

Eye on Entertainment

Book Review: Unbowed

By Jenn Knowlton - Lion's Eye Staff Writer- jak5450@psu.edu

Wangari Maathai's memoir, *Unbowed*, is a truly intriguing book. Imagine a small village called Ihithe. Ihithe is close to the provincial capital of Nyeri and was then British Kenya. Six children and their mother live in a small hut with no electricity or running water. Something magnificent overlooks this changing country. Mount Kenya is called kirinyaga, or "place of brightness." "Everything good came from it [Mount Kenya]: abundant rains, rivers, streams, clean drinking water," as stated by Wangari herself. This mountain gave all Kikuyus, those who believed in local customs opposed to Christianity, faith that God is indeed watching over them all. Wangari Maathai grew up in this majestic country. However, she had a few bumps along her way.

In her village women were uneducated and sheltered. However, this woman recognized the problems within her environment and moved on to earn her bachelor's and master's degrees in the United States. Then, a few years later she earned her Ph.D.

at the University of Nairobi. Not only is she the first woman in East and Central Asia to obtain doctorate degrees, she is also the first African woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Wangari founded the Green Belt Movement that requires forests to be restored by paying rural women to plant trees. This movement has become internationalized. If that does not seem incredible enough then try this: she "helped transform Kenya's government into a democracy in which she now serves as assistant minister for the environment and as a member of Parliament."

This woman has overcome her brutal childhood, under a British Kenya government and born into a polygamist family. She fought her way through a corrupt government to stand-up for her people and rights. This environmentalist has changed the way we all live, including those in Kenya. This book is a must read to all who want to understand her life.

Not-So-Infinite Playlist

By Caitlin Olszewski -

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1. "Sweet Disposition" – The Temper Trap
2. "The Star Song" - This Bike is a Pipe Bomb
3. "Factory Girl" - The Rolling Stones
4. "Just Like Honey" – The Jesus and Mary Chain
5. "Electric Relaxation" – A Tribe Called Quest
6. "Stars and Sons"- Broken Social Scene
7. "Jussummen" - Das EFX
8. "Zero"- The Smashing Pumpkins
9. "Hey You" – Pink Floyd
10. "Scarlet Begonias" - Grateful Dead



Photo courtesy of wordpress.com

Horoscopes

By Ashley Carpenter

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Aries: Don't make drastic changes in your lifestyle this week, Aries. On Monday Mercury in Taurus squares impulsive Mars, your ruler, and you'll be wise to think before you take action in a tricky situation. You'll feel as if you're driving with the emergency brake on as you go about your daily routine on Wednesday. Make sure you allow extra time for your tasks. On Saturday you'll interact with an unscrupulous individual. Remember to stick to your personal standards and ethics.

Taurus: You'll feel like you're on top of the world this week! On Monday the Moon trines Venus, your ruler, in Taurus, and your sense of personal well-being will be strong. Your intuition will be on target when the Moon sextiles Mercury in Taurus on Saturday. You'll devote a lot of thought to the best way to present yourself to others. On Sunday you'll find a new friend and discover a compatible companion. It's a great time to meet new people.

Gemini: Where are you going, Gemini? Do you know? On Tuesday your brain will settle down when Mercury, your ruler, in steady Taurus trines profound Pluto. You'll chart your progress to make sure you're on the right path. A domestic matter you thought was put to rest will pop up again on Wednesday. It's possible you'll need to embark on an extensive home-repair project. On Sunday you may be asked to volunteer for a committee dedicated to helping your community.

Cancer: Keep your wits about you as you interact with others this week. Don't rise to the bait when the Moon in your sector of adversaries squares the Sun in volatile Aries on Tuesday. Your imagination will be more grounded on Wednesday, and your brain will start to operate in a pragmatic way. Try not to rock the boat in a certain situation on Saturday. Your best bet is to be as agreeable as possible in this matter.

Leo: You have a loud roar, Leo, and this week an associate will discover how strident you can be when you're angry. On Monday Mercury squares Mars in fiery Leo and you'll engage in a war of words with this person. You'll return to your home to take care of family issues on Saturday. Allow time to sort out your domestic matters. On Sunday your attention turns to mystical subjects. You'll read a book that will help you develop spiritual insight.

Virgo: Virgo, your innate shrewdness will kick in this week. That's a good thing, because on Tuesday a difficult life choice will confront you when Mercury, your ruler, trines discerning Pluto. You will make sure you select the right option. Cabin fever will hit you on Saturday. You often long for a change of scenery, since you're of the Mutable Quality. Consider planning a weekend excursion. On Sunday a new hobby will cure your feeling of boredom and stagnation.

Libra: You normally navigate the social scene with ease, but on Thursday you'll be at a loss when you interact with others. The Moon squares Venus, your ruler, and you won't be on the same wavelength as your associates. You might become entangled in a mildly embarrassing social faux pas. Don't worry. You'll be back on top of your social game by the weekend. On Sunday you may decide to obtain a friend of the four-legged variety and become a pet owner.

Scorpio: You normally navigate the social scene with ease, but on Thursday you'll be at a loss when you interact with others. The Moon squares Venus, your ruler, and you won't be on the same wavelength as your associates. You might become entangled in a mildly embarrassing social faux pas. Don't worry. You'll be back on top of your social game by the weekend. On Sunday you may decide to obtain a friend of the four-legged variety and become a pet owner.

Sagittarius: Sagittarius, you are usually too busy to think! However, this week you will become much more reflective, starting when profound Pluto, the ruler of your zone of subconscious thoughts and feelings, turns retrograde on Tuesday. A new responsibility will be added to your to-do list on Wednesday. Finding time for your task will prove a bit of a challenge. You'll enter domestic mode on Sunday. You may spend time in your kitchen and prepare some of your favorite comfort foods.

Capricorn: You'll deal with frustrating moments this week, and your customary stoicism will be severely tried before the week is over! You'll encounter a number of setbacks in your agenda when Saturn, your ruler, backtracks into frenetic Virgo on Wednesday. As you run into delays, you will become flustered, so keep that in mind. On Saturday you'll cut short your interaction with a loved one who grows extremely overbearing when you're around. Your own needs will take precedence on Sunday.

Aquarius: Trust your instincts this week and you'll be glad you did, Aquarius! You often forget to listen to that inner voice. On Tuesday make sure you look beneath the surface when you interact with others. Don't ignore warning signals. Your sense of positive optimism will be strong when the Moon conjuncts lyrical Neptune in Aquarius on Friday. You'll find that your inspiration skyrockets. You'll revel in your unconventional attitude this weekend and concoct a new image for yourself on Sunday.

Pisces: You are usually laid-back in your approach to life, Pisces. This week you'll surprise yourself with your desire to go after what you want with gusto! On Monday you'll bring a bold attitude to your life experience. You won't back down when you run up against challenges. Your self-esteem will rise on Saturday, and you'll like what you see when you look in the mirror as the Moon in Pisces sextiles Venus. You'll have the confidence to strut your stuff.

Courtesy of www.horoscopes.com

Soulful Singer Visits Brandywine

By Nancy Perone

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Singer Anna Nyakana poses with the Brandywine Lion on a beautiful spring day. Nyakana treated students at Brandywine with her soulful acoustic music during a recent Common Hour. (photo courtesy Anna Nyakana)

"Do you hear it calling / Don't know if you should go but you want to sail away from this." These lyrics, from the song *Islands of Redemption*, are the work of Connecticut's Anna Nyakana. Nyakana performed not only new songs but some from her 2007 self-titled debut album for Penn State Brandywine students on April 1, 2010. Playing both the acoustic guitar and piano, she treated visitors to the Lion's Den to a 13-song set, plus an encore of another original song, *Don't Tell Me*.

The 23 year old singer/songwriter who was born in Berlin, Germany is fluent in Russian, German, Ugandan, and Myankole. Myankole is a dialect of the Ankole tribe in Southwest Uganda, where her father hails. Growing up, Anna says her father exposed her to the musical talents of Chaka Khan, Bob Marley, and his native Congolese music. Her mother, who is Moldavian, plays seven different instruments and can also be named as an influence to her daughter.

The soulful, love-song crooner, whose sound is very reminiscent of Alicia Keys, has many of her own musical influences, as well. Nyakana gravitates towards people who sing with a message, such as reggae, ska, the likes of Corinne Bailey Rae, Otis Redding, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, and Jimmy Cliff. The classically trained pianist and self-taught guitarist has appeared on NBC Philadelphia's *The 10! Show* and won the Starbucks Music Makers Competition.

While Anna is strictly a singer and a songwriter, she is currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in Business Management so that she can continue to manage her career and Voice of the People (VOP) Entertainment. If you missed her performance at Penn State, you can watch her perform on Community Auditions, which is televised throughout New England, but has clips available online at www.communityauditions.com, on which views can vote. Winners of Community Auditions receive a recording contract. You can also sample this talented artist's music on her website, www.annanyakana.com. On the website there are also links to her MySpace and YouTube pages, as well as the option to purchase her music on iTunes.