

THE APPROVAL MATRIX

Our deliberately oversimplified guide to who falls where on our taste hierarchies.

HIGHBROW

Reince Priebus admits in a new book that he couldn't ride the **wild horse** that is Donald Trump ...



... But even tough guy John Kelly now looks like a **rodeo clown**.



Some insurance companies consider gay men **bad risks** if they take Truvada to avoid HIV infection.

The new issue of *American Chordata*, a literary magazine for and about members of our **phylum**.



François Girard's **hot-blooded** production of *Parsifal* at the Met.

Under Deborah Borda, the New York Phil ramps up new music, with **five** world premieres—two by women.



Thomas Ostermeier's intellectually **ambitious** *Returning to Reims* at St. Ann's Warehouse.



Fox News media scold Howard Kurtz's further decline into right-wing **hackdom** with his book *Media Madness*.



Rob Porter's rise and **fall**.



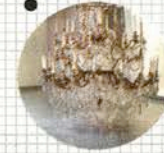
• The **seven-hour** career at the *Times* op-ed page of Quinn Norton.

LaToya Ruby Frazier's **activist** documentary artworks at Gavin Brown's Enterprise.

Rhiannon Giddens and Dirk Powell spend days at the Irish Arts Center **cooking** up new songs and evenings dishing them out.



Danh Vo's **delicate** romanticism at the Guggenheim.



Mfoniso Udofia, **rivetingly anxious** in *The Homecoming Queen* at the Atlantic Theater Company.

A lawyer for ICE in Seattle was caught trying to **steal** immigrants' identities. Unfortunately, he can't be deported.



In a defeat for the legal rights of **haters** everywhere, a judge ruled that Taylor Swift can't be sued for copyright infringement for using the phrase "Haters gonna hate."



According to Harvard researchers, compounds called PFASs in nonstick pans and stain-resistant carpets might be making you fat. So ... **stained carpets** keep you skinny?



Back Talk, intimate short stories by Danielle Lazarin exploring the **mixed** blessing of human entanglement.



Septuagenarian novelist Marilynne Robinson's book of **wise**, necessary essays, *What Are We Doing Here?*

• The once-glorious 1964 World's Fair fountains next to the Unisphere, which have fallen into **disrepair**, will be reconstructed.

DESPICABLE

BRILLIANT



So **why**, exactly, did Michael Cohen pay Stormy Daniels \$130,000 of his own money?



On NBC, Bode Miller for some reason linked Austrian Anna Veith's slope struggles to the fact that she got **married** in 2016. (He later apologized.)

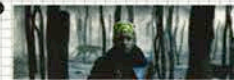
Because of a manufacturing error, it was **basically impossible** to unscrew some Talenti-gelato lids.



Chris Rock's relentlessly **disciplined** stand-up Netflix special *Tamborine*.



#**blackpantherexcellence**.



Chloe Kim wins the gold, despite not finishing her breakfast sandwich and being **"hangry."** Or because of it?



• Hot Fashion Week trend: the **horny** turtleneck.

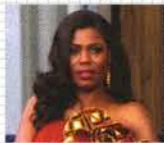


The **soulful sing-along** of Telfar's fashion-show performance piece with Dev Hynes, Ian Isiah, Kelela, Adonis Bosso, and Kelsey Lu.



Someone in South Carolina executed 15 Chihuahuas, each **shot** in the head.

Omarosa's *Big Brother* White House **confessional**. Guess our democracy deserved this.



Kim Cattrall's very **personal** public feud with Sarah Jessica Parker.

The video for Eminem's collaboration with Ed Sheeran, "River," will at least make you feel better about the **mess** of your own romantic life ...



Mirai Nagasu's **triple axel!**



... While François Ozon's film *Double Lover* might make you wish yours were more interesting in a **kaleidoscopic**, Franco-Freudian way.



An anonymous **orgasm** benefactor has been sending strangers sex toys from Amazon.



Paris Hilton resurrects herself as Marilyn Monroe for her single "I Need You" ("I wanna be the **bunny** in your Easter").



A **68-square-foot** SRO on the Upper West Side, advertised for \$950 a month. You share a bathroom.



The **AR-15**.



Jeez, Shaun White. You managed to **muck up** your big gold-medal comeback with your sleazy behavior.

LOWBROW

