

ODYSSEY

JUNE 2022 | VOL. 1

EPISTEMO'S FIRST LITERARY MAGAZINE

ART | LIFESTYLE | LITERATURE



CLUES, COPS AND CRIME

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Dear Readers,

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Do you ever sit in class and daydream about alien invasions, vampire attacks, magic and more? Do you come up with extensive fictional battle-plans during lunchtime? Do you sneak into this dreamscape from time to time to escape the real world?

Well, so do we.

Do you let this fascinating part of your mind flutter away with time, or do you tie down your ideas to build an escape-room that you can see forever?

More often than not, this colourful and safe dreamscape gets lost as time ages us all. We soon forget about the creativity and the colour that bursted within us and move on to lead ordinary lives in shades of grey.

This is our journey, our Odyssey, to protect the tiny artist that lives inside each one of us.

Here, no idea is too much or too little.

Everything is perfect. Everyone is welcome.

Here, we put aside the pressures that break our backs and turn ourselves to a world that does not rely on rules or logic.

This is our Odyssey into fiction, and we are so glad to have you on board!

We hope you enjoy reading our first issue! It has been curated carefully by many of your classmates and friends!

Happy reading!!

Love,

Guardian of The Books,

Mahita



Meet Mew Mew our sweet lil mascot!

Mew Mew, the Axolotl, is a unique salamander. It is biologically labelled as an amphibian, but unlike the rest of the salamanders, Axolotls don't grow up to live on the land. Rather, they prefer to stick to water, an element that brings them great comfort and reminds them of their childhood. Like humans, who often turn to creativity when they experience nostalgia.

Because Axolotls refuse to grow out of the water unlike the other salamanders, they are commonly known as the "Peter Pan of Salamanders". Like the fictional character, they don't grow up.

Interestingly, according to Mexican myths, it is believed that the Aztec god of fire- Xolotl, disguised himself as an axolotl to escape the rough parts of life.

What better creature to represent us as we embark on an odyssey to escape the mundane life....

THE ESCAPE ARTISTS

A.K.A THE TEAM BEHIND ODYSSEY

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Mahita, Chief Editor
Guardian of the Books



Vitesh, Editor
class 6



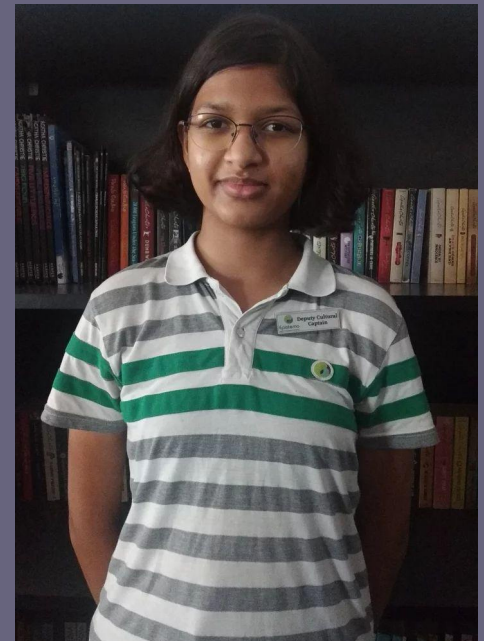
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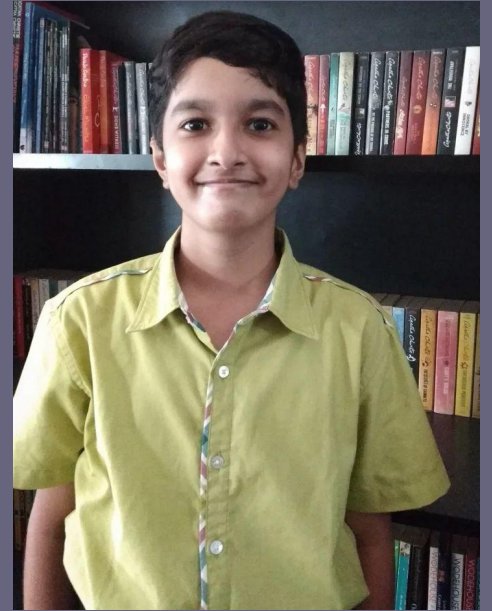
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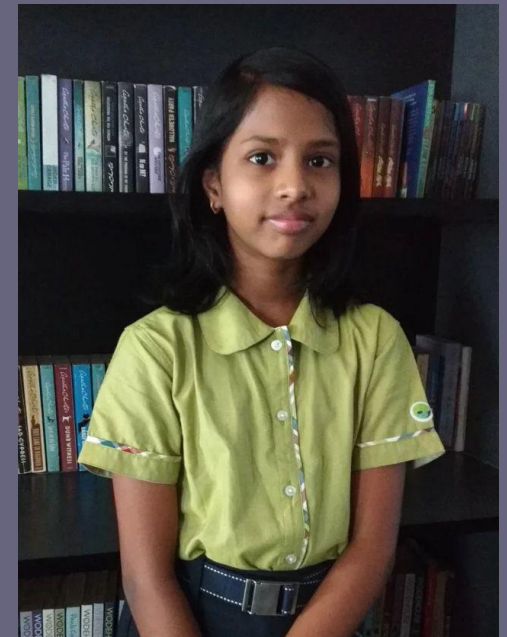
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Comic
class 6



Koustubh,
comic
class 6



Sahasra,
Comic
Class 6

noun; Fiction written by a fan of, and featuring characters from, a particular Book,TV series, film, etc.

SHERLOCK HOLMES: The Genesis

Words: Aarish



As the dark blanket of night coated the horizon, two figures walked out of their brick-made cottage-core house, covered in rose vines and liliaceous plant bushes with window panels

covering the house. before there was a huge ranch ostensibly full of homes of all colors and kinds with an enormous barn within the middle. the 2 figures, one a red Irish setter named Red-Beard and a boy in his early teens - with auburn-colored hair, a green and ragged sweater with a white shirt inside and a hazy blue color to his eyes - named sherlock. The duo stridden through the green pastures untidily littered throughout the land, towards the spookily foggy mist covering the intense blue stream, ripping the land in two.

once they entered, the mist enclosed them whole with a virtually sinister feel to it. The couple continued to manuever forwards, not hesitating a bit, as if they had done this persistently before and sat in a skinny boat with paddles on the side and Sherlock began to paddle with all his might.



"We'll reach our destination within the predictable future, Captain Redbeard," said Sherlock, unable to keep the thrill off his voice. Once he didn't receive his partner's iconic woof in reply he turned back, solely to be met with the terrific sight of an empty boat. Sherlock looked round the boat and even jumped into the water for a little, only to be met with the unfortunate realization that Sherlock's hound wasn't with him. With a face of total apprehension the boy released a desperate scream, "Captain Redbeardddd!!" that the winds carried throughout the land.

The very next day Sherlock jolted up from his bed confused at how he got there, the last he remembered was trying to find his precious friend within the fog before it all went black. Soon, he detected the door open and out came the one man Sherlock begrudgingly believed to be identical to him, his brother - Mycroft Holmes. The larger ginger-haired juvenile person entered, carrying a brown long-coat on prime of an inexperienced shirt.

The teenager then went ahead to elucidate to Sherlock however he had found him washed toward land in the stream and had hidden the very fact from their parents. When his rationalization Sherlock merely Sat there with a smirk at matters he had forced his brother into, then proceeded to elucidate a part of the story to the person before him. He then waited for a second to let his brother method all the knowledge till he felt the crystal-clear silence broken by the older man within the room. "Correct ME if i'm wrong Sherlock, however did i apprehend you right in



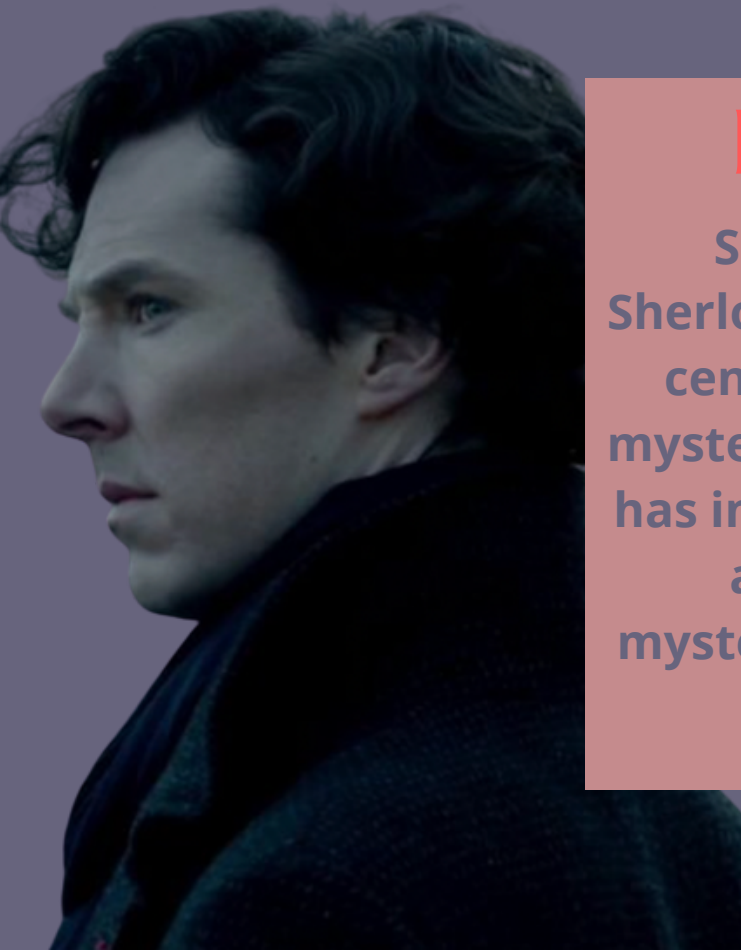
hearing that you just have somehow managed to lose a sixty seven metric linear unit high Irish setter that was entrusted to you on your birthday in an exceedingly fog you were never supposed to visit?" asked Mycroft sarcastically, a scowl forming in his face. "Somehow appears a great deal like you" Sherlock frowned, he had continuously detested his brother for the self-important and bullying manner within which his brother talked to him whenever he did one thing wrong. When concerning another hour of hearing his brother complain on the minor quantity of ability in his little brain Mycroft finally determined to let Sherlock investigate the disappearance however on the condition that he took his help as, in step with him the investigation may use a minimum of one appropriate participant. Immediately afterwards, Sherlock and his brother checked every stone, bush, clearing and more for places his dog could be at, even going as far as to check the woods on the border of the ranch- but to no avail. After three hours of futile results, Sherlock was finally ready to spot a bit of brown fur close to a rose bush. When following the wide spaced path left by the canine, Sherlock stumbled upon a large stone well with foliage encompassing it. Sherlock was determined to look for a lot of items of fur however, to no avail, he shortly decided to look within the well due to his intuition and there he found a treasure trove of joy.



Inside, there were multiple dogs, varied measurements from one another and within the center was his terribly own hirsute friend. "Red-Beard," Sherlock said loudly - full of joy - then used the broken bucket of the dry well to drag Red-Beard and his canine friends out. when showing them to his brother and convincing his folks to let him adopt the extra, wild whelps with puppy eyes of his own, Sherlock was sitting on his table writing in his journal of what had really happened within the mystery "So initial Redbeard had born removed from my boat - that I discovered by the stray items of fur at the sting of my boat - solely to swim on shore, then he accidentally hit the rose-bush within the fog- created evident by the wound on his leg once I saved him and therefore the excessive fur loss - finally he should have felt thirsty in early morning and gone to drink from the well where he jumped in only to learn out that he couldn't climb back up. ``Today was an extremely eventful day, I wonder if everyday can be like this - without me losing my dog of course," Sherlock wondered to himself, closing his journal.

DID YOU KNOW

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle created Sherlock Holmes in 1892, and since then centuries of readers have had their mystery cravings satisfied. Doyle's work has inspired several TV shows, spin-offs and movies! Sherlock Holme's mysterious adventures are available to borrow in our library!



Short Stories!

10

From the heart of Athenium

An Unforgettable Night

words: Swastik Behera

In a small village, there lived two brothers with their mother. Their father lived in the city for his job and came every Sunday to visit his family. One day their mother got to know that their grandmother was very ill, so, she had to go to meet her mother.

The mother said, "Rahul and Rohan, your grandmother is not well so, I have to go to meet her. I will be back by tonight." And after some time, their mother left and the two brothers stayed back at home, all alone.

All-day they played and enjoyed. When the sun went down, they crash landed from cloud 9 and felt piercing hunger. They searched every corner of the kitchen to find something to eat and at last they found some laddoos hidden away in a cupboard under the stove.

Are you also stuck at home alone without your mother? Follow this column for a simple Aam Panna recipe!

Step one:

take four fresh raw mangoes

Step two:

add two cups of water and cook for two whistles in a pressure cooker

Step three:

peel and scrap the pulp off once the mangoes cool.

Step four:

Add the pulp into a mixer grinder.



They hogged on the laddoos and waited impatiently for their mother to come home.

Almost at midnight, they heard loud knocking at the door and were hopeful that it was their mother. Instead, it was a man from their village who came bearing news from their mother.

“Your mother asked me to inform you that she will be returning tomorrow morning instead of tonight. There’s some emergency she has to take care of, so she asked both of you to lock the door, close all the windows and stay careful through the night.”

After hearing this, they got worried because they have never been without their mother for so long. They prayed to God and tried to sleep, despite their fears.

As they tried to ignore their irrational thoughts and fall into deep sleep, they heard a sudden BOOM from the other room, which deeply startled and scared the two brothers.

Step five:

Add 12 tbsp of sugar, 1 tbsp of salt, and half cup of freshly washed mint leaves. Allow them to mix thoroughly by running the mixie for a few minutes

Step six:

After mixing, add 4 tsps of roasted cumin powder and 2 tsps of black pepper powder. Mix again.

Step seven:

Transfer the mixture into a clean, dry jar and store it in the fridge

Step eight:

To serve; add 1/3 glass of the prepared pulp, ice, water and mix it well

Step nine:

Serve chilled



“What if it’s a ghost?!” Rahul exclaimed, “In all the movies that I watched, the ghost attacks the children when they’re alone and scared....w-w-what if it takes us to its haunted mansion?” he added, quaking and quivering in fear.

Similarly, Rohan also had his own explanation. “Don’t be ridiculous, ghosts are not real. It might be a thief.” He argued reasonably with his brother who was shivering with fear. “He might know that mother isn’t at home, maybe he’s here to steal something” Rohan said.

“Or kill us!” Rahul hyperventilated.

The brothers heard another bang. They were now terrified.

“Rohan, I think we should go and see who it is. Maybe it’s not a thief or ghost....it can be something else. Our father always asks us to face the truth to uncover facts and reality”. With a trembling voice, Rohan also agreed to go and check on whatever was causing the sound. They both paced softly and carefully as they walked into the room next to theirs.



When they reached the other room, Rahul opened the door slightly to sneak a peak. He was astonished to see that all the noise was coming from a stray cat who was desperately chasing a mouse.

After this, both of them shooed the cat and mouse and laughed at themselves for thinking about ghosts and thieves, instead of simply checking on the sound. Their father was right, we should always face our fears to uncover the truth.

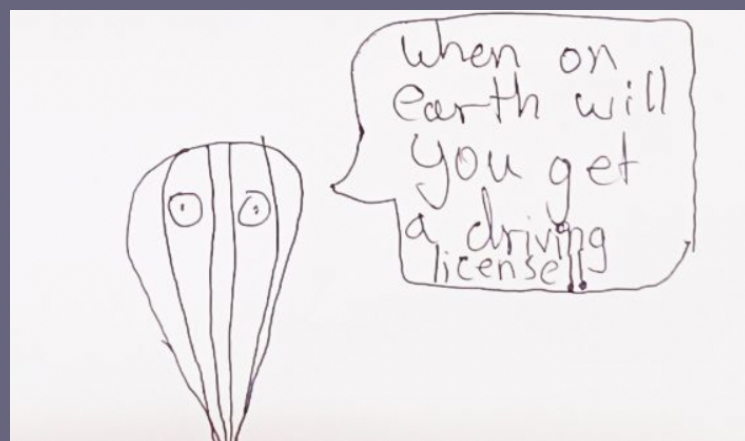
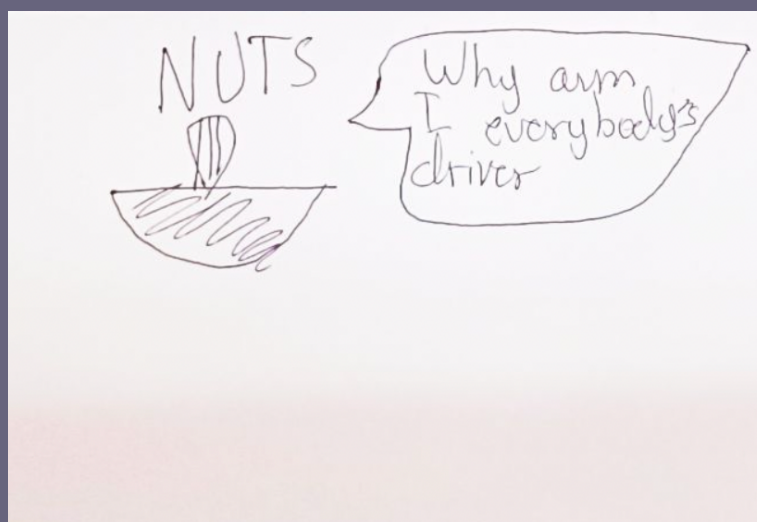
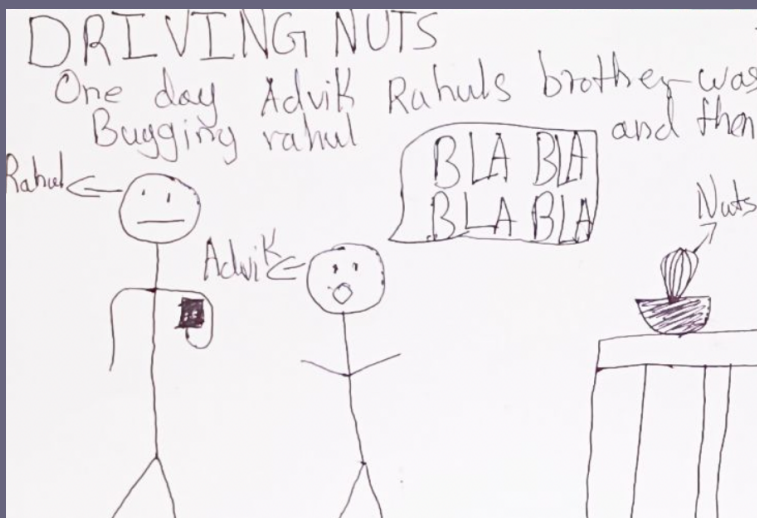
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Giggle b r e a k

"Driving Nuts"

by Koustubh





Satya Thakur and the Afternoon Murders

words: Sai Ritwik



It was a pretty pleasant day. The Bazaar was as usual crowded. People were bargaining persistently. Everything was as usual.

Satya was annoyed for not finding anything unusual. I kept wondering why he would always do this, finding unusual things and trying to go in depth. But today, it was as though he would go mad without it. "Why doesn't anything happen over here? This place is frustrating! Let's go back to the office." he shouted and then without any further discussion, walked towards the office. I had no other choice but to follow him-because I'm his younger brother and assistant, Sai Thakur.

Just before entering the office, Satya found a newspaper, and he was very happy finding it. "Yes! Finally, I have found a case. Here, take a look." he handed me the newspaper and it said:

6 people have died in 12 years. And now a person proclaims he is next. To find out more, read the report in pg 5. Person...

I quickly turned to page 5 and it said:

"Dhammam, a 36-year-old rich landlord from Amaravati (Andhra Pradesh), now living in Tellapur;





has claimed that he is being threatened by an anonymous person demanding 2 crores INR or else he will be killed like his six family members



who have died mysteriously in the last 12 years. The Police are investigating this case but till now, no leads have been found relating to the case or the anonymous person."

"Well, leave all your work. We are now going to this Dhammam person in Tellapur. Come, let's go!" Satya insisted. I was really hungry, but the moment I was going to eat the sweet, Satya pushed me into the car. "Bro, I wanted to have the sweet!" I know I was protesting in vain, but I did it anyway. "Shut up! I was dying for a case and you are worried about your hunger!" Satya growled, and I wasn't surprised. I fell asleep to the sound of my grumbling stomach as Satya drove us towards mystery.

When I woke up, I heard some voices including my brothers'. I looked out the window and saw another tall, bald, person, wearing orange Kurta pyjamas with a cream white overcoat on and a monocle on his left eye. I decided to join the conversation.

"- I am pretty shocked. Why would anyone kill my parents, my brother, my sister-in-law, my uncle and the little one- year-old baby, who was my niece."





"Well, we are here to help you and find out the murderer who killed your family. But, for that, we need you to tell us



everything. Right from the start". Satya assured the poor man. It must have reassured him because he instantly started narrating his story.

"It all started 12 years ago, at this very hour. Around 3 in the afternoon. At that time, everybody was preparing for my mother's birthday, though she had told us that it wasn't required. Just an hour after that, we found her sitting in the chair, head bent sideways. We were shocked. We took her to the hospital, where they said that she was dead before we took her to the hospital. Just 6 months after her death, my elder brother was found dead in the bathroom. Then, a year later, my father collapsed when he was going through some property documents. Just 2 years later, my uncle

died. After starting his bike to go somewhere, he was found unresponsive on the bike. After that, nothing unusual happened until 2 years ago, when my niece died, while she was sleeping. Then after 2 months, my younger brother's wife died while she was cooking. Now, doctors have declared all of them dead before they arrived at the hospital





and all of them died in the afternoon,
due to a heart attack- just after lunch, while they were sleeping or when they were



doing chores. I don't understand how someone could have killed them in the house while everybody is around. So, now I am pretty cautious." Tears were streaming down his face, though it looked as though he didn't allow them to do so.

"Ok. Now I want you to answer some questions I ask if you don't mind." Satya asked. "You can ask your questions," Dhammam said, slowly recovering from his sorrows.

"Who is left in your family now?"

"My elder brother's wife, my younger brother, and me.

We do have servants in our mansion, but I have checked and enquired that none of them has anything to do with these incidents."

"Any suspects?"

"None."

"Where are your younger brother and your sister-in-law?"

"They have married each other and are now living in the 2nd mansion just nearby."

"Which hospital did you take them to?"

"Citizens"





"Who are the legal heirs of the properties you mentioned earlier? Are there any wills created?"



"No, it's just the three of us- me and my brothers. Why do you ask?" Satya was done with his questioning. We left for the office again.

"What? Did you solve it? What happened?" I asked. "Almost. I just want to confirm it. For that, let's go to Citizens first. Then to the 2nd mansion. And I guess we will be done with this case by the day after tomorrow." I was clueless about the case and Satya says he has almost got it. Empty-mindedly, we went to the hospital. And, not surprisingly, the police were also present there.

"Oh great! I have heard that you are also investigating this peculiar case. Let's see what we can't see in this case. I am Aditya Roy, the SP of this region." He reached for a handshake but Satya replied with namaste,

"I am Satya Thakur. Thank you for supporting me.

Yeah, let's see." Satya then whispered to me,

"Let's go to the 2nd mansion, then we will see where to go next."

It was in the evening when we reached the second mansion, which was on the outskirts of the city. We knocked on the door but no one replied. When we knocked again, a relatively short





dark man came to the door shouting

"Why do you always disturb us and ask the same questions-" then he looked at



us and asked "-Who are you, people? I haven't seen you with those stupid policemen." "I am Satya Thakur, a detective, and I am investigating this case privately. Now, we want to ask you and your wife some questions if you don't mind."

"Oh. My name is Pavan Reddy. Come inside." We went inside the mansion. And it wasn't as big as we thought. But, it was full of ancient items like vases, paintings, sculptures, etc. "Ok so do you remember any mark or anything unusual on anyone's body after they died?"

"Uh.." He took some time to remember, and then said, "Yeah! There was a blue mark on the back of the neck when the bodies were laid on the bed. And nothing else."

"Can you please call your wife?"

"Yeah, sure." He called out for his wife, Savita. Pavan told his wife about the situation.

"Well, I wanted to ask you if you were close to anyone in the family?"

"Yeah, all of them were close." Satya was a bit confused. So he asked whether he could search their house. And then as expected, they found nothing. But they found a pungent smell- like old





shoes- in a torn cloth in the kitchen. Satya's hunch was confirmed. He took it and we rushed to the office.



"It was a close one. We were going to die."

I was horrified.

"How? They didn't even have any weapons."

"Now sleep. Tomorrow, first call Aditya Roy. Then I will tell you the whole story."

The next day, Aditya Roy and the other policemen enter Satya's office.

"Ok, let's start from the beginning. All of them were killed by Potassium Cyanide. As I have heard from all the people I have enquired with, I have come to this conclusion. Dhammam said that all of them died after eating their lunch. As this is not a fast-spreading poison,

it always took time for the person to show effects and die. One effect is that after a few hours of dying, the body has a peculiar blue spot, roughly the size of a human fist. From that, I concluded that it was indeed true that all died of poisoning of some kind.

Then I heard about the marriage of Pavan and Savita and that the remaining legal heirs of the properties and assets were

Dhammam and Pavan's as the elder brother was killed, and some of my doubts were cleared.





"So did Pavan and Dhammam kill their family?" Inspector Roy asked.



"No. The main twist in the plot is that the mastermind

is none other than Savita- " Everyone was shocked.

"How could she?"

"-Yes it was her. As everybody was close to her, no one would have doubted that it would have been her who would have killed them. And also that Pavan and Savita love each other, and because Pavan was greedy for the property, Savita planned all of this. Now that only one person is left, Dhammam, on their road to success, Savita was planning to kill him as well. You know what? She was going to kill us as well! The proof is this cloth. She would soak this cloth in Potassium Cyanide and then just squeeze some when required. That's why the cloth has such a pungent smell. Now here you go,

this is the whole story. It should be enough proof to arrest her. I will go talk to Dhammam about the case being resolved and that he should not worry."

"And one more thing, also take Pavan into custody as he might be supplying the poison to her. After all, it was all done for him. Ok, see ya!"

Satya then nonchalantly left for the Bazaar again, in search of more unusual things.



THE END

THE INVISIBLE MAN

Words: Vitesh

"Lucas! Lucas Wake Up", The Chief's voice rang loudly in Lucas's ears and he had a feeling he was about to be fired. But the chief had no time for that, he had to solve a huge case and he needed all hands on deck. "I have a new case for you", the chief announced, leaving Lucas stunned. "What about the ongoing Jailbreak case....or the..um..the Lawsuit about the farmland?" replied Lucas, acting like he was invested in solving those cases. "Nobody cares about those. Besides, we're being paid by a billionaire to solve the new one!". The chief's smug smirk reeked of greed and Lucas had a feeling that his boss wouldn't let go of this one so he decided to go with it.

"Remember that computer chip that was stolen three days ago? Well, apparently it belonged to Jeffery Thompson, the CEO of Thompson Inc. As it turns out, the chip is worth billions of dollars and it'll probably be sold to the highest bidder on the black market or something."

The chief caught Lucas up to speed, yet Lucas seemed so confused. "So, what's it got to do with us?" He questioned as the chief continued, "As I was saying, Thompson contacted us to see if we could retrieve, or at least find out where it is."

"Do we have any leads to follow? Anything?" "Here comes the twist. The most peculiar detail about this case. Thompson told me something about a supposedly 'invisible man' and sure enough, when we checked the CCTV footage there was a floating hat that was entering the truck that housed the chip. "

" So you expect me catch a person who is invisible and then interrogate him to know the whereabouts of a tiny computer chip and come back safe with the chip to then give it to another person"

"Exactly! See, you're a fast learner." The chief beamed, patting Lucas on the shoulder.

“That’s not what I meant”

“Then what did you mean?”

“I was being sarcastic,for Christ’s sake! Do you expect me to hold social-cue cards for you?” Lucas huffed, getting all worked up.

“I’d watch the tone if I were you, boy. Anyway, you’re expected to do all this within a week, Thompson is not so generous with deadlines and besides he expects the very best from us, so we gotta keep his hopes up. And if you want to keep your job, you better hurry.” The chief said nonchalantly, and continue to briskly walk away towards his car.

“That’s next to impossible! You’ve got to give me more, I mean, at least tell me if he’s visible to infrared or sonar or not, because if he really is invisible, then those are our only hopes of detecting him and all this if we even catch him in the first place...”

“I don’t know the answer to that just yet..but I’m sure that we can figure that out. But what I do know is that he’s part of some organization known as “The White Hand”

“Great, we don’t know if we can track him and we have a useless clue about a secret organization that nobody knows anything about.” Lucas couldn’t believe his luck.

“Let’s not waste anymore time. Come meet your team-”

“My team?”

“Yes, your team- you’ll be working with the local police department and another detective, Agent Harrison” said the Chief.

“I know we are short on something, but figure something out. It’s your job after all, and the clock is....ticking.” With that, the chief drove off in his tattered old car.

After hearing this, Lucas started to question his life choices.

Somewhere in San Diego, California

"You sure this is it "

"Yes"

"The White Hand thanks you a lot for this, your reward will be given soon, But tell me, how did you manage evading the police, even with your invisibility the truck would get caught"

"The police are no big deal if you are a part of them" Back at the detective agency

"We have set up infrared cameras like you asked around the town and that old building, although I don't understand why Mr Lucas." One of the constables reported, and Lucas nodded in thanks. He was grateful for all the help he was getting on this hopeless day, chasing after a hopeless cause.

"There is a very big chance that this so called *invisible man* is not invisible to infrared cameras. Now we just have to get the bait"

"What bait ?"

"The experimental Quantum computer unit that we ordered, there is a very high chance that what the so called white hand is planning a universal decryption key, something that can hack into any computer in existence "

"Don't you think that's a bit too valuable to be put as a bait, Mr Lucas?" The constable was alarmed and confused, but Lucas continued with a determined smile.

"No, we are going to put the bait in an abandoned building or something that doesn't look suspicious and when the invisible man comes we'll detect him through the infrared cameras! We will then immediately activate sleeping gas inside the room!" Lucas was about ninety percent assured that his plan was actually going to work.

Three Hours Later

"Attention! Deploy all units for Action, the invisible man is here! Activate the sleeping gas and bring me the detective here!" A guard's voice blared on the loudspeaker and all the assistant cops plunged into action.

"Mr Lucas is on lunch break, sir " a voice added, masking its panic.

"What! And why isn't the sleeping gas working?"

"We don't know sir, but we believe it has been anonymously replaced by something else..."

"Are you sure? It may be- WAIT! What? But that can't be....that is not- Lucas?" All the guards widened their eyes as they recognised the silhouette of the man they trapped.

"It's Lucas, he is the....invisible man. He orchestrated the entire plan so that he can get his hands on that quantum computer!"

"We are too late!" Someone added in sheer panic, and everyone began to run across in every possible direction.

"You guessed right" a mysterious voice from the shadows echoed.

"Why ? Why would you want do this"

"Isn't it obvious? For control, of course. For the power of being able to call shots. By being part of the white hand,I get to control the entire world from the shadows, you don't know it but everything is influenced by the white hand." Lucas explained regrettably. He cracked his fingers and moved closer to the other detectives

"I hate that it has to be like this, but you know too much about the white hand, and so I can't let you live."

Men of Mystery

Age: 16
Occupation: Student, Cashier
Affiliation: Wilt's Deli
Location: Bayport, NY
Family: Joe Hardy (brother)

Frank Hardy

Athletic, thoughtful, good looking, plays the piano, academic wizkid, has a sharp eye for mystery and fingerprints.

Appears in *The Hardy Boys* series (we have a stack full of them in the library!!)



Sherlock Holmes

Age: immortal (born in 1852, still kicking)
Occupation: consulting detective
Affiliation: Scotland Yard
Location: 221, Baker Street, London
Family: Mycroft Holmes (brother)

Smart, genius, expert singlestick player, violinist, boxer, and swordsman. Almost always referred to as the master of disguises (most likely to be voted as the reigning halloween costume challenge champion if he ever took part).

Appears in the *Mysteries of Sherlock Holmes*

Burrito and Burrita plot an escape...

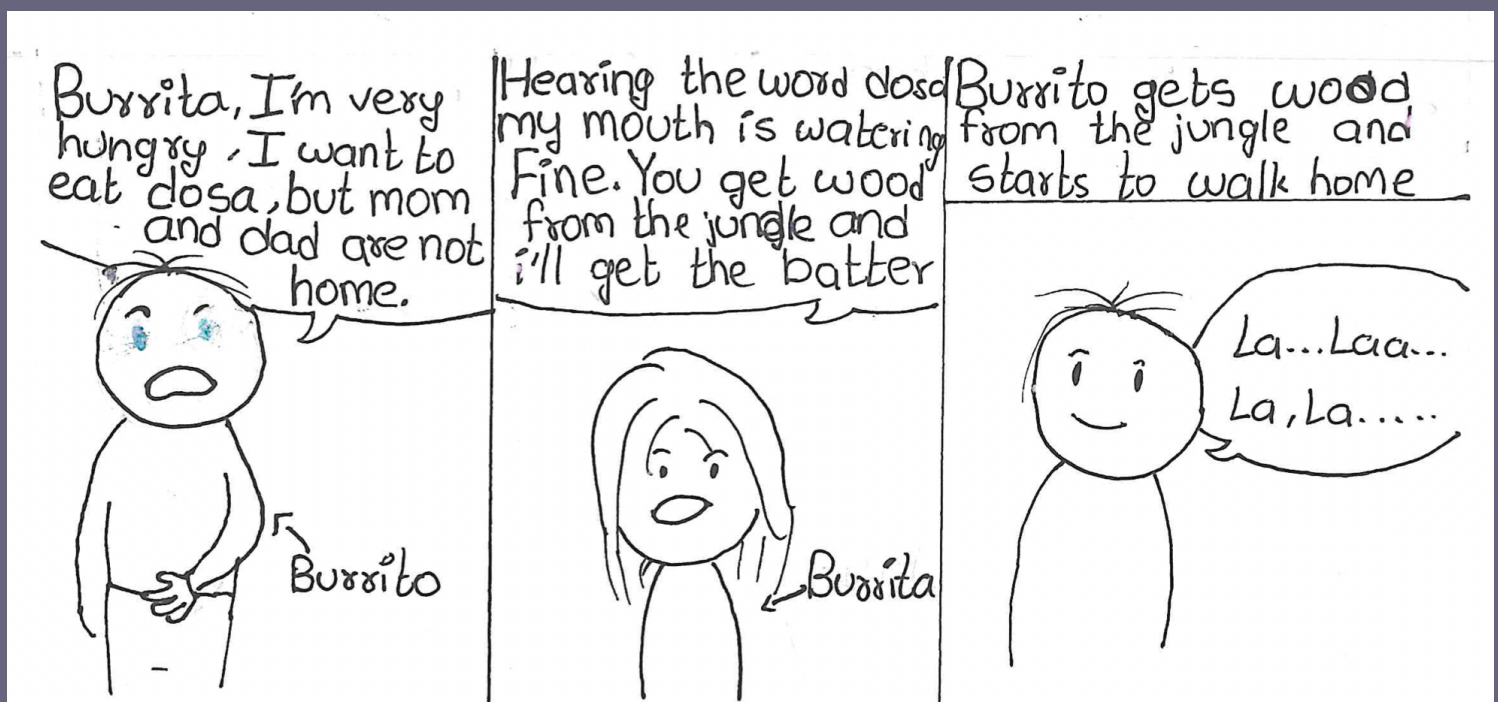
A comic by Swastik, Vitesh, Koustubh and Sahasra

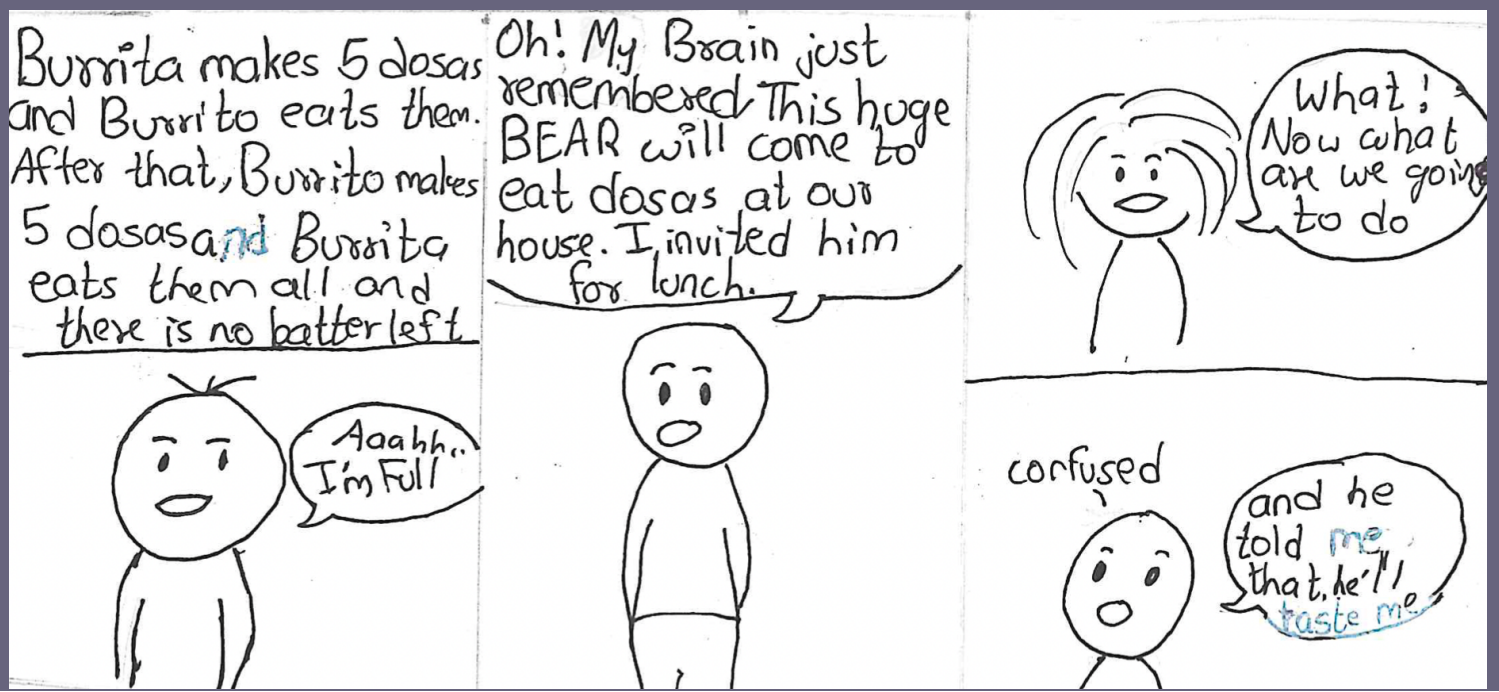
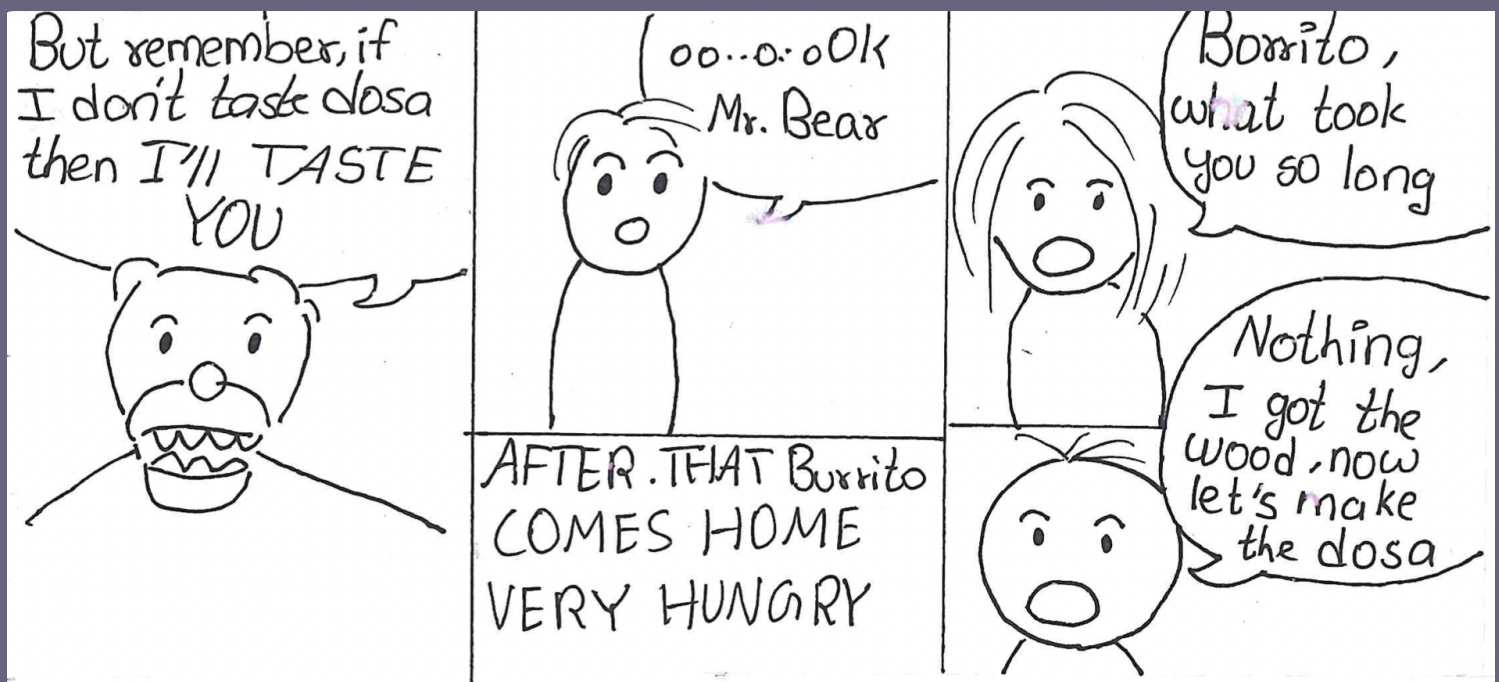
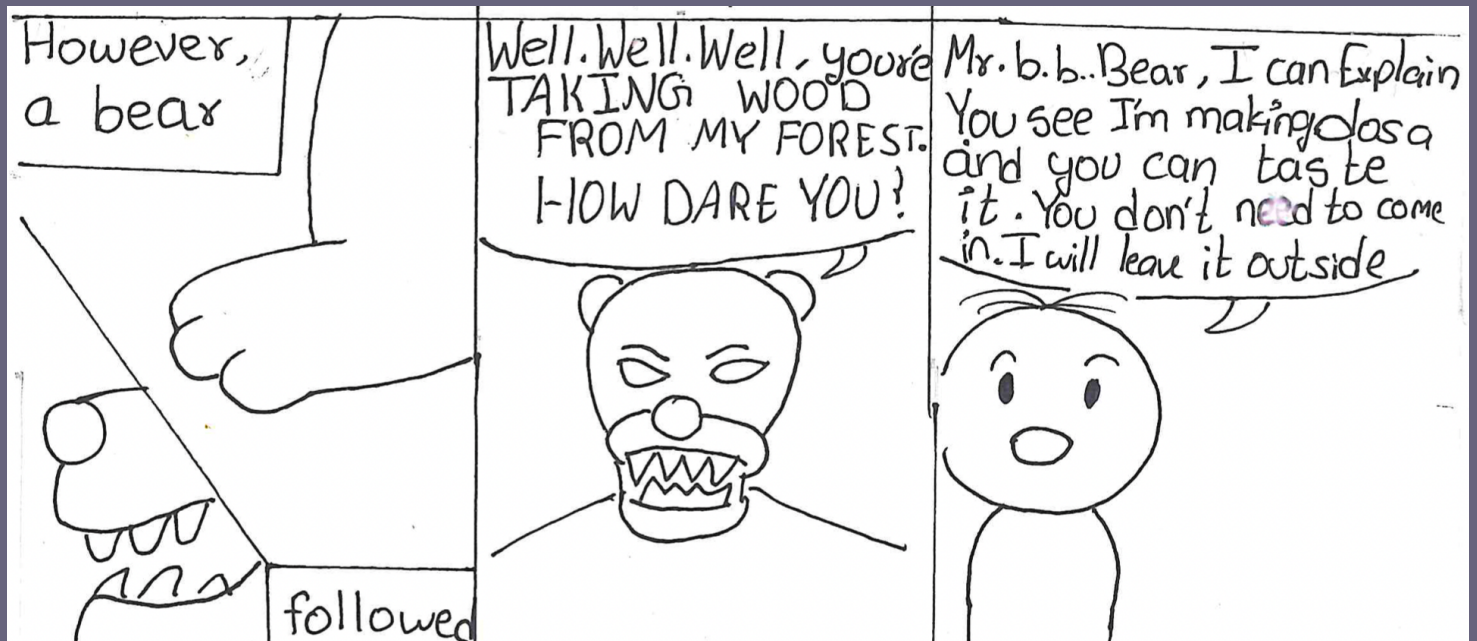
Warning

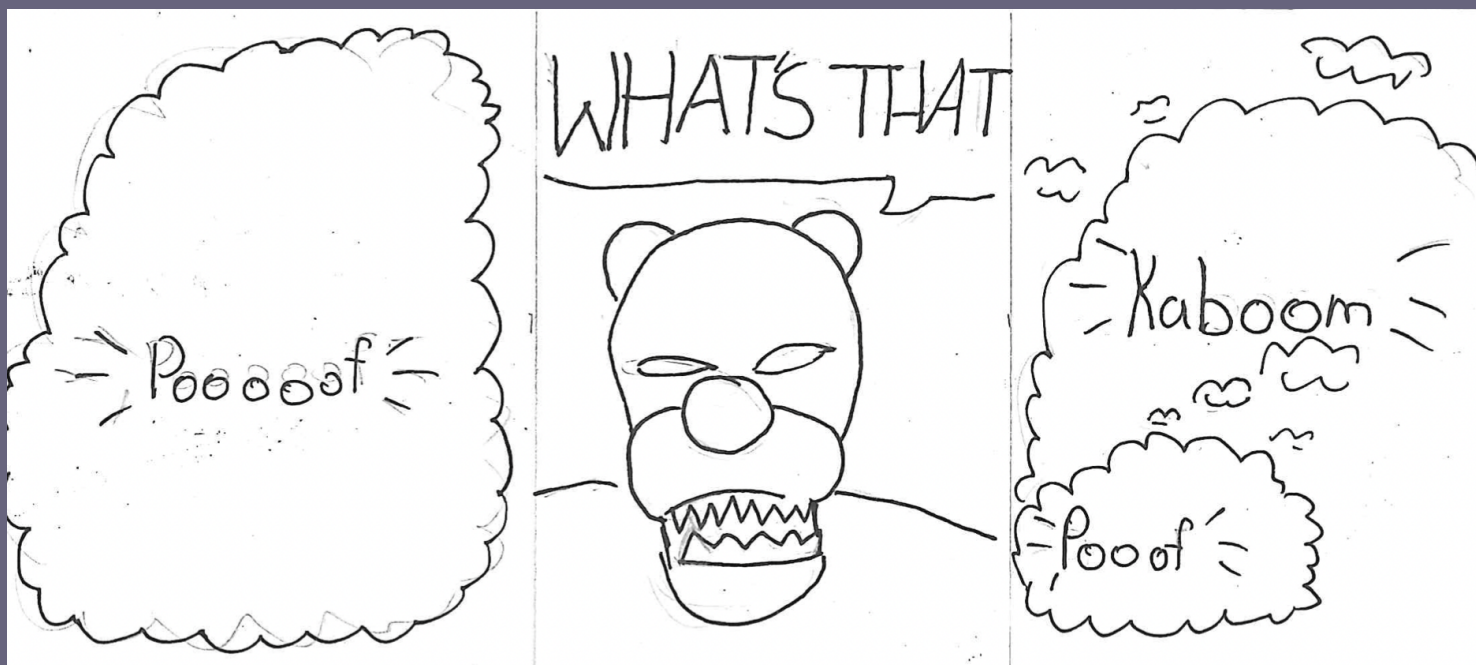
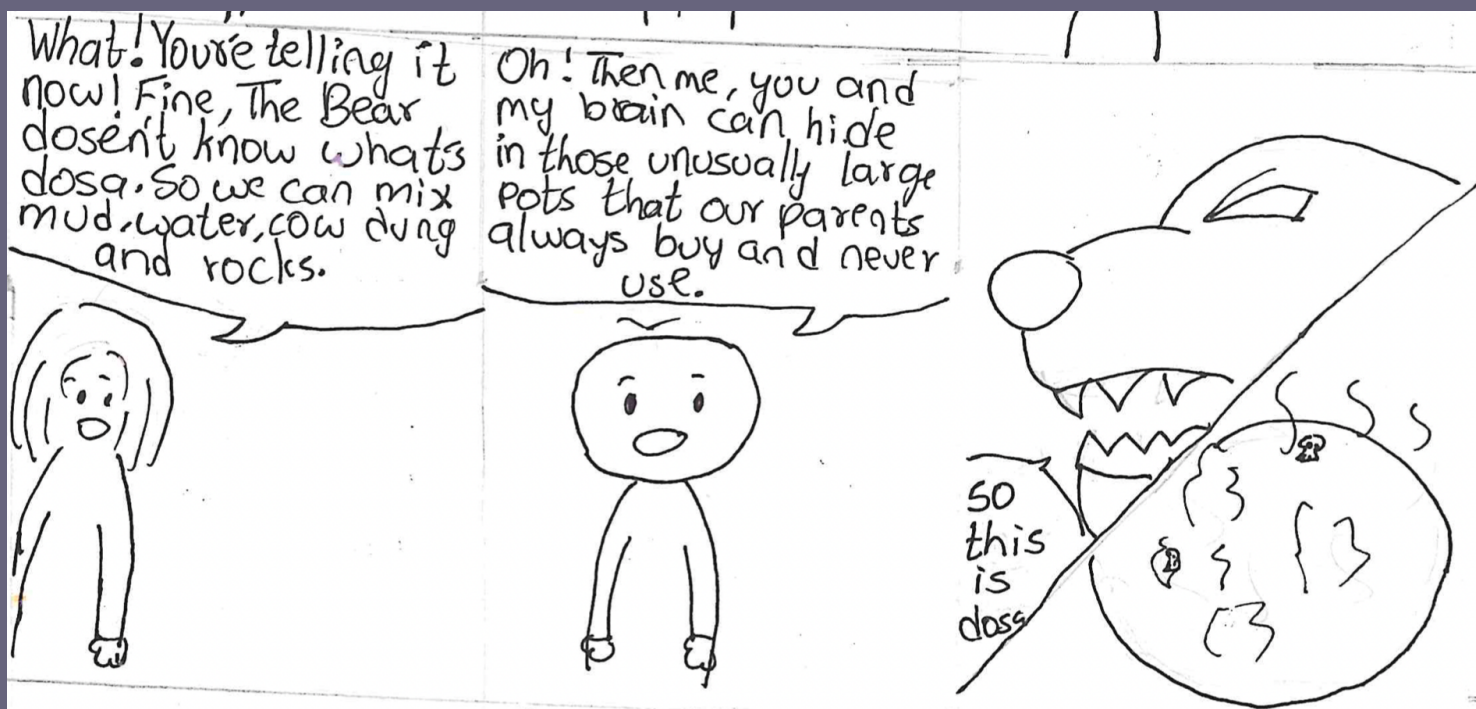
This content is not suitable for people above the age of 13, please read with guidance from children or else it is not our problem

Naming issues Humans are stick figures
contains Ridiculous Jokes Immature Content

Bad Invitations



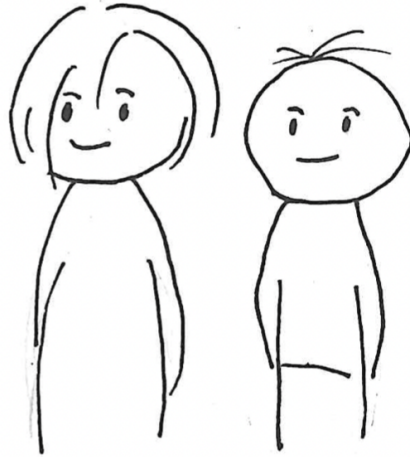




I smell poison. Oh!
The hunters are
bombing the forest
with poison



And so, the Bear ran
away and Burrito, his
brain and Burrita lived happily



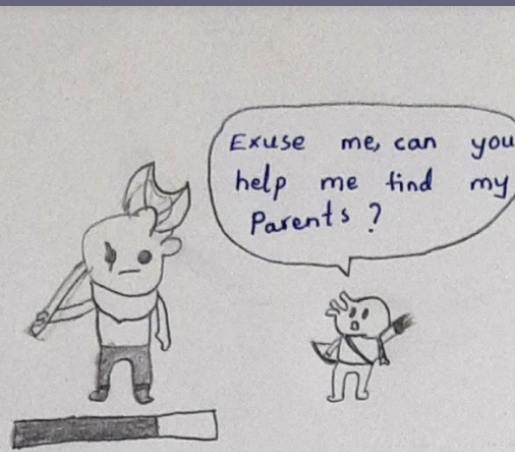
THE END

credits-

Story - Swastik 6
Art - Vitesh 6
Script - Koustubh 6
Sahasra 6

"The Side Quest"

by Swastik



I was never
vaccinated



Changed my mind
Let's find them.



Trivia Time!

words + memes: Rajvardhan

31

1. America has no national language.
2. Russia sold Alaska for 2 cents per acre. 50 years later, America made their money 100 times more.
3. Singapore has a building inspired by a Star Wars robot.
4. There are more than 150 volcanoes in Indonesia
5. Africa has more than 2000 recognised languages.
6. India has the 3rd highest amount of billionaires in the world
7. Japan is the world's most earthquake prone country.
8. New Zealanders have more pets than any household in the world.
9. India has the highest number of post-offices in the world
10. Sudan has the highest number of pyramids than any other country.
11. Scotland has 421 words for snow.
12. The American flag was made by a high school student.
13. France is the most visited country in the world, with 89 million tourists each year.
14. The youngest person to ever win a Nobel Peace Prize was Malala Yousafzai of Pakistan

Crack a smile

GO TO WIKIPEDIA TO
CHECK A SINGLE FACT



REALIZE 3 HOURS LATER YOU KNOW
EVERYTHING ABOUT THE SOVIET UNION

me: hmm what happens if i forcibly bend this thing

thing: *breaks*

me:



**TODAY IS THE DAY,
I CAN FEEL IT**



**TODAY I WILL
CATCH THAT TAIL.**

Mystery Trivia!

32

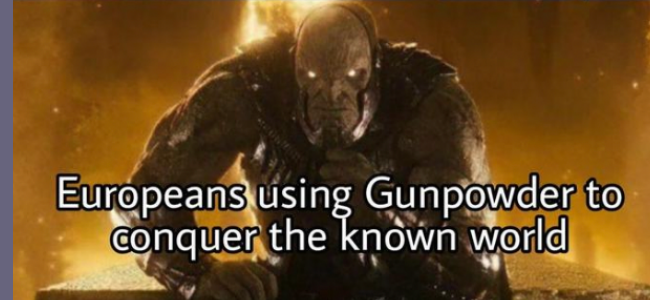
1. Agatha Christie (1890–1976) is the world's best-selling fiction writer, according to the Guinness Book of Records. Her seventy some-odd crime novels and short story collections have sold an estimated 2 billion copies (although some estimates peg it at up to 4 billion).

2. The most prolific mystery author was John Creasey, who wrote over 600 books under 28 different pseudonyms.

3. The first literary detective is widely considered to be C. Auguste Dupin, who first appeared in "The Murders In the Rue Morgue" in 1841, written by Edgar Allan Poe

4. The first detective film is often cited as Sherlock Holmes Baffled, a very short Mutoscope reel created between 1900 and 1903 by Arthur Marvin.

5. Agatha Christie is also the most-translated individual author – having been translated into at least 103 languages.



Jeff Bezos Could Become World's First Trillionaire By 2026



Augustus Caesar – peak net worth:
\$4.63 trillion

boredpanda.com

Looking at the list of countries that didn't commit war crimes:



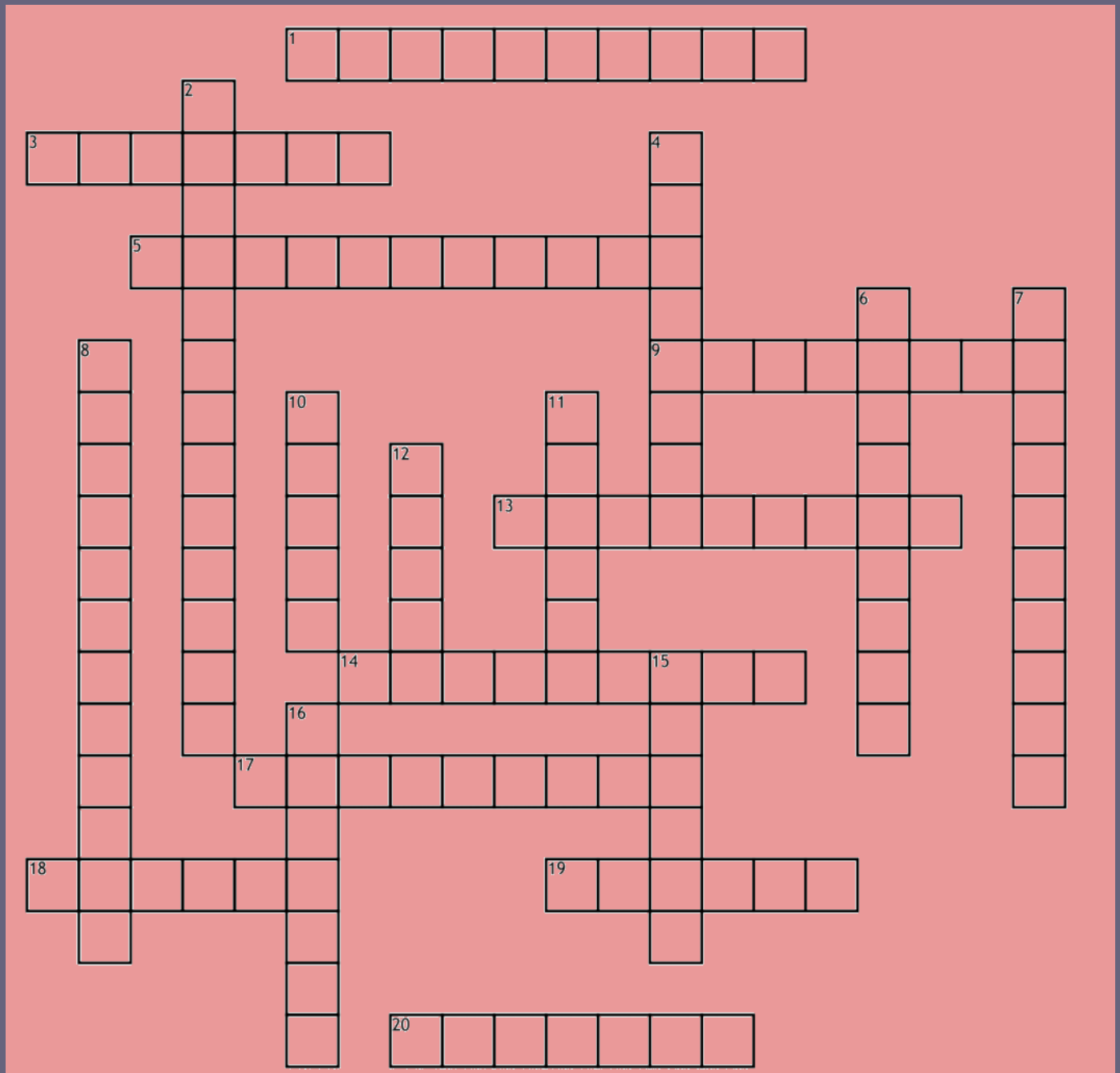
A mystery word blast!

Mystery

M G Y B H I H T S E T T I N G S H X C T G M R N
 J A O B I N V E R T E D M Y S T E R Y V A A N V
 R F S P L W S V X R Z X F W B V I C T I M A J E
 Q J O C N C E M C T H B H G F R U Y J R L B X D
 H C R I M E X L L P N H W F D E C N E D I V E L
 X E H N E K U T T C X R O Y R E T S Y M M U G F
 D C U T W E C F P O B N L Q F R G C O B O E N S
 I A H E W Y O B M P L A A V P W D M K U D U O U
 K N N R D Y N A M I C C H A R A C T E R S F T S
 V C S F F P V G E I A I O M R K E Q Z A B W F P
 F O A E F L W I B V K C H M H C Y I O M Y O Z E
 Y E K R G K A I H U I R G Q F M E X K S T A B N
 F G F E W O L T K K C T A K R E P O L N I J W S
 E O L N X A Q N C S Y G C S H A G P H D N S I E
 D V K C P V K K K H I G L E S N N O O J U C T S
 E M I E W T F G T Q A E N X T S M R E P T Y N J
 D P Z T L A H S D E U R T I L E I S S M R R E N
 U U U L O I E R P T T R A W R K D F R C O J S B
 C N H X T M F A H Z R C F C B R F X C G P F S T
 T Z N T G T F G U H D H E Z T B E Y W M P Q F V
 I Y N V R C E D X P K G M P W E Z H Q H O D N S
 O G Y E B C U E X G T F A E S Y R M D U A P G A
 N E R L K C Z F D C N T J G Y U Y S U E T Q S H
 M E K N X L L F M U U B U D W O S E M C R C L R

Dynamic characters	Inverted mystery	Flat characters	Interference
Opportunity	Red herring	Deduction	Detective
Evidence	Mystery	Suspense	Witness
Set	Sleuth	Suspect	Edgars
Motive	Victim	Alibi	Crime
	Clue		

Where there is a word, there is a crossword



Across

- 1. partner in crime
- 3. a poisonous compound
- 5. distractions or false clues
- 9. someone or something that proves who did the crime
- 13. an interruption to permit a past event
- 14. characters who saw crime being committed

17. character trying to solve mystery

18. to be set free from criminal charge

19. impulse or reason for crime

20. lying after swearing to tell truth

Down

2. observation and study by close examination

4. characters believed to have possibly done crime

6. collecting facts and drawing a conclusion

7. carry out a crime

8. close watch kept over someone

10. hints

11. ill will; grudge; spite

12. a plea offered by a suspect of not been at scene of crime

15. detective

16. location where mystery takes place

Introducing Poets

because life is incomplete without poetry....

Words: Mahita



Edgar Allan Poe

A great man once said that we read and write poetry because we are members of the human race.

We don't write poetry because it's cute or desirable, we write it and read it to feel a little less alone in this universe.

And that is exactly why this section exists in this magazine. We'll gift you one fabulous poet each time you

read our magazine. We hope these poets and poems will bring some joy and inspiration to you!

Can you write mysterious poems?

While it can be argued that every poem is essentially a mystery because we always scour through it to figure out who and what it's about- but, can mysteries be written in the form of beautiful verses?

Shockingly, they can be, and Edgar Allan Poe created a new literary genre through his poems.

Edgar Allan Poe was a great American POEt (yes, pun intended) and he symbolised many things, like *ravens*, morally grey characters,

"Emotional Revolution"

Words: Aarish

It is a fact that people often struggle to take into mind the views and emotions to show sympathy to others. Whether it is a soldier in the field of war or a landlord with his recently broken tenant it is clear that we need a new take on life, an Emotional Revolution. I believe that in an ideal world people should learn from previous mistakes like the many bloody incidents of the past.

It is a heartbreaking reality that there are 27 live conflicts with many affected areas, a number which only continues to rise with time, among which include Ethiopia's Tigray region, South Sudan, Syria, Yemen, and Afghanistan. According to the UN, in 2021 84 million people were forcibly displaced because of conflict, violence, and human rights violations. In 2022 it is estimated that at least 274 million people will need humanitarian assistance. In today's world, it is heart-wrenching to see that things like mob lynching and war still exist, people profit off others' pain and it just goes to show that the world today really needs something to change. A few of these which I would like to mention are:-

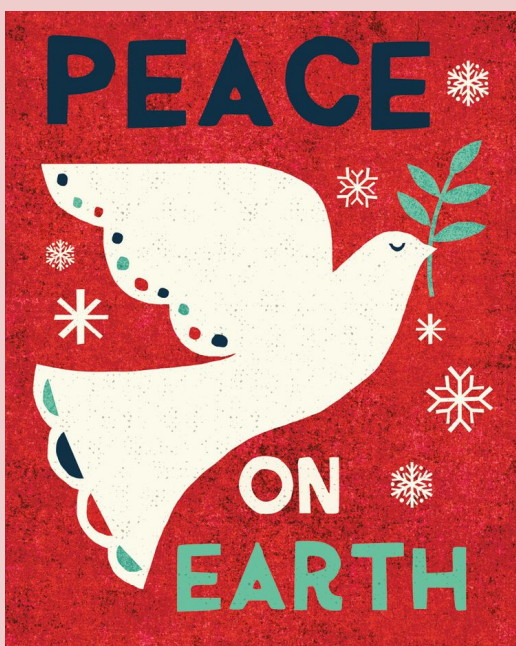
- In the Syrian war, where over 13 million Syrians have been forcibly replaced since the start of the war.
- The Conflict in Myanmar which is the Longest Ongoing Civil War in the World, last 60 years.
- The Buffalo Supermarket Shooting where the accused, Payton S. Gendron, engaged in a shooting which killed 10 people and injured 3 because of white supremacist ideas, all the while adding insult to injury by streaming the whole affair on Twitch, which is a social media platform like Instagram or Facebook.
- The Ukraine-Russia War where a foreign power unjustly invaded a weaker neighbour without providing an acceptable reason for it, leaving thousands of people dead as an effect.

The Texas shooting where 19 children and 2 adults were killed by a shooter, identified as Salvador Ramos student at Uvalde High School, who was later shot dead by the police.

The increasing intolerance, conflicts, and mob lynching between people of different faiths and castes in India.

I would like to continue by stating that the only way out is through initiating a spiritual, intellectual, and Emotional Revolution through which we can finally learn to experience the interpolating connections between person and person, organism and organism, action and consequence. I firmly believe that the ideal world status can only be reached if we negotiate, understand, sympathise, mediate, and arbitrate between ourselves, helping in generating an Emotional Revolution for all.

Through an Emotional Revolution, I hope we can better the lives of the millions of people suffering around the world and bring an end to these unjust circumstances once and for all.



Time Bank

Words: Aasim

"Every day is a bank account and time is currency. No one is rich and no one is poor. We've got 24 hours each"- Christopher Rice

Ever wondered what a TimeBank is?

Time banking is a service bartering system in which people trade services for labour-time credits rather than cash.

Edgar Cahn and Martin Simon began the TimeBank movement as a medium of exchange that would act as a way to encourage and reward the work. Timebanking allows people to help each other. When people start helping each other, giving and receiving, they understand each other's needs and situations. Young people volunteer their time to help older people who need assistance. The number of hours they spend caring can be deposited in their social account. When the volunteer reaches the age where he/she wants help, they can take advantage of the card and withdraw some of their time. Time banks don't involve any monetary exchange.

Timebanks have been established in 34 countries. They have a significant presence in the USA, UK, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Taiwan, Argentina, Israel, Greece, Spain, Senegal

Timebanking is a great way to foster community spirit. It is a simple concept with long-term implications for communities and individuals. It creates new and positive opportunities for people to interact with one another and make new friends. People who participate in the program report feeling healthier, happier, and less isolated in their communities. They also gain increased self-assurance and self-esteem. Everyone has the opportunity to participate and benefit from social inclusion.

Timebanking brings people together and strengthens communities, increasing resilience and rekindling pride and solidarity. It is a beautiful way to bring about a positive change in building an inclusive society.



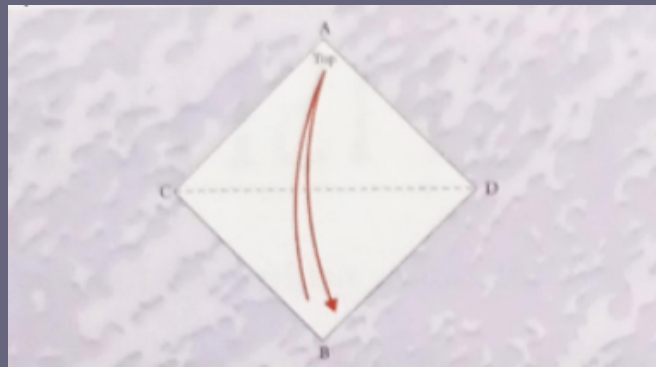
DIY Craft: Origami

40

Words: Koumudi and Saharsh

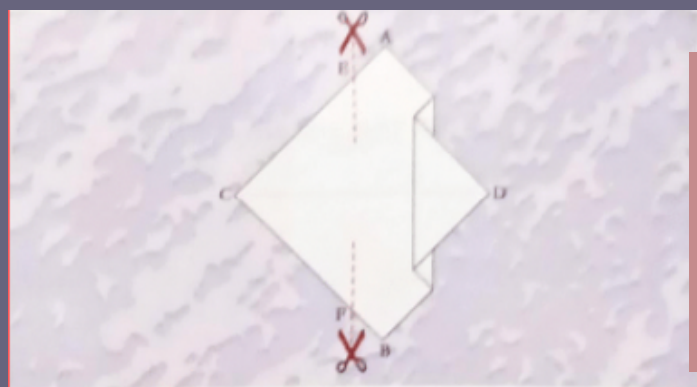
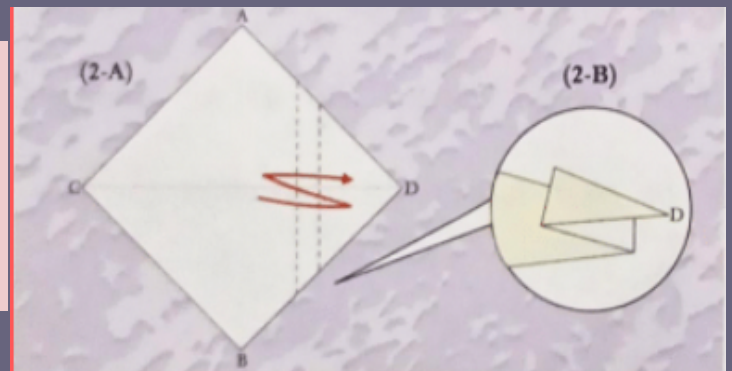
Making Mr. Birdy

Step 1- Take an A4 size sheet of any colour and cut it in the shape of a square.



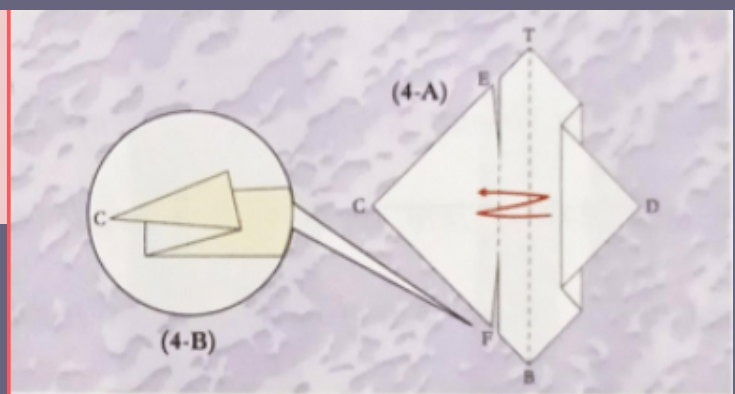
Step 2- Turn the sheet around to form a square diamond shape. Valley fold along the dotted line for the first fold. Join the bottom corner B to the top corner A. Press flat and unfold

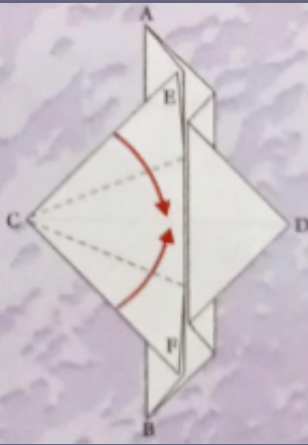
Step 3- Make a zigzag fold along the two dotted lines for the second fold on corner D and press flat.



Step 4- One after the other, cut along the two red dotted lines E&F using scissors. Careful while cutting. Adult supervision advised.

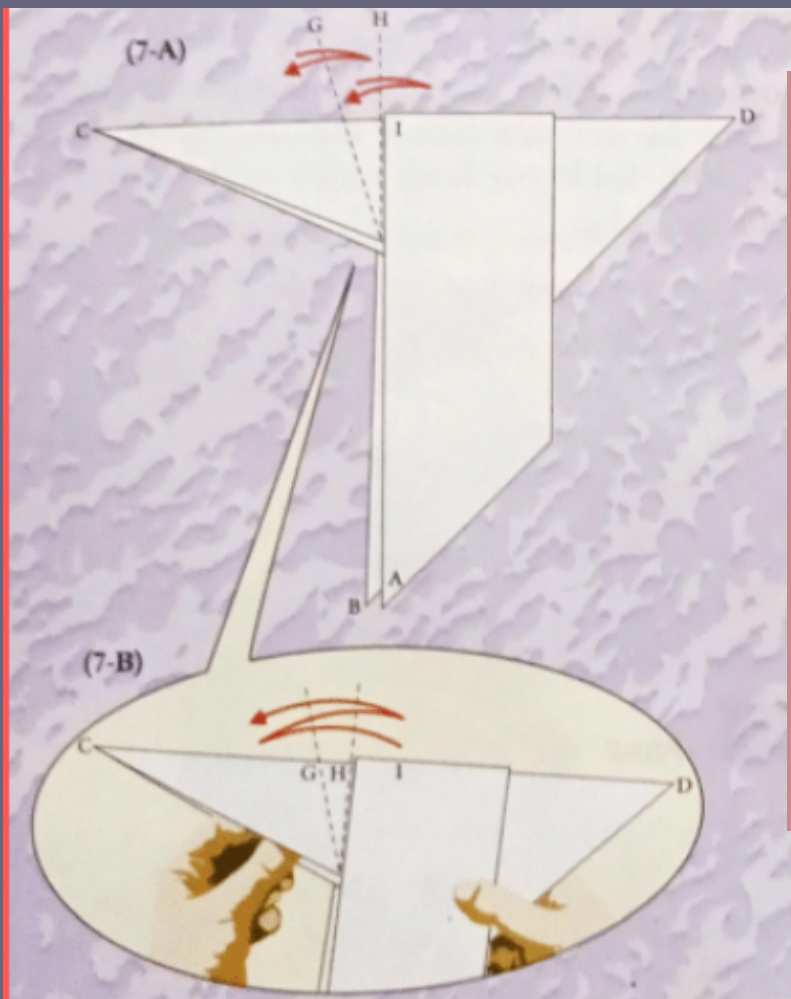
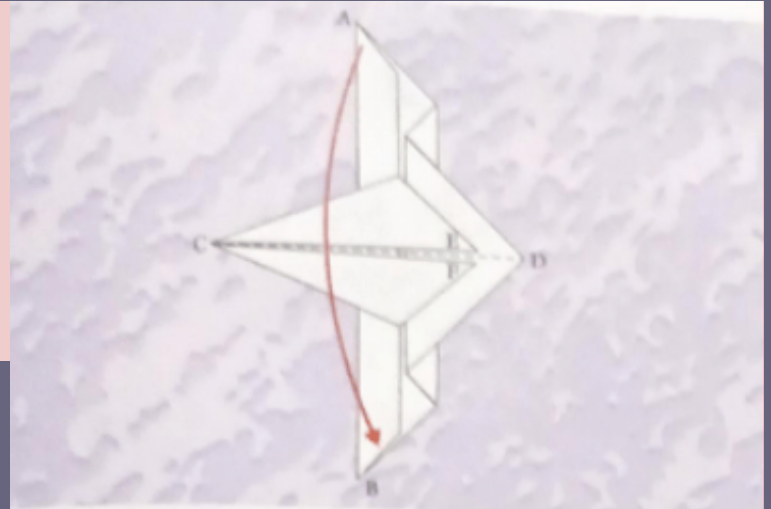
Step 5- Bring a zigzag fold along the two dotted lines for the third fold. Press flat.





Step 6- (Upper layers only) Folding one by one along the two dotted lines for the fourth fold, bring upper corners E and F up to the centre and press flat.

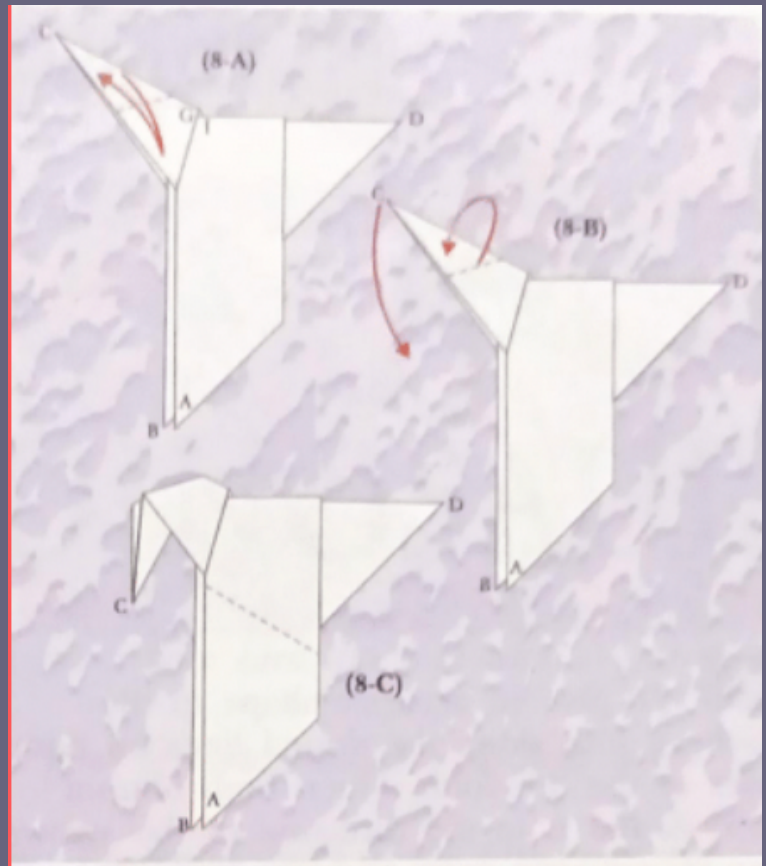
Step 7- Fold the whole piece from the center along the dotted line for the fifth fold. Join the top corner A to the bottom corner B and press flat.



Step 8- Valley fold left corner C along the two dotted lines G and H given for the sixth fold. Press flat and unfold. After that hold as shown and put your left-hand thumb and a finger in the two layers of flap C. Give a crimp fold along the two dotted lines G&H for the sixth folds in the direction of the arrow join point G to point I and press flat.

Step 9- Hold the top corner C and valley fold along the dotted line for the seventh fold to give shape to the head and the beak. Press flat and unfold.

Furthermore, press flap C from the center and give an inside fold along the unfolded dotted line for the seventh fold in the direction of the arrow and press flat.



Step 10- To give a proper shape to the feathers, fold along the dotted lines on both sides of the eighth fold. Open both bottom flaps A and B in the direction of the arrows one by one and press flat.

Step 11- To give the beak and claw a realistic 3D look, fold top corners J and K inwards along the dotted lines for the 10th folds on both sides. Press the folding properly.

Step 12- Voila! Your bird is ready!

For Extravaganza:

If you have used a plain A4 sheet, do bless your new-born bird with some colourful feathers and bright eyes.

Moreover, you may also take a cardboard piece, stick some colourful paper on it, cut-out a branch shaped paper and stick it on the cardboard. The bird you made could be stuck right above the branch for the audience to adore

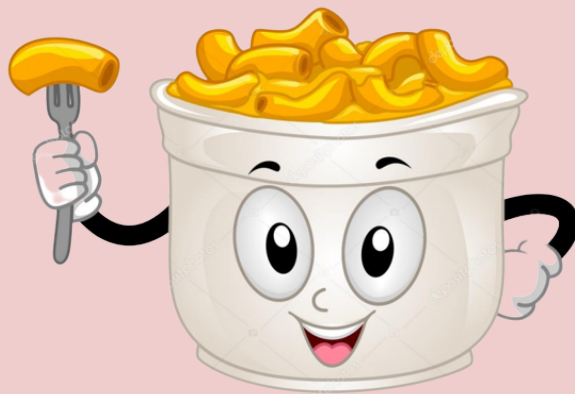
Main course and Desert

Delicious Mac and Cheese

Ingredients:

words: Krishnapriya

*Cheese of your choice
Mozarella/ Parmesan/ Cheddar
milk
Chilli Powder
Salt
Macaroni
Water
Oregano
Flour*



Instructions:

- 1. Boil your macaroni noodles in a pot of boiling water, cook till the macaroni is soft*
- 2. Strain the water*
- 3. Take a pan and add 2 tbsp of flour and 1/4 stick of butter which is equivalent to 2 tbsp*
- 4. Heat the pan and stir slightly*
- 5. Add 2 cups of milk once the flour and butter come to a paste like consistency*
- 6. Let the butter and flour dissolve into the milk*
- 7. Add salt and chili powder to taste*
- 8. Mix in cheese*
- 9. Empty the macaroni into the sauce*
- 10. Finally garnish the dish with oregano*
- 11. Serve the mac and cheese and enjoy!*



Double Chocolate Chip Cookies

Words: Zasha

Ingredients

Butter $1/4$ cup
Powder sugar $1/3$ cup
Vanilla essence $1/2$ tsp
1 egg
All-purpose flour $3/4$ cup
Cocoa powder $1/4$ cup
Baking powder 1 tsp
Baking soda $1/4$ tsp
Chocolate chips $1/4$ cup



Instructions

Add Butter, Powder Sugar and Vanilla essence in a large bowl and mix until it reaches a fluffy consistency

Add egg to the mixture and mix it well

Add the flour to make a soft dough

Make the dough into balls and place on a baking tray lined with parchment paper

Place chocolate chips on top

Place a stand & heat the pan for 5 mins on medium flame

Place the baking tray in the pan

Cook it on medium-low flame for 15-20 mins or bake in a preheated oven at 160°C for 15-20 mins

curated by Aarish

With a twist

Some book recommendations to quench your thirst of mystery



Name of the book: Truly Devious

Name of the Author: Maureen Johnson

Name of the person vouching for it: Mahita

Age Limit: 12+

The gist of the book: This series is a trilogy where there is a mysterious kidnapping and murder of the wife and potential murder of the child of Albert Ellingham the founder of Ellingham Academy, a school for gifted learners, and inventors and artists. Years later, in 2016, our main character - Stevie Bell (an enthusiast of true crime)- is beginning her first year at the school, and wants to solve the age-old cold case.

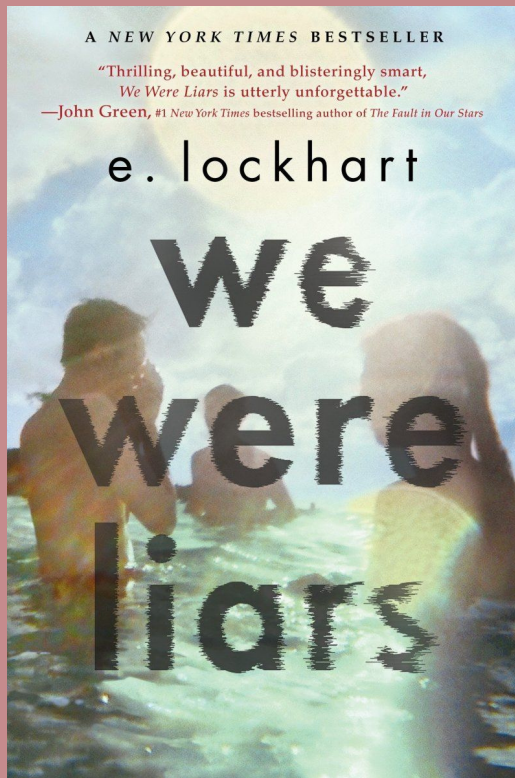
Thoughts on the author: "I think for Maureen Jhonson, the inspiration was to simply live up to the fantasies and dreams of any mystery enthusiast. I also believe that Agatha Christie, a famous crime writer, was another inspiration."

Characters: Janelle Franklin (lawful good), Nate Fisher (neutral good), Stevie Bell (chaotic good), Hays Major (neutral evil), David Eastman (chaotic evil), Ellie walker (chaotic evil)

Suggestions to the Writer: "I believe it's a fantastic book but I would like to see more of how the detective's mind works in this, like an inner monologue, as the detective is a little girl and it would be fun to see how she pieces together the many parts of the puzzle, especially since her main inspiration is a true-crime podcast on Spotify."

Favourite Part of the Fictional World: "I love the fact that there are secret tunnels and an elite academy where you have free resources and you can have amazing adventures."

Favourite Character: David Eastman



Name of the book: We Were Liars

Name of the author: E. Lockhart

Name of the person vouching for it:

Vaishnavi, 9 A

Age Limit: 13+

Gist of the book: In the book there is a group of cousins who go to their old farmhouse, which is on an island, with mysterious origins.

Thoughts on the writer: "I would say the writer was really into the book while writing it because the way it's written gives a lot of emotion into the character's thoughts."

Characters: Penny Sinclair Eastman (neutral good), Cadence Sinclair Eastman (Neutral evil), Johnny Sinclair Dennis (chaotic neutral)

Suggestions to Writer: "I can't give any suggestions to the author as the book was excellent."

Questions to Writer: " Why did you make Cadence think so negatively?"

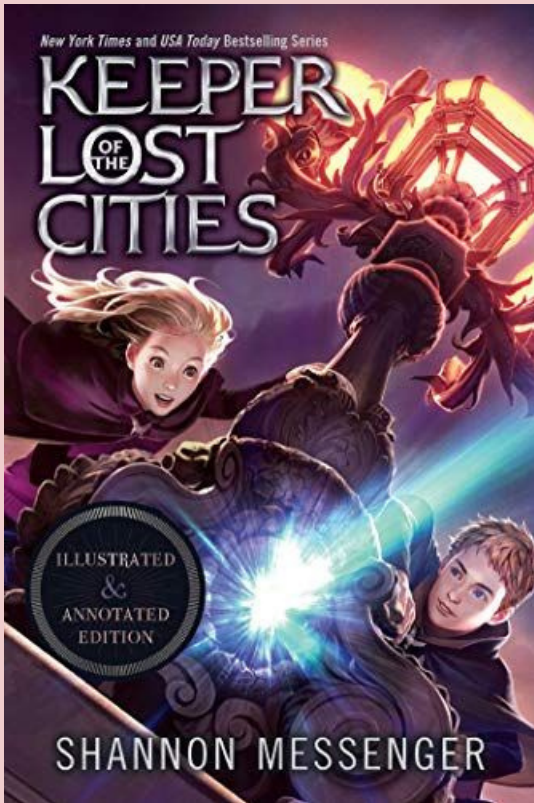
Favourite Character: Gat Patil

Least Favourite Character: Harris Sinclair (the grandfather)

Favourite Setting/Scene: The Skygazing on the Hill Scene in the Middle of the Book.

Most Relatable Character: "I connected to Cadence as the thoughts that she thought were very similar to the ones I think sometimes."

Favourite Part of the Fictional World: "The best part about the fictional world was how they could just have fun on the island without any restrictions placed on them."



Name of the book: Keeper of the Lost Cities

Name of the author: Shannon Messenger

Name of the person vouching for it: Krishnapriya, 9A

Age Limit: 9+

Gist of the Book: The book was about the journey of a girl who turned out to be an elf.

Thoughts on the Writer: "I think they were trying to create a new world and I really admire them for it."

Characters: Sophie Foster (neutral good), Keef Sencen (chaotic good)

Suggestions to Writer: "I don't really have any as the book was great and one of my favourites."

Questions to Writer: "What inspires you to create a character like Sophie where in the beginning he had sort of a chaotic mindset?"

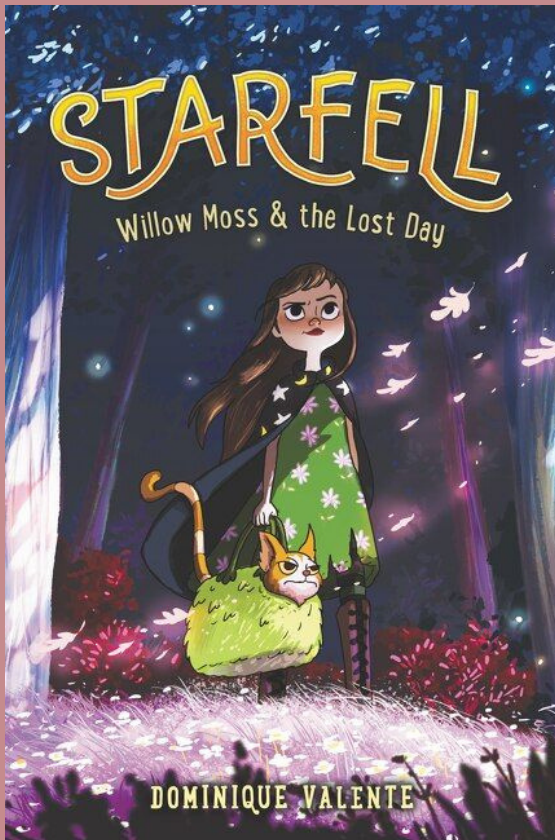
Favourite Character: Keef Sencen

Least Favourite Character: Lord Cassius Sencen

Favourite Scene/Setting in the Book: "For me, it's the very first scene where Sophie is sitting in the class with her headphones in her ears and a lot of things going through her mind."

Most Relatable Character: "I would be Keef because I didn't really realize what was going through his head during the book and so I think it would be fun to find that out."

Favourite Part of Fictional World: "I have never previously read a book with elves and dwarves and things like that with more magic involved so I thought it was very interesting."



Name of the book: Willow Moss & the lost day

Name of the author: Dominique Valente

Name of the person vouching for it:

Aarish, 9 A

Age limit: 10+

Gist of the Book: The book revolves around the character Willow Moss who is underestimated by the world because of having - the power to summon lost items - a comparatively weak power in front of the rest of her family. She has to try to save the world by finding a lost day stolen by long forgotten magic.

Thoughts on the Writer: "I think when she was writing the book, the writer wanted to create a world that would quench the thirst of many fantasy lovers across the world with many magical creatures and powers that would be very dynamic and just make the story all the more fun to read. I also think the author wanted to establish the idea that not having "powerful abilities" would not make you weak.

Characters: Granny Flossy (lawful good), Willow Moss (neutral good), Morgen Vain (chaotic good), Oswin (chaotic good), Silas (chaotic evil).

Suggestions to Writer: "I would suggest the writer delve deeper into the forgotten spells as well as the magical objects, potions and charms and I think it would be fun to see how they could have affected the story."

Suggestions to the writer: "I would suggest the writer delve deeper into the forgotten spells as well as the magical objects, potions and charms and I think it would be fun to see how they could have affected the story."

Questions to Writer: "Why didn't we get to see more magical creatures?"

Favourite Character: Nolen Sometimes

Favorite Part of Fictional World: "I loved all the magic and magical creatures involved in the story and how they all merged together to make the story more interesting to watch."



Some of the wonderful people who worked hard to bring this issue to you...

Thank you!

**For reading the product of our labour.
This was a project of passion for all
those involved.**

**We would like to take a moment to
request you to support us, and join us,
as we journey into the depths of
creativity.**

**We don't know where creativity starts
or ends, but we do know that it is a
world of infinite possibilities.**

**Thank you Padma ma'am for being so
supportive in this endeavour of ours.
We are grateful to be a part of a
school that upholds truly holistic
education.**



