

# THE PRISAMENT PAPER

VOL. I Issue # 9

OSSINING, NY SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2020

RAYPRISAMENT.COM/PAPER

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Happy Mother's Day!** See our Mother's Day Special on Page 2.
- This week was Teacher Appreciation Week! We are grateful for the hard work and dedication of all teachers around the world. (And those in our family!)
- The U.S. unemployment rate hit the highest level recorded since the Great Depression.

## LOST DAYS

by Rozanne Prisament

On October 5, 1582 people went to bed and woke up the morning of October 15. They thought they had lost ten days of their lives and were so upset riots broke out. This occurred because Pope Gregory, who was in charge of the calendar, discovered each year was 365 days, 6 hours and 14 minutes. The seasons had gotten off kilter. He corrected it so that Christmas was in the winter and Easter was in the spring again.

Some call this event 'the lost days.' But nothing was really lost, it just had a deep feeling of loss - of being cheated out of something. This is the way many people feel now—as if we are being cheated out of something. But that is far from the truth. We may not have the ability to go to school, or work, or church, or even to the library, but we still have our lives!

We never expected or planned for this, but we still have what really counts—our homes, our intellectual curiosity, our imaginations, our family—and those great homecooked meals! So let's not think these are lost days, but days of challenge, and resilience—and most of all, gratitude!

5/9/2020

## CHAIN STORY INSTALLMENT 7

by Lucas Prisament

Please email us to submit a continuation for the next issue! The only rule is you can't end the story.

The full chain story is available at [rayprisament.com/paper](http://rayprisament.com/paper)

The commander tells me: "Come with me". So I went with him alone.

He brought me to a room. In this room there was a big machine.

I asked the commander, "What is that machine for?"

The commander said: "Go inside."

I started shivering as I walked to it. But then suddenly I stopped. I tried thinking, *what should I do?* All of a sudden my mind turned off. I could not hear anything. I turned back. I saw the commander's mouth moving. It seemed like he was yelling something at me, but I could not hear him. Almost instantly everything went back to normal. Then I knew what I should do.

I still had the pistol with me. Quickly, I took it out and shot him. I walked towards him. I saw he had a set of keys. I snatched them. Then I ran over to Sophia and unlocked her cage. The two agents saw me and ran over to the cage. The younger one took out his pistol.

He said, "I do not want to do this, but I guess I have to, Acorn."

I dodged the bullet. I do not know how. Then I shot him (I quivered for this was not like me. What was I doing?).

"Come on, follow me," I told Sophia. She followed me. But she seemed confused.

"Why are you helping me?" She asked. I did not answer.

We ran so fast until, all of a sudden, we stopped. We'd gotten lost.

"Which way should we go?" I asked.

Sophia responded, "I think I remember this place."

We sat down briefly to think. We also talked to each other. We figured out that we have things in common.

Soon it was going to get dark. The sunset was gleaming bright in the sky. I stopped thinking for a moment, and said: "Isn't the sunset beautiful?"

Immediately, we heard a rustling sound. But there was no wind. At once we froze. Then we heard a clicking sound.

Sophia broke the silence by saying "Oh, that is nothing. Wait a minute. The sun sets in the west. THAT'S IT!"

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"If I can remember, west from here leads us to a big building where we can get help," Sophia explained.

We ran to the west. As we ran I was wondering, *how can those people help us?* Everyone seems aggressive nowadays. Then we finally got to the big black building.

Sophia said: "Come on, let's go inside."

There were two men in black suits with Police Origins 1 SPL 872 sunglasses.

"Who are you?" they asked.

To be continued... by YOU!

## A LETTER TO THE COMPLAINT DEPARTMENT

by Clayton Prisament

When people talk about the coronavirus, they're probably saying: "Oh, Dow Jones went down 800 points" or "What's Trump's next big move?" You barely hear people asking, "How are the kids doing?" Well, turns out we're doing great. Picture this, when I get back home from school and walk into my room, *boom* same distance from my friends as right now. First thing I do, turn on my PC and connect with my friends. Now, on weekdays, I connect with my friends on my computer to play video games and stuff with an app called Discord. We play videogames and have fun and - oh wait, what about schoolwork?

Just like in everything else, Google dominates the stay-at-home education system. Google Classroom is just like every other Google product: It works, but doesn't go much beyond that - but that's all they need 'cause it's Google. At school all we learned with was Google stuff because it's free and schools don't want to pay an extra \$99.99 a year per each student for better software even though the budget goes up, like, millions of dollars each year. Another thing that really annoys me is that whenever I get a chromebook in class, the teacher always says two things:

A. "Be careful, this is more expensive than anything you own."

This one is especially annoying because, one: I have a computer at home which is ten times better and is more expensive and two: that's assuming nobody has a bed that costs more than 250 bucks.

B. "That laptop is like two thousand dollars."

My usual response to this is, "You mean 2,000 pesos, right?" Because I know a \$2,000 computer wouldn't be two inches thick and would run on an actual software program, and not just be able to load Google."

All of the teachers currently are using Google Meet to have class meetings, but half the time you're just staring at a video of your teacher at her house, staring at her camera. Oh, and I am very lucky that I can get my schoolwork done in two hours so I can spend less time in Google Classroom (I do my work well, though.)

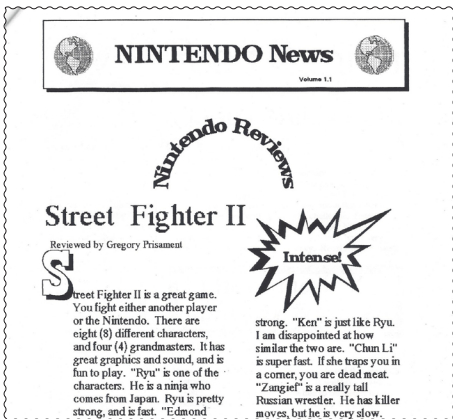


## Award-Winning Journalism

**Left:** Clayton's photo "Purple Flower," first published here in the *Prisament Paper* Issue 8, won the Ossining School District's photo competition.

**Right:** Elena's poems "Again" and "Tribute to Blank Paintings," first published here in the *Prisament Paper*, won a poetry contest sponsored by Accelerated Literacy Learning.

Next up ... Pulitzer Prize?



## Chip off the Old Block

In March 1993, a distant precursor to *The Prisament Paper*, the *Nintendo News* was published by Ray, Greg and Cliff Prisament. Chock full of hard-hitting game reviews, hints, and vaguely suspicious ads for "cool controllers", it's hard to believe this didn't take off.

On Loan from Rozanne Prisament's Archives

## Wanted!

Two well-behaved and dander-free guinea pigs looking for a summer home.

**Must haves:** A furnished home fully equipped with 1 to 3 children in the tri-state area.

**About us:** will answer to any name you want to call us. Currently living with a large, furry roommate who wants to eat us.

Please email [eviecopeland@gmail.com](mailto:eviecopeland@gmail.com) (Evie and Diomy) with any vacancies. Serious inquires only please.



On page 2: Mother's Day Special, and More!





Poetry

MOTHERHOOD

by Jennifer Lipovsky

Motherhood is unconditional love  
It is appreciating mothers around you in a whole new way

Motherhood is an extraordinary journey filled with a spectrum of emotions  
It is joy, silliness, laughter, worry and frustration

Motherhood is sharing stories and singing songs  
It is cleaning up messes all day long

Motherhood is wanting to hold onto to precious moments just a little longer  
It is shedding a tear for outgrown clothes and toys

Motherhood is learning about someone from the moment they are born  
It is writing poems at 2:00 am and sleep deprivation

Motherhood is exonerating your sense of control  
It is trying your best and trying harder when that's not enough

Motherhood is letting go of the past and embracing a new way of life  
It is realizing what you thought was impossible might be possible

Happy Mother's Day to all!!



Fun Zone!

WORD WEAVING

by the Prisament Paper Editors

Can you weave ...

- Small → Big
- Cold → Hot
- Dog → Cat
- Warm → Cold
- Far → Close
- Home → Run
- One → Ten

Instructions:

Turn one word into another word by **adding**, **removing** or **changing** exactly one letter per step.

Every step must result in a real English word!  
(Scrabble rules: no proper nouns, contractions, etc.)

For example, to turn the word "road" into "trip" in 5 steps:

1. Road
2. Rod (removed the a)
3. Rid
4. Rip
5. Trip

IN MEMORIAM

