

the RUIAITE monthly

MOVING BEYOND PAPERS



EDITORIAL, JULY : BE IN THE NOW.

“We write to taste life twice, in the moment and in retrospect”

After the first successful edition in the budding academic year, we at the “Ruiate Monthly” are back with a set of new exciting, inspiring, and innovative topics that will leave you wanting for more.

In this amazing monsoon season where everyone craves for a simple cup of ‘Chai’ and their favourite soulful music, Career wise has highlighted the best careers which are completely centered on your voice modulation skills, be it dubbing, anchoring or singing. On the similar lines, Op-ed and Behind the scenes have collaborated to present your famous Music Artists from various genres and how do they manage to strike each of your heart cords and captivate your mind with their sweet harmony.

We all love rains but we don't know everything about the wonders it creates. Who doesn't like the earthy fresh smell after rain? Science of Everything brings you all the interesting facts about petrichor and the scientific insights of the phenomenon of Bioluminescence. Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart. You cant miss the Insight column as it emphasizes on how ‘Friend’ is a simple six letter word but it's a big wave of feelings that cannot be explained.

We all must've heard: When in Rome, do like the Romans do! Where ever you go there are certain norms and traditions you need to follow, so Safarnama bring to you “ Cultural Faux Pas to avoid while travelling “ highlighting the Do's and Don'ts while travelling to your favourite place. Fictionally yours covers the amazing topic of Adventure and Mystery of Travel. On the other hand, Art wall will be focusing on the environment activity of nest making by the college NSS unit and RATC with creative artworks. Is technology a useful instrument or a perilious weapon? Tech tricked has touched upon the difference between Screen mirroring , Screen casting and Screen sharing emphasizing important scientific facts. On similar lines, Open Forum will be concerned with media and culture discussing how world popular culture is getting steadily interlinked , enumerate some seriously bad adaptations from one art form to another highlighting some underrated gems of TV. Last but not the least Buzz around has covered very pressing issues involving the two most important pillars of Democracy: Young children and the Youth of the country. Understand their plight only in the current affairs column.

With all these interesting topics lined up for you, Happy Reading Ruiaites!

BUZZ AROUND

The state of Bihar has faced a lot of insolvable problems over a long course of time and the epidemic of acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) is the newest addition to these. The brain fever caused by AES has taken the lives of almost 145 children causing more worry for the Nitish Kumar-led state.

As per information from the Bihar health department, brain fever or chamki bukhar--as it is locally called--has spread across 16 of 38 districts. At present, more than 600 patients are reportedly suffering from AES.

In Muzaffarpur- the epicentre of the epidemic in the state of Bihar- most of the patients were admitted

admitted to Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital (SKMCH) which has ill- resulted in 109 out of the total deaths taking place in this hospital. Also a senior doctor from SKMCH has been suspended for negligence in treatment of the AES. There have been reports of several cases of carelessness in the treatment of the disease which has proved fatal for many of the admitted patients.

Sources suggested that the high number of deaths this year have been caused by hypoglycemia or a sudden drop in blood sugar levels, especially due to malnutrition and consumption of unripe litchi fruit on an empty stomach. Also litchi is a fruit grown in abundance in North Bihar which is the reason of rapid spread of the epidemic.

While Bihar loses hundreds of children to AES every year, there were sharp spikes in 2012 and 2014, when 395 and 372 children, respectively, lost their lives. Through the years, AES cases have been reported from several districts in Bihar. "It is a preventable disease," said Dr Chaitanya Kumar at the district's Kejriwal Maternity Hospital, one of two treating young AES patients. "Glucose and providing meals to some of the poorest districts - these are not expensive things."

Bihar government have deployed several pediatricians in the Muzaffarpur hospitals for review treatments from nearby government hospitals and colleges. Also several doctors from AIIMS Delhi rushed in to join the cause.

Lack of medical equipment and hygiene have also plagued the Muzaffarpur hospitals which witnesses frequent power cuts, leading to delay in treatment. Also the epidemic has sparked a debate over the free healthcare scheme for poor launched by the government known as 'Modicare' just eight months ago. Irrespective of whether a biological agent or malnutrition is to blame, Bihar's poor track records in ensuring that the poorest have access to adequate nutrition and distrust in the public health care system are major causes for the deaths.

- Chinmay Parulekar , TYBSC.

Simply put:

Bengal medical crisis

Doctors and medical professionals in Kolkata had launched a massive protest after an intern at a government medical college and hospital in the city was beaten up and left with a fractured skull over the death of a 75-year-old patient. Here are the details for the entire incident :

WHAT WAS THE ACTUAL SCENARIO?

On 10th June night, Mohammed Shahid, a resident of Tangra, passed away at the NRS Medical College and Hospital. Soon after, family members of the deceased reached the hospital at around 11 pm and clashed with the junior doctors on duty. The violent clashes turned the hospital premises into a battleground on Monday night and the morning after as doctors claimed that over 200 people landed up at the facility. Family members of the deceased patient were upset over his death and alleged That Shahid died due to medical negligence.

They also said that the body was not handed over to them on time. Two junior doctors, who were facing protests by the patient's family, were left injured in the violent clashes.

WHAT DID THE DOCTORS DO?

The junior doctors were on strike in the hospital since that night and the protest spread to all government hospitals across

districts. The OPD and emergency services in all government hospitals in the state were badly hit rendering the patients and their family members helpless. With around 18 doctors submitting their resignations in Sagore Dutta Medical College and Hospital in North 24 Pargana, senior doctors from all government hospitals expressing solidarity with the protesters, and hospital superintendents joining the protest, the present situation had become really critical in the state.

HANDS THAT HEAL SHOULD NOT BLEED **DOCTOR'S lives matter don't harm your LIFE-SAVERS STOP VIOLENCE**

WHAT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S TAKE ON THIS?

Banerjee asked the junior doctors to resume work within 4 hours, failing which strict action will be taken. Protesting junior doctors at SSKM Hospital shouted "Mukhyamantri hai hai" slogan as she ignored them and met the patient's families. "Don't teach me andolan (movement), I have done enough andolan in my life. If

you don't give service to people, you cannot be doctors. Many police personnel die, but they don't go on strike. Doctors, who will not join work, will have to leave hostels. Government will not be with them. It takes around Rs 25 lakh to make a doctor who later joins corporate hospitals. What does the state get? Moreover, there are some outsiders here who are creating trouble. This is a politically motivated protest organised by BJP and CPM," said chief minister Mamata Banerjee.

WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

The Calcutta High Court refused to pass any interim order on the strike by junior doctors at state-run hospitals and asked the Mamata Banerjee government to persuade the protesting doctors to resume work and restore healthcare services. It directed the government to apprise it of the steps taken following the attack on junior doctors at the NRS Medical College and Hospital. Union health minister Dr Harsh Vardhan wrote to Mamata Banerjee, advising "better communication and a compassionate approach".

All medical students across the length and breadth of the country stood in solidarity with those who suffered. They held placards that said " We are doctors, not terrorists." Will their simple demand of protection be met or will they have to take to the streets again? Only time will tell.

1 US - Iran tensions escalate, following Tehran's drowning of an unmanned American drone, US imposes more sanctions.

2 Hong Kong Leader Carrie Lam suspends extradition Bill, after mass protests.

3 Tensions rose on June 3, after 118 people were killed, 70 raped and 100 injured in the Kharotum massacre in Sudan

4 India scrapped a \$500 million deal with Israel for the purchase of Spike anti- tank missiles from defence contractor Rafael Advanced Defence Systems after indigenous developer Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) claimed that it was developing a similar missile at lower price with VEM

5 West Bengal Doctors call off strike on June 18 after West Bengal CM assures safety.

6 Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) outbreak claims 117 lives of children in Muzaffarpur, Health Department blamed for negligence, Supreme Court demands a response from the Central and State Governments over the preventive measures. Nipah virions returns to haunt Kerala.

7 RBI's youngest Deputy Governor Viral Acharya resigns before completion of tenure.

8 Cyclone Vayu, a severe cyclonic storm in the Arabian Sea fizzled out on June 18 before hitting the Gujarat coast.

9 Delayed Monsoon finally arrives in Maharashtra.

10 Team India began its World Cup campaign on a winning note, winning all the matches so far.

TOP 10 NEWS

twitter tweet

Narendra Modi

India salutes all those greats who have fiercely and fearlessly resisted the Emergency.

India's democratic ethos successfully prevailed over an authoritarian mindset.

CAREER WISE

Your voice if trained in a proper manner can do wonders. After all, public speaking is one of the most important aspect of any career. Some careers which are completely centred on your voice modulation skills are:

Dubbing Artists

Dubbing artists, who project the personalities of characters with their voices, are engaging in an art form. Dubbing is commonly perceived as a funny career. But dubbing is not as easy and simple as most people think it is. Generally, dubbing artists preview the animation, movie or documentary only once before the actual dubbing. Dubbing Artists only have a "rewrite" to match the action on the screen. The "rewrite" is the translated Cantonese script that fits the opening and closing of the mouths of the characters.

A Dubbing Artist needs to be fluent and well versed in languages, should be able to make a mark, and should be adaptable enough to match inflections and pauses to attune with the original. To be a professional dubbing



No special degree or diploma is required for this career. You need to have a great skill of modulating your voice, clarity and accurate pronunciation.

artist, one must be able to do characters ranging from different ages and sexes to animals and various personalities.

No special degree or diploma is required for this career. You need to have a great skill of modulating your voice, clarity and accurate pronunciation. You also need to have good dialogue delivery and lip sync ability. However, due to recent demand in the industry, there are few certificate courses

and workshops available. Voicing/dubbing is a field that offers extreme flexibility, a great deal

of choice and independence. As a Dubbing Artist, you could venture into a career in voicing while purchasing a vacation far removed from television or radio. As a Dubbing Artist you could lend your voice to documentaries, programmes or ad films in English, Hindi or any other language.

Rs. 1k

In TV serials, dubbing artists are paid about Rs. 1000/- per episode, but depending on the artists capability and the length and complexity of the role.

Rs. 10k

Dubbing Artists command as much as Rs. 10000/- per episode.

Rs. 75k

In films you can make as much as Rs. 75000/- by lending your voice to a single character on the screen, if you are really good

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Considering the multilingual nature of our country, there is a great demand for dubbing artists. Some of the larger film and television production houses have their own in-house dubbing departments. You could lend your voice to documentaries, programmes or ad films; you could work by day or by night.

CAREER PROSPECT

The need for dubbing artists is ever increasing. Epics like the Ramayana and Mahabharata, which were originally made in Hindi, are now dubbed in most of the Indian and several foreign languages. Also, almost every Hollywood film, big or small, which is now screened in India, has a Hindi release.

Similarly, a large number of popular serials and 'infotainment' programmes are now being dubbed in Indian languages to increase their viewership.

Many actors are also entering the dubbing artists field due to the money value of it. Recently, Shah Rukh Khan has announced his role as a dubbing artist in the cartoon movie 'The Lion king'. So, if you have the voice, the modulation and the passion for the field why not give it a try?



Singer

Have you learnt singing as a hobby in your childhood, or is singing your passion? Even if you just love humming or singing in the bathrooms, a practise of many years can give you a great career as a singer. The only thing needed is a beautiful voice, knowledge of rhythms and beats and then you can give it a try! The singer sings the main vocal line of the songs. He gives the voice to the lyrics and mixes up with the background score to give a beautiful experience. Some of the vocalists have also started a new trend of covering the original songs in their own version, youtubers as well as café and band singers. In today's world, the career in singing has bloomed many opportunities for all. One can take up singing at primary level as a part time job but to forward in this field as a professional one must dedicate all his time and efforts.

Some singers also prefer degree in singing (Bachelor of Performing Arts). There are various music academies and institutes in India these needs



BACHELOR OF PERFORMING ARTS

- Tamil Nadu Government Music College
- Rabindra Bharathi University
- MIT Music Academy
- Lovely Professional University

Some singers prefer only singing classes in classical or Hindustani specialism. There are many levels in the learning. In India, classical singing is more popular in the South while Hindustani and semi-classical prevails towards to the North India. After every level an exam is held for which books are available in the market.



Learning a music instrument along with singing is an icing on the cake. It improves your knowledge of the base, tune, rhythm. It helps in improving the performance to a great extent and gives you the confidence

To start a career in this field, you must attend the open mics, competitions in college level, various concerts, perform at local levels in events. Having a YouTube channel or any online platform helps to put forth the talent before the public in an attractive and presentable way. To come in limelight, one can also start auditioning in the reality shows

Job opportunities as a vocalist are singing in bands, movie songs and background singing in series or the sows and events. Singing in India is getting the upper hand in the last few years due to the social media and music-lovers. So, if you love giving life to the beautiful lyrics, this is your platform to succeed.

Anchoring

If you love interacting with people, public speaking and do not have any stage fear, this is the field for you. There are various anchors who impress people with their unforgettable impact on the minds. Anchors do not just require an amazing personality and gestures but also great voice modulation skills.

For anchoring there are various professional courses in colleges under the name Bachelors In performing arts as well as Bachelors of Broadcasting Journalism.

FORMAL

Formal anchoring includes news reading, news anchor and for formal events

INFORMAL

informal anchoring includes award function, events, and celebrations.

For anchoring there are various professional courses in colleges under the name Bachelors In performing arts as well as Bachelors of Broadcasting Journalism. Along with these, we also have private institutes that run courses for voice modulation like ZEE Institute.

Anchoring is a growing profession now because of the rise of events and the news channels. Also, the profession is high salaried one. So, the anchoring profession is well-reputed one. It is a growing popular field.

BEHIND THE SCENES & OP-ED

Eyes to Heart via Music

Where the words leave off, music begins. Good music is something that strikes from your heart, while bringing tears in your eyes. A good artist stimulates your mind in more than one ways, making the music more than just a memorable tune. What's better than a song with lyrics to move the inner recesses of your brain, a sweet harmony of human sound and musical instruments to please the ears and, as an added bonus, a music video that goes perfectly with the song like a puzzle piece? In this edition Behind the Scenes and Op Ed decided to collaborate and explore the co-dependent and frequently converging relationship between music, a music video and the artist.

One thing that can captivate the minds of us humans while entertaining us is music. It can actually be considered as a global language due to its conveying power and versatility. One important form of music that is present in today's world is "music videos". As the years go by, we're seeing

a surge of new artists and genres in the music industry all over the world. It is known that the music being created year after year has adapted itself to the changing trends of the modern world, sometimes, even introducing trends of its own. One of the trends in the music industry that surely cannot go unseen is the rage in the creation of music videos. Pick any song that topped music charts for the week and you will find a music video for it. Music videos have changed the way music has been perceived thus, making it an audio visual experience that expresses a musician's work to greater depth and engages the viewers even more. If we trace back their origin, we can find so many gems in music, from different genres, that have contributed in preserving its rich culture. In the 1920s, the "Country Music" that originated in the southern part of the U.S., is an important part of the western music comprising of ballads, dance tunes with simple forms, folk lyrics and harmonies by

string instruments. The name 'Country' was given to suggest that it was the music of rural America. The speciality of country music is the lyrics that it has- real and meaningful. They can be considered as one of the most relatable ones due to their simplicity and when the music comes on, it makes us tap our feet. Many artists have made it relatable even today.



Country singer Carrie Underwood, winner of the fourth season of American Idol, is one of the most prominent artists in this genre. Her first single "Inside Your Heaven" made her the only solo country artist to have a number one hit on the "Billboard Hot 100" chart in the 2000-2009 decade. After a few decades, the genre that gained popularity among masses was "Indie Rock". It was originated in the UK and the US in 1970s. The term "Indie" comes from independent and describes a "do-it-yourself" attitude. In the early 2000s, when the music industry was changing rapidly, Indie rock adapted to those changes and maintained its popularity.

Pink Floyd were the architects of two major music movements—PSYCHEDELIC SPACE-ROCK and BLUES-BASED PROGRESSIVE ROCK—and became known for their biting political, social and emotional commentary. With 1973's Dark Side Of The Moon and 1979's The Wall, the band created two of the most ambitious (and best-selling) albums of all time—and underscored that personal

torment could resonate on a massive level. With the description a distinctive and versatile voice and fashionable appearance, which pop singer comes to your mind? Rihanna, Beyoncé, Barbadian pop and rhythm-and-blues (R&B) singer who became a worldwide star in the early 21st century.



The world entertainment industry is currently dominated by the Koreans. One of the many domains they dominate is the music industry, K-pop. From an outsider's perspective, K-pop is the most systematic and hardworking industry. Vocalists and percussionists are scouted

by huge music labels and then trained for years together. The training that these singers and musicians go through gives equal or at times more importance to beauty. Out of these trained people only a few who outshine in mainstream media are funded, managed and allowed to form bands. The 90's lead to the making of a New Global Korea. Along with a thriving fashion industry, the music bands gained importance and love from their domestic population. The second generation of pop music artists/bands like Girls Generation, Big Bang and 2ne1 shook the industry with their own sense of music, style and attitude. The popularity of Big Three didn't amass K-pop a global appeal until the most famous K-pop Group, BTS entered. The group stumbled in the beginning but steamrolled its way and has become a success all around the globe. BTS has collaborated with western singers like Steve Aoki, Halsey, Ed Sheeran and Chainsmokers. Their extravagant videos with elaborate choreographies on power-packed songs makes them nothing short of a visual delight. They

received their first Grammy nomination in February this year. The K-pop fan base keeps growing in India as well in other Asian and western countries.



Swift first came onto the music scene in 2006 with her track Tim McGraw, which was inspired by a boy she liked in her

class. The familiar strumming of country music and the heartfelt vocals told the story of love and confessions in teenage years. Fast forward to the present and Swift has been the queen of the charts with every album she releases. It was not a smooth climb to the top. In fact, her rise to fame has been littered with controversies along the way. Gone was the sweet, sparkling-eyed and rosy lipped country princess, who was replaced by a woman, who knew what she wanted and was fearless in her pursuit of it. The old Taylor was gone and wasn't ever coming back. Her transformation from country to pop is seen across her three albums — 'Speak Now', 'Red' and '1989,' which was a transition from country to country-pop and finally pure pop.

With headphones on and if mood leads to pop music, the list cannot be completed without the the King of Pop, 'Michael Jackson'. Fondly remembered as MJ, he transformed the pop genre and the era of 80's. Off the wall (1979) was the album proved instrumental in establishing him as a singer. 'The Thriller' released in 1982

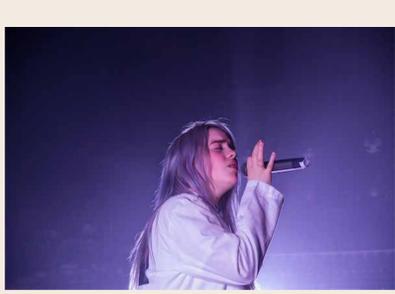
bagged seven Grammy's for him making it best selling album in 1983. His albums and songs won him many awards including Grammy's, American music awards along with honour of Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. His Moonwalk remains to be his iconic dance step and the choreography of his music videos made the most of his talent at dance. His sound and style had influence on many artists and genres. Another star was on the rise on YouTube and was being noticed for his Michael Jackson covers. Out of nowhere, Justin Bieber had his big break with 'Baby' and the baby faced teen with magical eyes skyrocketed into fame. He went on to become the first solo artist to have four singles to enter in top 40 before release of his debut album. In 2017, Despacito which was with collaboration with Luis Fonsi broke the all time record for most consecutive weeks at the number one spot on Billboard Top Ten. 'Beliebers' swooned over his boyish charms along with his melodic voice and there's no stopping him. Ed Sheeran has been a crowd favourite, again, due to his boyish charms and his talent for wooing the

world with his soulful melodies as well as making us dance to his tunes. His debut in 2011 with his album +, showered him with fame and critical acclaim and his subsequent albums, x and = are equally popular. His slow ballads like Thinking Out Loud and Perfect, lively dance music like Shape of You and raps like You Need Me as well as songs like Castle on the Hill and A Team showcase his proficiency as a singer, song writer and a musician.



There's no limit to the abundant discoveries made in the field of music,

with production of new tunes and upcoming artists. It is much liberal and expressive, and a lot of times, giving off a very strong message. The world of music is fast paced and ever evolving but there's nothing quite like the rush of connecting with a great new artist — especially ahead of the pack — but they're not always easy to find. Billie Eilish, who turned seventeen last December, writes and performs songs of loss, anger and yearning with a wizened balance of vulnerability and confidence, and is a current sensation. Her sultry vocals have a classic soulful decadence, while gritty, electronic beats carry her closer to the cutting edge. Her track "Bored" appears on Netflix's hit show "13 Reasons Why." The official music video for "Bellyache" has garnered 8.4 million views in 10 months. Some other young include - Kailee Morgue, Mabel, Oshi, Mallrat, Khalid, Zhavia, Ruel, Gus Dapperton etc. These artists are still teenagers or young adults and have already made a place in hearts of the people. Along with creating new music each



year, music videos have become indispensable in the process of getting music across to listeners. Artists and music video directors do their best in creating great visual and auditory experiences for listeners and viewers to generate the required hype. It is safe to say that knowing the susceptibility of the audience towards trends and pop culture; music videos have a significant influence over the world. And a lot of popular artists, knowing this fact very well, have been using this as a medium to market their music, introduce fashions and talk about important issues. A great example of one such video is the new

video Taylor Swift just released for her song 'You need to calm down'. The song, being an LGBT rights anthem received a lot of praise for the effort in its own way however, it was the music video, that actually got people talking about the community and standing up for it. Taylor Swift even urged her viewers to sign her petition for the Equality Act demanding equal rights for the LGBTQ community. It was noted that within a week of the video's release, there was a spike in the number of people signing the petition and writing letters to the Senator regarding the same. Another example of such a video is 'What I've done' by Linkin Park. The song despite taking about personal regrets can be linked to the environmental and social concerns plaguing the world today by its music video that draws a parallel to the same. The video garnered a lot of attention and did its part in reminding people about the damage we'd caused. However, strong political statements and environmental stands aren't the only criteria for an influencing music video as various artists

use them to start of new trends with the intention of popularising their brand or upcoming music. The 'Gangnam Style' step from PSY's music video has become a staple for a lot of young adults in dance parties and weddings. Everyone has been talking about Ed Sheeran in the boxing ring in his music video 'Shape of you'. And we can't stop rewatching the colourful and Indian spirited 'Hyme for the Weekend' music video because it's such a beautiful representation of our culture!



Music videos have always been a part of song promotions for artists. But there have always been those few videos that make us replay them and think about what they might mean. There are those that are completely bizarre and might take some time to comprehend. However, there are so many videos that tell a story, display art or have a particular aesthetic to them that sets a mood for the video's duration. For starters, the music video for 'Somebody That I Used To Know' by Gotye ft. Kimbra shows the two singers being gradually painted to match the patterns on the walls behind them. Each stop motion signifies some part of their relationship that the song describes. The 'Blue Neighbourhood' album by Troye Sivan has a trilogy set for three of its songs, each showcasing the different steps of a relationship two gay individuals have and the problems they face. There are cryptic signs hidden in several music videos, like the ones released by Twenty One Pilots in their Trench era music videos. Their music video for 'My Blood' takes a huge

twist at the end of the video; while the one for 'Chlorine' theorizes Tyler Joseph's struggles with creativity and song writing in very subtle hints that are easy to miss. 'I'm so tired...' by Lauv ft. Troye Sivan and 'So Overrated' by Jeremy Zucker ft. Blackberran display music videos with a relatively cooler vibe, showing that there is art in doing mundane things in a music video and it need not necessarily always be grand. Like any industry under public scrutiny the music industry is marred with controversy from time to time. Some female artists come under the scanner regularly for videos that barely toe the hypothetical line for decency while others, male and female artists alike, get flak from a more conservative community for their lyrics with sexual undertones.

Miley Cyrus shook the world with her Wrecking Ball music video. Her transition from the Disney star Hannah Montana to a woman who was very much into her was too drastic for people to get around. Miley Cyrus' music videos have always been a mirror to her mental state and wellness and her progression from Wrecking Ball to Malibu has shown us how much she has grown as a person through the years.

Kanye West's Famous was controversial

for a variety of reasons. For one it referenced to a well known feud with Taylor Swift which did not go down well with her even as West claimed she was aware of it. It also featured a row wax figures of celebrities and politicians like Donald Trump, Amber Rose, George W. Bush sleeping next to him which was in poor taste. The song itself was well received but the music video was almost universally panned.

Music videos have been a much more important part of pop culture than we give them credit for. And have given so many powerful artists a creative platform of their own to speak up about their opinions on social issues along with influencing the audience with their depictions. It is easy to say that music videos make 'no sense', but in reality all we have to do is look closely, observe and feel the vibe; for everything has a story to tell. All you have to do is pay attention to detail.

Music is a tapestry of different genres and trends that keeps on evolving according to the tastes of the public. The Indian and international music scene has changed drastically in the last few years. A lot more electronic music is popular due to the dance culture. Repetitive lyrics and remakes and covers of old songs have also been making appearances.

Collaborations between different artists also pull in a lot of fans due to fusion of their different styles and the sheer hype. Bang Bang released a few years ago featured a lot of popular music artists, giving the song and its video the punch it needed. Taylor Swift's Bad Blood had a collaboration of all her friends in the music industry in her music video and was very talked about.

In recent times hip hop has reigned as the top genre in music. But hip hop and pop artists venturing into different genres like trap music yields some very positive responses. The popularity and hype of an artist decides how viral a music video is. But what ultimately sells a music video is good music.

Music videos add a face to the song. At the same time, they add a new sense of art to it while also introducing new concepts of fashion and could make a person with a totally different concept famous overnight, attracting attention of millions. Over the years, we see of the video are a few minutes of it, the work that goes into making those few minutes entertaining enough is large. There's times when an individual might relate to the song all the more because of the video. Isn't it intriguing how a few minutes of a song's video can hold such a variety of meanings to different people?

INSIGHT



We Laughed Until We Cried...

The delightful feeling of having someone by your side, through the thick and thin. Having a Friend, being a friend, loving a friend, losing a friend, a friend you left in the past, a friend you have not met or maybe would never meet... A small six letter word. But the whole world revolves around it. But, who is this significant person? We can categorize them, but its difficult to explain the feeling called 'FRIEND'.

Friends in Past

I have flashes of your face contours, the eyes that crinkled in the corners with a hearty laugh accompanying it and the jingle of the giggles that you covered with a hand over your mouth. I remember the faint echoes of your voice, of whispered secret conversations, only between you and me. But I can't remember what bonded us in those moments. The glue that lost it's quality over time.

The boat of friendship has sailed. It started with a whole fleet of them from the time when I could extend a hand to another. However, some went rogue, some were loners, some betrayed, but there are some who are just lost. Long lost at bay. For reasons unknown.

These are Friends in the past, of the past, not in the past tense. Yet. Still a friend, in the head. Because the opposite of that

doesn't correspond to the sanctity shared. It's what is called a long distance friendship. Where distances are covered with only memories. Because there are no more new ones to make. Only to reminisce.

Like a lone, big, mighty wave, you came, with all your arms open. That splashed the entirety of me. The hug was brief yet warm. Like sand between my toes you disappeared, left only is what you left. Me. I'm still ashore. On another shore perhaps, you found your anchor.

The disposable are discarded. But you only forget until you remember. A cue is all is needed to retrieve and relive whatever transpired between. Alas, the details can't be revived.

It's not you, it's not me. It's us that drifted. Now, there's a you, there's a me. Floating

by self. Because one cannot take the weight of the other. Even when there's no salt. Sweet are the memories, the scents. It's a tan that can never be washed away. Time and again, I visit you. Your name is a pseudonym for the stranger whom I have befriended today.

"The longer it lasts,
The stronger it stays.
The only thing when quantified,
Friendship
Remains qualitative"

- Tanvi Padia (TYBA)

On being friends with a piece of your soul

Maybe some things are inevitable in life. like death. like love..

i. Somewhere during the stasis between midnight and sunrise you tell me that no one writes songs about a love like this: tangled legs resting on the edge of the window sill with the sting of the city sharp

against our cheeks, watching the distant headlights from in between our toes, hooking our ankles along the silhouettes of towers. As the last of the skyline fades, you are telling me about how even constellations fall in love. As the last of dawn breaks, you are telling me how we belong to the same one.

ii. In the stories they told us that we would be a perfect fit, effortlessly falling into place. Instead, we were ghost children haunting the same playground, full of aching and longing, half-lives consuming each other with the need of a hundred lifetimes. We were the wicked, the bad spilled out into the open, the hunting and the hunted, picking at each other's wounds, bloodstained fingers intertwined—helplessly pulled into each other's orbit.

iii. And yet, I am still learning to call a piece of myself by another name, tearing apart the

spaces between your laughter to make room for my own. I am learning to let you pick at my tender skin even as

it hurts, so that you can teach me to dip my fingers in coconut oil so I can trace m e n d and forgive over the bruises, to know that sometimes growth is making home in the detours, singing hymns and prayers to the mint leaves and the small birds—a poem for small things built out of heartbeats.

iv. They say soulmate and think of sweet lullabies sung in between soft kisses. the fairy tales do not know that we are mirrors without a spell, curving towards each other, trying to unravel the distortion of the years in a single meeting, crawling into each other's skin to dig up the graveyard of bones around our hearts, awakening corpses in the dead of the night—hurting and hating and choking on the alien memories, the way the price of sharing a soul is sometimes losing track of your own.

v. So when the last of the stars fade, we do not kiss in the soft afterglow. instead, I reach out to hold your hand and sing you a song about a love like ours. About what it means to sag

under the weight of two lives, entangled like flowers blooming along the riverside, insects flying in clumps around the same city lights, suspended at the edge of the same dreams, broken wings leaning against the other like tangled legs in another life: to hold onto a piece of a soul for someone else, hoping that one day they will be able to give it back to their own.

- Anushka Nagarmath (SYBA)



Close as Strangers

Being friend-less isn't quite as painful as it sounds. It's not an infected wound throbbing whenever he prods it. He quite enjoys his own company. It only really flares up when some passing acquaintance feels obligated to make conversation and other strangers he's been going to school with for the last eight years quickly glance away. Being friend-less isn't that bad, or so he thinks until he actually makes one.

He's in class pretending to do math when his phone nearly buzzes itself out of his pocket. He surreptitiously glances at the disinterested teacher standing at the board and pulls it out of his pocket. He has a million notifications on twitter. This is unusual, he thinks. His twitter is just a collection of wry comments about his classmates, illegible to anyone but himself. It doesn't get much attention. But it looks like **btsarmy07** has gone through each of his tweets and liked and replied to all of them. He taps through to their profile.

anusree
she/her
bts ult

Most of her tweets are incoherent screaming and he scrolls back until he finds a couple selfies of a cheerful looking Asian girl. He's about to tap on the follow button when his

phone beeps with a notification.

Hi, it says, **sorry for the creepy behaviour, but you're really funny.**

That's okay, he types back. **Thank you.**

The overhead bell rings and he nearly jumps out of his skin. He sighs. Time to go sit on the bus alone and suffer through conversation with some well-meaning classmate who only feels sorry for him.

By the time he gets home, there's a string of messages waiting for him. He abandons his very important plans to do homework and then go to bed in favour of texting back.

They talk through the night and into the early hours of morning. He goes to bed exhausted and wakes up exhausted. Even so, there's a skip in his step that has nothing to do with the three cups of coffee he downs in a row.

Midway through the next day he receives a text. **what do you want from life?** He contemplates the text for a while. Anusree isn't likely to laugh at him and lock him in the geography room like his middle school contemporaries had done. But he hesitates before tapping out,

To see the world. What about you?

The reply makes him smile. **to change it**

A week passes in conversation, and then a month, a year. It's funny how much he knows about her and all that he doesn't

He knows she has a deep fear of frogs and that she has a sister she quarrels with constantly and that she's dead clever, empathetic and funny besides. He does not know whether she eats her pizzas crust- first or which way she loops her g's and how she knots her ties. He can tell by her texts that she lives somewhere in the southern hemisphere and that her sleep schedule is seriously messed up.

She knows that he loves trees and that laughing makes him self-conscious and that he can name every constellation. She does not know that he draws smileys in condensation wherever he can or that he tries to touch the ceiling wherever he can.

But that's okay. She knows parts of him no one else does. He likes that.

He likes to think that some day the stars will align and they'll meet. In a desolate airport, a lonely coffee shop, a charming bookstore. He likes to think that he'd recognise her by speech patterns alone. The way her sentences climb over hills and flow through them like a mighty river, the way they curl into empty parts of his heart and make themselves as comfortable as returning to an old favourite song.

Maybe they'll never meet. And that's okay too.

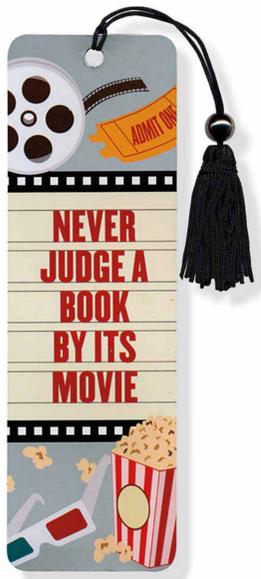
- Lakshmi Kalarikkal (SYJC)



That's a (Really Bad) Wrap!

The Harry Potter series was a catalyst for what was slowly to become one of the movie industry's most popular and lucrative niches: the book adaptations. After the smashing success of J.K Rowling's wizarding world, many young adult fiction novels were brought to life on screen, by means of animation, CGI and real life actors. Fans around the world were ecstatic to hear their beloved characters speak, and watch their favourite stories come alive on the silver screen. Most, if not all popular fiction novels were signed up for a screenplay adaptation. Auditions were held, casts were selected, films were shot, and the release day came when moviegoers eagerly flocked to theatres... and everything proceeded to go downhill from there.

It's not like adaptations HAVE to be bad. The Da Vinci Code, Trainspotting, and The Silence Of The Lambs are all fantastic movies that kept the intent and spirit of their source novels intact. When it comes to young adult fiction, the Hunger Games trilogy was managed with efficiency and grace, and the wonderful storyline got the screen representation it deserved. However, not every book series was as lucky. Elated fans waited months for the movies of their dreams to be released, only to be extremely disappointed by what they saw. There were a lot of screenplay adaptations after Harry Potter and The Lord Of The Rings, all aiming for a very lucrative bull's-eye. However, while some movies like Ready Player One missed the centre but at least hit the target, others swung and missed - by a MILE. I had my own rollercoaster experiences with some of those movies - suffice it to say that I am now a part of the group of people that believes screenplay adaptations need WAY more time and effort than the majority of people seem to want to put in them. Here are a couple of my favourite let-down's so you can cringe with me.



Eragon (2006)

The 4-part series written by Christopher Paolini takes us to the realm of Alagaesia, a land at war with its own nature and history. The story is at heart a coming of age tale, but the conflict and controversy surrounding magic, the bond between Riders and dragons, and the formation of the rebellion that changed the nation all make for an unforgettable saga. The characters are unique, and all appeal to the heart, and the author's comprehensive descriptive skills provide the readers with a trove of information about the world. And yet, somehow, the movie chose to disregard all of the character development Eragon and Saphira had in the first book, and turn a story about finding a best friend, a family and a purpose in life into a short heroic tale. They took the main points of the story - boy finds dragon egg, goes on adventure, meets people, fights battles - and kept nothing else. The movie was completely devoid of the emotion and wonder that made the books such a compelling read.

The Giver (2014)

The Giver quartet by Lois Lowry is arguably one of the best dystopian series that I have ever read. A fresh concept, the story follows a 12 year old boy named Jonas who resides in a society that has eradicated pain and strife by removing their ancestral memories - but this has also caused them to lose emotional depth. When Jonas is selected as the Receiver of Memory, the person who stores all the past memories of the time before Sameness, he struggles with concepts of all the new emotions and things introduced to him: whether they are inherently good, evil, or in between, and whether it is even possible to have one without the other.

The book is a fantastic piece of storytelling, with an insightful commentary on emotions and the role they play in integrating human society. And the movie? The cast was amazing and I was genuinely excited for this film, but to no avail. The movie decided to ignore the majesty of the plot, throw in a love story and unnecessary action scenes for effect, and was overall a very bland, uninteresting watch.

Books provide so much material and depth for stories, and reading genuinely feels like an out of body experience. These kinds of bad adaptations, on the other hand, make me want to exit my body permanently. There are so many good fables out there; all it takes is a good effort to make those written tales come alive the way they should. Here's to hoping we will see our beloved tomes on the silver screen in the future - and be able to fully enjoy our favourite worlds in technicolour.

Natasha Desai



Foreign Cartoons and Us

The place was Kurukshetra, but the year was AD 1947. Where once the Mahabharata war had been fought, the victims of another bloody conflict were being sheltered, fed, and clothed. With Partition had come into India hundreds of thousands of refugees from West Punjab. They had escaped the bloodshed with nothing but the clothes on their back and the desperation in their hearts, and now it fell to the new born Indian state to do right by them. Rations could be provided and tents could be erected - but there was nothing to do in the cold winter evenings except shiver and remember days gone by.

The United Council for Relief and Welfare therefore set up film projectors from Delhi in Kurukshetra. On large cloth screens were shown Disney specials of Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck, with audiences of more than 15,000 per screening. A social worker wrote, "The refugees forgot their shock experiences and misery for two golden hours of laughter... Yes, they who had been bruised and beaten, were homeless and wounded, could laugh."

That was then. Today, many, many years down the line, there is no Indian who has not grown up with *videshi* cartoons. We've watched Dora the Explorer shoo away Swiper the Fox when we were little; we've laughed at the antics of Tom and Jerry. Then there are those Japanese anime-esque classics which I held close to my heart. *Ninja Hattori* was immensely popular maybe a decade back. I don't know if it still is. To the miraculously unaware, the gist is that Hattori, a ninja-in-training, takes up residence in the house of Kenichi Mistuba and teaches him not to be a lazy bum. I do know that I loved discussing the characters - Shinzou, Shishimanu, Amara, Sonam - with friends, and I even made a mock fighting game with those characters. Truth is, if you've seen one cartoon of this genre, you've seen them all. *Perman*, *Doraemon*, and all the others were simply the same wine in a new bottle.

To be sure, we do have our own homemade cartoons, most prominently *Chhota Bheem*, but also *Motu Patlu* and *Little Krishna*. But for now, our cartoon worlds are still ruled by foreign lands.

And our love affair with foreign-made cartoons didn't end with childhood. Oh no - we just moved on to *Dragon Ball Z* and *One Piece*.

Aditya Negi



SHOW UP FOR THESE SHOWS!

At this point, it's a cliché to complain that there's too much television and not enough time to watch it all. But the fact that it's a cliché doesn't make it any less true. The stories about how overwhelming this era of "peak TV" feels began years ago, and the number of shows in production has only continued to increase. But what really hammers the point home isn't the growing list of everything we watch in a year, but the even longer list of everything we've been meaning to get around to.

It's impossible to even keep up with the existence of all the new shows, let alone actually watch them. Even as someone who literally spends two-thirds of the day in front of a TV, and obsessively tracks premiere dates on three separate calendars, I've still been caught off guard when logging onto Netflix and seeing a trailer for the second season of a

show I'd never heard of. On one hand, it's wonderful to have so many options, especially when those options mean more diverse creators and stories. But on the other hand, it means that so much good stuff goes completely overlooked.

There's a new wave of shows that have developed loyal followings that never miss a chance to extol the many virtues of their favourites on social media. Some of these may be familiar as they do get the marketing and press coverage, but they don't necessarily have huge ratings or mainstream attention. For some of these shows, the fact that they air on streaming services makes them difficult for everyone to find, and for others, their nights and time slots change around, making it hard to keep up with them. With that in mind, here are the most underrated TV shows we all should be watching, but aren't.

GIFTED

After years of comics and 11 movies, we thought we'd seen every possible X-Men story. However, *The Gifted* introduced fans to a world where the X-Men aren't around and mutants are persecuted and experimented on. There are familiar characters who haven't been showcased on-screen before, but the core of the story follows it through one specific family. For longtime fans of the X-Men Universe it's an interesting look at another corner of the world we haven't been to yet. Season two seems to be moving toward the war we've been hearing about for years, with the main mutant characters split on each side, letting viewers pick where they want to belong.



DETROITERS

Detroiters isn't just one of the year's most overlooked comedies; it's one of the year's best comedies, period. It's a comedy for those who rolled their eyes at the dead seriousness of *Mad Men*, for those who appreciate loving references to Detroit culture, for those who frequently rewatch sitcoms to catch the jokes they missed the first time, and for those who simply want to laugh about life for half an hour.

The comedy follows two best friends and business partners (played by real-life BFFs Sam Richardson and Tim Robinson) as they make low-rent ads for local businesses. It's small-stakes comedy that results in big laughs, and it's one of the most entertaining and genuinely joyous shows out there.

THE TICK

The original live action version of *The Tick* in 2001 didn't break ratings records, but it developed a strong cult following that consistently demanded a revival. They got one when Amazon rebooted the show in 2016 with Peter Serafinowicz taking over as the title hero and Griffin Newman as his sidekick Arthur. As fun as the relationship between *The Tick* and Arthur is, the series' charm really lies in Jackie Earle Haley and Yara Martinez as villains The Terror and Miss Lint. They make the characters more than one note bad guys, encouraging viewers to care about their side of the story.



CASTLE ROCK

Castle Rock is a mysterious horror series set in the weird world of Stephen King. It follows the townspeople as they unravel secrets and decades long mysteries. Look, we can't really figure out how to explain this show, other than to say pay very close attention to every episode. King himself urged fans to look past the various easter eggs and just enjoy the story and great cast. Though it is really fun to see how many King references you can spot. It's not like anything else on television, and is definitely something we could only see in the era of streaming services.

Shwetal Funde

TECH TRICKED

STREAMING AND MIRRORING... WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

There was a time not long ago when to watch a movie at your convenience, you would need a TV with an HDMI link, a DVD player and the DVD. Just thinking about it brings back some memories doesn't it? But now it has become as simple as just using "screen-mirror" or "Chromecast" to view whatever content that we are seeing on our phones on a TV monitor. In this article we will see how screen mirroring and streaming are different from one another, how they actually work and also will see different types of mirroring and streaming.



So the question that arises is what actually is screen-mirroring? Screen-mirroring is nothing but capturing the data of a screen for e.g. computer, laptop, smartphone, etc. and display an actual real time replica of it on another screen using a cable or wireless network. A different way of displaying a bit of information is media streaming. Media streaming only takes specific content that is accessed on your computer, tablet or smartphone and sends it to a digital media player on an external device via a wireless connection. Examples of media streaming would be YouTube, Netflix, etc. The key difference here is that when you are streaming a movie

or an episode on a TV you can continue using other apps on your smartphone or laptop. This is because you are not actually making an real-time replica of your screen, but using the digital media player for streaming directly from that site.

There are various types of screen mirroring technologies. They all have their own pros and cons.

Miracast:-

Miracast is one of the most widely available technologies for wireless screen mirroring. Miracast is a part of the WiFi Alliance and came out way back in 2012. One set back of Miracast is that it is not compatible with IOS devices. Devices that do not have the support for Miracast can opt for dongles that come with the technology built in. This makes it very easy to convert older devices that do not have the hardware capabilities to support screen mirroring. It is worth mentioning that Miracast is a form of technology. It implements peer-to-peer WiFi Direct standard and allows streaming of 1080p HD videos as well as 5.1 channel surround sound.



MHL:

MHL stands for Mobile High-Definition Link. MHL is one of the best standards for high-quality content and responsiveness. The only downside is that MHL is wired and not wireless. MHL uses a micro USB port to HDMI converter that can transfer contents from your phone to your TV. Do note that all phones do not support MHL and most of the lower end phones don't support it either due to a few hardware limitations and cost. Mobile gaming is a very popular application of MHL due to the lag-free experience that it creates.

DLNA:-

DLNA stands for Digital Living Network Alliance is one of the powerful standards for wireless screen mirroring. The only problem is that it was introduced by Sony and it tends to work best with Sony devices like Sony Bravia, Sony PlayStation, Sony Xperia and Sony VAIO. DLNA operates using a client-server model. What this means is that, when the client and server are connected, the client can access the files present on the server. This simply means that if both the screens are supportive you can use either as the source at a time. DLNA works only with files and you cannot actually send over a browser window or YouTube. There are other restrictions with regards to the format of the file as well as Digital Rights Management (DRM) restrictions for streaming certain

HDMI:-

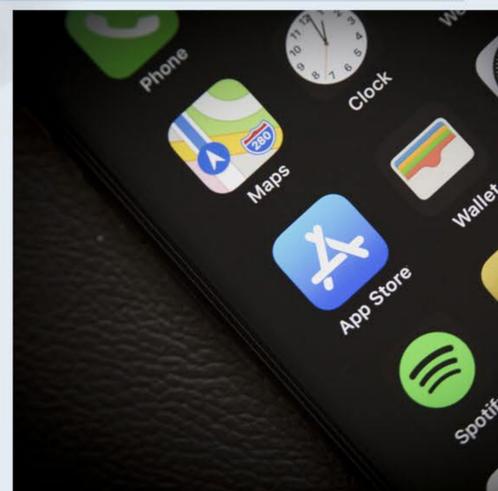
HDMI stands for High Definition Multimedia Interface and it transfers information from the connected device to a display digitally. Connect the opposite ends of the HDMI cable to TV and port of the graphics card. Once you boot up your PC, the graphics card will detect the new display. On a laptop, you can press the Windows button+P to bring about different options to display your laptop screen on your TV. Then the computer demands for some information before it starts connection to the second screen since there are different resolutions and screens involved. Then your computer searches for what the audio and video settings of your TV are, so your computer can display the information properly. This is also called E.D.I.D. (Extended Display Identification Data). Then the TV screen mimics the contents of the computer screen exactly as it is. You can also choose to display both screens, one screen only and extend as well.

Wireless(Using an App):-

The most widely used form of screen mirroring is wireless screen mirroring using HDMI. We can see how it works by having Airtame app as an example. Airtame uses a WiFi connection to mirror the contents of your PC or smartphone. It works by taking 24 screenshots per second. You may be wondering why 24? This is because 24fps is the standard for videos and is an adequate frame rate for detection of realistic motion by the human eye. Once the screenshots are captured, the computer packages it and sends it over the WiFi connection to the Airtame device that is plugged into the TV or monitor's HDMI port. The Airtame device unpacks this information and displays it on the TV. Even though it might sound like a lot of things happening at once, you'll never notice a lag as everything happens in real-time.

Media Streaming differs from wireless streaming with HDMI in that it doesn't mirror the contents of your PC or smartphone but actually gets content from the internet. Media streaming is quite predictable in nature when considering the fact that there are no mouse movements and operations performed haphazardly. Due to this very reason, media streaming has a much better latency compared to screen mirroring. This is also the reason why media players can offer better encoding and compression.

So finally it all comes down to the purpose when one is considering whether to use Screen- mirroring or Media streaming. If your main use case is to showcase presentations, create engaging discussions and effortlessly switch between various computer platforms in an office or school, screen mirroring technology is the way to go. A movie lover or binge watcher should definitely go for a media streaming subscription.



Science Of Everything

THE FRESH, EARTHY SMELL ...

Although the monsoon arrived late this year, the sight of raindrops falling after a long summer is truly beautiful, and remember the 'smell' of that rain when it first hits the ground. It's... Petrichor, which we'll be knowing about this month. The word was coined from Greek petros, meaning "stone", and ichor, meaning "the fluid that flows in the veins of the gods".

Water itself does not have any smell, so what's the secret behind this beautiful smell?

Different compounds are involved to varying degrees in the smell of rain, depending on whether it's the post-rain or the pre-rain smell.

The major contributor to this smell are a class of soil-dwelling bacteria, called actinomycetes, that produce the compound geosmin. They secrete it into the surrounding soil, and it is then disturbed by rainfall, spreading in the air

and allowing us to detect it. It's been estimated humans can detect geosmin at concentrations as low as 5 parts per trillion. Geosmin is also present in beetroot, and responsible for its earthy flavour.

Another factor is the oils produced by plants, particularly when there is dry weather. These oils collect in the soil and in rocks; rain then causes a range of smaller, volatile compounds within them to be released into the air.

The smell before rain, however, has a different cause. Particularly, the smell before a thunderstorm is a consequence of the electrical charge present in the atmosphere. This causes the splitting of some oxygen molecules in the atmosphere into individual oxygen atoms, which can then combine with other oxygen molecules in the atmosphere to form ozone, which is swept from the higher atmosphere,

making it possible for us to detect it.

In fact, some scientists believe that people inherited their affection for the scent of rain from ancestors who relied on rainy weather for their survival. First rains and it's smell...songs have been sung and poems written about it. But did you know you could get it in a bottle? In the perfume capital of India — Kannauj in Uttar Pradesh — a century-old process is used to recreate that loamy smell of the first shower, as an attar.

Attachment to this earthy smell of rain is like an ancient memory we're already born with. It's in our genes. We feel it deeply, perhaps just like our ancestors did, even though most of us are no longer connected with the earth very closely. So the next time you find yourself in stifling heat, do search for Petrichor, so that you can say... Monsoon is coming.

-Neha Raut, TYBSc Bioanalytical

What Makes them Glow??

Now that the rains are about to settle in Mumbai, some of us will go to Bhandardara to watch fireflies. Fireflies or locally known as 'Kajve' are beautiful glowing insects. But have you ever wondered what makes the fireflies glow?

What is the reason that they emit light?

Fireflies glow due to a natural phenomenon called bioluminescence.

What is Bioluminescence?

Bioluminescence is light emitted by living things through chemical reactions in their bodies.

Most bioluminescent organisms are found in the ocean. These bioluminescent marine species include fish, bacteria, and jellies. Some bioluminescent organisms, including fireflies and fungi, are found on land. There is almost no bioluminescent organism native to freshwater habitats.

Chemistry of Bioluminescence:

-The chemical reaction that results in bioluminescence requires two unique chemicals: luciferin and either luciferase or photoprotein. Luciferin is the compound that actually produces light. In a chemical reaction, luciferin is called the substrate. The bioluminescent colour (yellow in fireflies, greenish in lanternfish) is a result of the arrangement of luciferin molecules.

-Luciferase is an enzyme. An enzyme is a chemical that interacts with a substrate to affect the rate of a chemical reaction. The interaction of the luciferase with

oxidized (oxygen-added) luciferin creates a by-product, called oxyluciferin. This chemical reaction creates light.

-Most bioluminescent reactions involve luciferin and luciferase. Some reactions, however, do not involve an enzyme (luciferase). These reactions involve a chemical called a photoprotein. Photoproteins combine with luciferins and oxygen, but need another agent, often an ion of the element calcium, to produce light.

-Some bioluminescent organisms produce luciferin on their own. Dinoflagellates, for instance,

bioluminesce in a bluish-green colour. Bioluminescent dinoflagellates are a type of plankton—tiny marine organisms that can sometimes cause the surface of the ocean to sparkle at night.

-Some bioluminescent organisms do not synthesize luciferin. Instead, they absorb it through other organisms, either as a food or in a symbiotic relationship. Some species of midshipman fish, for instance, obtain luciferin through the "seed shrimp" they consume. Many marine animals, such as squid, house bioluminescent bacteria in their light organs. The bacteria and squid have a symbiotic relationship.

Bioluminescent Light:

-The appearance of bioluminescent light varies greatly, depending on the habitat and organism in which it is found. Most marine bioluminescence, for instance, is expressed in the blue-green part of the visible light spectrum. These colours are more easily visible in the deep ocean. Also, most marine organisms are

sensitive only to blue-green colours. They are physically unable to process yellow, red, or violet colours.

-Bioluminescence is a "cold light." Cold light means less than 20% of the light generates thermal radiation, or heat.

-Some organisms emit light continuously. Some species of fungi

present in decaying wood, for instance, emit a fairly consistent glow, called foxfire.

-Most organisms, however, use their light organs to flash for periods of less than a second to about 10 seconds. These flashes can occur in specific spots, such as the dots on a squid. Other flashes can illuminate the organism's entire body.

Adaptations and Uses of Bioluminescence:

While the functions of bioluminescence are not known for all animals, typically bioluminescence is used to warn or evade predators, to lure or detect prey, and for communication between members of the same species. Bioluminescence is used by living things to hunt prey, defend against predators, find mates, and execute other vital activities. Some species luminesce to confuse attackers. Many species of squid, for instance, flash to startle

predators, such as fish. With the startled fish caught off guard, the squid tries to quickly escape. Some insect larvae (nicknamed "glow worms") light up to warn predators that they are toxic. Toads, birds, and other predators know that consuming these larvae will result in illness and possible death. Adult fireflies, also called lightning bugs light up to attract mates. Both male and female fireflies can luminesce. Two systems are involved according to species; in one, females emit light from their abdomens to attract males; in the other, flying

males emit signals to which the sometimes-sedentary females respond. The pattern of their flashes tells nearby females what species of firefly they are and that they're interested in mating. Bioluminescence is also used to lure prey or search for prey.

Thus, if you've ever seen a firefly, you have encountered a bioluminescent organism.

If not, don't worry, this season try your luck by going to specialized treks and trails for fireflies!

-Prajakta Velankar, TYBSc

Animals That Give Weather Report

As the summer ends, everyone awaits for the rains and check their television and phones for weather updates. But if we examine around us, there are some animals who very well do the job of predicting weather before us. Let's have a look at them.

1) Birds -

When you see birds flying high up in the sky it means that the weather is clear. But if they fly lower to the ground it means that bad weather or storm is on its way. The drop in pressure in the atmosphere

makes the bird uncomfortable in flying high in the sky.

2) Frogs-

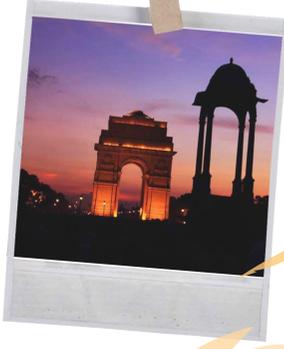
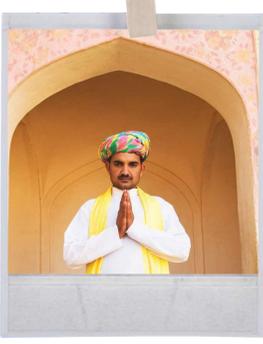
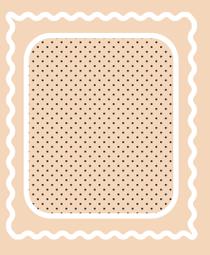
Croaking of frog is normal. But when you hear them croak with exceptional fervor, it might indicate that there will be showers. This is due to frantic need for males to attract females for mating and lay their eggs in the fresh water. The life cycle of Frogs is tied to a source of fresh water. Thus, more rain increases amount of vernal pools and temporary ponds for their tadpoles to develop.

3) Ants -

If you see a huge ant mound or ant nest in your garden, get ready with your umbrellas, it might rain that day or in couple of days. Ants breathe through tiny holes in their exoskeleton called spiracles, and that they may detect changes in atmospheric pressure this way. A combination of pressure, humidity and day length causes ants to respond by changing their nest structure and their behavior in some way.

-Sanika Upadhye Tybsc Bioanalytical Sciences

SAFARNAMA



CULTURAL FAUX PAS TO AVOID WHILE TRAVELLING

When you travel, you automatically become vulnerable in new surroundings and among new people. There is a lot that can happen and you never know when accidents happen, but luckily, there are some things that you can be extra careful about while traveling.

Living in Mumbai, we sometimes overlook certain norms that people living in other parts of India are sensitive about. So, here are a few things to take care of while traveling in India:

DO NOT WEAR SHOES INSIDE A TEMPLE OR HOME

In India, it is customary to remove your shoes while entering religious places. Also, if someone invites you into their abode, make sure you take your shoes off prior to entering unless the host has clearly said that you don't have to. Some Indians do wear slippers inside, but usually, those are just for indoor use and never worn outside. This practice extends to some shops as well. So, if you see shoes at the entrance door, it's a good idea to remove yours as well.

DO NOT GIVE OR TAKE THINGS WITH YOUR LEFT HAND

The left hand is considered unclean in India as it is typically used only for performing unsavoury functions. Especially in religious places, receiving prasad or giving alms by the left hand is unacceptable and considered inauspicious. Therefore, all instances involving contact with food, passing or taking objects, or interacting with people must be done with the right hand.

DO NOT BE OFFENDED BY PROBING QUESTIONS

Indians are an inquisitive bunch and their culture is one where people do anything but mind their own business. They will ask questions about your job, income, marriage, and family, sometimes even during your first meeting! It's just their way of breaking the ice. So, don't be surprised or offended if someone asks you such questions right off the bat and just play along. Oh, and don't forget to do the same in return. Rather than causing offense, the people you are conversing with will be pleased that you've taken such an interest in them.

DO NOT EXPECT EVERYONE TO SPEAK ENGLISH

India is culturally and linguistically diverse. There are numerous languages spoken across the country and the dialects vary from place to place. Although you can get by with English at some of the places, outside the urban centres it's worth learning a few local words and phrases.

DO NOT STRIKE UP RELIGIOUS/POLITICAL CONVERSATIONS

Do not be fooled by the countless Indians you encounter in the same, India may seem united and secular but there are many cracks and crevices and it is best you avoid discussing sensitive topics like Kashmir, religious divide and political affiliation while in India, chances are you'll either enrage someone, or get a propaganda-like response in an attempt to sway your opinion.

Shreya Nair

FAUS PAS TO AVOID WHILE TRAVELLING

Travelling abroad opens up your world view, but acting and behaving like you do in your own country may get you into a lot of trouble in many different parts of the world. Certain things that are acceptable to Indians may be considered offensive by people of other nationalities. As they say, "When in Rome, do as the Romans do." Here is a list of things you should avoid doing in other countries:

TO DO NOT LIST

A guide to not doing.

Illegal to wear high heels while visiting any tourist monuments in Greece.
It is insulting to tip a waiter in Japan, but never forget to tip when you are in USA.
Chewing gum is banned in Singapore. You'll have to pay a hefty fine if you are caught with chewing gum.
Do not drink white coffee in Italy after breakfast if you don't want dirty looks from the barista.
It is rude to blow your nose in public in Turkey, China, Japan, France, etc.
It is illegal to feed the pigeons in countries like Singapore, San Francisco, Venice. This is to not let the bird population grow.
Never compare Canadians with their southern neighbours and vice-versa.
Many Caribbean islands have banned people from wearing camouflage-style clothes.
Do not eat your plate clean in China. The chef assumes that as a sign of you not being fed adequately enough. So, always leave a little food on your plate after you finish your meal.
Do not eat in public during Ramadan in the

Middle East, especially in the UAE.
People don't appreciate you smiling at them in Russia. Smiling is considered an act of intimacy, so Russians only smile at their loved ones.
Don't touch people's heads or faces in Malaysia or Thailand.
It's considered rude to ride on the backseat of a taxi in Ireland, Scotland, Netherlands, Australia, and Newzealand. So, ride shotgun and make small talk with the driver.
People don't take compliments very well in Norway and Belgium. Avoid praising them if you don't want to put them on the spot and get embarrassed.
Do not try to engage in small talk with locals in Stockholm and Norway. Also, don't sit with strangers on the bus.
It is insulting to ask for extra cheese or sauce in restaurants in Italy.
As Indians, we are very open about showing affection towards even a stranger's child. But in the USA, you may get arrested for touching a stranger's kid without permission.

Disha Shah

THINGS I WOULD NEVER RISK DOING IN FRANCE:

NEVER UNDERESTIMATE HOW FAR A FEW FRENCH WORDS CAN GO

French people love it when you try to speak their language. You'll always get better service and a ton of respect by opening with as much French as you know. Even if it's just a few words. Remember, "Bonjour" ("Hello"), "Au Revoir" ("Goodbye") and "Merci" ("Thank You") can go a long way.

NEVER ASK FOR A TAKE OUT OR WAVE WILDLY AT A WAITER TO GET THEIR ATTENTION

There's an etiquette to ordering things in France. If waiters don't come soon, but are nearby, then make eye contact or raise a slight hand. To do more, would be incredibly rude. Also, never ask for take outs, it's just something the French don't do. They don't expect big tips; most people usually round the bill up to the nearest euro.

NEVER THINK THAT YOU CAN EAT AT ANY TIME

French people have a fixed time for all three meals, and very rarely have anything between them.

I had been to France for an exchange for 15 days and with an unforgettable experience, I discovered the country's own set of rules. There are a big country and there are different rules and social customs in different parts. However, there are some things that tourists should never do in France. Follow these rules and you'll have a great time, wherever you are.

NEVER SAY NO TO FRENCH FOOD

If someone very politely offers you something, you could just have a taste of it but never reject it.

TRY NOT TO SPEAK LOUDER THAN EVERYONE ELSE, PARTICULARLY AT NIGHT

The French are pretty respectful of other people when it comes to noise levels. Try to watch your levels of noise, particularly in quiet villages and towns at night, where you'll want to avoid angry French people telling you to be quiet. I am usually a loud person, but when I returned from France, my family made me repeat things twice just because they couldn't hear me. That's what France does to you!

DON'T EXPECT A BIG SAVOURY BREAKFAST

The French don't really do breakfast in a big way. And it's very sweet in taste. Maybe croissants, baguettes, pastries and brioche with coffee or hot chocolate. Go French, and eat big at lunch and even bigger at dinner.

Other than these, there are a lot of unspoken rules in small villages. In the village of Landerneau in Bretagne where I was staying at during my exchange, roaming in bare sleeves was looked down upon. Despite all these funny and unusual rules, France is a beautiful and welcoming country with its pleasant people to meet and its own culture to discover.

Rashi Gulati



fictionally yours

WHERE YOU MET ME!

"Sun goes down and we are here together
Fireflies glow like a thousand charms
Stay with me and we can dream forever
Right here in my arms..... Tonight!!
The mountains that echo your name
The sea that reflects your soul
Come find me near this distinct lake
Right near the heaven of love... tonight."

(There is a splash of water on my face.. I can hear her drowning into the water... papa is making efforts to open the car window, all I want to do is get the seat belt off but I can't move his eyes started closing so did mine...)

"Good morning, honeytumps. How are you, did you sleep well?"

"I am fine thanks Aunt Nina, It's just..."

"You are still having those nightmares ... kid, you must let it

escaped in California?"

"I really don't know Zia dear she never discussed" Suddenly she left the room. At that time I decided this is something that I really want to find out. What actually happened to my mom and dad's story?

Aunt Nina came in with a box in her hand. "Well, these are the last things I have that belong to your mom." In the box were a small diary of various contacts, an old torn ribbon, and pieces of glass. A mirror and a book full of mom's old poems which I had been reading since I was 12.

"I know you are planning to find the remaining lyrics of the poem, and I definitely know you are going to sneak out for some trip to Palestine and California, so better be prepared." She winked at me and I knew that I am good to go.

The entire night I read all the poems once again to know at least some hint, where I found that in one poem she describes "The shining city, the streets with clowns/The people of life are replaced by nouns/The beauty of Christ is in the valley of rock dessert, They say the river here

go..."

"Today is 3 July, the day both my parents died in that car crash. It's been 12 years... I barely remember the incident but the song it haunts my dreams."

"I understand, that song was your mother's favourite, and as a lyricist, I must say this was her best piece... but I never heard the entire song, she promised me that she would sing it for the party before she..."

Aunt Nina started to burst in tears. Of course my mom was her loving only sister. However I do wonder what those lyrics are. The musical box that my mom gave me on my 8th birthday that year has the entire music but never did any pattern or song fit in.

"Hey what are you actually thinking about? Don't worry about me, I'm a happy old woman with some antics." I laughed; the way she behaves is like

bleeds his ocean colour." Never in any geography have I ever heard ocean in California or Palestine. I wonder... nd dad's story?

The next morning I boarded a plane from New York City to Jordan as I planned to go by the roadway to Palestine" I landed there in the morning next day and the air smelled so holy and pure just the way she described it. This is Jordan the place where my mom wished to breathe her last breath until the table turned over.

With a few help of my friends in NY I managed to gain help from the local officials here to wonder in the cities. Today Jordan is one of highest terrorized area in the world. A few letters that were meant to be sent by her to her family here were still lying in the box. I just picked up the address and filled the gap of distance. It was a small town near Palestine, half area occupied by the Jews, and I found the residence of the people the letter was written for.

The letter said,

Dear Grégory,

I am sorry for what I did, but I still

a seventeen-year-old. "By the way, aunt I do wonder where this place that mom describes in the song is."

"Well if you remember, your mom, was a refugee from Palestine who was then found by your dad when he served in the US military and then they shifted to California before they had you."

"My Dad was in the military!?"

"Your biological father whom she loved more than anything ever until one day he left Susie with your papa who was at the time a settled merchant in California."

I always knew that I wasn't Papa's real daughter, yet I loved him a lot but past so many years I never heard about my real father. The only fact that I knew that he was Papa's best friend. Mom and Papa only married for my sake as papa still respected her love for my real father.

"How far is this place where they had

love you no matter what. I wish I could just be there with you and Joseph but I can't. The main purpose of the letter was to tell you that the baby is born, I am blessed with a girl and I named her Zia after you know who. Please write as you receive the letter.

Love,
Sussie

I was nervous when I stood on the doorstep waiting to know who he was and why my mom begged for his forgiveness. As I knocked the door it was opened by a mid 50 year old gentleman.

I said, "Hello, I am Sussie's daughter and I have here to meet Mr. Grégory Zenda." He first frowned, then was shocked and then suddenly BANG! Did he just close the door on my face? Holy Christ this will be one hell of a journey.

I N T H E M E A D O W

Dusk had already started to fall; soon darkness would consume the whole forest that stretched in front of us and we weren't even halfway there. We had left our base camp in the late afternoon but it felt like we were going in circles. 4 hours had already passed and the peak of the mountain was nowhere to be seen.

"I'm pretty sure we lost the trail, guys," Nishant said, looking worried.

We had been following the arrows, which presumably the locals had drawn on the rocks.

"Water's almost over," Esha said, "But I think I hear water flowing somewhere. Come on! Let's check it out." Before we could say anything Esha was already on her way towards the source of the sound. Nishant just shrugged and followed Esha. I stood there thinking what we were going to do next.

Esha thought she had heard water crashing against rocks somewhere, but we weren't sure. There was a clearing for camping on the peak but we were nowhere near it and we had also lost the trail that we were supposed to follow. I let out a sigh and followed Nishant.

After an hour-long walk, we now stood beside what we could call a small river. A small temple nestled beside it, covering under the canopy of trees. The walls were of a decaying red color and small brass temple bells hung from the top of its door.

We stood mesmerized, taking in the view that was both beautiful and haunting in its own sense. While Nishant and Esha refilled the water bottles, I left my bag where I was standing and walked towards the small temple. Moss grew on the wooden threshold and a small carved statue rested on the floor. My head hit the small frame of the door and the bells started swinging back and forth, forest wind rushed into the temple and I was transported to a place that I knew all too well. It haunted my dreams while I lay in cold sweat.

I stood in a meadow where white flowers bloomed between the grass. And there she was, a smile on her tiny face and a flower in her hand. She never smiled when I saw her in my dreams. The scars from the fire had also left her face. "You came," she said, smiling again.

The trees around me swayed, the leaves turned brown and in a second I was back in the temple. I turned back and saw Nishant and Esha looked right at me. At least that's what I thought at first but they kept staring at something behind me. "Who's the little girl?" they asked.

ART WALL

