



# Notes

from the desk of  
POOR RICHARD'S JUNTO

*the Graduate History Club of  
Rutgers University-Camden*

READ, OR DIE.

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March & April  
2018  
ISSUE 2





## MAR 30 - APR 8

*Opening at Eastern State Penitentiary  
for 10 DAYS ONLY:*

### 6th Annual Pop-Up Museum! "Walls Make Good Neighbors"

This year's pop-up exhibition celebrates the connections between the Penitentiary and the community surrounding it. For more info:  
<https://www.easternstate.org/visit/events/pop-museum-walls-make-good-neighbors>

Philadelphia Museum of Art

## MAR 24 - JUL 15

### Jean Shin: Collections

Six large-scale installations created by South Korean contemporary artist Jean Shin will be on display starting at the end of March.

## CLOSING APR 18

### Varujan Boghosian: Master Manipulator

Check out this exhibit about American sculptor and collage artist Boghosian, born 1926 to an immigrant Armenian couple.

## MAR 20: EVENT

*Free Library of Philadelphia (Parkway  
Central Library, 7:30 pm  
Free Admission*

### *History Teaches Us to Resist: How Progressive Movements Have Succeeded in Challenging Times, Mary Frances Berry*

For more info: <https://libwww.freelibrary.org/programs/authorevents/?id=72432>

## APR 21 & 22

### Museum of the American Revolution Anniversary Celebration!

The Museum is hosting a celebration including live fife and drum music, cake, and more. The event will occur the whole weekend and is free with museum admission. Full schedule will be posted soon: <https://www.amrevmuseum.org/events/anniversary-weekend>.

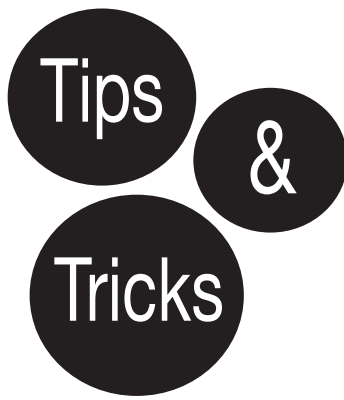
## APR 22: EVENT

*Mutter Museum, 2 - 6 pm,  
tickets \$40-\$60*

### 8th Annual Murder at the Mutter

A murder mystery party hosted at the Mutter Museum! The event consists of 2 hours of programming followed by a cocktail reception and light hors d'oeuvres. Tickets go on sale March 18 and includes same day admission to the museum.

For more info: <http://muttermuseum.org/events/murder-at-the-m%C3%BCtter-illusion/>



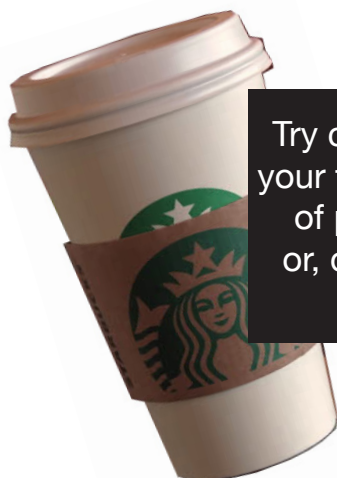
# WORDS OF WISDOM

*for the struggling student*



As Spring Semester nears its finale, final examinations loom ever closer. For those of you who are graduating at the end of this semester, the imminent occurrence of your oral exams probably gives you the heebie-jeebies. The same can be said of those of you preparing to present your research at a conference, whether in the near or far-off future. No matter where you are in your graduate studies, there is something you ought to be practicing: **the elevator speech**. Elevator speeches are an efficient method of preparation for any sort of oral presentation, from job interviews to research conferences, oral examinations to original idea pitches. Elevator speeches typically last no more than 60 seconds, and the idea is to summarize eloquently your research/pitch/information for an exam question and to present that information in 60 seconds or less with no stuttering, no “ums,” and no mess-ups. By practicing this method, you will further develop your communication skills, your confidence levels will rise, and you will leave your examination committee speechless and impressed. One way to practice this method is to try making elevator speeches about random topics or objects. Try having a friend write down themes, topics, or questions on little slips of paper and putting them into a bowl. After tossing them around a bit, pick one out at random, take a few seconds to collect your thoughts and argument, and then have your friend start a timer. By practicing these elevator speeches in a laid-back environment, you won't feel stressed and you will be even more prepared to tackle the elevator speech for your research.

A few other tips include: practicing your speech in a mirror, show your passion for your topic by using body language and movement, and practice makes perfect - especially when it comes to the “um”s and the stuttering. It's very hard to eliminate these blips entirely on the first few tries, especially when they've become key characteristics in your manner of communication. By practicing giving elevator speeches on random topics, and by repeating your speech numerous times, you will begin eliminating the “ums” and other blips with ease.

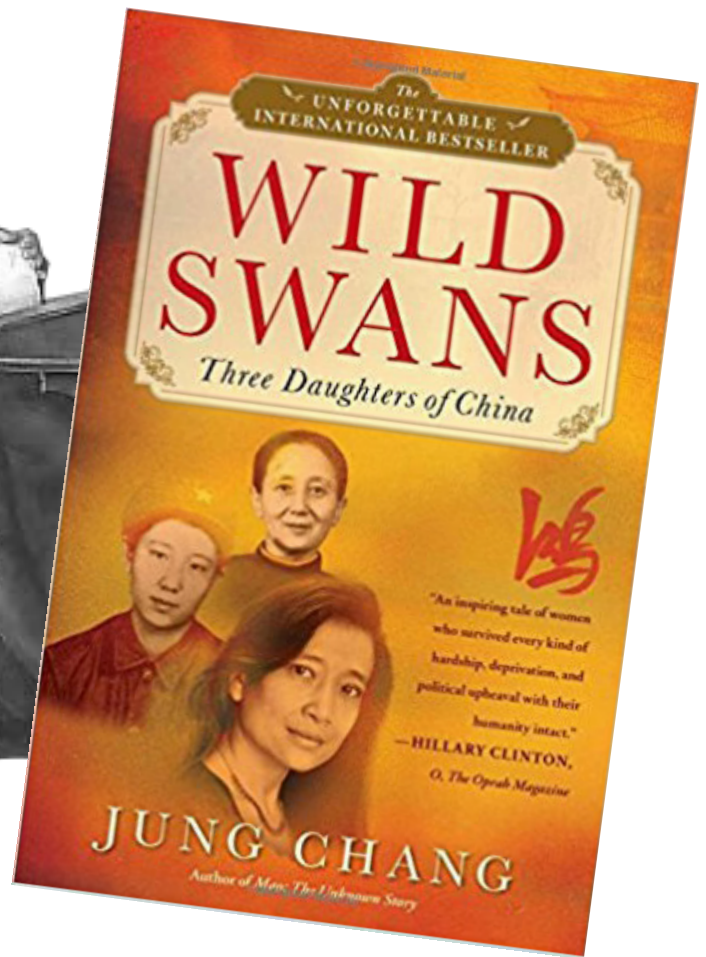


Try creating an elevator speech describing your favorite Starbucks drink, with the intent of persuading your audience to order it; or, describe your ideal vacation spot with reasons you want to travel there!





# BEN'S BOOK CLUB



Chances are, you read Elie Wiesel's *Night* in high school. This intense retelling of Wiesel's Holocaust experience is one of the top-rated historical nonfiction books on GoodReads, and is internationally renowned. At only 120 pages, this book will be a much quicker read than *Wild Swans*, though both accounts will leave you deep in thought and intensely affected - I promise I say that in a good way! Personal accounts of historical atrocities carry so much weight, and this novel is no different;

Wiesel's novel is considered one of the most poignant and intimate retellings of the Holocaust. You simply have to read this book - it is a historical "must-read," if you may.

*Wild Swans* was one of the first nonfiction historical books I read in my undergraduate studies. I was taking a freshman-level introductory course on the History of Asia, and this was one of the books assigned in the syllabus. Over 500 pages, this book was rather thick - which, I think, meant that I was one of the only students who actually read it in its entirety. I simply couldn't stop reading this book. I remember being so emotionally and mentally affected by the story, which the author had created so vividly and poignantly.

Jung Chang spends 562 pages telling the story of her family, beginning with her grandmother (the concubine of a warlord), moving on to her mother (a young woman swept up into the Communist ideal), and her own experiences as she grew up in a China impacted heavily by Mao's rule. Though not quite the ideal Spring Break beach read, I highly recommend you pick up this excellent text - perhaps when the semester ends and summer begins.

# CONTACT US!

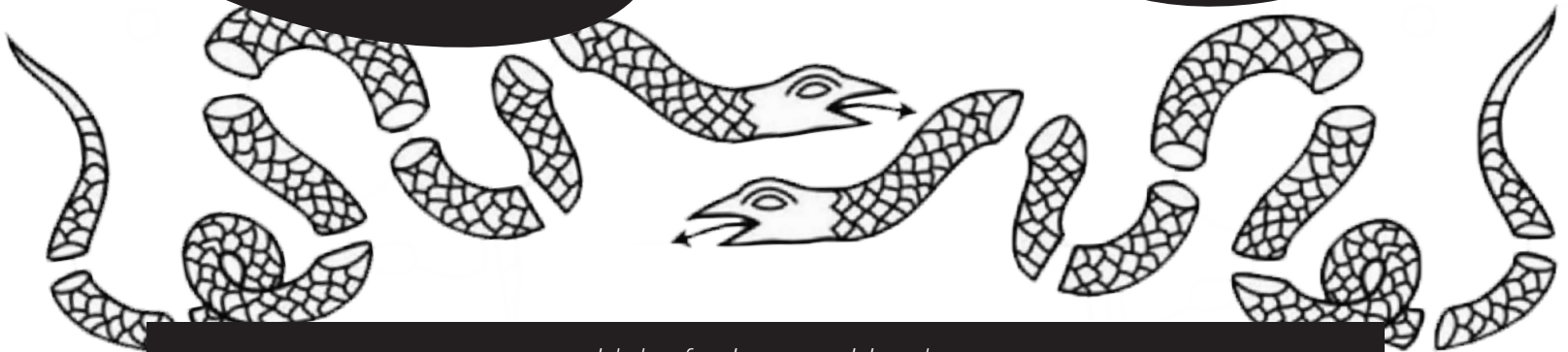
## POOR RICHARD'S JUNTO

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**FINISH THE  
SEMESTER  
STRONG!**



### *Links for Images Used*

Cover Page, and following pages: "Join, or Die" snake image: <https://www.ebay.com/itm/3x5-Flag-Join-Or-Die-Snake-Benjamin-Franklin-Huge-Cut-Up-Colonies-United-3x5-/380163568440>

Cover Page: Ben Franklin (image used was edited in Adobe Photoshop): <http://www.living-historyprodco.com/current-projects/>

Ben's Book Club page: Ben at his desk (image was edited in Adobe Photoshop): <http://all-that-is-interesting.com/benjamin-franklin-facts>

Image of *Wild Swan* book cover (page 3): <https://www.amazon.com/Wild-Swans-Three-Daughters-China/dp/0743246985>

Image of *Night* book cover (page 3):  
<https://www.amazon.com/Night-Elie-Wiesel/dp/0140060286>

Page 2, image of globe (image used was edited in Adobe Photoshop): <http://www.ukratko.biz/vesti/za-dan-planete-zemlje-google-poklanja-novi-izgled-google-earth-a>

Page 2, image of Starbucks cup (image used was edited in Adobe Photoshop): <https://pixabay.com/en/starbucks-glass-coffee-beautiful-2346226/>