

Vasant Valley

July, 2010

T O D A Y

A PROMISE TO BE KEPT?

Is the new Rupee symbol just an attempt by the Government to join the elite currency club, rubbing elbows with the likes of USA, the EU, Japan and the UK? Released on 15th July 2010, the symbol has attracted a lot of critical appraisal already. The question really is whether we actually need one of these and how having one will help us. On one hand, it seems like just a smart tactic to satisfy the public, which is highly impressed knowing that our country now has what only 4 other huge economic powers in the world possess. On the other hand, there is the argument of convenience. Many say that the new rupee symbol makes various tasks easier by making the commonly used 'Rs.' even shorter.



The symbol was chosen through a competition held by the Finance Ministry of India, and the winning design was created by Udaya Kumar, an IIT graduate who craftily combined the Hindi 'Ra' and the Roman 'R', signifying India's closeness with its cultural and linguistic roots, along with its quest for modernization and connecting with the global world. This competition itself (for which the government even charged an entry fee of US \$10) was quite a source of controversy and contributed much to the delay in the selection of the symbol.

Is the symbol just a representation of India's pride in its tremendous growth in the last 63 years? Or is it an indication of the government's newfound farsightedness and overconfidence due to the high rate of economic growth we recently achieved? Although several predictions envision India as a top economic power by 2030, the Rupee symbol simply adds to the expectations of Indians as well as the global citizen from the nation. Perhaps something not everybody is aware of is that it is possible for just any country to adopt a currency symbol and therefore, India having one doesn't really make us special. It simply shows that the government believes in itself enough to raise expectations so high that not being able to fulfill them soon enough, will be one of the greatest disappointments ever faced by the country's populace.

Another point of view says that rebranding the Rupee can help India raise its currency. In his budget speech, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee said, "In the ensuing year, we intend to formalize a symbol for the Indian Rupee, which reflects and captures the Indian ethos and culture. With this,

the Indian Rupee will join the select club of currencies such as the US dollar, the British pound sterling, the euro and the Japanese yen that have a clear, distinguishing identity." With several other countries taking the example and engaging in their own selection processes, this trend set by India is marked by the aim to achieve a prominent position in the comity of nations, making it India's biggest ambassador the world over.

Above all, an unrivalled function of this symbol is instilling hope in the minds of the people. No matter how diverse a background they come from, everybody seems to identify with it. The symbol is a promise made by the government to the citizens that it will live up to the myriad of predictions, expectations and challenges placed before the nation. If nothing else, the symbol proves to be a beacon for everyone, whether literate or illiterate, to look into the future with just a tad bit more positivity and optimism.

Noor Singh

SCHOOL WATCH

JULY 7TH

Very Special Arts Annual Competition –
The results are :

1st - Mukund Gunjoo - VIII

2nd - Kushagra Gaur - VIII & Swareena Maku - VII

Consolation Prizes: - T K Aneesh - XI &
Ahmer Saleh - III

JULY 23RD

Carmel Convent had an interschool hindi debate.

The results were:

Tejasvita Singh - Best interjector

Ramya Ahuja - 3rd best speaker

JULY 22ND -24TH

Delhi State Annual Athletics Championship

Inayat Kaur Gill won 2 Gold medals in 100mts
and Long Jump (U-14)

Aditi Banerjee won a Silver medal in High Jump
Navia Dayal won a Bronze medal in High Jump
(U-16)

Inayat Kaur Gill and Aditi Banerjee will represent
Delhi

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF YOUTUBE

Are you looking to make some big money quickly? Do you have the ability to create and upload videos attracting the eyes of thousands? Are you a YouTube addict?

If you fit all these qualifications, or are potentially able to do so in the near future, you have your life made.

One year after YouTube (the online video powerhouse) invited members to become “partners” and added advertising to their videos, the most successful users are earning six-figure incomes from the Web Site. For some, like Michael Buckley (WhatTheBuckShow), the self-taught host of a celebrity chatter show, filming funny videos is now a full-time job.

YouTube has started a new ‘Partner Program’, which includes thousands of video uploaders, ranging from bedroom vloggers to huge media companies. YouTube, recently a subsidiary of Google, places ads in and around the videos of these popular YouTube users and splits the revenue with them as ‘partners’. So if you get famous enough, you can get paid for every video you upload!

What is a Vlogger? A vlogger is a video-logger, like famous vloggers of all time, often treated as celebrities should checkout are: Charlie McDonnell



a blogger (web logger). YT hosts some of the most ties. Some amazing and interesting vloggers you (charlieissocoollike), Shane Dawson (Shane Dawson TV), Justine Ezarik (iJustine), Lucas Cruikshank (Fred), Dave Days (davedays) Jordan Samuel Romani (comicfire7), Kristina Horner (italktosnakes) and many more.

Comedy has also found a huge audience on YouTube with various amateur comedians posting videos about their opinion of current life events with a funny twist. Some funny artists to check out are Ryan Higs (nigahiga), Ray William Johnson (RayWilliamJohnson), Potter Puppet Pals (NielCicirega), Lisa Donovan (LisaNova), realannoyingorange, Collegehumor and Smosh. Also look up Japanese Gag videos (Japanese pranks are classic).

One thing you cannot miss on YouTube is performing arts. Amateur musicians the world over have found an audience for their music on YouTube. In fact, Justin Bieber was first noticed on YT before becoming a star. We have singers, dancers and even artists that post videos filming their talents. A few YT musicians you should watch are Alex Day (nerimon; famous for his ‘Alex Reads Twilight’ series), Greyson Chance (greyson 97; definitely the next Justin Bieber), DJ BL3ND (XxCrazy3ssxX), Beyond Words Dance Company (katieshmatee), MarkCrilley and StephanieValentin (for art).

YouTube, in general, is the best place for somebody to be themselves and show the world their talents and specialties. It is the second most visited site in the world and was created only in 2005. It has become a household name and is on its way to becoming a verb, as in “Have you YouTubed that yet?” It’s our online video encyclopedia, music library and general source of entertainment.

I know I’m a YouTubeaholic. Are you?

Side note: We have a student from our school who is a vlogger on YouTube. Look up ‘turtthewurt’ and let us know what you think! ☺

-Tanvi Tandon

THE END OF THE VOYAGER

It was cold that night, as every night in the micro-gravity environment of the spacecraft was. Still, something was different about tonight. Something big was going to happen, but Flight Engineer Yuri Zhirkov couldn’t quite concentrate over the hum of the Ion Thruster Flight Drive of the spacecraft. He could still remember the day he and the rest of the crew of the *Voyager* first stepped onto the space craft, the first vessel of her kind equipped with all new cryo-stasis chambers and extended life support facilities. Thinking of fuel, Yuri suddenly remembered why he was standing in the Flight Drive room and quickly rushed towards the fuel dump panel and checked if there were any leaks in the Anti-Matter canisters. Suddenly, Yuri felt as though he was being watched. He turned around and said, “Oh, it’s you. Aren’t you supposed to be in your cryo-stasis pod?”

An alarm sounded and Park Ji Sung and the rest of the cryogenically frozen crew arose as their pods disabled due to standard disaster aversion policies. Any big disaster may occur while the crew is in cryo-stasis- this was an automatic precaution. The crew ran towards a giant bank of monitors with the words ‘FLIGHT DRIVE LEVEL DECOMPRESSION’ written in red and alarms ringing all over the vessel. Park started running towards the Flight Drive deck with his active life support suit quickly forming a Space Suit around his body. As soon as he entered the level, he could feel the vacuum of space pulling him towards the hole in the hull of the ship and he quickly activated the secondary hull to seal off the hole and to preserve the little remaining atmosphere present on the deck. The cause of the hull breach was the ship being hit by the disfigured and frozen body of his comrade Yuri Zhirkov. Maybe it was the shock that made Park faint or maybe it was the lack of oxygen present in his suit, but he collapsed onto the floor.

Hours later, Park awoke to the sound of the rest of the crew discussing how Yuri’s body could have damaged the hull of the ship from space. Medical Officer Darren Fletcher said “You know the hull can only be damaged if a projectile reaches a speed of 190,000 km/h and there is no way that Yuri’s body could have reached that kind of speed unless it had been thrown out of the ship and then made to orbit it before impact”. Park, who had been listening intently to the conversation, said, “So are you trying to suggest that one of us threw Yuri outside after killing him to dispose of his body?” The crew was taken aback by Park’s straight forward observation and started giving each other worried glances. That night nobody slept on the ship, the sheer thought of having a saboteur onboard was worrying everyone. The next morning everyone reached the command centre and to their horror Darren Fletcher’s body was sprawled across the flight control panel with blood stains all across the floor. Tensions escalated and day after day a crew member was being found dead around the ship until only Park was left alone in the vessel. That night, Park started reviewing the security footage of the ship to find out who the murderer was. The murderer was Park himself, but a more antagonistic version. A few days before the launch of the *Voyager* Park had visited the doctor who was present at the launch complex for a flu shot. While the doctor had been injecting him, Park had seen a tattoo on his forearm, but hadn’t paid much attention to it. He now knew that the tattoo was the mark of the Global Sedition, a group of space terrorists who opposed Earth colonization of other planets and who would go to great lengths to sabotage missions relating to the same. Park realized that the medicine might have been a chemical mind control substance with which the Sedition has used him to kill everyone.

Realizing that the sedition may use him tonight to destroy other missions by making him dock the ship with another one to eliminate that ship’s crew, Park quickly ran to the Flight Control Deck and entered the coordinates of the Sun into the computer so that he may put the ship on a collision course with it. He put in Automatic Override codes into the computer so that he may not be able to change the ship’s trajectory. As Park sealed himself within the cryo-stasis pod for the last time he thought of what he had become, from being a prodigal scientist to becoming a pawn in a political game and, worst of all, a vile murderer.

Mridang Mathur

MONSOONS

The first drops of water embrace the dry ground. The sun gives way to the much awaited clouds. The wind picks up, and water pelts down. Lightning flashes, thunder roars, and rain pours. Relief from the blistering heat; the monsoon has finally arrived.

Lets peek into the past. The 2009 drought was declared the worst in India since 1972. For Indian farmers, scarcity of water added to the omnipresent poverty. Acute shortages of food supplies caused uncontrollable inflation and price rise. So, not only did rainfall deficit impoverish farmers, it affected all sectors of the economy, including the common man. With India still recovering from the severe drought, the 2010 monsoons brought with them more than just drops of water. The rain brought higher incomes, less anxiety, and of course lighter hearts. But, as heavy showers crippled Delhi on 12th July, we realized just how unpredictable the monsoon could be. The heavy showers obstructed



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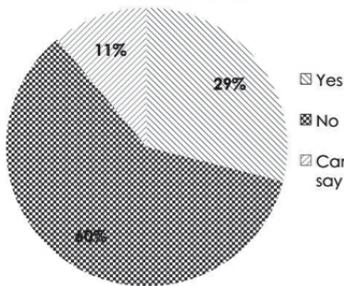
traffic, delayed flights and claimed 11 lives, leaving the capital city of India in disarray and chaos. The high-speed winds and unprecedented rainfall brought down large trees, and left Delhi submerged in knee-deep blockage.

The point is that so many lives and so many economic sectors of our country are perched precariously atop the monsoons. Even a slight change in the position of this foundation has the capacity to bring everything else crashing down. So, believe it or not, Nature still rules, and once in a while, shows glimpses of her omnipotent power.

-Anjni Gupta

We asked VS -

Will Delhi be ready for the Common Wealth Games?



Survey conducted by Sanjana Malhotra XII - A

अगर भाषा नहीं होती तो

भाषा लिखना, पढ़ना हमारी एक ज़रूरत भी है और बहुत बड़ा वरदान भी है। भाषा से ही हम सीखते हैं, मनोरंजन करते हैं और जिंदगी का लगभग प्रत्येक काम करते हैं। सिनेमा, पुस्तकें, कंप्यूटर न जाने क्या-क्या भाषा के बिना हो ही नहीं सकता है। लेकिन भाषा से बहुत नुकसान भी पहुँचते हैं। भाषा न रहने के जो भी खूबियाँ व परेशानियाँ जो मुझे नज़र आती हैं तो काफी हैं, किंतु उन सैकड़ों बातों से जो मुझे सबसे सटीक लगी उन्हें मैं आज लिखने जा रहा हूँ।

खूबियाँ :

मेरे हिसाब से यह होंगी कि हम विद्यालय में दिन भर सिर्फ खेल ही खेल खेलेंगे और कोई टोकने का प्रयत्न भी न करेगा। घर पर माँ काम करने के लिए डॉट ही नहीं पाएंगी क्योंकि आखिर वह कहेंगी क्या? जिंदगी शांत रहेगी और जिस प्रकार आज कल मनुष्य जीवन की भाग दौड़ में फँसकर पागल सा हो गया है, वैसा होगा ही नहीं। कसी भी प्रकार की वेशभूषा व टी वी नहीं होंगे और इन दोनों वस्तुओं में चौबीस घंटे चिपकने जैसा लगाव जो है वह भी गायब। भाषाओं की कठोरता कई बार मार पीट से भी ज़्यादा चुभती है और भाषा की कठोरता के बिना न कोई अपशब्द न कोई दुर्वचन। आज कल लोग बिना सोचे समझे ही बोल डालते हैं, किंतु एक भाषाहीन संसार में सब केवल एक दूसरे का आदर सम्मान करेंगे।

परेशानियाँ :

भाषा न होने पर एक दूसरे के बीच जिस प्रकार हम अपने ख्यालों का आदान प्रदान करते हैं, वैसा नहीं हो पाता। यही भाषा हमें जानवरों से अलग करके सफल व मानव जाति का खिताब देती है। इसके बिना कौन जाने हम कितने कम विकसित हुए होते? यह इंसानियत का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है जिससे मानव प्रगति व विकास की ओर बढ़ता है। हम जैसे के जैसे ही रह जाते। कहाँ चंद्रमा तक पहुँच पाते? कहाँ मशहूर शेक्सपीयर और प्रेमचंद पढ़ पाते? गणित भी एक ज़रूरी विषय है जो हम भाषा के बिना कभी समझ नहीं पाते। घर्म शुभ विचार, शिक्षा, सब भाषा की ही जानकारी से फैलते हैं। उपर्युक्त कारणों के बलवूने पर मैं सिर्फ यही कहना चाहूँगा कि भाषा हमारी जिंदगी का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है, परंतु इसका सही उपयोग कर के ही हम अपनी जिंदगी को शानदार बना सकते हैं।

-इंद्रनील रॉय, कक्षा 8 स

ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

A separate world for you and me,
A special bond that was meant to be,
Disaster struck and set it free,
And now you say that you're happy?

To you I poured my heart,
Right from the very start
The memories we shared
Remember once upon a time you cared?

A special part of my life I will never forget
Being with you I will never regret
But still you left me upset
Remember the time we first met?

You used to make me so happy,
Yet you left me wounded badly
Agreed our relationship was bumpy,
Did you always think it was this faulty?

Don't say a word, don't say it ever
Remember once we said forever,
We always thought we'd be together
And now you say never?

The strings of love that had bound us together
Were now cut off forever and ever...

-Kaveri Gupta

LIFE IN CLASS VI

Life in Class Six is great
I'm sure all the pupils appreciate,
Things are getting tougher
If you don't keep up, you suffer.

More freedom, more responsibilities
It sure is a test of your abilities.
We're always on the run
But it's a lot of fun.

New subjects have made us wise
Our knowledge is definitely on the rise.

Leaving behind Class Five,
We have entered Senior School
with great pride.

It's a challenge we face
Hope even in the future we do it
with grace.

- Diya Narang

THE NUT TREE

The Nut tree is big and round,
Like a lion's roar which is loud,
Its branches almost reach the sky,
I wonder how and I wonder why?

The nut tree is graceful and
grand,

It is as if it's from another land,
I wish I could climb up the tree,
And suddenly I could find a bee!
I wish I was the proud nut tree,
I would touch the sky and reach
up high,

I would be near the moon so
bright,

And it would fill me with shining
light!

**Aadya Nath, Shyna Kumar and
Saira Majithia IV- B**

MY DREAM VEHICLE

The Duckline Plane can talk, fly
and play with children. When-
ever he plays with children he
takes them for a ride.

Gauri Minocha II- C

WHEN I LEARNT HOW TO SWIM

When I was a little girl I always
wanted to swim. Whenever I saw
a swimming pool, I wanted to jump
into it. Then I told my mum to teach
me how to swim. Initially, when
I went to swim I was frightened.
I tried to swim but I kept drowning.
I was gulping and gasping for air.
It was difficult but I did not give up.
After days of practice I started to
move my arms and legs and I was
swimming. I finally learnt how to
swim. Always keep trying.

Sanah Kapur III- A



MY SELF!

Foundation has been busy

कक्षा एक -अ ने चित्र देखकर सामूहिक रूप से कहानी बनाई दो दोस्त



रविवार के दिन दो दोस्त अमर और बबलू रेत
में खेल रहे थे। खेलते खेलते बहुत देर हो गई।
अचानक उन्हें एक टोपी दिखाई दी। फिर वे
टोपी से खेलने लगे। मिट्टी के किले पर उन्होंने
टोपी रख दी।

कुछ देर बाद उन्होंने मछलियों को तैरते हुए
देखा। उनका भी मन किया तैरने का तो वह
पानी में कूद पड़े। पर उनको तैरना नहीं आता
था। एक औरत ने उन्हें डूबते हुए देखा और
उसने एक रस्सी फेंक कर उन्हें बचा लिया। वे
वापिस आकर फिरसे रेत में खेलने लगे।

उन्होंने रेत से एक टोपी भी बनाई। फिर उन्होंने
एक सुंदर घर देखा। वे उसके अंदर गए जहाँ
उन्हें दो कुत्ते दिखाई दिए। वे उन कुत्तों को
प्यार करने लगे। अब वे थक गए थे। वे
पलंग पर लेट गए और टी वी देखने लगे। उन्हें
नींद आ गई। थोड़ी देर सोने के बाद वह फिर
खेलने लगे। उन्हें घर में ठंड लगी। जब बाहर
आए तो देखा कि बारिश हो रही है। वह बारिश
में टोपी के साथ खेलने लगे और भीग गए।

उन्हें बहुत भूख लगने लगी। थोड़ी देर में बारिश
रुक गई। सूरज चमकने लगा। कुछ देर बाद
उनके मम्मी पापा उन्हें लेने आ गए। फिर अमर
और बबलू उनके साथ चिकन बर्गर खाने गए।
फिर कोक भी पी। घर जाने से पहले बाज़ार
गए क्योंकि उनके घर की सब्ज़ियाँ खत्म हो
गई थीं। फिर सब घर चले गए।

यू पी फूड फ़ैस्टिवल

हमने बनाई चटपटी चाट - जानते हो कैसे?



आओ सीखें -

सामग्री - उबले आलू, भल्ले, पापड़ी दही,
हरी चटनी, लाल चटनी, चाट मसाला और
चने।

बनाने का तरीका - उबले हुए आलू को
छीलकर उनके छोटे-छोटे टुकड़े करके फिर
भल्ले डाले, फिर पापड़ी डाली। लाल चटनी,
हरी चटनी डाली आखिर में चुटकी भर चाट
मसाला डालकर मज़े किए।

प्रियवत गुप्ता चार - स

TALL TALES TIGER'S CHALLENGE

For our summer holidays we
decided to go to St. Andrews for
the 2010 Golf Open
Championship. When the plane
landed, we quickly checked-in and
left for the match. There were
many good players but my
favourite was Tiger Woods.

He played with great players elder
than him. Tiger played well with
many pars. He had won! When he
finished everyone ran to him.
From the crowd he pulled me out
and challenged me for a game.
Next morning we teed off. Tiger
and I were getting a par at every
hole. Finally till the 17th hole we
were a tie. Tiger shot the last shot
on the 18th hole and it fell on the
green and rolled past the hole. All
the boys sighed. When I shot,
I got a Hole-In-One. Tiger was
shocked. I had WON!

Armaan Taneja V- B

SCORPION TERROR World In A Wall

And the shyest creatures of them all,
Could be found in nearly every crack of the wall.
Here and there a black scorpion an inch long,
To me, they were beautiful, just like a gorgeous song.

They were pleasant, unassuming creatures,
With a lot of unique and distinctive features.
As long as you were not clumsy around them,
You would be safe and face no problem.
By looking around and observing, I learn a lot,
How they ate bluebottles, not how they were caught.

Scorpions can be strange, clever and artistic,
But sometimes they can even be cannibalistic.
One day I took a female scorpion in a box, small,
not large,
Angry she would be and at the first opportunity,
barged.

She scuttled on the back of Larry's hand,
He roared in fright, seeing her sting wand.
The scorpion's babies scattered everywhere around,
The mother rushed nervously round and round.
Margo managed to drench her mother water cold,
Certainly that was never a good idea I am told.
Total confusion with everyone screaming,
Some wondering, is it real or am I dreaming?
To add to the events of the day,
Roger the dutiful dog, had to have his say
So he bit Lugaretzio in the ankle and made her lame,
Things changed dramatically and were not the same!

Rishabh Periwal

मेरी डायरी

दिनांक : 08 07 2010

समय : 8:30 सायं

प्रिय डायरी

कल रात इतनी गहरी नींद आई कि आज सुबह स्कूल के लिए जल्दी नहीं उठ पाई। लेट लाइन में तो लगना ही था। श्रीमति शुक्ला ने दस मिनट के ऊबा देने वाले भाषण के पहले जाने भी नहीं दिया।

आज पहली कक्षा थी शारीरिक शिक्षा की जहाँ हम मैदान में जाकर अपने मनपसंद खेल खेलते हैं। वारिश में 'बास्केट बॉल' खेलने का कुछ और ही मज़ा है। धुआँधार वर्षा व एक शीतल पवन सचमुच आज समा वड़ा ही सुहाना था। काव्या मेरी एक मित्र के जन्मदिन की खुशी में हम स्कूल के बाद 'फिल्म' देखने गए। फिल्म थी 'नाइट ऐंड डे'। कहानी अभिनय संचालन परिधान सभी लाजवाब थे। मैं उसके घर खाने पर भी रुक गई। खाना स्वदिष्ट था पीजा पाओ भाजी चाट और बाद में एक बड़ा सा केक। पेट तो भर गया परंतु घर पहुँचने पर गृहकार्य ने अपनी शक्ति दिखा दी। बस उसे खत्म करने का प्रयास है।

माँ दरवाज़े पर खट खटा रही हैं। ओ हो अब ताना मारेंगी "गृहकार्य खत्म करो कमरा साफ करो डायरी में लिखना बंद करो।" तो खोलने से पहले बंद कर देती हूँ। कल लिखूँगी। तुम्हारी, वसुधा।

वसुधा दीक्षित

ANGELS AND DEMONS

Dan Brown, author of the bestselling Da Vinci Code, brings us another suspense thriller. *Angels and Demons*, a fascinating fiction read complete with chilling crime scenes, baffling secrets and unexpected twists, is rightly described as a "heck of a good read". Harvard professor Robert Langdon is back in action, facing once again a brutal and seemingly invincible foe. He is called to CERN institute, Geneva where he finds renowned physicist Leonardo Vetra viciously murdered and marked with an arcane symbol on his chest. The symbol points to the **Illuminati**, an ancient covert brotherhood, back once again to eliminate their biggest enemy - **The Catholic Church**. This symbol leads him to the Vatican City, Rome where the College of Cardinals is assembled to elect a new Pope. They sit in the Sistine Chapel, unaware that right under them ticks a deadly new weapon that is counting down to their destruction. Vittoria Vetra, a talented marine physicist, joins Robert Langdon as they begin their race against time, down a labyrinth of astonishing secrets and mysterious symbols.

Angels and Demons is a captivating book with so many unexpected turns that one can't possibly put the book down. What I find most interesting is Dan Brown's use of ambigrams in the book, created by typographer John Langdon. It adds to the enthralling factor of an already riveting novel. This book has a classic Science vs. Religion theme, but in the end teaches us that both are interrelated. I find the title of the book enrapturing; when I first looked at the title I got the feeling it was the usual good vs. evil story but as I dwelled further into the book I realized it had more of a literal meaning (which I will not disclose in fear of revealing the whole plot). This book also gives you a lot of knowledge about the Vatican City, Rome and Bernini's statues. I was lucky enough to visit Rome this summer and as I walked down St. Peters Square and the Sistine Chapel, I could imagine the whole plot unraveling before me! Though I enjoyed the book a lot, I thought it had a certain cliché, which I disliked—two strangers are united with the same goal and fall in love in a short span of 24 hours! What I also disliked was the huge amount of information Dan Brown expects us to digest in a few pages. It made the book dull at a few points.

Angels and Demons was one of my first experiences with crime thrillers and I conclude that it was a compelling and interesting read. I urge fiction fans to give this book a try, as it is a gripping story of Science vs. Religion written in an engaging and entertaining way!

-Ragini Kothari

BLACK AND WHITE

Every symbol of euphoria
Now lies crippled and torn
What is left is mere black and white
In this colossal world, forlorn.

The petals of the rose, as smooth
as silk

Have wilted, feeble and weak.
At hand are spiky brutal thorns
Devoid of its colours and mystique.

The once shimmering river
That gushed down the mountains
swiftly

With the evolution of black and
white

Has lost its grace and beauty
The emerald green leaves, the
russet bark

The sunflowers, yellow and bright
All have lost their colour and lust
What remains is mere black and
white

The boisterous vibrant market streets
Aren't alluring anymore

The multihued flowers in the
backyard

Are repugnant than before.
The hues and tints have been

sucked out
Of this mighty world, you see
Its elegance and poise has

vanished

It's devoid of benevolence and mercy.

What are left now are black and
white doors

To enter into life and then exit
Black and white countries with
black and white flags

On our (once upon a time) planet.
Ready to shed black and white blood

By being stabbed by black and
white swords

For their religion and their race
Killing to receive black and white
rewards.

What remains now are black and
white men

To unite as one, they refuse
Putting lives at stake, they couldn't
care less

Each other, they've learnt to
accuse.

They were, are and will be only a
colour

But it has cost them the world,
unfortunately

The world, which was awe-
inspiring once

Has sacrificed its aura- intriguing
and lively.

For hues to be sprayed all over
the world

On the flora and the vibrant wildlife
Prove that the world is neither
white nor black

Don't be a mere colour throughout
your life.

- Vandita Khanna

HANDS ALL OVER

For all Maroon 5 fans out there 'it won't be soon before long.' After a brief sojourn to Switzerland 'to avoid distraction' Adam Levine & Co. are back with their third and latest album *Hands All Over*, said to be 'the white-knuckle thrill-ride of the year.' Keyboardist Jesse Carmichael compares this album to their earlier records from 'Songs About Jane' (*She Will Be Loved*, *This Love*, *Sunday Morning*), while Levine portrays it as more 'organic.'

The album set to be released on the 21st of September is all ready with its line-up and teasers, which include trailers and a pre-released lead single: *Misery*. The track listing reveals a bound-to-be hit called *Out Of Goodbyes*, ft. Lady Antebellum giving it a slight country flavour and leaving fans literally drooling with anticipation. While *Misery*, released on June 22nd 2010, offers an upbeat, poppy, Jackson-5-like sound with accusing lyrics and a be-careful-because-this-will-probably-be-stuck-in-your-head tune, the album is set to be a delectable blend of soulful pop rock and funk. "It's your standard sad song set to a happy beat," says Levine.

The music video of *Misery*, directed by Joseph Kahn is a portrayal of Levine's ever so strange fascination with violence in a humorous and odd way. It features his girlfriend, supermodel Anne Vyalitsyna, kicking Adam (sporting a 50's bad boy look) out of a café window, stabbing the vocalist's hand, biting his ear off and banging his head against a door, one by one destroying the band members, be it them getting run over by cars or exploding via rocket launcher in a spectacular fashion. All this while the couple is sharing a passionate kiss. 'I have a sadistic love for her' explains Levine, shrugging his shoulders, 'It's fun!' The song is about the vocalist finding himself in a difficult situation because his relationship seems to be fading. "Why won't you answer me? / Your silence is slowly killing me / Girl you really got me bad," Levine states in the lyrics. MTV Buzzworthy pronounced it as 'pretty classic Maroon 5.'

Pia Kochar

ECHO

A myriad of methodical
madness,
Potent serum coursing through
my soul.
I feel the weight of gravity,
Pulling me back to reality.
From an ever gaping hole
Come secrets that no-one knows.
A fictitious facade,
A cynical charade,
A fragile unfeeling mass.
Shrouded by the cloak of
isolation,
Trying to escape the grasp of
death
I scream, though in silence,
So my eternal echo will be heard.
Chased by the harbinger of pain,
I put the needle to my vein...

- Sanjana Malhotra

वर्षा

रिमझिम रिमझिम वूँदे आई
बहार का मौसम संग ले आई
घने बादल और मिट्टी की सौंधी
खुशबू
हर तरफ घन घोर घटा छाई।
नदिया कल कल वहनें लगी
चिड़िया चहचहाने लगीं
हर तरफ लगे खेत लहलहाने
और लगे मोर नाचने गाने।
गर्मी से हो गए थे परेशान हम
वर्षा ने बना दिया समा छम छम
हरियाली छाई हर तरफ हर कदम
मस्त माहौल में निकले घूमने हमदम।
-आरुशी सहाय, 7-अ।

A PART OF THE INSTITUTION

From declarations of love to edgy lyrics, from eternal promises to @&*!\$#, the inscriptions and paintbrush strokes embellishing the underside of the ramp are the very own legacy of the senior batches of the school.

Futile whitewashing or revolted teachers pose no roadblock to our budding artists - the masterpieces and doodles which adorn the ceiling could give Michaelangelo a run for his money.

The nook under the ramp has evolved into a hot spot; a lounge where food and drinks are served, people are sprawled out, music is stealthily played and chatter resonates between the pillars. It's even conveniently located right next to the art room if inspiration ever strikes.

The romance in the vandalism is its message for posterity, and the hope to one day return and find that some things never change. A top contender among the most cherished school memories of all time, 'drawing under the ramp' brushes shoulders with 'playing in the jhoola bhari' and 'water fights in the field'.

It's not vandalism, it's a scrapbook.

Mallika Pal

BUSTED

Anushree Kalia: Anam! Dog eat bones!
(Tried eating your own words, Anushree?)

Saniya Dinodia: Have you spoken recently?
(No Saniya I have not, but have you heard yourself recently?)

Akash Chopra: No pain, no game.
(Maybe we should find less dangerous games for you to play... like playing with dolls!)

Vedant Khanna: Ma'am, even if you kill me I won't complain.
(The devotion you award to your teachers is outstanding!)

Karanjeet Das: Luckily I got survived.
(You may have survived, but your English sure hasn't!)

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