

Revelations

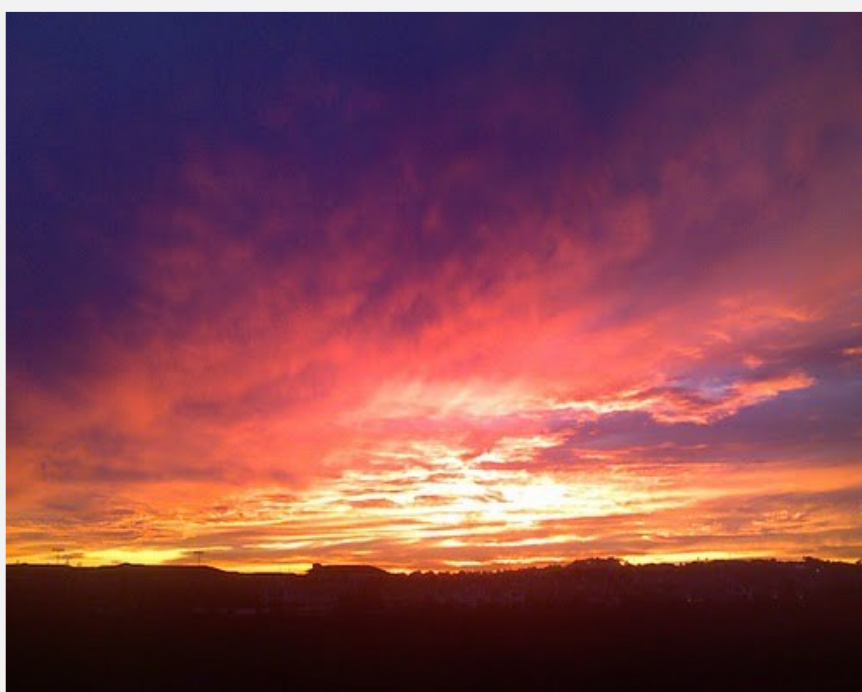
OFFICIAL REVELLE COLLEGE NEWSLETTER, UC SAN DIEGO

1st Winter 2011 Issue

You See San Diego!

On Saturday, February 12th, Revelle students will have the opportunity to take a tour around San Diego. This double decker bus tour will be visiting Little Italy, Belmont Park, and Balboa Park.

There will also be prizes and gift cards being given out. Don't miss your chance to see San Diego and win some great prizes!



Congratulations to Alden Hozouri for winning the Revelations contest: What did you do over Winter Break!

Winter Quarter Contest:

Theme: **EXCESS**

Submit your printable media (photography, words, drawings, etc) by **Friday, Feb. 18** to revelations.revelle@gmail.com. Winners will receive a prize as well as have their work featured in Revelations!

Look what these two Revellians like to do in their free time...



Whitney Chew, a second year, spent her time at the beach, relaxing in the sand and watching parasailers taking off from the Torrey Pines Gliderport near Black's Beach.

Megan Ouyang, Revellations Co-Chair, made the drive up to Strawberry, CA to spend the day at a snowpark for a fun day of tubing and building snowmen.



The UCSD Basketball Team: A Slam Dunk

By: Bobby Tavafifard



#20, Justin Brue

It has come to my attention that sports at UCSD seem to be something that we fail to notice. As a student at UCSD I have observed that we focus a lot on academics and student involvement within organizations but somehow seem to overlook the sports sector of our school. I find this unfortunate since we have some amazing sport teams at UCSD! Many of our sport teams really embody the pillars this magnificent school was built on.

Given the context of Triton Jam (which took place January 12th) I decided that it was time to focus on UCSD athletics, namely the UCSD basketball team. It was my pleasure to interview a UCSD basketball player who gave me some cutting edge insight into basketball at UCSD and personal involvement with sports. Justin Brue, a second year starting UCSD basket ball player gave me a fully fledged interview disclosing all the secrets of the UCSD basketball team (ok so maybe not ALL the secrets but definitely some valuable information).

Justin reported to me that the UCSD students need to show more appreciation for their athletes (after all the UCSD basketball team does represent UCSD as a whole). To all the readers of Revelations, I personally encourage you to attend basketball games, for even a few minutes, if staying for the whole game is not possible. Our athletes do so much for us (in terms of sacrificing time and enduring long practices); the least we could do is

UCSD basketball team is division two and has only been (D2) for about ten years. He explained to me that UCSD has difficulty attaining recruits as (D2) sport teams don't offer full-ride scholarships (although UCSD awards partial scholarships). Thus, many of the basketball players are playing for our school because of their passion for basketball and pride in UCSD.

The truly admirable quality about student athletes is their ability to balance their lives; they juggle academics, their sport, employment, and their social circle. Justin, a structural engineering major (who also works on campus in addition to being a full time student), tells me of the difficulty of balancing everything out. Despite his extremely supportive coach and teammates Justin tells me that he struggled with academics as a freshman (UCSD is rigorous), but eventually learned how to better manage his time. He now claims that athletics help him "stay on the ball" (pun intended) since he and his teammates engage in friendly competition to make the academic honor roll on the team.

Last year our basketball team ranked 8 out of 17 schools, but Justin promises that this shining team is on its way to greater success. Describing one of his most exciting games at UCSD, the recently played game against Cal-State Los Angeles in which UCSD won in double overtime, Justin identifies UCSD's basketball group as "the most talented team". In my opinion given that the UCSD basketball team mirrors UCSD the school, we definitely deserve his description (since we are the best university around)!

However, Justin does reveal his disappointment about fan attendance to games. As he puts it, he feels at times that students just "don't care". There is a sign of improvement

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he says this year (in comparison to past years) as there are bigger crowds at games but in general he feels that UCSD students need to show more appreciation for their athletes (after all the UCSD basketball team does represent UCSD as a whole). To all the readers of Revellations, I personally encourage you to attend basketball games, for even a few minutes, if staying for the whole game is not possible. Our athletes do so much for us (in terms of sacrificing time and enduring long practices); the least we could do is show them our excitement.

When questioned about the recent Triton Jam Justin says that it was a good experience. He met some “fans”, took pictures with them, and yes, even signed autographs. The whole experience was an exciting one and is something that all UCSD students should attend. After all, who knows, maybe one of our very own UCSD basketball players may go on to become tomorrow’s superstars (I’m sure then you would’ve wished you went to Triton Jam and had gotten to meet them!).

I wrapped up my interview with Justin asking him how he felt about UCSD as a university given that he had the opportunity to play for multiple other schools. Justin was accepted to UC Davis, Eastern Washington University, and UC Santa Barbara (to name a few) but he believes that he made the right choice with UCSD as he states that this school highlights academics while also giv-

ing him an opportunity to play on the basketball court as a sophomore. I think the thing to take away from Justin, as he represents a model student athlete, is his pride for our great school.

As a note, I think we should all make a greater effort to support athletics at UCSD since supporting our sport teams means that we support our school. In addition sporting events are exciting and are a great way to flash school spirit!

With that I’ll end this article with Justin’s last comment ending the interview, “Go Tritons”! I couldn’t have ended it better myself.



#42, Christian Hatch

Sat, Feb 05	Cal State Monterey Bay *	UC San Diego	7:30 p.m.
Thu, Feb 10	Cal State Stanislaus *	UC San Diego	7:30 p.m.
Sat, Feb 12	Chico State *	UC San Diego	7:30 p.m.

Check out <http://athletics.ucsd.edu> for a full schedule of sporting events!

Weekly Visit to Grandpa

A short story by Mallika Padmanabhan

“Grand-papa?”

No answer. Whether Claude’s grandfather had heard him was debatable; it was clear, however, that either way, he was not planning on responding.

Claude Rochois took in a deep breath and exhaled slowly, his shoulders sagging as hot air escaped his lungs and mingled with the musty chill around him. The room was colder this time than it had been even a week ago, not at all good for the old man. A dull ache in his lower back flared up into a searing pain that danced across his entire torso; he was reminded again that he was no longer a young man either.

“Grand-père?” Was his father’s father – a man who had been a guiding force in Claude’s childhood but had grown distant as the boy had gotten older – even listening? That was not important; it was ingrained deep within Claude’s mind that these visits were something he ought to do. And so he did.

Claude shifted his weight onto his left knee, rubbing his right with care. The woolen socks that were wound around his legs as makeshift kneepads, used only during these visits to Arnaud Rochois every Monday for more years than he could remember, were wearing thin.

“Monsieur Rochois? I think it’s time to-”

Claude silenced the deep voice behind him with an impatient flap of his hand. A quick readjustment of the kneepads that were past their prime. Then he focused his attention back on his dear Grand-père Arnaud, who still showed no sign of acknowledging his youngest grandchild.

“Monseieur Rochois...”

“Silence!” In a move that belied his age, Claude rose to his feet and spun around towards the uniformed figure, who had deliberately placed himself several meters away.

“Claude, s’il vous plaît, you know this, your grand-père cannot-”

“It is Monday and it is two o’clock and this is what I do at this time every week after my walk in Jardin des Tuileries and before my café au lait at Café Léopard, and you! You know this.”

Michel, quel salope, always pestering like an overeager schoolboy, nagging like a new wife. Claude had known the stocky man with the stubborn brown eyes for years now, when Michel had first started working as...a guard? A nurse?

Again, he set his gaze on Grand-père Arnaud. “Je suis ici...” *I am here*. It was all he could get out before his lips began to tremble uncontrollably. The church burnings, the graveyard excavations, Arnaud coming here in ’86 – so much pain, so many sacrifices. A familiar headache ambushed Claude, pounding deep in his brain. He rubbed his face with circular motions, then

massaged his temples like he had been taught to do when the headaches got too painful.

“Je suis ici.” Claude reached out one shaky hand and stroked his grandfather’s cheek. It was icy cold, drained of any and all warmth and vivacity that Arnaud Rochois had ever possessed. Claude heard voices behind him and he inched closer to his grand-père, settling gingerly on his knees once again, willing himself to block out those disturbances and focus on the present moment.

“Regardez! But there is nothing, no sign or anything telling us that we cannot come this way.” *Merde.* Elisabeth Daubent shook away several errant strands of blond hair with a flick of her head and gritted her teeth. She’d tried to make her voice sound more authoritative than that of a fresh Sorbonne graduate thankful to have finally found a summer job. *So much for that.* The middle schoolers behind her had actually been engrossed in what they had seen so far – c’était une mystère – and Elisabeth wanted to keep the trip’s momentum going. Even during this short delay, their restlessness was apparent. A conversation oozing of bureaucratic obstinacy was the last thing she needed.

The man in the uniform shook his head stiffly. He waved the same piece of paper in her face that he’d started the conversation with. “C’est impossible, mademoiselle, not allowed. Monsieur Rochois, he is not to be disturbed.”

Elisabeth pursed her lips. This was the main wing, carved in 1886 after many of the nearby churches’ cemeteries had been decimated, a real treasure to see. She glanced at man in front of her and breathed out sharply through her nose. As tempting as it might have been to show this to the children, there was no way for her to win this argument, not with the official seal of the Centre psychiatrique hospitalier Sainte-Anne on the letter that was still fluttering in front of her. She took a step back and then peered into the shadows beyond them.

There was a shrunken outline of a man, even more ethereal in a white jumpsuit glowing in the dim light. He was easily eighty years old, and kneeling on the damp stone ground, caressing one of the many skulls lining the walls.

Feeling faintly sick, Elisabeth said a silent thanks to the short attention spans of her students – they were already chatting animatedly, blissfully unaware of the kneeling man just meters away – and herded them down along an adjacent path of the catacombs, leaving Claude Rochois to conclude this week’s visit with his grandfather.

a glimpse of student life
Photos by Sam Park



The Commuter Lounge in Price Center East provides a comfortable space to hang out and study before, after, or between classes. As a highly utilized resource, you can always find the wide diversity of students at UC San Diego represented here.



A view of Ridge Walk is captured from the entrance of Revelle Plaza. Hundreds, if not thousands, of students traverse this path on a regular basis, making it a great place to stop and take the time to fully experience the collegiate atmosphere.

RCO Community Gardens—Beautifying the Green

By: Joyce Huang

There is a corner of the UCSD campus that few students are aware of. A small garden hosted in a sheltered and speckled clearing, shaded by trees and shrubbery, situated in the posterior of a rather dingy-looking structure known as...

The Ché Café. A short, petite building streaked with graffiti-style art and large mural paintings, this place has been the site of various music venues. The garden behind it is so obscure and out-of-the-way that you wouldn't see it unless you really looked. Venture further into the woods and you stumble upon a patch of green, a blossoming of plants.

Admittedly, this may sound like something out of UC Davis, the university commonly known as the "organic" and "agricultural" campus. But this garden-on-campus sort of thing is happening in our very own backyard. The clearing behind Ché Café is home to a small but flourishing garden, with rectangular plots of assorted sizes splashed with verdant leaves and towering stalks.

On Sunday, January 9, 2011, Revelle Community Outreach (RCO) journeyed into the depths of Revelle's backyard and entered the small clearing where abundant life flourished. There, they embarked on the modest task of beautifying the plot of soil and green. The work was done in preparation for a potluck and music venue that was to be held the following Sunday. Upon arrival, RCO volunteers were split into several groups: one group weeded and picked up trash. Another group raked pathways through the mess of fallen leaves. A third organized garden supplies: pots, crates, jugs. The last group was in charge of the compost; using garden hoes, they sifted through the fine matter and said good morning to the little grubs that chewed happily through the soil mix. I myself was part of the weeding and supply organizer team. Fun little story: in the process of picking up trash I stumbled upon a fully intact skull and vertebral column of what appeared to be a small rodent. It was white, pristine, elegant and yet a little creepy. I buried it and said a small prayer for the critter.



Eric Weise poses with a handful of fine compost. "That's some good dirt!"



Victor Wong (left) and Shounak Ghosh work dutifully to rake away strewn leaves and weeds, clearing a pathway for garden visitors.

This is an event that RCO has participated in during Fall Quarter. These events have been held with great turnouts and positive evaluations, with a noticeable improvement in the appearance of the garden. Currently, there are plans for RCO to become more involved with Community Gardens. They are expecting to have their very own plot, courtesy of the garden staff, where they will be able to sow and grow their own plant seeds. Suggestions include strawberries, tomatoes, berries, and leafy greens.

So keep your eyes peeled. Who knows? By summer, we may very well have an opportunity to taste our own hand-grown fruits and vegetables.

The Black Swan Review

By Victoria Walton



When I saw the “Black Swan” over Christmas break, I was absolutely stunned. I was struck dumb by the magnitude of the movie, the depth of the characters, and my own discomfort with the content. This is my representation of the movie directed by

Darren Aronofsky, which is described as a “wicked, psycho-sexual thriller” by Variety Magazine. This movie tells the story of Nina (played by Natalie Portman), a passionately devoted ballet dancer, who finally receives her chance to shine starring in the role of Swan Queen in *Swan Lake*. It immediately becomes apparent to the viewers that Nina, as good and wholesome as she appears, has some psychological issues. She is a perfectionist, extremely dedicated, beautiful, and a workaholic. She lives at home with her obsessively dotting mother who gave up her own ballet career to raise Nina. The movie tells of the struggle Nina undergoes in her transformation into the Black Swan. She nails the White Swan perfectly, being so demure, refined, and innocent. However, in the movie, her director Thomas Leroy (played by Vincent Cassel) knows her limits and forcefully pushes them. He places her in uncomfortable and highly

sexual situations, which she has no other choice but to accept. To me, this movie was painful to watch; however, the film captures its viewers and hurls them spiraling downward into utter chaos alongside Nina, which reveals how incredible this film is. The movie introduces Lily, played by Mila Kunis – our beloved Jackie from *That 70’s Show*, as the perfect representation of the Black Swan. Through intrigue and jealousy, Lily tries to open Nina’s eyes to her world so she can embrace it and become the Black Swan. The end of the movie leaves the viewer left wondering whether everything was planned and arranged in order for Nina to become the Swan Queen, or whether she was doomed to go insane eventually. The very notion of her sanity is uncertain. Natalie Portman captures the pain, tension, control, and passion of her character perfectly. This movie is full of intense scenes that can often make the audience uncomfortable, but I think it further lends to its magnificence because it is something each one of us needs to see. This reality of embracing one’s sexuality and darker side is extremely important, especially for college students, who are trying so desperately to be perfect at everything. In that sense, this movie was very relatable to my situation and that of my fellow students. And so, despite feeling uncomfortable with openly sexual interactions, I highly recommend this movie to my peers because it takes the viewers on a journey that all of us might need to open our eyes to embracing our flaws and identities.

Up-close and Personal

A closer look at the Revellations staff

Mallika Padmanabhan

Mallika is a fourth-year student double majoring in Literature/ Writing and Communication. Revellations is the first publication that she has written for, although she has been writing short stories for years. When Mallika isn't following the Oakland A's, running, or enjoying Modern Family, she's sifting through the growing pile of books on her desk for her senior thesis and trying to contain the nerdy excitement she feels when stumbling across some obscure fact. She's having a great time being part of this organization and hopes her fellow Revellians enjoy the articles!



Mallika's Did you know that Roger Revelle...?



Did you know that Roger Revelle started Pomona College at the young age of 16...with the hope of majoring in journalism? However, he soon switched his major to geology.

New Year's Resolutions: Setting Yourself Up for Success

By: Megan Ouyang

The New Year is always a time for reflection and a new start. It is a time full of potential and promises that this coming year will be better than the last. These wishes generally take the form of New Year's resolutions. But ultimately, we are creatures of habit, and find it hard to break out of our routine. This explains why a 2007 conducted by Richard Wiseman from the University of Bristol showed that 78% of resolutions do not come to fruition, despite our best intentions and attempts.

If you think about it, the process of forming New Year's resolutions is an inherently flawed system of behavior adaptation. Most people simply cannot lose weight, quit smoking, and get more sleep all at the same time. While it takes twenty-one repetitions to make a habit, it only takes one mistake to break it. Luckily, there are a few things you can keep in mind that will lead you down the road to success.

1. **Take it slowly.** Don't try to accomplish everything all at once. Instead of saying you're going to exercise every day, just try to go the gym twice a week. Once you can accomplish that regularly, up the repetitions until you meet your goal.
2. In the same vein, **don't do everything at once.** If you want to spend more time studying, stop eating junk food, and go to bed before midnight, try just starting with "I will stop eating junk food" and go from there.
3. **Make a plan for yourself.** Create a timeline for achieving your goal, including specific checkpoints to be met regularly. Try writing down a small goal you want to achieve every morning and see if you can hold yourself to it for the day.
4. **Practice makes perfect.** Repeat the good habit as often as possible so it becomes a part of your daily lifestyle. The more often you do something the more natural it becomes.
5. **Get support from friends and family.** Let your New Year's resolutions be known! Make it a group activity. If there is someone to hold you accountable for your actions you are more likely to do the right thing. Not to mention the positive reinforcement will just act as another motivator.

Top Ten New Year's Resolutions

Did your New Year's Resolution make our list?

- Spend more time with family and friends
- Lose weight
- Exercise more
- Improve education
- Improve self
- Get organized
- Eat healthy
- Enjoy life more
- Learn something new
- Help others

Don't let another year with unaccomplished New Year's resolutions pass you by. Take charge and trick yourself into developing a healthy and fulfilling lifestyle.

Commuting: The Consequences and Freedoms

By: Ryann Vasquez

As the alarm clock begins to blare in the morning I turn over half asleep realizing that it is ringing a lot earlier than it usually does. Then I am reminded, ah yes, I now fit under the label of “Commuter Student.” What now awaits me is a hurried morning routine, a near sprint to catch the approaching bus, followed by a 15 minute bus ride to school that resembles a moving can of packed sardines. Sleep in the morning seems to be correlated with lunch options as those too have dwindled. Unless I conveniently packed myself a lunch the night before most of my mid-day meals consist of food from Price Center, which is great until you find yourself eating Panda Express for the 3rd time in a week and a half. Perhaps the most heart wrenching is the ability to take that coveted nap in between classes. My comforting bed is no longer just a hop, skip, and a jump away instead it lies across town, the covers still as disheveled as they were when I ran out of my apartment earlier in the morning. Ultimately that means that if any nap is to be taken it will most likely occur in the library in the same position I would be in if I were playing Heads up 7 up.

While living on campus provided a near grocery list of conveniences, off campus living has become almost a right of passage to adulthood. I have learned to cook some of my favorite foods along with accepting the responsibility of washing my own dishes. In addition, cleaning the apartment has become so commonplace that I no longer dread dragging out the vacuum or scrubbing the toilet bowl. And bills? Well what I once thought was only reserved for grown-ups living their “real lives” actually don’t seem as scary anymore. Ultimately, becoming a commuter student has given me a sense of freedom that was never quite attained

while residing on-campus. As if I’ve laid the foundation to becoming a responsible, career having, adult.

Even with all the nearness and accessibility offered by on campus living there is something about learning responsibility and gaining one’s freedom that can never quite be outdone even by all the convenience there is to offer.



The Commuter Lounge in PC East provides a convenient and comfortable place for students to spend their free time.

"The King's Speech" Movie Review

By: Joyce Huang

The year is 1936. Britain is wavering on the pivotal edge of World War II, with Germany rallying up the most formidable army under a terrifying leader. Due to his advancing age, King George V becomes increasingly unable to deal with political affairs; his fingers shake as he grips a pen in his hand, eyes squinted as he struggles to sign a contract. In this crucial time, Britain is in desperate need of a competent and wise monarch.

Enter Duke Albert, also known as Bertie. The second son of King George V, Bertie has a good head on his shoulders and a mind for political matters. His problem? A crippling stammer that halts even the simplest sentence in its steps and turns every phrase into a struggle, every word into a fight for expression. When he speaks, one doesn't hear the ideas he expresses. Instead, one hears the silence of painful halts, the nervous twitch of stammers and stutters, the tripping of a syllable onto the next. Tongue-tied by a disability that has haunted him since childhood, Bertie is further penalized by the advent of the radio. Every time he speaks on behalf of Britain, his speeches are publicly broadcasted to the world.

His royal house is not unfamiliar to the presence of doctors and speech therapists. Every method used to cure his stutter has been humiliating, outlandish, and completely ineffectual. One particular example is the marbles-in-the-mouth approach, a method dating back to the ancient Greeks. Another doctor tells him to smoke cigarettes in order to relax his diaphragm muscles. As the situation grows more and more desperate, his sympathetic wife Elizabeth seeks out Lionel Logue, an Australian speech therapist with unconventional methods of treatment. At the onset, Logue's customs and habits clash violently with those of the royal house, distancing Bertie from Logue simply because the duke is not used to such lack of manners. The whimsical speech therapist insists on instigating a first-name rule and goes as far as to call the duke by his affectionate nickname, "Bertie". As Bertie struggles with to keep a firm grip on his temper and his dignity, he reluctantly agrees to be treated by Logue. Over these long and arduous sessions, the two of them become enduring friends.

This is when things get sticky. As the political sphere worsens, King George V passes away, leaving his incompetent first son Edward to take on the role of king. Barely a few months later, Edward resigns in order to marry a twice-divorced American woman, because by society's laws he is not allowed to do so as the king of Britain. Without so much as a bat of an eye, Edward chooses his woman over his nation and steps down from the throne. This passes on the hefty role of monarch to Bertie, who is reminded more heavily than ever of his crippling disability and his



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inability to publicly communicate with his country. As per his continuing sessions with Lionel Logue, he gradually makes steady progress with his stammering. But every time he is called upon to speak to the public, everything goes down the drain.

King George VI stands on the verge of the cliff, peering down into the abyss of World War II. At a time when leadership is most crucial, he is catapulted into the role, the horse reins thrown in his hands. There is no other driver.

This is a story of a man who never wanted to be king. A man who struggles with himself, grapples with his inability to fulfill the position of king as his country demands of him. Unable to effectively deliver speeches to his people, Bertie endures overwhelming pain and hardship and even suffers a breakdown in which he sobs, "I'm not a king, I'm a naval officer. That's all I know of."

Colin Firth portrays a man who is afraid of his own voice, a man afraid of his own shadow. His speech impediment causes others to view him with derision, which destroys his ability to believe in himself. Logue leads him to small successes, but with every victory there is a crushing setback. At the core of this movie is a man who struggles to come to terms with himself. A man who must learn to trust himself before his country can trust him.



Firth's portrayal of the frustration, the grief, and the endless disappointment brings King George VI to life. His performance is laced with heavy emotion and psychological anguish. Here is a man whose greatest enemy is himself, a man we can all relate to. Only by overcoming our fears can we expect to overcome our weaknesses. Geoffrey Rush plays a whimsical, witty, nonchalantly humorous Logue who puts up with Bertie's occa-

sional angry outbursts and struggles with his own failed aspirations at becoming an actor. Helena Bonham Carter is outstanding as Queen Elizabeth; her endless support, tactful sympathy, and unconditional love for Bertie is crucial to his painful but steady growth as a monarch and more importantly, as a person. "*The King's Speech*" is an insightful, powerful movie that reminds us that every person has a voice, but in order to express that voice they must possess the courage and conviction to do so.



Bobby



Joyce



Sam



Megan



Konto

MEET THE STAFF!

ZZ



Mallika



Parthu



Ryann



Victoria



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