



## The Month Gawne By

**November 2018**

This newsletter is meant to be entertaining and educational. Feedback is welcomed and we would be happy to hear your perspective on any of the ideas mentioned below. Please pass along to anyone who might find this information of value. Previous editions can be found at [thegawnegroup.com](http://thegawnegroup.com).

### What Happened?

The TFSA contribution limit was [raised to \\$6,000](#) for 2019! That brings the total contribution limit to \$63,500 next year.

Equity markets were generally up in November, but experienced continued volatility. The S&P 500 had its [worse Thanksgiving week](#) in 80 years and had its [second correction of 2018](#). The equity volatility has been a good reminder of why bonds are an integral part of investment portfolios.

Jerome Powell, Federal Reserve Chairman, may have signaled that [rate hikes are nearing an end](#). What this means is that the Federal Reserve believes they are close to reaching the level of interest rates that will neither help nor hinder the economy. The expectation for another rate hike in December remains.

Negotiations between the US and China continue. Reports suggest that an agreement where [China would consider implementing more accommodative economic policy in exchange for putting tariffs on hold](#) is being explored. In the short term, the two nations have agreed to [delay any further actions for 90 days](#) and continue negotiations.

[EU leaders agree to Brexit deal](#), The deal now needs to be approved by the UK Parliament. Here's a [guide](#) to Brexit.

Saudi Arabia raised oil production to an [all-time high](#).

A [climate report](#) was released on Black Friday quantifying costs of climate change and the impacts it could have on the U.S. economy.

Jeff Bezos has [more money than brains](#) (more accurately, he has more dollars of net worth than brain cells).

### Markets (as of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018)

Stocks	Benchmark	November	YTD
Canada	<a href="#">S&amp;P TSX Composite</a>	1.13%	-6.24%
United States	<a href="#">S&amp;P 500</a>	1.79%	3.24%
International	<a href="#">MSCI EAFE</a>	-0.31%	-11.76%
Emerging Markets	<a href="#">MSCI Emerging Markets</a>	4.06%	-14.13%
World	<a href="#">MSCI ACWI</a>	1.30%	-4.32%

Bonds	Benchmark	November	YTD
Canada	<a href="#">FTSE TMX Canada Universe Bond</a>	1.02%	0.05%
United States	<a href="#">Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate</a>	0.47%	-1.44%
World	<a href="#">Bloomberg Barclays Global Aggregate</a>	0.31%	-3.16%

Currency	November	YTD
CAD / USD (Source: ThomsonOne)	0.76%	5.56%

### Music

[November Playlist](#) – the 10 to 20 songs I listened to the most during the month. I've done my best to filter for objectionable content and language.

[25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary](#) of Nirvana's MTV Unplugged in New York

### Articles of Interest

Wall Street's most [grueling exam](#).

Goldman Sachs predicts [eSports will have as many viewers as the NFL by 2020](#) (300 million).

Killer whales [share personality traits](#) with monkeys (humans and chimpanzees).





Ants are [self aware](#).

Which is better, [Blades of Steel or Ice Hockey](#).

The [richest pets](#) in the world.

A tribe of [1,500 people in Indonesia](#) lives on 20 sperm whales per year.

The [first observed interstellar object](#). It's speculated to be of alien origin, [others disagree](#).

How Bill Gates plans to [prevent 500,000 infant deaths](#) with a toilet.

Genetics [contribute 7% to average lifespan](#), lifespan of spouses more correlated than siblings of opposite gender.

The [Placebo Effect](#).

Art Institute of Chicago has posted high resolution [copies of thousands of artworks](#).

## Books

"[The New Psycho Cybernetics](#)," Dan S. Kennedy, Maxwell Maltz

This book was recommended during a [Philosophize This!](#) episode. The original book, [Psycho Cybernetics](#), is considered to be the first self-help book. The teachings in this book have influenced many people including Vince Lombardi and Tony Robbins. The author, Maxwell Maltz, was a plastic surgeon. Through his practice he noticed that he was able to change people's self-perception more effectively through coaching than by physically modifying their appearance. This book is an updated version of Maltz's teachings. I didn't realize this was a self-help book until I started reading it. I found a couple useful tidbits in it. But if you've ever read a self-help book in your life, you will find it repetitive since it has influenced every self-help guru that came after.

## Video

[Gattaca](#) is one of my favorite movies. It is only a matter of time until it becomes reality. We got one step closer with China claiming to have created the [first gene-edited human babies](#).

## Theatre

I attended my first play at the [Whitby Courthouse Theater](#) in November. It was the musical, [Next to Normal](#). I didn't have any expectations (I didn't even know it was a musical until they started singing), but if I did have expectations the performance would have surpassed them. The acting and singing was on par with any play/musical I've seen in Toronto. In fact, Next to Normal, will be playing at the CAA Theatre from April 26 to May 19, 2019. Orchestra seats in Whitby were \$27 vs \$110 in Toronto. There are 2 more shows remaining in the Whitby Courthouse Theatre's current season, I recommend anyone with an interest in the arts or live performances check them out.

## Food

I've been using this trick for a while and it has changed my life. When buying any type of salad greens from the grocery store, put them in a reusable plastic container with some paper towels. [It makes the salad greens last forever!](#) \*longer than they would have otherwise

## Photography

National Geographic's [best photos of 2018](#). and [2018 photo contest](#).

## Chart of the Month

[Video games are big](#), and likely will get bigger. As technology increases people won't have to imagine being the star of an action movie, they will be able to live it.

### Video Games Beat Blockbuster Movies Out of the Gate

Global launch sales of selected video games compared to the largest movie openings

Worldwide retail sales during the first three days after launch



Worldwide box office revenue through the first Sunday after launch



Sources: Company announcements, Box Office Mojo





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