

# AMERICA'S FAVORITE FAMILY JUST GOT

# FULLER

COMMONS.WIKIPEDIA.ORG

By Lauren Sexton  
MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

Whatever happened to predictability? The milkman, the paperboy and *Full House* on TV? Families don't have to wait any longer. From staying up until the late hours of the night to watch the original on Nickelodeon to tearing up about mini cast reunions, *Full House* was the linchpin holding together our generation's collective childhood. The show generations have grown up watching can finally get closure and have mercy in Netflix's revival of the series, *Fuller House*.

America's favorite family on and off screen reprises their roles in *Fuller House*, with the exception of the youngest Tanner. A twist on Jeff Franklin's original, DJ Tanner Fuller (Candace Cameron Bure) is all grown up with three boys of her own. After the tragic loss of her husband, DJ begins to believe that she is alone due to the fact that her family is in the process of moving out of their original family home. Her loneliness doesn't last for long, when her little sister Stephanie (Jodie Sweetin) and crazy, 90s-obsessed Kimmy Gibbler (Andrea Barber) move into the San Francisco home to help her start over.

The Netflix original will not be just a great binge-watch, but can give closure for every *Full House* fan, young or old. Franklin gives audiences the understanding of what had happened over the past several decades without dwelling on the past and the original for most of the time. Occasionally, throughout the course of the series they use flashbacks and talk about the previous show, which brings back nostalgic feelings to the *Full House* generation but totally leaves newcomers in the dark.

The Tanners are not afraid to throw shade and sass. This edge is directed towards Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen, known for playing Michelle Tanner in the original. It can be funny at times to see the cast joke around about the fashion mo-

guls, especially in the beginning of the episodes. Though, as the show progresses on it starts to diminish the show's story quality as they keep breaking the fourth wall and burning Michelle and the Olsen twins.

For the past several months, *Fuller House* has been kind of misleading the public. What was assumed to be a show based on the girls with the family isn't what audiences originally thought was going to happen. The entire Tanner family isn't really in the show, other than the first episode and the occasional cameo once in awhile. It is sad not to see Danny's OCD, Joey's impressions, and Uncle Jesse's flawless hair but in a way it is good for the writing of the show because it doesn't force the Tanner family values down viewers' throats.

*Fuller House* is different if audiences and fans really think about it. Franklin did stick to the original of three adults of the same gender with three children of the same gender, but he made it more human and more realistic for modern audiences. Of course it is going to be corny, what episode of *Full House* wasn't?

Franklin gives the classic ABC hit the modern-day twist. Making it more human and more relatable to viewers was necessary in this modern day and age. The show gives a lot more heart, if that was even possible. Netflix and *Full House* lovers can view *Fuller House* season one streaming on Netflix.



FULLER HOUSE

2016

TV-14

STREAMING ON NETFLIX

EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG

## ALBUM

### NEED YOUR LIGHT



STATIC.SPIN.COM

Celebrating 10 years together, the band Ra Ra Riot has released their invigorating fourth studio album, *Need Your Light*. After the twists and turns in their sound throughout their decade together, *Need Your Light* showcases a new era of fun indie rock tunes that aren't too cool to dance to.

Ra Ra Riot teamed up with Vampire Weekend's Rostam Batmanglij to produce the first track and single, "Water." The punchy, rhythmic power ballad captures a moment of freedom and emotional vulnerability for singer Wes Miles. Miles' expressive and somewhat piercing vocals drive the song, making it easy to belt along with at the chorus.

But "Water" sets a high expectation that the rest of the tracks seem to drown in.

The first to get watered down is "Absolutely." Although it's catchy, the song is soggy and incomparable to the album opener. The two songs clash head-on, going from insightful to vapidly upbeat. "Absolutely" is identical to the billions of other nameless, cheesy indie songs that play in the backgrounds of Subaru and Kashi granola bar commercials. For listeners who wholeheartedly jam along to those cookie-cutter commercial tunes, "Absolutely" will be their next favorite song.

Fluctuating between their iconic string-heavy sound and one more synth-heavy over their career, Ra Ra Riot nods to both aspects in *Need Your Light*. In the reckless dance track "Bad Times," spacey synth gives the song a playful edge that later collides with a flitting string orchestra tune. The plucky bassline from bassist Mathieu Santos gives the song the extra push it needs to make it truly danceable. The track shows what Ra Ra Riot does well: eclectic indie rock.

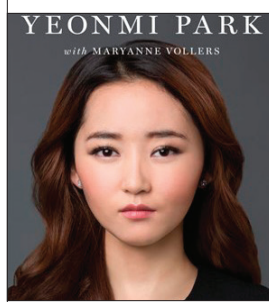
The album's bouncy rhythms and rollicking lyrics are what make it enjoyable for those looking for some key dance tunes, but the bounce should be taken in moderation. Listening to *Need Your Light* in its entirety provides an overdose of pep, and not in a good way. Most of the tracks are all quite similar and punchy, which may lull listeners into a pastel-colored déjà vu.

*Need Your Light*; Barsuk Records; iTunes; \$7.99 2016

By Abbey Cadieux

## BOOK

### IN ORDER TO LIVE



IMAGES.CONTENTRESERVE.COM

Those who have experienced trauma don't often want to relive the horror by sharing it with others. Yet North Korean defector and humanities activist Yeonmi Park has done just that in recounting her escape from the Kim dictatorships in her book *In Order To Live*.

Park's story engages even the most fiction fanatics. Grabbing readers with powerful narration that makes them feel invested in Park's story.

Park starts at her beginning: living in the North Korean regime. Here, she shares her past of poverty and strife in the brain-washed Democratic People's Republic of Korea. She also includes her eventual escape, life in China and finally her settlement in South Korea.

That said, the book does recount situations that may be too graphic for some to read, including the normality of seeing dead bodies in streets and Park's life in China's human trafficking rings. These parts aren't terrible, but they are worth mentioning for readers who aren't comfortable with those subjects.

Along with her description of her reality prior to her escape to South Korea, Park also talks about how she still faced hardships even when she found 'freedom.' Discrimination, prejudice and assimilation into modern society were a few prime obstacles in her struggles within the industrialized Korean peninsula. She goes on to explain how she overcame these things and learned to accept her past and move forward to her future. This portion of the book brings added grit to the story, showing how some things don't just become easy after reaching a goal.

Adding to the immersion are the photos included within the book's pages. These pictures show Park's sister and parents in North Korea, giving a face to the people she writes about and making the story resonate with the reader even more.

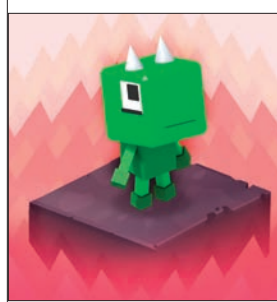
Park is relatable, and it's easy to get attached to her. Even fiction lovers who don't make autobiographies their genre of choice will be intrigued and find it a worthwhile read. Her story is just too unbelievable not to be true.

*In Order to Live*; 2015; Yeonmi Park; 288 pgs; \$16

By Josie Bennett

## APP

### THE PIT



PREMIUM.APPLICATEKA.COM

As endless-runners go, *The Pit* is a fairly casual game in the vein of Temple Run, in which the player controls a block shaped creature as it slides and jumps to avoid obstacles on an

endless, straight, isometric path.

The game is not as unforgiving or challenging as others in its genre. Obstacles are widely placed enough for a novice player to avoid with relative ease and the randomly generated levels mean that there is no progress lost upon death. Rather, the game restarts with a completely new, unending run.

*The Pit* is also considerably slower than other endless-runners, which leads to the rather forgiving nature of the game. This lack of challenge can be a disappointment for some people as the thrill of pulling off incredible moves and lucky survivals doesn't happen as often as in other games such as *Subway Surfer*.

One thing that should be seen as a good aspect by most people is the beautiful art style of the game. The colors, mainly consisting of pink—save for the various unlockable characters—are very sharp and vibrant. The levels' simple appearance is necessary in a skill based game like this, however casual the game may be. A spartan aesthetic allows for the screen to be less cluttered with useless design and gives the player better visual feedback as to what's going on.

Additionally, randomly generated levels increase the replay value of the game. Since no two levels have the same sets of obstacles, *The Pit* allows the user limitless retries. Another incentive to keep people playing is the ability to unlock different little creatures to play as, eight in total. These well-designed and adorable creatures keep users invested in the game and charging through the levels.

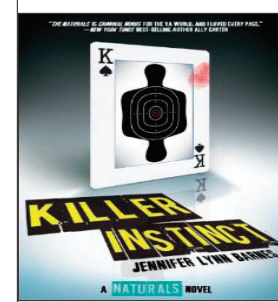
*The Pit* is an enjoyable game that is very accessible to the wider audiences but might leave more hardcore players wanting a bit more in terms of a challenge. That said, the great look of the game and the fact that it's free are more than enough to warrant a recommendation.

*The Pit*; Ketchapp; 2016; Available for Apple and Android; Free

By Giuseppe Parison

## BOOK

### KILLER INSTINCT



AMAZON.COM

Instead of resuming where the first book in the Natural's series left off, the sequel, *Killer Instinct* takes a turn and explores a case that unearths the dark secrets of those involved in the FBI's

program for the naturally gifted. Deemed the Naturals Program, the FBI finds and trains young teenagers who have a natural affinity for solving cold cases, to help them tie up loose ends.

The book begins with a sense of déjà vu for main character Cassie's love interest, Dean, when a college-campus murder has the exact same M.O. as one his serial-killer father had committed earlier on. Cassie and the others in the program feel like they need to help solve it to put Dean's mind at rest.

With his father in jail, most believe the killer is just a copycat. However, soon they realize that all possible suspects have an alibi. Breaking the rules by investigating an active case and constantly butting heads with the new supervisor who despises the program, the Naturals are in danger of being shut down.

As bodies pile up and stress mounts, author Julia Barnes successfully keeps the reader engrossed in the story.

Readers will discover an entirely new type of criminal that most probably will not have read about before in any mystery book. Completely unique to this sequel, Barnes creates an unexpected criminal dynamic that comes as a surprise to the reader but doesn't completely throw the reader off, either.

What makes this situation unique is the high-level of intelligence involved with the murders and the solving of the murders. The idea is original and is a breathe of fresh air from the generic mystery novel.

For fans of fast-paced action, this book is not the best. With a slow, suspenseful mystery that only has one short action scene, the book is no thriller, but still manages not to disappoint.

In most cases, the sequel is always worse. However, *Killer Instinct* has brought incredibly unique ideas to the genre and successfully continued developing the series' characters. For any readers who enjoy a good chilling mystery, this book is certain to go above and beyond expectations.

*Killer Instinct*; 2014; Jennifer Lynn Barnes; 384 pgs; \$7.99

By Katelynn Mulder