

# THE BEACH HAVEN PRESS

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## NEWEST FAMILY MEMBER ARRIVES!

Hazel Lucille Coates, daughter of Kevin and Emily Coates was born June 24, 2017 at 8:22pm in Rexburg, ID. She was 6 pounds, 9 ounces and 19-1/4 inches long.

Welcome Hazel! We love you!



## THE M&M GANG

Stafford, VA

Michelle Beach

April we went down to Georgia, no devil met us while there, to celebrate our grandsons birthdays and to spend time with our daughter, Kyra. It was a fun weekend with the family and getting some work done on the home. Mike had a busy month traveling all month so it was also quiet at home. Mike and Matt took our new (used) boat up to the Solomons Island in Maryland. It was a 110 mile trip and they both enjoyed it very much.

May was a good month as we went on a hike at the *Crow's Nest* and then spent our first overnight on the boat and then went sailing the next day. We didn't get much sailing in but it was a good first trip. Mother's Day was fun as the kids

tried to be the first one to tell me happy Mother's Day. Matt won this year, all in all it was a great day.

June brought Paulene and Andrew for a visit and we took them out on the boat. Matt was able to join us also. It was a great day for sailing as we were able to ride at a 30 degree tilt and laughing at Grandma worrying about falling out of the boat. We had great wind and were able to sail most of the day.

June also meant another trip to Utah for a new addition to our family. All and all not a bad 2nd quarter.



## THE BLACKBURNER

Grantsville, UT

Ashley Blackburn

Hey all! I can't believe it's the end of another quarter! This one seemed to fly by extremely fast! Must have been because we did so much. Well, might as well jump right in to the spring quarter!

April began with the same event that it always does: General Conference. This year, we were invited to go and enjoy time with my Grandma Beach's brother and sister who came to Utah for the first time in their lives. They seemed to have a good time and we were able to introduce them to lots of family they hadn't had a chance to meet. We had fun chatting and playing games.

About a week later, I was able to enjoy a fun night with the ladies of my new ward as we had an activity. As Ryan was working, I had to take the girls with me, but that was ok. The other ladies of the ward had fun playing with them and helping to keep them entertained. We had dinner, followed by a devotional, and a musical number by some of the primary kids. Thankfully, the kids behaved themselves, and fun was had by all.

For Easter a few days later, we headed up to Roy for my aunt's annual egg hunt. It took a little bit longer than I'd intended as I was again by myself, so we missed the first round of the hunt. However, when we got there, some of the older kids volunteered to re-stuff eggs and re-hide them so that my girls could have fun too. Both of the girls had a lot of fun. It

was Aijah's first hunt and she seemed to enjoy it, although her favorite part wasn't the candy, but putting the plastic eggs in her mouth. ☺

We were then able to enjoy a nice dinner and conversation with family. Two of the girls' cousins helped to keep Enna entertained, so I only really had Aijah to worry about so that was a nice break.

Two days later, we then celebrated yet another fun day. Aijah turned 1! She is growing up so fast! After we had dinner, we gave her a cupcake to eat. Unlike her sister who had patiently licked off the frosting and then shoved the cupcake in her mouth piece by piece, Aijah picked up the whole thing and took the biggest bite her mouth would allow. It was probably gone in 2-3 bites. It was entertaining to watch.

After that came the presents. She ended up only opening one present because she took so long doing it. We tried to show her how to rip the paper, but she just tentatively pulled at it. At one point, Enna got impatient trying to see what was inside that she came and ripped a big chunk, but we were able to get her to leave the rest alone. Oh well, Aijah eventually got it open and then the next day she opened the rest.

April ended and May began. As Enna has been steadily learning new words once the DDIvantage specialists were able to help her make the connection, we have been working on colors and numbers. In the first part of May, we finally got the point that Enna could identify two colors without prompting: blue and white. I decided to text my mom about it as those are BYU's colors and thought it would make her smile. Then I took it one step further and included my dad. What resulted was a hilarious exchange of playful banter between my folks. I laughed as they teased each other back and forth about Enna's color knowledge.

We also had another big advancement, this time with Aijah. For the first time she took multiple steps without the aid of a hand or piece of furniture. All I could think was that we had a second mobile child. Let the games continue!

A couple of days later, we had the fun of throwing a baby shower for Emily in celebration of soon welcoming another baby to the family (another girl). We had a pretty good turnout. We chatted, ate food, played a couple of fun games, and watched Emily open her presents. Only a little over a month and we would be welcoming little Hazel to the world.

Later that week we had another fun advancement. Enna called her sister by her name—sorta. For about 3 months prior to this, she had been calling her sister Kaiee (Kylie after someone in nursery). However, she finally called her sister Ejah (using the long e sound like in the word eat). At least we're getting closer!

Summer began with a community activity called the "Tooele Garden Festival". As we weren't here last year to know what it was, we decided to check it out. It ended up being like a mini state fair with lots of vendors and food trucks, but we still found some fun things to do. For example, they had all of the public service vehicles there (police officers, fire engine, air med helicopter), and the kids were allowed to climb in and check them out. Enna kept going on about how she got to be in the fire engine. She loved it a lot. She even got herself a plastic fire fighter helmet; she was ecstatic.

They also had pony rides. Surprisingly, Enna actually wanted to ride despite only trying for like 30 seconds the last

time. So I let her try it out and she surprisingly stayed on the whole time and loved every minute. She is growing up way too fast!!

The next week we had the fun of spending time with Grandma and Grandpa Blackburn as they came into town for their annual vacation. We did bounce houses, played games, had meals, and just chatted. As Enna is getting better at recognizing grandparents, she was more willing to interact with them and play around. We had a lot of fun all week they were around.

As our house is an hour closer to theirs, they spent the last night of their visit with us to save time the next day. As the next day was Father's Day, we were able to do a special treat and make them breakfast before they took off. My father-in-law loved that he got a Father's Day treat even though they were on vacation. We also gave my sister-in-law her birthday gift with instructions to open it later so that Enna wouldn't freak out (as when we bought it, Enna had thought it was for her).

The last thing the month brought was the long awaited new niece. Hazel made her appearance in the world on June 23. Although I wouldn't get to meet her in person until vacation in July (see next issue), it was still exciting to see her picture and welcome her to the family.

Well that's all for this quarter. Like I said, a lot happened. See you next quarter for the Blackburner.



## MATT'S MINUTE

Charlotte, NC

Matthew Beach

Hello,

So here's a bit of my experience being recruited by the company in Italy that I'm going to work for.

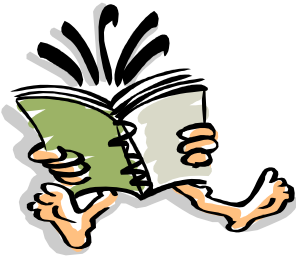
In early February I was reached out to via *LinkedIn* for a position in a battery lab in Italy. I remember at first being pretty skeptical because the message came in at 2am due to the 6 hour time difference. I told the HR rep who reached out that I was interested in listening to what kind of job he had to fill. Things at work for *Husqvarna* were going well on the overall so I wasn't in any hurry to jump ship yet.

After an early morning (4am) interview about some of the basics it became clear they were looking for someone to build a battery lab not just work in one. At this time I was up in Michigan on a work trip and so I had a lot of time to think about it all. They were offering an engineering position and moving costs, which was pretty generous. A few more interviews made

it clear they were pretty serious about hiring me and I began really considering it.

By early May they verbally said I was the one they wanted to hire and were in the process of putting together a contract. This whole experience was new to me from the get go. It was a ton of research and thought on the differences in culture and work life. Once early May rolled around and a contract came through I was 100% sure I was ready to go on a new adventure.

June rolled by quickly with lots of paperwork and eventually talking to my current boss at Husqvarna to let them know I was leaving. One good note was there was no animosity towards me leaving. All my colleagues were very happy for me. As of writing this in late June I just have a few more documents to finish and hope for departure in early to mid-July. It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.



## PAGE TURNER

### WONDER WOMAN

Rating: PG-13

Director: Patty Jenkins

Run time: 2 hrs and 21 min

This review contains spoilers.

Review by Emily Coates

Ah, *Detective Comics*, otherwise known as *DC*. You've made many movies in the past. Some were laughable, such as George Clooney's incarnation of *Batman* (were those bat nipples really necessary, costuming team?) to more recent disappointments such as *Suicide Squad* and *Batman V. Superman: Dawn of Justice*. Not to say the DC universe has not done any good work. Christopher Nolan's *Dark Knight* trilogy films are notable, as are many of the television shows currently being produced.

However, the newest inclusion of the DC extended universe has proven to lean more towards the latter than the former. Yes, I'm speaking of *Wonder Woman*, and it was much better than I had expected it to be. *Wonder Woman* saw success in the box office not because of a flashy title or because the titular character has been a household name since the seventies and prior. This movie was a cinematic success because of careful attention to design, special effects and choice of actors.

Patty Jenkins directs the newest addition to what's referred to as the DC extended universe, as in the comic serializations, there is a theory of multiple worlds that contain similar super heroes, and this is the next part in building up to the creation of the *Justice League*.

For those who are unaware of the plot of the film, here's a quick rundown. *Wonder Woman*, otherwise known as

Diana, is the daughter of Hippolyta, the mighty queen of the Amazons from Greek mythology. She leads an island of warrior women, who train vigorously for their one mission in life: destroy Ares, the god of war. He is the last remaining of the Greek pantheon of gods who fought among themselves. Ares was the one who corrupted the hearts of men and changed them from being good to being warlike.

Diana grows up on this island, but can't stand to wait and do nothing. When Chris Pine's character finds his way to the island and is saved by our hero, Diana leaves with him in hopes of destroying the war god, knowing she can never return home. She joins in the battles of WWI, getting precious intel to the allies and helping to stop a scientist from releasing a large shipment of gaseous bombs that would be sure to kill many people, and not just soldiers.

The turning point is when Diana learns the true nature of humans, and that the end goal she started out with will not come to fruition in the way she expects.

The overall design of the film was a treat to see. From the varied settings to the uses of the iconic tools of *Wonder Woman* (namely her metal wrist bands and lasso of truth) stayed true to the comics, and allowed for versatility, and admittedly some moments of *Deus Ex Machina*.

Although *Wonder Woman* is known best for her red and blue ensemble, it was great to see her in period clothing, as well as formal attire that fit in nicely. Her dress when going to the gala was stunning and flowed very well on-screen, although I don't know how she would have really been able to move with a sword down the back of her dress.

The lighting created a great atmosphere for what was happening, and gave great insight into the characters feelings. For example, the scene when *Wonder Woman* realized that killing Ares would not stop the war was especially dark, her moment of greatest inner turmoil. The design kept everything in war colors (green, beige and black) which allowed *Wonder Woman's* muted red, white, and blue ensemble to stand out without being too tacky.

The special effects also help the design show off *Wonder Woman's* strength, cunning and compassion. The whole movie is a coming of age story of an extraordinary woman. Most of the special effects came in with the use of *Wonder Woman's* wrist guards as well as her lasso and inhuman ability to leap large distances. I also appreciated the attention to the burn scarring detail on the main villainess' face, which allowed us to see at the very end that she, too, had been a victim at one point, and that would be cause for vindication. While the CGI was helpful, there were a couple of times that it was a little distracting, such as a few times when *Wonder Woman* was leaping around, as well as when the plane carrying gaseous bombs blew up.

I think the actors were well chosen. Chris Pine was the biggest name I recognized. He played his typecast part as a charming lead male, but this time he wasn't a huge jerk or womanizer, as he has been in many movies since his appearance in *The Princess Diaries 2*. I loved the fact that *Wonder Woman* did not use many big-name actors. Gal Gadot absolutely sparkled. She isn't this super thin but somehow strong woman. The director specifically did not edit the fact that her thighs jiggled sometimes when landing, and as a woman, I can appreciate that. The side characters, despite their small screen

time, did add to the flavor of the approach, and provided some good ground for world building, and giving us enough substance to want to cheer them on. For example, the Irish man who had PTSD and the displaced Native American.

I would recommend watching this film, as it does very well what DC has struggled to do in the past, create one cohesive storyline with enough of a balance to make the film work. It also stayed fairly true to the source material, although there were some slight changes. I did feel that this movie could have been DC's take on a gender swapped *Captain America*, but it had enough differences and clever writing, acting and design that makes it stand out from that and other DC films.

#### GREAT SHORT WORKS OF HERMAN MELVILLE

Edited by Warner Berthoff  
Harper & Row, 1966, 510 pages  
Reviewed by Michael Beach

I have a tendency to read collections of short stories as mentioned in past reviews. This is because the reader can enjoy stories without having to invest much time in any particular one of them. In this way if there is a story that doesn't as enjoyable there is less time wasted.

That said, I tend to like Melville's style. Where his *Moby Dick* often side tracked on expository explanations of whaling, these stories tended to stay more on track. They had to in order to keep to the short work form.

As with *Moby Dick*, many of these tales were centered on maritime themes, though not all. Some are travelogues. Others are profiles of people. There are swashbucklers and con men. Melville uses a few life experiences to make social commentary as in *The Two Temples* and *The Paradise of Bachelors and The Tartarus of Maids*. Whether these last two were actual life experiences or made up, they were written in the first person and seem credible. That speaks to the author's skill if nothing else.

Melville wrote in his time of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and some of his work reflects attitudes of his day that may not sit well in the modern era. For example, Benito Cereno depicts the after effects of a revolt on a Spanish slave ship. The enslaved Africans are successful at first, but are eventually defeated. Actions by the slaves is depicted as quite harsh and barbaric. The Spanish sailors are shown in a more sympathetic light as simple tradesmen. Platitudes are common such as when Captain Cereno mentions that "Most negroes are natural valets and hairdressers; taking to the comb and brush congenially as to the castinets, and flourishing them apparently with equal satisfaction." It's not clear if the author is perpetuating this attitude or simply trying to depict it.

Each story has its own pace and appeal as is the case with any short story.

#### WINNIE-THE-POOH ON MANAGEMENT

By Roger E. Allen  
Penguin Books Australia Ltd., 1994, 161 pages  
Reviewed by Michael Beach

Allen uses familiar Milne characters to review his perspective on management best-practice. A stranger comes to the hundred-acre wood and interacts with Pooh, Tigger, Owl

and the rest. He even writes the allegorical story in Milne's style.

Weaving into the story, the author defines professional management in terms such as "The Six Functions in the Work of a Manager" and "Rules of Effective Communication".

The suggestions are sensible. The allegory is fun, but maybe a bit protracted.

#### EL POEMA DE MIO CID

Translated by Rita Hamilton and Janet Perry  
Penguin Books, 1975, 242 pages  
Reviewed by Michael Beach

The original heroic poem of El Cid was written in medieval times. It's not known specifically who wrote it, though it was most likely Spanish monks. It is an epic poem in the tradition of the works of Homer. This particular volume gives both the ancient Spanish and modern English text on adjoining pages. Even for readers comfortable with modern Spanish the translation was very helpful. This is because the old style of Spanish is archaic enough to be difficult for people who do not specifically study it. For me it was reminiscent of reading Shakespeare for modern English speakers.

The story is one of an actual historical figure, Rodrigo Diaz de Vivar, who lived in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. Like many of his time he was a knight who was more like a mercenary. He fought for hire for several kings. He was banished by King Ferdinand. As a result he entered the parts of Spain then ruled by Moors (Muslims). Entering on a crusade to win back portions of Spain (and fill his own wealth), Diaz captures cities and sends tribute to Ferdinand to win back his honor. The moniker "El Cid" is dubbed on him by one of his Muslim opponents whom he had known under friendlier terms before his banishment.

After conquering, El Cid returns, but under intrigue. The king proposes marriage of the two daughters of Diaz with two brothers of nobility. They turn out to sorely abuse the daughter in order to insult Diaz. This was because they proved cowardly in the presence of El Cid and some of his men. Embarrassed, they blamed Diaz and used the abuse of his daughters to put shame on him.

In the end there are challenges and fights of honor within the nobility and all is made right. The poem itself is full of tales of battle on both the large scale, and with antagonists facing off one-on-one.





## THE LAST WORD

(Editorial comments - submissions welcome)

### WHERE ARE MY GLASSES?

Stafford, VA

Michael Beach

I ride a commuter train into Washington DC most days for work. Its call the Virginia Railway Express (VRE). On my morning commute I tend to say my morning prayer and focus my reading on gospel topics. In the evening my focus is typically more related to work or just books I'm reading for fun.

A few Thursdays ago, while riding home, after a little reading, I got focused working on a crossword puzzle. I seemed to get maybe a little too focused. Before long the announcement came over the speaker that we were pulling into my stop. I quickly shoved all my stuff into my backpack. To my chagrin I was not finding my eyeglasses. I remembered putting them on the seat next to me, but they were not there. I checked all my pockets just in case, and a quick look into the backpack with no luck. I assumed they must have fallen behind the seat or something. The train was now fully stopped and the doors were about to close. If I didn't get off I'd have ended up riding to the next stop where I had no car to get home with. Exasperated, I gave up the search, and got off the train. After I got home I broke the bad news to my wife.

Neither of us were overly concerned. I have been having a little trouble focusing my eyes lately, so it was time for a checkup anyway. In the mean time I would find my old pair and use those. As it turns out, the old ones seemed to have vanished as well. We went to the optometrist's on Friday only to find that they were closed that day. I was home because I had a doctor appointment that day and wasn't feeling all that well anyway.

Saturday we called the eye doctor to set an appointment, but only got voicemail. We drove in only to find that they couldn't fit me in for another two weeks. I scheduled the appointment and looked forward to a month without glasses. This is because the appointment was two weeks away. Then with prescription in hand I'd have to order new glasses. That would take another week or two. I had resigned myself to squinting and eyestrain.

The next Monday morning I boarded the train as usual, only not as usual. My normal perch is on the upper deck on a car with the seat backs toward the front of the car. I ride that way in both directions (to work in the morning and home at night). I get a better view out the window, and if there is ever a train wreck I won't get tossed from my seat. As I boarded this morning, the car was abnormally full. Every seat on the upper deck on both sides of the car were already occupied by passengers. I resigned myself to the lower deck on one of the side facing seats close to the entry door.

The ride went as normal. Several times I thought as a conductor passed that I should ask about a lost-and-found for my glasses. I didn't. As we approached the final stop, my destination, one of the conductors literally sat down on a seat two feet from me on the first row of front facing seats. This means he was just to my right with nothing between us. I noticed the name on his badge, Robert Easley. He had pulled out a form to start writing something. I interrupted him and asked about a lost-and-found. He told me how to get in touch with them at the VRE offices. Then he asked where I lost the glasses. When I told him, he smiled. He reach to a latched cabinet a few feet directly in front of me and pulled out my glasses. He had found them on Thursday and had put them aside to turn in, but had not done it yet.

Now think about this. Each train has two or three conductors. Each conductor rides a train into Washington each morning, then rides another out of Washington each evening. They are occasionally rotated so they are not always on the same train schedule. I don't always ride the exact same train schedule either, or sit in the same car. The train I take each way depends on how my work day is planned. What are the chances that all of these events would fall into place to put this specific conductor next to me in that exact moment in front of the very cabinet where he had placed the glasses?

These little miracles I take as personal reminders that a loving Heavenly Father is watchful over us. I have had many similar experiences over the years. I am thankful that God recognizes when we need to see how he is mindful of us individually.

Thanks also to Robert Easley for being a good person and conscientious VRE conductor. Clearly he was open to the promptings of the Holy Ghost, whether he understood it that way or not. After I thanked him he said, "It was meant to be."

Yes, I still went in for my eye appointment and now have new glasses, but until then there was less squinting.



**Submissions**

Entries for the next edition of BHP are due no later than **15 September 2017**. Send all correspondence to our Stafford, VA address or e-mail [bhp@bhaven.org](mailto:bhp@bhaven.org)

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