

ISSUE 04

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EUPHORIA

AN ONLINE PERIODICAL OF DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, KARIM CITY COLLEGE

**REVEALING THE OTHER
SIDE OF THE MIRROR**

WHAT'S INSIDE

POETRY
SHORT STORIES
PHOTOGRAPHS
MEMOIR
AND MANY MORE



WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT



Dr. Neha Tiwari
Assistant Professor,
Department of English

As we approach the end of another academic year, it is a great pleasure to have the latest edition of our departmental magazine *Euphoria*. This literary magazine is a great opportunity to showcase your writing skills to a wider audience. This is a chance to inspire and connect with your peers through words and wisdom. Writing is a powerful form of self-expression and we hope that this platform will prove best to share your unique perspectives, insights and stories with the world.

Students play an important role in shaping the culture of the institution. Through their collective efforts, they strive to make a positive impact on our campus community and the world beyond. I am confident that your contributions will make this magazine a reflection of your individuality and the diverse perspectives that you bring to the table. In these pages one will find insightful analysis, engaging personal essays, thought provoking articles on topics from literature to arts. It also carries beautiful photography, stunning illustrations and inspiring poetry that capture the spirit and energy of our campus community. We hope this magazine explores new ideas, challenges your assumptions and engages you further more. My best wishes to the editorial team and congratulations to all the contributors.



Dr. Basudhara Roy
Assistant Professor,
Department of English

As another wonderful issue of *Euphoria* makes its way into the world and into the hearts of our readers, we feel extremely happy to have the periodical receive a lot of love from all quarters. At a time when the world is unsure of itself and crises keep mounting each day, adding on to our general uncertainty about the future, it is important to treasure the one gift that we have in the world -- the gift of words. While we may not go far enough to say that words alone constitute the world, it is very important to acknowledge that words matter, that language is one of the most significant modes of perception, and that opting for a language which holds space for love, affection, empathy, communality, and faith, can actually amount to choosing a better world for ourselves and for those we love.

I am glad that our students have made this choice and that, through *Euphoria*, they are reaching deep into themselves to bring out for the world all that they truly hold dear -- friendship, trust, equality, justice and beauty.

I wish the new issue a happy journey through hearts and hope that it will encourage more of our students to pay attention and engage with the quiet journey of the inner self that is always happening within us and needs no bluetooth or wifi to connect to.

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT



Writing is both a demanding and enjoyable activity. It is one of the challenging and useful skills at the same time. This creative endeavour unquestionably produces a wide range of aesthetic, artistic, and scientific expressions with unique distinctiveness.

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the zealous and untiring team at work for keeping the onward journey of 'Euphoria' intact and bringing out its current issue.

It will certainly go a long way in developing the writing and research skills of our young students and encourage them to unfold their inherent creative potentialities. All the best.

Prof. A. K. Dash
Assistant Professor,
Department of English

EDITORIAL MESSAGE

"Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much." – Helen Keller

This quote by Helen Keller emphasizes the power of collaboration and teamwork. It acknowledges that when we work individually, our potential is limited. However, when we unite our strengths, and ideas, we unlock a collective force capable of achieving extraordinary things.

As the editorial team, we would like to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude and admiration for your contribution towards the periodical. The talent, dedication, and passion that you bring to this journal is truly inspiring.

Throughout this journey, we have witnessed the magic that happens when words and art come together. Your contributions have transformed our imagination, where readers can escape, contemplate, and be moved. From thought-provoking essays to captivating short stories, from breathtaking paintings to mesmerizing photographs, your creations have woven a combination of emotions and experiences.

"In realms where words and art unite,
A magic stirs, an ethereal light.
Brush strokes dance upon the page,
As poetry weaves its mystic tapestry's stage.
Through verses' power and colors' might,
The magic of words and art takes flight".

Your commitment to excellence and attention to detail are evident in every word, every painting, and every design element. Each piece has been carefully selected and curated to evoke a range of emotions, spark intellectual curiosity, and challenge perspectives.

We would also like to acknowledge the teamwork. Together, we have fostered an environment where ideas flourish, feedback is valued, and support is abundant. The energy and synergy within our team are what make our online-periodical truly exceptional.

Our periodical serves as a platform for voices to be heard, stories to be shared, and emotions to be felt. We are the creators of art, and through our work, we contribute to the richness and diversity of the literary and artistic landscape.

In closing, we extend our deepest appreciation for your unwavering commitment and creativity. Your dedication to this periodical is a testament to your love for literature and art and your belief in the power of storytelling. We are immensely proud of what we have accomplished together, and we cannot wait to share this.

With gratitude,
The Editorial Team



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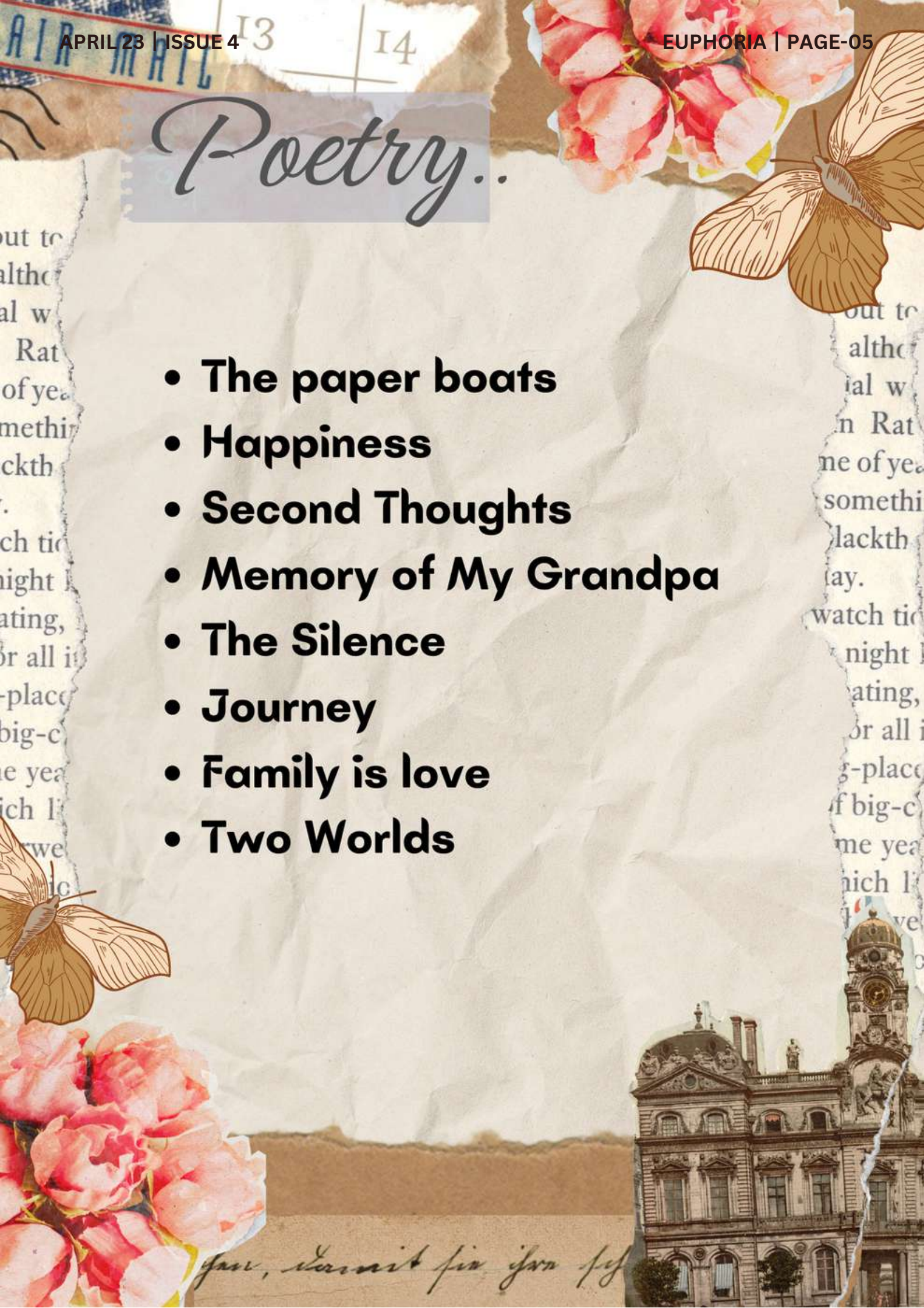
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Poetry..

- The paper boats
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- Two Worlds



you, I want for you

The paper boats

Seconds march into the past
The moments pass,
and just like that, they're gone.
The river always finds the sea,
So helplessly,
like you find me.

We are paper boats floating on a stream,
And it would seem,
We'll never be apart.

I will always find you
Like it's written in the stars
You can run, but you can't hide.
Like the moon that makes the tides,
That silent guide,
is calling from inside.

Pull me here and push me there,
It's everywhere,
hanging in the air.

We are magnets pulling from different poles:
With no control,
We'll never be apart.

We are paper boats floating on a stream,
And it would seem,
We'll never be apart.

Arzoo Naz
Sem- 4



HAPPINESS

My heart is like a singing bird
Whose nest is in a water'd shoot;
My heart is like an apple-tree
whose boughs are bent with thickset
fruit;

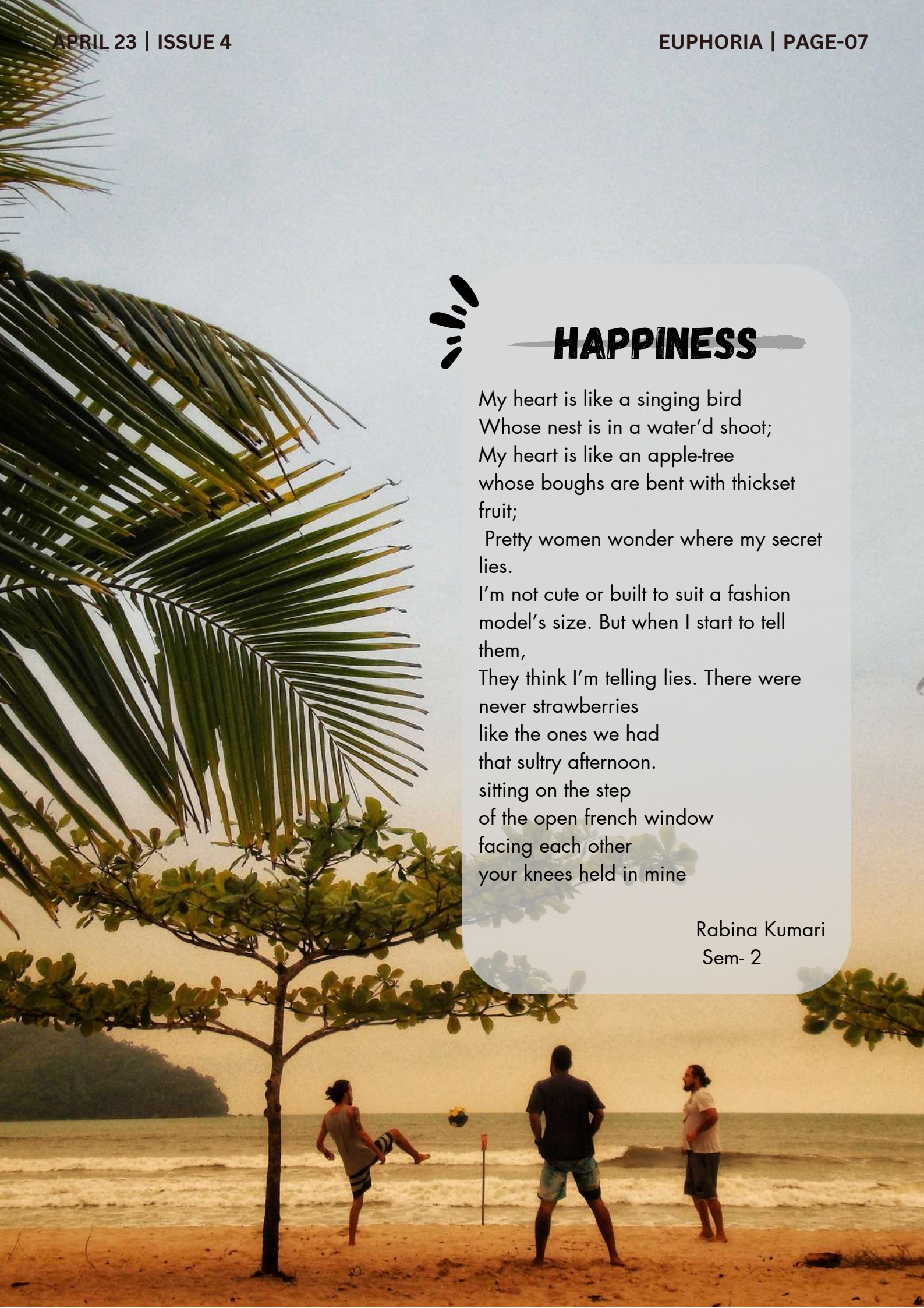
Pretty women wonder where my secret
lies.

I'm not cute or built to suit a fashion
model's size. But when I start to tell
them,

They think I'm telling lies. There were
never strawberries
like the ones we had
that sultry afternoon.

sitting on the step
of the open french window
facing each other
your knees held in mine

Rabina Kumari
Sem- 2



second thoughts

If I let everyone read my
incoherent thoughts
Scribbled into my journals,
If I screamed loudly everytime
my heart grew heavy
With agony and remorse,
If I shared my vulnerabilities
Without any fear of judgement,
If I expressed all my emotions
As and when I felt them,
Will I be understood?

Shaziya Hashmi
Sem- 04

Memory of grandpa..

I still can't believe that my grandpa died
Looking at him as my family cries.
Him in that hospital bed, I am so lost in my head
And I'm asking why; looking at the sky
I cannot even keep track of the time
It's moving so slowly as its passing by
I could grab a pair of chopsticks and I can catch a fly
I don't bat an eye, I'm just standing stiff
My eyes are all red like I had a spliff
I'm asking if he ever asked for this
If not, then why'd it get as bad as this?
God, keep him safe wherever he is.
Every day it's getting harder to deal with, I always cry
with the pain
Because I just stay inside my brain, but I can't stay
inside my lane.
But, Grandpa, I thank you for everything,
You have no idea what you meant to me
I'm missing your hand on my head,
While you sat on my bed and lectured me about
anything
You were so proud of everything, stories especially
And, I was so young, but I hope you remember that you
started shaping my destiny.

Arzoo Naz
Sem- 4

The Silence

The girl there,
Remained quiet,
And never longed to share
Whether she was happy or sad, she belonged.

Or was she
Unable to speak anything
Because she was mum,
By the will of fate

Was there someone,
Who was she afraid of?
She didn't utter a word even,
Was it her cowardice or bravery?

Was there a large number of space
Inside her heart;
To keep the flood of emotions
like anger, anxiety, and all that?

There must be some secret way,
She expressed her emotions.
For I stood there long watching her,
But she was calm and dumb.

Priyanka Das
Sem- 4

JOURNEY

The ship was cheered, the harbor
cleared,
Merrily did we drop
Below the kirk, below the hill, and below
the lighthouse top
'The Sun came up upon the left,
He appeared from the sea!
And he shone bright, and on the right
went down into the sea... Our journey had
advanced;
Our feet were almost there.
To that strange fork in Being's path, Eternity
by name...

In many of the best journey poems, the
wedding guest sits on a stone.
He cannot choose but hear;
And thus spake on that ancient man,
The bright-eyed Mariner.

Soumita Mitra
Sem- 2

Family is love

Our family is a circle of love and strength,
With every bird and every union, the circle grows.
There will always be a special place,
For you within my heart...

Every joy shared adds more love,
Every crisis faced together,
makes the circle stronger.

Our family is like the branches,
On an old but sturdy tree,
The leaves resemble people,
The past has not been easy.

God gave each of us a special,
The family that we can call our own
Though the distance between us,
keeps us miles apart.

My family will forever be in my heart.
Life as well is the key,
to make everyone so happy.
Family is forever and
It is our true friend.

Family is family,
No matter what they did,
They will always remain family.

Family comes together,
Always and forever.
Without any reason
any time or any season.

A family that laughs with you
And helps you see the good,
A family that will love you
more than you thought they could.

Our priority is our family
because families are forever.
It's our lifeline.
My family will forever be in my heart.

Sandhya Sharma
PG Sem- 1



Two Worlds

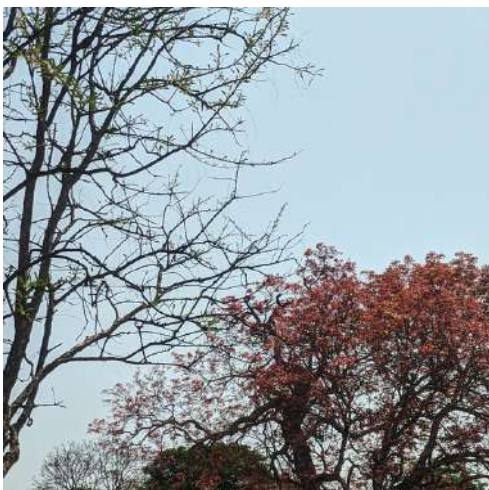
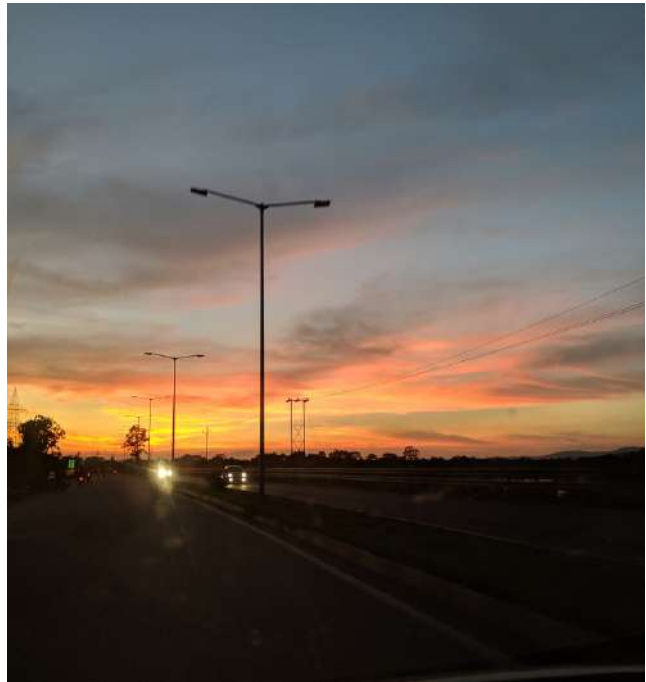
Under the bougainvillea's shaggy leaves,
pink paper-thin flowers clutched tightly by slender
branches, bough springing from the ground
to creep on the lintel of her ramshackle hut,
she stands, gripping her children
clad in sorry rags, torn and patched in places.
The fine wrinkles on her face pulled back,
scowling like a bear, with bathypelagic monsters
in the deep polished ocean in her eyes,
that reflect the dark figures clad in khakis,
come to pluck her away from her home,
to lay a road through the farm she
tills for nourishment and the roof over
her head with a single room: the
only photo album of memories that she has.
She clicks her parched tongue.
In a resplendent room of a glass-clad
The building he rests on the cushioned chair
with a hollow face before the bureau
on which he signs blank cheques, over
which he shakes cold hands with clients.
The highway of his mind deserted
like a concrete wasteland.
His safe was packed with stacks of cash and
gold. At night he will watch television
with his wife at home, a bungalow
secured with a burglar alarm in the
heart of New Delhi.
And you see, your eyes try to yoke together
Their worlds are slowly drifting apart.
You can try! You can try!

Ishan Dey
Amity University, Kolkata





PHOTOGRAPHS

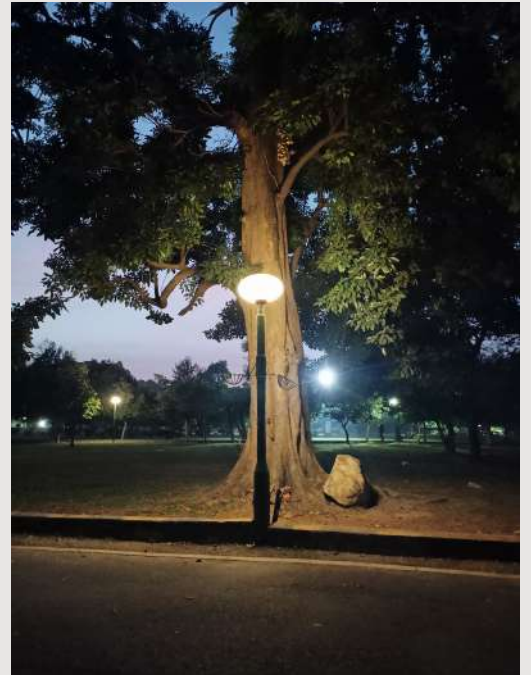


Bhaskar Bhakat

Sem- 2

“Clouds come floating into my life, no longer to carry rain or usher storm, but to add color to my sunset sky.”

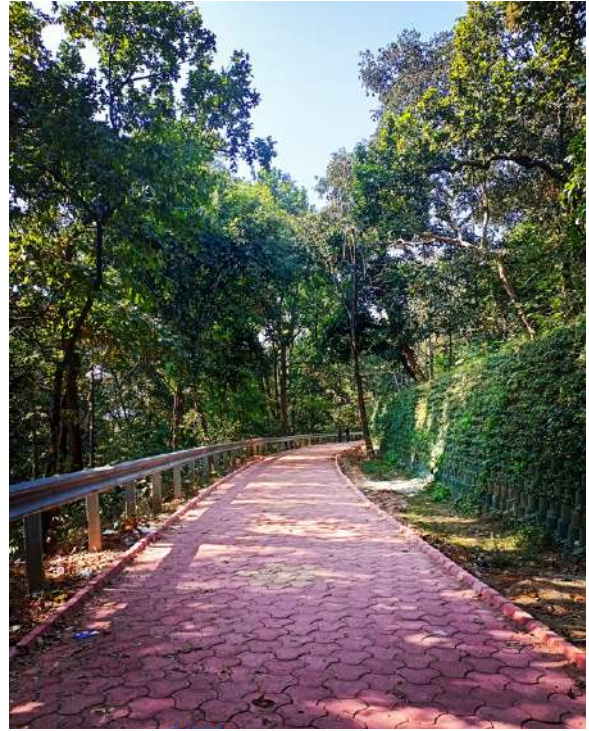
— Rabindranath Tagore, Stray Birds



Rohit Kumar Kar
Sem-2

"In nature, light creates the color. In the picture, color creates the light."

- Hans Hofmann



Tahreen Fazal
Sem- 2



Homa Mahmood
Sem- 2

**“Adopt the pace of nature: her secret is
patience.”**

— Ralph Waldo Emerson



Awanth Upadhyay
Sem- 4

**"Life is in color, but black and white is more realistic."
- Samuel Fuller**



Shivam Pramanik
Sem- 4

"Hope is like a path in the countryside.."
-Lu Xun

1. Rumbling Echoes
2. Death Has No End
3. Do You Think Dying Is Beautiful, Yuri
4. Fight for tomorrow

1. Rumbling Echoes
2. Death Has No End
3. Do You Think Dying Is Beautiful, Yuri
4. Fight for tomorrow

Rumbling Echoes

I found a clock in the creek. It's broken with all its hands missing. It was ghastly. I loved it the moment I saw it.

I found other things in the creek too. There was a pink pride cap, a broken nail paint bottle, a backpack, some utensils and a ruddy old tire. I heard an echoing rumble while skipping back home. I have been hearing echoing rumbles all the time these days, I wonder why. My Aunt said that the water rumbles before it fills the creek. Is the water coming?

I wonder why it rumbles.

Is it hungry?

My Uncle says that the Water is hungry all the time. He told me She ate the whole earth once and people used to live on boats. That sounds desperate and sickly, doesn't it?

I don't get along with Water too well. I don't like boats either; it makes me seasick. I don't think I'll survive if the water gets very hungry again.

What does she do with so much hunger? It must be so scary being driven by one emotion, one desire...

My mother says that if we don't feed the hungry then they steal and that's sad because hunger is not greed, it is our right.

Maybe the Water believes we are stealing from her and that's why she gets so rageful.

"Why are we taking away what's rightfully hers, Mother?"

Does the Water feel silent, too? I wonder if silence makes her angry, the way it makes me angry.

My Dad says I wonder too much. He was feeding me cake when he said that; it left me confused. I have never told anyone this; I am telling you now, please keep it a secret, can you?

I have heard the broken clock whisper to the tune of the Banjo, the water in the creek ripples when it begins to whisper.

Is it whispering the tune of the Water? Is She coming?

But the Water dances when the Banjo plays and the air and the earth stops trembling. Maybe it calms the Water's nerves. Maybe it puts her to sleep or maybe the clock is convincing the Water to give us more time.

The Water listens to the clock. Maybe they are friends.

They Water rumbles; The clock sings; It's a nice harmony.

Samina Tahreem
Amity University, Kolkata

DEATH HAS NO END

That day on a December night, was as calm and desolate as if the moon was about to unfold several untold tales of mystery. The leaves of trees wafted by the cool breeze murmured in stillness. A sudden humming voice woke me up in haste to know what was going on. After getting up from my bed, I realized that sound might have come from the dense forests that surrounded my house. It was around twelve and the only thing I could hear was the faint ticking of the clock. I wanted to open my window which gave a clear view of the entire forest. But, I was too apprehensive about doing that, and the feeling that triggered my mind was that what if I see something dreadful enough to impair my senses?

After mulling it over for some time, my vulnerable heart assured me to open the window. I took a few steps ahead and did that, and eventually, I was scared to see the grotesquely gloomy picture of the sleeping night haunted by the owl's hooting- that pitched up the night's eeriness to its peak. It appeared as if the silence was more than noise and the noise ended up in silence. But, what I saw next shocked me to the point of numbness. My eyes fell upon a lady wrapped up in black clothes trodding down the rugged hills. She then walked down the twisted street that ran across the woods. On having a closer look, I found that her eyes were welled up with tears and entangled hairs covered her bright face. Her strange countenance convinced me to question her identity. I interrogated "Is she a ghost or a human?" She slowly came near the lake and hurriedly fetched some water with her fists as if she had been thirsty for ages. But the next moment, she started crying as loudly as if she had been bewitched by an enchanter or betrayed by her ruthless lover. The dim night grew intense as the lady began to quiver in agony, pricked by the thorny winds. Everything looked so magical and mysterious - the same atmosphere that would horrify a man as he reads the novels of Horace Walpole. The woman was sitting aloof until she heard the footsteps of some wild animals, who perhaps, seemed to be rushing towards her. Deeply threatened by those voices, she got up in a frenzy and started to run away from the place as fast as she could. No sooner had she begun to run, than her blaring footsteps shifted my attention to the faint ticking of the clock. When I looked back to see what time it was, my blood froze to discover that the clock's hand was still pointing at twelve. I turned my neck and found the lady had disappeared. I was puzzled and screamed, "How can time stop?" The next moment, I fainted till I woke up the following day to discover myself lying on my bed and my mother calling me to come out for breakfast.

After that incident, I still can't stop myself from thinking about all that happened that day. Was that a dream or a reality is what I've been asking myself repeatedly. But then, when I open my television and watch several women who are still I'll be teased and assaulted in our society, my intuition reminds me of that lady who might have been a supernatural version of all those women who still have not got justice even after their death. Some suffering doesn't end after death since it is the soul that still wanders in fury. Imagination can trigger reality but can also be a part of the real.

Jagriti Singh
Sem- 4

Do You Think Dying is Beautiful, Yuri?

Those were the last words my best friend asked me before she died. I never knew what to do after that. Had I known she was going to flung herself off the bridge I would have stopped her. It was pure fun when we climbed to the other side of the bridge. One second she asked me this question and the other second she was falling into the river with a smile on her face.

I shouted but my voice was distinct. I lost my balance and as the cold breeze chilled my tears I thought I would die with her. But Death did not want me. It was only there to carry away her soul.

I jolted awake in the hospital bed. As I breathed in the bleached air, my lungs burned but I did not know why until the nurses came and grabbed my flailing arms. I had not realized I was shouting my grief out. The other patients in the room eyed me weirdly. I could not stop myself. Slowly I became aware of my shouts. Like a fade-in of a slow song, they flew to my ears. I stopped only after I was drugged.

The next day when I woke up, I realized I could not feel my right leg. It felt like a heavy log was attached to me. The doctor explained to my parents that my body was in shock and it won't listen to my brain's command. I was to be put in rehab. As my ears filtered in and out of the medical treatments that the doctor and my parents discussed, I looked out from the window. The sky was a deep shade of orange as the sun was setting behind the adjacent tall buildings. The sky reminded me of her smile, of endings and darkness. Unconscious tears poured out of my eyes.

I was back in school after 3 months of rehab. The teachers welcomed me with warmth but my classmates pressed onto me with coldness. All I received were cold stares and fake smiles. None of the smiles I received had an ounce of her warmth. I could not bear it. The stares, the smiles, and the back pats were making me tired. I just wanted to sleep.

But sleep came at a cost. The price I paid for a few hours of sleep was the nightmare-filled memories of us together. They always started as a dream, happy memories with the innocence of an unborn child, but slowly they turned into ugly nightmares. I started to feel like a murderer. Like it was because of me that she had died. Some of those nightmares twisted the truth. They showed that I had pushed her off the edge with my own hands. The guilt grew.

After some time my guilt reached the height of Everest. The nightmares never stopped. Getting some shut-eye made me fear them. I lost sleep. I hardly sleep for more than 2 hours a day. This affected my academics. I got more Fs than I had fingers in my hands. I couldn't concentrate on lectures. My body was paining.

The headmaster suggested my parents put me into therapy. It did not work. Whatever my therapist said went over my head. I stopped going after some time. I even stopped going to school. I stayed in my room all day. I barely ate. I did not talk to anyone. I got irritated whenever my mother called me to get out of my room. I just wanted peace and silence and darkness.

One day I woke up to a silent house. The lights were off and no one was home. I walked to the kitchen and opened the fridge. There was a plate of food in it. I did not reheat it. Down went the cold food in my stomach. I was on my way to spending the day in my room when I suddenly looked at the calendar. The date marked was 15th July.

I ran towards the bathroom. Everything that I had eaten went down the gutter. As I lay on the cold floor of the bathroom, shivers went through my body. Cold sweat broke and it became hard for me to breathe. It felt as if my lungs refused to take in any air. My brain was foggy and my eyes started to blur.

I could not take it anymore. With every late bit of energy my mind could summon, I willed my body up on my two feet. Once the grogginess left and I could think again, I rushed to grab a jacket. I did not tie my shoelaces as I ran out of the house. The daylight had me squinting and tripping on my feet. I forgot to lock the house but I passed my parent's car on my way. They will be home soon.

I ran without thinking. I let my legs decide the path and let my body decide the turns ahead. Standing in front of the building I bend down to catch some air. I was burning, inside and out. I had run ten times worth more distance that day than I had in the last month. My lungs were in flames. My throat was dry and it hurt. But the pain was pale in comparison to the one in my heart. Today was her birthday.

I could not move. I could not ring the bell. The traffic noises were dull. All I heard was my running heart. It beat so fast I thought it might explode. And I will explode along with it. And there will be peace. I will die. There would be no more pain.

I raised my trembling hand and pressed the button. It rang. And rang. And rang. No one opened the door. The sweat beads on my body glued the jacket to me. The sun burned my back. I turned to walk away but stopped when the gate opened. "Oh it's you, Yuri" the shrill voice of the woman made my heart skip a beat. I gulped and my throat pain returned. "Please come inside," she said and moved to allow me in.

I left my shoes at the door. Nervously I sat down in the room. The tiled floor was cold and the paint on the faraway wall was chipping off. It was like I remembered. Everything except the photo on the wall with a garland.

I choked on my breath when I stared at the picture. She had the same smile as the one I wanted to remember and not the twisted smirk from my nightmares. Her eyes were kind and eyes full of life. Hot tears streamed down my eyes. I could not save her. Guilt buried me under its enormous weight.

I ran, again. I did not stop until I reached the bridge. The sun was setting by then. There was a chilly breeze and leaves were falling from the trees. I stood there, lifeless. There she stood. On the other side of the bridge. Her hair was in pigtails, an extraordinary glow on her face. I followed her to the other side. As I stood at the edge again those words rang in my head.

Do you think dying is beautiful Yuri?

Her smile was back and it was not sad. She looked happy and free. I wanted to hug her and cry on her shoulders one last time. It was her eyes that caught my attention. They were bright and full of life.

I smiled for the first time in months. My face hurts from doing so. But her smile gave me courage. I did not know what was going on with her but to be able to smile at the face of Death was really beautiful. And if Death was as she claimed it to be I would believe it too.

"Yes, Amy. Dying is beautiful."

My hands went limp and my feet lost footing. But I was not scared. I wanted to embrace Death like she had, with a smile. Tears flew into my ears and hair as I fell. It was the best feeling in the world

Maithaly Banik
Amity University, Kolkata

Fight for tomorrow

The whole planet was shouting, “Hail! Lichskow, hail!”. Today, they scream, “Kill the general! hang the tyrant!”. The palace of Rohdane was surrounded by some significant guards who always protected the general and the most powerful weapon ever discovered by the greatest scientists, “Caule cells’ “. The general of Rohdane has lorded over the planet of Saberhagen and was returning from the furious war in his inferno. Now ‘Inferno’, is a special aircraft designed by the Alpha technicians. These technicians are the best on the planet.

Those who have been closely identified with the dictator’s rule to hope for forgiveness were fighting to the last seeking only a quick death in combat. One by one the isolated points of resistance were being wiped out, the quarters and huge chambers of the palace were thronged with rebels loud, with their shouts and with infrared beams and the crash of blasters. Large tanks of methane and flesh were brought and burnt. The living quarters now overrun, the mob smashed down halls and quartz floors in search of a secret hiding place.

They found strange things in the room. The spaceship built under the dome of Montane was now ready for flight. But they could not find the room where the Caule cell reservoirs were present. At last, the search reaches the new tower but they neither find the general nor the secret room. The new tower was built five thousand feet above the palace, the highest tower in the city. They entered the chambers by blasting the steel doors using heat strings to burn the power source so that they could enter the main laboratory without any restrictions.

Bearing high infrared beams and grooving spears of blasting energy they continued entering the rooms without any restrictions. Finally, they reached the stairway to the laboratory. They destroyed every clone reservoir and chained the scientists. Among the mutineers was Prince Dalton, the opposing general to Lichskow; Corigio ormani, the merchant and Ahmel, the chief of the slaves. There were clerks, workers, bakers, etc. Unfortunately, the storage box with the Caule cells was gone. The guards immediately captured them all.

This rebellious activity is due to a malicious deed that happened about 5 years ago. The planet wasn’t this resourceful and wealthy in its protection. The roads weren’t laid with electromagnetic poles which carry 1MV of electricity every second. People were poor but they lived together in peace. One day the guards of the planet Saberhagen attacked the planet. They killed thousands and burnt the quarters. They even killed our merciful general, Haliem. There was a little child among the terror and dreadful trauma. He looked to the spaceships and walked across the bloodied streets crying. He was Lichskow. He grew up among the children of the dead. He was the most violent battalion but also a passionate human. His plan was to invent something that could never lead to death and thus created the dangerous ‘Caule cells’.

These cells were invented to reduce the death rate, but the invention went wrong. The cells that emerged started to consume the plasma of the human to give rise to a newborn. In order to make things work, Lichskow ordered the attack on Saberhagen for more plasma. After killing the old Saberns, they also started taking the children's lives. This induced an evil intention in Lichskow. He then used another kind of cell (that consumes human blood) to multiply the electric potential of the whole planet. Several people protested against the ill activity. Some were killed and others were captured for blood or plasma. People still live in terror but lavishly. It said that "when you have comfort, you seek for more". The rich people had an extraordinary life, besides the poor were still poor. They have to work day and night to produce more energy, to run the planet.

Prince Dalton saw Lichskow taking away the container of the left stored cells. In revenge for his mother's death, a young boy tried to stop him. He stuck him with high-potential alpha beams and thus the general lay unconscious. The boy took the container to the mill and crushed it. There ends the greatest invention and the vilest source.

Lichskow has now grown old. Foretelling his grandchildren about his story. The planet now was not that resourceful but the people lived happily. Methane and oxygen were used to generate electricity. The air was much pure and life became sustainable and healthy.

Arzoo Naz
Sem 4

Crazy Memory

It was just another day for me until I received my friend's call from another city that he has a train in the morning from my city, and he will be staying overnight at my house. I didn't know what craziness

He was going to bring them along with him. He came and stayed overnight, and we left for the station in the morning, we reached the station exactly on time. We found the train by asking random strangers, and after that, we went in looking for the reserved seat but found a passenger lying on the seat. My friend asked him to leave, but the passenger resisted. When we asked him to show his ticket, we had a heated debate. My friend got off the train and saw a RPF lady. He told her about his query, and she started laughing, saying that my friend got on the wrong train and argued with the passenger for a seat that was not even his. Yes. We had gotten on the wrong train. It was hilarious. I'll never forget the passenger's expression. Whether that seat was his or not, it was definitely not ours. After this, we were confused as to where the actual train was. So we went to the help desk. They told us that the train was running late and not just late; it might take until the evening for it to reach the station. We were shocked. Now all we could do was wait. So we sat at the station, and my friend and I started talking about countries and politics. He said nobody adheres to the "No Bill, No Pay" rule. So we went into journalist mode, tried on different stalls, and recorded their reactions on camera while we asked them for a bill. Yes, they all started giving excuses, but not the bill. They were overcharging, and my friend called the railway helpline number and reported the incident like an honest and aware citizen. Remember, this whole incident took place on the railway platform, but surprisingly, the action was taken against the train manager of the train we were waiting for. The train manager called my friend's number, asking to take back the complaint. The manager's tone made it clear that he was not unknown to the corrupt system.

He just wanted to take his name out of the inquiry. We informed him that the complaint was not for him. But Thanks to that call, we learned that my friend's train was running 7 hours late. Before that, there was no confirmation, but now the train manager himself confirmed us. Once again, we burst into laughter. My friend bought a ticket for another train. It was time to say goodbye. We shook hands, and he went to his destination safe and sound. That was the end of the day for me.

I can never forget that day because it could have been a normal day, but we all know not everything goes as planned in our lives. So I discovered it is in our hands, whether we want to cry about it or make attempts to enjoy the journey of life.

Mohammad Insaal

Sem- 2



"Mystic Trails of Kedarnath: A Divine Journey"



Kedarkantha is a famous Himalayan trek in winter. People worldwide come to Kedar Kantha, in two cases, for spiritual belief or to see the beauty of nature. You should read this write-up to get more details about Kedarkantha.

Kedarkantha has some spiritualistic story behind it which is very famous among religious persons. Kedarkantha is located in Uttarakhand. Trekking in Kedarkantha is quite a difficult but exciting place because of its scenery. Want to plan a trip to such an amazing place or know about one of the Char Dham "Kedarkantha"? Read further.

Kedarkantha Trek- A Short Guide

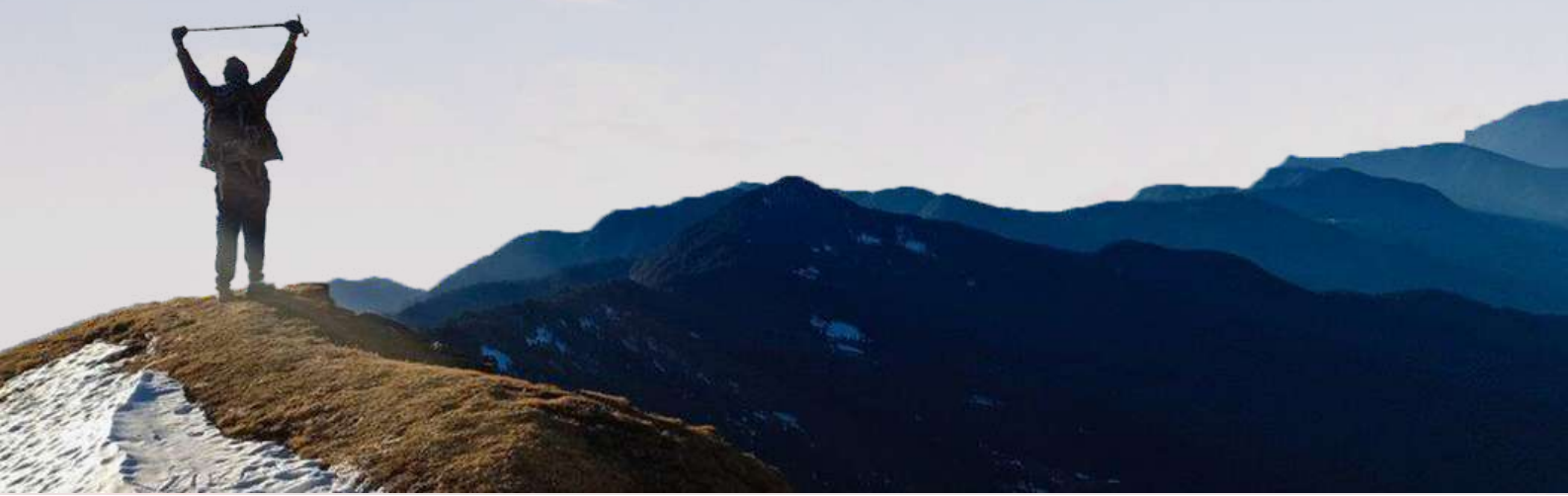
Kedarkantha is located at 12,500 feet on the Himalayan ranges. This is the only trek of the Himalayan ranges that remains open during winter. The base camp of Kedarkantha is located in the Sankri, which is above 6000 feet. Kedarkantha trek is a combination of easy and moderate levels. It costs differently per person following the nights you want to stay. It differs from 6000 to 12000 for four nights and 7000 to 14000 for five nights.

From the base camp to the Kedarkantha tip is 20 km away. You can only trek between 04:00 AM and 1:30 PM because it is located inside the wildlife sanctuary.

Best Time To Visit Kedarkantha- Paradise Of Snow

Kedarkantha is a cold place throughout the year, so you can visit any time of the year you desire. It remains snow-covered from the middle of December to the middle of April. From December to March, you will find snowfall which increases the scenic beauty of the trek.

If you want clear and calm weather, then Autumn is an ideal time for trekking. You can even trek in summer. In rainy seasons, it is better to avoid trekking Kedarkantha. You should only trek between 4:00 AM to 1:30 PM because trekking after that is very harmful.



The Katha Of Kedarkantha

Kedarkantha, the name itself, suggests that it is a sacred place related to Lord Shiva and his throat. There are various myths related to this place. Let's discuss some of the famous myths related to Kedarkantha.

According to one myth, Lord Shiva once meditated, and a bull disturbed him during meditation. So, Shiva went to Kedarkantha afterward for meditation.

One of the famous local myths is related to Pandavas. Pandavas went to Lord Shiva to gain his blessings. He disguised himself as a bull to hide from Bheem, but Bheem recognized him. To run from Bheem, he hid in the underground, and while running from there, he allowed his body parts to divide. His throat fell on this place in due process and was titled Kedarkantha.

Another famous myth about Kadarkantha tells a story about Pandavas and Lord Shiva. When Pandavas came to Lord Shiva to ask to forgive for the sins of killing humans, Shiva got angry. He avoided them, taking the form of a bull. Pandavas saw Shiva in the form of a bull, grazing in Guptakashi. The bull disappeared from there, and later, he reappeared in parts in five places, Kedarnath, Rudranath, Tungnath, Madhyamaheshwar, and Kapleshwar.

Final Thoughts

Kedarkantha is located in Uttarakhand in the Himalayan region. The name 'Kedarkantha' suggests 'the throat of Lord Shiva.' There are many myths related to Kedarkantha that makes this place sacred. Two of these popular myths are related to the Pandavas and Lord Shiva in the form of a bull. Kedarkantha is cold, but it remains snow-covered only during winter. You can have a nice scenic beauty experience during winter.

Priyanka Das

Sem- 4





- 1. Raksha Bandhan (2022)**
- 2. A Silent Voice**
- 3. Taxi Driver**
- 4. Everything Everywhere All at Once**



Raksha Bandhan (2022)

Cast: Akshay Kumar, Bhumi Pednekar, Sadia, Deepika Khanna, Sahejmeen Kaur, Smriti Srikant, Amardeep Chahal, Seema Pahwa, Sahil Mehta, Abhilash Thapliyal, Neeraj Sood, Manu Rishi Chadda

Director: Aanand. L. Rai

Synopsis: The eldest brother to four sisters, A chaat shop seller relentlessly strives to keep his promise to his ailing mother while also upholding their family values.

Review: Lala Kedarnath played by Akshay Kumar has a Panipuri stall. He has loving but also craziest sisters and his only struggle all through his life are to see his sisters going at the right hand...Bhumi playing as lady love of Kedarnath is waiting for her turn when Kedarnath comes to her house in baarat and takes her as Kedarnath had given a promise to his mother on his deathbed that he would have a family once all his sisters get married and that was a pretty tough job.

Now whether he is able to succeed forms the rest of the movie. Anand L Rai, if we observe his earlier movies, especially Tanu weds Manu portrays wherein it portrays the love life and its struggles, Tanu weds Manu returns portrays the marital issues & here the topic is of "Dowry swallowing the peace of the girls family" I can understand that dowry topic might have been portrayed in various shades, or we heard a lot too but here Anand Rai through various funny moments able to take a trip through this grave topic where the audience will have laughter but as and when the intensity raises, the film throws a light and also raise a question..." we really moved forward when it comes to accepting a girl without dowry" Writers Kanika Dhillon and Himanshu Sharma had beautifully penned the story...Also with a very good screenplay, it is able to entertain, and at the same time makes us think too...It cannot be an Akshay Kumar film... Every character performed very well...Good to see such content-driven films after a long time...Movie is able to portray the emotional bonding of the siblings, dowry issues, and women's empowerment...Overall a must-watch movie... "Raksha Bandhan", is the duty of a man to protect his daughter, sister, and girl friend not only from the anti-social elements but also from such never changing obsolete orthodox tradition.



A Silent Voice



‘A Silent Voice’ was released in the year 2016 and is an animated drama, directed by Naoko Yamada and produced by Kyoto Animation. It earned nearly \$31.6 million at the box office when it was first released. It is a short animated movie of 2 hours and 10 minutes. The movie was nominated for the Asia Pacific Screen Awards. The genre of the drama is Slice of life.

This Japanese animated drama film tells the story of a young girl named Shouko Nishimiya. Shouko is an elementary school girl having hearing impairment for which she often gets bullied mercilessly, after continuous such incidents her mother changes her school. But after some time she recoils with one of her old classmates named Ishida Shoya who also used to bully her. Back in elementary class when the principal finds out about such happening he becomes a victim of bullying and socially outcast by his friends. The story proceeds when Ishida meets Shouko and becomes friends to start things on good terms. Soon after, they started to fill the gap between each other after all that time and get along well. Later in the movie, they both understand the emptiness of each other and bring the reason to live life again and enjoy it.

The movie ended with both characters having a great sense of friendship with each other.

Both the characters were well written and perfectly showed the darkness and loneliness inside them and their desire for understanding, love, and comfort. The movie gently covers the elements of coming of age, disability, dealing with bullying, forgiveness, suicide, mental health, and friendship.

Sakshi Yadav

Sem- 1

TAXI DRIVER

Date of Release - February 9, 1976

Director - Martin Scorsese

Cinematographer- Michael Chapman

Music Director - Bernard Hermann

Cast- Robert De Niro, Jodie Foster, Cybill Shepherd, Harvey Keitel



I know that many of you may hear about Taxi Driver and I am no one reviewing the classic movie so this blog is my takeaways on the movie. Whenever we talk about Martin Scorsese there is no denial of the fact that Taxi Driver 1976 is one of the best movies created by the director. The color treatment and use of vibrant red in the movie give you a feeling of limbo walking between the dead and alive but the film more feels like a ride of human emotions. Sometimes it makes you feel courage and sometimes a surge of courage to take a stand against the scum means of the society we live in. But after so many decades of its release, the movie is still relevant.

Travis Bickle is one of the finest performances by Robert De Niro. Like all of us, Travis may think of himself as a hero but the way he takes down the evils of society is by taking the law into his hands. You cannot always work based on your moral compass.

A wise man once said a man is a social animal and the thing that led to Travis Bickle's vigilante attitude is the lack of friends. If he had friends to vent out his feelings to them then he may not have turned into the anti-hero we know him today.

The best thing about the movie I found is the monologue of the lead character. The self-talk gave us a window into the mind of Travis Bickle.

Sometimes we as a human try to justify our wrongdoings by just saying that the things we do have a cause and this is also the case with Travis he truly believes in the cause to rectify the society but that doesn't mean that you have to become an evil to take down the evil.

Paul Schrader once revealed that Travis is loosely based on an American convicted criminal Arthur Bremer who shot presidential election candidate George Wallace and we all know where he ended up behind the bars.

We all know that Travis was brought home from the Vietnam War and this led to his insomnia we all know what soldiers are always taught before social order comes to the nation but here Travis finds disturbance in social order due to political agenda and this led the character to take the drastic measures he took.

As the movie moves on we see that Travis takes Betsy to an adult theater who the hell takes a girl to an adult theater on a date? This is a sign of a lack of social skills.

As the movie moves to the end we see that Travis is hailed as a hero for taking down the evils which is not even a grain of reality showing if someone takes the law into his hands he must be behind bars because if everyone takes the law in their hand according to their parameter then there will be only chaos.

But still, the movie has some great insight into the human mind and the way humans behave. Do watch the movie for Robert De Niro's acting and Martin Scorsese's direction.

EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE

Director: Daniels.

Cast: Michelle Yeoh, Stephanie Hsu, Ke Huy Quan, Jenny Slate, Harry Shum Jr., James Hong, and Jamie Lee Curtis.

Duration: 140 minutes.

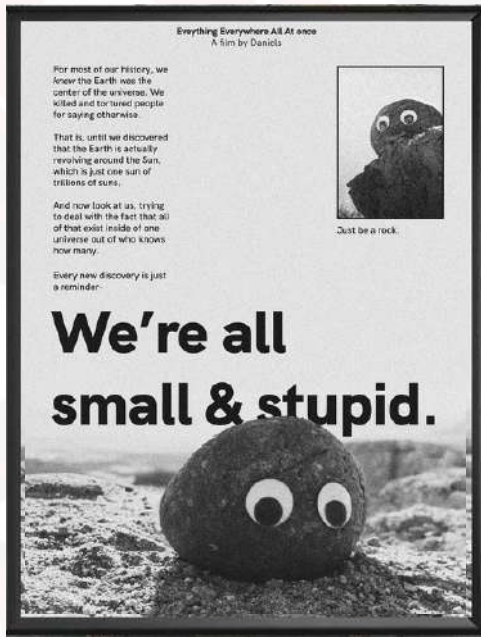
Storyline: When an interdimensional rupture unravels reality, an unlikely hero must channel her newfound powers to fight bizarre and bewildering dangers from the multiverse as the fate of the world hangs in the balance.

The idea of the multiverse has been a conundrum for modern physics and a disaster for modern popular culture. I'm aware that some of you here in this universe will disagree, but more often than not a conceit that promises ingenuity and narrative abundance has delivered aggressive brand extension and the infinite recombination of cliché. Had I but world enough time, I might have worked these thoughts up into a thunderous supervillain rant, but instead, I'm happy to report that my research has uncovered a rare and precious exception.

That would be "Everything Everywhere All at Once," an exuberant swirl of genre anarchy directed by Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert. The filmmakers — who work under the name Daniels and who are best known for the wonderfully unclassifiable "Swiss Army Man" (starring Daniel Radcliffe as a flatulent corpse) — are happy to defy the laws of probability, plausibility, and coherence. This movie's plot is as full of twists and kinks as the pot of noodles that appears in an early scene. Spoiling it would be impossible. But while the hectic action sequences and

flights of science-fiction mumbo-jumbo are a big part of the fun (and the marketing), they aren't really the point. This whirligig runs on tenderness and charm. As in "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" or Pixar's "Inside Out," the antic cleverness serves a sincere and generous heart. Yes, the movie is a metaphysical multiverse galaxy-brain head trip, but deep down and also right on the surface, it's a bittersweet domestic drama, a marital comedy, a story of immigrant striving, and a hurt-filled ballad of mother-daughter love.





At the center of it all is Evelyn Wang, played by the great Michelle Yeoh with grace, grit, and perfect comic timing. Evelyn, who left China as a young woman, runs a laundromat somewhere in America with her husband, Waymond (Ke Huy Quan). Her life is its own small universe of stress and frustration. Evelyn's father (James Hong), who all but disowned her when she married Waymond, is visiting to celebrate his birthday. An I.R.S. audit looms. Waymond is filing for divorce, which he says is the only way he can get his wife's attention. Their daughter, Joy (Stephanie Hsu), has self-esteem issues and also a girlfriend named Becky (Tallie Medel), and Evelyn doesn't know how to deal with Joy's teenage angst or her sexuality.

The pace of the film, complemented by the soundtrack, refuses to let the eyes of the viewer waver from the screen.

The sheer absurdness of the concept definitely helps; there may be moments where we wish Evelyn goes back to her laundromat, but we soon realize that there is a method to this madness. The film with its sensory overload still gives space for you to probe, interpret and theorize, laying out the pieces of the puzzle to fix at one's own will and time.

Symbols like the blackhole-like 'Everything Bagel' and Mr. Wang's googly eyes (with the latter coming across as trivial at first) make a stellar commentary on the yin and yang energies in the universes. Deconstructing the messages relayed through symbols like these are many and will have the audience smiling to themselves well after the movie is over.

Though the idea of a multiverse and science fiction narrative reels the viewer in, it is the heart of the story, which is positioned around love, hope, and acceptance, that keeps us hooked to the screen. Case in point; when Evelyn is fighting the minions of an important person in the multiverse, her husband's pleas to always choose love and hope is what saves her from the jaws of near-certain death. While it is tricky to talk about the heart of the film without giving away any more spoilers, the biggest takeaway is that this genre and the mind-bending film are full of soul. Could this message have been relayed with fewer universes? Probably, but that would mean you missing out on Jobu Tupaki's vibrant costumes, watching people with hotdogs for fingers, and even a raccoon training a chef... do you smell a Racocoonie spin-off too?

The first stretch of "Everything Everywhere All At Once" is played in a key of almost realism. There are hints of the cosmic chaos to come, in the form of ominous musical cues (the score is by Son Lux) and swiveling camera movements (the cinematography is by Larkin Seiple) — but the mundane chaos of Evelyn's existence provides plenty of drama.

Arzoo Naz
Sem- 4



ARTICLES

- **Child Labour**
- **Why Education is Important**
- **Impact of the Internet**
- **Breaking the Mold: The Rise of Non-traditional Careers in the Digital Age**
- **The Media Controls How and What We Think**
- **The Dangers of Deepfakes**
- **On Human Kindness: A Vindication**
- **What is Science and Technology?**
- **How Technology is Transforming the Education Sector?**

CHILD LABOUR

Children are compelled to work unlawfully in numerous sectors in India. However, the major industry where youngsters work to support their families is agriculture. Due to a number of socioeconomic issues that don't support their standard of existence, 85 percent of minors are employed in India's rural sectors.

Notwithstanding constitutional laws to prevent child labor, many kids continue to be victimized in dangerous working environments. Children give up their academics to help their households because of paid labor. The cruel world forces them to give up every happy memory of childhood.

Causes of Child Labour

In India, poverty, illiteracy, and racial disparity are the main contributors to child labour. Kids from poor and rural areas worldwide lack access to alternatives like educators and educational institutions, says a UNICEF report.

Many rural areas lack proper educational infrastructure and educational accessibility. Low-cost, simple-to-hire, and child labour flourish in the low-paying sector. Further being prevalent in the unorganised farming industry, child labor is also present in the unorganized commerce, unorganized gathering, and unorganised retailing sectors.

The magnitude of informal business, the failure of Indian enterprises to scale up, the absence of contemporary innovations, and the framework and rigidity of the Indian marketplace are further causes of child labor.

Bonded child Labour

Due to responsibilities in society, as well as family liabilities and loans, children are hired. Typically, children are made to work for their families in farming, stone and quarry, and brick furnace enterprises.

Kids of migrant employees, people from underrepresented groups, and Dalits within the community are compelled to work in tiny manufacturing facilities and industries in urban areas. The neglect of child laborers on bonds typically includes psychological, mental, physical, and sexual assault, which can be fatal.

To pay off the debts they owe, Odisha's lower-class residents offer their girls, who are between the ages of eight and ten, as maidservants.



Lack of implementation of Laws

The sole provision in the constitution of India prohibiting child labor and associated abuses was the Child Labour (Prohibition and Control) Act, which was passed in 1986. The Indian Constitution also contains the following provisions:

- According to Article 24 of the Constitution of India, children under the threshold of fourteen aren't allowed to work in factories or dangerous jobs, only in non-threatening businesses.
- Children and young adults in India are to be safeguarded from spiritual and financial desertion as well as any type of exploitation, according to Article 39(f) of the constitution of the nation.

Other laws, like the Mines Act of 1952, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Security) of Children Act of 2000, and the Child Labour (Prohibition and Abolition) Act of 1986, along with the Indian Penal Code, are intended to aim to stop the practise of child labour in India.

However, there is ineffective and improper compliance of the aforementioned codes of conduct.

Conclusion: To stop the practise of child labor, community as a whole as well as the authorities must work together. Individuals should actually promise never to use child labour and to discourage others from performing so. People who use child labour should be made aware of this, as should families who send their kids to find employment. In order for our kids to have the finest moments of life through a lighthearted mindset, it's necessary to guarantee them a joyful childhood. By introducing different developmental initiatives, lawmakers should work to raise the financial status of families. To give free or inexpensive access to high-quality education, measures must be undertaken to eradicate impoverishment in conjunction with reforming education. The authorities have no option but to end all types of child labor by 2025 through extensive action.

Rohit Kumar Kar

Sem- 2



WHY EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT?

Education is an important issue in one's life. It is the key to success in the future and to having many opportunities in our life. Education has many advantages for people. For instance, it illuminates a person's mind and thinking. It helps students to plan for work or pursue higher education while graduating from university. Having an education in an area helps people think, feel, and behave in a way that contributes to their success, and improves not only their personal satisfaction but also their community. In addition, education develops human personality, thoughts, and dealing with others and prepares people for life experiences. It gives people a special status in their own society and everywhere they live. I believe that everyone is entitled to have education "from cradle to grave". There are various benefits of having an education such as having a good career, having a good status in society, and having self-confidence. First of all, education gives us the chance of having a good career in our life. We can have plenty of chances to work at any workplace we wish. In other words, opportunities for better employment can be easier. The more highly educated we are the better chance we get. Moreover, education polishes our minds, reinforces our thoughts, and strengthens our character and behaviours toward others. It equips us with information in various fields in general and our specialization in particular; especially what we need to master in our career. Therefore, without education, we may not survive properly or have a decent profession. Furthermore, education grants us a good status in society. As educated people, we are considered a valuable source of knowledge for our society. Having education helps us teach others morals, manners, and ethics in our society. For this reason, people deal with us in a considerable and special way for being productive and resourceful. In addition, education makes us role models in society when our people need us to guide them in the right way or when they want to take a decision. Thus, it is an honour for us to serve our community and contribute towards its advancement. In fact, being educated is an advantage to helping our people and building a good society. Besides, it is very well-known that having self-confidence is always generated from education. It is a great blessing for us to have self-confidence which leads to many advantages and success in life. For example, it helps us manage specific tasks, tackle life's challenges, and maintain positive stands. Additionally, having self-confidence is typically based on proper education; paving the path for us to success. Accordingly, self-confidence makes us aware of how well we perform a task or a range of actions. In short, being educated is undoubtedly being self-confident and successful in life. All in all, education is the process of acquiring knowledge and information that leads to a successful future. As discussed above, there are a lot of positive traits of having an education; such as having a good career, having a good status in society, and having self-confidence. Education makes us view obstacles as challenges to overcome with no fear of facing new things. It is the main factor behind successful people and the merit of developed countries. Therefore, education is deemed a real success behind any future success.

Aruze Nashin

Sem-2

IMPACT OF THE INTERNET...



The Internet is an amazing and undeniable fact that has become one of the most important achievements of the modern world. It connects users throughout the world. It saves our time as well as easily meets our needs. With the continuous development of new technology, internet users have infinite boons that often lead to curses such as cyberbullying, social isolation, racism, grooming through social networks, and internet addiction, which are used as illegal acts.

Nowadays, the internet easily draws the attention of our youth by quickly offering according to their interest, they are misleading our youth. For each and every task we directly depend upon it, whether it's for educational purposes or a source of entertainment all this information that one's require is just a click away. This attitude is making us sloth; it rotes the senses and kills the imagination.

Generally, youths are getting affected by it, they can easily waste their precious time by just sitting with smartphones, tablets, Video- Games, I-phone, laptops, and other devices at last left with zero hours. This hampers their academic performances; weak eyesight; mental retardness and many more. However, through social media, we easily spread fake news unknowingly which poison the minds of peace-loving citizens.

Isn't it weird?? while sitting under the same roof we won't talk with each other and try to be extraordinary by preferring others over family. We've many friends on Facebook, followers on Instagram, and numbers in contact but in difficulties, only our parents and family stood with us.

By Excessive use of the internet, physically, mentally, and emotionally we are deteriorating our health. So we should be aware and ensure the proper use of the internet in a positive way. Youth have to remember that their development is directly proportional to the bright future of our Nation.

Saima Shamim
Sem- 4

Breaking the Mold: The Rise of Non-Traditional Careers in the Digital Age

The world of work is constantly evolving, there has been a shift from traditional careers to more modern, flexible ones. Gone are the days when the only career options were those that were traditional and well-established. Today, the sky's the limit for those willing to embrace the digital economy.

This shift has been driven by a number of factors, including advances in technology, changes in the global economy, and shifts in societal values. With the proliferation of technology and the internet, it has never been easier to turn your hobbies and interests into a successful career.

The rise of non-traditional careers in the digital age is a trend that has been gaining a lot of attention in recent years. With the increasing reliance on technology in almost every industry, more and more people are finding success in careers that were once considered unconventional or off the beaten path.

One of the most significant drivers of this shift has been the rise of the gig economy and the increasing popularity of freelance and contract work. This trend has been fueled by the expansion of online platforms that connect workers with clients and by the growing demand for flexible, on-demand services. As a result, more and more people are choosing to pursue careers that allow them to work on their own terms, rather than being tied to a traditional 9-to-5 job.

Another factor contributing to the shift from traditional careers is the changing nature of work itself. Many industries are being disrupted by technology and automation, which is leading to the emergence of new, tech-driven careers. At the same time, there is a growing demand for jobs that are focused on social impact and sustainability, as more people prioritize these values in their work.

Overall, the shift from traditional careers to modern ones is a complex and ongoing process. It is driven by a variety of factors, including technological change, economic shifts, and changing societal values. As the world of work continues to evolve, it is important for individuals to adapt and be prepared for the changing job market. This may involve acquiring new skills, staying up-to-date with industry trends, and being open to new career paths and opportunities.

The digital age has opened up a wide range of opportunities for individuals to pursue non-traditional careers. With the right skills and a strong work ethic, anyone can find success in the digital economy. So, the rise of non-traditional careers in the digital age is a sign of the times and a glimpse into the future of work.

The demand for digital skills is increasing as more and more businesses are going online. This means that there are more job opportunities in the digital field. And this is the right time for the youngsters to learn digital skills because the demand for digital skills is increasing as more and more businesses are going online. This means that there are more job opportunities in the digital field.

Mantasha Anwar

Sem- 2





THE MEDIA CONTROLS HOW AND WHAT WE THINK

EUPHORIA | PAGE-43

No one can force anyone to believe in something and to have a certain opinion about any subject, but the media is so powerful that it influences the mind of its viewers.

Basically, the media is controlling our decisions, nowadays the media clearly tells you to think the way they do so.

Media has the power to control our mindset in such a manner that it can arise a person to heights and also can put him/her to the depth of infamy.

Media is not showing the real problems and also not leaving any judgment on the viewers, but they sure have their own judgment and they impose it on us.

If we talk about an advertisement, these are so repetitive. These ads manipulate us to think that these products are the best and are in trend now.

When we look at social networking, this is at its peak nowadays. It makes us feel that the more followers you have the more popular you are, it gives you the feel of being a celebrity.

In America, social media often lies and mainstream media clarifies it, but in India mainstream media often lies and social media tries to clarify it. So, this is a clear quality difference between the media in two different countries.

Sahdev Nag
Sem- 1



The Danger of Deep Fakes

What are the ways in which AI-manipulated digital media can impact the lives of individuals as well as influence the public discourse? How is it employed by various groups and how can society overcome the 'infodemic'?

Disinformation and hoaxes have evolved from mere annoyance to warfare that can create social discord, increase polarization, and in some cases, even influence the election outcome. Nation-state actors with geographical aspirations, ideological believers, violent extremists, and economically motivated enterprises can manipulate social media narratives with easy and unprecedented reach and scale. The disinformation threat has a new tool in the form of deep fakes.

What are Deep Fakes?

Deep Fakes are digital media - video, audio, and images edited and manipulated using Artificial Intelligence. It's basically hyper-realistic digital falsification. Deep Fakes are created to inflict harm on individuals and institutions. Access to commodity cloud computing, public

Research AI algorithms, abundant data, and the availability of vast media have created a perfect storm to democratize the creation and manipulation of media. This synthetic media content is referred to as deep fakes.

Artificial Intelligence (AI)- Generated Synthetic media or deep fakes have clear benefits in areas, such as accessibility, education, film production, criminal forensics, and artistic expression. However, as access to synthetic media technology increases, so does the risk of exploitation. Deepfakes can be used to damage reputation, fabricate evidence, defraud the public, and undermine trust in democratic institutions. All this can be achieved with fewer resources, with scale and speed, and even micro-targeted to galvanize support.

Who are the victims ?

The first case of malicious use of deep fake was detected in pornography. According to sensity.ai, 96 % of deep fakes are pornographic videos, with over 135 million views on pornographic websites alone. Deep fake pornography exclusively targets women. Pornographic deep fakes can threaten, intimidate, and inflict psychological harm. It reduces women to sexual objects causing emotional distress, and in some cases, leads to financial loss and collateral consequences like job loss.

Deepfake can depict a person as indulging in antisocial behaviors and saying vile things that they never did. Even if the victim could debunk the fake via alibi or otherwise, that fix may come too late to remedy the initial harm.

Deep fakes can also cause short-term and long-term social harm and accelerate the already declining trust in traditional media. Such erosion can contribute to a culture of factual relativism, fraying the increasingly strained civil society fabric. Deepfake could act as a powerful tool by a malicious nation-state to undermine public safety and create uncertainty and chaos in the target country. Deep fakes can undermine trust in institutions and diplomacy.

Deep fakes can be used by non-state actors, such as insurgent groups and terrorist organizations, to show their adversaries as making inflammatory speeches or engaging in provocative actions to stir anti-state sentiments among people.

Another concern from deep fakes is the liar's dividend; an undesirable truth is dismissed as deep fake or fake news. The mere existence of deep fakes gives more credibility to denials. Leaders may weaponize deep fakes and use fake news and alternative-facts narratives to dismiss an actual piece of media and truth.

What is the solution?

Media literacy efforts must be enhanced to cultivate a discerning public. Media literacy for consumers is the most effective tool to combat disinformation and deep fakes.

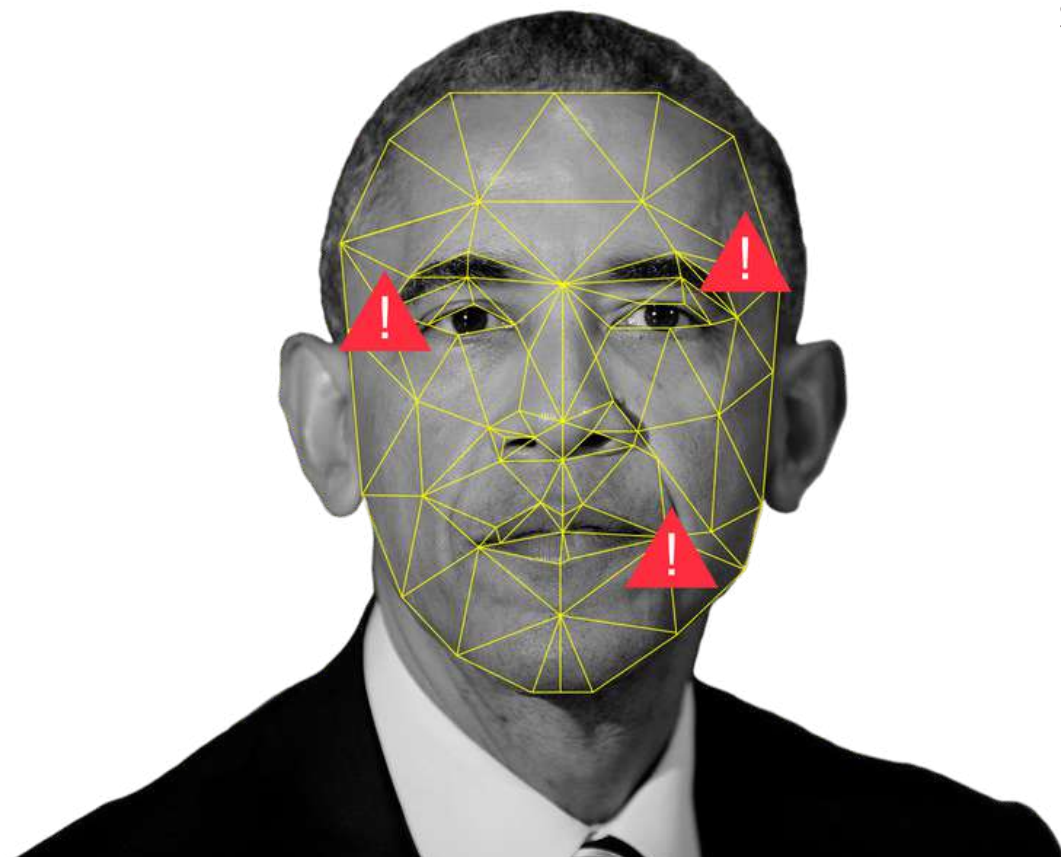
We also need meaningful regulations with a collaborative discussion with the technology industry, civil society, and policymakers to develop legislative solutions to disincentivize the creation and distribution of malicious deep fakes.

Social media platforms are taking cognizance of the deep fake issue, and almost all of them have the same policy or acceptable terms of use for deep fakes. We also need easy-to-use and accessible technology solutions to detect deep fakes, authenticate media, and amplify authoritative sources.

To counter the menace of deep fakes, we all must take the responsibility to be critical consumers of media on the Internet, think and pause before we share on social media, and be part of the solution to this "infodemic".

Sayantani Roy

Sem- 4



On Human Kindness : A Vindication



It took a long tedious time, before we became what we are today. Piece by piece, step by step, moving forward to almighty. If we trace it back to the roots, it is almost impossible to pin down any particular event at a definite time. Gaining consciousness, knowledge and the ability to walk on two legs are the few things which separate us from the rest of the creatures on earth. Forming societies, establishing relationships, developing "special languages", finding lost god, truly all of it was our responsibility, the burden was upon human heads. But in hindsight we realize how much we could have done better only if evolution was a bit faster in a process. Bravery and Chivalry are two strengthful pillars of the palace of humanity, for we fought great wars, won precious titles. Though, in between the wars and peace, we never left behind the etiquette of human nature.

There's been a debate since forever between supporters of Darwin and the child of God. Albeit with a deep understanding, one can clearly see, both of the ideas are correct, that our lord created us through the process of evolution, just as similar to the birth of a child through the process of pregnancy. As Homo Sapiens, we have a built-in quality, a sense of being kind, that very few creatures on earth show and value for, and humans are above all. God has made humans on his image, (at least that's what mentioned in the Genesis) and bestowed the stewardship of the Flora and Fauna. Technically, we humans are vice-god of world, we hold the second place in authority.

Man, arguably, took care and fulfilled his duties toward nature and all that it includes, by slaughtering, some devil worshipers had made it sound cruel, but in the greater view, it is mere an act of kindness. We consume animals, for their good, as by doing that, we make them an inseparable part of us. Their fur gets a chance to serve human purpose, to become our clothes. Their head and tusk work best as ornaments and decorative materials, we have honored them by using their tallow on our face. What better could have been done to them?

Trees are chopped down to the roots so that they can be used to make tissue paper, to build our houses, and in the process if some forest dies out and birds lose their homes, rivers and soil get polluted for the sake of industries, it shouldn't be an issue. After all, it's for their lord, humans. So, what we took a few lives, destroyed some, honestly, all of the places we reached, but there are numerous planets, whole new galaxies. Doesn't matter if earth becomes lifeless, we can, at any moment of time, take our kindness to Mars, or to any other planet and continue doing our good work. It's not that we only enjoy it, but also, it's necessary.

Someone might argue against the development and advancement we are heading to, may paint posters and banners, hold rallies and what not! But sooner or later they will realize their mistake. They will bow to the human spirit. And history will serve as the proof that what we did was the best and the kindest.

Vishal Karmakar

Sem- 4

What is Science and Technology?

Even though our forefathers may not have given their knowledge and abilities, these titles, science, and technology consistently play a significant role in people's lives. Our predecessors typically considered the season, the climate, the quantity of water accessible, the mineral content of the soil, plus a variety of other considerations when determining the optimal time to grow yams. It was basic science. Technology was used as people excavated the earth with a pointed implement or constructed rice fields.

Science and technology are becoming increasingly sophisticated as we discover deeper about our cosmos and discover ways to alter it. Additionally, researchers are compelled to specialize in particular fields to stay up with advancements since a wealth of information is available.

Today, science and technology cover a wide range of topics, from purely theoretical ones, notably quantum physics, to ones with greater applicability, including healthcare, farming, and engineering.

Certain topics, like agriculture and medicine, are useful to people daily. Others, like astronomy, aid in our understanding of the cosmos but are not directly beneficial to humans.

Numerous additional disciplines exist, including mechanical and electrical engineering, psychology, medicine, physics, chemistry, zoology, marine biology, geology, and ecology. The list of subjects seems extensive and becomes longer every year. Technology and science are too significant for the media to overlook.

Reporting

Following these guidelines can assist you in reporting an upcoming contamination issue and give the subsequent inquiry details that will prove useful to them.

An effective collection of notes will give people an exhaustive and precise compilation of data. While investigating a worrisome occurrence, use a certain checklist:

Location of observation.

Date and time when you noticed it.

Does it happen at a specific time? (e.g., every day at 6:00 a.m.)

Would you like to identify the origin?

What color was the water?

Have you seen any fish carcasses?

Do you smell anything?

Existed a second eyewitness?

Photographs

Photographic testimony, particularly in areas with erosion issues, may prove extremely beneficial in proving the existence of pollution. Investigators can better comprehend the location and intensity of some leaks by using digital pictures.

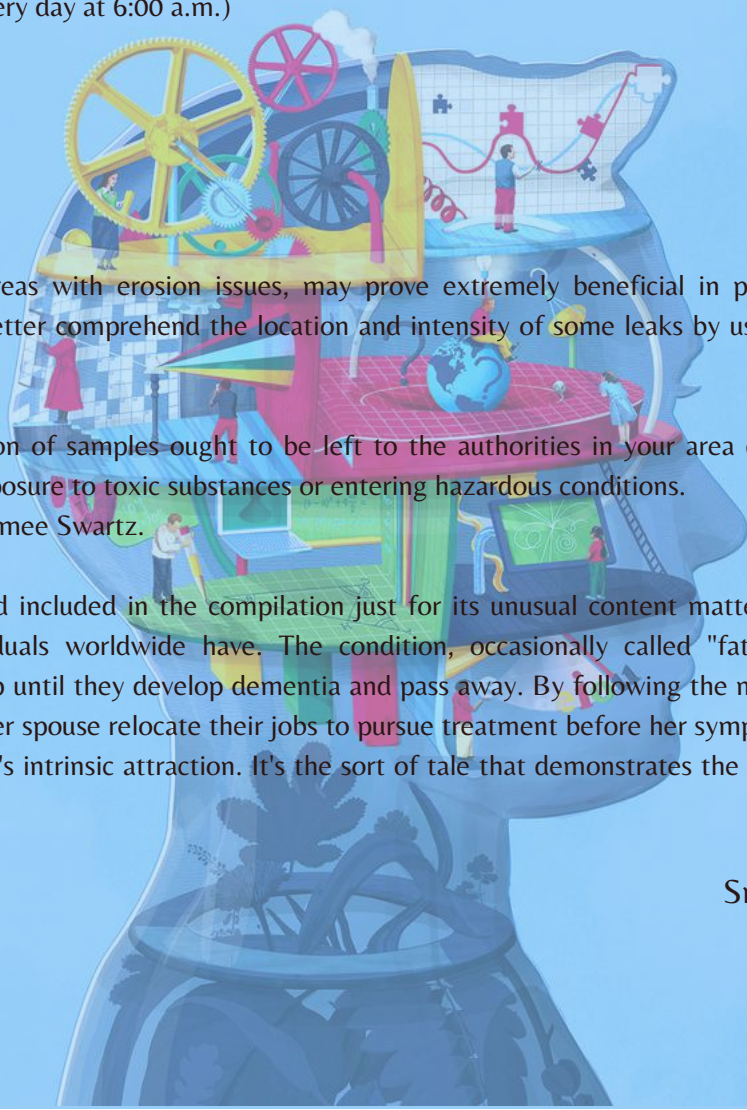
Taking Samples

Never collect any specimens. The collection of samples ought to be left to the authorities in your area due to the possible risk of individual damage from exposure to toxic substances or entering hazardous conditions.

An illustration is "Insomnia that Kills" by Aimee Swartz.

The Atlantic, February 5, 2015

The article by Swartz might be considered included in the compilation just for its unusual content matter—a fatal inheritable condition that just 28 individuals worldwide have. The condition, occasionally called "fatal familial insomnia," stops victims from falling asleep until they develop dementia and pass away. By following the narrative of a lady who bears the gene while she and her spouse relocate their jobs to pursue treatment before her symptoms take hold, Swartz transcends beyond the illness's intrinsic attraction. It's the sort of tale that demonstrates the superiority of reality over fiction.



How Technology is Transforming the Education Sector?

Education is one of the most important sectors of a country. Through these sectors, new budding talents get germinated. These germinations slowly transformed plants with green soft stems and then into hard-trunked, firmly-rooted trees. In the report, we'll be discussing how technology is transforming the education sector and making it more easier and compatible for the generations.

Technology is transforming the education sector.

Technology is drastically and rapidly changing, adding new chapters to one's life. Over the past few years, the face of education is changing adequately due to technology.

- During the pandemic era when everything went to a full stop, technology ensured its importance in daily life. Adding exposures in the fields of education.
- After the addition of technology in education the value of E-books, Online lectures, E Newspapers, and many more. In the past couple of years, these were the main sources of development of the human brain.
- Due to technology, a wide market of online courses and coaching centers is on boom today. Education platforms like Physics Wallah, Khan Academy, Vedantu, Unacademy, and many more are educating, influencing, and motivating through their knowledge with the use of technology.
- According to a survey around 20 lakh educational channels were grown up during the pandemic era i.e years 2020 and 2021 and still counting. These channels are still growing and educating across the globe.

Conclusion

In medieval times books were the only elite source material for students whatever was written in the book student studied but now with the use of technology, we can analyze, research, and most importantly can relate the sources.

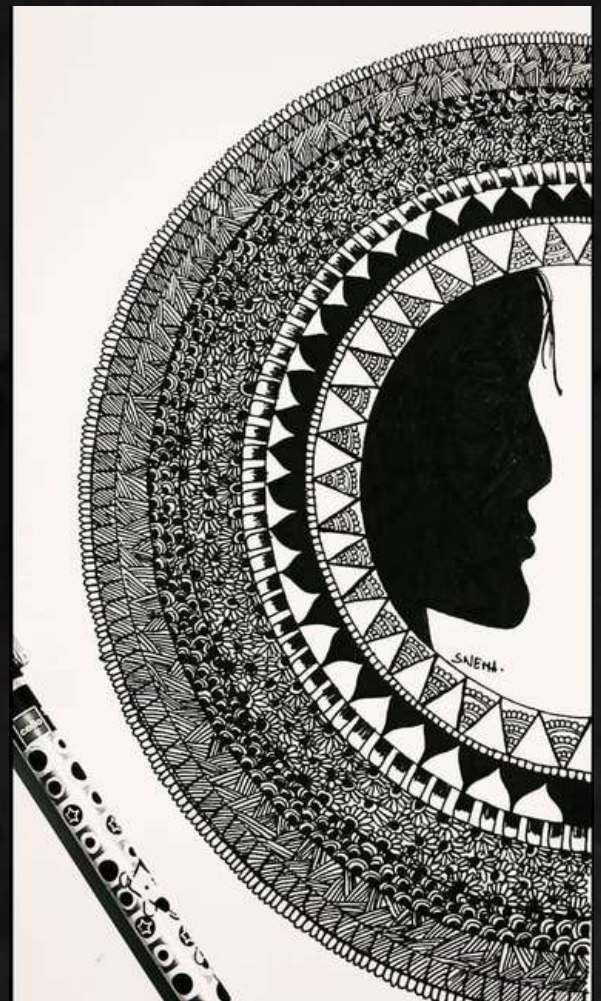
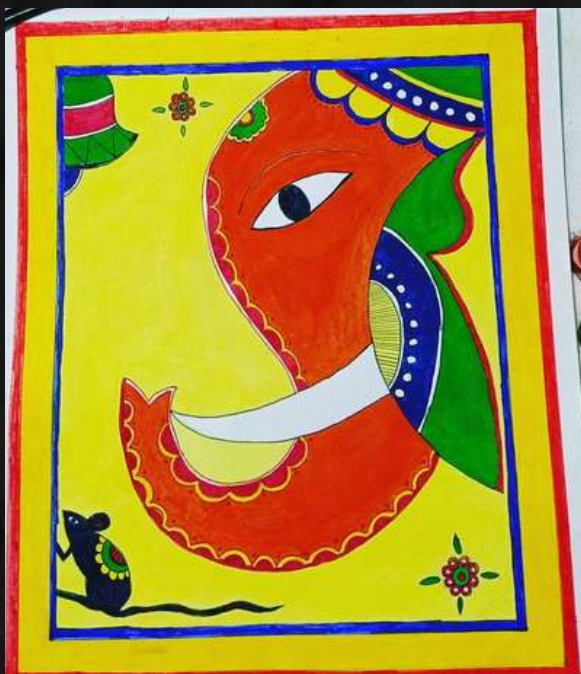
Ankit Dubey
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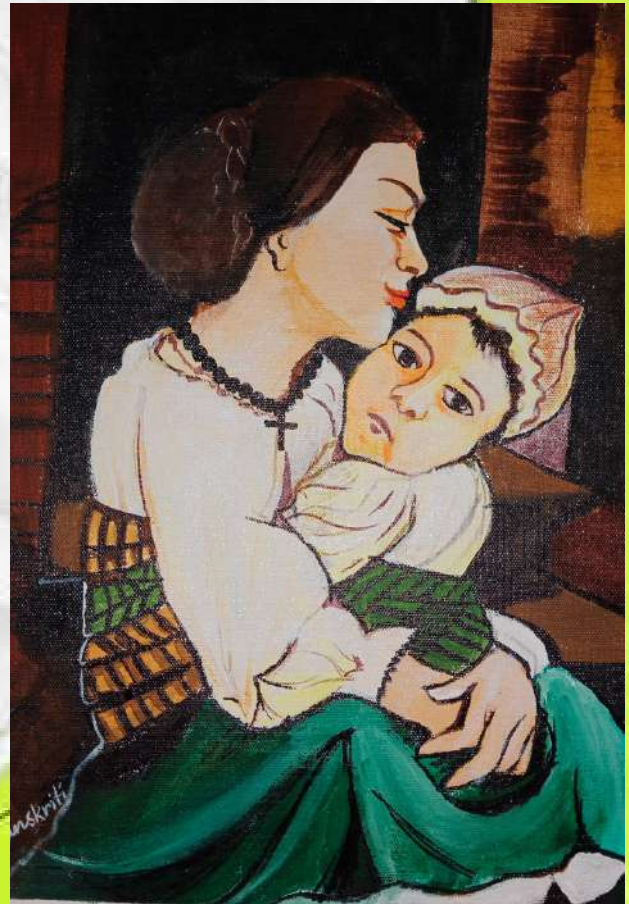


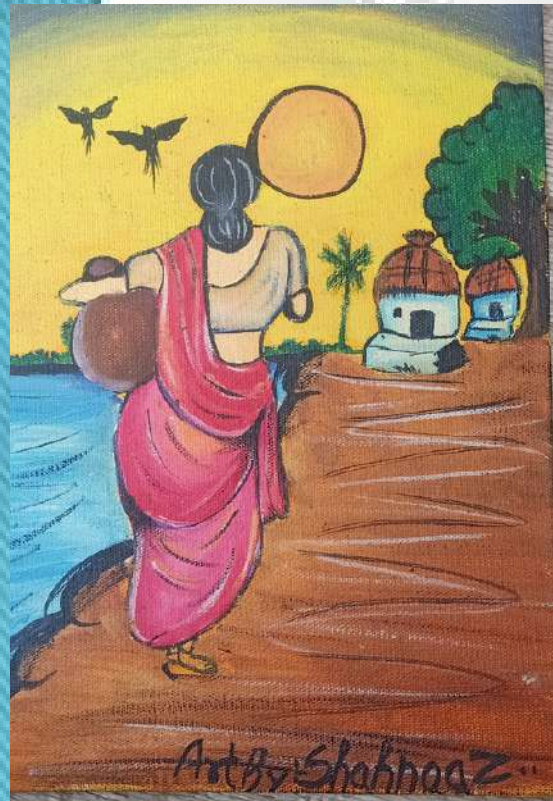
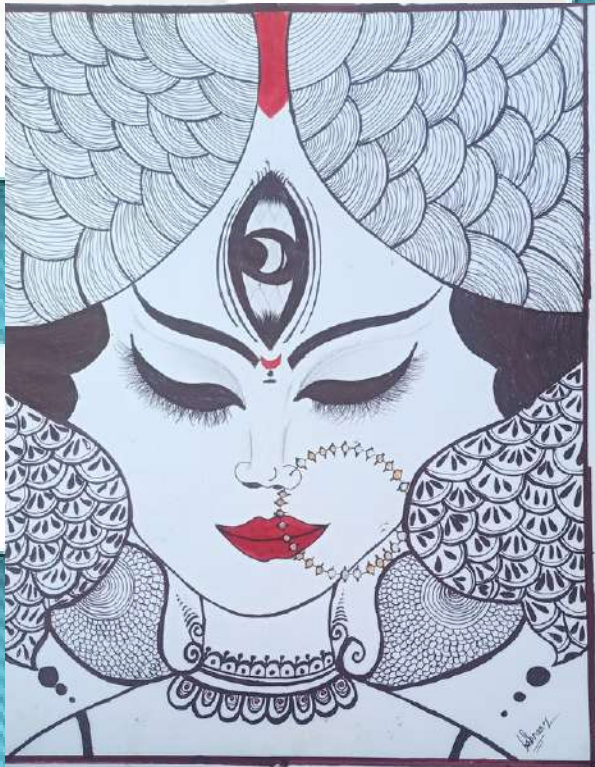


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