

ENTERTAINMENT

Are Things Getting Stranger?



COMMENTS 0

Spoilers ahead, read at your own risk!

Stranger Things. This quirky and chilling television series came out in July 2016, and has captured the hearts of its viewers ever since. It is almost impossible to label this series due to its unpredictability and constant mood change throughout the seasons. The end of each season left everyone in the shadows because of the suspenseful and dramatic effects of the previous episodes. The most recent season, season three, came out in July, 2019, and this season leaves viewers even more confused and perplexed for what's coming next.

Like the seasons before it, season three of *Stranger Things* started off with a bang. It takes place in the summer of 1985 in the small town of Hawkins, Indiana.

The show takes a different turn than any other season before it by splitting up the well-known friend group into smaller groups; creating new friends and enemies along the way. Robin, Steve, Dustin, and Erica are a perfect example of "making new friends and keeping the old." They make the perfect investigative group; viewers know them as "The Scoops Troop." This goofy gang of heroes discover the Russian lab

right under the very ice cream shop Robin and Steve work.

It's easy to assume that scientists in Hawkins, Indiana, aren't done experimenting with the world of the upside down. When the Star Court Mall is built in this town, the citizens don't know that there's a secret Russian facility and lab built underneath this local hot spot. In season two, Eleven thought she got rid of the hideous monster that was terrorizing her and her friends; but towards the middle of season three, learns she was gravely mistaken.

The different friend groups all work towards the same goal throughout the season: Who has the mind flayer taken control of? Contrary to the popular belief of the gang, it is not just Billy who has been brain washed, but a handful of other characters. The most important person, the root of all of their problems, is Billy Hargrove. Max must come to terms with her step brother becoming a victim of the mind flayer, knowing that he was a perfect candidate due to his underlying anger and rage.

In the end, the friend group destroys the mind flayer successfully, but there are deaths of loved ones along the way. Police Chief Jim Hopper sacrificed himself in order for the Upside Down to close.

There are many theories regarding Hopper and season four. Many fans have concluded that this brave hero is not in fact dead, but alive and will be appearing in season four.

Fontbonne University student Carrie Steingruby has her own theory for season four. After watching the new teaser trailer released on September 30, announcing that the season won't take place in Hawkins, Indiana, she had much to say about the upcoming content. "I'm not exactly sure how things are going to pan out, because they're not in Hawkins anymore." Steingruby said. "So I think there may be a couple of different plot lines that end up meshing together at the end. I also feel like they need to come to some sort of resolution about El's powers being lost. I definitely feel like the Upside Down is still alive and there's something that's keeping her from getting her powers back. Also, Steve better get a girlfriend this season because he's my favorite character and he deserves love."

As a whole, Stranger Things has its viewers puzzled and hungry for more, making the

mystery of season four worth the hype and excitement.

Junior Charlie Gibbs has his own thoughts for season four. "The Russians in the end credits are trying to find a way to use the creatures of the upside down against society. It is also very obvious that they have someone locked up in their holding facility and they refer to this person as 'the American.' I'm not too sure who this could be, but with time we'll find out."

Throughout the various seasons, we see the perfect use of the 80's style implemented with music and clothing. Peggy Rabun, an avid watcher of the television series who experienced the 80's for herself said, "Stranger Things is spot on when it comes to the style of the 80's. This show captured the essence of the 80's and I think it really showed teens today what it was like to grow up in that time period." Season three gave the millennials what they wanted to experience for themselves: being a teen in the 80's.

Fans everywhere have their own thoughts and opinions about the show, including their favorite characters and specific season. Steingruby says, "I love the show. I think it's unique. I've truly never seen anything like it. It's fiction, but there are also parts to it that are very real and authentic and fun which makes it relatable. It's also very nostalgic and I love the time period in which it takes place. I think the characters were very well cast, too. The chemistry between characters like Steve and Dustin is undeniable. I really think you get attached to the characters and can really feel and understand the motives behind their actions."

Stranger Things as a whole gives off a spooky vibe and is perfect to binge watch around Halloween and the fall. Once you start watching it, it'll be hard to stop, creating a perfect weekend to stay in and become obsessed with this sci-fi thriller series. This spooky season, do yourself a favor. Grab your favorite binge worthy snack and drink and riddle me this: what's your theory for season four?



ST. LOUIS

The St. Louis Halloween Joke-Telling Tradition: Is it a Trick or a Treat?



COMMENTS 0

Welcome to St. Louis—home of the Cardinals, gooey butter cake, and a long-standing tradition of telling jokes on Halloween.

If you're from St. Louis, you are likely familiar with the concept of Halloween jokes. If you're from another city, you may have no idea what I'm talking about.

As someone who grew up in St. Louis, the tradition of joke-telling was a regular part of my Halloween celebrations. However, after receiving many mixed reactions about the subject, I realized that most of the world outside of St. Louis is completely unaware of this tradition. I decided to further investigate people's experiences associated with this tradition and settle the Halloween joke debate once and for all.

Knock knock. Who's there? It's the St. Louis natives.

I first contacted a couple people who, like myself, grew up in St. Louis and considered themselves Halloween joke connoisseurs. I was interested to hear their stories,

understand their opinions on this tradition, and possibly find out a few of their favorite Halloween jokes.

I first talked to Fontbonne University sophomore, Sophia Torregrossa, about her experiences with trick-or-treating.

"I did grow up telling jokes on Halloween. I don't think I ever actually came up with any jokes; I kind of just heard them from other people. I likely heard most of the jokes at Trunk-or-Treat, which is a school event that is hosted before Halloween. I would just eavesdrop on people and steal their jokes. Then, I would use all the jokes I heard on Trunk-or Treat on Halloween."

She said she really likes the tradition of joke-telling on Halloween.

"It allows you to make a connection with the people who are giving you free candy and is kind of like an ice breaker when you are talking to a stranger."

Interested to hear her favorite Halloween joke?

"What do you call a fat pumpkin? A plumpkin!"

Next, I talked to my friend, Ashley Askew, who is a junior at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Kentucky.

She, too, learned many of her jokes from her elementary school's Trunk-or-Treat events prior to Halloween. In addition, she played a few "tricks" of her own in order to get the best jokes to "impress" her neighbors.

"I usually trick-or-treated with my best friend growing up and her family, and they had really unique jokes. I think their dad came up with most of them. So, whenever we would go to houses, I would let her say her joke first—and it was usually pretty good—and I would use my bad joke on that first house. Then, at every other house we would go to, I would make sure that, like, I got to say my joke first. Then I would steal her jokes."

So, what does Askew think about this tradition overall?

"It was always really terrifying to me because some houses would ask for jokes and other ones didn't, so you would always just have this moment of fear before they hand you the candy bowl of, like, *Do I have to prove myself to this person?*"

"The worst was I had so many experiences where there was a man at the door and you'd tell him a joke, and he'd be like, 'We already heard that one tonight."

"I actually went to someone who refused to give me candy until I went back and got a joke from my parents because they had already heard the one that I had given them."

"It was kind of traumatic. I think that I grew from it... But, while it was happening, I can't say I was a huge fan."

Disclaimer: As the "best friend" featured in Askew's story, I can confirm that these events did take place and that my jokes were often hijacked. Luckily, I was usually prepared with back-up jokes that I had acquired over the years from various Laffy Taffy wrappers and joke books.

"What's a Halloween joke?"

Next, I interviewed two individuals who grew up outside of St. Louis to see how their trick-or-treating experiences differed. When prompted with the question "Did you grow up telling jokes on Halloween?" their reactions were priceless.

Fontbonne University junior Mara Cressey responded, "That's a thing? I'm assuming it's for trick-or-treaters."

Cressey is originally from Kansas City, Missouri. She said she heard about the tradition when she came to St. Louis for school, but since living here, she has had few encounters with trick-or-treaters and never actually witnessed the joke-telling.

"The only Halloween joke I know is: What's a ghost's favorite dessert? I scream."

While she didn't grow up with the joke-telling tradition, Cressey did witness some

"tricks" being played on Halloween.

"My mom would make kids who didn't dress up do a cool trick... One time there was a kid who did a backflip."

For this reason, the tradition of telling Halloween jokes didn't seem too unusual to her. She finds it slightly "excessive" for little kids to have to tell jokes, but she thinks it makes sense for teenagers who are going around getting candy to have to work for it.

Next, I talked to another junior from Bellarmine University named Tabatha McNulty who grew up in Indianapolis, Indiana.

"No, I did not grow up telling jokes! When I went trick-or-treating with my cousins on Halloween we would just go up to the door and say, 'trick or treat' and, 'thank you."

She first heard about this tradition from her college roommate.

"I honestly thought she was joking about it. Like, I'm pretty sure I just laughed and said, 'okay' sarcastically."

McNulty continues, "I think it's a really weird tradition. I don't see how telling a joke and Halloween go together; that's what April Fool's is for."

Is Halloween joke-telling actually a St. Louis tradition?

After doing some research, I came up with a better idea about where this tradition originated. Although the exact origins of Halloween joke-telling are unknown, historians have proposed theories as to where this tradition began. An article from *The History Channel* explains, "In Scotland and Ireland, young people took part in a tradition called guising, dressing up in costume and accepting offerings from various households. Rather than pledging to pray for the dead, they would sing a song, recite a poem, tell a joke or perform another sort of 'trick' before collecting their treat, which typically consisted of fruit, nuts or coins."

To investigate this further, I took the liberty of reaching out to Fontbonne University

senior, Nick Nelson, who is originally from Ayr, Scotland.

"I did grow up telling jokes on Halloween. I think it works much the same here. You go from door to door dressed up and tell a joke in return for some sweets—or candy, as you guys call it."

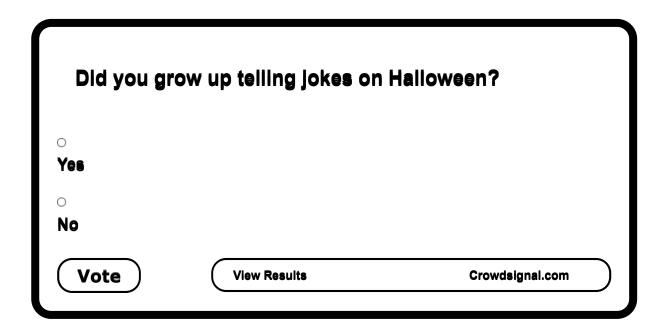
Nelson says, "The rest of our traditions are pretty similar. Once you get to a certain age, you start drinking and going to parties dressed up, rather than going trick-ortreating."

In conclusion, St. Louis isn't alone in this Halloween celebration!

So, what do you think?

Even if you are new to this "trick," you can "treat" yourself by learning a few Halloween jokes on your own.

So, let us know what you think.



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ABOUT CARRIE STEINGRUBY

I'm a St. Louis native currently studying Professional Writing at Fontbonne University. My special skills include baking, playing music, and dishing out sarcastic comments. If I won the lottery, I would a buy Volkswagen hippie van and a lifetime supply of Nutella and take a road trip across the country with my dog.











CAMPUS BUZZ

Gunner Griffin Permanently Moving South: Student Thoughts on the New Griffin



COMMENTS 0

Like most birds, Gunner the Griffin will be flying south for the winter. Not for vacation, however, but to retire.

The griffin has been the symbol of Fontbonne since 1976, when the school was trying to attract more male students. There were several other mascot options, but the school community voted for the griffin. The griffin never had an official name until decades later.

Gunner Griffin became the mascot for Fontbonne University when it debuted at the "Late Night with Lee McKinney" basketball game on November 9, 2007. Gunner has been used for Fontbonne magazines, athletics, and community events since then.

However, Gunner's time at Fontbonne is coming to an end. His retirement will leave the school without a mascot. That search has already begun.

The process for this came when former student and mascot performer Max Kirkpatrick wrote and submitted a Fontbonne Community Connection (FCC) grant for a new mascot for Fontbonne. During the summer of 2019, the grant was accepted, and the school could move forward in securing the new costume to match the overall

changing brand.

Stephanie Brandt and Karl Brown, who are two new athletic coaches on campus, oversaw development and research. They worked with Joel Hermann, the Director of Orientation and Student Engagement, to help come up with names and move the process forward.

Artwork for the mascot outfit is still in development. Both the new design and name will be announced at the Battle of Big Bend (the annual basketball game against Webster University) on February 5, 2020.

On College Colors Day, August 30th, Fontbonne students voted for their preferred name for the new griffin. The name options were Bonnie, Gideon, and Gusty.

The name Bonnie comes from the ending of Font"bonne." Gideon comes from the Christian figure who led his soldiers into victory, which the new griffin will represent. Gusty represents the idea of being able to "soar higher," which is the new school slogan.

Here are some student thoughts on what the new name should be and how they feel about the new griffin.

Cory Schonhoff (Freshman)

What are your thoughts on Gunner the Griffin?

"Not going to lie, didn't know that [Gunner] had a name. I'm being really honest with you [laughter]."

What are your thoughts on Fontbonne changing the design and name of the Griffin?

"I mean, I don't really have a problem with it. It happens, change is not bad."

Out of the three names, Gideon, Gusty, and Bonnie, which is your favorite and why?

"I like Gideon; it just sounded the best in my head."

Taylor Jackson (Freshman)

What are your thoughts on Gunner the Griffin?

"I like the name. I think it's catchy, and it's unique."

What are your thoughts on Fontbonne changing the design and name of the Griffin?

"I think that change is always a good thing."

Out of the three names, Gideon, Gusty, and Bonnie, which is your favorite and why?

"Gusty. It sounds cool."

William Klenke (Sophomore)

What are your thoughts on Gunner the Griffin?

"I love Gunner. I think he is a token of Fontbonne and is good for school spirit."

What are your thoughts on Fontbonne changing the design and name of the Griffin?

"I love it. I think it matches the marketing changes and I think the new griffin [athletic] looks great."

Out of the three names, Gideon, Gusty, and Bonnie, which is your favorite and why?

"Gideon, I like that name."

Jillian Boone (Junior)

What on your thoughts on Gunner the Griffin?

"Gunner was a good mascot. I only experienced Gunner as our mascot for two years, but I think he is great."

What are your thoughts on Fontbonne changing the design and name of the Griffin?

"I am excited that the griffin is changing. I think with the re-brand of Fontbonne, it makes sense to change it. There are so many more possibilities when things are new, so I am hoping that stays true with a new mascot."

Out of the three names, Gideon, Gusty, and Bonnie, which is your favorite and why?

"My favorite name of the three options is Gideon. I think it sounds more aggressive and cool, which a mascot should be. Not that the other names aren't great options as well."

Samantha Boeving (Senior)

What on your thoughts on Gunner the Griffin?

"I've loved having Gunner. I'm really sad that he's leaving. As somebody who has done a lot with Gunner, I think Gunner has become less important to the younger students than it was... when I first got here, so I think its going to be a good time for a transition. I only really see, at events, only our older students and then alumni who are all about Gunner. So, I'm really sad about it.

What are your thoughts on Fontbonne changing the design and name of the Griffin?

"I was really sad, like really, really sad to see Gunner go. It's taken a lot for me to get on board with this change, but I think that just with the direction that the university is going with, and all the new changes, with logo and how they see Fontbonne going, I think it's a good time to change. I think out next griffin will be great. He already looks really cool."

Out of the three names, Gideon, Gusty, and Bonnie, which is your favorite and why?

"Gideon, because it's the name of a tv show, Criminal Minds. I don't know, I think it sounded like a Griffin, more or less than Bonnie or Gusty. I did not like Gusty."

Melissa Eichhorn (Administrative Assistant)

What are your thoughts on Gunner the Griffin?

"I like the Gunner we have."

What are your thoughts on Fontbonne changing the design and name of the Griffin?

"I feel the campus should have been more involved in both the new look and name suggestions. It would have been fun to have a campus contest."

Out of the three names, Gideon, Gusty, and Bonnie, which is your favorite and why?

"I was not a fan of any of the names. I would have preferred seeing the new mascot and then choosing a name."

The changes and Gunner leaving have varied opinions across campus. Gunner has been a symbol on campus for many years. Although Gunner has only been at Fontbonne for just over a decade, he has filled the role of a cheerleader, supporter, and advocate. Whoever the new griffin is, they will have big paws, and talons, to fill.





LIFE HACKS

10 Hobbies for College Students



COMMENTS 0

Image by Pexels

College life can be challenging and stressful. Homework, tests, presentations, quizzes, and even being involved on campus can take up a majority of your time. But what if you took thirty minutes out of your day, every day, to discover a new hobby that can give you the opportunity to escape the stress of being a college student? We all have pastimes that can include watching Netflix or eating for fun, but why not swap those out for fun activates not only for the mind but also for the body? Who knows, after reading this you might just find something you never knew you loved!

Reading

When was the last time you actually picked up a novel and read simply for the enjoyment of reading? Reading is a skill that can be used not only for the ideas of learning, but also to engage your creative side. We have a wonderful <u>library on campus</u> that you can check out all different kinds of books, journals, poetry and even some interesting biographies. There is always something for everyone to explore.

Yoga

Yoga is not only an activity of stretching, it is also an easily accessible practice for the mind, body, and soul. There are plenty of <u>yoga instructors on Youtube</u> who have free lessons you can follow along with. Do some research on certain poses that you enjoy the most.

Drawing

One inexpensive way to pass time is picking up a pencil or pen and just drawing whatever comes to mind. During this time, you could also turn on your favorite music playlist and sketch something you've never tried to sketch before.

Exercise

Believe it or not, exercise is not only healthy for your body but also allows for you to release mental stresses. If you have been studying for a few hours, take a break and maybe go run a mile, or even just hit the weight room. If you don't know how to properly use the equipment, take some time to research it.

Shopping

Ladies and Gents, when was the last time you went out and spoiled yourself? Have you seen something online from your favorite store that you have held off on purchasing? Buy it! Why not? Treat yourself for all of your hard work during your time so far in college. Running low on cash? Hit up some of the local thrift stores that have designer brands for half the price!

Visit sites around you

Forest park, downtown St. Louis, art, museums, the zoo, <u>the loop</u> and so much more. Take a day to explore the amazing sites around you. When exploring these amazing spots, you might find your new favorite place to study or just visit.

Meditation

Have you ever thought about what silence can do for the mind, body, and soul? Meditation is a way to achieve <u>full relaxation in only a few minutes</u>. When meditating, set a timer for 2-5 minutes and allow yourself to focus on breathing. This is such a peaceful way to be present in the moment and get rid of stresses.

Writing

Journal keeping is a way to reflect on your day, as well as release unhappy feelings and voice happy ones. Writing can allow your brain to let go of stresses you have in a creative and fun way. Run to your local Walmart and pick up your journal today!

Binge watch a new show

Most of us most likely have Netflix, Hulu, or Amazon Prime. Why not find a new TV series to binge watch? Rewarding yourself after long days by watching an episode or two of your new favorite show. This can give you an escape from the real world.

Game night

When was the last time you and your friends took the time to have a board game night? Why not whip out Monopoly or even Clue! Having a competitive but also fun evening could be much needed for you all.

Hobbies are a great way to explore new options and ideas that could potentially add to your everyday routine. When was the last time you de-stressed from school and actually did something that you personally enjoy? Now's the time. Give yourself a break and enjoy your college life.



ENTERTAINMENT

Sex and the (STL) City and Navigating Dating as a Gen Z



COMMENT 1



Photo by Emiliano Bar

Once upon a time in the 90's, the iconic character Carrie Bradshaw, graced our T.V. screens on HBO for the first time. The first episode of the hit HBO T.V. show, "Sex and the City," premiered in 1998. For generational context, I was born in 1998 and I have seen the entire series, the two blockbuster movies, and the CW spin off series, "The Carrie Diaries."

My mom watched the show religiously and suggested that I watch it when I was a

first year student in college. Maybe she thought I would find self-discovery or just have a laugh alongside Carrie, Miranda, Charlotte, and Samantha. Maybe she thought that watching these characters navigate dating would subtly aide me. In complete fascination, I watched these empowered women walk down the streets of New York in Manolo Blahnik heels drinking their Cosmopolitans.

I wondered, what made people at Fontbonne watch "Sex and the City"? A good handful of people at Fontbonne are attracted to the show because of the friendship between the main women of "Sex and the City." Fontbonne students and faculty weigh in on the relevance of the show.

Out of style gal pals?

Senior Cecelia Meyer told me, "The sense of having girlfriends and having a squad is relevant today. I think SJP (Sarah Jessica Parker) has become such a great figure today. Her essence herself has brought people to the show."

Dr. Heather Norton, Associate Professor of Communication Studies, also loved the female friendship dynamic.

"I loved checking in like they were girlfriends, when I didn't have many girlfriends at the time. Sometimes it was a little over the top. I don't know that if it's aged well."

The show is at least twenty-years-old, but is it too old? When is outdated, too outdated? At what point is the show too far removed from 2019 to become out of style?

Dr. Norton finds that the show was definitely <u>offensive</u> at times:

"There are things that I didn't recognize back then that were pretty offensive. Hence, 'woke Charlotte' is one of my favorite memes. I love how people are using beloved characters while still pointing out the show's problems."

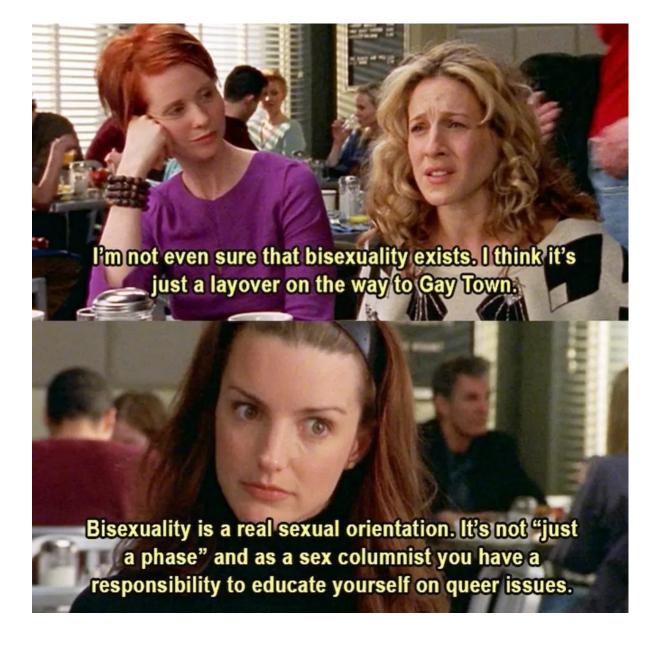


Photo by Instagram account: @everyoutfitonsatc

Tinder, Hinge, and Bumble: oh my!

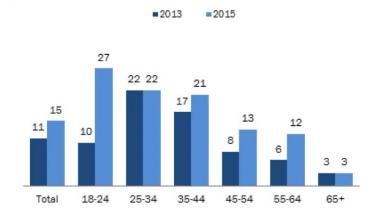
One theme of the "Sex and the City" enterprise is people navigating the in's and out's of dating. In 2019, the dating scene has greatly changed with people using dating apps.

How many young adults are actually using dating apps? Pew Research Center conducted a <u>2015 study</u> on young adults who use these new forms of meeting people.

From this Pew Research Center study, "The share of 18- to 24-year-olds who use online dating has roughly tripled from 10% in 2013 to 27% today. Online dating use among

Use of online dating sites or mobile apps by young adults has nearly tripled since 2013

% in each age group who have ever used an online dating site and/or mobile dating app



Source: Survey conducted June 10-July 12, 2015.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Considering these statistics, I wondered if they resonated with people at Fontbonne and with myself. They say honesty is the best policy. The various people I interviewed were completely open and honest with me. Why should I be exempt from following the same due diligence? As the people I interviewed recalled their dating experiences, I reflected on my own.

In my twenty-one years of being alive, I have never been in a serious relationship. Sure, I've had flings here and there with guys in Kansas City (my hometown) and here in St. Louis. Even this past August, I've tried out dating apps. I've had a few dates here and there from the apps. All of the dates from the apps have been over coffee, drinks, or ice cream. Is there still vulnerability on both ends during such a casual date?

The dates I have been on with guys from Bumble and Hinge maybe have been too casual on their end. One guy I recall in particular showed up to our date ten minutes late wearing sweatpants and a hoodie. I later learned he was a rising rapper in St. Louis, booking a few gigs around at local venues. Maybe it was part of his aesthetic? Mind you, I was wearing my signature pearl and diamond beaded light-wash jeans and a somewhat dressy top. My incident would probably be the center of the

conversation over brunch with the "Sex and the City" characters. There's nothing wrong with being comfortable in your fashion choice, but where is the line drawn for being too casual?

Cecilia Meyer comments on this issue in her own experience with dating apps. "I find that sometimes the boys are not in, or all in. Some of the people I have talked to have been like 'Ok, we are going to get coffee on Friday. Next, let's get dinner on Saturday night. On Sunday, I'm going to meet your parents!' Some of them don't even know my middle name."

Are these interactions over dating apps always the most genuine though? Senior Hayden Yates uses dating apps and finds there to be a stigma in society.

He said, "There is the issue of your Tinder profile being different from who you are in real time. There is still, at least from older generations, a stigma about meeting people on apps. My mother never misses a beat when I mention that I met my last boyfriend and several dates since on Tinder. I have probably had one 'old-fashioned' meeting and it was way more exciting and fun than swiping on someone's filtered photo."

Senior Claire McCann commented. "Dating is just as difficult now. People still judge each other on looks and unconventional standards of beauty. Although the point of these apps is to scan potential dates fairly fast, people are quick to judge someone's face/body."

Finding your prince/princess charming on dating apps

With the increase of people using dating apps, is it actually possible to find a serious, long-term relationship? The answer is: yes. Two of the interviewees found this vision a reality.

Dr. Norton actually met her husband through E-Harmony, an online dating website. She told me, "I met my husband online, not through these apps. We met through E-Harmony. You are matched through particular characteristics. The important part of that website was that people had to pay to use it. He was my 263rd match and I was his first match! E-Harmony was considered my generation's Tinder, Bumble, Hinge

Claire Ford has also experienced success in finding a long-term relationship using the app Tinder. "Like any other girl, I dreamed of meeting my soulmate in a bookstore or while sipping coffee in a cafe, but I didn't. And that's okay! I didn't date anyone until college, and the way I met my first (and hopefully only) boyfriend was on Tinder. I cringed telling people that at first, but now I really don't care."

As I sat in my dorm room late at night watching old re-runs of "Sex and the City" on E! Entertainment, I couldn't help but wonder: have dating apps become the new accessory for relationships? As 2019 is slowly coming to an end, will 2020 be the decade of more dating apps? I think that Tinder, Bumble, and Hinge are just the beginning for finding suitable matches over technology. As I am typing this, a guy named Josh commented on one of my pictures on Hinge saying "killer smile!" Does he really think I have a "killer smile?" Navigating these dating apps can sometimes be messy and inauthentic. On the other hand, who knows? A simple comment or a swipe right might just lead you to a new possible romance.

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1 COMMENT ON "SEX AND THE (STL) CITY AND NAVIGATING DATING AS A GEN \mathbf{Z}''



Octavia C

November 14, 2019

I love it! I resonate with this article so much because before I met my boyfriend on Tinder, who I've been dating for about 9 months, I wanted to meet someone in person. What I found is that a lot of times guys will look at

you and flirt with eyes, but won't actually speak.