

May 2021

Issue #3

solucky

*The Case for
Second-Hand
Fashion*

Featuring an
exclusive interview
with Kaia Mei

*Social
Perspective*

The Quest for
Catalonian
Independence

*A Brown
Girl's Guide:*

Explore India's
Golden Age



Kyle Yun

Our model for the May cover

Bay Area native
Kyle Yun
modeling for a
70s inspired
cover photoshoot



Kyle was shot &
styled by Sanjana Solanki
& Ash Kumar

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Overview

Brand Overview

by Sanjana Solanki,
Founder of solucky

May has been one of the most complex months of solucky so far. This time of the year is usually very busy for us college students. It can include stressful events such as Finals week, or moving back home, etc. In relation to that, the solucky team, a group of mostly college students, were able to manage through each obstacle throughout the month of May. Despite each & every hurdle that this month presented itself as, we were able to persist. In fact, this may be our best issue yet. The content & effort placed into each aspect of this issue truly shows how passionate each member of this team really is. The month of May consisted of focusing on our past influences, our community of the Bay Area, welcoming new team members, as well as our dance workshop - solucky x t&a.

This issue's theme was chosen to focus on the funky vibes, playful energy, & rebellious spirit of the 70's. We decided that it was time to look back at what has influenced us when it came to fashion, entertainment, in addition to many other precedents. On top of that, it was also acknowledged that it would be great to focus on what the 70's looks like in the "modern setting". More information about the content inspired by this time period can be found in our Magazine Overview. Besides the time & effort put into this issue, we also spent our time focusing on the solucky x t&a collaboration, found in our Magazine Overview. Besides the time & effort put into this issue, we also spent our time



IG Handles:
@twisha & @aj.villareal

focusing on the solucky x t&a collaboration, a hip hop dance workshop. This workshop was created to partner with Twisha Chawla & Alyssa Villareal to raise money & awareness for the heart-breaking ethnic cleansing in Palestine right now. 100% of our profits go directly to a Palestinian aid organization where it will find ways to support those affected by the current events.

Other than our continued projects & collaborations, all of our applications are currently open. Anyone & everyone can now apply to either a contributor, collaboration partner, magazine interview, or magazine advertisement application (if not all). As applications have been open for some time now, we are looking over contributor applications & adding on new team members! During the month of May, we have welcomed Heena Bains, Riya Patel, & Amani Chowdhury to our amazing team! Find more information about our team members & their roles on the website, [more > the team](#).



Heena Bains



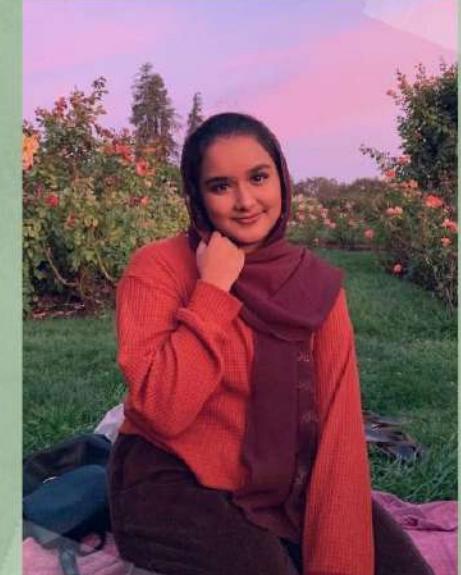
IG: @heenabainss

Riya Patel



IG: @iamriyap

Amani Chowdhury



IG: @amanichowchow



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Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki

Magazine Overview

by Ananya Dutta & Henry Pham,
Co-Editors

This month revolves around rebellion. Rebellion comes in many forms—however, we will be focusing on oppressive structures, individuals, as well as systems. Thus formulates our aesthetic- cultivated within the 70's, which is widely recognized as the decade of tumultuity. The 70's bold colors & psychedelic aesthetics painted more than just a pretty picture- they were also an expression of individuality & resistance against mainstream culture.

We've picked out a series of media pieces that pay homage to rebellion that resonated within the 70s. Our writers interpreted the theme in a variety of ways, so we have pieces ranging from a feminist review of Promising Young Woman to a profile of the Catalonian Separatist movement. Our culture section includes a South Asian twist on the theme, with a profile of the political & artistic influences in 1970s India.

The photography & art in this issue continue on with the theme & frame our pieces with the same methodology. We hope that this issue enlightens & further broadens your perspective on the juxtaposition of differences & similarities within our theme, that is, rebellion.

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Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki



Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki

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ding • tending • trending

Trending

trending • tending • ding

The Case for Second-Hand Fashion

by Ananya Dutta

With the end of the school year approaching, I was looking to shed my previous wardrobe & create something new & exciting for summer break. The problem is getting a whole new wardrobe or even finding a way to update it can be an incredibly expensive ordeal. I realized that this would either come through a direct cost (my wallet) or an environmental one (fast fashion). Luckily, I found a solution that seems like the best of both worlds: flea markets & thrifting.

To discuss the world of thrifting & reselling, I decided to interview the lovely Kaia Mei who runs @shop.kaiko on Instagram & was present at the San Jose event. Mei's passion for fashion started in eighth grade as a way to make some extra cash. "I absolutely hated asking my parents for money... I started this shop in 2016 to make a little cash on the side at school. At the time I didn't ship [or] care about growing an audience— it was just casual posting here & there." When quarantine hit, Mei's attitude



IG: @shop.kaiko



IG: @shop.kaiko



KODAK PORTA 400



IG: @shop.kaiko



regarding her shop changed. Faced with the challenges of the pandemic & a lack of job openings, she started to research clothing trends on the internet & apply those to her shop. This led to the curation of a variety of unique collections which helped her channel creativity & empowerment. "I started to set up timed drops with unique themes such as the 'Suki' collection for streetwear, the "Morenx" collection for neutrals, the "sexy jutsu collection" for slip dresses & lingerie, & more! During the time i've spent cooped up in my room, I've successfully managed to utilize this account as a creative outlet to express my personality & empower fellow WOC."

Not only is buying second-hand clothing easier on your wallet, it's better for the environment too! As Kaia put it, with factors such as economic inflation, you may find yourself spending over \$200 on a jacket. Unless you're making six figures already, this kind of pricing simply isn't sustainable. However, as Kaia pointed out, that same jacket (or at least one in a similar style) could likely be available for a "fraction of the price" at your local thrift store. Second-hand buying also opens up your options in terms of personal style. "It has a sense of exclusivity to it when someone asks you where you bought your pants from & you're able to reply with, 'it's thrifted!', said

Kaia, "There are so many different designs, styles, & unique pieces that you might have never even thought of out there, so why limit yourself to short-lived fads & trends? Fashion is art & a unique form of self-expression. It allows the creative in you to thrive."

Another added benefit is the community impact associated with thrifting. "Many thrift stores are locally-owned & run by small business owners. By choosing to shop second hand, you are helping families pay for their bills & put food on the table. You are helping a young girl pay for her college education to pursue her dreams. Bigger thrift stores such as Goodwill & Salvation Army also support those in need, such as working to support employment of those with disabilities, providing shelter for the homeless, & rehabilitation for people who have lost control of their lives [due to] addiction." Especially during the pandemic, the importance of community & giving back has been highlighted. What better way to give back is there than spending a day browsing for cute finds & strengthening your personal style? When you shop second-hand, you put money into the pockets of local business owners & people who are more likely to directly benefit from it instead of purely profit-driven corporations & CEOs intent on extracting every bit of monetary value from artistic ventures such as fashion, at even at the cost of child labor & environmental abuses.

"By choosing to shop second hand, you are actively reducing your carbon footprint & limiting the contribution to landfill & pollution of the world. They say that 'one man's trash is another man's treasure'. Just because one person got tired of their old shirt, doesn't mean someone else wouldn't love it just as much as they once did."

Thrift stores are one venue to buy second-hand, but if you're a little more picky or more interested in hands-on events, pop-up markets may be the right choice for you. A couple weeks ago, I attended the San Jose pop up flea market (@popupsj on Instagram) with solucky founder, Sanjana Solanki. The market was located within the beautiful Garden at the Flea, which is an outdoor event space that hosts various different markets & events. The space was tastefully decorated & featured dozens of unique vendors selling vintage clothes. Each booth was personalized to the vendors liking & highlighted their specialty- which ranged from upcycled pieces to streetwear & jewelry. Not to mention there was a constant curation of music & a selection of food trucks to choose from in case you wanted to pick up a meal.



Through this market, I was able to find cute y2k-style clothing for reasonable prices (I spent under \$35 & managed to snag 4 items of clothing). When I spoke with Mei, she provided a duality of insight from the point of view of a vendor attending the event as well as the customer. "I attended my first pop up on my birthday in November at San Jose & I could honestly say I love everything about it," said Kaia, "it's a community [for] small business owners to thrive [and] connect with one another... & there's no denying that everyone dresses [fashionably]. Every vendor offers a unique, curated selection of both grail items & steals to promote giving old clothes new life— what's not to love about these events?"



If you've reached this part of the article, I hope I've piqued your interest enough for you to consider attending a flea market or stopping by a thrift store.

Here are some tips & information to keep in mind as you begin your second-hand journey:

1.) Keep an open mind

Buying second-hand is a little slower than regular shopping. It is important to have patience & know that you may not find exactly what you're looking for in the first couple minutes. Kaia added to this point, suggesting that we "Try things on, even if it doesn't seem appealing at first. Some clothing will look better on you than it does on the hanger, so don't be afraid to be open to things you wouldn't normally choose."

2.) Bring a friend

"Believe it or not, thrifting is actually such a good way to bond with others," said Kaia, "It also helps you see clothes from a whole new perspective. Your friend might be able to imagine it styled on you even if you don't see its full potential." For me, the nature of thrifting is reminiscent of imaginary treasure-hunting games played in youth. There's something exciting about hunting down that one lacy black y2k-style slip dress you found on Pinterest at 12 am, which is an experience that I found to be enhanced when shared with a friend. Plus, you'll have someone to answer the age-old shopping questions like "does this dress really look good on me" & "is this worth it?"

3.) Keep up on social media

Social media can be a game changer when it comes to thrifting. You can find unique online shops suited to your taste (we recommend @shop.kaiko on Instagram, of course) as well as keep track of upcoming events. Apps like Depop & Pinterest can also be incredibly helpful- Depop for finding new shops & Pinterest for clothing inspiration. Pro tip: you might think it's an unlikely contender, but Ebay has some surprisingly good finds.

To close out this article, I'd like to leave you with a quote from the lovely Kaia Mei that plainly captures & summarizes the benefits of second-hand shopping.

"By choosing to shop second-hand, you are actively reducing your carbon footprint & limiting the contribution to landfill & pollution of the world. They say that 'one man's trash is another man's treasure'. Just because one person got tired of their old shirt, doesn't mean someone else wouldn't love it just as much as they once did."



IG: @shop.kaiko



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Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki



Courtesy of Prisha Jain

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More Businesses

By Ananya Dutta
& Sanjana Solanki



@jewel.vintage

"Jewel Vintage was started in Sacramento & I've been traveling to show my clothes all over California! I started in January of 2021 with a love of fashion & vintage & I have been growing my brand ever since! I have a lot of femme y2k clothing & also some more masculine pieces ranging from all sizes!"



@villanzvtg

"Villanz Vintage is a Union City based business owned by Gabbi V. This business was started in September of 2020 when Gabbi lost her job due to the pandemic and turned a hobby into a successful side hustle. Villanz Vintage curates mainly vintage streetwear & femme wear, but lately Gabbi's favorite items to sell have been cool vintage Disney pieces & vintage skirts & blouses!"



@grailnecessities

"The Grail Necessities Instagram page was made on July 8th 2019 & we're mainly based in Vallejo CA. At GrailNecessities we buy, sell, & trade vintage streetwear or modern clothing, & new or old releases of sneakers. Just recently we've started to vendor in many different cities across NorCal but we also do worldwide shipping so that many other people are available to purchase from our selection of GRAIL NECESSITIES that we have."



@basedvintage

"Based Vintage, established in August 2020. We make handmade clothing, bags, & accessories using DEADSTOCK & vintage clothing @basedvintage on IG"



@jewelsbykristina



Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki

Fashion Lookbook

by Sanjana Solanki

Since the beginning of solucky's journey, diversity & expression have been a core value of our brand. We want everyone to feel included in what we do as well as represented—which is why inclusion is one of our top priorities. These values combined with a little creative planning is what led to the idea of a lookbook. Our lookbook is a collection of photos that represent a sample of our audience's fashion taste & overall style. The purpose of our lookbook is to highlight styles of fashion as well as represent the diversity within our community. Throughout the course of this mini project, our founder & audience worked together to amass a compelling collection of photos.

In addition, this mini project served as inspiration for a new solucky initiative: Friday Fashion. This is a weekly activity in which we repost other creative outfits from the week. In this issue, our Friday Fashion favorites of the month will be featured towards the end of this section alongside lookbook outfits being featured throughout the entire issue as well. The lookbook can be found on our website, in the lookbook subsection of the fashion section!



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Courtesy of Sacjay Singh



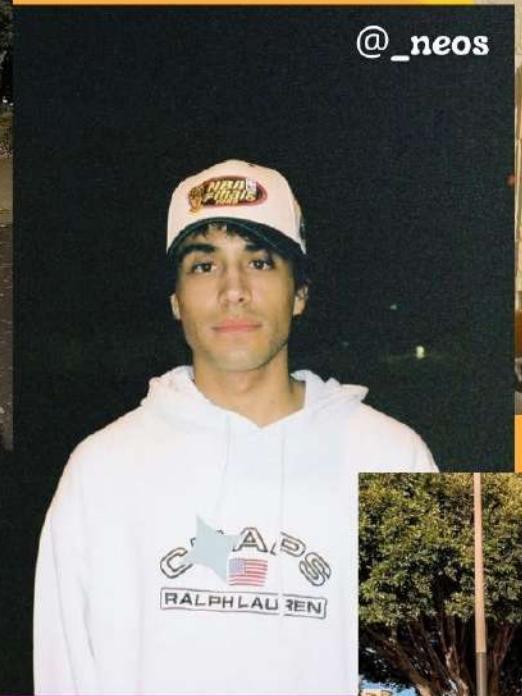
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Courtesy of Natalie Getz

Friday Fashion Favorites

Instagram handles of each individual are attached - to find more favorites, check our Instagram highlights (@solucky.life)!

by Riya Patel





Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki



Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki

cultur
Cultwage
culture . culture . culture

A Brown Girl's 70s All Things Guide:

By Disha Desai

Considered the Golden Age of Hindi cinema, the 70s were a time of flourishing for Bollywood fashion & movies. From genre-defining movies like Sholay, Ankur, & Don to the introduction of Amitabh Bachchan, Bollywood was changed forever. Along with the art that was produced, this age featured daring scenes & pop culture fashion trends, & the introduction of politics within popular cinema.

One of the most iconic movies in Bollywood history, Salim Khan & Javed Akhtar's Sholay, came out of the 70s. The drama, comedy, romance, action, & tragedy packed together in a movie with

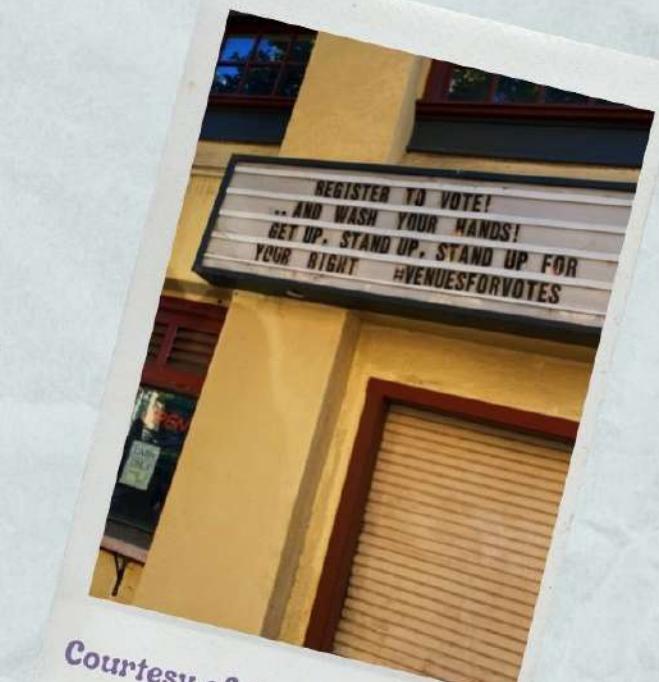
unforgettable one-liners like "Kitne aadmi the" (how many men were there?) & "Jo dar gaya samjho mar gaya" (he who is scared is essentially considered dead) opted for an amazing cinematic experience that is quoted to this day. Sholay was also one of the films that set the stage for future Bollywood legend Amitabh Bachchan's emergence into the Bollywood industry. Bachchan went on to become the superstar of the 70s, & it was all uphill from there. We were first introduced to the archetype of the "Angry Young Man" with Amitabh Bachchan's performance in the film Zanjeer, as his characters often captured the frustration, intensity, angst, & rage that were apparent in the country at the time.

However, the 70's was about more than just game-changing art- it also was a time of emergency, human rights violations, & protest.

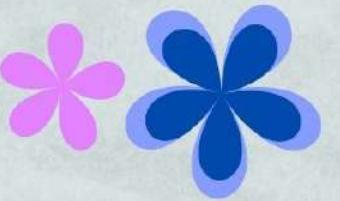
A national emergency was declared in India, January of 1975, & lasted for 21 long months. During this time, there were a number of protests against the violations of human rights & corruption in the government, followed by increased intensity in the ongoing elections. Most of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's political opponents were imprisoned, the press was censored, & slow industrial growth along with the government's actions with unemployment caused frustration among the people. Students protested rising prices of essential commodities & corruption, which major opposition parties joined, & this called for demands of a new election. An Indian activist named Jayaprakash Narayan led a movement in Bihar, which drew national attention to the issues being protested. In June of 1975, Indira Gandhi was found guilty of misuse of government machinery amidst her election campaign, & on the 25th, Narayan led a huge political rally for Ghandi's resignation. A state of emergency was declared that night, & chaos ensued. Electricity to the major newspaper offices was disconnected, only to be restored in two to three days once the censorship apparatus was set up, & many opposition leaders & workers were arrested.



Courtesy of Natalie Getz



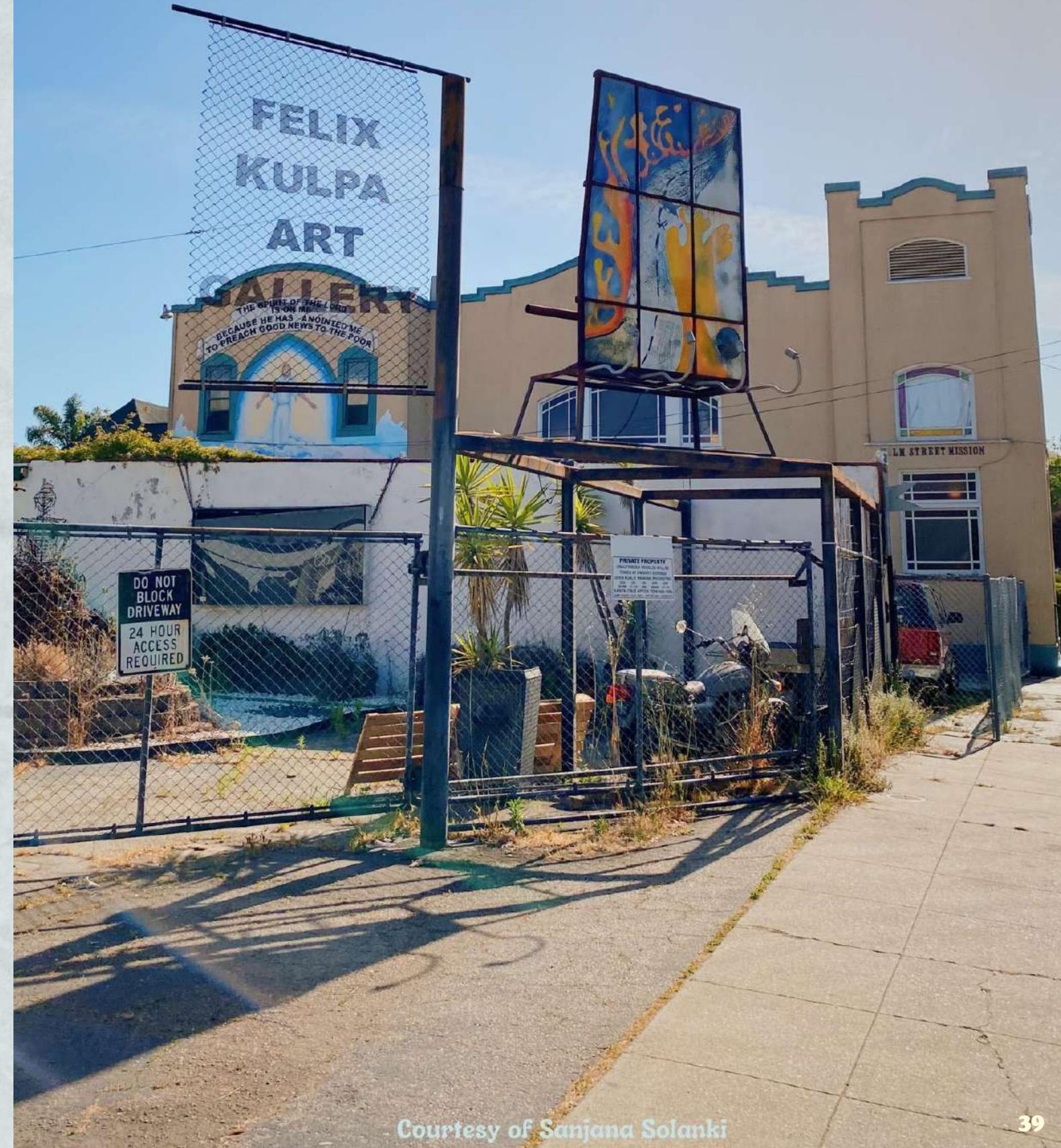
Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki



The government restricted many fundamental rights for citizens during this time, newspapers needed prior approval before publishing anything, & an amendment was made which declared that elections of Prime Minister, President, & Vice-President could not be challenged in court. In January of 1977, the government decided to hold an election in March & a new party was formed (under JP Narayan) which defeated the corruption within Congress & Indira Gandhi.

Despite the political chaos during the State of Emergency of the 70s in India, we were still given some of the finest films, songs, and fashion trends to come out of the Golden Age of Bollywood. Fashion trends like bell-bottom jeans, over-sized glasses, hoop earrings and big bindis, polka dots and front-tying blouses, voluminous hairstyles, and thick winged eyeliner took over in the industry. From the cool hippie looks to the minimalist, nude lipped and kajal eyed desi wife looks, 70s fashion was diverse and brought creative and cool new looks and aesthetics into the world.

Disco brought flared sleeves and pants, forehead headbands and sequins, and the most musical decade in Bollywood history. With Kishore Kumar's golden voice and R.D Burman's unique sounds, timeless and unforgettable music came out of this era. Anyone who has not experienced the glamour of Bollywood's timeless Golden Era that translated to a golden age for the country itself, is seriously missing out on the everlasting impact of the 70s.



Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki

* Timeless Songs & Movies of the 70s

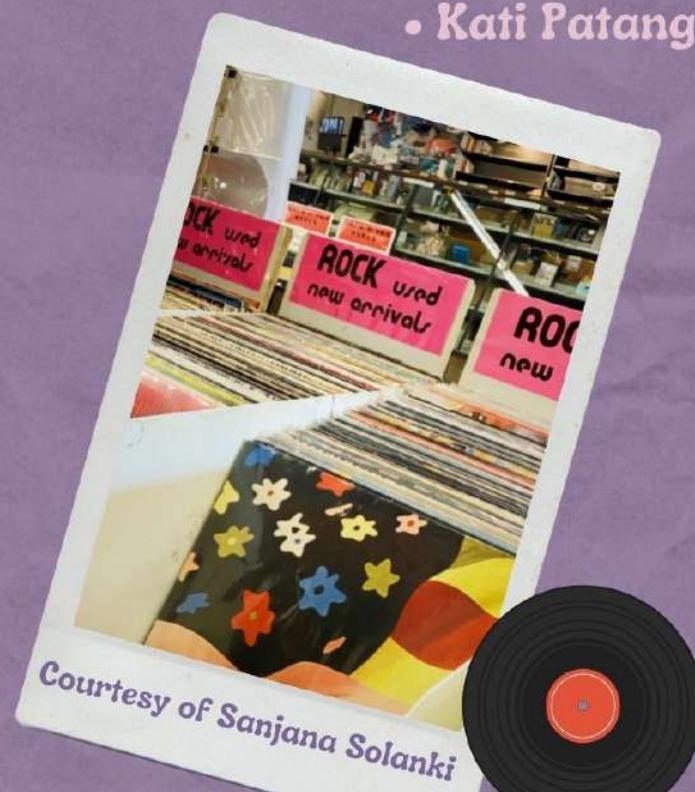
Songs:

- Kabhi Kabhi Mere Dil Mein
- Chura Liya Hai Tumne Jo Dil Ko
- Pal Pal Dil Ke Paas
- Aanewala Pal
- Yeh Sham Mastani
- Hum Tum Ek Kamre Mein
- Mehbooba Mehbooba
- Bachna Ae Hasinon Lo Main Aa Gaya (1977)
- Piya Tu Ab To Aaja
- Dum Maro Dum
- Aap Jaisa Koi (1980)

by Disha Desai

Movies:

- Sholay
- Don
- Amar Akbar Anthony
- Ankur
- Pakeezah
- Kabhi Kabhie
- Bobby
- Anand
- Deewar
- Kati Patang



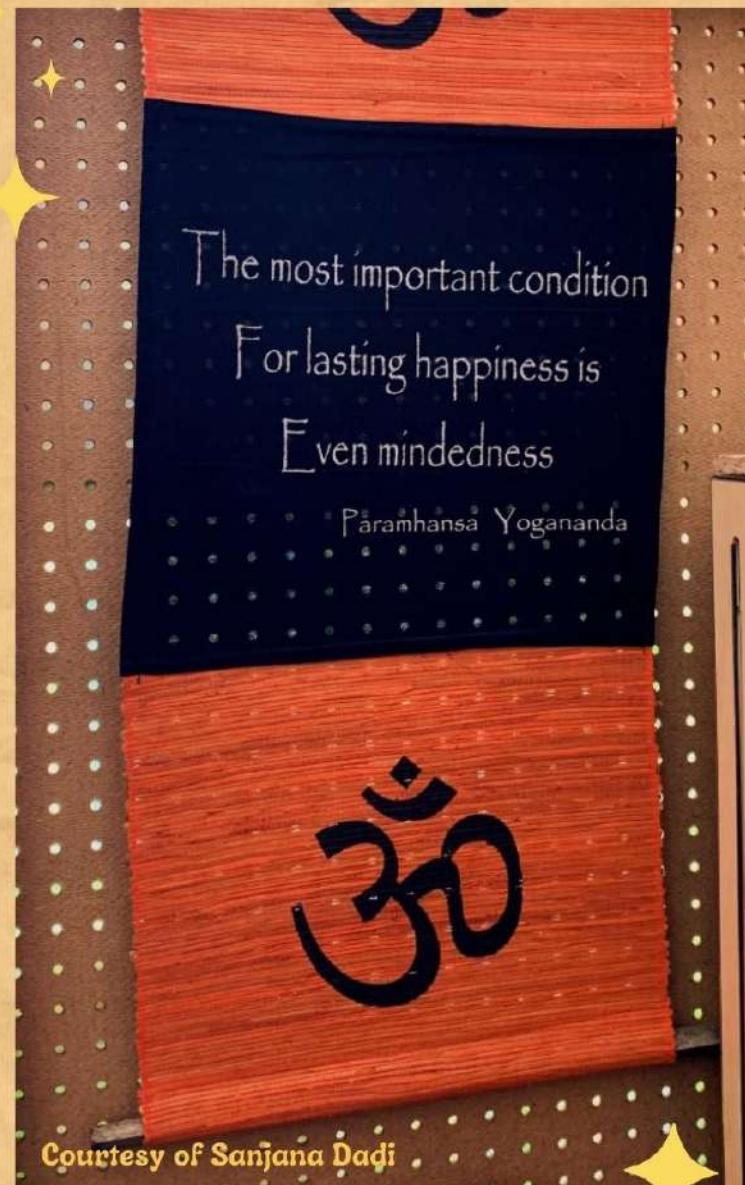
The Witch Who Knocked

By
Ananya Dutta

Before the 1990s, Bangalore was a retirement community. The city limits were small & getting from one end to the other would set you back only twenty minutes. Missing the constant cries of street food vendors hawking their fares, which were usually present in most major Indian cities, Bangalore was a sleepy city. Women wore flowers in their hair to work & men spent their time drinking filter coffee & eating steamed idlis. People lived in sects, with different castes & communities living in their own separate areas. In the nineties, the Indian government liberalized their economy leading to a Silicon Valley-esque explosion of IT-related emigration. This explosion also coincided with the rise of a creepy urban legend featuring a witch who would roam the city streets & call out to the men in the voices of their mothers, wives, & daughters, imploring them to let her in their homes. Once inside, the witch would kill the men & walk away. The only way to

prevent this from happening was by writing Nale Ba on your front door -meaning come tomorrow. For a while, the wicked, murderous witch was all that Bangalorians could think about. She dominated the tabloids, magazines, & street art of the time. However, she is reminiscent of a much older trait of Indian culture —storytelling. The Nale Ba legend is an extension of a Bangalorian attempt to deal with the changes in environment brought on by the city's rapid transformation into the tech hub of India.

The Nale Ba legend was used to rationalize a changing world. In the late eighties and early nineties, Bangalore began to see a huge influx of emmigration as technology companies began setting up shop. These companies created much-desired jobs & that led to a rush of people flooding the city & ultimately changing it. Gone were the city's days of sleepy urban life. Bangalore began to come alive & grow in ways that were unimaginable to its earliest residents. As the city expanded, people of different castes, Muslims, & foreigners started to share spaces



Courtesy of Sanjana Dadi

The Nale Ba story seems to serve as a warning; Keep your doors closed & always check who you let in, is the subliminal messaging behind the legend, not everyone can be trusted. In her exploration of rumor & urban legend in the African American community, Patricia Turner points out how “concerns about conspiracy, cannibalism, & castration” are translated into nearly four hundred years of Black contemporary storytelling & legend (Turner xv). In the African American community, stories serve as a method of confronting widely-held fears & concerns. Indians are no stranger to this method. Many Indians grow up listening to a wide variety of

frequently. Around this same time, the city began to see a spike in crime. The late eighties/nineties are now remembered as the beginning of the rise of the city's bloody underworld into the mainstream (Ram). & it is around this same time that the Nale Ba legend began making its appearance. In his work exploring American urban legends, Brunvand touches on the idea of urban legends being used to rationalize the world around us (Brunvand). Although the Nale Ba story doesn't fall under the category of urban legends, the same idea can be applied to it. Crowdsourced, highly localized stories tend to be a reflection of the fears & worries plaguing the people of the regions they come from.

mythological stories which have been passed through generations for thousands of years. As a result, storytelling in Indian culture is utilized to impose a set of unwritten rules regarding social behavior & influence values. In the case of the Nale Ba legend, the underlying value is individualism. Despite the strong emphasis on community, at times there are pushes towards conservatism, although the sense of community usually wins out.

During the time in which the Nale Ba legend gained popularity, the city's residents were also dealing with new anxieties surrounding their changes in environment. The increased diversification of the city & its subsequent spike in crime inspired feelings of unease in its residents. As things change, we begin to have trouble trusting them & in this case people's neighbors were the subject of change. The Nale Ba legend fit perfectly into their new world & validated the resident's fears. As a result, the story gained in prominence & reached the mainstream through tabloids & magazines.

Although few openly admitted to believing in the legend, Nale Ba still had an effect on Bangalore's community. People kept their doors bolted & wrote the words on their door, hoping to ward off the witch's murderous spirit. When I first heard of this legend, it was during a late night storytelling session with my mother & family in Bangalore. We took turns sharing stories of alleged hauntings & cursed schools, & eventually came to the Nale Ba legend. After my aunt had explained how the witch knocked on doors & called out in loved ones' voices to instantly kill people, she said that only men were affected by her evil charms. My uncle then jumped in & profusely disagreed, saying that he had heard the witch targeted both genders. My mother then added to the confusion by agreeing with my aunt that she exclusively targeted, but adding that the witch did not instantly kill her victims. After this, most of the people in that room began to engage in good-natured, loud

disagreement. As we laughed together & shuddered at the descriptions of the witch's crimes, I couldn't help but feel closer to my family. Urban legends & horror fiction in general have a strangely bonding effect on people, bringing them closer than they realize. Although the Nale Ba legend has never been debunked publicly, the story has lost its fearsome hold upon Bangalore's community. It is viewed as a fascinating part of Bangalorean history, & now exists within the realm of late night discussions & chanced remembrance. Despite its role change, the story has adapted & continues to live on.

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Turner, Patricia A. *I Heard It through the Grapevine: Rumor in African-American Culture*. University of California Press, 1994.



Courtesy of Sanjana Dadi

Creator Spotlight

By
Ananya Dutta

Tutorly

Tutorly is a tutoring service for K-12 students redefining traditional approaches to learning. It is run by two passionate students with the goal of helping students meet & exceed their academic goals in subjects like Math, English, Science, & more. According to them, their "guiding principle is to mentor students to be the best version of their academic selves, all while creating a support team around the student to motivate them in their learning."

This company was founded on simple principles: personal growth & community. The process of creating individualized plans to help students achieve



academic success has been described as "incredibly rewarding" by the Tutorly team. Even through the challenges of the pandemic, Tutorly was able to pull through & help students adapt to the realities and hurdles of distance learning.

Building off of their "student-first" approach, Tutorly is able to provide a "team & support

HOW DOES TUTORLY WORK?

1. REQUEST



Contact us through our Contact Form. One of our team members will reply to you within 24 hours and pair you with a tutor that best fits your student's needs.

2. LEARN



Meet with your tutor through Zoom and get ready to have an interactive session with the help of our virtual whiteboard and personalized presentations.

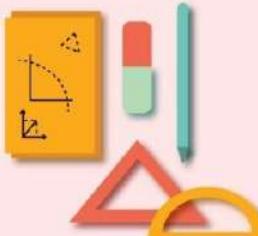
3. REVIEW



After your session, you'll receive a copy of whiteboard notes to help you review and practice more. Check in with your tutor through our Slack channel and progress reports.

Furthermore, Tutorly is a South-Asian run business with a strong connection to their heritage. Co-owner Hari feels "most connected [to her heritage] when she visits the Livermore Temple. She basically grew up at the temple & spends all her free time volunteering & giving back in any way that she can." On the other hand,

TAKING GEOMETRY OVER THE SUMMER?



Geometry Package

Our 7 Week Intensive - 3 days/week

PART 1 June 14th - July 2nd \$225
Part 1 Final Preparation

PART 2 July 5th - July 30th \$300
Part 2 Final Preparation

PART 3 July 30th - Aug 2nd \$70
District Exam Preparation

SIGN UP FOR OUR
GEOMETRY SUMMER
INTENSIVE!

GROUP TUTORING 3 DAYS/WEEK

SKIPPING A COURSE OVER THE SUMMER CAN BE EASY!

system around each student." Students are also given "24/7 access to Slack to contact their tutors, to-do lists to help with time management skills, personalized homework, grade checks, progress reports, & so much more." This hands-on approach has inspired a wealth of growth & success in their students, & the difference is notable.

Why Tutorly?



Communication channels
for tutors and students



Monthly progress reports



Personalized review
notes after every session



All tutors based in San
Francisco Bay Area

"Knowing the history of her people & contextualizing her life amidst their struggles & strength is a huge motivation & inspiration," they wrote. And of course, both Nanki & Hari appreciate the unique & lovely flavors of South Asian cooking. co-owner Nanki points to her Punjabi & Sikh heritage as a huge source of pride.

"Knowing the history of her people & contextualizing her life amidst their struggles & strength is a huge motivation & inspiration," they wrote. And of course, both Nanki & Hari appreciate the unique & lovely flavors of South Asian cooking.

The team acknowledges the positive impact their upbringing has on their business by citing growing up as "curious learners" with an appreciation for the art of learning & teaching. This appreciation grew into respect & created the successful business we know today. As a result, although their business supports everyone; they are also uniquely positioned to cater to the needs of South Asian families in the Bay Area.

"Ultimately, we've both been influenced in every way possible by our South Asian heritage; though we come from entirely different parts of India, we both have been raised to respect education & community above all else."

In the short-term future, Tutorly has plans to continue providing their tutoring services to students in the San Ramon community. Long-term, they are looking towards opening up a physical location to better serve the needs of their students & "support them to the best of [their] ability." Also, if you're looking for a job: you're in luck. Tutorly will be hiring this summer which you can apply for at: <https://www.tutorly.academy/be-a-tutor>

"There's something special about in-person learning," they wrote, "so being able to take our teaching to the next level is something really exciting we're looking forward to."

You can keep up with Tutorly by checking out their website & socials:

Website: <https://www.tutorly.academy/>

Instagram: @tutorly.academy

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/tutorly.academy>



Courtesy of Prisha Jain



Courtesy of Heena Bains

Review



• COLLABORATIVE PLAYLIST

modern disco

spotify playlist of the month • may

Created by **sanju** • 27 songs, 1 hr 42 min

PLAY



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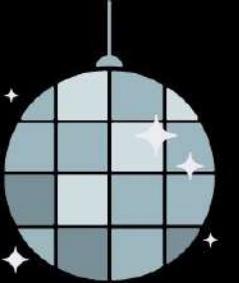


As you already know, for the month of May we have chosen to go with a theme that represents the 70's, or also known as the time to disco. Within this theme, I have pulled together some of the best songs released after the 2000's to represent what Amani Chowdhury & I think "modern day" disco music sounds like. The decision making behind each song reflects on the artist's/producer's choice of beats, frequency, & speed. I believe that disco music from the 70's is all about getting your groove on & feeling the music!

That is what inspired me to gather these songs that represent a more relevant idea of producing music with a hint of what the 70's was about. In this playlist, you will be able to find songs from Dua Lipa, Justin Timberlake, Remi Wolf, & much more!

Link: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/75yyJZhzGhoWwYnZp7Xmc?si=85de5a0ae5194252>

(I am aware that not everybody has the same taste in music as I do! If this playlist isn't your style, check out this column next month & we'll have something new for you)



Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki

Promising Young Women

By Roshni Sudhrasan

TW: Sexual Assault

On April 25th, the Dolby Theatre held its 93rd annual Academy Award Ceremony, the Oscars. Despite the controversy surrounding the winners in each category, I want to shed light on one victory in particular: Best Original Screenplay. Emerald Fennell, who is a force to be reckoned with, directed, wrote, & co-produced the winner of this category. Her originality & fierce passion for social justice & accountability were exemplified in the movie Promising Young Woman, which was commended by the Academy. The title itself is a subtle nod towards the media's ignorance towards women & draws from the 2015 Stanford sexual assault case with Chanel Miller & her assaulter Brock Turner, who was referred to as a "promising young man." This deliberate title sets the stage for a shocking tale of a woman with a strange purpose. Carey Mulligan stars as Cassie Thomas, a top-of-her-class, medical school drop-out with a goal of exposing rapists & taking revenge on those that have wronged her. Without giving too much away for curious viewers, it is safe to say her origin story is dark- yet still a tale that many women are familiar with.

Fennell's movie offers many lessons to be learned, lessons that every boy must understand & learn before entering high school & college. The movie appears to retain blatantly in-your-face messages rather than cinematically or politically correct scenes. Two recurring ones are the necessity of identifying the name of the survivors & victims & eliminating the culture of silence &

preservation of villainous males' reputation. Cassie makes the names of those who were unable to survive the trauma of the rape known to the perpetrator so that he may never live without that knowledge of who his victim was. It is a common media practice to circulate the name of the male assaulters in order to protect & preserve their professional successes. Fennell makes a statement against this in her movie & instead highlights the importance of providing a platform for the victim/survivor stories. These stories deserve to be heard & remembered, as the movie demonstrates. Chanel Miller noted the importance of survivors taking back the narrative in her award-winning book: Know My Name (a necessary read).

Additionally, Fennell also points out the harms of silence culture through her depictions of rapists & their friendship groups. Women today face the normalization of "locker room talk", constant sexualization, & much more. These misogynistic behaviors sometimes manifest even further within the cesspools of male friendship groups & set the standards surrounding the treatment of women lower. Behaviors like "locker room talk" & the sexualization of women turn into even more concerning behavior such as stalking & assault, even from the so-called "nice guys" that claim to be decent & trustworthy. This movie does not let men that engage in those talks gain a pass for not actually committing any crime. It covers & criticizes many different types of male predators: "the nice guys," the verbal ones that express their twisted mentality, the silent ones that protect their twisted friends, & the twisted ones themselves.

Some may dub this tale as a mere rape-revenge vigilante story that offers no sign of hope for survivors of sexual assault. There are deserved objections to how Fennell portrays the story. There are many parts that can make you feel uncomfortable; this movie isn't for everyone. However, those that don't see the impact & claim the movie is solely overboard with theatrics need to acknowledge male viewers who watch this that are guilty of the same actions as the villains in the movie. It holds everyone accountable, the deans that don't listen, the friends that don't believe, & especially the men that commit the crime & don't speak up. I'm glad that the Oscar's choice for Best Original Screenplay was Fennell's portrayal of a fierce female rebel to society, Cassie Thomas, as I hope for it to reach a wider audience of men that will understand & learn.



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Courtesy of Kacey Le



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Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki

support • support • support • support • support • support • support

Support

The Catalonian Quest for Independence

by Aditya Kulashekhar

On the eastern coast of Spain lies Barcelona, a beautiful city & massive urban center nestled in between the Collserola Mountain Range to the west, & the Mediterranean Sea to the east. Outside of Spain, it's widely recognized as an important cultural & economic hub in western Europe, in addition to its wildly successful football club, FC Barcelona. However, many do not know that Barcelona is the capital of the region of Catalonia, where millions of an ethnic group known as Catalans have been fighting for decades for independence from Spain.

The origins of the separatist movement in Catalonia can be traced to the mid 19th century, & it coincided with the inception of the Renaixença, an era of cultural renaissance & revival in the region. However, we didn't see an established pro-independence party in Catalonia until 1922, when Francesc Macia founded the Estat Català (Catalan State). 15 years later, during the Spanish Civil War, the Catalan separatists sided with the left wing popular front against the Francoist Nationalists. The Nationalists won the war, & Francisco Franco acted as a dictator until his death in 1975.

Catalans were heavily oppressed under the Franco regime; he attempted to wipe any traces of Catalan culture. He banned the Catalan language, & forced schools in Catalonia to teach only in Spanish, which decreased the Catalan literacy rates tenfold. For nearly three decades, Catalonia endured the harshest forms of brutality & oppression; dissidents & protesters were brutally silenced & repressed, & the police utilized horrific tactics to quash any support for Catalonian separatism during Franco's time in power.

However, the Spanish Constitution of 1978 granted the region of Catalonia autonomy. From here they quickly established their own government (including a Parliament) & other institutions such as law enforcement, education, etc. Later, in 2003, the Catalonian Parliament voted on a statute that gave Catalonia increased autonomy, which additionally included a clause declaring Catalonia as its own independent nation. The statute passed via a popular vote, although less than 50% of eligible voters cast votes in the election. Though, after a long & lengthy court battle the Spanish High Court of Justice ultimately struck down most of the statute, including the part declaring Catalonia's independence, citing its unconstitutionality. Hundreds of groups rose up together against the court ruling, & spent years, even to this day, fighting for a right to self determination for Catalonia, & for years after, hundreds of thousands of protestors have set up demonstrations in the streets of Barcelona calling for independence.

A few years later, Catalonian president Carles Puigdemont organized a referendum on October 1, 2017 regarding their independence. The Spanish government immediately declared the referendum unconstitutional, & not only seized ballots & cell phones

also but fined voters & volunteers at voting locations. The Spanish government ultimately ignored the results of the referendum, which resulted in 90% support from Catalan voters for independence, & protests subsequently erupted throughout the region. The region was once again sent into unrest in late 2019, when Spanish courts found numerous independence leaders guilty for treason & sedition & sentenced them to decades in prison. Violence & unrest, as well as police brutality against protesters has proceeded for the last year & a half. Ultimately, when looking at the history of the long Catalonian seperatist movement, it becomes evident that the Spanish government went to extreme lengths, ignoring basic human rights, to ensure that Catalonia would stay a part of Spain.

Furthermore, there are many reasons why Catalonia should be its own independent state in the European Union rather than a part of Spain. First & foremost, the Spanish government invests much of their funds in other places, although Catalonia represents less than 15% of the Spanish population, yet pays more than 20% of all taxes paid to the government. It's estimated that a little over 13% of the annual budgets go toward public expenses in Catalonia. Essentially, the Spanish government neglects the region & its people in their annual budgets although they pay a large chunk of the taxes directed toward the government. Furthermore, it makes no sense for Catalonia to be a part of a country that for the better part of the 20th century, attempted to erase all traces of Catalonian culture & the language. The Franco regime imposed Spanish traditions, & heavily littered the educational institutions in Catalonia with pro Spain propaganda to the point where children were more comfortable speaking Spanish rather than their native Catalan language. Spain has continually shown that they don't care about the desires of the citizens of Catalonia, proven

by their desire to ignore the popular referendums & throw Catalan leaders in jail simply for their desire for independence. Ultimately, Catalonia has always had its own distinct culture, & it's extremely clear that the Catalan identity will continue to deteriorate the longer it's a part of Spain.



Catalan pro-independence protesters demonstrate outside the Catalan regional government building in Barcelona, October 21, 2019.

(AP / Ben Curtis)



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Courtesy of Heena Bains



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Courtesy of Sanjana Solanki

Orange.

more • more • more



Miss Hits

Miss Hits is a fusion band whose eclectic sound borrows from Indie, R&B, and Neo-Soul. Formed out of a jam session last September, Miss Hits is a group of passionate musicians who met through their jazz studies program.

Upcoming events:

June 26th, house show in downtown San Jose

July 4, block party show in San Jose

Contact information:

miss.hits.band@gmail.com

760-840-1441

IG: miss_hits

FB: Miss Hits

Currently taking gigs/shows in the San Francisco Bay Area.



Courtesy of Miss Hits

Magazine Interview Interest Form

For a chance to be featured in one of our upcoming monthly issues, submit an application to be interviewed! The Magazine Interview Interest Form is open to anyone who believes they have a good influence on their community overall. This application is open to anyone, feel free to submit an application even if you feel that you are unsure if you fit our description for who to be interviewed. We like to pick those who should be interviewed based on our issue's theme for that month!

<https://forms.gle/nt84QB4ikLdss6sn8>

Magazine Advertisement Interest Form

If you are a small creator, business, organization, etc., check out the Magazine Advertisement Interest Form for an advertisement in one of our upcoming monthly issues! Your advertisement would be created by one of our Graphic Designers & then placed within one of our monthly issues. Within an issue, an advertisement will take up an entire page, & will include any information/graphics that you provide. Advertisements go for about \$3 each. The link to this application is linked down below!

<https://forms.gle/aMALAaZqPjNxLFSD7>

Contributors Interest Form

The Contributors Interest Form is for anyone who is passionate about something & would like to contribute/broadcast it through this brand. Being a contributor will give you voluntary experience from solucky as a brand/magazine and/or simply showcase your work submission(s). This form will allow you to choose what kind of position or submission you want for solucky. We welcome any kind of passionate work or workers, so feel free to send us a submission at any time! The link to this Google Form is linked below.

<https://forms.gle/QqU9XDQK5ecqVE4N6>

Collaboration Interest Form

Our Collaboration Interest Form is open to anyone who is passionate about a certain cause, product, or kind of service that we can offer to our audience. This collaboration can be for either profit, non-profit, or simply marketing purposes. We welcome any kind of local business owners, small creators, organizations, etc. As long as you have an idea for a collaboration that could work well with both of our audiences, feel free to send us a submission at any time!

<https://forms.gle/zrwQf1B9M9EYmcMB7>



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Courtesy of Heena Bains

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Courtesy of Sanjana Dadi

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**Thank you for
reading this
month's issue!**

Find more information about solucky & our magazine by typing “solucky.life” into your browser

See you next month!

- solucky Team

Text “@solucky” to 81010 for updates