

# amazon shake



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## **Dear readers:**

It has been a very long time since you were all able to enjoy your break along with a copy of the Amazon Shake. We are finally back but we are still looking for a greater workforce. So if you are a talented writer or if you would simply like to share your stories, opinions or maybe improve your English do not hesitate and contact us!!!

The magazine went through a couple of changes. But I believe that you will like it. In this issue you can find the current News of The World (However, don't get me wrong, we are not creating a new tabloid). Find out how you can spend time on a frosty afternoon in Prague. And read some stories that will make you wonder.

Now turn the page and start reading because there isn't much time till you'll have to head back to class for English, Biology, or Math.

Good luck with all your exams. And enjoy a splendid Christmas break.

XOXO

Betty

(The Editor in Chief)

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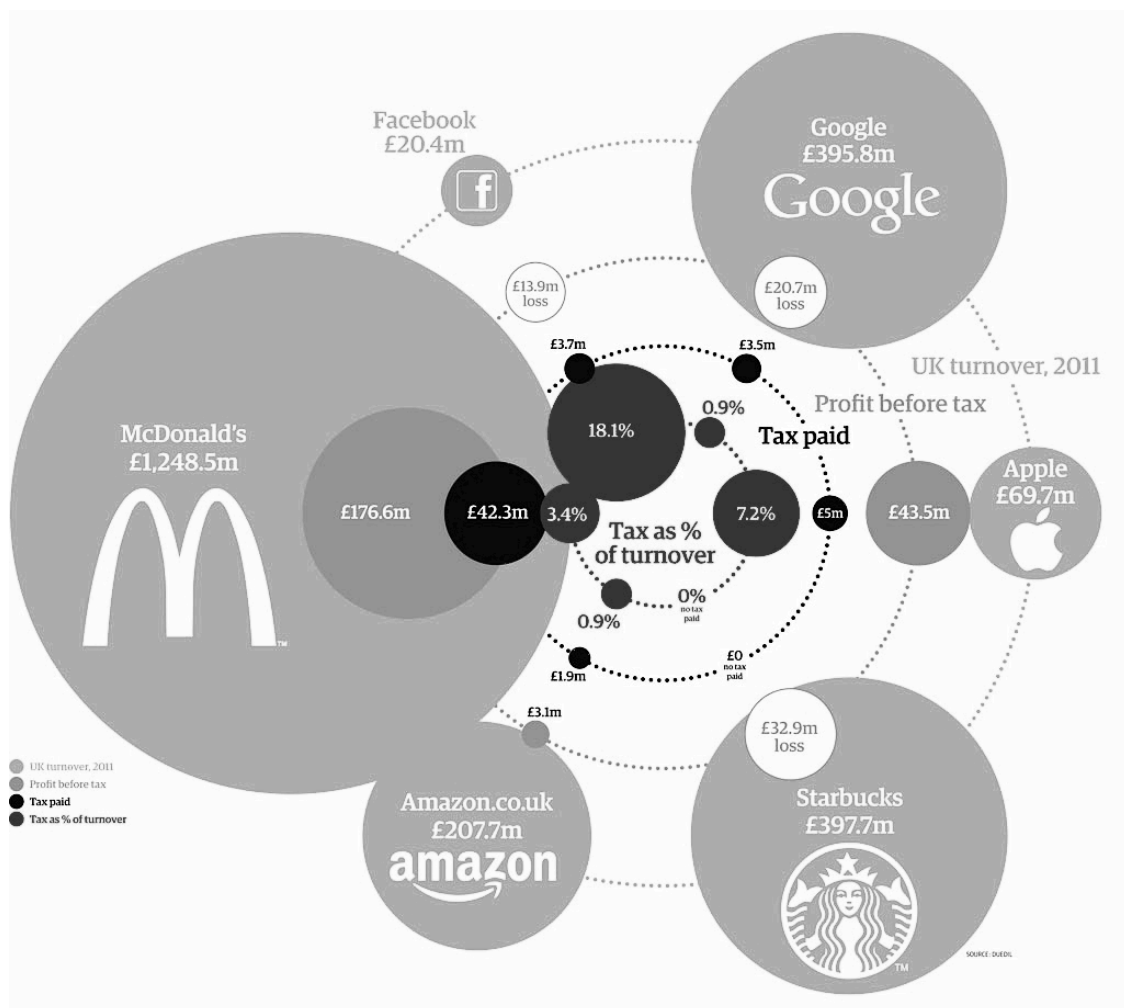
## News of the World

### Lost in taxation?

Over the past years both the common people as well as the business leader in the UK were complaining against the rules that apply to the tax rate of the world's biggest corporations. The reputational crisis of Starbucks over allegations of tax avoidance and removal of staff sick days could now see millions wiped from its balance sheet, academics from Manchester have warned.

Researchers from Manchester Business School have calculated that public anger at Starbucks' payment of just £8.6m in UK tax over the past 13 years on sales of £3.1bn and staff disbelief this week at being told paid lunch breaks, some sick leave and maternity benefits were being axed could result in a fall in sales in the next year. The research shows that if a company's reputation declines internally and externally at the same time, sales go down quickly. The worst-case scenario for Starbucks would be a decline of up to 24% in next year's sales.

In the chart below you can see the turnover and taxes in 2011 but the numbers in 2012 won't look much different.





## Michael Owen blames his Red family for his health problems

He used to belong to the greatest talents ever born. Not even nineteen years old and he shone among the English stars at the 1998 World Cup in France. We wore the famous Liverpool shirt as well as the white of Real Madrid and the stripy black and white Newcastle kit. In the previous season he joined the Red Devils army and now his name is mentioned along with Stoke City.

Owen is now sidelined with another hamstring injury, which has been a common one (like for all the footballers) throughout his career. Maybe it is his age or he was simply in a bad mood whilst talking to the press lately because this is what he said:



"On a cold afternoon at Elland Road (Leeds United's ground) in 1999 my hamstring snapped in two and it was at that point that my ability to perform unimpeded was finished. It didn't have to be that way," said Owen.

"It is my genuine opinion I have become injury prone due to overplaying at a young age," he explained. "In my case I certainly feel like I played too much too soon.

"The problem as a young player is you want to play every week and therefore it has to be the responsibility of the

manager to take the decision to rest young players thereby giving them the best chance of a long and injury-free career."

"There is no doubt I would have won more honors had I signed for Manchester United as a youngster. I am pretty confident I would have been at the height of my powers over a longer period of time too."

It is very interesting to come out with such an opinion at 32 when your career is nearly at its end. And he didn't utter a word about being "overplayed" by Liverpool in his autobiography that he published a few years ago. I believe that the players that are getting "old" should mind their tongues. Think about what they are saying. And for a Liverpool legend to be thinking what his future might have been like, had he joined Manchester United back in the time that is a dangerous thought! The supporters are unforgiving in terms of changes in loyalty.

And should we look back at the generation that Michael Owen grew up along with at Liverpool we get the names of the likes of Robbie Fowler, Jamie Carragher or Stevie Gerrard. And they have all had (or still have) successful careers. And after all Michael spent two crucial years at the beginning of his career at the Lillleshall academy, where he played loads of matches for the "England Schoolboys.

Maybe his body simply isn't strong enough...

## Shortly



A poll has revealed 82% of fans have rejected Uefa's plan to host **Euro 2020** in a variety of countries.



Tom Hooper's adaptation of **Les Misérables** will attract plenty of viewers. Head over to YouTube to watch the first trailers to the film that joined together stars such as Anne Hathaway, Hugh Jackman or Russell Crowe.



**Anna Karenina** hit the cinemas!!! Director: Joe Wright. Cast: Jude Law, Keira Knightley, Aaron Johnson, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, Alexandra Roach, Bill Skarsgard, Domhnall Gleeson...



The famous novel **Fifty Shades of Gray** will make it to the cinemas in one or two years. The writing of the screenplay is in progress but only speculations surround the cast. Who is going to be the sexy, ginger, grey-eyed billionaire with kinky habits, Christian Gray? And who is going to become his beloved Anastasia Steele?

Who will it be???

Matt Bomer



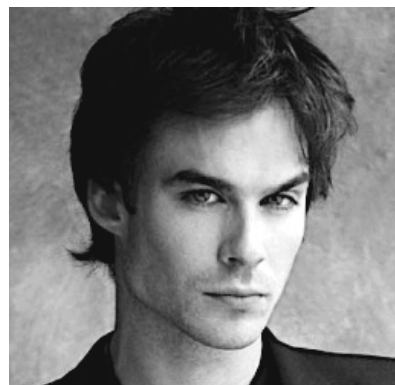
Ashley Greene



Nina Dobrev



Ian Somerhalder



## Christmas in Prague

Would you like to witness the magical Christmas atmosphere and you do not have the time or the money to go to Vienna or Munich, Berlin or Stockholm? Why don't you grab a coat and some gloves and head to Staroměstské or Václavské náměstí?



If you like the little shops full of wooden decorations, stones, or other handmade products you won't be disappointed. Staroměstské náměstí offers you a view from a wooden bridge above the little stores, you can admire the Christmas tree or simply grab something to eat and enjoy a chat with your friends.

You should be prepared for higher prices but that is no surprise to us anymore. Also those people who are afraid of big crowds should stay clear of those places because of the large numbers of tourists that spend their afternoons and evenings on Prague's largest squares.

## A Christmas Poem

The sleigh bells ring.

The children sing.

The presents are finally coming.

Were you good?

Or were you bad?

Have you made your parents mad?

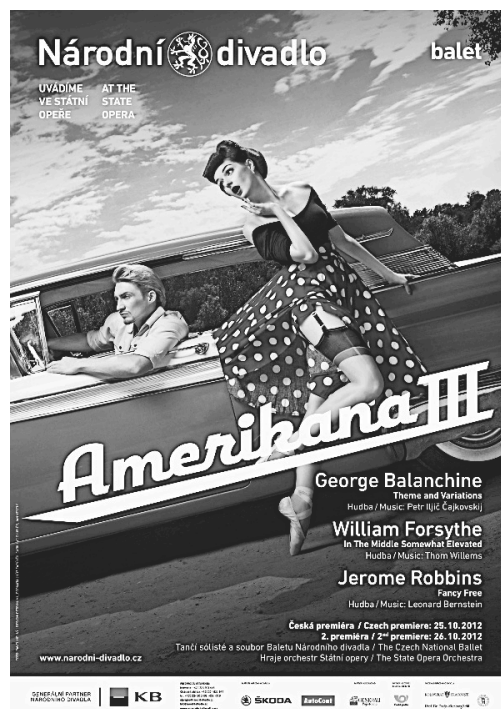
If you are not sure then we shall see

When we peek underneath the Christmas tree.

## Prague Events

### Amerikana III

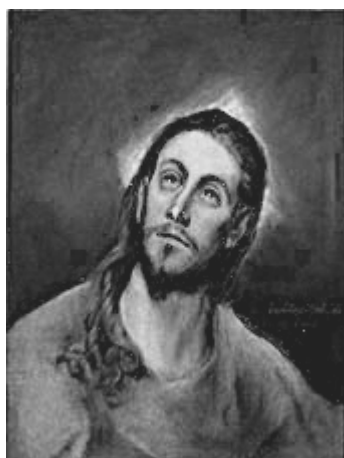
It is the third time in history that the National Theatre presents a composed evening by choreographers from America. George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins and William Forsythe present different a complete piece about three celebrities, which creates a pretty unforgettable ballet style. The ballet evening Amerikana III is essentially a contribution of 3 creators in who's footsteps go all the other generations of classic choreographers standing on the principles of classical ballet. This memorable dance technique could have made it into fantastic pieces, which awakes amazement in the audience and inspires the other generations of choreographers in a 21<sup>st</sup> century. Head over to the National Theatre for a unique cultural experience.



Alex Baráková

### EXAMPLE

Head over to Ticketportal to get your hands on the tickets to Example's next concert in Prague which will take place at Holešovice on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013.



### Paintings at Šternberský palace

Are you a fan of art (like Mr. Jackson)? Head over to Šternberský palace to see the pieces of art by the World's greatest artists such as Lorenzo Monaco, Tintoretto, Tiepolo, El Greco, Goya, Rubens, van Dyck and more!

11.10.2012 - 31.05.2013



## Events at Amazon

At the beginning of the year, the Freshmen headed to “Matfyz” to participate in a lecture about Newton’s laws and we bring you a summary by Valentina Lazarri.

### Freshmen at “Matfyz”

Physics play a really important part of our lives. I have no idea, what would we do without it. Can you imagine life without a light bulb? Or the steam engine, contact lenses or the X-ray machine? Our lives would be different and perhaps even dangerous. That is the reason why elementary and especially grammar schools introduce their pupils to this mysterious science. Our classes were convinced to participate in a lecture about Newton’s laws of motion. And it was described to us in a funny and amusing way.

I would say that none of us would like to be work with Physics in the next twenty years, spending time by discovering facts about the particle accelerator. It might be interesting but we are a school focused on languages, social science and so it is easy to see that our field of interest lies elsewhere. And therefore everyone will say that it was boring and that we had no fun, but was it true?

### Something from the history of “Matfyz”

The mathematics and physics faculty of Charles University in Prague is known simply as Matfyz. This faculty was founded on 1st September 1952 when it was separated from Natural-scientific faculty. The first dean was Miroslav Katětov. And the Math and Physics students have possibility to study various subjects, even Astronomy.



### Our visit

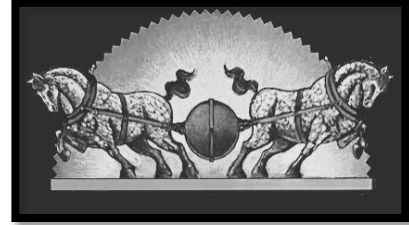
On 17th October we had met in front of the university complex at 7:45. After I came I realized that most of us were still drowsy, freezing and we definitely didn’t feel like attending some boring lecture about things we don’t go crazy about... In ten minutes time we were all in the assembly hall as we can see in the American films. Suddenly the lecturer

named Zdeněk Drozd came and I don’t know why, but in my opinion he really resembled the Marlin character from the third Shrek film. Obviously he wasn’t as freaky and eccentric as Merlin was, but there must be some similarity. I really need to mention that he is a very clever and an intelligent person, who knows what he is talking about and how certainly knows how to present the challenging topics such as Physics. He was absolutely amazing and he was able to describe everything with such ease and he told us everything we wanted to know.



## The breathtaking experiments

The experiments were definitely worth our attention. The first one was called Racket launching. It was based on the expanding of gas. If you burn methanol with denaturized alcohol in a plastic bottle, their flammable steams start to expand. And that is the reason why the bottle flew with unexpected velocity. Everything was according to Newton's third law about action and reaction. Some of us including me got scared for a few minutes. In my opinion it is hard to maintain a balance between fun and safety especially when you are supposed to present something in a interesting way especially to a bunch of guys our age without making them bored or annoyed. Another of the experiments that amazed me a lot was one with Magdeburg hemispheres. The inventor of this was Otto von Guericke, the Magdeburg city mayor, who often performed physical experiments on the square. People didn't understand, why after the Magdeburg hemispheres process with a vacuum pump the hemispheres cannot be divided even by a blacksmith or by some horses. They though he was a loony old man. The main reason, why the hemispheres got inseparable by the normal human force is that the air pushes on every square cm with the force 10 N and if it is sucked out the surface has no force to be pushed with and it gets connected. It is not magic, although it seems like it.



## Our reactions

In the end we had loads of fun. Of course, there were some who didn't like it or got bored. Honestly, I had many prejudices and I was afraid that I wouldn't appreciate it. I just thought it will be some normal (quite interesting) lecture about Newton's laws, simply something that I have heard over and over many times at my elementary school. Probably I expected some unusual experiments and occasional enlivening. I have done many mistakes in my life and this is definitely one of them. It surpassed my expectations and I can only recommend it to other students.

Valentina Lazarri

## What can you look forward to in December, January, and February:

17. - 19. 12.	Monday - Wednesday	<b>Try to graduate!!! (Czech, English, ZSV) Compulsory for the seniors.</b>
20. 12.	Thursday	<b>School trip to Berlin. (For those who signed up for it.)</b>
21. 12..	Friday	<b>Christmas at AMAZON</b>
25. 1.	Friday	<b>Grades for the 1<sup>st</sup> term get handed in</b>
28. – 31. 1.	Monday - Thursday	<b>Spirit Week Themed days to dress up!</b>
31. 1.	Thursday	<b>1<sup>st</sup> term reports AMAZON Awards: the pupils &amp; the teachers.</b>
20. 2.	Thursday	<b>PROM at SASAZU</b>
21. 2.	Friday	<b>Seniors get a day off.</b>
25. 2. – 1. 3.	Monday - Friday	<b>Ski Trip Freshmen + those who signed up.</b>



## Creative writing

### Indifference and the inability to feel with others is infectious

We were talking about the press at school, when the teacher asked: "Which paper is the most sold one in the Czech Republic?"

"DNES" shouts someone.

"Hospodářské noviny" shouts someone else.

"No" Says the teacher. "It's Blesk."

I think about it, a tabloid?!

Many people enjoy reading this type of papers. But why do they like to read about the celebrities? Does it make them feel good when they read that the life of the celeb is not that good or perfect as it seems? Does it satisfy them that the celeb that is supposed to get a seven place wage at least puts on his t-shirt the other way round, chooses a wrong dress or shoes that don't match? Do people realise that the celebrities are also human?

On my way home from school two men on the train are talking about the wages of footballers from the Premier League.

"You know what?" says one to the other.

"I think that Gerrard doesn't deserve to get so much money."

"Yea you are right." replies the other man.

And as the train moves on, they have time to comment and criticise at least ten other players. To me it looks like that they envy them. Yes the world of the football pros looks simply perfect. But do people realise that it is not that simple, do they realise all the hard work that stands behind it? The boys were trying hard, doing the best they could, since they were small kids. They wanted to reach the level they are now. They wanted to be pros. They strived every day went over all the obstacles. Football was their love and fun and so it has remained. The claims on the players are huge and the pressure is huge too. You didn't train well enough, so you are not playing the next match. You had a bad match? The media will enjoy it. And in that moment no one will think about the fact that you are too human beings. And that you have the right to make mistakes or to be tired. They will just say: come on, you are playing for one of Europe's biggest clubs, your wage is supposed to be round £100,000 per week. So we want no mistakes, do not think about pain. We want you always spot on. And not just the claims on the pitch are that big. When you are of the field you are like under a microscope. No one is safe. The tabloids give no rest, space or privacy to anyone, but why??? Either they make up a story or they sneak up something and transform it into a big story. "The Chelsea midfielder broke up with his girlfriend. Now she and the kids are living in a tiny flat because ha banished them." said one paper. It is live on the radio and the player is practically forced to call in and defend himself. The commentator calls him weak but after a quite strong exchange of views he admits that it is none of his business. In a few days no one will even remember it. But was it necessary to open it all up? Was it necessary to break into the private life of the family? "At the World Cup in Germany I couldn't even go out to the park with my two little girls and my wife, because behind every tree was a paparazzi waiting to take a picture" writes Steven Gerrard in his autobiography. "You have a day off, you want to rest and enjoy a bit with your family but that is hard to do if you have to stay at the hotel room and try to explain to the small kids that you can't go out to the park because there are paparazzi that won't leave us alone" explains the Liverpool and England captain.

Personally I hate when the media are mixing into the private lives of the famous. People don't think about how they might feel about it. They don't care that they might hurt someone's feelings. They are just happy that they have something to sell, something people will buy and what they will enjoy reading. Maybe it would help if someone would take a camera and track the people who write those stories. And maybe they would realise how uncomfortable it must be. I will never support anyone or anything what is hurting other people. No matter that I don't know them. And that is why I don't look for that information. I try to avoid it. You would never find a tabloid in my house.

And what about you, do you care about the others or do you need to be satisfied by lies?

## A dream comes true and everything falls into place

Louis followed Liverpool since he was a kid. It had actually been decided before he was even born that he will one day become a Red. How could it be otherwise when all of his family were Liverpool supporters and he lived just round the corner from Anfield?

*Anfield the grand stage for the greatest players. Players who create history. They never say die, they fight until the end, make millions of people happy and they Never Walk Alone! Anfield was built back in 1884 but it didn't belong to the Reds then, it was home to Everton. Liverpool FC was formed in 1892, when the Toffees couldn't afford the rent and so a new club was founded to use the stadium. One of Britain's most famous clubs then started its long way to greatness.*

Louis is an ordinary young boy from Liverpool, he is 13 years old and he attends the North Liverpool Academy (a secondary school specialised in IT and Math). Louis isn't one of the most popular kids at school although he is an amazing footballer. He joined the Liverpool Academy when he turned 6 and in every spare minute he kicks a ball around, either with his friends at school during lunch breaks, at training, or in the back garden of the family house. Last year he managed to persuade his Dad to get him a goalpost for his birthday and that was the best present he ever got according to what he said that day. Louis is a very down to earth and friendly person. He takes care of those who need it and he is someone you can rely on.

Today was a special day for Louis. He gets to go to Anfield to the majority of the home games but not midweek ones. His mother doesn't approve of that as he has to go to school the next day. Only today was a special occasion. It was the derby day and Louis' parents decided to give him a special treat. What no one knew was that Louis was to never forget the day. Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2012 was to stick in his memory forever.

It was seven o'clock, slowly getting dark and a breeze was gently blowing around. It wasn't cold. It's never cold or even chilly inside Anfield. Louis and his Dad were sitting at the Kop and they were both taking in the atmosphere of the day. The voice of Anfield began to call out the players' names: "Reina, Enrique, Carragher, Kelly, Škrteľ, Spearing, Downing, Henderson, Gerrard, Carroll, Suarez!" Before the players come out of the tunnel, the You'll Never Walk Alone anthem starts playing and all of the home supporters sing along holding their scarves above their heads. The supporters have such a strong bond with the club that only the devoted can understand. The game was amazing, fluent, tackles flying. Players eager to impress the fans and to nick a victory it was simply a typical Merseyside derby. A battle for the city. And who better to become the hero of the day than the great #8, Stevie Gerrard. He had a perfect day at the office. The skipper scored a hat-trick, leading his team to a very necessary victory. Kenny Dalglish, the King, the current gaffer was smiling; he couldn't be more pleased with his team. The Reds were still chanting the Stevie Gerrard song and later You'll Never Walk Alone once again when the players began to leave the pitch. Louis and his father began leaving too. As the crowd filled the corridor Louis and his father got separated. Louis called out: "Daddy, Daddy!" but there was no reply. Things around changed though as if everything grew older, less modern. But the voices still indicated that Louis was at a football ground.

It was April 1964; Bill Shankly was the man in charge at Liverpool FC.

*The club had been on a low, before he signed (in 1959). Five years in the Second Division was enough. The club had higher ambitions but it had its problems, struggling with money, meant no water for the pitches, the training ground at Melwood was in a horrific state and the club was full of not-so-good players but also with many reserves with a promising future. Shankly converted an old storage room into the now famous Boot Room which he used for tactical discussions whilst cleaning and repairing boots with the likes of Bob Paisley and Joe Fagan. Shankly didn't only establish the famous all-red kit, after promotion from the Second Division and winning the First Division title Shankly came in one day and threw red shorts to his players and that was it. He also changed the club into a modern one. He made Liverpool a great and later a feared and a strong side to play against.*

Louis was in a corridor. As far as he could remember he was attempting to leave Anfield only a couple of seconds ago, now he was doing quite the opposite. The crowd was guiding him to the terrace. As he walked on he noticed the differences, no seats at the stadium. Some of the stands were as he knew them, The Kop, Anfield Road end, the Main Stand just older, as they haven't yet been rebuilt into the modern huge terraces like we see nowadays. Louis was surprised to see that there were floodlights around the stadium; he thought that it's too early for them to be invented.

"Strange, it is weird how time passes by, it all seems so long ago, but it is not! It is just..." and he began counting "48 years." Louis thought.

"Excuse me young man, are you Louis?" asked a man in whom Louis soon recognised Joe Fagan.

"Yes Mr. Fagan I'm Louis, but I don't understand, how do you know my name? And how did I get here? I was just on my way out of Anfield and now I'm standing here talking to you, a legend! But you are already dead in my time!" said Louis in a loud and surprised voice.

"Dead? Legend?" asked Mr. Fagan.

"Well you won the League and the League Cup and the European Cup with Liverpool as a manager but yes, you died in 2001." explained Louis and at the same time he realised how stupid must it sound.

"When were the floodlights installed?" he asked still puzzled by the whole experience.

"In 1957." answered Mr. Fagan and then he continued. "Me a manager of the club? If you say so... I didn't have such a bad spell I guess and to die at the age of 80? Well, we have other business to take care of now and that is you!"

"Me?"

"Yes Louis, Bill is expecting you, follow me and keep close please." finished Mr. Fagan and began to walk away.

Louis hurried behind him and couldn't stop himself from asking: "Do you mean Mr. Shankly?" Joe Fagan turned round and smiled.

"Of course! He is very eager to meet you. But let's hurry, and he will tell you everything in person." And they entered the private parts of the stadium.

Louis was looking around, wanting to remember everything as it was. It was an hour to kick off and everyone was getting ready. Soon they entered a small room, smelly and filled with boots, a table and some seats. There was the great man, sitting down and sipping on a cup of tea.

"Here is the wee boy." Bill Shankly said in his Scottish accent, smiling at Louis.

"Hello Sir." Louis peeped.

"Louis is it, am I right? I suppose that you were wondering how on earth I know about you!"

"Yes I still don't get a thing!" Louis commented.

"It might all sound strange" said Mr. Shankly. "Would you like some tea?"

"Yes please."

And as Mr. Shankly poured the tea he continued speaking.

"I've had a funny dream the other night. I was in the future, I saw how all the clubs work; I saw the stuff that they do, the coaching staff, the players. I was much more complex that we do it. There were also many more people around the club. Then I saw you. In the dream you were standing in the middle of the Anfield pitch. You were crying, and you've said only your name. Then a Lovebird came flying in the sky and I woke up. In an instant I knew that it hadn't been an ordinary dream, there was something more to it. It had a reason! And I just knew that you will come" Bill Shankly finished his story and handed the tea with milk to Louis. He was looking at one of the greatest managers in the club's history, speaking to him. It was so random, weird.

"So tell me Louis, why were you crying?" Louis looked at him with an astonished expression in his face.

"I'm sorry but I don't know! I haven't cried in ages as far as I remember." Louis responded.

"Hmmm, so what am I to make of this situation than? I dream of you, you come back in time. So tell me, do you play football, are you good?" Bill Shankly asked. Louis thought for a second.

"Well I do play football; I have joined the Liverpool Academy 7 years ago. And I'm not sure if I'm any good." said Louis.

"Oh you must know!" Bill Shankly remarked in a loud voice.

"Well I think that I'm one of the good ones at school and at the Academy..." Louis paused. "Everyone gets compared to current football stars such as Gerrard, Messi, Ronaldo, Terry or Carragher but I never get those comparisons. The manager is always strict on me. He tells me what to do all the time, corrects everything. Asks me to do a bit more of this and pass it one more time, take one more shoot." As Louis finished his thought a broad smile spread across Bill Shankly's face. And he announced.

"I understand everything, and I am here to help you. And it is very simple!" Louis awaited the conclusion, but Bill Shankly just smiled and took another sip.

"So what is the reason of all this?" Asked Louis as he couldn't bare to wait any longer. And Shankly finally continued.

"From what you've told me, I can see that you are an amazing player. The time you live in is ruled by football as far as I can tell and players have become a greater influence and stars."

Louis interrupted: "Me and amazing, how can you tell? You have never seen me kick a single ball!"

"True, but you know I am too a manager and I give advice to my players. Every manager is different in the way he treats his players and in the way we looks after them. Your manager by pointing out the mistakes and by advising you to try again and telling you how to do it right is trying to make you an even better player than you already are. He must be a wise mad and you must be a great talent. He sees potential in you. He is not bossing you around, maybe you didn't see it, but he is trying to help you."

Louis thought about this, and after a while he had to admit that it all made sense. "And as for the comparisons, it is not bad to not be compared, maybe you can't be compared. Now I'm sorry Louis but I have a team waiting in the dressing room. You are more than welcome to attend the match." And he handed a ticket to Louis. He smiled at him once more and gave him a pat on the back.

"Off you go, I believe that you will find your way out." They shook hands and said their goodbyes. Louis was heading down the corridor and he heard Shankly say:

"And Louis, think about what I've said! It's not bad to not be compared!" And then he left.

Louis watched the match and as he was leaving the ground he felt the change again. He was back in 2012. His dad grabbed his hand saying: "Here you are, I thought I lost you along the way!" Louis just smiled and felt for his pocket. And there it was a ticket.

"It wasn't a dream!" On the way home Louis was happily talking to his Dad about the Liverpool-Everton match. He didn't mention his experience. He wasn't really sure if he'd believe him.

At home Louis went to bed and as he lay there he went through the whole conversation he had with the great manager. Then he sat up, pleased with himself. He understood Shankly's remark.

"Yes, I do not want to be compared. I want to be me, I want to be admired for who I am and I want to have my style. I am no Gerrard or Beckham of Fábregas! They are all highly regarded players, amazing players at the world's biggest clubs. But I am simply me. Louis!" And he fell back on his pillow and fell asleep. It had been a long day for him.

In the days to come everyone was surprised of the changes Louis went through, self confident, smiling. He even became a bit more popular. He seemed like a new Louis.

And, in a way, he was.

## The foggy future becomes clear

Where does your future lie? Which subjects did you choose to graduate from? Where are you going to study next year? What are you going to study? Those must be the most frequent questions that the seniors get asked these days, and so I expect them to be the least favourite questions at the same time.

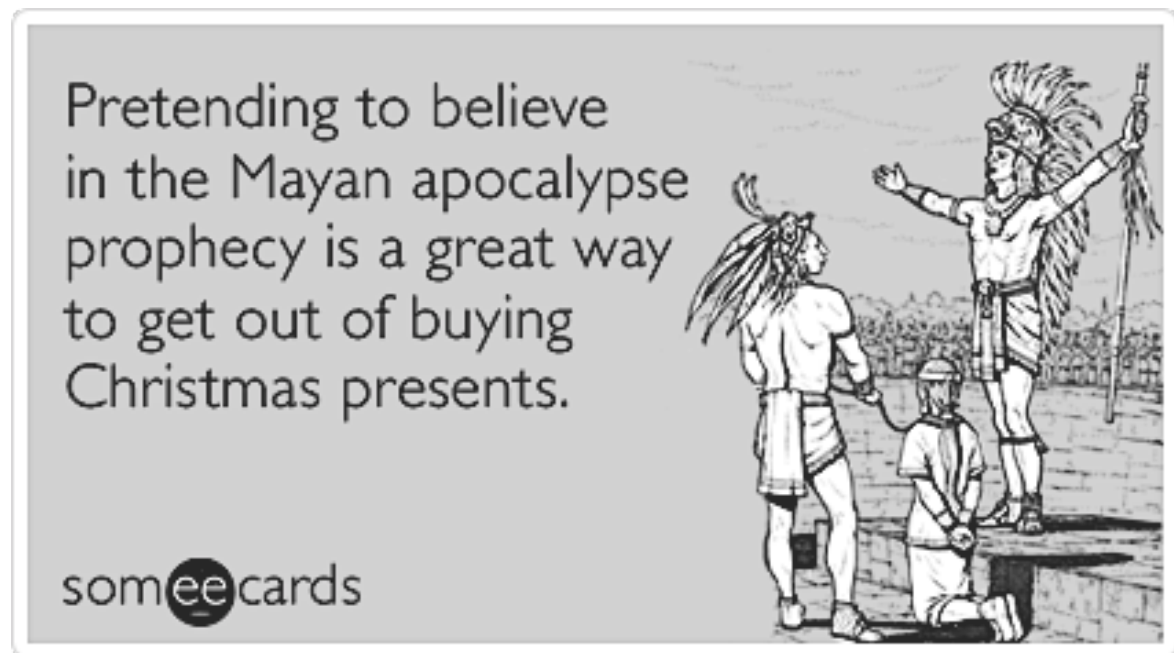
Some have dreams since early age and they have never stopped to doubt them. They still want to be a doctor as they used to want when they played with their friends at primary school. Some have recently found their destiny. But some are as confused about their future as they were when they were seven or eight years old.

I am not a senior and yet I have lately been trying to realise what I would like to study. I know the path I'd like to take after university but I lacked the middle part. But where should I go? Should I head over to Spain, Scotland, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands or maybe stay in the Czech Republic? For me the easiest way was to think of the place where I have always wanted to be, England. And because I am very keen on Liverpool I started my research over there. Google: Universities in Liverpool. To my great relief and dad's surprise the University of Liverpool offers the kind of programme that I have been looking for. And the conditions to apply suit me well. But dad wasn't so sure about it. (As all parents do, they talk about your decisions, they pick holes they seek other options and they do their best to try and convince you that this option should be also considered, if not even taken into serious account.) When you know the name of the course that you would like to take the search gets easier. And when your parent is heading in a straight direction to a previously selected target the search gets even faster. Google, this time dad types the key word: Universities in the Netherlands. You go through them, one by one. And in the end one stands out. For us it was Rotterdam. The next task is to write an email to the universities (by the way they were very quick in answering, it took them only a couple of hours) asking them about the rules of applying. Which grades you need to receive from the Czech graduation exams to be able to apply and the level of English you have to present. When all that is done, you know your options. Your future becomes a bit brighter.

Some might say that it is a waste of time and energy to look for universities a year in advance. But I think otherwise. Maybe in the end I won't send my application neither to Liverpool or Rotterdam and I might go for London or Salamanca or whichever university around the world. But at least I have a feeling that I am aiming for something now. I have filled the empty spot after AMAZON and before work.

And by this I would like to wish all the seniors good luck with the graduation and I hope that they all end up at the universities where they want to be. And that their path towards a successful and happy future will continue with no more setbacks.

## The Fun House



An idea for a Christmas gift:



A Rocket Coffee Cup!

## In the next issue

We are going to concentrate on the seniors and their prom. Look back at last year's prom and bring you little profiles of our seniors. Here you can read a sort of an introduction.

All the unmarked articles were written by Betty Růžicková.  
Credits to Iggy Ceran for making the cover page.