



My Magical Test Gods

Alix Livermore, Junior
Reporter

Throughout my high school career, there have been weird... instances. Now, I'm not talking about peculiar things I've seen but more along the lines of strange phenomena that have happened to me. In the past few years, whether I needed one more block to study for a test or a whole other night, someone or something has pulled through for me. Whether that means a teacher was mysteriously absent the block before a test, or an exam was pushed back right when I needed it to be, I have been very, very lucky.

The first few times this happened I didn't think much of it, just that the stars were aligning and I must have just had good luck. But now, three years later, I think the occurrences must have to do with something more than just chance. I jokingly say to friends and family that the "Test Gods" are helping me out, but part of me wonders if they really are something more. It unsettles me a little bit because part of me feels as if I have been bestowed with a special gift or an angel watching out for me. And to clarify, I am not religious in the slightest, so the fact that I'm starting to think that someone almighty is pulling some strings for me up there is weird!

But honestly, I have no clue what the heck is going on. I can recall twenty or so instances when I have received mysterious aid exactly when I needed it. Maybe I am just cashing in on some good karma, but maybe it's more than that. Would you call that chance?

Whatever is going on, I am very grateful that I have been so fortunate as to escape misfortune so many times. I honestly feel as if I should attribute some of my success in school to these weird happenings. So if my "Test Gods" are reading this, thank you for all your dedication to helping me survive high school because I really, truly appreciate your help.

And if anyone reading this has any clue about who or what my "Test Gods" may be, feel free to reach out because I certainly could use the help figuring this out.

Tough Loss For The MHD Boys Against Wayland

Kate Lothrop, Senior
Reporter

The Marblehead Boys' Lacrosse Team had a tough loss to Wayland on Saturday, May 5th, with a final score of 9-12. Wayland held their own when Marblehead scored. When the game was tied, and we scored, they would respond with strong offensive efforts until the 4th quarter.

Catch the boys in white in action Saturday, May 12th, @ 11:00 AM @ Piper Field.



#25 Joe Moran blocking Wayland



#8 Will Shull looking for someone to pass to



Coach Wilkins holding a team meeting during a timeout to detail the next play.



#17 Andy Clough tries to score but is stopped by the Wayland goalie.

How has technology changed reading? Books vs. Electronic Devices: A Debate

Jarrold Varney, Special to *Headlight*

A lot of people enjoy sports, taking trips to spacious vacation spots, and cooking; they find these events to be extremely useful in their lives. Creating hobbies, jobs, and even careers can significantly enrich a person's life. But are you someone who finds riveting characters and elements of storytelling enjoyable? As a reader, are certain stories emotionally resonant with you to the point where the characters and story structure feels like they leap off the page. Well, in this case, you are a person with great intellect who loves reading and involving stories that are engaging.

Do you prefer reading a real book or electronic stories? Having a real book that you can hold and read is significantly better than reading an electronic version. According to rfsafe.com, that is because of the amounts of radiation in a phone or screened device. If the device is used for extended periods of time, your eyes will experience significant strain, and there will be short-term effects on your retina and cornea. Reading uses a lot of your eye and brain structure, so it is important to find an option that is both comfortable and healthy in the long term.

Some people carry certain objects or mementos throughout their lives for nostalgic purposes to revise their childhood, or to pass on an important aspect of their life from generation to generation, such as family pictures, letters, and stories that they have. Books are those mementos for some people. But what happens if you store this important article of your life on a device that's battery span is only expected to last a few years? What happens if you are texting a friend or family member and someone grabs the device out of your pocket, or the device accidentally falls out into the wet and murky ocean? Well, that special book, that has so many attachments to you that was passed down from your mom or your sick grandmother who is no longer with you, is gone.

If books are no longer published, then an important part of our culture, the library, will be gone. Libraries give us the ability to see hundreds and thousands of diverse pieces of literature in one location. Even though libraries are not the social gatherings you would expect to meet your next girlfriend or best friend, they have been known to bring people together who are interested in the common ground of language and learning, and change the people who read the books inside them.

Having real books is important because, despite yellowing pages and the need for more shelf space, they play a vital role in the world and generational society that we live in. If books are preserved, your memories will still be there for your kids, and their future kids, and so on.

Meghan Knowles, Special to *Headlight*

The saying, "never judge a book by its cover" also goes for a physical book versus an Ebook/Kindle. What it all boils down to is that holding a physical book can be heavy, uncomfortable, and completely unnecessary when there is an easy solution. Kindles and Ebooks are far better than a flimsy physical book because they are lightweight, you would be saving the planet, and you would have the ability for an endless supply of books to be at your fingertips.

Have you ever looked at your bookshelf and thought it almost looks like you belong on that hoarding show from TLC? Not to mention that every single one of those books weighs you down, which can also lead to back pain or even long term spinal damage. If you're traveling or a commuting student, forget about it. With an electronic book, there's no stress on your back, and half the weight of the textbooks you would be carrying.

Another obvious strength is that with electronic books, there is no need to waste hundreds of pages just to fill up a book that can be easily accessible and is also environmentally friendly. With the advancement in technology, the need to have to cut down trees to make copies of books has become a waste that no longer has an excuse. Yes, electronic books can be expensive, but it's a worthwhile cost, and if it means saving our trees, it's worth the price.

As mentioned before, physical books can take up a lot of room. Kindles and Ebooks, on the other hand, take up hardly any space and you have total access to any book, at any time, anywhere. There's no need to have to give up an hour of your life going out to get a book when within seconds it's all at your fingertips, no hassle involved.

After measuring out the pros and cons, holding a physical book can only do so much for you. As said before, you're not going to be invested in the hundreds of pages you are holding, you're going to be invested in what you're actually reading. As cliché as it sounds, it's not about the outside wrapping, it's about the words on the inside, the environment we are saving, and the ability to have any book at any time.

Coming soon: Summer Reading 2018 ...

What will you choose: a book or an electronic device?

MHS Democrats Club Fundraiser for Girls Inc.

Marblehead's High School Democrats Club is raising money for Girls Inc., a national nonprofit seeking to provide underprivileged girls with opportunities for their futures. With a location in Lynn, this organization is close to home, and Marblehead's youthful democrats wish to support them through an online fundraising campaign.

Visit <https://www.gofundme.com/girls-inc-of-lynn> to donate now and positively affect the lives of local girls.

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EDITORS-IN-CHIEF: Sophie Mae Berman, Emma Szalewicz, Lilly Tapper

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