

HASHTAG

Welcome to
KASHAN

GLASS REVIEW

A Biography of Tonni Morrison

LEARNING
THEORIES

It Ends
with YOU!



OCTOBER 2019

HASHTAG



Chief Editor's Note

Seyed Iman Tofighi

Bearing a humongous amount of history upon its shoulders, the word "Hashtag" has always been utilized as a tool of connection, concentration, and unification of modern mankind. It is of *Connection* due to relating those who share common interests. It is of *Concentration* since it gives assistance to people of prevalent concerns; and of *Unification* on the account of giving a voice to those deprived of one. All being set aside, there remains no other reasons for us not to name our beloved magazine as **#Hashtag** in the hope of "connecting" students of all majors within the faculty, "concentrating" our disparate enthusiasms in a united mainstream of academia, and "unifying" not only our thoughts, but also our hearts when it comes to the sake of greater good!

What you are about to read is an ongoing project of industrious students who have assiduously participated in the production of this issue from scratch. A group of more than ten industrious students cooperating with one another, regardless of their major or year of entry, is what keeps our department motivated for aspiring. It would indeed remain our fervent wish if you could also join us in honor of sharing your talents as well as your skills, aiding us with constant improvement of YOUR magazine. Nonetheless, even if you were to abide by us as our esteemed readers, do not forget that your criticality in regard to **#Hashtag's** flaws and your suggestions concerning **#Hashtag's** betterment will be highly appreciated.

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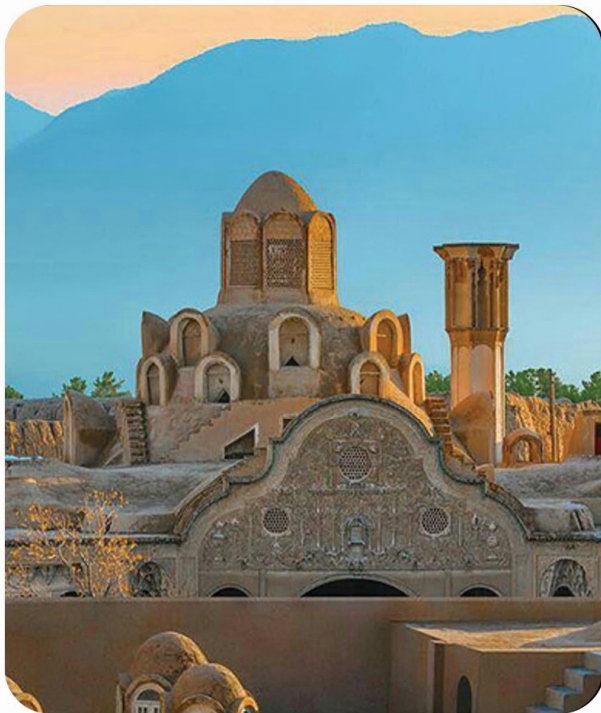
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Welcome to KASHAN

Whenever I talk about Kashan, everyone asks me about its Rose water (Golab) and the Golabgiri Festival in Ghamsar, rugs and high temperature of the days. But let me introduce you some historical places and tourist attractions in Kashan which are famous for their unique breathtaking architecture not only in Iran but also in all over the world.

Surly you have heard about Fin Garden, the most visited tourist attraction in Kashan, and one of the nine Persian gardens registered on UNESCO world heritage list. The garden is surrounded by trees which are about two hundred years old, shrubs, water currents that run through ponds, pools and canals, high walls, and big wooden doors. You can see some structures inside the garden and the baths which are decorated with beautiful paintings and designs on the ceilings, pillars and walls. Fin Garden is also famous for the tragedy happened for Amir Kabir, the chief minister of Naser al-Din shah Qajar.



“Alavi Street” has located the most eye-catching and appealing ancient houses within itself. Saving the ancient structures and some stores selling traditional costumes give you the feeling of visiting Iran in the 18th or 19th century. There are spectacular historical houses to visit. Some of them have been converted into hotels and some have got cafés. The common features in these houses are the use of bricks, mud and straw for constructing the whole of houses, wooden doors, mirrors and particularly ceilings, colorful glasses and tiles with various paintings and sizes for decorating the pillars, ceilings, and mostly the inner parts of the houses as impressive as they could be. One of the interesting characteristics of

these houses is that all of the windows are inside the building and some at the courtyards for more security and privacy. While visiting these houses, in some of them you can see some business men and women renting traditional costumes. You can try them to see how ancient people were like.

Written by:
Maryam Azizi

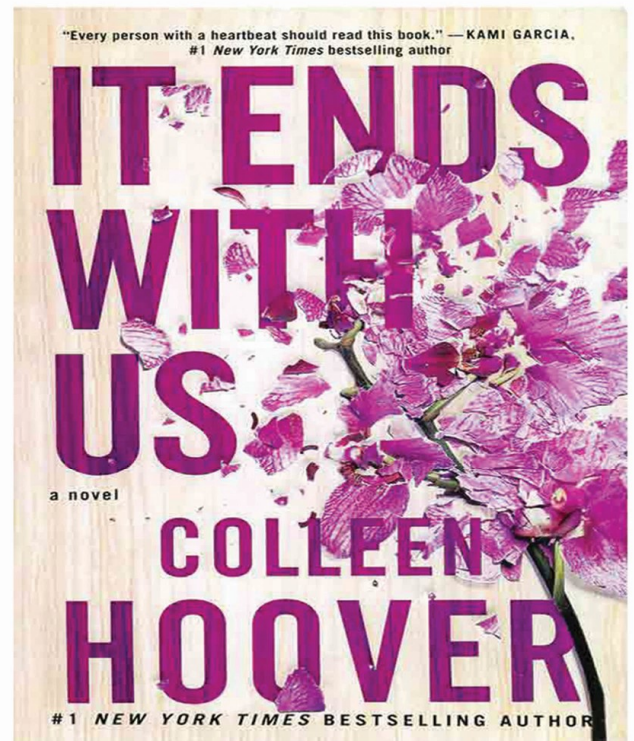
"Sometimes the one who loves you is the one who hurts you the most."

Book Review

IT ENDS WITH US

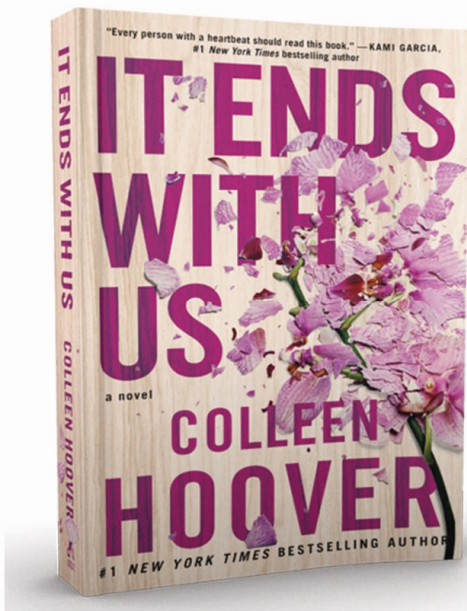
What would you do if the love of your life tortured you? This is exactly what we're going to read through this novel. *It ends with us* is a novel written in 2016 by Colleen Hoover, a brilliant American romance writer and author of some popular and intriguing novels such as *Hopeless* and *November 9*. But among all of her books, this one is the most remarkable one, released in 27 countries.

Lily is a twenty three-year old girl who has come from a small town to Boston, and is about to start a business. She is a pretty and diligent girl who does her best in order to build (up) her dream life. She meets Ryle Kincaid, a stubborn, gorgeous, and successful neurosurgeon who lives in Boston. Although Ryle is against marriage (because he thinks marriage brings him a big responsibility and prefers a one-night stand), his love towards Lily is too deep to forget, so after a short period of time, according to the author, *"everything in Lily's life seems too good to be true."*



During their relationship Lily remembers her first love, Atlas, who was a homeless boy, by reading her teenage journals written to Ellen DeGeneres. It is worthy of mention that fortunately, you are not going to face a "love triangle" story. As soon as you open this book and start reading it, a question arises in your mind. This is the author's technique which involves you in the story and makes you continue reading in order to find the answer. The story starts with the death of Lily Bloom's father but what astonishes the reader is that she is not sad about this happening. Lily and Ryle love each other so much and have a wonderful, fabulous relationship until chapter fourteen of the novel. Somewhere, when you are drowned in an amazing love story, something happens in just "fifteen seconds" that changes everything in their relationship. An event that reminds Lily of her past life with her parents. The life she has always been escaping from.

"Fifteen seconds. That's all it takes to completely change everything about a person."



They are both confused and the future looks dark in Lily's eyes but how are they going to deal with the problems? I would better say, how is Lily going to cope with the situation? Is she going to sort out the problems the way her mother did? You have to find the answer yourself. What makes this novel twice as attractive is that the narrator is the first person. Since Colleen Hoover herself has experienced Lily and Ryle's challenges, she completely knows how to portray the story, the feelings and the events in reader's mind. Because of this fact, this novel is particularly strong in the area of explaining details. This way of writing makes you feel sympathy for the characters, laugh with their happiness and cry with their sadness, as if you are in the story and live their lives and feel their pains.

Although fictional, it ends with us is written based on a real story and I think Colleen Hoover is the only person who has written about this important social issue that thousands of women are dealing with all over the world. Good news is that a movie is going to be made based on this novel, so that people can watch it on a big screen and of course it can be more impressive. Lily is a symbol of a strong woman who struggles to save her life and love. As a girl, I closed this book with a great sense of pride because it ends in the best possible way.

"Just because someone hurts you doesn't mean you can simply stop loving them. It's not a person's actions that hurt the most, it's the love. If there was no love attached to the action, the pain would be a little easier to bear."

So I highly recommend you, especially girls, read this wonderful novel. Do not waste the time and start reading this unputdownable page-turner and must-read book. I assure you that you will enjoy it. Trust me!

Written by:
Elahe Chaharlangi

Glass

Film Review

Superheroes exist. This is what M. Night Shyamalan has been trying to tell the world since 2000. *Glass* is a psychological superhero film, and a sequel to both *Unbreakable* (2000) and *Split* (2016), directed and written by M. Night Shyamalan, starring James McAvoy, Bruce Willis, Samuel L. Jackson, Anya Tyler Joy, and Sarah Paulson. Box office is \$247million against a \$20 million budget, released and distributed by Universal Pictures on January 12, 2019.



19 years ago, there was a train crash in *Unbreakable* which is revealed through flashbacks in *Glass*. Dunn (Willis) was the only survivor of that crash, thus the incident caused his powers to show up. Super strength and insight, not like X-Ray vision or some kind, but

something more like a determinant of whether some one is sinful or not. His weakness is water, due to a near-drowning incident he had as a child. In other words, his Kryptonite is water. The "Horde" accident was only three months before the *Glass* timeline which caused Kevin Wendell Crumb (McAvoy) to produce 24 different identities; this alone is a superpower, plus his 24th persona, aka "The Beast," is a cannibal capable of climbing high distances and taking shotgun blasts. In the initial scenes, the Horde has kidnapped four young girls to be sacrificed for the Beast who believes that people must be purified, and in order to be pure, they have to suffer. Now the Horde is Dunn's next target who is also known as "the Overseer" throughout the city.

After the first quarrel between the Beast and the Overseer, they are arrested and brought to an asylum where Elijah Prince (L. Jackson), aka "Mr. Glass," has already been there for 19 years. He is the mastermind and mass murderer who suffers from a type of Steopenia Imperfecta (OI) since he was a child and permanently put him on wheelchair. The major parts of the movie are filmed in that mental health facility which is under supervision of Dr. Ellie Staple (Sarah Paulson), a psychiatric, who has the idea that these powers can be explained away through science, and are merely delusions of an ill mind. She managed to imprison them by suppressing their powers; keeping Elijah sedated almost all the time, for

for David she keeps him in a chamber that is channelled to a water tanker, and as for Kevin, whenever a vile identity comes to the light - a term used in the movie for when a new identity takes over the body - a quick flash of light forces another identity to come to the light. During the procedure, Staple nearly convinces Dunn that he is just a crazy old man and against Kevin, she uses a girl named Casey Cooke (Anya Tyler Joy), the only one that the Beast has spared, to force the original identity (Kevin) to destroy the Horde. When she fails to convince them that they are just humans and they must be eliminated, she confesses in the final scenes that she is part of a group, formed since 10000 years ago in order to prevent supers from existing; or as she explained herself, "There just can't be gods among us, it's not fair." However, now that the three are together, it is time for the mastermind's masterpiece plan to be acted out. He is trying to tell the world "WE EXIST," by creating a final battle scene between the hero and the villain with a demonstration in front of the whole world. Although there was one fatal flaw in his plan, he planted the seed successfully. Anyone who thinks that the train crash of 19 years ago was simply an accident, is dead wrong.



Not only did Mr. Glass somehow manage to create the Overseer, but also he catered the Horde through that accident. He finally declares in the final scenes of the movie "I create superheroes." Unfortunately, the third part of this trilogy did not receive as much credit as the other two previous films from critics. In their point of view, it was "Disappointing" or "Underwhelming". Nonetheless, once again as in *Split*, McAvoy was all in. He gave it his all by performing 24 different identities with diverse behaviourism in every aspect; his nemesis, Bruce Willis, on the other hand, was almost falling sleep during the movie and probably deep down every one is Samuel L. Jackson's fan boy whether the movie is well-rated or bad-rated. Despite all the criticism, *Glass* was nominated for two *Golden Trailer Awards* and won the third one (Best Thriller Poster). It also was nominated for *ALFS* and *Saturn Awards*. Perhaps, now after 19 years, people could understand what Shyamalam is trying to say; that everybody posses power and is capable of being a hero, they just need a push like Mr. Glass.

Written by:
Alireza Ahmadi

Learning Theories

Major Learning

Schools of Thoughts in Teaching

Learning lingers as an elusive topic, despite the incessant research lavished on it. Research on second language acquisition has conspicuously led to evolution of a disparate and outstanding set of theories to describe how languages are learned. To continue this topic, it is a necessity to know what the precise definition of a theory is.

A **Theory** is an idea, which is a coherent explanation of some relationships, tested by numerous researches. If the idea survives rigorous testing, that theory is said to have empirical grounding. One of the lasting legacies of teaching theories is the birth of five major "learning methods". Throughout these years, learning theories have emerged as an active realm of pedagogical innovations and debate, and, as a result, finding the best and most acceptable learning theory has provoked some linguists to choose the proper one as an authentic theory to rely on.



It should be highlighted that learning theories are so central to the discipline of psychology. Thus, the history of learning theories cannot be separated from the history of psychology. Learning theories address key rationales and fundamental questions; for instance, "how does learning happen?". A recent assessment by *Burgoyne* on schools of thought identified 14 varied theories. However, those fourteen fall into five broad categories that are Behaviorism, Cognitivism, Constructivism, Experientialism, and Social and Contextual.

The first half of the twentieth century witnessed an unprecedented increase in dominating the behavior theory as the study of learning. **Behaviorism** is a systematic approach to understanding the behavior of humans and animals. Main behaviourist proponents and thinkers including Ivan Petrovich Pavlov, Edward Lee Thorndike and B. F. Skinner, have hypothesized that visible and observable change of behaviors by adding certain and external stimuli in the environment, demonstrates some learning.

This clarifying point quoted by Carlton Reeve is worth mentioning in this essay: "The key principle of Behaviourism is the reward or punishment of a new behavior, commonly described as the 'carrot and stick' approach to learning. The theory states that rewarding someone for particular behavior encourages him to behave in the same way in a similar situation. The reward reinforces the behavior. Conversely, if behavior is punished, the subject is less likely to repeat it. In Behaviourism, people can learn not to do things as well as to do things."

Cognitive Theory

Cognitivism noticeably replaced Behaviourism as the principal learning paradigm in the 1960s, and suggests that learning comes from mental activity such as memory, motivation, thinking and reflection. Bruner (1990) and Piaget (1972) are considered the chief theorists among the cognitive theorists. These cognitivists strenuously allege that learning is an internal process that depends on the learner's capacity, motivation and determination. Cognitivism relies primarily on Piaget's notion of age-dependent, "stages of development," to define the mental capabilities of learners. It would enable teachers to understand some key essences in students' effective learning.

Constructivism

Constructivism is another learning theory that has had a powerful and irrefutable influence on theories related to the second language learning, as well as educational systems all over the world. It is indebted to abundant extent of diligence of Jean Piaget, John Dewey and Lev Vygotsky. Constructivism can be traced back to the costly work of Piaget (1896-1980) known as "Piaget's Theory of Cognitive Development". He is eminent as the founder of Constructivism. This educational approach tends to claim that students ought to actively create (or "construct") knowledge out of their own experiences. In other words, the learner takes an active role in constructing his own understanding rather than receiving it from someone who learns through observation, processing and interpretation.

Conclusion

In conclusion, it is absolutely imperative to consider that all these above revolutionary theories have only one objective; "facilitating of learning". Therefore, Learning Theories means facing new challenges as people grapple with escalations in the amount of available information and data that needs to be learned.

Written by:

Maryam Maghrou

Surely you have read the book *Beloved* written by Toni Morrison, or at least heard its name. How about Morrison herself? Do you know anything about her?



Toni Morrison is the author of several novels. She is one of the most respected American writers and critics. Morrison, who is a professor at Princeton University, was awarded The Noble Prize for Literature, The Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and The National Book Critics Circle Award. Toni Morrison was born in February 18, 1931 in Lorain, Ohio, U.S. She is the second of four children in a working class African American family. Her father, George Wofford, worked hard as a welder, and her mother, Ramah Wofford, was a homemaker. As a child, Morrison read frequently; among her favorites, were Jane Austen and Leo Tolstoy. At the age of 12, she became a Catholic, and took the name Anthony, which led to her the nickname "Toni".

Toni enrolled at the black Howard University in 1949, and graduated in 1953 with a B.A. in English. Morrison taught English at Texas Southern University in Houston for two years, then at Howard for seven years. While teaching at Howard, she met a Jamaican architect, Harold Morrison. The couple married in 1958, and welcomed their first child in 1961. Toni was pregnant with their second son when she and Harold divorced in 1964. Morrison's new novel, *Sula*, was nominated for The National Book Award in 1975. Her third novel, *Song of Solomon* (1977), provoked national admiration. Besides, it won The National Book Critics Circle Award. Barnard College presented Morrison with its highest honor, The Barnard Medal of Distinction, for writing novels that create "A new vision of American life" in 1979. Finally, Morrison completed *Home* in 2012, and dedicated it to her son, Slade Morrison. *God Help the Child*, Morrison's eleventh novel, was published in 2015. Passed away at 88, she believed "I'm not entangled in shaping my work according to other people's views of how I should have done it."

Written by:
Zahra Eskandari

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*When I consider how my light is spent
Ere half my days in this dark world and wide,
And that one talent which is death to hide
Lodg'd with me useless, though my soul more bent*

*To serve therewith my Maker, and present
My true account, lest he returning chide,
"Doth God exact day-labour, light denied?"
I fondly ask. But Patience, to prevent*

*That murmur, soon replies: "God doth not need
Either man's work or his own gifts: who best
Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. His state
Is kingly; thousands at his bidding speed*

*And post o'er land and ocean without rest:
They also serve who only stand and wait."*

"On His Blindness" by John Milton (1608-1674)