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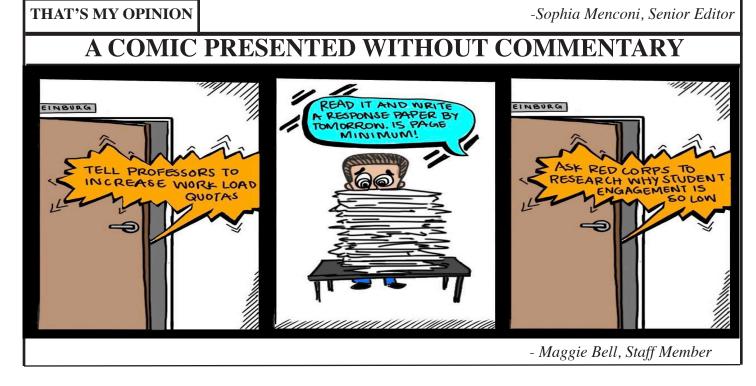
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PARASITE, FIRST NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE FILM TO WIN BEST PICTURE AT THE ACADEMY AWARDS

In our contemporary society, it is incredibly easy to be disinterested and unconnected from popular culture, and it is also really easy to say that the markers which were once held as culturally significant (award ceremonies, New York Times Bestsellers, etc.) are no longer the measure by which we should value the media we consume. And this is a valid take to have, especially considering the lack of accessibility, inclusion, and evolution in these institutions. But even if you consider yourself above the fray of award shows, it cannot be denied that these types of awards and viewership determines what films get made and what films turn a profit. Prior to the Academy Awards ceremony Sunday night, it seemed all signs pointed towards Sam Mendes' World War I marvel *1917* taking home the big prize, a win that would have reasonably resolidfied the idea that the Academy does not care for diverses stories when it comes to actually giving out awards. But then something surprising happened.

The Korean lanuguage film *Parasite* won a slew of awards, many first time nominations and wins for a non-English film, but then *Parasite* snatched the biggest award of the night, Best Picture. Director Bong Joon Ho noted, in his acceptance speech for the (once again) all-male category of Best Director, that after Parasite won Best International Film that he thought he would be done for the night. This reflects the idea that the Academy would be doing enough towards diversity by simply nominating the film in the bigger categories, and having it win just International Film would be 'good enough.' What makes the win of *Parasite* remarkable is that it was up against a film that was just **so** Oscar-y, *1917*, and against a beloved director's masterpiece work, *Once Upon A Time*.... A win for Parasite is a push in the right direction in keeping award shows accountable in awarding works of art that are both very goood and diverse. The victory of *Moonlight* three years ago was the first big step toward this goal, and with *Parasite*'s win, I would argue that it is time for the cynics amongst us to re-examine the validity of award shows and the awarding institutions. These artistically ambitious, diverse, of-the-moment wins should not be exceptions to the rule, and if we hold the Academy accountable moving forward, they will not be.

I know that this year did also feature unbelievable snubs, such as a lack of nomination for Greta Gerwig in Best Director. But a win for *Parasite* at the highest level is a step in a positive direction, hopefully leading to more diverse nominations and wins moving forward. And, finally, I think it is important to note that for the first time ever, last night's Academy Awards featured a land acknowledgement speech, delivered by Taika Waititi, honoring the Tongva, the Tataviam and the Chumash peoples.



FIBONACCI FEBRUARY

Have you ever found yourself wondering 'How can I combine my intense love of math (specifically sequences that appear in nature) and a shameful form of "self-love"?' Well, do I have the perfect solution for you! Please enjoy Fibonacci February.....

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Nut 1 time
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Nut 1 time	Nut 2 times	Nut 3 times	Nut 5 times	Nut 8 times	Nut 13 times	Nut 21 times
9 Nut 34 times	10 Nut 55 times	11 Nut 89 times	12 Nut 144 times	13 Nut 233 times	14 Nut 377 times	15 Nut 610 times
16 Nut 987 times	17 Nut 1597 times	18 Nut 2584 times	19 Nut 4181 times	20 Nut 6765 times	21 Nut 10946 times	22 Nut 17711 times
23 Nut 28657 times	24 Nut 46268 times	25 Nut 75025 times	26 Nut 121393 times	27 Nut 196418 times	28 Nut 317811 times	29 Nut 514229 times

PUBLIC ANNNOUNCEMENT

-Besty Wagner, Staff Member

