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GARUDA

— THE E-MAGAZINE —



SAHITHI-THE LITERARY CLUB

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Indian Education System

A CURSE FOR GEN Z

and Millenials

By :

Vishnu Vandhan

India is a country that is home to 1.3 billion people, where 50% population is below the age of 25. The young population is always considered an asset to the nation's development. If a nation aspires to be a global superpower, its youth must strive hard to develop the country socially, economically, and politically.

Consider Japan. Japan's population predominantly comprises senior citizens. Their GDP growth was stagnant for the last five years because the working population has drastically reduced. The number of young people in Japan is decreasing consistently, which will affect them economically. Fortunately,

India is a country where half of its population is still young India has the potential to be a global superpower if it provides the right opportunities to its youth. India's youth must get access to education and employment opportunities to contribute to its GDP. But unfortunately, this hasn't been the case. India's youth which was supposed to be an asset was turning into liability for India. In April 2022, India's unemployment rate stood at 7.8%. There was a lot of unemployed youth in India. Compare that to China's 5.9%, Japan's 2.5%, and South Korea's 2.7%. India has one of the worst unemployment rates among all the major Asian economies. Of course, the population is an exception. Fewer people, more chance of getting a job. More people, less chance of getting a job due to high competition. COVID-19 is also responsible for job losses and unemployment but blaming COVID-19 for unemployment isn't justified. Unemployment was prevalent way before the COVID-19 Pandemic. So, where are we going wrong??? Who should we blame??? Politicians or the Indian education system??? Let us try to introspect

The Indian Education system has had a track record of producing malfunctioning robots with no skills. To sustain in this competitive world, a person must have cognitive, technical, social, and behavioral skills. Unfortunately, our Indian education system doesn't focus on any of that. It is busy finishing the syllabus and encourages rote learning. Students focus on Labs, externals, internals, viva, assignments, and final marks. If a student wastes his time by memorizing answers, doing pointless experiments, or reading just for examination, when will he develop his skills?? When will he do something productive?? When will he learn about new opportunities?? When will he focus on his career development???

It is the responsibility of the schools, colleges, and universities to develop the skills of a student. Instead of focusing on the syllabus, they should teach the students about new technologies, skills, and personality development and promote practical knowledge. They must produce graduates who add some value to society. They must launch courses that boost the skills of a student. The Government also has a pivotal role to play.

They must ensure that every student must get access to free and quality education. Education Ministry must

change the old education system and bring some new and revolutionary education policies to improve the standard of the Indian education system. They must also provide all the required amenities to the students.

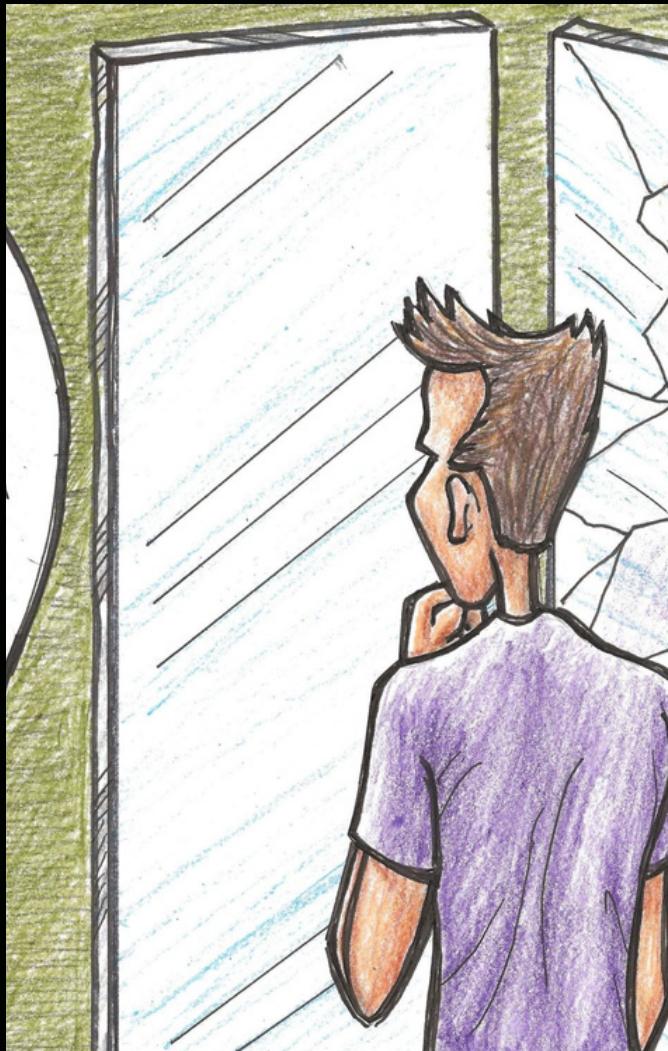
The Indian education system needs a changeover. It is never too late.

Students must start to change the way they learn and develop their skills. Students must focus on contributing to India's GDP. India is a developing nation. If we invest in our youth by providing them with the required facilities and amenities, they will work hard and transform India into a new global superpower. Recently Narendra Modi-led BJP Government launched the "New Education Policy" which was introduced to change the whole Indian education system. If implemented correctly, this could be a game-changer for India and a masterstroke by the Modi Government.

Let's see what could be in the store for us!!!!!!!

A S T R A N G E R

-Yashwanth K



I look in the mirror
and see
A stranger looking
back at me.
Who's that person
standing there
With a twisted smile
and tear?

My face wasn't this
blue yesterday.
The veins were good
and no ligament tear.
My ass was straight,
my posture proud.
Who's this now that I
see out there?

I could dance all
through the night
Till I saw the morning
light,
And then I'd nap a
short time and
I'd take my morning
walk again.

Now I move up when I
can.
I try to stretch out a
little and pain floods in.
I stand up tall, at
least I try,
Whom did I mess with
to be in this state!

I had dreams yesterday
Wishing that life was
grand.
I could call that self
healthy,
But that was
yesterday.

And then I find today
is here,
And I look at me in
that mirror.
I see me, and suddenly
I remember who i
messed with.

The glass of life
stands behind my image.
I look at it and
smile,
What have you got in
the box for me today?
And the glass winks
and says,
The you of yesterday
was happier the day before.

And one day looking in
that mirror
A boy will see a
stranger there.
And wonder where he's
seen him somewhere
That person with a
mask and more of tears.



YOUR
GPS
IS
WRONG

BLOOD ON THE HIGHWAY

By :

Rahul Maramraju

Maeve was drunk all the time. Tonight, was not an exception.

She drove trucks for a living. Her father and mother were kind enough to give birth to her, not realizing that they had to take care of her until she was eighteen. Long story short, they took the easy way out.

St. Martins' Home for the Young was not a better place for her to grow up. She rarely made friends, and the only one she had was thrown out for being gay. So much for showing compassion to even your enemies.

She loved engines since she was little. Becoming a mechanic was more like a necessity than a dream or a hobby for her. She felt at home with the grime and the hum of machines, the tools reassuring her.

As soon as she came of age, the nuns realized she was not gonna stay and contribute to the church, so they bid her goodbye rather forcefully.

She bounced around from place to place until she saw a garage, and the owner was kind enough to let her take the job.

Joe never discriminated against her due to her sex and even kept the men away from her. She owed him a life debt, one which she swore to herself she would clear.

It was a cloudy day. Maeve made her way home for her job since Joe was not present at the garage. That meant there would be instructions waiting for her from Joe. She checked her phone. There were no new messages.

She reached her apartment, unlocked the door, and crashed on the couch.

The problem with it was, she was always tired. Therefore, sleep consumed her in an instant.

"Do you realize what you have done, child? " Sister Theresa asked her.

Maeve was in Sister Theresa's chambers, inside the orphanage. "No, Sister," she replied with a straight face. "The jam stains around your mouth say otherwise, Maeve. You were caught in the act. Stealing is a crime in itself, and lying about it too?" "I'm sorry, Sister. I was hungry."

"We are not starving you, child. You had lunch just an hour before you were caught popping the jam tarts." "No, my plate was snatched by Sasha and her cronies." "That's enough! Young girl, you made a mistake, and you are trying to justify it instead of repenting. You need to be disciplined."

Maeve tried to struggle, but the nuns holding her were too strong.

"Turn her around."

There was a crack, and the leather stung her back.

Maeve woke up drenched in sweat. Fate was cruel enough that she experienced it as a child, but the memories were hounding her even now.

Her phone rang. It was Joe.

She picked it up. "There will be a truck left at the garage tonight. Deliver the contents upstate to the address I sent to you. Do not ask any questions, and absolutely no tampering with the products. There is vodka in the dashboard."

"Yes, sir. I understand."

The line went blank.

Maeve rested for an hour and then reached the garage. She looked around to check if anyone was stalking her. After making sure nobody was looking, she dropped to the ground and took the garage key from a small compartment hidden in the gate.

Soon, she was on the freeway with the truck, heading towards the address Joe sent. She took a swig from the cheap vodka bottle.

The liquid burnt her throat, but she didn't mind. She remembered she was running low on cash. Maeve loved to read, and though the nuns were cruel, they followed the rule, which stated that every child should be educated. She tried and got into a good university, but they wanted the fees upfront. Therefore, she worked overtime in the garage and even sold a few essays and homework to high schoolers who could afford it. She hoped that the person she was delivering to would be rich so that they could tip her a hefty sum.

Lost in her thoughts, she didn't realize that a black sedan was speeding towards her.

The vehicles collided, and the car flew into the air, rolling and doing cartwheels, and landed on the asphalt, coming to a halt.

Maeve was dizzy. She hit her head on the wheel. Other than that, she was fine.

She got down from the truck and ran towards the car. This wouldn't be her fault, as the guy was traveling in the opposite direction on a freeway.

She called the emergency services, who promised they would reach as soon as they could. As she was trying to reach the man inside, his wallet lay on the road. Maeve picked it up and took a look at his license.

Don Ashton, 29, single, no family.

Thank God for that. After what happened, even if it was not technically her fault, she would feel guilty in front of his family. She checked for any cash.

Maeve was dumbstruck. The man was carrying five grand in cash. "Well, this won't be of any use to him anymore."

She took the cash and ran as fast as her legs could carry her.

BOLD, BEAUTIFUL AND FIERCE

-Pavani Sai Pala



"She would walk through the darkest nights, on uneven roads, crossing all the hurdles, facing many people, making herself to fight against the world out there, bearing all the pain to stand for herself and to build a world of her own filled with confidence and power to create, nurture and transform. Coz she's a rare woman who is bold, beautiful and fierce."



DEFEND THE FIRST AMENDMENT

READ A BANNED BOOK

BOOK BANS

By :

Prajakta Deshpande

Books are a powerful thing. They have the ability to help us escape into another world or help you learn more about your own. They are a portal to different life experiences, and reading encourages empathy and social-emotional development. You pick up a fantasy book, you escape into another world or you pick up a book that tells you about the history of a place, you learn more about the place you are reading about. Either way books help you increase your knowledge, be it a fantasy world where your imagination is expanded or a historical book, you always learn. Books are oftentimes banned for multiple reasons, such as 'explicit language', 'racist language' etc. For example, J D Salinger's *The Catcher in The Rye* which was banned for its 'excessive vulgar language'. Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird* was banned because the characters used racist language. Whereas George Orwell's *1984* was banned for its social political theme. James Joyce's *Ulysses* which was initially banned for its obscene language once is now a celebrated form of literature. There is a pattern to be noticed here where most of the books here were banned because of their themes and the languages used in them. But these books ended up being literary classics that are still taught in modern classrooms. Over 1000 books have been banned worldwide, this number includes books which are old and new alike. Few of the new books that have been banned are *The Bluest Eyes* by Toni Morrison, her debut novel, which talks about the horrors of racial oppression women have to go through, it also talks about the tyranny and the violation brought upon women by men in their lives. One such example of book ban is about a book called *Maus* by Art Spiegelman which is a graphic novel that talks about the experiences off his father as a Polish Jew and Holocaust survivor.

Maus is a story that consists of two books, Book One: My Father Bleeds and Book Two: And Here My Troubles Began. The series famously articulates its characters as animals; they understand themselves as human, but readers see Jews as mice, Nazis as cats, Polish gentiles as pigs, and Americans as dogs. The drawing allows Spiegelman to do more than say what happened. In a rich, layered way, he can show it. Importance of books like Maus cannot be overstated: It shifted how people talk about history, trauma, and ethnic and racial persecution. Maus being a very powerful read is also a tricky text, prone to misinterpretation. Wikipedia defines book censorship as the act of some authority taking measures to suppress ideas and information within a book. One study found that reading J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series, which is frequently challenged for religious concerns about witchcraft, "improved attitudes" about immigrants, homosexuals, and refugees. Another study found that reading narrative fiction helped readers understand their peers and raised social abilities. So, in a world where free speech is celebrated and encouraged is it justified that the books are censored?

CALM AFTER STORM

-Jaanvi
Veluguleti



It was at the end of the storm,
When the night began to take form,
That the clouds cleared up,
And the stars showed up.

When the rain descended,
And the rainbow came and ended,
The dust settled down everywhere,
Everything became clear, and the sky became bare.

'Twas when my outburst happened,
And I released all my emotions that had heightened,
That the ache in my chest disappeared,
And all the good things reappeared.

My story's been tragic off late,
I had caged myself at a high rate;
Now I want to fly past this rusted gate,
It's time for a new tale on a fresh slate.

Untangled, caught up in the mess,
I made efforts to come out, but it was always
worthless;
'Twas only when I realised that it was all a protection,
That I could clearly see every bit of the perfection.

I realise nothing good comes from bottling up things,
I oughta free them up and give them wings;
Just let them fly, just let them flow,
'Cause I will know real peace only by letting them go.

CHANGE

-Srihith Siriga



You are not the same person as you were.

you stayed back with me
waited for my call
now you don't even care when I'm
beside you
you are not the same person as you
were.

You said I'm a good friend
each of us prayed for each other's
good

Now you don't even care when I'm
beside

You are not the same person as you
were

We helped each other in our hardships
scolded each other simply,

Now you don't even care when I'm
beside you

You are not the same person you were

(Now you may read this,
you may feel pity for me
but you will not change as you were
before
you are not the same person as you
were)

DREAMS

-Kasetty
Aneesh



I get laughed at
I get ignored
I often feel
trapped
And I keep my
thoughts stored.
People can be cruel
and mean,
But no matter what,
I follow my dreams.

Life has waves
I know that
But I stand brave
And just take the
crap.
I may feel
exhausted and totally dreamed,
But no matter what,
I follow my dreams.

I know what I want,
And I won't stop
trying.
Exciting? I can't,
For now I'm flying.
It's impossible it
seems,
But no matter what,
I follow my
dreams.....



How to Destroy

YOUR ECONOMY

Ft. the United Kingdom

By :

Vishnu Vandhan

United Kingdom - A Developed Country with a rich long history and one of the largest growing economies in the world. With a GDP per capita well above 40,000 USD and a GDP over 3 Trillion USD, The United Kingdom certainly had the potential to break it into the top 3 largest economies in the world. But things haven't been going well in recent times for the UK. Firstly, BREXIT wreaked havoc for them, and Russia-Ukraine's war has added to the misery. The Some of you'll be like- Hey, What's BREXIT?

Let me explain it to you in simple words.

"BREXIT" means "BRITAIN EXIT" from the European Union (EU). Now, what is the EU? European Union(EU) is a union of European countries. France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and 28 countries are members of this Union. These countries don't share a border and use Euro as a currency. The main intention of the EU was to ensure peace and stability among the European countries. European countries could trade easily among themselves without restrictions or hurdles, and The EU was the perfect platform for them to do that. The workers from different European countries could travel across Europe and hunt for better job opportunities. The European Union also has a parliament to frame rules and regulations. They make decisions, and it is up to the countries to follow them or not. But some of the decisions made by the EU have pissed off the people. Like the refugee crisis in 2015. The EU has asked the countries to take fixed amounts of refugees from Syria and Ghana. Many countries were against this idea and opposed the EU. There were some instances where the EU and the members couldn't get along. Britain didn't like the idea either, and many Brits opposed the intake of further refugees or immigrants. Britain's Right-wing Conservative party took advantage of this and told the people that they would bring Britain out of the EU.

They conducted a referendum on this, and 52% voted in favor of BREXIT. This move caused a lot of instability in the country. Britain has had three Prime ministers within four years - David Cameron, Theresa May, and Boris Johnson. Having three prime ministers within four years speaks volumes about the instability in the UK. Finally, BREXIT happened on 31st Jan 2020. BREXIT has had terrible impacts on the UK. People have started to lose their jobs due to a lack of investment from companies, and Britain had to face high tariffs on imports from the EU. A study reveals that Britain faced a 2.5% cut in the GDP due to BREXIT. Unemployment rose by 1.5%, and investments decreased by 6%. BREXIT was a disaster for the UK.

The above was just one side of the coin.

2022 is turning out to be a nightmare for Britain. Their longest-reigning monarch Queen Elizabeth II passed away on September 8th due to old age. Russia-Ukraine War has skyrocketed fuel and gas prices in the UK. Inflation is at a forty-year high of 9.9%. I repeat, the inflation in the UK is at a four-decade high and could even get worse in the coming months. The UK is at potential risk of recession, and in all this midst, the ruling Conservative party gets tangled in a political crisis. The leader of the Conservative party and the former prime minister of the UK, Boris Johnson was accused of throwing private parties in the middle of a severe lockdown. He flouted COVID-19 rules and caught up in some scandals. There were calls across the UK to force Boris to resign, and he did it in utter disgrace. So, the Conservative party leaders must vote for a new Prime Minister. UK's Foreign minister Liz Truss and Finance Minister Rishi Sunak were the final contenders for the Prime Minister race. After all rounds of voting, Liz Truss was chosen as the next Prime Minister. Everyone was hoping that she could turn around the fortunes of Britain and revive the faltering economy. But her plans have worsened the Economic condition, and now the UK is under a severe threat of recession, and the Government could get bankrupt. The UK's Pound is one of the worst-performing currencies, and its value dropped by 24.88% against the US Dollar. What were her plans exactly?? She introduced something called a "mini-budget" She said that her Government would keep a 400-pound energy discount for millions of households this winter and try to ease the burden of people. Even if rich people use more electricity and poor people consume less electricity, they will be charged the same. To generate revenue, if rich people consume a lot of electricity, they must be taxed more but not less. Power companies have started to incur huge losses, and the Government could spend 130 billion pounds on this scheme for the next 18 months. The Government also cut huge taxes on the rich and the big businesses. Let me explain it to you in a simple way. Liz thought that if she cut taxes on the rich and the billionaires, they would invest in the UK and bring more jobs to the UK. She is pursuing Trickle-Down Economics. If you cut taxes for the rich, they would invest in the country and create more job opportunities, and this would keep the economy sustaining.

That was Lizz's policy. Seriously?? How on the earth would you think that would work?? The Rich would want to save as much as they can in the middle of a crisis, and if they really want to invest, they would rather invest in a place with cheap labor than an expensive one. Lizz's Trickle Down Economic policy was just a dumb gamble, and Rishi even warned about that. But no one took him seriously and just blatantly ignored him. Her policies were so shit that even the IMF had to interfere.

The great Warren Buffett said once, "The rich are always going to say that, you know, just give us the money, and we'll go out and spend more, and then it will trickle down to the rest of you. But that hasn't worked the last ten years".

The whole summary of the story is that the UK is at risk of recession because of poor, incompetent, ridiculous, atrocious decisions. People are bearing the brunt of the idiocies committed by politicians. If they genuinely want to revive the faltering economy, they must act rationally and take up good economic policies. Let's see what's in store for us!!!!

FOR YOU

-Siva Swaroop
Sarma



When I look at a train moving away
It reminds me of you pushing me away
I try to become close to every day
But it just made me stranger to you every day
I wanted to wish you on your birthday
But I felt I was out of the way
I hope I tell you this feeling someday
But somehow I got stuck midway
I put myself in front of you someway
But the hard truth found its way
I put on every inch of love I have for you as a display
And went to every God to pray
Out of the blue someone calls me hey
I turned to their face to pay attention about what they say
Snapped out of my thoughts as it was you with a bouquet
And told me that you were in love with me straight away
I was confused but you wanted every bit of doubt to be thrown away
And wanted to explore the love with me everyday



Is Gaming

THE FUTURE

Of Virtual World

By :

Thakur Smayan Singh

Gaming has harried into the mainstream sports category, owing to the massive surge witnessed during the nation-wide lockdowns. It has now become the primary source of entertainment globally. What was erstwhile considered to be a subset of sports has now arisen as a complete industry in itself.

Since the time animated pixel have made an appearance on our screens, the online gaming industry has been on an upward trajectory with developers on a mission to create a truly immersive world. With tech advancements, we are moving closer to a world where blocky scenes are turned into photo-like depictions which are almost lifelike.

Digital games were already rising as a favourite pastime prior to the global pandemic; however, the global crisis catalysed the whole process as it disrupted physical forms of entertainment. Gaming is doing a lot more than just replacing other forms of entertainment. It is creating a next-level digital three-dimensional environment wherein people can also interact with each other freely, develop good and riveting content, as well as pass on the knowledge to others in unique and innovative ways.

Built by an ingenious class of coders solely for the purpose of playing, these platforms are dramatically shaping and reshaping the future of the virtual world.

We can easily observe the increasing number of companies fixated on building virtual reality worlds and the way they are competing with each other to hold the rights over this domain. These fake worlds are even being sold for as much as a real piece of land.

Will this virtual reality become the new tomorrow? Or is it just something that we will forget in a few years to settle on Mars?

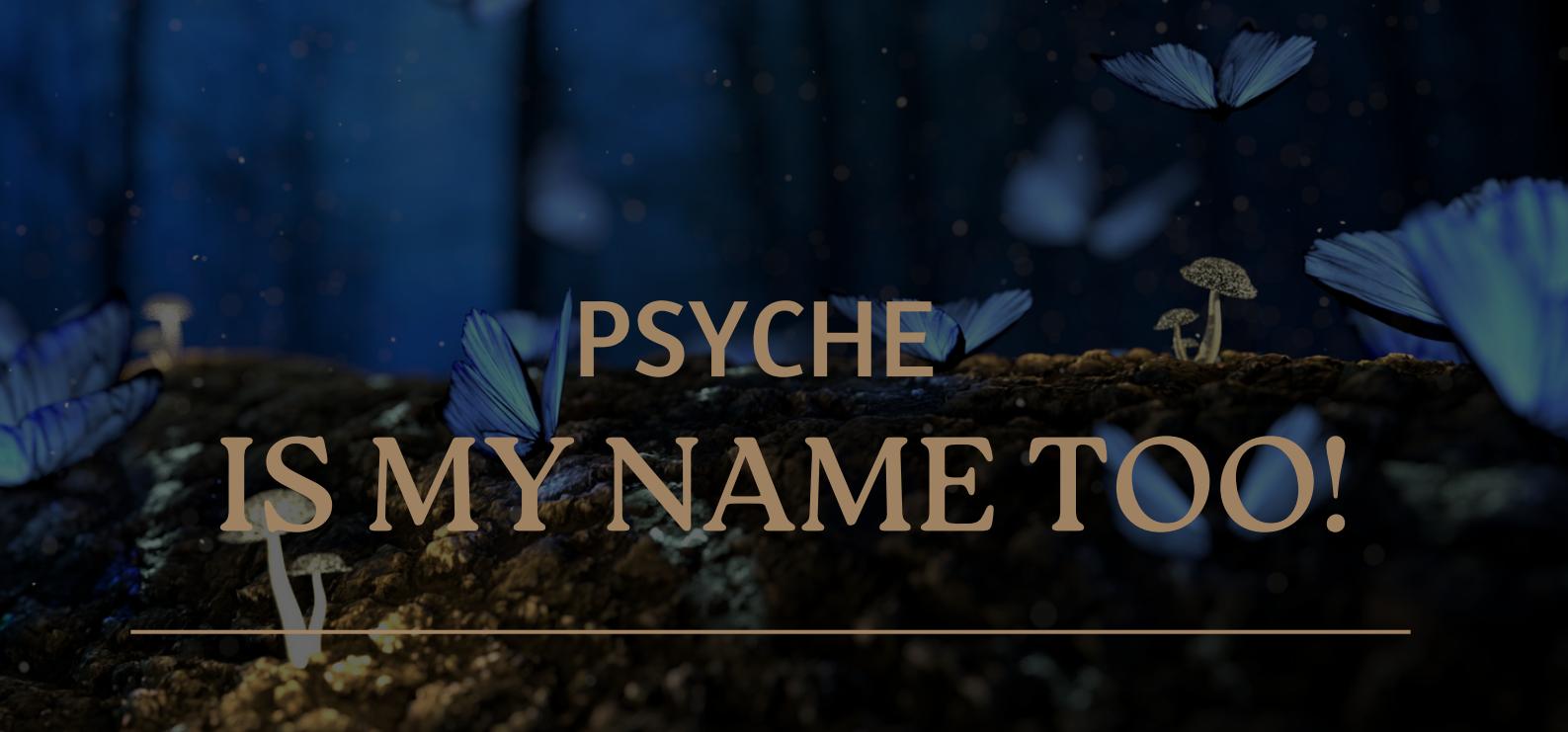
MEMORIES

-Prajakta
Deshpande



Memories of our
conversations
come back
The names we'd call
each other
I almost cry
thinking about the
moments
we had shared
we never got to
experience
and all you ever will
be a happy sad memory...

-yours truly,
an old friend



PSYCHE IS MY NAME TOO!

By :
Maya

How many of you have made a wish using a dead butterfly's wing ash? Have they ever come true? Is it real though?

Before all this, lets dig into the history of this magical creature.

Many ancient civilizations believed that butterflies were symbols of the human soul. In some cultures it was believed that a new human soul was born each time an adult butterfly emerged from its cocoon; in other cultures, butterflies were also considered to be the souls of those who had passed away. Because of this belief that the human soul took the form of a butterfly, they were often viewed with great respect and sometimes with fear.

The meaning varied from place to place . Northern Europeans thought that dreams were the result of the soul-butterfly's wanderings through other worlds.

The Meso-Americans have deeply incorporated the butterfly in their myths. In Aztec and Mayan mythology, the god of fire Xiutecutli is represented as a butterfly. Fire, like the butterfly, is a symbol of transformation. The Goddess Iztpapalotl, the Obsidian Butterfly, stands for purification and rejuvenation by sacrifice. The powerful plumed serpent god Quetzalcoatl is described as initially descending to earth in the form of a chrysalis, then painfully emerging into full light as a beautiful butterfly and a symbol of perfection. In ancient Greek the word for butterfly is "Psyche", which translated means "soul". This was also the name for Eros' human lover and when the two figures are depicted they are often surrounded by butterflies.

According to Buenaflor, the Central Mexican people going back to Teotihuacan associated butterflies with their ancestors. They believed brave warriors eventually became birds, hummingbirds, or butterflies after they died, sipping nectar for eternity. Celtic mythology regards butterflies as a symbol of the soul. There's an old Irish saying that goes "Butterflies are souls of the dead waiting to pass through Purgatory. "They're thought to be able to cross into other realms and also represent transformation, creation, and rebirth.

Seeing one is a sign that positive change is transpiring, and brave forces are watching over you and ensuring graceful transitions. The butterfly encourages you to flow through your transformation with confidence. The spiritual symbolism of any animal is always up for interpretation. But butterflies certainly have something to teach us about rebirth and transformation. If you're feeling particularly connected to this critter, embrace the change, see it through, and trust that your journey, like the butterfly's, will unfold just as it should.

Symbolizes : Spirit, joy, happiness, rebirth, renewal, hope, springtime, summer season, femininity, sensuality, and anything that is beautiful, graceful and positive in nature.

Leak : Ancient Mexicans dedicated an entire palace to the butterfly at Teotihuacan, just outside Mexico City, naming it Mariposa.

**May the wings of the butterfly kiss the sun, and find your shoulder to light on
To bring you luck, happiness and riches today, tomorrow and beyond.**

-AN IRISH BLESSING.



RELATIVITY

By :

Rishita Ballem

A train journey is indeed an amazing thing, isn't it? Things move backward whilst one sits in static or should I say it's the other way around. For what it's worth, our least favored subject physics had taught us that the person inside the coach is moving, concerning the observer from outside the coach and vice versa. It is called "The Relativity of motion". Now that we have been through the technical terms of relativity, let us run through a different perspective of relativity and yes, it is relative!

One of the situations where relativity plays a prominent role is the situation of right or wrong, the sense of true or false in real life.

For instance, what is fair to one, might not be the same to another. People differ due to different opinions. Due to these differences, one may not be right always!

Success is one such thing. The definition of success is money for someone, a dream house for someone else, or it might be a car, a job, kids, or not!

Love is also discreet. It might be towards one's family, a pet, a friend, one's country, or else towards one's sweetheart. Either way, it's all pure and warm.

A christ's bride wears white at her wedding, in parallel a Hindu widow wears white. One celebrates a marital bond with a white while the other grieves over her marriage.

As we know, wine is prohibited in mosques and temples. Conversely, Jesus turned water into wine. Religion is relative.

As our profound epic Mahabharata notifies Kauravas - the 100 brothers were the villains of the story and the Pandavas the five-hero clan. Now the irony here is, Duryodhan (the first Kaurava brother) was at peace in the heavens while Pandavas (expect Dharmaraj) had to go through a period of agony in hell and then were dispatched to heaven!

This is how relativity works. And the wise one who acknowledges this will find the true essence of life itself.

SCARRING RIDICULE

-Jaanvi
Veluguleti



This feeling of shame,
Of feeling exposed and blamed,
It haunts me, day and night,
I no more know what's wrong or right.

I did it out of confidence,
But they compared it to a reference,
Saying, 'This pictures you in this way,
So fix this, 'cause you have no other way.'

My feelings are not considered,
I feel my freedom of expression hindered.
They are making me paint myself differently,
Did I give them power over me indefinitely?

We are in the modern world,
Empowering ourselves to be bold.
And there is a way to communicate,
Dragging someone down has never proved effective to date.
Be intentional in making people feel loved,
Even if you think their ways are flawed.
Because you love them for who they are,
Your ridicule of them should not cause a scar.
They say time will heal anything,
I say a loved one's words are what truly bring
The feeling of acceptance and comfort
And the knowledge that you will never judge
them, no matter what.

TALE OF THE GHOST

-Yashwanth K



One, two, three...

BLINK!
and you were gone,
I never was able to
find you again,
see you again, hold
you again.

A couple of years and
your name started to
fade,

finally becoming an
incoherent whisper in
the farthest corner of
my brain.

I think it was an illusion,
My anchor when I'm

drifting too far from
home in the Middle of
the night-
the lonliest time of
my sinful life,

when I want to scream
while still remaining
quiet.
Our memories don't
belong to me anymore,
I couldn't even lie
that they did.

No, they are
possessions of the girl that
disappeared when you did.

She was right there
with you,
And I stayed behind as
her physical proof.
I was never as great
as her,
never as happy as her,

never as full of life
and joy as her-
The girl that you fell
in love with.

I look like her, they
call me by her name,
But I could
never, NEVER be just like her.
But her face and her
Name might be my only
qualification,
To keep your smile
ingrained in my brain.
That I'm the picture
of the ghost that you loved,
The ghost lucky enough
to love you too.

THE GREY SOFA

-Rutuja
Alandkar



The Grey sofa is all that keeps me
company
The one that
reclines and knocks
And now I lie here,
ignoring the clocks!

Ignoring the
unwritten stories on my shelf
And the unsung
songs within my head
Hoping to be
finished by some unseen elf

Perfection is a procrastination
hidden under hood
And I still ignore
all calling , I confess
That if ideas are
trees , my mind is an enormous wood

Perceptive has
shown me that I'm blessed
But this solitary
thought still haunts me,
Will success ever
tip it's hat if I am not obsessed?

TO YOU

-Vinita Peddi



To the person who can shed tears
watching an emotional drama,
Why can't you see my pain?

To the person who is busy making money
round the clock,
Why can't you spare a minute for me?

To the person who strove hard to gain
recognition in this world,
Why couldn't you know you were my
world?

To the person who always longed for
love,
Why couldn't you know you were the love
of my life?

To the world that wants to see me cry,
Why can't you adore my precious smile?

To the world that wants me to back-off,
Why can't you understand that that was
the battle I chose?

To the world that wanted me to fail,
Why couldn't you know I've always
waited for that one success?

To the world that wanted me to try for
the one last time,
Why couldn't you know I was done with
it?

TUNE OF MADNESS

-Nithya



I sit here,
Me and her,
She cries silent tears
because her calm is
meant to torture.
The air around her is
meaningless, name it and
it's yours.
He calls it silence, a
defeaning one,
He hates it with a
vengeance
Looks every corner for a
door before this abyss
swallows him full.
The darkness of this
room might resemble his
soul and what mankind
is not afraid of his
innerself.
I sit with her too
But this silence is
intimate to me
A dull tune of cords
plucking at my heart to
sleep,
It doesn't matter if we
can hear our own breaths
Or my watch ticking
I want her closer than the
chaos outside that litter
confetti round my tomb
of sadness.

All this death echo is
better than their words
of madness.
Eyes and eyes we look
because we are
supposed to be lonely
and quiet in here
In this room how do I tell
her this silence is so
intimate to me that I
don't hate her,
That I want her bring to
this place everyday so I
can find peace in this
hellhouse.
If i fall asleep to the lull
of my own heartbeat, i
want to wake up in this
spell.
Your calm is meant to
torture,
But my thoughts are
loud enough.
This room is meant to
drive me insane,
But all these voices
people think they need
feel stale,
Not in my head, not in
my heart,
Stare at the wall ahead,
There's no way out than
sleeping to death

WHAT MAKES A SUCCESSFUL PERSON

By :
Shradha Guttedar

The difference between being successful and unsuccessful is the intensity of effort that you put in. Nobody will ever give you any grades for your level of self-discipline. There is no finish line and there's no podium for the winners the only purpose of building self-discipline is to conquer yourself -your urges, your weaknesses, and your self-sabotaging behaviors. It's easy to forget this fact and assume that when you reach your goals you're done. The moment you make your dreams come true isn't the most important. It's important, no doubt, but without the process leading to it, in itself it means little.

The most important moments are the moments of struggle when you're striving to fight even when you can barely stand and the whole world is spinning around you. It's this very act that proves your mettle and showers you with life-encompassing benefits, not the act of winning in itself. Whenever you find yourself frustrated that you're still a long way from the finish line, remember that it's right now, at this very moment, that you're collecting the biggest rewards. It's the struggle in itself that improves you and makes you a more successful person.

The important thing in the Olympic games is not to win, but to take part; the important thing in life does not to triumph, but the struggle; the essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well.

-Pierre de Coubertin