

THE RUFF TIMES

Tips for Landing Your First Job

Athena Liu

Jobs are something that every high school student should consider. It can help you save money for your post-secondary education and provide some extra spending money. Here are some tips that can help you land a job:

Finding and Choosing the Job

Keep your eyes open for job postings wherever you go. You can find them in retail stores, fast food restaurants, and even grocery stores.

Search for opportunities on indeed.com and jobgym.com. You can also search for opportunities on the Pen Centre and Niagara Outlet Collection websites.

When you go somewhere, think about whether you would like to work there. For instance, if you think you would enjoy working at the movie theatre, you might want to apply there.

The best time for open spots is in the summer, as students will be graduating and pursuing other steps of their lives.

Make sure you are actually somewhat interested and willing to endure the hardships of your job. Remember, a loyal worker is always better than one that quits after a couple of months. Keep this in mind as you may need to explain your first job experience when applying for another one.

Finding Contact Info and Making a Resume

You will need some type of contact information to apply. Some employers request an online copy while others require you to submit a hard copy in person.

You should always have a cover letter and a resume. Your cover letter is a brief summary of why you are applying to the job and what assets you have. It should include your full name, address, and date. Search up sample letters for the format and guidance to writing the letter.

Your resume is a detailed explanation about you. It should include your objective (what you seek to gain), education, awards and certificates, work experience, volunteer experience, hard skills, soft skills, extracurricular activities, and hobbies. It is best to include at least two references at the end. Your reference can be a teacher or another adult who knows you well. Your resume should be no longer than 2 pages.

Be sure to include as many attributes as possible that differentiate you from others. However, include only what is relevant pertaining to your job. For example, if you just graduated university, don't include your grade 8 graduation awards.

Guess what?... You just landed an interview!

You are excited that you just landed your first interview and you can't wait to show them how excellent a candidate you are. Dress formally and do some research about your company.

Do not be shy during your interview, especially for a retail job. It is your only chance to show them you are the ideal candidate for the job.

Get a good night's sleep and don't stress too much about it. When the day comes, act like yourself and don't be arrogant. Treat everyone you encounter with respect and give your interviewers a firm handshake.

Waiting for the Call

Make sure your ringtone is on and you are always ready to answer the call. Keep your phone within arm's reach so that you can quickly reach it. The time between the interview and the offer differs from employer to employer. Personally, I received the offer 2 days after the interview.

Be patient and trust that everything will work out.

P.S. I have already been through process of finding a job and this is my best advice for you! Happy job hunting!

From the Editor

Mack Cobolan

Well, spring has sprung and all that jazz. This is supposed to be the season of change, but at least for me, I haven't been feeling much of a change. If anything, I've been feeling inconsistent, if the weather wasn't enough of an indicator of that. Luckily, it looks like the weather is starting to steady as spring finds its footing.

But I'm not here to give you all a weather report (and put you to sleep in the process), I'm here to talk about absolutely anything else. So let's do that.

I usually talk about what's been on my mind, but the truth is, everything that is anything has been on my mind as of late. I think that's the case for a lot of us for a lot of reasons. We can see the slight glimmer of that light at the end of the tunnel, so our head starts coming up with ideas. We also have our own personal goals and aspirations that we think about all the time. I think the latter is a bigger factor in my case.

The problem is actually making these ideas something greater than ideas. I've wanted to do a lot of things. I want to have some way to properly organize my writing. I actually want to find a way to get paid to write, ideally. It's like having an empty plate in front of you and imagining all the food you could fit on there and presumably eat. But it's not there. It's just an idea in your head, at least for the time being. You actually have to get the food to your plate.

I feel this is a problem with a lot of people, and the biggest part of the problem is that nobody actually brings any of their ideas to fruition. They never bring that food to their empty plate. I'm hoping to fix that at some point, although the hardest part of motivating yourself to do something is getting to the point where you do it. If you're at a similar stage in your life, I hope you're willing to get to that point too.

I feel like I said more than I usually do. I don't know if that's true, but this time I had an idea in my head and tried not to pull any punches with it, so I hope that's been displayed well enough here. If you have similar sentiments here, try to see them through. I think we all deserve to do what we want (so long as they're within the realms of reality and proper ethical reasoning).

Happy reading, everyone!

SHADOWS BEHIND: CONTINUED

Roslin Chen

"Your daddy has something for you!"

Florence turned as best as she could without letting go of the branch. "What does my daddy have?"

"He wants to give this special charm to you."

Florence looked back up at the tree tops. She shuddered, for the spooky branches suddenly reminded her of the trees surrounding a wicked witch's castle. She climbed down and stepped on the ground in front of the boy.

The boy stood over her, a good few feet taller. He pulled the quilt over Florence's shoulders tightly. Florence felt for the soft material and gripped it.

"My name's Colden," said the boy. "Your daddy's Franklin Stokes, right?"

His voice was gentle—he seemed nicer than the terrible police officers. Florence hesitated for a moment, then she slowly nodded.

"He wants you to have this."

He held up the domino tile. "It's a good luck charm."

Florence pursed her lips in confusion, frowning. It looked like a blackened piece of wood. "Good luck?"

"Turn around. It goes on the back of your neck."

Florence obeyed, and Colden brushed her hair back and pressed the tile against her skin.

"It'll stay with you forever so you'll have good luck forever."

Florence reached behind her head, the quilt slipping off one shoulder, but Colden grabbed her hand.

"Don't touch it. It needs to dry."

Colden pulled the quilt back over Florence's shoulder, and bent down till his eyes were level with hers.

"For tonight you'll stay in that building." He nodded towards a building next to the jail. "Tomorrow you'll go to live with Miss Etheridge in her home. She'll come pick you up. Okay?"

"Bad!" Florence blurted out in the boy's face. Oops. Her daddy always told her to think before she speaks, and she forgot.

Colden shrugged. "Well, sorry, but you have to. I was told to get you inside. Now come on, it's chilly out here."

He straightened himself and gently moved her along by the shoulder. Florence took small slow steps. She was surprised the boy didn't rush or shove her.

Colden led her towards the building next to the jail—a white three-story structure with many windows aligned neatly on each floor. Only a few had the curtains drawn, and Florence could see people sitting at office desks, typing on computers, or walking around the room.

Colden pulled back the handle of a glass door and waved her inside. The lobby was a bright square room. Sofas sat in one corner with a coffee table, and a desk sat right in front of the doors in the center of the room. The room led into a hallway on the right-hand side. An officer with black hair and tan skin sat at the desk, his head bent down as he busily scribbled away. He looked up as soon as the door shut, and nodded politely at Colden and Florence. He didn't smile.

Colden led Florence down the hallway. When they stopped at the fourth door on their left, he knelt down in front of Florence.

"Let me see your N—I mean, good luck charm."

Florence turned around and Colden pulled back her hair.

"It's dry. Officer Mehr will be here in a few minutes. She will get you some new clothes and stuff. I'll wait here with you until she comes, okay?" Then he remembered Officer Hoffman's words. "Don't worry. Your daddy will be fine, and so will you. Just get a good night's sleep so you'll be up and ready tomorrow, okay?"

Florence wasn't convinced about her daddy being okay, but her mind was focused on something else.

The boy's arm, and a nasty scar. Long and white, thick as a pencil, running from his wrist to the crook of his elbow. Parts of the scar were pink.

"What happened to your arm?" she asked, puzzled.

Colden's eyes looked blank for a second, then quickly moved his arm to behind his back. "Oh, it's nothing. Just got a little cut. Oh, here's Officer Mehr!"

Colden stood up to greet a lady coming down the hall towards them, a woven laundry basket of clothes resting on her hip. The lady was tiny, merely two heads taller than Colden. She had on a shirt and skin-tight jeans. Her blonde hair was pulled tight into a bun behind her head. She smiled warmly at the two children.

"Hi Colden. Is this her?"

"Yes," said Colden, patting Florence's shoulder.

Officer Mehr opened the door on their left with her free hand and stood aside. Colden looked down at Florence, and nodded towards the door. Florence's eyes were fixated on his scar.

"Alright, go on in. I'll see you in the morning. Good night."

"Good night," the little girl could only mutter. As the door began to shut behind her, Florence looked back over her shoulder, the last bit seen of Colden when he turned to go the cruel white scar.

To be continued...

Romeo and Juliet (2013) Review

Athena Liu



Romeo and Juliet is one of Shakespeare's most famous plays. Set in Verona, Italy, this play tells the story of two star-crossed lovers from two feuding families. Themes of love, fate, and passion are integrated into this heart-wrenching masterpiece of literature.

The film adaptation, *Romeo and Juliet* (2013) can be noted for its effective deliverance of lines and appropriate setup for the surroundings. The famous balcony scene is an excellent example of this.

Romeo (Douglas Booth) delivers his lines with a strong passion. During the balcony scene, you can feel his love towards Juliet through his speech comparing her beauty to the sun. His voice is very expressive and he effectively uses the setting by walking around while delivering his speech. This showed his affection towards Juliet.

However, Juliet's (Hailee Steinfeld) deliverance was relatively weaker. When she said "O Romeo, O Romeo wherefore art thou Romeo," it sounded like she was simply wondering why he had to be Romeo rather than being distressed by the fact. Her voice was rather monotone and expressionless throughout her speech. She should have put more expression in her speech to demonstrate her desperateness and distress to his identity.

The staging was very well done. *Romeo and Juliet* both show their personal thoughts and feelings prior to meeting each other. This gives the viewer some background knowledge to refer to while the characters deliver their lines. Romeo climbing up the vine was also very well-planned because it showed how his relationship with Juliet was quickly growing closer. The set-up really shows the intimate relationship between the characters.

The costumes were effectively chosen because they were well-suited for the wealthy citizens of Elizabethan Verona. They successfully exhibit their social status, role, and power. For example, Juliet's beige costume perfectly encompassed her role as an innocent maiden. Beige, a colour of the earth, gives a warming, relaxing feeling. Juliet, a very gentle and kind character, wore a costume that successfully exhibited her character.

The choice of music was appropriate for creating a magical feeling in the relationship between Romeo and Juliet. It enhances the romantic atmosphere and escalates the importance of scenes between the couple. Although it is not the ultimate climax, it is certainly very important because major parts of the play are improved.

The plotline moved along quickly as well. The events came one after the other, never boring the audience for more than two seconds. The fast pace always kept the audience captivated and wanting to see more of what happened.

The setting depicts what is to be expected of an old, wealthy family in Italy. The older style of architecture is beautiful. However, the prop choice was not suitable for the balcony scene. The fake vine that Romeo climbs on looks unreal. In fact, it looks like a cheap, plastic item that came from a craft store.

Overall, *Romeo and Juliet* was very successful. I would rate it a 9.5 out of 10. The deliverance of the lines, the staging, the costumes, the music, and the setting were very well done, making this film very enjoyable to watch. The film was definitely worth viewing as it enhanced my understanding of the play. The only criticism is the fake appearance of the vine in which Romeo climbed.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO



About

-Founded in 1957
-Founders: J. Gerald Hagey,
Ira G. Needles, Reverend
Cornelius Siegfried

Facts

Students: 31,380 undergraduate, 5,290
graduate
International Students: 17%
undergraduate and 37% graduate
1,000-acre main campus in
Waterloo, 100+ buildings
40,000 enrolments annually (2015-16)
58 % of students have an entrance
average of 90+ per cent (2015)
6 faculties, 4 affiliated and federated
institutions, 11 faculty-based schools
189,000 alumni in 152 countries
29.2% of first-year students in
engineering disciplines are women

Student Life

-Over 300 clubs!
-5 full-size gymnasiums
-Swimming pool with diving area
-Weight rooms
-Warrior High Performance
Training Zone
-Squash courts
-Fitness center and studios

Career Success

87% of graduate students employed within 6 months (Waterloo
Key Performance Indicators)
#22 in the world for graduate employability (QS Global
Employability Survey 2017)
-With a Waterloo degree, you'll be ready to apply to a graduate
or professional degree at top universities across Canada and
internationally!

Did you know?

#1 in Canada for computer science and engineering (U.S. News and
World Report Best Global Universities 2017)
#1 for career preparation (Globe and Mail University Report)
#1 school in Canada for venture-backed capital enterprises (Pitchbook)
Canada's #1 comprehensive research university for nine
consecutive years (Research Infosource)



Life in the City of Waterloo:

Uptown Waterloo has over 400 businesses including restaurants,
shops, and boutiques, and is home to several festivals and events each
year. One extremely popular event is Oktoberfest, Canada's greatest
Bavarian festival. This event includes a Thanksgiving Day parade and
over 40 cultural events. Uptown Waterloo has many places to dine,
places to buy groceries and go shopping, and students at UWaterloo
have a WatCard, which makes travelling around easy as it grants them
access to the Grand River Transit (GRT) and explore the entire region
of Waterloo.

Campuses

Main Campus - Waterloo, Ontario
School of Architecture - Cambridge,
Ontario
Health Sciences and School of Pharmacy -
Kitchener, ON
Stratford Campus (Digital Arts and Media)
- Stratford, ON

Sources: www.uwaterloo.ca

By: Roslin Chen