Clovis Community College

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Eye of the Storm

By Alex Markle

Kate Chopin's "The Storm" tells, at its most basic level, the story of an unhappy housewife, Calixta, who, while during a storm, has a passionate affair with an ex-lover while her husband and son are stuck at a market down the street. But English majors don't like basic, so taking a closer look at the storm itself, and the language surrounding it, should prove to be a fun expedition during this chilly season.

The storm - the rain and the lightning - is used in a few different ways in this story. It first acts as a plot device to bring Calixta and Alcee together. Readers are not familiar with the history behind these two lovers yet. but the "somber clouds that were rolling with sinister intention...[and a] threatening roar," suggest Alcee may not simply be a neighbor stuck in the rain. Negative connotations already surround storms -- hurricanes. typhoons, tornadoes tend to destroy anything they touch -- and strong words like "threatening" and "sinister" further imprint images of violent storms in our heads as we read on. It is fitting that the storm should hit as soon as Alcee enters Calixta's home.

The rain also operates as a big, fat symbol for the

passionate love making between Calixta and Alcee. Most interesting, however, is the juxtaposition between the storm that occurs outside of Calixta's home and the storm that occurs inside of it.

Calixta was "greatly occupied and did not notice the approaching storm...



Kate Chopin

[which] startled her as if from a trance." We can already see a strange vacancy of mind with Calixta as the storm prepares to hit. Her mind is elsewhere. She doesn't see the storm. After Alcee hows up and the rain begins to fall, Calixta stands by the window that is "clouded with moisture," an image similar to her own foggy mind. Her view is obscured, and she can only see "far-off cabins... enveloped [in a] distant wood in a gray mist." Like Calixta's husband and son, everything Calixta sees is out of range and hazy. There is nothing concrete around her. A bolt of lightning strikes a tree at the edge of the field, filling "all visible space with a

blinding glare," and Calixta puts "her hands to her eyes," - she shields her conscience - until the "fear in her liquid blue eyes had given place to a drowsy gleam." She submits to her "sensuous desire" her desire to be with Alcee and her desire to shield a literal sense: her sight. Calixta's inability, or lack of desire, to see "far-off cabins." and "distant woods" don't matter, but they stand in Calixta's morality, and Calixta has lost sight of it. Her sense of right and wrong, her marriage, her son are all lost in a haze, a mental storm if you will, in Calixta's mind. The outside and inside storms converge and hit Calixta simultaneously. Her moral compass becomes fogged. The sin is committed.

The storm, rather, the rain, ironically operates as a restorative and ruiner. It restores a long lost lust between Calixta and Alcee, yet it morally ruins Calixta's marriage. Calixta sins – she gives in to her internalized storm – but her sin is distant: it cannot be seen. Instead. Bobinot and Bibi assume Calixta's sin. They arrive to the house muddy and wet. Perhaps the storm was not as distant from the house as we thought. Calixta can see it walking through the back door.

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Alex Torres, an English tutor, is majoring in Business Administration.

"ArtHop has a lively, social atmosphere and offers anybody the chance to experience some of Fresno's best local art."

Open That Credit Card Offer!

By Alexander Torres

Credit is the basis on which lenders and banks decide to whom loans, installments and credit cards are issued. Credit is used to determine if a consumer can purchase a home and/or vehicle and the likelihood that she or he will default. Those who seek to apply have their credit score examined to determine their credit history. By doing so, banks and financial institutions are able to get a better sense of the person to whom they are considering issuing a loan or line of credit. With this in mind, credit cards and one's credit score should be dealt with responsibly in order to achieve (and maintain) a perfect score of 850. Credit is a beneficial way to establish a stable financial future for most individuals. Hence why credit, much like higher education, is an important tool which individuals can and should use to help accomplish their goals.



Fun and Local Ideas to Step Up Your Dating Game By Seth Craig, Amanda Critchfield, and Spencer Shadley

Learning a craft/ Starting a project:

Learning a craft together or starting a fun project can be a creative way to spend time together. Teach your significant other how to knit, throw pottery, or make a candle. Color Me Mine in River Park is a great place to learn how to create different crafts. Check out Color Me Mine's website for more information:

fresno.colormemine.com

Theatre: There are great local organizations that put on theatrical events yearround. Woodward Park in Fresno hosts Shakespeare in the park during the summer (Woodward Shakespeare Festival). Roger Rocka's, located in Fresno's Tower District, is a local dinner theater organization that performs various plays and musicals throughout

the year. Check out their website for more information: rogerrockas.com **Art Shows/Conventions** - The Fresno Arts Council hosts ArtHop, a multi-site exhibition of art from local artists, in the Fresno/Clovis area. Spencer Shadley, English tutor here at Clovis Community College, said "ArtHop has a lively, social atmosphere and offers anybody the chance to experience some of Fresno's best local art." Investigate their website for location and date information:

fresnoartscouncil.org/ arthop/

Underground Gardens: The Underground Gardens is a local attraction designed and hand-built by Sicilian immigrant Baldassare Forestiere that features at least 10 acres of gardens, fruit trees, grottos, and courtyards. The Underground Gardens offers hourly tours on Saturday and Sunday starting at 10am and ending at 3pm. Check out their website for more information:

undergroundgardens.com

Fishing: Impress your date with an outdoor fishing excursion! Fresno County offers over 290 fishing locations, which can be found on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) website

(www.wildlife.ca.gov).

Licenses can be obtained online or in stores that sell fishing gear. A one-day license costs \$15.12 and seasonal licenses cost \$47.01. While fishing can be fun and relaxing, you will want to make sure you are adequately prepared with safety equipment like first aid kit, sunscreen, jackets, flare gun, matches, and enough food and water. Don't forget to watch out for bears. Have fun!

Joining the Conversation



Catherine Weatherly

YES. Over the years, there has been much debate about whether or not chocolate is beneficial or damaging to our health, but it is time for that debate to end. Recent studies have shown that eating dark chocolate can have positive effects on people's weight, heart health, and happiness. A recommended one to three ounces daily has been prescribed in

order to help lower blood pressure, promote weight loss, and even reduce stress. These effects are primarily due to the flavonoids (plant-based antioxidants) that are found in cocoa solids; therefore, the greater the amount of solids found in a piece of chocolate, the healthier it is. Dark chocolate can contain up to eighty percent cocoa solids, which means it is probably the healthier choice. However, even a Snickers bar, which is covered in milk chocolate, can provide valuable nutritional benefits. The peanuts offer about 4 grams of protein, which is enough to hold a person over until his or her next meal, while the sugar provides a boost of energy during a long day. So this Valentine's Day, go ahead and indulge in some chocolate, the treat that is both delicious and nutritious.

NO. Almost all people enjoy eating chocolate. It can be a sweet treat or a guilty pleasure depending on one's perspective. Whatever one's opinion on chocolate, it is common knowledge that overindulging in it can have significantly harmful effects on human health. While one can eat chocolate in moderation, it has few nutritional benefits and several disad-



Ramleen Bopari

vantages. For example, chocolate often has a high calorie content: "A 1.55 ounce bar of milk chocolate contains 235 calories" (Willett). This is a greater amount than many other snack options of similar weight that are available to consumers. Chocolate also has a high saturated fat content, which is known to contribute to heart disease. "American Heart Association suggests a daily limit of 16 grams or less of saturated fat. Chocolate provides half the serving" (Willett). If a person starts to consume too much fat, they might have difficulty maintaining their daily calorie limit, which can lead to obesity. Sweetened chocolate contains large amounts of sugar, which can cause glucose swings that, in addition to causing increased appetite, are linked with the development of type 2 diabetes. Even though chocolate has its pros and cons, the significant health risks associated with excessive chocolate-eating mean one should always enjoy this tasty treat in moderation.

5 Things to Get Your Significant Other for Valentine's Day

By Esther Levitt

If you are like any other typical college student, you are probably overwhelmed with school, work, or anything else occurring in your life, which means you may have been completely caught off guard that Valentine's Day is right around the corner! Well don't worry; we've all been there! Hopefully this great list will help you out with your dilemma.

I) A Mixtape

Music connects individuals in special ways, so why not connect your relationship with music that shows how much you care for your significant other? These songs can describe how you feel about that special person or just simply a mixture of all the

songs you both enjoy.

2) A Night Out Under the Stars

Sometimes some of the best gifts are the experiences that we will always remember and cherish in our hearts. Take your significant other somewhere with beautiful scenery and maybe even have a picnic together. Remember: it is the thought that counts, and this gift

allows you both to enjoy each other while in the company of nature.

3) A Box of Their Favorite Things

This is a great gift for two of many reasons. First of all, these are all things that your partner likes, which means you really cannot go wrong. Second, it shows him or her that you really care enough to listen to what

they say.

4) A Planned Activity or Hobby You Both Enjoy

Spend time together doing what you both love the most, and, to make it even better, turn it into a surprise! Use your common interests to make the most out of your time together and to remind you of what brought you together in the first place!

5) A Night Out on the Town

If all else fails, take your significant other out to dinner and a movie! Sometimes this classic Valentine's Day idea is more than enough to let your significant other know how much they mean to you. If not a movie, try a show, art event, or any other function that interests you both!

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TUTORS of the MONTH



SETH CRAIG

Tutor Subjects: English
Major: Business
Educational Path: Central High School; I plan on transferring to
Fresno State to work on my B.A. in business.
Some words to live by: "I don't care that they stole my idea. I care that they don't have any of their own." -Nikola Tesla

TESSA ROSANDER

Tutor Subjects: Math Major: Social Work. Minoring in Mathematics Educational Path: Social Work Education at Fresno or San Francisco State.



Some words to live by: "I will be the gladdest thing under the sun! I will touch a hundred flowers and not pick one." -Edna St. Vincent Millay

"Students can come in any time and work with an experienced tutor to answer questions for various assignments, or students can come in to work independently."

Isaiah Trujillo is an English tutor at the Clovis Herndon Tutorial Center.



WRITE NOW

Inside Scoop!

By Isaiah Trujillo

At last, the new semester is here, which means a whole new set of classes, but that also means more homework to complete. For many students, some classes may seem intimidating or the teacher might be going too fast during lectures, so it is sometimes hard to grasp all of the information

> alone. Luckily, this campus has a Tutorial Center located in ACI-137! For those who have never been, the Tutorial Center is a place that offers FREE tutoring for all SCCCD students for various

English, math, and science classes. Students can come in any time and work with an experienced tutor to answer duestions for various assignments, or students can come in to work independently. The center is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Friday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Also, the Herndon campus has a Tutorial Center in room 110, and it is open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students can come in at any time to get help on assignments; although, it



is recommended to schedule an appointment when wanting to work with an English tutor in order to guarantee that a tutor is available. No student is alone when it comes to working through this semester, so stop by the Tutorial Center and get the help you need!

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	5				6				8	evidence, esp. (Law); a formal statement including an offer of proof or justification.
				4				7		Example: <i>The teacher told his students that their</i> <i>averment on their position on an issue of</i>
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Solve for $(\mathbf{u} \bullet \mathbf{v})$ $(\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v})$ Given the vectors: **u** = <-2, 5, 3>, **v** = <1, 3, 4>

Local Jazz Nights

By Cesar Sandoval

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Math It!

By Annica Navarro

Have nothing to do on Sunday nights? Consider going to jazz jam session! Jazz sessions are usually held every Sunday night at 6:00PM locally throughout Fresno. A jazz session is a L unique experience that is can be fun for everyone, unless jazz is not your thing. There's even a Facebook page

(facebook.com/jazzfresno) that provides information on all the jazzy stuff that is going on here in Fresno. How cool is that? Two local businesses that host jazz sessions are Tokyo Gardens (1711 Fulton Street) and Ooi Japanese Cuisine (840 Herndon Ave, Clovis). These venues serve up delicious food with the added benefit

of awesome live performances. Attending these jazz events are a great way to spend time with friends and family, and to show appreciation for the local talent and skill that exists within our community. The level of skill and experience these musicians have will definitely leave your love for jazz satisfied!

-THE FELLOWSHIP OF POETS-

PRESENTS OXIDATION

T'was the eve of Valentines, The day of romance, And Roberta the robot Longed for a dance.

> The lonely old robot The last of her kind, Had a few screws loose, She was out of her mind.

> Oh, Stan slaved away, The world's ugliest man, He worked in his shop, And fixed up old vans.

He had all his screws, But he wasn't quite right, He too wished for love On this cold lonely night.

Roberta's loose screws Caused her much grief. She needed a tune-up, She needed relief.

So she drove to the shop And stepped out of her van And that's when she saw The world's ugliest man. Stan looked upon her, Such beauty and grace, A "woman" so stunning, Never walked in his place.

His face was aflush. His heart skipped a beat, The poor ugly man, Was in for a treat.

Roberta the robot, Fell deeply in love, She'd found her dance partner, A gift from above.

His curly mustache, And cleft double-chin, Caused her to swoon, And made her head spin.

The lonely old robot, Overheated with lust, Had sparked a new romance, And began to combust.

Oh! Stan and Roberta, Hottest couple alive, Filled the shop up in flames, And both lovers died.

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