

## Why Do People Want to Study in the States?



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Before I came here I didn't think about the benefits of South Korea. In Korea, it is easy to go shopping, to watch the sea and to the bank even if I don't have a car. That's because Korea is smaller than America so public transportation is easily built. Two months ago, I wanted to go to Bank of America and walked for 50 minutes. I thought it would be easy to go there by walking but this is America, not Korea. That was not a good idea on a scorching day. At that moment, I missed the small country, Korea. Like this, we never miss the water till the well runs dry. It is very hard to notice the

luxuries we already have. I am an international student so I often think about the benefits of studying in the States.

First of all, the most important thing for students is high-quality education. Everyone knows that the greatest technology and academic knowledge are in the United States. I wanted to learn and be a part of that knowledge so I came to Arkansas State University. Furthermore, I was shocked by the education culture in the U.S. American students don't have any fear of asking questions in class as opposed to most Koreans students, who don't. I was motivated by American students and this education culture. Truly, I want to learn to check my curiosity about academic knowledge and solve problems even when I start out not knowing something. I think this is the reason that there are a lot of great people in America.

The second thing is people and company. For instance, I want to be an investor. So I hope to meet my role models and great investors. But if I were in Korea, I would not be able to meet them because most of the great investors like George

Soros, Warren Buffett, Howard S. Marks and Ray Dalio are in the United States. Of course, it is still not easy to meet them but there is hope. In addition, most American students know this truth, so I can meet other motivated students in the States. The companies are the same too. Apple, Amazon and Microsoft, all big companies based here in the United States. It means America has a great environment to make the best out of business.

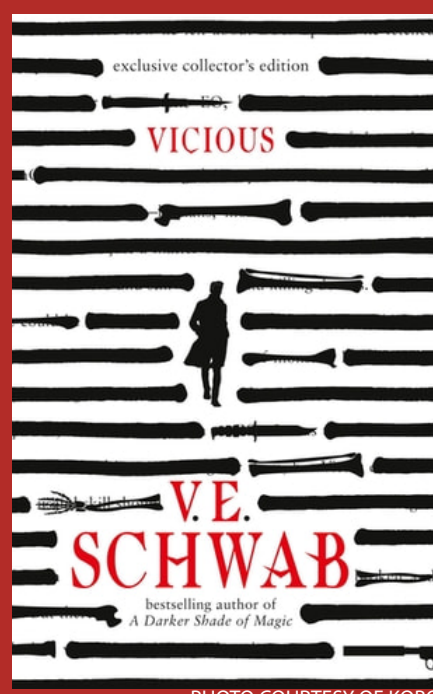
The third reason is language, English. There are many great people in the States and as such they write their books in English. So most valuable books or essays are written in English. So, if people want to read these valuable books they need to learn English. The translation is very useful but it can often stray from the real writer's intent. I think a little change can make a big difference.

These three reasons are very natural for Americans. So it is easy to skip the value of these things. However, it can be a very valuable thing for someone like me. I believe that A-State is the first step toward my future, and I am glad to have come here and study with you.

### THIS WEEK'S POP PICK

JACK BOND | OPINION EDITOR

#### "Vicious" by V.E. Schwab



Want a good superhero story that doesn't follow the standard superhero formula? Tired of the same PG/PG-13 guy learning to use his newfound powers and saving the world story? Look no further than V.E. Schwab's thriller, "Vicious."

The book follows the stories of Eli Ever and Victor Vale, two college students who discover that a person can obtain supernatural powers under certain life-threatening conditions. After their research gets a little too experimental, the two set out to follow their own violent, blood-soaked paths.

The book is a purebred thriller from cover to cover. Each chapter starts with a time frame (e.g., "ten years ago," "two days ago," "last night," etc.) that builds up to the climactic confrontation in the present. This small detail makes the reader feel like they're reading a ticking time bomb, just waiting for the action to explode. Adding to the thriller aspect, it makes the ending feel all the more powerful and exciting.

But even a good plot nowadays typically needs good characters, and Schwab delivers. Schwab's characters are expertly crafted with just the right amount of mystery and personality to keep the reader guessing just who exactly they are. Despite the fact that many of them have supernatural powers and are straight-up villains, the depth and moral ambiguity of each character humanizes them and grounds them in reality.

By far the greatest strength of this book is the dark themes. While it's not as unhinged as something like "The Boys" on Amazon Prime, Schwab does not pull any punches. She manages to create a realistically dark atmosphere without overdoing it to the point where it just becomes a shock factor to gauge attention.

That being said, if you like shows like "The Boys" or movies like "Joker," then "Vicious" will be right up your alley. Like those media, it shows a darker side of the superhero genre and chooses to focus on the thriller aspect. If you like superhero stories, dark themes or thrillers, then Vicious is a must-read.

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## CLUB SPOTLIGHT

### SCARLET CHESS CLUB

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PHOTO COURTESY OF THE SPRUCE CRAFTS

The Scarlet Chess club is a student run organization that focuses on playing both recreational and competitive chess that is open to the Jonesboro community. It was founded in 2007 by Dr. Gregory Hansen and Famous Taylor. They have weekly meetings for casual games at Panera Bread on Fridays, 6 p.m. to close, and just recently moved to the campus Starbucks for Sunday games, 6 p.m. to close, and Shadrachs for Saturday morning games, 8-10 a.m. The Scarlet Chess Club is competing in a tournament on Sept. 28th online against Arkansas State University Queretaro campus Chess Club. The tournament is being directed by Diego Cruz of the Queretaro campus' chess club. They have reserved the Mockingbird room in the Carl R. Reng Student Union for this tournament. Anyone may sign up for the tournament by emailing the tournament director Sachleen Singh at [sachleen.fnu@smail.astate.edu](mailto:sachleen.fnu@smail.astate.edu). The Scarlet Chess Club has also started streaming their events on their Twitch and Youtube channels for everyone to watch and enjoy.

## HOROSCOPES

<b>Aquarius</b> (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18) This week marks the end of a cycle you have been stuck in. As things leave you, keep your chin up, better things will eventually come.	<b>Pisces</b> (Feb. 19 - March 21) This week focus on independent relaxation as to not overwork yourself.	<b>Gemini</b> (May 21 - June 20) This week will bring boundless energy into your life, work and hobbies. Be careful and don't be hasty or cut corners when charging headfirst into your tasks.
<b>Cancer</b> (June 21 - July 22) Don't make hasty decisions this week as they will ruin your plans.	<b>Leo</b> (July 23 - Aug. 22) You may feel like you're not being heard this week but your close friends do hear you and will be there for you.	<b>Virgo</b> (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22) You're refusing to accept change, but in order to get what you want in life you have to accept the big changes that are coming your way.
<b>Libra</b> (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22) This week is the best week to let all the creative juices in your brain flow freely and start new projects.	<b>Scorpio</b> (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21) You may be going through rough times but remember that change is almost always for the better even if you can't see the positive.	<b>Sagittarius</b> (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21) This week you should focus on expanding your knowledge and gaining new experiences.
<b>Capricorn</b> (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19) As good things happen to you this week, absorb as much of your good emotions as you can and be thankful for all the good things in your life.	<b>Aries</b> (March 22 - April 19) You are constantly overworking yourself and should seek out the time this week to relax and learn to balance your time and energy.	<b>Taurus</b> (April 20 - May 20) You're ignoring your inner self and desires which are blocking you from getting what you want out of life. Take time to meditate and be one with yourself this week to get back on track.

Interested in reporting? Join us every Monday at 5 p.m. in room 224 in the Communications Building.