



THIS•JUST•IN  
SUMMER 2024

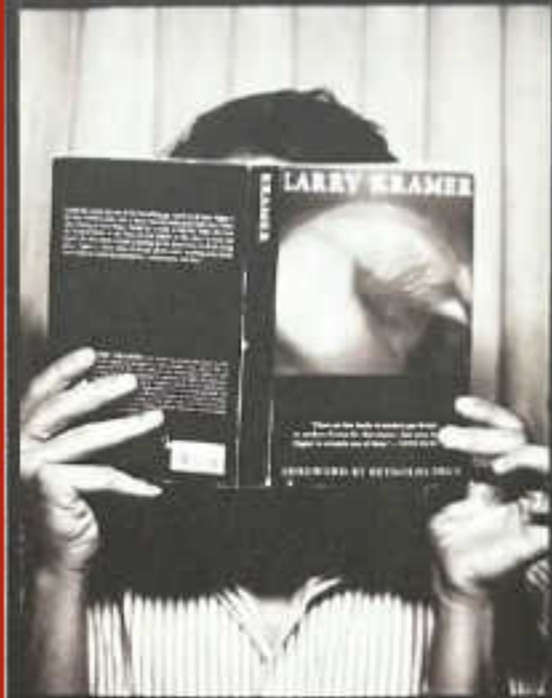
## Hey, There!

Summer 2024 is flying by. I've been very inspired lately by novels, current events, dreams, and the calm hidden within the village. After the whirlwinds of June, I've tried to reground myself in an intentional way. Although I've gotten into a little bit of mischief here and there, I've also opened my heart and mind to new creative outlets. I've begun toying with a camcorder that my cousin has so generously lent me. I have hopes of using it for a special project near and dear to my heart. While testing out the equipment, I created a short video: "Another Evening At The Pier." It may seem like a silly little 7 minute video to some, but for me, it has pulled back the curtain; revealing the lens in which I cherish Christopher Street Pier. The pier and village have become something of a sanctuary to me. A place to journal, read, breathe, and share fellowship.

I've been reading older queer literature as of late. I recently finished "Dancer from the Dance." Holleran's 1978 novel knocked my socks off and made me want to repurpose them to clean up the mess. "Faggots," and "A Member of the Family" are my current reads. A book of gay NYC fiction, and the other an anthology of gay writers and their bittersweet family relationships. These three books have shifted my perspective on queer history, intimacy, and the comforting embrace NYC has to offer.

It's been an ongoing goal to put fingerprints on a project of my own. In mid-July I woke up from a dream which provided inspiration of a potential script idea. The consumption of old queer literature and our current political climate, have helped me arrive to this moment. For that, I'm grateful.

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# CASTAWAY CORNER

## all things Survivor

Castaway Corner is back... and shortly Survivor will be too! Season 47 premieres September 18th on CBS.

I figured it's only appropriate to fast forward to the "New Era" of Survivor. Although most of the Survivor community (especially Facebook) is anti New Era, I thought it would be nice to highlight a few recent seasons.... even though my audition tapes have been carelessly disregarded in the process.

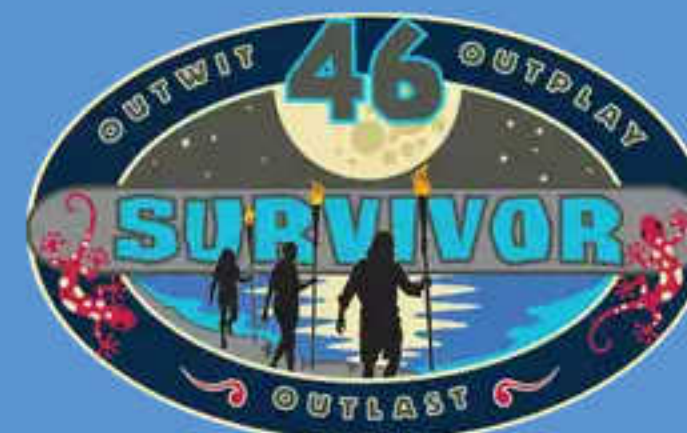
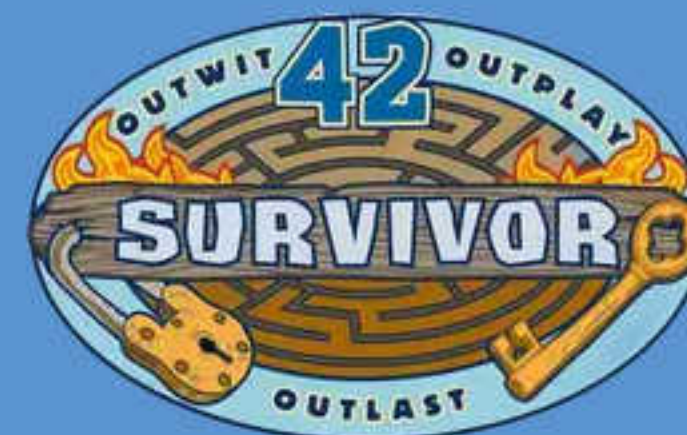
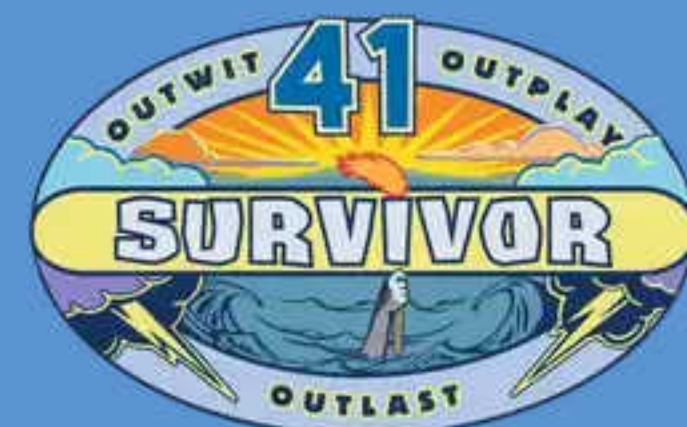
In a post Covid and Winners At War (Season 40) celebration, Seasons 41 and 42 reintroduce us to the game. With a fresh editing style, casting, and pacing, these seasons deserve to be watched together as they complement each other in an unexpected way.... There's also a few moments that you can expect absolute absurd production twists.

Seasons 45 and 46 elevate the gameplay while, in my opinion, giving a taste of old school social gameplay, showmances, villains, and delusional confessionals.

Seasons 43 and 44 also have great qualities, but these 4 seasons rise above for me.

If I had to cast my vote for a top season... Season 46 takes the title of "Sole Survivor" and the million dollar prize.

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### JISULIFE Portable Fan

From subway sauna to sweaty club dance floors... this fan's combated the 2024 heatwaves. Do yourself a favor and get this portable handheld fan! I know the price tag is discouraging but it has a long lasting charge, and packs a big punch. 10/10 can not recommend enough.

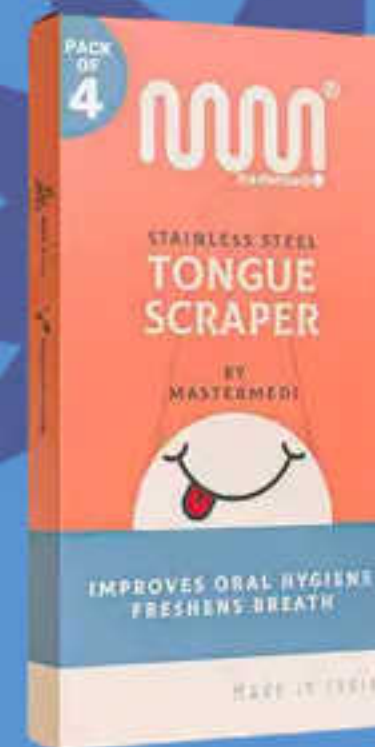
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You won't be bored with these board games!

**CARCASSONNE** was first introduced to me in college. It's now one of my go-to game night staples. This one certainly favors risk and reward.



I remember going to my cousin's house as a kid and being obsessed with **BLOKUS**. It's the perfect game to bring out your competitive side, in a respectful way.



### TONGUE SCRAPER

It's 2024!! Wake up and start scraping your tongues!! I began my scraping journey in 2018, and I'll never look back. stainless steel or copper scrapers are my preference.

## THE MUSIC

We've all twirled to COWBOY CARTER and bumped to BRAT, but what other albums are we missing out on in the process?

Give **DEEPER WELL** by Kacey Musgraves and **EMPATHOGEN** by Willow Smith some streaming time this summer.



## THE CINEMA

I don't really think I've seen a movie quite like 'Kinds of Kindness. With three complimenting but wildly different stories, Yorgos Lanthimos achieves brilliant dark comedy.



## Arts and Culture

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## THE THEATRE



Rumor has it that this production is SOLD OUT! Strut on downtown to the Perlman Performing Arts Center to see CATS "THE JELLCICLE BALL" before it's too late! This piece of theater is alive and bring a fresh new perspective to CATS. They offer \$30 tickets for patrons under 30 years old. Call (212) 266-3000 Tuesday-Sunday; 12pm - 5pm to secure cancellation tickets. You truly don't want to miss this queer ballroom celebration.

## Ingredients

Croissant or  
Sourdough  
Bacon  
Iceberg Lettuce  
Roma Tomato  
Avocado  
Radish  
Mayo  
Salt  
Black Pepper  
Red Pepper



## THE PERFECT SUMMER SANDWICH

It's true! I've created the perfect summer sandwich in honor of one of my favorite childhood movies

*Paul Blart: Mall Cop*

You've all heard of the classic BLT...  
but have you heard of the BLART?  
Bacon, lettuce, avocado, radish, tomato.  
Does it get any better than that?  
I think not!

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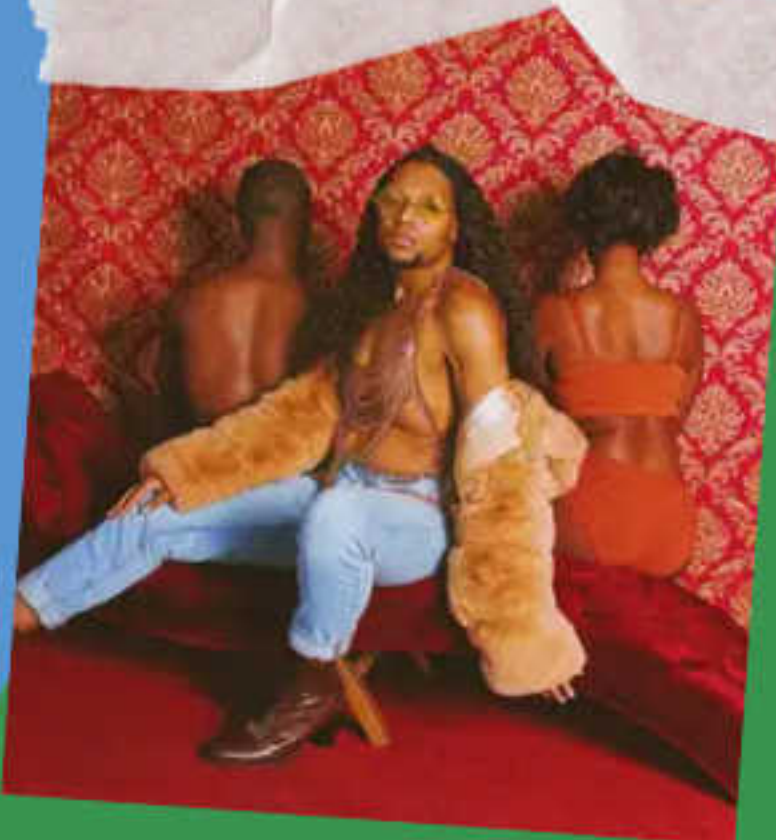
## HOW TO:

Turn on oven to 400° and place tray of bacon in for 8 minutes. No need to preheat. While bacon is cooking, slice tomato and radish (thinly sliced is my preference.) The lettuce and avocado are pretty self explanatory. If you're feeling fancy, thinly slice up some red onion and pre-season your avocado in a bowl for easy spreading later. After 8 minutes, flip bacon over and add your bread of choice on top of bacon to toast in the grease. Cook the bacon for another 4 minutes and remove. You can turn off the oven now, and let the bread toast to your desired crisp. Flip the bread over to get an even toasting. Once your bread is ready, its time for assembly. BLART structure is important. Start with a mayo spread on one piece of bread. Season with salt, black and red pepper. Then proceed with tomato, bacon and lettuce. Finally on the top piece of bread, spread the avocado. Now season the avocado if you did not do so prior. and then finish with the radish. now take this piece of bread and place it on top to complete your BLART! ENJOY!

# SUPPORT SMALL ARTISTS



**Jacob Fraizer @watercolwhore**  
Watercolors are a superpower for this NYC artist. People watching, pop culture, and human interaction are at the forefront of Jacob's inspiration. They're often found popping up around town for in person sessions. Schedule For your next event or get a commissioned piece!



## Ifedayo and The Harlem Gospel Travelers

A fabulous musical blend of old and new. Ifedayo's solo pop single "Sweet Talker" and a new group album RHAPSODY, are full of praise, joy, and vocals! STREAM!

@ifedayo\_official @harlemgospeltravelers



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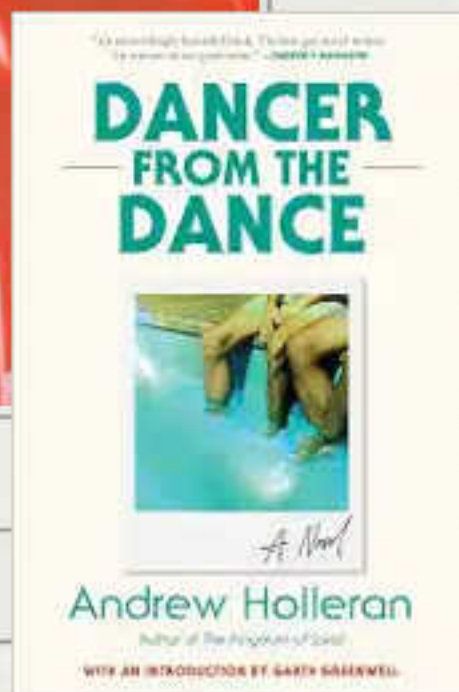
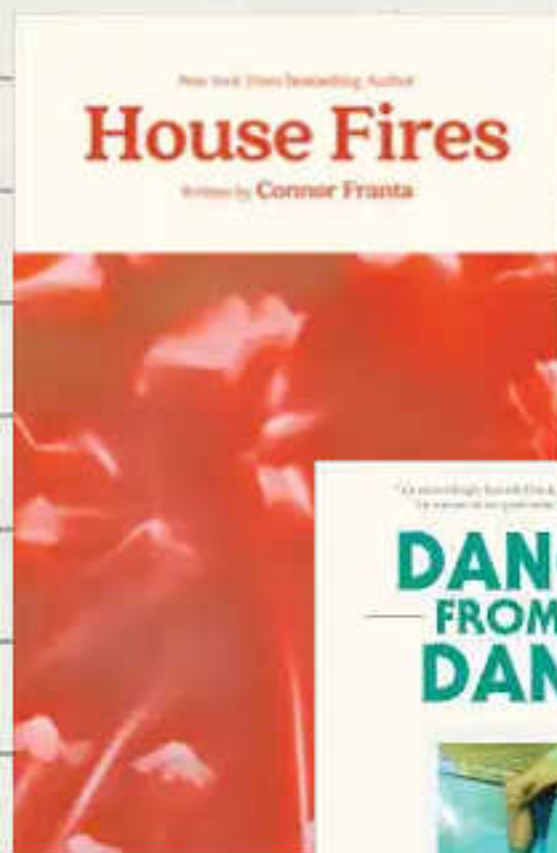
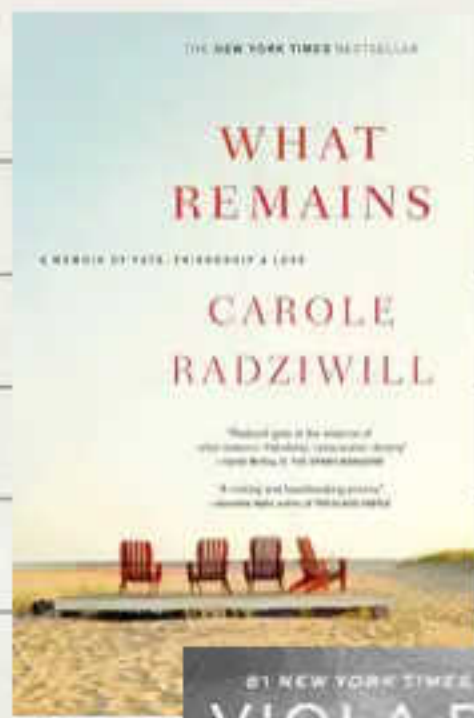
## Read It And Weep

I've never been the best at self accountability when it comes to reading. From a young age I hated the activity. The only books I actually read as a kid were the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" series... I relied heavily on the internet for chapter summarizations, key facts, and book to movie adaptations. It wasn't till "The Hunger Games" that I actually got into reading. The dystopian young adult novels invited me into a portal of frequent reading. BookTube was also a major moment for me during high school. However, good habits die young. As time went on, I was lucky if I completed 1-2 books in a year.

When I began working on set, I noticed an immense amount of downtime. I tried to introduce myself back into the reading routine. Getting off my phone after doom scrolling for hours, channeling my energy into a single entity, rather than the overwhelming stimulation of social media. This habit was good in theory, but ended in a pile of half finished books.

Over the past few months I've rededicated myself to reading. Picking up some unfinished books, and mixing in some new ones too. I'll never be the kind of person who can read 1 book a week, or even in a month. I'm a slowpoke. I think being slow is sometimes my strength though... I cling to every word, sometimes reading a paragraph twice just to understand in full, the authors objective. These days, I personally enjoy a mix of autobiography and psychological fiction.

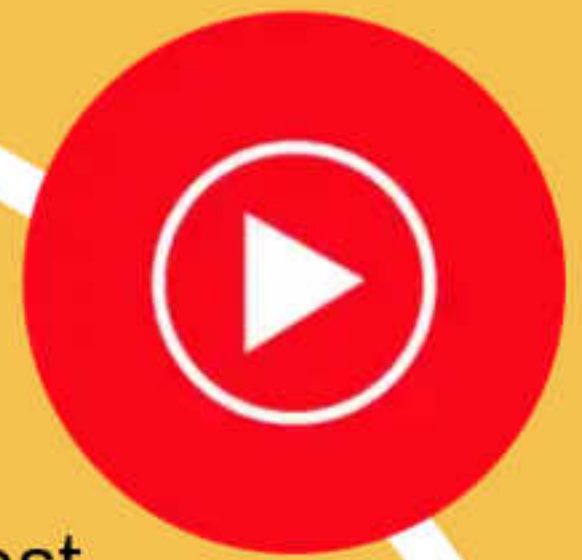
This Summer I finally finished reading Viola Davis's memoir "Finding Me", and it's pushed me to recenter and recommit myself to my aspirations in staged performance art.



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# HOW DO YOU TUBE ON YOUTUBE?



I'm a YouTube consumer first and foremost.

Although my taste in subscriptions have changed over the years, there are a few consistent content creators I look forward to each and every week. My personal channel favorites focus on design, travel, chateau renovations, interviews, and NYC archival footage. In my opinion, long form content is much more beneficial and artistic... whereas the new age of short form content (reels/tiktoks) are overwhelming and are destroying our attention spans. Paige and Damon are two topnotch creators who pride themselves on sticking to their strengths and embracing long-form content, while boycotting the mind numbing era of short-form.



**Paige Wassel**

@wasselpa

162K subscribers • 132 videos

DESIGN/PROP STYLIST

TRAVEL/PHILOSOPHY



**Damon Dominique**

@damondominique

446K subscribers • 153 videos

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# Tunes To Tune Into

**2024 is almost over! Can you believe it? The halfway point of the 2020s decade is fast approaching. The music gifted to us these past four year has left its mark, while establishing a new and exciting era of music. Although I suggested some new albums from this year in the Arts and Culture section, I want to give a few more artists some time in the spotlight. We love the big names, but sometimes it's worth giving something new a listen. Indie pop, alternative, and electronic... these artists, and their 2024 albums, truly set the stage for the future of music.**

## REMI WOLF



## SHYGIRL



## DECLAN MCKENNA



## MAGDELENA BAY

# The Conclusion

I've been working on this particular issue of THIS•JUST•IN for a month now. It's been hard to sit down and focus on it as sometimes a drought of creative energy and determination strikes.

As I near the end of summer it's important to remind myself that some goals and bucket list items get left in the dust, however it's not too late. September invites opportunity for one last push. Go to the beach with friends, plan that picnic, explore the outdoors, unplug from the social media catastrophe, drink a spritz, and connect with others.



## Encore

THE AGE OF PLEASURE and ENDLESS SUMMER VACATION are two truly spectacular albums to add to any summer playlist. Both released in 2023, I couldn't close out this newsletter without giving these ladies their flowers. A lot of music in this edition... but music is good for the soul!