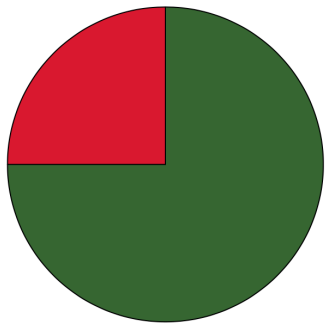


## What's Your Opinion?

Is "Die Hard" a Christmas movie?

Out of 20 responses:  
Yes -- 15  
No -- 5



● Yes ● No

Students can answer the poll on The Herald's Instagram page, [@astateherald](https://www.instagram.com/astateherald). Instagram polls are posted on Mondays. Previous poll results can be found on [astatetheherald.com](https://www.astatetheherald.com). Have an idea for a poll? Send your ideas to [heraldopinion1921@gmail.com](mailto:heraldopinion1921@gmail.com).

These and future articles can be found on the Opinion section of The Herald's website.

## Final bits of wisdom from a graduating editor

REBECCA ROBINSON  
NEWS EDITOR



Rebecca Robinson is a graduating senior multimedia journalism major from Sheridan, Arkansas.

I am finally finished. I am (mostly) ready to walk on stage and receive my degree. If I'm honest it still has not set in that I am graduating. I check the email confirmation at least twice a day in a panic, thinking I have dreamed it up. I am convinced my graduation is a practical joke being played by Mr. Howl himself.

However, it's time to face the fact that my undergraduate time is nearing an end. In the spirit of moving on, I want to leave some final pieces of wisdom.

### Take your classes seriously

I can already hear the readers groaning but, take your academics

seriously. College is a privilege and it is expensive. I have definitely skipped classes, made bad grades and had to retake a course or two and all I was doing was making college harder on myself.

I have had an enjoyable semester this Fall because I have actually been going to my classes and trying to make decent grades. I challenged myself to do better. I don't think you have to be a top student but something as simple as doing the work and meeting deadlines can save you a world of trouble.

**"I am convinced my graduation is a practical joke being played by Mr. Howl himself."**

Professors aren't scary so I recommend getting acquainted with them. One thing I can say about my program is that my professors have always listened and tried their best to help me if I just reached out.

### But... Don't take yourself too seriously

Taking yourself too seriously is probably the worst thing you can do in college. Don't hinder your own fun. If you want to wear a silly shirt to class do it, if you want to join a goofy club go for it. I promise no one cares but you. Put yourself out there and have fun.

It passes by quickly, don't waste it not letting yourself enjoy things.

### Stop rotting in bed

It is hard to want to get out of bed after classes and work, but going to school events and going out when your classmates invite you is so important. I didn't ever want to go do anything my first year because I was too scared. I luckily had a very outgoing roommate that would drag me out and I met so many people.

My decision to take my movie-watching time and invest it in The Herald set me up for success in so many ways. Not only has it helped my career and portfolio, but it also made me always have built-in friends. I've always had at least three days a week where I had plans and I wasn't going to just sit in my dorm room.

### Follow your heart

I got scared out of journalism at one point and left my major to try something else I thought would have more security or would pay me more. It didn't

feel right, it felt like giving up on what I wanted. I stuck with it for a semester and realized my mistake.

I loved journalism and I needed to realize the other things I was worrying about were ultimately making me unhappy. I switched back and stuck with it. I don't regret it, but I can say I would have if I was currently graduating with a degree that didn't make me happy.

As cheesy as it is, follow your heart. You're getting your degree, you're putting in the work, no one else is, go for what you want and figure the rest out later.

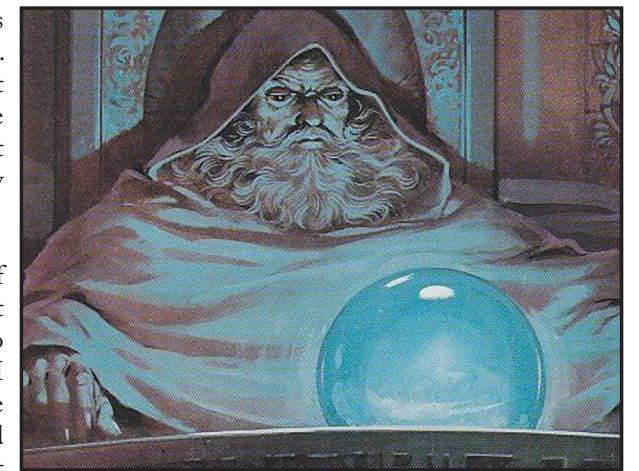


PHOTO COURTESY OF DICEBREAKER

Artists rendition of Rebecca gazing into the orb.

## "Die Hard" is most definitely a Christmas movie

ELIJAH TEMPLETON  
OPINION EDITOR



Elijah Templeton is a junior creative media production major from Jonesboro.

For close to 40 years, there has been debate on whether "Die Hard" is a Christmas movie or not. I am here to settle that debate. "Die Hard" is most definitely a Christmas movie.

The film takes place at an office Christmas Party on Christmas Eve at Nakatomi Plaza in Los Angeles. Terrorists take over the building in an attempt to steal hundreds of millions of dollars in bonds from a locked vault, taking dozens of hostages in the process.

John McClane, played by Bruce Willis, is a detective from New York

City who has come to Los Angeles for the holidays to see his children and his estranged wife, who works at Nakatomi Plaza. McClane must fight his way through wave after wave of terrorists to save his wife and the other hostages before it is too late.

Based on that short description, you would be hard-pressed to find someone who would guess you were talking about a Christmas movie. It is only after viewing that this fact becomes crystal clear.

It is easy to dismiss the idea of "Die Hard" as a Christmas movie and instead add it to the ever-growing list of Hollywood's blockbuster action films. With explosions, gun fights and a barefoot Bruce Willis, this movie has everything executives dream of.

No magic or holiday spirit fills the hallways of Nakatomi Plaza. There is only Alan Rickman and a bomb.

At face value, "Die Hard" would not make the list of films deemed as classic holiday movies. Despite this fact, millions of people sit down and watch "Die Hard" during the holiday season.

The core of "Die Hard" is love and family. McClane fights so hard to save

innocent lives and most importantly, to save his wife. This beating heart of the film is what classifies "Die Hard" as a Christmas movie.

The reason McClane is even in Los Angeles in the first place is to see his family and spend the holidays with them.

After the explosions and shootouts come to an end and the hostages make their escape, McClane and his wife are reconciled and seem to be on good terms again.

They are together as a light snow falls over Los Angeles.

How else can you explain a snowy night in southern California besides it being a Christmas miracle? A family reunited just in time to celebrate together again.

Christmas is a time to be with the ones you love and "Die Hard" is, at its core, a story of a man fighting to save and get back to his family, making it an ideal holiday watch.

"Die Hard" is a Christmas movie and it is one of the best ever made.

But of course, that's just one man's opinion.



ARTWORK COURTESY OF ADRIENNE ALLS

Comic interpretation of scenes from "Die Hard" with a Christmas twist.

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Story ideas or news tips may be emailed to [heraldnews1921@gmail.com](mailto:heraldnews1921@gmail.com). The Herald welcomes comments, criticisms or ideas that its readership may have. We encourage you to send a Letter to the Editor to [rachel.rudd@smail.astate.edu](mailto:rachel.rudd@smail.astate.edu).

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