn't even the booze itself, it's the freaking vanilla.

Pinnacle makes no attempts at disguising that this particular stuff is supposed to taste like real whipped cream. The official name for the stuff is "imitation whipped cream flavored vodka." As if we wouldn't have figured it out once we tasted it. I mean come on; it comes complete with the aftertaste that you get from the gas after taking a mouthful of canned whipped cream.

I had been told by literally a dozen people that I needed to try this stuff, and I'll tell you this: It did not fail to impress me. The first thing I do every time I buy a new bottle of flavored booze is pondering all the cocktail opportunities. This stuff has endless possibilities.

Of course I had to experiment with orange juice and make a whipped cream margarita. It tasted just like a creamsicle; all that imitation whipped cream flavor mixed with something called "orange juice." This must be the cousin of "tropical fruit drink," because it was as much orange juice as it was pink stuff in the gallon jug is strawberry juice.

Either way, creamsicle. I said.

After that I realized just how good it is outside and decided to make some hot chocolate. My original intention was to just have the one cocktail that night, but once my hot chocolate was ready I couldn't help but wonder what it would taste like with some imitation whipped cream and another great combination was discovered.

Pinnacle Vodka comes in a number of interesting flavors, many of which I have not had, including chocolate, cherry, pineapple, root beer and cotton candy. Its madness, madness tell you, all of these sweet flavored vodkas! It's like being in a sorority house filled with chick drinks, only these are actually good chick drinks—the kind that anyone would want.

With all these new ideas swirling through my head, I decided to take a break from drinking and my brain started to think about the implications of booze that doesn't taste like booze as much as it does like vanilla.

This could potentially become the favorite brand for college drinkers everywhere, and that is not what alcohol is supposed to be for. I have said before and I will continue to say: The Clackamas Print does not encourage underage drinking and neither do I.



Illustration by Tyler Kern Clackamas Print

By Kayla Calloway
Co-Editor in Chief

I remember that night perfectly. I had just gotten off work, and I was racing to Clackamas Town Center's Barnes & Noble bookstore. I arrived just before 11, got my bracelet that proved I had reserved my copy and stood in line for my first ever midnight book release, "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" by J.K. Rowling.

The mall was crowded as if it was midday, not midnight. It had taken 20 minutes to find a parking spot. My legs were killing me from standing and moving with the very slow line.

In the end, it was totally worth it. The night of July 20, 2007 was an experience I will never forget. This Friday, Nov. 19, the first part of the book will come to life in theaters everywhere. To prepare for the highly anticipated movie release, I cracked open my copy of the book to refresh my memory and simply because it's awesome.

The book opens with a familiar and menacing face. Severus Snape,

the greasy-haired potions master that fans love to hate, enters Malfoy Manor with Yaxley, a Death Eater, for a group meeting with Lord Voldemort. The topic of discussion is, of course, defeating Harry Potter and taking down the Ministry of Magic. The crowd gathered around the table is made up of more recognizable characters, including Bellatrix Lestrange, Peter "Wormtail" Pettigrew, Narcissa and Lucius Malfoy, and finally, their son, Draco.

As decorative art, hanging above the large table is the unconscious body of former Muggle Studies professor, Charity Burbage. The Dark Lord wakes her, tortures her, kills her and feeds the body to his pet snake, Nagini. So begins the final installment of the epic tale of Harry Potter.

Picking up where the sixth book, "Harry Potter and the Half-blood Prince," left off, Harry and his two best friends, Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley, set off to find and destroy Voldemort's Horcruxes, objects that the Dark Lord had hidden parts of his soul in. Destroying all these objects will render him

mortal once again.

The problem is the gang has no clue where any of Horcruxes are or even what they are. The only clue they have is a fake Horcrux in the form of a locket that Dumbledore and Harry had found hidden in a cave on the coast.

The Golden Trio starts their journey after the wedding of Bill Weasley and Fleur Delacour is ruined by the news that the Ministry has fallen. They stay at Number 12 Grimmauld Place, the former headquarters of the Order of the Phoenix, for about a month while they hatch out a plan to break into the Ministry to steal the real locket Horcrux from Umbridge (they found out its general whereabouts from Mundungus Fletcher).

Though the plan was pulled off successfully in the respect that they did retrieve the locket, Harry, Hermione and Ron cannot go back to Grimmauld Place and instead are forced to camp out in the woods, never staying in one place longer than a day.

The isolation from the rest of the world and the feelings of depression and anxiety brought on by the prox-

imity of the Horcrux cause the trio to fight, and eventually, Ron leaves.

The first half of the book, and what I can only assume will be the main focus of the movie, is filled with character development with sprinkles of action. The friendship of Harry, Hermione and Ron is tested by their constantly empty stomachs and the loneliness of life on the run.

While many have called this journey an extended camping trip, I simply cannot imagine the book without this crucial element. Before, we never got to see the teens outside of the comfort of Hogwarts.

Everything is essential to the plot development. We needed to see the kids struggling with each other and with the fact that they have no idea what step to take next.

"Deathly Hallows" is the best way to end the series that has been such a crucial part of my childhood since I first read "Sorcerer's Stone," "Chamber of Secrets" and "Prisoner of Azkaban" in the fifth grade. Even though I know it's coming to an end, these books are ones that I will pick up and reread often. I'm confident that the last two movies will not

100 years later, Mark Twain still causes controversy

By Christina Pearl
The Clackamas Print

"We suppress an unpopular opinion because we cannot afford the bitter cost of putting it forth," wrote Mark Twain in 1899.

Twain's views regarding politics, religion and the nature of man were far too controversial to publish in his time. However, the first of three uncensored volumes of Twain's autobiographical work is now available, 100 years after his death.

"The Autobiography of Mark Twain" was released in stores nationwide this past Monday after exclusive online sales propelled it to the top of New York Times Bestseller list last month. Twain seems to have no reservations when it comes to expressing his opinions in the book.

The author made nearly 40 attempts to pen his autobiography throughout a 35-year period, all to no avail. He eventually decided that the only way to accomplish his final work was to dictate it. Twain began voicing his thoughts and memo-

ries to his stenographer in 1906 almost daily, relating contemporary issues to stories from his past as they came to mind.

Twain had no way of knowing that his fiery opinions of politics and religion might still be considered shocking today.

"There is one notable thing about our Christianity: bad, bloody, merciless, money-grabbing and predatory ... ours is a terrible religion. The fleets of the world could swim in spacious comfort in the innocent blood it has spilled," he writes.

Honest – and sometimes brutal – appraisals of both friends and enemies alike emerge throughout the book. Twain also relates precise assessments of American presidents – many of whom he knew personally.

His manuscript grew until it was completed in 1910, four months before he died. Twain decreed in his will that the work not be published until 100 years after his death. Between 1924 and 1959, several editors ignored Twain's wish, attempting to publish parts of the work.

Albert Bigelow Paine, Bernard DeVoto and Charles

Neider all managed to produce weakened and callously edited versions of Twain's original text in 1924, 1940 and 1959, respectively.

None of these amounted to more than a third of the volumes that the current Mark Twain Project at the University of California Berkeley has developed, nor did they match Twain's objective. He wanted his autobiography published in its entirety and in the order in which it was written and dictated.

In fact, it took an entire team of literary scholars at the University of California Berkeley six years to uncover Twain's intent and with it, the work's virtuosity. Their construction includes all of Twain's dictations, letters, early attempts, and the small biographies he wrote on people he knew. The early attempts and Twain's preliminary dictations preface his formal autobiography in the book.

Throughout my reading, I often found myself chuckling at dictations that were obviously given when Twain was feeling jovial. Other times, he puts

forth succinct criticisms of the actions of those in power. None of these is more memorable than his criticism of the massacre of Filipino guerrillas, ordered by Theodore Roosevelt after the Spanish-American War.

Overall, the most affecting details of the book for me are contained in Twain's intimate portrayal of his family. The biography of his oldest daughter, Suzy, provides the best of these details. Twain's words on his family provide more insight than his social and political expressions could possibly provide. Here you may judge what true grit and passion he possessed.

"The Autobiography of Mark Twain" is published by the University of California Press and lists for \$34.95. It is a compelling, and thus highly recommended, read. Twain's undying character, wit and straightforwardness permeate the present day through his autobiography, making it apparent that little in politics, religion or the nature of man has changed. One hundred years after his death, Mark Twain has managed to provide a magnificent read.