



The REVIEW

By: Dona Nuevo

LITTLE WOMEN

Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women* is a moving story about four sisters who went through their young lives with those people who were dear and close to them.

The novel was said to be a semi-autobiography. A publisher once suggested that Alcott should write a "girl's book". Apparently, she found the perfect characters. Tom-boyish Josephine March was modeled on Alcott herself, while her sisters, Anna, Elizabeth and Abby Mae depicted Meg, Beth and Amy.

It was all about the March sisters, raised by their loving parents in a small Utopian community. Being typical girls, they shared their own wishes and strifes, joys and disappointments, and of course, love and heartaches.

The author wrote vivid descriptions from her experiences. Through the easy conversations (though lengthy at times), one could exactly visualize a particular scenario.

The characters were realistic enough to reach a certain connection in a reader's personality. "Preaching" was several times induced in the novel, and one wouldn't help but notice that Alcott pointed out that she herself was telling the story as a subtle narrator that called out to her readers from time to time.

The plot is complex, but the language used is simple yet significant. The story will be remembered because of its bittersweet tone and theme. And because of the four little women who inspired a lot of readers (both young and old) to go through life with their simplicity and audacity.

The strongest point of the story was perhaps the affectionate depiction of family values. The Marches shared the compassion and morale that brought them happiness and success despite the problems and difficulties they had encountered.

The *Little Women* is a kind of book that will be treasured for generations because of its classic appeal to readers. No wonder Louisa May Alcott is one of America's most loved authors.

Everlasting Bonding

By Nadia Suzanne Bautista

During those times when somebody feels lonely and adrift, there are people who serve as anchors that hold him/her steady. These are the people we know as friends. In every step of our lives, friends help us come along and cope with the pressures the world gives. We meet friends everywhere, some of them true, unfortunately, some are not.

Everybody searches for a perfect friend he or she can relate to. But the reality is there is no such thing as a perfect friend, what exists is a friend perfect for you. We encounter trials, hardships and obstacles and we surpass these incidents with the help of our friends. Search for a friend without looking for perfection, for you will never find one. Instead, find someone who can be with you always through thick and thin. Honestly, it is hard nowadays to find a friend who has those qualities. As they say, one must love a friend wholly, warts and all. You have to accept their limitations as well as their strengths.

Being a true friend has a deep meaning. For others, it is just a matter of companionship. Companionship in a sense that friends are the only people whom we can chat with or just to be with when you have nobody else to turn to. Some people have this wrong impression of friendship that it could result in bad endings, such as quarrels. True, no man is perfect but a friend is what makes man perfect.

Everybody considers this world materialistic. People nowadays desire for more power and money. Sadly, some of them use friendship as a tool to gain power and money. They befriended people whom they believed to be powerful and stick to them like leeches. The world today harbors fake and hypocrite friends who stab you in the back. There are also lots of people who are users, befriending you just for some selfish purposes.

Sad but true, some people bend the meaning of friendship. This is the reason why it is hard for us to find a

If you'll look up in the dictionary, being wise is defined as having or showing wisdom, good sense or judgment, while being intelligent means having or showing the ability to learn and to understand things around us. It is like the "matalino" and the "marunong". There is a big controversy about the war of the wise and the intelligent. But who is more powerful? Who is greater? Who is the best?

So many questions, so many explanations, interpretation and opinions that I can't figure out what it is. They may be true and they may also be wrong. They're so complicated and sophisticated that I created a survey. I asked some of my classmates and some teachers about their own opinions about it. And they said...

Lizette (Gr.6) *Being wise is knowing who you are, being conscious about things*

THE WISE OR THE INTELLIGENT?

By Marvin Olaes

around you. Being intelligent is knowing many things but sometimes neglecting people.

Miami (Gr. 6) *Being wise is just using your common sense and intelligence is the information you gather from studies.*

Nouvelle (Gr. 6) *Wisdom is used for practical things, and it's an inborn talent, while being intelligent is being knowledgeable.*

Alexis (Gr. 6) *Wisdom is from your common sense and experience, while intelligence is from books and information we gather.*

Carlo (Gr. 6) *Being wise is being practical while intelligence is your stocked knowledge.*

Donna (Gr. 6) *Wisdom is easy to get and intelligence is hard to get.*

Ms. Leah (Computer teacher) *Wise people are full of*

thoughts and wisdom and intelligent people are full of knowledge.

Ms. Almy (Science teacher) *Wisdom is from God. You can always be intelligent through books.*

Ms. Lucy (Math teacher) *A wise person has both intelligence and smartness. An intelligent person is only plain intelligent.*

Whatever it means, it is still a major asset for any person in this world. But for me, the real meaning of it is not found in any dictionary or people's opinions and beliefs; it is found in our hearts. Smartness practically is the most important thing in our lives but if we don't use it with our hearts, it's useless. So starting now, we should use half of our hearts and half of our brains to be both wise and intelligent. I'm sure everything would turn out fine if we do that.

What's With Animé?

By Candy Paredes, Nadia Bautista and Joy Icaayan

Everyone's going crazy over animé, but what is it with animé that makes people in all ages swoon over it? Is it because of the plot of the story that makes it entertaining in both the eyes of young and old? What makes it so interesting than those of real movies?

Animé is addictive, as we found out, because of the music, graphics and even the expressions of the characters. It is also relaxing to watch animé because of the amusing characters that the animators brought to life by

dubbing. Unlike soap operas, animé focuses on the different sides of life. It conveys various emotions from comedy to love. And because of its straightforward and fictitious plots and climax, it enhances the watcher's imagination, sense of humor and creativity. Animé shows are also very educational due to the fact that they deal with culture, foreign history and sciences.

Animé also has its negative effects. There are some perverted animé shows that should not be recommended to very

small children. Violence and vulgarity are also bad side effects. Animé shows on cable sometimes are not censored.

With these animé shows sweeping watchers worldwide and websites sprouting out of obsessed fans, it is only expected that more of the same shows will invade television stations. A lot of animé fans just can't get enough of the cute characters with those big expressive eyes and the music that ranges from sentimental to pop rock.

true friend whom we can trust. But some people found their true friends already, which is very lucky for them. Friends can act as pillars that will always support you and guide every step you take. They are ready to catch you and wait for you whenever you need help. Friends are definitely treasures.

To find a friend, you yourself should be a true person first. Nobody likes a hypocrite, arrogant, bully or a backstabber for a friend. This is one recipe to find a real friend.

Some friendships are put into a test. Just hang on or better yet resolve it now! Don't waste any time thinking who is right or wrong but think of the

friendship you've shared, those fun memories... True, life is no bed of roses. Never give up your true friends for they are treasures rarely found.

Friends may come and go. Sadly, some of them we may not see again. Good friendships keep always, and these friends you knew will always remember you even if you part ways. Always remember those fun times you've shared. That way you will still feel your friend's presence beside you. They will never leave you behind or turn their backs on you. As the old phrase say, "Friends Forever" and that's all that matters.

Educational... From Page 3

Philippines. The students had their lunch in the adjacent Botanical Garden. At about 3 p.m., Athenians flocked in 'Exploratorium 2000,' Festival Mall, Filinvest, Alabang to learn more about developments in technology and the different aspects of everyday life, from milk and coffee products to man's history. Students left at 5:30 p.m. They arrived at R. Nuguid and Sons at 8 p.m. where school buses took most of the students home.

Respective teachers and parents joined the said events.