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GLOBAL NEWS FOR GLOBAL VIEWS

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Finally released after 13 years

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For his role in Dahmer

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Avatar 2, Finally released after 13 years of anticipation



Photo: 20th Century Studios, Avatar Way of Water

This past December, acclaimed filmmaker James Cameron released the long awaited sequel to his 2009 movie, Avatar. The latest addition to the franchise, Avatar: The Way of Water has grossed over 1.7 billion dollars thus far, with that number likely to increase a considerable amount. James Cameron has plans for at least three more movies in the Avatar series, however, the release of movies four and five were dependent on the success of The Way of Water. To the relief of Avatar fans around the world, it has been announced that the most recent addition to the franchise is profitable and the next movies will be made. The third Avatar movie is currently undergoing the editing process, and is set to release in December of 2024.



Tuk (Trinity Bliss) in "Avatar: The Way of Water," which used performance capture for many of the underwater scenes. Credit: 20th Century Studios

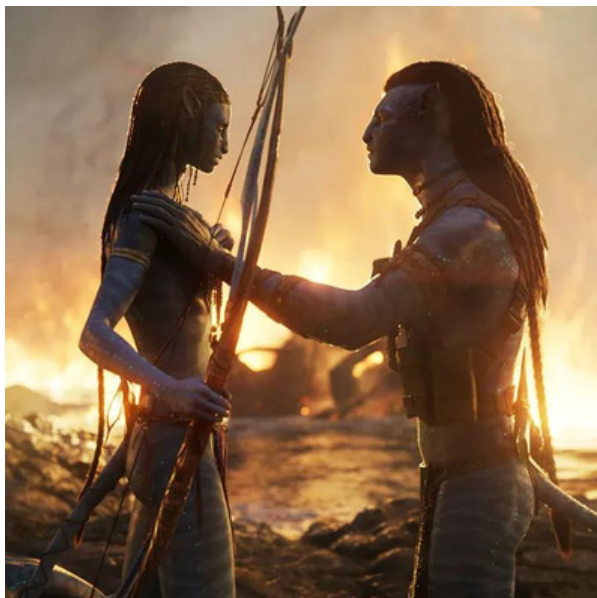


Photo: 20th Century Studios, Avatar Way of Water

Viewers of the latest Avatar film greatly appreciated the spectacularly breathtaking visuals, the action packed scenes, and the unfolding of an additional, heartfelt theme of the importance of family. The Way of Water has completely enraptured its audience in the surreal world brought to life by James Cameron, the incredibly talented cast of the movie, and the remarkable technology that allowed for the creation of a cinematic event that is sure to be talked about for years to come.

**WRITTEN BY: FATIMA MONAWAR
& CLAUDIA TORTORICI**

The question of why this eagerly anticipated sequel took James Cameron so long has arisen, as it has been well over a decade since the release of his initial film in the franchise. The answer to this is that the director is simply a perfectionist. The first Avatar movie broke new ground in the use of motion capture and 3D technology, and Cameron wished to wait for further development of the high-end technology used in his films in order to fulfill his vision of the incredibly realistic and undeniably beautiful underwater world that is explored in The Way of Water.

At present, the information disclosed regarding the next Avatar movie is that the film will explore a new fire clan on Pandora, and reveal a darker side to the Na'vi. So far in the series, humans, which are described by the Na'vi as "sky people", have been portrayed as the antagonists, as the first Avatar film dealt with the destructive impact of human activity on the natural world. The Way of Water continued to explore this theme, and "sky people" were often cast in a villainous light as violent and immoral characters. This may very well change, as the next movie is expected to demonstrate that not all humans are bad, and not all Na'vi are good.



Photo: 20th Century Studios, Avatar Way of Water



Mother of Dahmer victim says Evan Peters' Golden Globes win 'keeps the obsession going'

Evan Peters, who portrayed Jeffrey Dahmer, the infamous Milwaukee serial killer in "Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story", was recently awarded a Golden Globe with the title for Best Actor in a Limited Series or Motion Picture Made for Television.

That same day, Shirley Hughes, mother to Tony Hughes, one of the 17 men and boys Dahmer murdered between 1978 and 1991, came forward to denounce the Hollywood Foreign Press Association's decision to award the actor. She told the press shortly after the ceremony that "There's a lot of sick people around the world. And people winning acting roles from playing killers keeps the obsession going, and this makes sick people thrive on the fame."

Hughes was one of the several relatives of Dahmer's victims that came forward, criticizing the Netflix television series ever since it came out in late September of 2022. She condemned the show's portrayal of her and her son, telling The Guardian that while she hadn't seen the full series that it "didn't happen like that." Rita Isbell, the sister of victim Errol Lindsey, wrote in an Insider essay that she was "never contacted about the show."

Hughes initially came forward after the ceremony because of Evan Peter's apathetic and inconsiderate behavior during his acceptance speech. She said that Peters should have paid tribute to the victims or at least mentioned their grieving families. "He could have used the moment to tell Hollywood to stop glorifying serial killers by putting them on screen."

"It's a shame that people can take our tragedy and make money," Hughes said. "The victims never saw a cent. We go through these emotions every day."

Russia claims to have captured Soledar, as Ukraine continues fighting

Russia states it has taken over Soledar, a salt-mine town in Ukraine, explaining it is an "important" part of its offensive. According to a spokesman, if Russia succeeded in taking over Soledar, Russian troops would be able to push on to the city of Bakhmut and attack Ukrainian forces there. Soledar is a small town, with its pre-war population consisting of 10,000 and its strategic importance being questionable. This battle has been one of the bloodiest since the start of the war in February 2022. If Russia takes Soledar, it will be considered a victory in Moscow. Currently, this is what Putin needs to deliver as news, because since July 2022 Russian forces have failed to take over any territory in Ukraine, experiencing embarrassing defeats. Ukraine pushed almost all Russian forces out of the Kharkiv region in the north east. During October, the Kerch bridge in Russia was attacked, causing Russian forces to pull back from the city of Kherson. The spokesman for Ukraine's eastern military command Serhiy Cherevatyi notified that Soledar wasn't captured by Russia yet: "We won't give any more details as we do not want to reveal the tactical positions of our fighters." Zelensky claims: "Although the enemy has concentrated its greatest forces in this direction, our troops - the Armed Forces of Ukraine, all defense and security forces - are defending the state" (Vernon and Kirby).

Meanwhile, Russia launched missile attacks and hit infrastructure in Kyiv and the eastern city of Kharkiv. Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko announced there were explosions in the Dniproviskiy district and encouraged civilians to protect themselves by staying in shelters.

In a call with Zelensky, the UK's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak informed that Ukrainian forces will be provided with Challenger 2 tanks to help "push Russian troops back". Thanking the UK, President Zelensky said that this decision "will not only strengthen us on the battlefield, but also send the right signal to other partners".

Whales return to the Salish sea

Recently, the Pacific Whale Watch Association (PWWA) put together some end of the year data and the results might surprise you.

With double the number of whale sightings in the Salish Sea and 154 more than 2021's record, there have been a reported 1,221 unique sightings of Bigg's killer whales in 2022. PWWA crew members reported seeing multiple whales a day for 278 days, with the type differing from Bigg's, killer whales, and humpback whales.

While this is wonderful news, why is it happening so suddenly? Well, Erin Gless, the executive director of the PWWA, says that it all depends on food. For example, killer whales will go to areas with lots of sea lions and porpoises to eat. Many grey whales came to the Salish Sea instead of Alaska, as there is a food shortage in the region.

Another possibility could be the social component. Last year, there were huge amounts of whale watchers and boats on the water, trying to catch a glimpse of a humpback. But with a decline in watchers, they have come more freely. The whales also might be spreading the news and notifying others about the great food supply in the Salish Sea, causing the increase.



The coastal Bigg's population keeps growing, with 10 new calves born in 2022. (Melisa Pinnow/San Juan Excursions)

Whatever the reason is, it is fantastic news that the whales have returned so we can continue to learn about the amazing creatures.

Noah Schnapp Coming Out: “Similar to Will”

On Thursday, January 5th, Noah Schnapp posted an eight-second TikTok with the words “When I finally told my friends and family I was gay after being scared in the closet for 18 years and all they said was, ‘we know.’” The comment section on the video was filled with many kind and supportive messages from Noah’s fans.

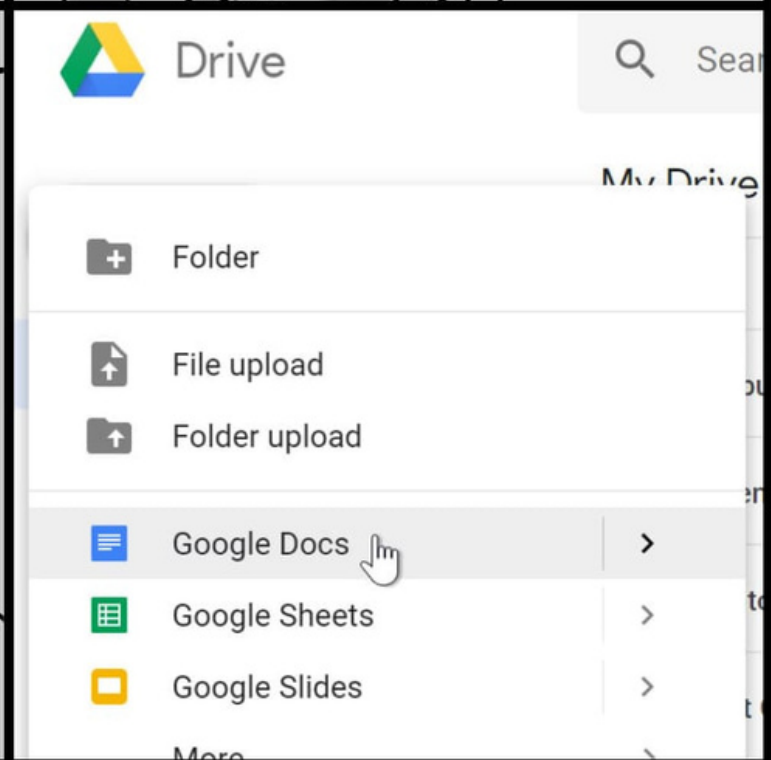


The Stranger Things actor wrote in the video’s caption “I guess I’m more similar to Will than I thought.” In the popular show’s fourth season, Noah Schnapp plays Will Byers, who was thought to be gay in his interactions with Mike Wheeler, who is played by Finn Wolfhard. In a July interview with Variety magazine, Noah confirmed fans’ suspicions by saying that in Stranger Things 4 it is “100% clear that [Will] is gay.”

He continued by saying, “But before, it was a slow arc. I think it is done so beautifully, because it’s so easy to make a character just like all of a sudden be gay.” Noah talks about the evolution of Will and Mike’s relationship in Stranger Things, from the first season that came out in 2016 to the fourth season which came out in the summer of 2022. Noah has definitely portrayed Will Byers well in the show and now that Noah has come out we can see why Will is such an important character to him.

As of January 16th, the Noah’s viral TikTok has 73.3 million views and 13.1 million likes. This new information has led fans to be even more excited for the upcoming fifth season of Stranger Things. This is set to be the final season of the show, much to fans’ dismay.

A comic by Alisa Krotov



About Us

ISPrint is a student-led newsletter which brings to you the best and latest of school happenings, local news, and world events— all in bitesize reports and easy-to-read segments. With motivated student-journalists and editors from different countries, we strive to provide coverage as diverse as the team that puts it together. In doing so, we hope to promote global awareness, intercultural understanding, and engagement in the school community.

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