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First Official English Magazine of
Farhangian University of Zanzan
(Shahid Beheshti Branch)
Issue 01 – Spring 2018

AGAINST ALL ODDS!

DOES IRAN STAND
A CHANCE IN FIFA
WORLD CUP 2018?!

MOVIES

90TH OSCARS
ANNUAL ACADEMY
AWARD.

TOURISM

TRAVEL WITHOUT
MONEY

TECHNOLOGY

5 SCI-FI MOVIE
TECHNOLOGIES
THAT ARE SLOWLY
BECOMING REAL

MUSIC

RADIOHEAD
AN ALTERNATIVE
MUSIC STYLE

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The 90th Academy Awards ceremony

On March 4th, honored the best films of 2017 and took place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California.

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ZFU ENGLISH ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

EDITOR'S WORDS

After days of hard work, English Association of Shahid Beheshti Branch of Farhangian University of Zanjan can now proudly introduce the first edition of Apex magazine. The editorial members are mainly BA students of Shahid Beheshti branch of Farhangian University of Zanjan. This edition consists of parts relating to music, literature, movies, traveling, education and sports. It has provided a perfect opportunity for our students to speak their mind. We have more to do in the upcoming editions. Until then we hope that you enjoy our first one.

Mehdi Liyaghati

Music

Radiohead, one of the best rock bands ever

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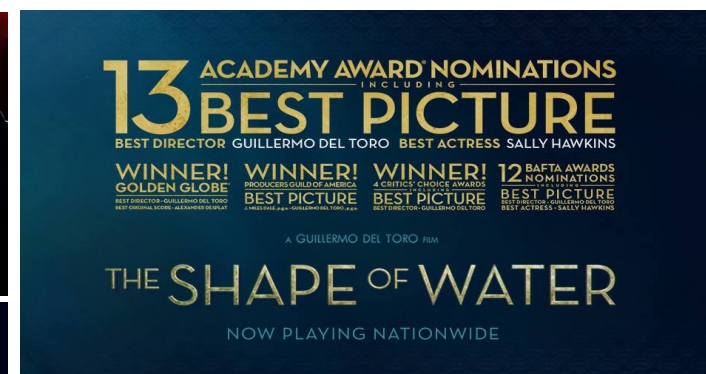
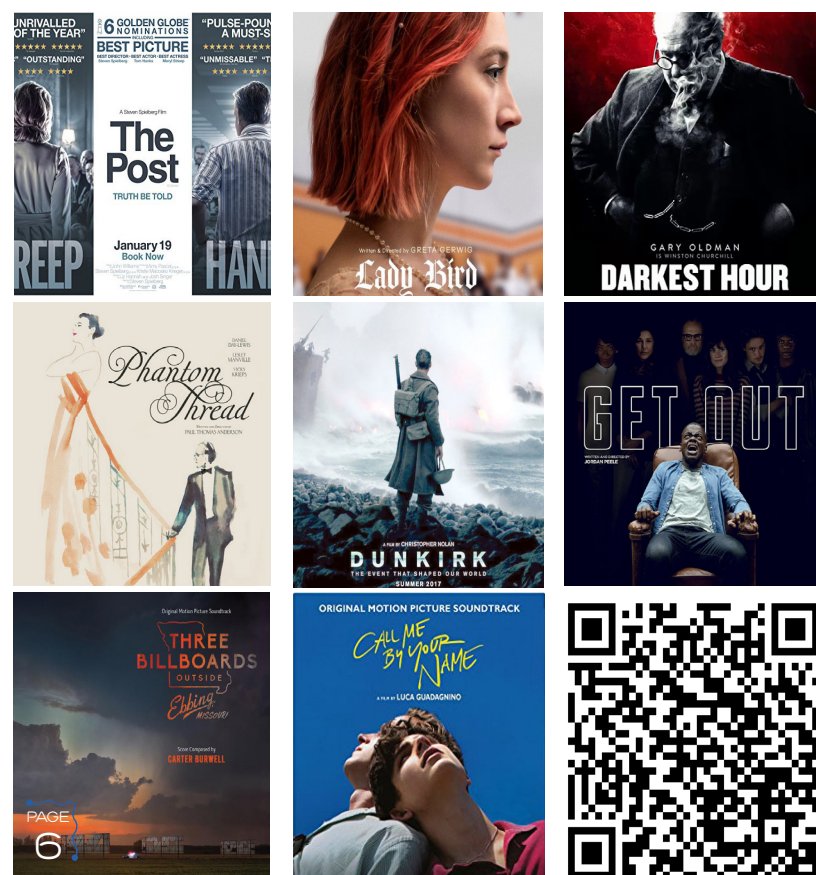
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(Vice president of Shahid Beheshti Branch of Farhangian University of Zanjan)
Shamsoddin Aref



The 90th Academy Awards ceremony, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, honored the best films of 2017 and took place at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California. The ceremony was held on March 4, 2018 rather than its usual late-February date to avoid conflicting with the 2018 Winter Olympics. Here, a brief account of the most important nominations and the winner is given:



Best Picture



The Oscar for Best Picture was awarded to **THE SHAPE OF WATER**. Producers Guillermo del Toro and J. Miles Dale graciously accepted the award at the 90th Academy Awards. Earlier in the night, Guillermo del Toro took home the Oscar for **Best Directing for THE SHAPE OF WATER**. The film also secured two other Oscar wins for **Music (Original Score)** and **Production Design**.

Scan the barcode on the left to watch Oscar winner's acceptance speech

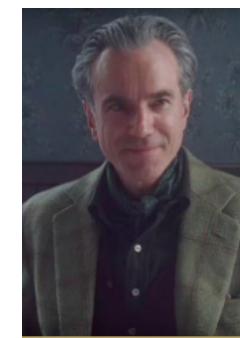


Best Actor



Timothée Chalamet
Call Me by Your Name

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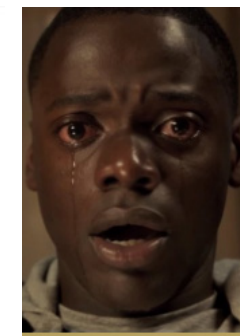
Daniel Day-Lewis
Phantom Thread

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Denzel Washington
Roman J. Israel, Esq.

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Daniel Kaluuya
Get Out

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Gary Oldman was the winner of **ACTOR IN A LEADING ROLE NOMINATION** with his play in the movie "Darkest Hour" in which he portrays Winston Churchill. Furthermore this is the second Academy Award nomination for Gary Oldman. He was previously nominated for: TINKER TAILOR SOLDIER SPY (2011) (Nominee, Actor in a Leading Role)

Scan the barcode on the left to watch Oscar winner's acceptance speech

Best Actress



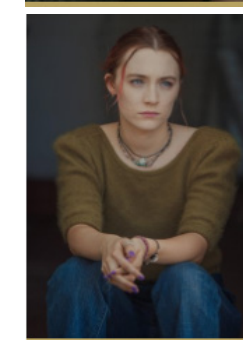
Sally Hawkins
The Shape of Water

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Margot Robbie
I, Tonya

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Saoirse Ronan
Lady Bird

[VIEW TRAILER](#) | [MORE INFO](#)



Meryl Streep
The Post

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Frances McDormand won **ACTRESS IN A LEADING ROLE NOMINATION** with her play in the movie "Three Billboards outside Ebbing, Missouri" in which she portrays Mildred, a grieving mother who devises a provocative method to motivate the police investigating the unsolved murder of her daughter. This was also the fifth Academy Award nomination for Frances McDormand.

Scan the barcode on the left to watch Oscar winner's acceptance speech



Ali Safari

TRAVEL

WITHOUT money

Are you interested in traveling? Do you travel a lot? If not, have you ever thought about traveling but canceled your plan due to some difficulties like time or money? This article is just about to solve the problems for you...

Couchsurfing

Casey Fenton, a 25-year-old American computer programmer faced the same problem in 1999. One day he found a cheap flight from Boston to Iceland but did not have lodging. Fenton hacked into a database of the University of Iceland and randomly e-mailed 1,500 students asking for a homestay. He received between 50 and 100 offers and chose to stay at the home of an Icelandic singer. On the return flight to Boston, he came up with the idea to create a website namely couchsurfing.com.

Couchsurfing International Inc. operates a hospitality service and social networking service. Its website and mobile apps are platforms for members to arrange homestays, offer lodging and hospitality, join events such as **"Couch Crashes"**, and, via its **"hangout"** feature, meet other members.

Upon creating an account, members set up an online identity, and after leaving comments on their experiences with other members, develop a reputation. Plus, the platform is a gift economy; hosts are not allowed to charge for lodging. Also members can either directly request lodging from other members or post their travel plans publicly and receive offers from other members. The good news is Couchsurfing has also entered our country and there are lots of people willing to host travelers from all around the world. All you have to do is to download the app through scanning the QR codes below and sign up. Then you can

either search for hosts or post your travel plan and wait for offers from hosts. If you can't easily trust people, there is a section called **"Reference"** especially made for you. Reference is an uneditable message from the people who meet each other whether by hosting or being host. So when someone is finished hosting you, you both get to leave a reference for each other letting others know what happened and whether your stay was safe and the host is trustable. Now imagine there is someone with dozens of references saying how perfect they are. Wouldn't it be easier to trust then?

That's not all of course. If you are into meeting new people from all around the world and you have a place to share, you can be a host. As an experienced host, I suggest you not miss the opportunity if you have the necessary means.



Hitchhiking

Based on the definition **Hitchhiking** (also thumbing, hitching, or of transportation asking people, usually in their automobile or ride which is free and for no money.

The hitchhikers' to drivers differ around hitchhikers use various hitchhiker wishes to needs a ride, he may written sign. In many

given by Wikipedia, known as autostop) is a means that is gained by strangers, for a ride other vehicle. A passengers are asked

methods of signaling the world. Many hand signals. If the indicate that he simply display a countries the gesture involves extending the arm toward the road and sticking the thumb of the outstretched hand upward with the hand closed, as you can see in the pictures above. Of course in Iran, as you may already know, the second way of signaling (th

umb up) is not considered appropriate, which is why the first way (displaying a written sign) is suggested.

But why would I want to hitchhike?

Hitchhiking is a lot of fun, an inexpensive adventure, and a great way to meet the locals of a region. However, it can also teach you two important masculine values that are sorely needed in today's world

A. How to solve problems on your own.

"To find yourself, think for yourself." – Socrates

B. How to connect with many different types of people.

"The ability to deal with people is as purchasable as a commodity as sugar or coffee and I will pay more for that ability than for any other thing under the sun." – John D. Rockefeller

Isn't hitchhiking really dangerous?

As writer of this article, I've had the experience of hitchhiking in Iran which is believed to be impossible by many people. But I should tell you it was neither dangerous nor difficult. I know many people who have hitchhiked all around the world without facing any problems. All you need to do is to **observe the following extremely important rules:**

1) Don't hitchhike at night, says Hitchwiki. Besides visibility issues, you don't want to risk falling asleep in the car or falling victim to a driver who is impaired, either because of sleep deprivation or substances.

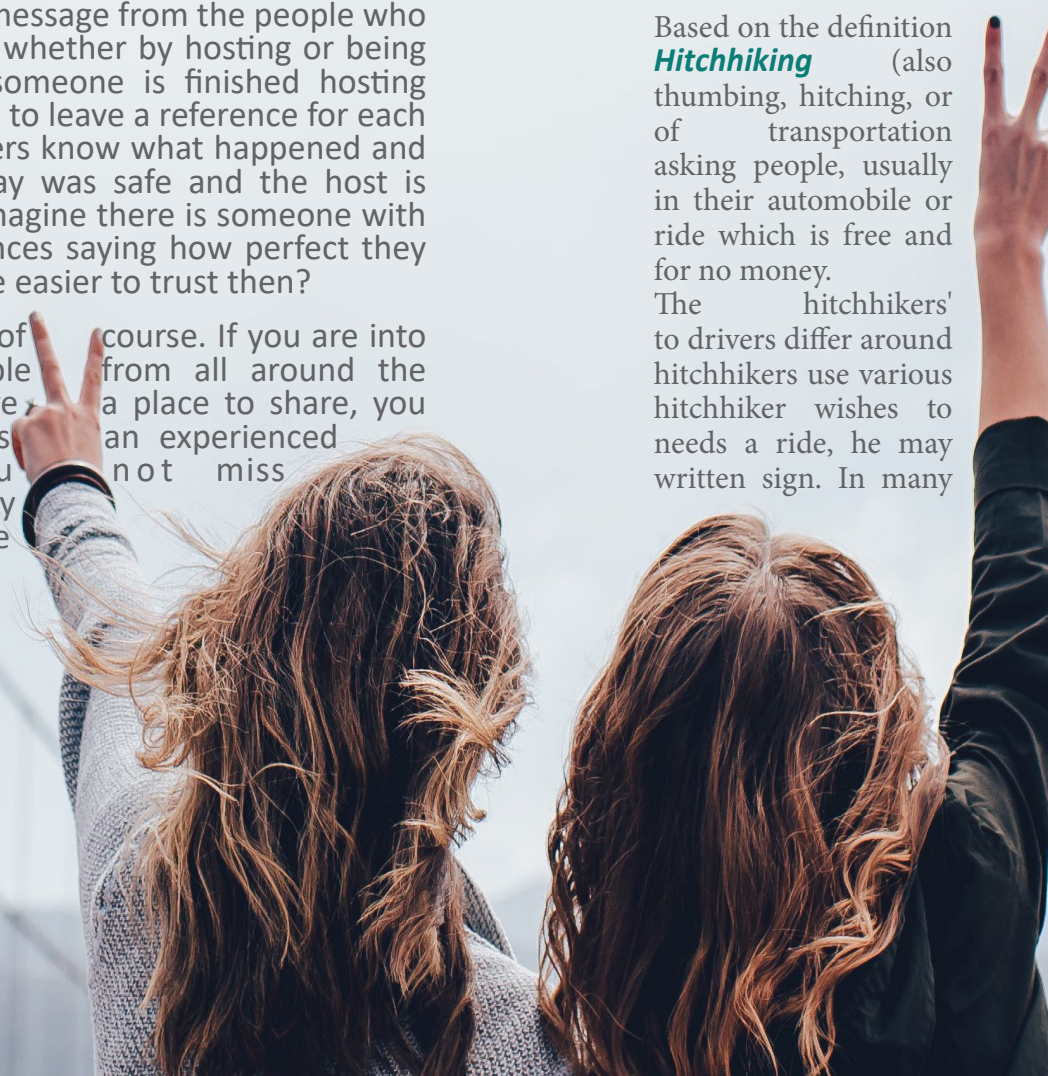
2) Take a picture of the license plate and call or text someone. That way, you've put the driver on notice that someone knows where you are.

3) Assess your driver by looking him/her in the eye, but if you guessed he is not the right person, get out via feigning stomach illness.

4) If you've outlined your own set of rules for hitchhiking, don't abandon them, even if you're tired or stuck. If you've decided you won't ride with certain kinds of travelers, stick to the plan

5) Most of all, every hitchhiker says to trust your instincts.

Last point: You might be a driver someday, seeing someone holding a sign beside the street. Be kind enough and give him/her a ride. Kindness brings its own reward.



Ali Safari

5 SCI-FI MOVIE TECHNOLOGIES THAT ARE SLOWLY BECOMING REAL



Back To The Future 2 hoverboards (Thor Jensen)

Recently, a lab in France came up with a concept they call the "mag surf", where a levitating board hovers above a magnetic track through the use of a superconductor cooled by liquid nitrogen. Sure you can't take it out on the streets just yet, but as a proof of concept it's pretty solid.



Star Wars lightsabers (Thor Jensen)

In September of 2013, a team of scientists from Harvard and MIT managed to create a synthetic form of matter called a "photonic molecule" by binding photons together in a cloud of rubidium atoms. The end result was a physical structure made out of pure light. While they can't make anything quite as big as a sword yet, the proof of concept is there, and scientists believe that one day they will be able to organize them into crystalline structures.



Star Trek replicator > 3D printers

They're not as flashy as items appearing out of thin air, but 3D printers can make jewelry, food – even body parts like replacement skulls. Scientists are even examining its use in space to print spare parts and – oh yeah – pizza.



Star wars Hologram (techradar)

A company called "Asukanet" demonstrated a new interactive hologram in 2013 CEATEC show. The device that displays the hologram is called an Aerial Imaging Plate, which combines reflective surfaces with a tablet interface. A floating hologram is presented and the user can interact with it as they would any real life tangible object. The AIP detects where your hand is in relation to the hologram and makes the hologram respond accordingly.



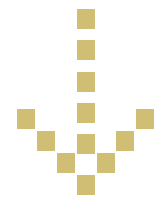
Minority Report heads-up display > air-touch technology (buzzfeed)

A new heads-up technology prototype generates a private air-touch display that doesn't need voice activation or a physical keyboard or screen for input.



A BRIEF REVIEW OF “THE GRAPES OF WRATH”

BY JOHN STEINBECK



Poverty is cruel and keeps the people under severe pressure all the time. It is what makes families fall apart and their sons spend years behind the bars.” The Grapes of Wrath” is written by John Steinbeck, one of the most influential writers of the 20th century. He has been called “a giant of American letters”, and many of his works are considered classics of Western literature. Also, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1962. In 1930s in the US, banks owned most of the farms across the country and the farmers were just tenants who worked on the farms and lived with their families in a little house nearby. All along a monster called “The Great Depression” was growing rapidly and devouring whatever people, especially the farmers had gathered through years by working hard and sweating blood. This monster left farmers no choice but to move to somewhere else to find jobs with better payments. The story begins with Tom Joad getting out of the prison on parole. He’s murdered somebody years ago and has spent years behind the bars. As he’s walking on the way home, he runs into Casy the preacher who’s baptized him when he was a child and they go to find the Joads together. Once they get to the Joads’ farm, they can’t believe what’s in front of their eyes. The Joads are loading their stuff on a truck and about to hit the road. They’ve lost their crops because of Dust Bowl and the banks are about to tractor their farms and houses, so they must move away. People rarely stay in Oklahoma, where Joads live, and those who do so, are up to fight the banks and not let go of their farms, but deep down they know that sooner or later they have to leave everything behind and move.

The sad, gloomy adventure of the Joads begins, and as the story crawls ahead, Steinbeck reveals his extraordinary style of writing more and more. As a matter of fact, “The Grapes of Wrath” is a realist novel in that it exactly depicts how the social conditions were in 1930s and how much pain people were in back then. I burst into tears frequently while keeping reading the novel because it contains some of the most dramatic dialogues in the American Literature.



What makes this novel incredible is that, you can empathize with the characters easily as they live in a difficult condition in which most of us probably have lived. For example, when Ma, the mother of the family, gets to the supermarket to buy meat, she finds out that she doesn’t have enough money. The conversation between Ma and the salesman is pretty emotional. I kept turning pages to find out what happens next and where the Joads’ next stop would be. Ma, a major character in the novel, somehow leads the family. She tries to maintain tranquility in the family and not let it fall apart tragically. And of course she kind of makes it. Ma is very supportive of her

children and knows how to deal with such a terrible condition in which they all live. So my favorite character is Ma.

The novel has many cliffhangers which lead to suspension and make your reading experience pleasant. To be honest, I have to say that I read this masterpiece in 4 days so I guess that can be a good reason for you to start reading it ASAP. But what about the negative points? Of course there are some. First of all, I did not figure out what happened to Tom finally and if he joined the family again. Secondly, the theme is very dark and there is depiction of sadness and misery everywhere. I believe it could be written in a way that we, the readers, could get much more hope for our lives which somehow resemble the Joads’.

To make the story short, I fell in love with this book the first time I read it, and I recommend it to all the fans of pure drama who could be easily moved. In the end, if asked to rate this book out of 10, I would definitely give it 9.5. Don’t hesitate guys. Start reading “The Grapes of Wrath” for it’s totally worth it.



How can you frighten a man whose hunger is not only in his own cramped stomach but in the wretched bellies of his children? You can’t scare him – he has known a fear beyond every other.”

Chapter 19



Yunes Zareie



*Rows of houses, all bearing down on me
I can feel their blue hands touching me
All these things into position
All these things we'll one day swallow whole
And fade out again and fade out*

RADIOHEAD



*I will lay me down in a bunker underground
I won't let this happen to my children*

Radiohead is one of the most popular rock bands right amongst the list with Rolling Stone and Beatles. Their music started to hit international interest right from the get go. The music, the lyrics and the fascinating arrangement of both in their songs had the listeners stunned. Their single "**Creep**" was released in late 90s and is still one of their most favorite songs along the rock music lovers.

The arrangement of this beautiful song is still being played by all sorts of instruments especially acoustic guitar. They released 9 albums throughout their professional career. But their "**OK Computer**" was something to remember for its international hit and complicated production. The lyrics in the beginning is from the song "**I will**" which is a great piece of art and strongly recommended.

Close to becoming a legend in rock music, they had a great breakthrough and released songs which is still on most people's favorite playlist. The songs "**Creep**", "**Paranoid Android**", "**There There**", and "**Street Spirit**" are strongly recommended to listen to at least once.



*When you were here before
Couldn't look you in the eye
You're just like an angel
Your skin makes me cry*



AGAINST

ALL

ODDS!

➤ Iran national football team, also known as Team Melli has ranked the first team among Asian national teams over the past few years based upon FIFA world rankings.

Iran is one of the most successful national teams in Asia with three Asian cups and has qualified for the world cup five times but unfortunately has never advanced past the group stage and its only victory in the world cup has been a 2-1 victory against united states in 1998.

Carlos Quiroz is the head coach of Iran who has taken its bench for approximately 7 years. This Portuguese man is going to lead Iran national team in world cup for the second time.

Since the 2018 world cup draw, nobody considers a little bit of chance for Iran national team to be qualified to the next round as there are 3 powers in this group, but once, Iran has shown its capability against Argentina in 2014 world cup where it lost the match at the last moments with Messi's masterpiece.

Spain, Portugal and Morocco are the teams which Iran is going to face in 2018 world cup in Russia. Spain and Portugal are two of the best national teams in Europe. Portugal's recent magnificent victory was against France in 2016 Euro cup, where France lost the cup in their own home. Spain, with a glorious background in World Cup, is named as one of the teams that has a great chance to win this competition.

In my point of view, it is our hardest match in the world cup for which we need to be prepared quite well.

The last team is Morocco which is famous for its nickname, Atlas Lions. It has physically strong players most of whom play in European clubs.

They won the African championship recently, so they seem highly motivated for the world cup and they are going to amaze the world by their eye catching matches and great wins.

Iran is going to be qualified to the next round for the first time in these series of matches.

It was

IT WAS A LONG DAY FOR TEAM MELLI AND I. THE DRAW WAS EXTREMELY EXCITING. IT COULDN'T BE BETTER TO GET TO HAVE MATCHES WITH SPAIN, PORTUGAL, AND MOROCCO. IT'S AN EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY FOR OUR SOCCER PLAYERS TO SHOW EVERYONE WHY THEY ARE SPECIAL AND DESERVE TO BE IN FIFA WORLD CUP.

QUOTE BY
CARLOS QUIROZ

the second team getting the permission to attend the upcoming world cup, and its motto is "ALL FOR TEAM MELLI" which indicates their courage for the matches ahead.



FIFA WORLD CUP
RUSSIA 2018



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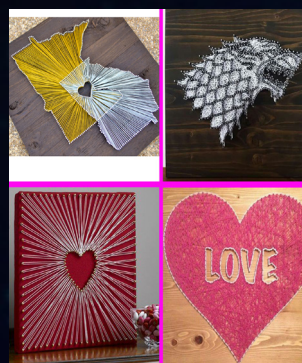
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