



# Point of View

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## The Environmental Significance of the DMZ

by MINSEOP CHIN

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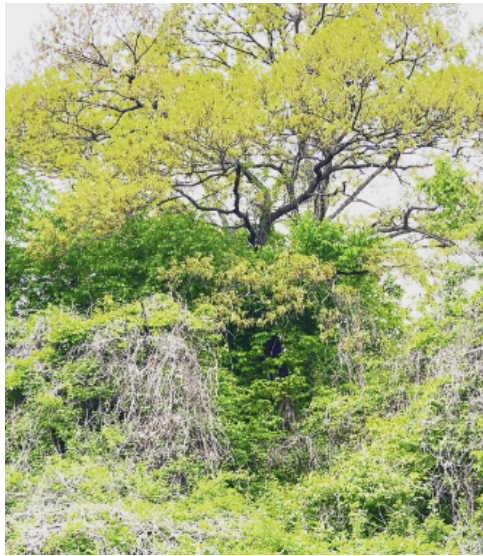


Image Source: Minseop Chin

The Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), a place located between South and North Korea, gets its name from the agreement to keep the territory demilitarized at all times. The DMZ roughly follows the 38th parallel north, which has separated North and South Korea since the Korean War. Although the DMZ is situated in a relatively unknown country, it is a crucial place worldwide.

The demilitarized zone was established for peace between the two countries, but it also serves as a rare transition zone between terrestrial and oceanic ecosystems. As weapons and violence are prohibited, the area has become a sanctuary for endangered animals such as mountain goats, which typically inhabit rocky mountains, and fanged musk deer, which are usually found in ancient forests. Consequently, scientists have argued that the DMZ should be continuously protected, given its global significance.

Moreover, the DMZ is essential for the environment. Currently, various environmental issues exist, with global warming being one of the most familiar. To mitigate its effects, preserving nature is vital, as trees and plants in forests absorb carbon

dioxide, which is a significant contributor to global warming. Lately, human activities have wreaked havoc on nature, causing pollution to worsen. However, unlike populated areas, the DMZ is a civilian control zone where a variety of living organisms that benefit the environment and are scarce elsewhere can thrive. Therefore, to restore Earth and ensure a healthy environment for future generations, the DMZ must be safeguarded.

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## Why Should We Save Water?

by SIOH PARK

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Water is one of the most significant elements for Earth. It supports most organisms' lives, including plants and animals. It generally has lots of advantages for our body. For example, it helps flush waste out from the body and regulates body temperature. Recently, many countries and people are suffering due to a lack of water, which leads to serious problems.

Saving water means saving energy; conserving water reduces wear and tear on major resources such as water and wastewater treatment plants, and the distribution systems that deliver water to the public. Also, water scarcity has considerable impacts on our daily life. If there is a lack of water, farmers will face difficulties in growing crops and fruit, which can lead to famine. No creature on Earth can live without water and food.

Fortunately, saving water is not very difficult: reducing shower time, washing dishes at once, and using a water cup when brushing teeth, etc., could be basic ways to save water. Practicing and accumulating these simple methods will save more water than you might think.

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## The Origin of April Fool's Day

by HYUNSEO KIM

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April first is also known as April fools day. As shown from its name, April Fools Day is a day people fool each other. It is an entertaining event that many people enjoy. However, unlike the day itself, the origin of April Fools day is not well known.

Origin of April Fools Day is unknown, but there are many theories about its origin. Some of the most popular theories suggest that April Fools Day first occurred between the late

16th and early 17th century. Many theories see the origin of April Fools Day as one of the celebration of festivals in spring that was celebrated this time. One of these festivals comes from ancient Rome, a festival named “Hilaria”, which was celebrated at the end of March.

Some theories are not related to festivals, but refer to historical events that occurred near April first. One of them refers to the celebration of the Dutch’s victory in the Capture of Brielle, which occurred in April.

Putting all of the theories aside, the origin of April Fools Day is still a mystery. However, the fools for April first will be celebrated with or without the clear origin.

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## The Trump Card: Former US President Sells NFT Playing Cards to Raise Funds for Criminal Defense

by JAWOON BRIAN CHOI

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Image Source: Sky News

The former president of the United States, Donald Trump, has been over the news recently due to releasing his second series of the NFT collection of Digital Trump Trading Cards. On April 19, 2023, the former president broke silence on his Instagram and posted for the first time since January 2021 when the capitol riot took place. The prices of these Digital Trump Trading Cards are “Only \$99” and if anyone buys 47 of these cards, they will be invited to a dinner hosted by the former president himself at his Mar-a-Lago estate also known as the “Winter Whitehouse” for it being located in Florida.

Surprisingly, these cards were sold out almost immediately and many estimates that Trump has made over \$4.5 million with his NFT sales. During his advertisement videos, Trump put emphasis on the price of his NFTs being \$99, same as his series I and claiming he could have made the prices much higher and people would still have bought it and asking for “nice guy” points. But many people are more familiar with Trump being on the news for his controversy due to him trying to cover up a sexual scandal during his 2016 presidential campaign, though at this moment he has not faced any legal consequences, but he is still facing criminal charges and has upcoming trials to determine his guiltiness.

The fact that Trump released his Trump Cards now with a special offer of being able to attend a dinner at his Florida estate while he has ongoing trials, is very suspicious and many suspect this NFT release is just a cover up for his legal issues.

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## “Successful Failure” of SpaceX Starship Launch

by YESEONG LEE

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Image Source: Reuters

The Space Exploration Technologies Corporation (SpaceX) is an American spacecraft corporation famous for Elon Musk. On April 20 (PDT), in Los Angeles, SpaceX launched its starship, but it blew up. However, SpaceX announced it was a successful test flight. Experts see it as a step for the development of the vehicle. It was the first time the starship and the SuperHeavy (booster rocket) took off from the ground. John Insprucker, a commenter on the webcast and engineer of SpaceX, said this failure would provide a lot of data for the next test. Starship is a fully two-stage reusable rocket with a total height of 120 m. The Super Heavy needed to separate after three minutes after the launch, and the starship had to start orbit flight according to the original plan. However, it could not be separated because of engine problems and exploded by its system.

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## Coup: A Strategic Game

by SEJIN TENNANT AND JIHOON CHOI

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Coup is a board game made by Rikki Tahta in 2012. Players will need to pick 2 random character cards, which they will role-play according to the character’s abilities. They can also lie about their role, thus creating the game more fun. By choosing the best actions to minimize the chances of death, one needs to see the game from a new perspective. “Is it OK to lie?” or “Is it OK to kill him/her?” are some questions that are highly considered and what makes the game fun and strategic.



Image Source: Oxford Games

There are 5 types of character cards, and each has special abilities which they can use. First is the Contessa. Contessa can block assassinations. Next is the assassin. The assassin can kill people using 3 coins as payment. The ambassador can switch cards on the deck and block the stealing of coins. The Captain can steal 2 coins from any other players except when the other players use the ambassador ability or the captain's other ability, which is to block stealing. The Duke looks like a Buddhist monk. He can take 3 coins from the deck which is called tax. He can also block foreign aid, the taking of 2 coins, which will be explained later.

There are 3 ways of getting coins. First is taking income, which cannot be blocked or challenged. Foreign aid is the taking of 2 coins, but it can be blocked. The main point of the game is that you can lie about your role, like pretending to be a duke but actually being a contessa. If feeling suspicious about a person, you can challenge players that they are not in their role. If you prove them false, they lose one card. If you are wrong you lose one card. Coup is fairly simple. It takes little time. It is also very strategic, and it makes players do critical thinking. If you are finding a game closer to being perfect, coup is it.

## Coming Soon: 3D-Printed Food

by SIEUN LEE

3D printers are used to create models and prototypes quickly. They are also being used to make final products. Some items that the printer made are shoe designs, furniture, tools, toys, etc. Researchers are now pushing the boundaries for 3D printing and trying to print food.

Recently, a team of researchers made an edible slice of cheesecake. The ingredients required are graham crackers, peanut butter, strawberry jam, Nutella, banana puree, cherry drizzle, and frosting. Earlier versions of this cheesecake did

not rely on graham cracker paste. However, when the printer constructed the slice, the cake quickly collapsed and the wetter ingredients were added. After several failed attempts, the team decided to add layers of graham cracker paste throughout the slice. This made the wetter ingredients stay contained with walls that were thick on the bottom, and thinner on the top.

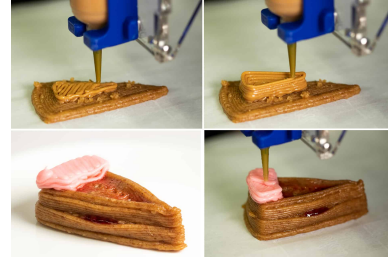


Image Source: ZME Science

This slice of cheesecake is not the first attempt on 3D food. There has been 3D printed plant-based meat, 3D printed meals in restaurants, and even 3D-printed food for astronauts. Maybe in the future, people will have 3D printers for cooking in their homes.

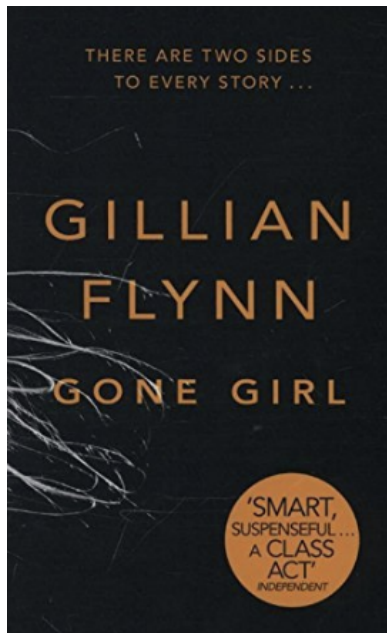


Artwork by Lilly Kim



## BOOK REVIEW: *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn

by GEON GO



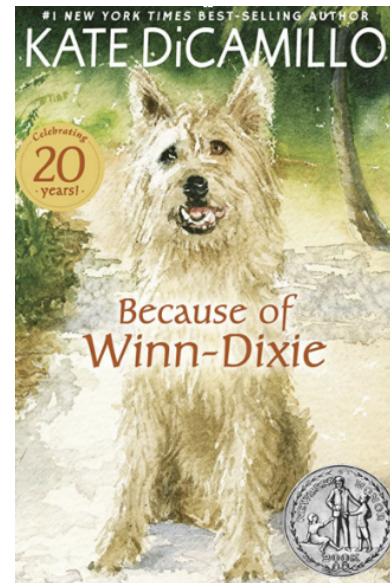
Nick was returning from his fifth wedding anniversary and noticed his wife Amy was gone. Nick was looking for Amy and noticed a diary that Amy had written on the table. Nick picked up the diary and opened it. The diary was written about how Nick and Amy met and where they went. To find any clues, Nick went to the first page of the diary and started reading it. Nick actually cheated on his wife, and Amy also knew that and wrote that in her diary. Nick started feeling guilty and realized that Amy believed him and still loved him even though she was cheated on by other women. Nick calmed down and started finding Amy and promised to apologize to Amy.

*Gone Girl* is Nick's story of finding his wife Amy. Nick reminisces with Amy and is serious about finding her. It is an interesting book to read and it is entertaining to read memories of Nick and Amy. It has an exciting story and background thus it is a very empathetic book.

*Gone Girl* is a crime thriller written by Gillian Flynn, published in 2012.

## BOOK REVIEW: *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo

by DAHEUN LEE



“*Because of Winn-Dixie*” is a fiction written by Kate DiCamillo, and was published on 2000 March. This book takes place in the small town Naomi in Florida, and is written from the main character, Opal's, perspective. Opal is a little girl living with his father after getting abandoned by her mother. One day, she meets a dog named Winn-Dixie and begins walking around the town. Winn-Dixie helps Opal to make many friends in the town and becomes her best friend to make her feel less lonely. At the end of the book, everyone in the town went out to search for Winn-Dixie because they thought Winn-Dixie was missing. However, Winn-Dixie was hiding under the table all the time! This incident made everyone realize how important and precious Winn-Dixie is to everyone, and they continue the party.

“*Because of Winn-Dixie*” is a great book that makes readers feel a great empathy for the main character. I recommend this book to everyone who wants to read a peaceful and soothing book for their entertainment, and to reduce stress caused by their APs and many other tests. I hope everyone enjoys reading this book. Thank you.