



Post Graduate Government College for Girls
Sector-11 Chandigarh
(NAAC Accredited Grade 'A' CGPA 3.52)

Department of Philosophy Wall-Magazine

REFLOSOLOGY

2019-2020

"Wonder is the Beginning of Wisdom"



KNOW THYSELF
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Department of Philosophy



KNOW THYSELF

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Reflosophy

Etymology: The word Reflosophy is a combination of words, reflection and philosophy.

About the word: This word has no dictionary meaning, yet, it is one of the most vital words for the people associated with the Philosophy Department of P.G.G.C.G-11. It is so because this word reflects the emotions, feelings and hard work put in by everyone involved in making this wall-magazine what it is today. This word is used only because there was no other word which could have done justice to represent Mother of all sciences “Philosophy”. It was pointless to think of a word with an equivalent meaning to philosophy but our aim for the wall-magazine was reflection and that led to the formation of the word **REFLOSOPHY**.

Aim: This edition of our wall-magazine deals with “reflection” and our current feature reflects upon the best of movies and books that students of the Philosophy Department have come across. We aim to portray reflections of the contributors they developed while reading a book or a magazine.

Vision: Our vision is to fulfil the aim of the wall-magazine and provide the content from different perspectives and creative reflections to the readers. With this wall-magazine, we also want to motivate others to reflect on their choices by becoming a rational human being. We believe that everything can teach us a lesson or help us grow in life only if we can reflect and accept change.

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Principal's Message



I extend warm greetings to the faculty and students of Philosophy Department of the College for bringing out the first Students' Wall-Magazine of the Department of Philosophy, 'Reflosophy'. I believe that it will encourage and introduce the students of the Department in particular and readers in general with exchange of creative ideas and concepts part of this wall-magazine.

The College continues to provide quality academic activities and programmes which go a long way in the quality learning of its students. 'Reflosophy,' I am sure, will engage the students of the Department in creative thinking about the subject and its larger goals.

I am happy to know that the students have contributed book reviews and film reviews in the wall-magazine. I am glad that the initiative has further augmented the passion of reading books, deep thinking and distinct opinion making among the budding readers, writers and connoisseurs of Humanities, Social Sciences and Literature.

I wish the faculty and the Editorial Team, of wall-magazine, of the Department of Philosophy a great success in their future endeavours.

Prof. (Dr.) Anita Kaushal
Principal

Head of Department's Message



What is Philosophy? The word signifies the process of thinking resulting in an understanding of human self, its concerns, relationship with society and larger goals of life. It can be associated as an essential attribute of human being with which she/he lives. It can be defined as an outlook towards life. A critical enquiry into the nature of reality and much more.

Interestingly, it underlines thinking, process of thinking, distinguishing between *Doxa* (opinion) and reality. The questions like what is real and what is unreal is integral to philosophy. An individual is exposed to a life which she/he has not chosen for herself/himself. In the process of

growing one is puzzled to find acceptance to what is right and what is wrong. Issues concerning what it is; how it is; why it is; what should I do; which ideas to accept, continuously engage an individual and create a paradox of life. All goes into the formation of an understanding of subject concerning an individual and its relation to its environment/society. What is philosophical thinking and how to distinguish it from non-philosophical thinking provide a space for creative learning.

Well, the questions have been addressed by different philosophers at different locations/territories since the beginning of human life and human civilisations. There is a long list of scholarships, philosophers from east and west who have tried to explore the philosophical reality of human self, its relation to society and ultimate goals.

The Indian philosophical tradition and the West meet at a common point of dialogue with oneself, and try to see the reality in terms of its wholeness.

The task of teaching philosophy as a subject to young minds is challenging and interesting in the times when the education system is expected to give quick results, applications, employability, placements and rewards. I believe philosophy as a subject introduces students to philosophical questions such as Who am I? What I think? How I think? It introduces them to the works of great philosophers and in the process also provides them with opportunities to develop capacities of logical thinking through reading, seminars, dialogues, discussions, film screening and other co-curricular activities. Studying philosophy at the Department enables them to not take things for granted and explore knowledge with the philosophical quest.

'Reflosophy' is an attempt about philosophical reflections of the students of Philosophy on books, films and activities they organised in the session 2019-2020 at the College Campus. It is the first wall-magazine of the Department by the students of the Department.

I am deeply grateful to the guiding and motivating force behind the work, someone who has been greatly encouraging in organising and pursuing philosophical journey at the P.G.C.G-11, Prof. (Dr.) Anita Kaushal, the Principal of the College. It is owing to her constant support that Department is finding new strength and energy in reconstructing the traditional subject with modern technology and engagement.

I congratulate all the students of Philosophy for their creative initiative, participation and contribution in the wall-magazine, Department and beyond.

Dr. Ambuj Sharma
Department of Philosophy

Patron

Prof. (Dr.) Anita Kaushal
Principal
Post Graduate Government College
for Girls, Sector-11, Chandigarh.

Faculty Support

Dr. Ambuj Sharma
Head, Department of Philosophy
Post Graduate Government College
for Girls, Sector-11, Chandigarh.

Editorial Board

Editors

Eashani Bhargav
Ambika Sharma
Harleen Kaur
Ishani Tanta
Smriti Garg

Sub Editors

Sheereen Khan
Tanvi Chauhan

Designing

Wall-magazine Cover and Alignment:

Smriti Garg
Harleen Kaur

Logo and Title:

Eashani Bhargav

Notes from the Editors

With this opportunity to connect with the readers, I would like to express my heartiest gratitude to the HOD of Philosophy Department, Dr. Ambuj Sharma for providing us with the insights on the Department Wall-Magazine “Reflosophy” and the Editorial Team, without whose rigorous efforts, the compilation of these works would have been impossible. As for the readers, we’ve tried our best to present you with our activities and opinions and put forth the “other” perspective, for learning new things and also reflecting on them with a critical lens.

On an ending note, I would like to quote American Songwriter and Singer B.B. King: “A beautiful thing about learning is that nobody can take it away from you.”



Ambika Sharma, BA II



I feel privileged to have an opportunity to be one of the editors of Reflosophy, the Wall-Magazine of the Department of Philosophy, P.G.G.C.G.-11. This wall-magazine has led me to think and reflect a lot, because this wall-magazine is different, there are topics of common concern like visual entertainment media and books and how could one review them critically. It was something very unique but very essential for realising that whatever we watch may have entertainment value but the inspiration behind it comes from real world and that has its own positive and negative which needs critical evaluation from someone who has an open view to accept what's right and reject what's not, there is no bias due to any reason. There is objectivity but that's the main reason behind using something that everyone can relate to because most people watch movies and read

books too and the important part is to reflect and revise things before they give a decision irrespective of whether an individual likes it or not because looks may be deceiving.

Eashani Bhargav, BA III



“The purpose of a storyteller is not to tell you how to think, but to give you questions to think upon.”

Dear Readers,

I'd like to thank everyone behind the making of this wall-magazine and thanks to you all out there for reading it. I am a person who is curious to listen, ponder and understand, like many of you out there. I am fascinated by stories around the globe and what better way to share those stories than through art, music, books and movies. What fascinates me the most about them is the fact that we all interpret a story in our own way. How wonderful is the fact that each story shared gives rise to infinite other stories! We all are storytellers bounded in a network of stories. And there isn't a connection stronger than that between people. So I encourage you to speak yourself, tell your stories because there are many a listeners like me just waiting to lend you an ear. After all the universe is not just made of atoms but our told/untold stories.



Harleen Kaur, BA II



The field of Humanities offers different career paths. It allows us to choose different directions and highlight our strengths and capabilities. I chose Philosophy as one of my major subjects because right from the beginning I was a confused personality. I was not clear and confident about the decisions that I took. I doubted myself and started to realise that I was gradually losing faith in myself. To gain confidence all over again, to acquire problem solving skills, to have greater vision about things, to examine things with a critical lens and to have my own views and unique identity. I was urged to study philosophy to have a deeper outlook on life.

I am thankful to the discipline philosophy that not only helped me to cope up with my daily hustles but also taught me lifelong lessons. I am thankful to Dr. Ambuj Sharma, Dept. of Philosophy, who gave me this golden opportunity to be a part of this marvellous wall-magazine.

There is lot more to learn and understand, I believe. I would like to end with the words of Socrates, **“The only true wisdom is in knowing that you know nothing”**.

Ishani Tanta, BA II



My Experiences in NCC

I always wanted to wear the pride of my country and join Indian Army right from my childhood. I got 'A' certificate in NCC in my school and attended a Combined Annual Training Camp in 12 Haryana Battalion NCC Karnal. Then I joined NCC in my College for my 'B' and 'C' certificate. NCC in college is not everyone's cup of tea. I gave my trials to join NCC like everyone else. On my first attempt I failed in my trials but somehow succeeded in my second chance. It was too tough for me to go along with my schedule and NCC together but with my hard work I got along with it.



NCC taught me time management and punctuality very well. It taught me discipline and unity. I attended three Camps. I learnt a lot through these Camps. I made so many new friends and learnt how to live independently. It developed a strong feeling of patriotism in me. With time NCC became my passion and I started to enjoy it. The strict rules and discipline of NCC life taught me how I can survive in tough conditions and out of the social circle of this world. I learnt volunteering some works and how to be a good leader. With time NCC became like my family, supporting and motivating me throughout all of my times. I learnt how to fight through tough situations and not run away.

All would be possible just because of my College Principal, NCC staff, ANO's, my parents and my friends. NCC gave me an adventurous and sporty life due to which I am proud of myself to be an NCC cadet. NCC is a great platform to serve your nation and to travel and experience adventure. I recommend everyone if possible to attend one NCC camp once in their life. It would be one of the greatest experience of your life.

Under Officer Rakhi Antil, BA III



Take a Break

This is going to be a direct address to everyone. Take this as a conversation, a sign, a friendly advice , whatever YOU need. This is addressed to YOU. It's been quite a long time and you've been working hard. You've been either running away or towards things. You've been tangled amongst the war in between your mind. The hassle feels never ending. Your mind feels louder and over powering day by day. It's getting tiring.

It's time to stop. Rest. Calm down.

Be easy on yourself. There are already plenty of things and people weighing you down. You need to balance it out to survive. Be kind to yourself. You're doing just well, you're doing just enough. Even if you're just "trying" remember that a single step is the start of the journey. Take it easy. Make friends yourself first before running after anonymous validations. Things don't have to be complex or serious all the time. Try letting things go sometimes. Give yourself a commercial



break amidst this series of life.



Prioritise yourself.

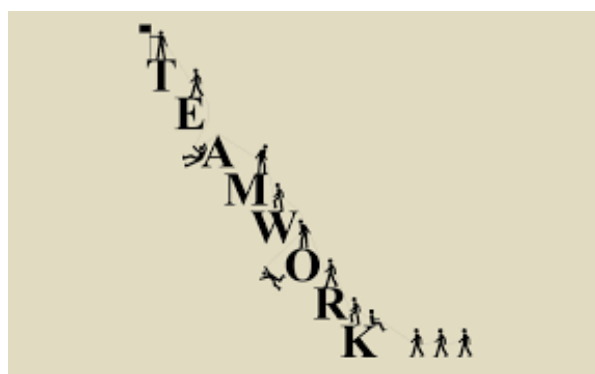
Take your time with yourself. Relaxing is a gradual process. Take out time for yourself. Now this is your time so do things that feed YOUR soul and not the society's conscience. Do things that relax you. Read a good book, listen to good music, cook, write something, basically anything that makes you happy. Understand what goes, rather than demeaning yourself. Remember, it's you against the world and not you v/s yourself. Try working WITH yourself rather than ON yourself. Be proud of the little achievements you make. Even if all you did today was holding yourself up, it's more than enough.

Sheereen Khan, BA I



As a student of Post Graduate Government College for Girls, Sector-11, Chandigarh, it is an honour to be a member of the Philosophical Society's Editorial Board and present its first ever Wall-magazine —

“REFLOSOPHY” by the Department of Philosophy. Since the last two years, my journey alongside with my small philosophy family has taught me many things. The most important one is that no matter how small you are in number as compared to others, if once you decide to accomplish something you can do it as good as them and sometimes even better than them. I realised that unity and team work are the essence of every achievement and success because without them nothing is achievable. This wall-magazine also would not have been possible if it weren't for the dedication and determination of our team to bring this idea to life.



So, I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank each and every member of this incredible team that has worked so hard so far and will also continue to do the same in the future.

Smriti Garg, BA II



Dealing With Mental Health

As a member of the Editorial Board, and more of as one among you all, I believe stress and mental health are the present most urgent issues to talk over. We as students of Philosophy urge to reflect and analyse the situation and then make judgements.

This article basically is my perception of how one can overcome hard times with easy and effective methods...

Living with mental illness is not easy. It's a consistent problem without a clear solution. If you are living with high levels of stress, you are putting your entire wellbeing at risk. Stress wreaks havoc on your emotional equilibrium as well as your physical health. It narrows your ability to think clearly, function effectively and enjoy bits of your life. It may seem like, "I can't do anything about it". The bills won't ever stop coming, there will never be more hours in a day and your work and family responsibilities will always be demanding. But you, yes you there, you have a lot more to control and achieve than you think. Quitting is the cowards way out.



Effective Stress Management

IDENTIFY THE SOURCES OF STRESS IN YOUR LIFE: While it may seem very simple as to identify these sources like changing jobs, family problems, career issues, etc. But you should be well aware of as to how your own thoughts, feelings and behaviours contribute to your everyday stress levels.



GET MOVING: When you feel stressed or want to burst out the last thing to grab is to get up and exercise. The reason is that this releases endorphins that makes you feel good.

CONNECT TO OTHERS: There is nothing more claiming than spending quality time with friends and family who makes you feel safe and understood.

RADICAL ACCEPTANCE: Accept yourself the way you are, accept that stress and anxiety are normal. Prepare yourself, take necessary steps to take care of yourselves.

DEEP BREATHING: Breathing might seem an annoying cliché at this point. Honestly, when I'm suffering from anxiety I usually follow up the "5-3-7" breathing.

OPPOSITE TO EMOTION THINKING: Example; when you feel anxious, combat with something claiming like meditation. When you feel panic, turn to something that relaxes you down. In other words try and act opposite to what the emotions want you to act in

that situation.

MENTAL REFRAMING: It involves thinking the other way or to say thinking positive in every situation.

REMEMBER,

Self-help is the greatest help!! You've got enough to stride the world... The ultimate goal is to create a balanced life with time for family, work, friends and fun. Have the resilience to hold on under pressure and meet challenges head on. Try discovering your abilities and "the unique you". You have the greatest power to make change and the veracity is that you are yourself that power.



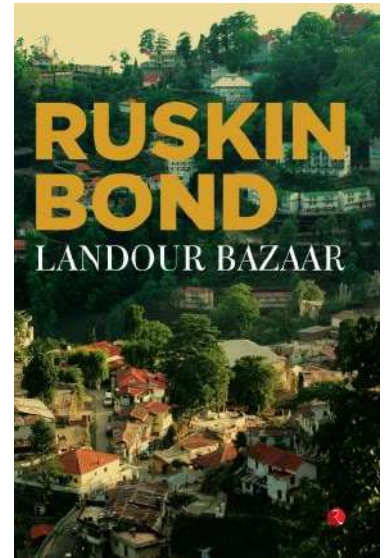
Tanvi Chauhan, BA I

Book Reviews

When Everyone Felt Like Home : Landour Bazaar

Ruskin Bond, known for his simplistic and witty writing style has always captivated the audience with charm in his words. Another example of one of his great works is Landour Bazaar, fictional in genre. Published in 2018, the name of the book is that of a local market of Landour, where Bond lived.

The book is like a surprise box with an amalgamation of many forms of literature including novellas, fictions, essays and anecdotes from the time he lived in Landour. With the book divided into 17 chapters, each chapter has its own essence of nostalgia for the writer as well as the readers who are taken to a journey to the life of the mountains. There is no central theme to the book, it contains titbits of everything: love, nostalgia, thrill, humour, horror, life and death and history. All the tales have the power to invoke imagery for the reader, which makes the whole experience of reading the book magical. The mention of stories about his life like “The story of Madhu” and “Voting at Barlowganj” shows how simple yet subtle the life of people in the mountains is. Bond is certainly able to show his love for the people and the place he belonged to. A chapter “Once you’ve lived in the Mountains” solely belongs to show his love for mountains, which in my view, is one of the most engaging and personalised chapters.



I found the book very personal, in way it made me feel like a part of Bond's life. With random way presenting the work, it made the book feel like a journal, which actually formed an emotional attachment with the reader. In the last paragraph of the book (Chapter – Landour Bazaar) he writes,

“ He gets up immediately, a thin boy wearing only a shirt and part of an old tracksuit. He follows me without any hesitation. I cannot now betray his trust. Nor can I fail to trust him.”

These lines have a certain attractiveness to them, focusing on the theme of humanity, which is indeed another proof to why Bond's work is simply beautiful and worth investing your time in.

In the introduction, it is said by Bond :

“And I hope that it would inspire you to come visit us too someday.”

With this book, Bond is sure able to get people to see his home, in his books and in Real life.

By: Ambika Sharma, BA II



The Complete Works of Swami Vivekananda

The works of Swami Vivekananda are not unknown to mankind, he is known for his teachings and doctrines all around the world and where most people didn't have the fate to meet him and be around him learn from his words and wisdom, we were lucky because all his works were compiled into a set of 10 volumes on the book based on the works of his life. The book obviously doesn't do justice to what he would have actually said and experienced but it definitely gives a glimpse into what his life and philosophies were. The book widely covers the most important concepts of



Indian philosophy and the ideal way of living but it also explains why there needs to be what exists. The first volume of the book covers concepts like soul, god, religion, yoga Vedanta, Gita, spirits, breathing and countless more thought-provoking topics. The book questions and answers life's most critical questions with utmost brutality along with pointing out the fallacies and faults in the existing systems. The most significant thing about this book is that it focuses on answering questions without imposing the values or opinion on the reader, it gives them a space to think and critically analyse based on the choices that the reader wishes to make. The book also does not claim to improve life or promise false growth and neither does it sets any unrealistic expectations of a life changing journey ahead. It simply makes the reader reflect and question based on the own thinking ability as it clearly mentions unity in variety is the plan of creation, men and women may vary individually but there is unity in the background. The variety was created on purpose hence we ought not to judge them by the same standard or put the same ideal before them (page 41 Karma Yoga) in my opinion this book is a must-read for every age group and I personally feel that the more I read it the more I reflect on myself.

(Disclaimer: The reviews presented are completely based on my opinion and perception they have no relation to the actual work.)

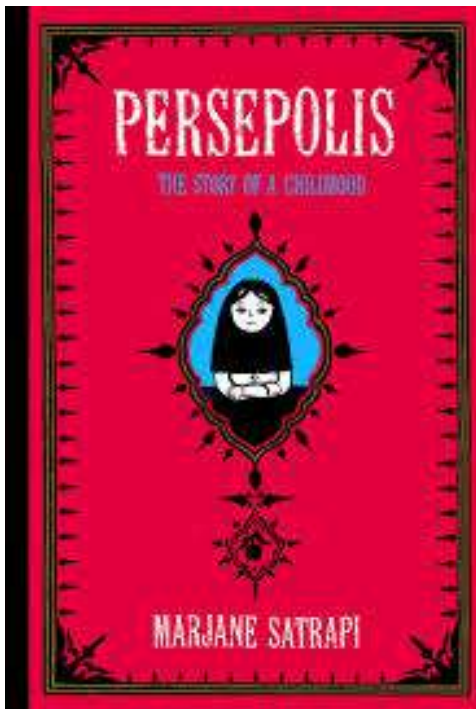
By: Eashani Bhargav, BA III



Persepolis : Marjane Satrapi

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Marjane Satrapi an Iranian born French graphic novelist, cartoonist, illustrator, film director and children's book author, born on 22nd November 1969. Her most famous works are: the comic book Persepolis and its film adaption and Chicken with Plums. She was also honoured with various awards Cannes Jury Prize, Cesar Award for best first film, Sutherland Trophy and much more.

MY REVIEW: Persepolis, a graphic novel by Marjane Satrapi, takes us through the life of a young, intelligent and outspoken girl who grew up during the Iranian revolution, 1979. In her memoir, Satrapi recounts the various events of the revolution



including violence, religious impositions, bombing, death and most importantly the rapid social transformation in her country. All of a sudden, every woman were made to wear a veil, schools and colleges were directed to spread religious propagandas and life of young Satrapi slowly transformed from being a happy and innocent child to a rebellious and scarred teen.

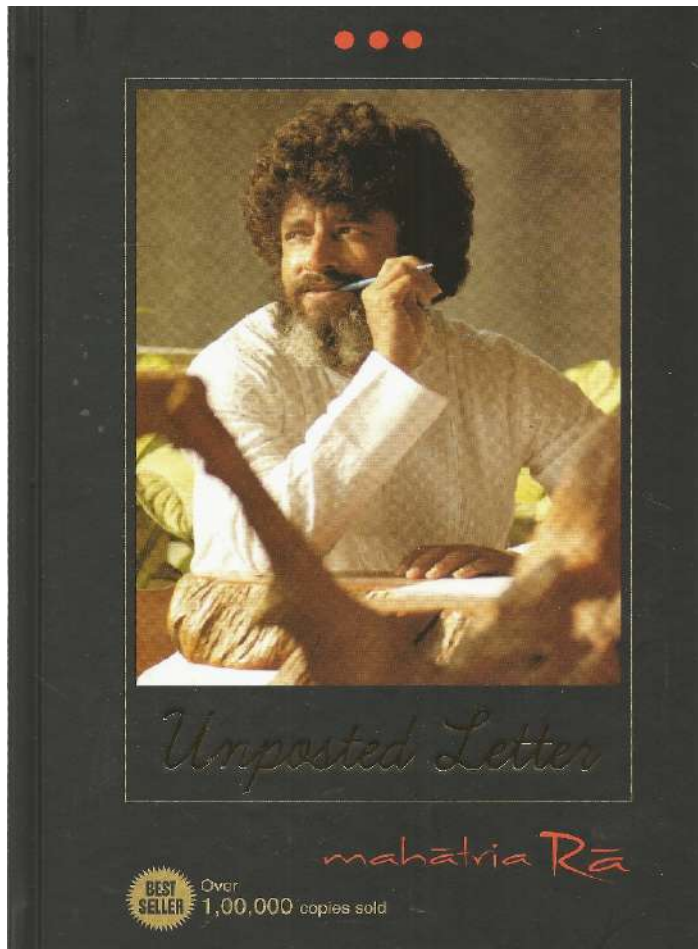
The author beautifully depicts the drastic socio political changes which impacted the life of every individual at both public and private domains. People who use to party hard and roam around laughing and recklessly driving are now reduced to a mere saint. Women gave up fashion for plain veils and old friends slowly turned into enemies.

Marjane Satrapi's book gives a detailed outline of how the 1979 revolution shaped the present Iranian society, strictly bound by religious laws.

By: Greta Yendrembam, BA I



Unposted Letter : Mahātria Rā



“Unposted letter” a claimed bestseller, is a thought provoking philosophical book, full of wisdom written by Mahatria Ra. It is a gem of a book that aims to explain some really big questions or confusions of life in simple words. Ever since I read it, I have been in awe of this book. It consists of short, powerful insights that amazingly give the clarity we might need at that point of time. The opening lines of the book address the readers as the writer quotes, “Open any page. An answer is seeking the seeker.”

This book is for the ones who desire abundance in any of their endeavours — spiritual, emotional and material. It surely is a treat for a philosopher’s mind as it engages one, as well as tries to give an answer for our simple questions of the mundane life. It takes one on a spiritual and philosophical journey which helps us get a better perspective of the world and life. It is a book that doesn’t lose its charm even after multiple reads.

The unique thing about this book is that it doesn’t require us to read it in any specific order as each chapter is its own masterpiece. It is a book one can pick up leisurely and just open up any page without thinking, just for it to provide you with a new thought to ponder upon. It engages the readers with

real life stories that make us relate to it and understand the words even better. It talks about personal experiences that build a sense of trust and understanding between the reader and the writer. It sure is a book that can easily appeal to one’s heart for sometimes all we are looking for is a book that really feels like a companion.

This book with simple words, admirable expressions and understandable breakthroughs is a must read for everyone. I feel it might help you solve the mysteries of your life or who knows, even to find some new ones.

By: Harleen Kaur, BA II



The Wonderful Wizard of Oz : L. Frank Baum

This is a story about a young girl named Dorothy who lives in Kansas with her Aunt Em, Uncle Henry, and pet dog, Toto. Her house is carried away in a tornado and she awakes to find that her house has landed in the land of Oz and killed the wicked witch of the East, a cruel witch who ruled over the Munchkins.

Trying to get home, Dorothy puts on the wicked Witch's silver shoes and after consulting with the Good Witch of the North, learns that she must ask Oz, the great warrior in Emerald City, to help her get back home. Travelling along the yellow brick road, Dorothy meets three unique individuals all hoping Oz can grant their desires. Scarecrow, a dumb, wants Oz to give him a brain. Tin Woodman, a man made from tin, wants Oz to give him a heart. And Lion, a cowardly lion, wants Oz to give him courage. The group finally arrives at Emerald City, a grand city coloured in green. There, they talk to Oz who agrees to fulfil their desires but only under one condition that if they destroy the wicked witch of west. First, they all show some resentment and then they decide to give it a try.

When they enter the land of wicked witch of the West, the group is attacked by crows, wolves and bees, but defeat each quite easily. Seeing the power of the group, wicked witch of west orders Wicked monkey to attack them. Unfortunately, the monkeys destroy scarecrow and Tin man, but capture lion and Dorothy. And while being held prisoner, Dorothy destroys the wicked witch by splashing her with a bucket of water.

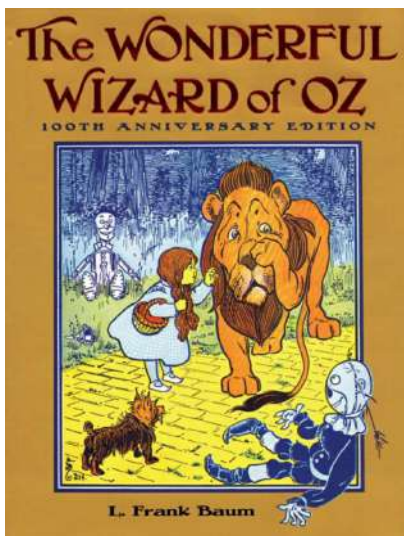
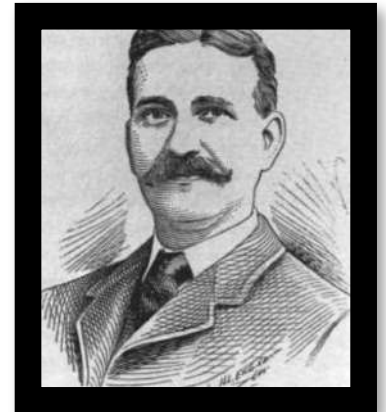
The group goes back to Emerald City and demands Oz to fulfil his promise. However, they discover Oz to be nothing more than a normal man. Oz pretends to give scarecrow, Tin man, and lion what they want, but to help Dorothy to get back home. He builds a hot air balloon. Unfortunately, the balloon flies without her. Upset, Dorothy is told to go to the Good Witch of the South for help. The group meets the Good witch and Dorothy is told that her silver shoes can magically send her anywhere she wants. In the end, with the special power of her shoes, Dorothy gets back to Kansas.

The main message of the story is how we all, at times, feel inadequate. Scarecrow lacks intelligence, Tin man lacks heart, lion lacks courage and Dorothy seeks family.

On some level, readers can at least relate to one of these characters and what they seek. However, as the story demonstrates, we all have seeds of these things already inside us. In the story, we see this in the scene where the group is crossing the canyon. Scarecrow uses problem solving skills to think how to get over the canyon, Lion demonstrates courage to jump over, and Tin man has enough heart to feel sympathy toward killing animals. As such, a strength of the story is the character and the interactions each of them has with each other.

Early in the story, there is an interesting discussion between Scarecrow and Tin man about what is the most valuable thing to have. Scarecrow believes that knowledge and intellect are the most important thing, while Tin man believes that heart and happiness are the most important thing. Whether a reader falls into either of these camps of thought-knowledge vs love-is not necessarily the point. Rather, this discussion exposes the notion that priorities

are highly subjective and often rooted in what we seek most out of life. That not everyone should or has the same needs and wants.



By: Ishani Tanta, BA II



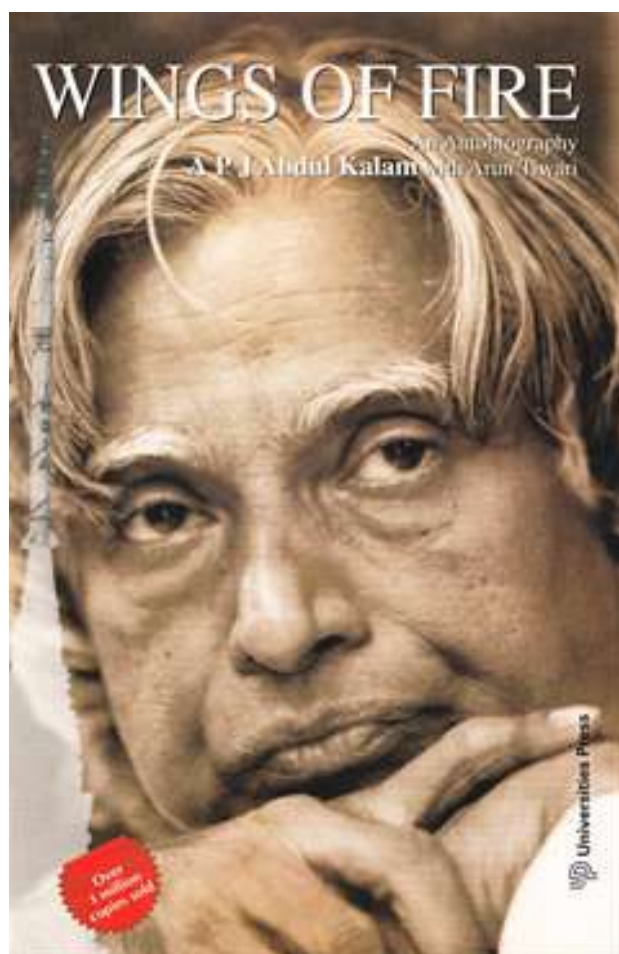
Wings Of Fire : An Autobiography By APJ Abdul Kalam

It is one of the best book I have read so far. It's inspiring and motivational for the people who are moving forward especially the students. Wings of fire (*Agni Ki Udaan*) is an autobiography for the late APJ Abdul Kalam talented scientist and former president of India. He was the man behind the development of ballistic missile and launch vehicle technology in India.

This book tell us the story of a young boy who has big dreams about his future and what inspire him to become an eminent scientist. This real story tells us the role of family, relatives and friend in helping a person in achieving his goals. It is a very touching and contemplating story apart from its indicative title. It contains years of his early life-days as a child, getting through adolescence and getting into rocketry. A very charming part of this book is how he describes the people who helped him shaped his life. It also described his year of struggles at ISRO going from one-engineer-amongst-many to the successful project director of SLV bringing pride to the nation through technological achievement of putting satellite in the orbit.

His successive years constitute the outstanding accomplishments at D. R. D. O. The way he transformed the laboratory from one which had a weak heart with little confidence to one which felt a sense of strong self esteem and could feel proud by contributing develop missile system to the service, is a remarkable saga. Its last chapter entitled 'contemplation' contains a condensation of idea and thought arising out of the colourful life, the awards that he received (the highest honour, namely Bharata Ratna that he received does no find a mention in this book) and some message for the future generation.

The author through this book and the various chapters builds a quick rapport with the reader, who is spellbound. It stresses on the point that the youth should not get disheartened by failures. According to Kalam, source of hidden knowledge is within us, with whom we should communicate. It is indeed an inspirational book for everyone, especially the youth, with a message not to bogged down in life, due to personal tragedies and setback in professional life .So, I would like to recommend this book to all who haven't read it.



By: Yumnam Jyoti, BA1

The Magic of Thinking Big : David Schwartz

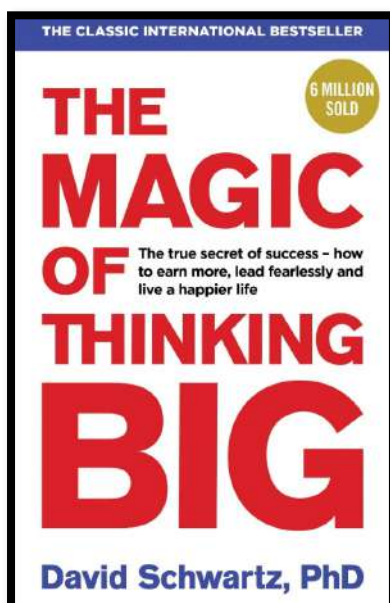


इस किताब को पढ़कर लाखों-करोड़ों लोगों ने अपनी जिंदगी सवारी है। यह पुस्तक "डेविड.जे.स्वार्थ" द्वारा रचित है। डेविड.जे.स्वार्थ, एक अमेरिकी प्रेरक लेखक और कोच थे, जिन्हें 1959 में फ मैजिक ऑफ थिंकिंग ब्रिग के लेखन के लिए

जाना जाता है। डेविड.जे. का जन्म 23, मार्च 1927, यूनाइटेड स्टेट्स में हुआ। उन्होंने कई किताबें लिखी परंतु वह सभी पुस्तकें मार्केटिंग या कोच पर रचित हैं। 6 दिसंबर 1987 में उनकी मृत्यु हो गई। इस किताब द्वारा वह बताना चाहते हैं कि किस प्रकार एक व्यक्ति अपनी सकारात्मक कोच से अपनी मंजिल तक पहुँच सकता है। इस पुस्तक में कुछ सफलता के गुण बताये गए हैं, हम बड़ा किस प्रकार सोचे और हमें जिन चीजों की चाह है वह कैसे हासिल करें, यह एक प्रेरणादायक पुस्तक है। यह मानवीय संबंधों को सुधारने में महत्वपूर्ण साबित हुई है।

इस पुस्तक के हर अध्याय में आपको दर्जनों शानदार, व्यावहारिक विचार और सिद्धांत मिलेंगे। इन सिद्धांतों से आप बड़ी सोच की जादुई शक्ति का फ़ौजन कर पाएंगे, ऐसा करने से आप मजबूती, सफलता, सुख और संतोष हासिल कर पाएंगे।

हर तकनीक को थोड़ा अच्छी तरह समझने
 के लिए अपनी जिंदगी का एक छविण भी
 लिया गया। इस प्रकार आपको यह विद्वान समझने
 भी आ जायेंगे, और यह भी समझ आ जायेगा
 कि उन्हें किस प्रकार जीवन में लागू करना है।
 इस पुस्तक में 13 अध्याय हैं हर अध्याय में
 एक महत्वपूर्ण बात बिछाई गई है।
 जैसे:- विश्वास कीजिए कि आप सफल हो सकते
 हैं, और आप हो जायेंगे।
 इस पुस्तक में बताया गया है कि किस प्रकार एक
 व्यक्ति हर काम को टालने का प्रयास करते
 रहता है। सबसे महत्वपूर्ण बात इस पुस्तक में
 बताया गया है कि किस प्रकार हमारा मस्तिष्क
 कार्य करता है हमारा दिमाग वही काम करता
 है जो हम इसे को सोचते हैं।

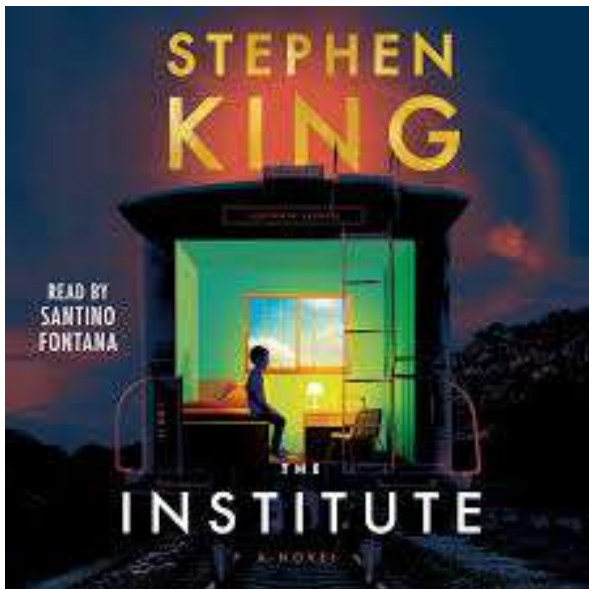


By: Kavita Bhardwaj, BA II



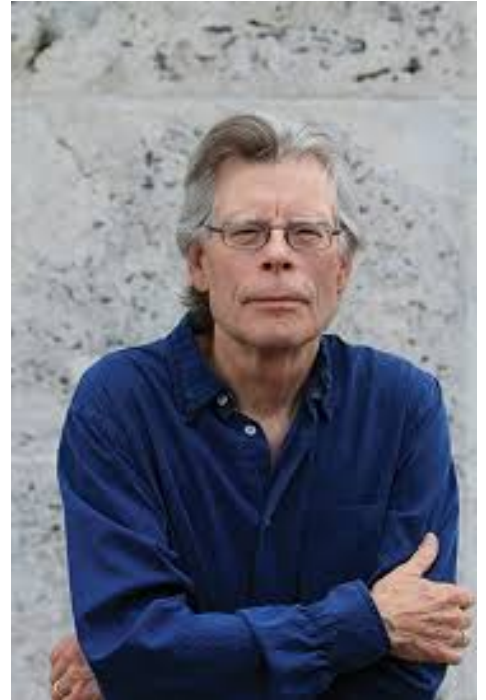
The Institute : Stephen King

‘The Institute’ is a needed story of good versus evil, the haves versus the have not’s but there are clear motivations behind the actions of each character that leads to exceptional abilities and telepathy. The plot of the story continues with the actions that are manifested with anger and urgency. The book is animated by a central concern that could not be more relevant to the inhuman treatment of the children. The central plot involves the ability to central credible portraits of people struggling to survive. Lately King turns the story to an empathetic vision in order to address all the political crises in the story. The story evolves from Maine Wood’s, as the protagonist TIM JAIMESON fights with psychic weapons. The story proceeds with one night kidnapping of the protagonist and he wakes up in an identical room to his room, he then later finds that associates himself to other children with similar institute as him. The subjection of



experiments which were done on the children points out the ill treatment and power of the human

mind. The disturbing element is the torture and the false promises made to the children in order for them to return to their parents. The climax of the book was intense and had heart thumping as it portraits that good deed’s never win. The book is a stand-alone depiction of the author’s beliefs on politics and utter fear about certain governance’s in life. King also develops through the pain, hopelessness, the protagonist uncertain pain for death and his resolve to save his friends. The author in this story puts his perspective about cruelties that gives indifference attitudes about empathy and sorrow faced by the people.



By: Ridam, BA I



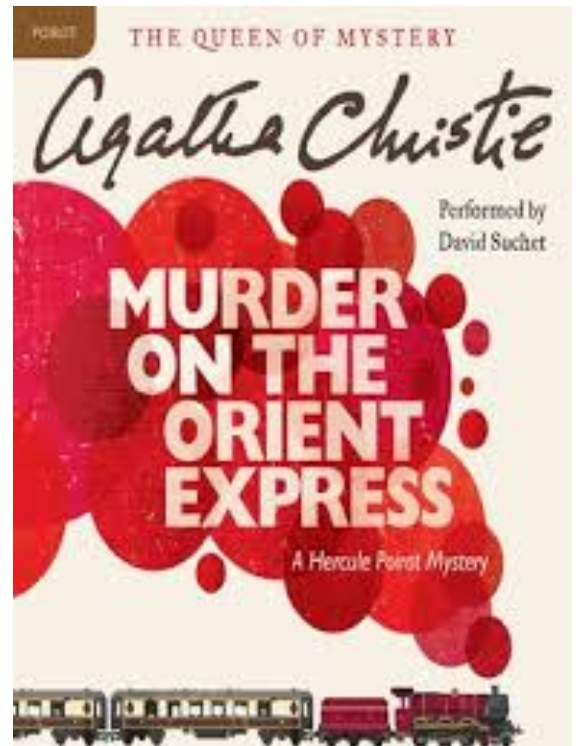
Murder On The Orient Express : Agatha Christie



ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Agatha Christie was an English writer known for her sixty-six detective novels and fourteen short story collections, particularly those revolving around fictional detectives Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple. She also wrote the world's longest-running play, *The Mousetrap*, performed in the West End from 1952 to 2020, as well as six novels under the pseudonym Mary Westmacott. In 1971, she was appointed a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) for her contribution to literature. Guinness World Records lists Christie as the best-selling fiction writer of all time, her novels having sold over two billion copies. She died on 12 January 1976.

SUMMARY: *Murder on the Orient Express* is undoubtedly one of Agatha Christie's greatest mystery novels. Just after midnight, a snowdrift stops the Orient Express in its tracks. The luxurious train is surprisingly full for the time of the year, but by the morning it is one passenger fewer. An American tycoon lies dead in his compartment, stabbed a dozen times, his door locked from the inside. Isolated and with a killer in their midst, detective Hercule Poirot must identify the murderer — in case he or she decides to strike again.

MY OPINION: The underlying plot of the story was one Agatha Christie pulled from the headlines at the time, the abduction of Charles Lindbergh's son, a traumatic real-life mystery involving murder and extortion that had yet to be solved when *Murder on the Orient Express* was published. I felt like , this book was very good. It didn't drag on like other books but was a page turner. The plot twist at the end was astonishing and unpredictable. The book actually kept me hooked and overall, I enjoyed reading it. The story makes you feel included like you're a part of it. I would definitely recommend this book to whoever loves a good mystery.



By: Sheereen Khan, BA I



To Kill A Mocking Bird : Harper Lee



To Kill a Mockingbird is one of those books that undoubtedly everyone reads at some point in their lives. This novel by Harper Lee is rich in content which beautifully portrays small-town life and lets the reader walk in the shoes of some dynamic character one after another. The book revolves around Atticus Finch, who appears as an unconventional hero and role model due to his moral standards rather than his physical capabilities. This theme of morals is apparent throughout the whole novel.

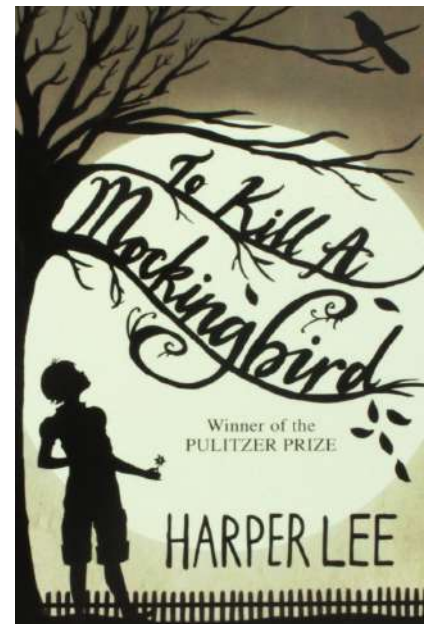
To Kill a Mockingbird is a book that majorly focuses on the instinct of right and wrong, and also distinguishes it from “following the law”. Even the quote: *"Shoot all the blue jays you want, if you can hit 'em, but remember it's a sin to kill a mockingbird"* is in itself an allegory for this message.

The book is set in the 1930s when America was amidst the Great Depression. This was also the time when economic difficulties meant the American Dream was moving further and further away. Atticus Finch felt that his dream of an equal and moral society was also moving away.

Jem and Scout, Atticus Finch's sons, see the heart of their town laid bare — divided not just between black and white, but also between the prevailing racism and "the handful of people in this town who say that fair play is not marked White Only" when a black man accused of raping a white woman is proved guilty. Yet lawyer Atticus questions the charge and defends the accused man in a town soaked in prejudice. The children then get to know the "Negroes in the Quarters," too, where they are welcomed because their father is a hero, willing to stand up against an entire town on behalf of justice. They see the evil born of ignorance and squalor and they see their father, under whose quiet righteousness and gentle civility lives an undemonstrative love that will always be there.

The beauty of this true piece of literature is that everyone who reads it can take something unique and personalised out of it and this book is relevant in every period because even today innocent people are suffering due to inequality and discrimination. In fact if Atticus would have been present in this modern era, he would now also be defending issues that Harper Lee did not consider while writing the book, such as rights of people with different sexualities, because at the heart of his character is an acceptance for who people are. He's a human being and he sees everyone else in the same way.

I would really suggest picking up a copy of Harper Lee's magnificent novel and giving it a try. Because whatever happens, it will never stop being a good book, and it will never stop inspiring people.



By: Smriti Garg, BA II



Train To Pakistan : Khushwant Singh

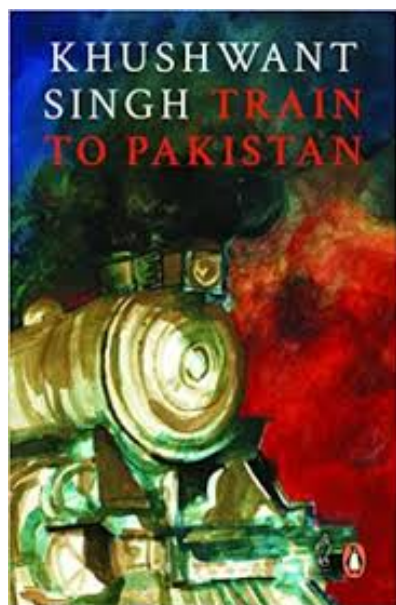
ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Khushwant Singh, born on February 2, 1915, was an Indian author, lawyer, diplomat, journalist and politician. His experience during the partition of 1947 inspired him to write Train to Pakistan in 1986. He was awarded Padma Bhushan in 1974, Padma Vibhushan in 2007 Sahitya Akademi fellowship in 2010 and many more. His other famous works are The Sikhs Today (1959), Delhi; a novel (1990), The company of women (1999) and Truth, love and a Little Malice, an autobiography (2002). He died on March 20, 2014, at the age of 99.

SUMMARY: Train to Pakistan takes place in the fictional town of Mano Majra which was near partition. Many towns like these had a great diversity of religions and cultures. But the British took no account of these towns, and so great violence erupted within them. In contrast, the author shows Mano Majra as maintaining its order, given its relative isolation. The story begins with the robbery and murder of Lala Ram Lal, the only Hindu family in the town. The murderers were the gang

led by Malli, who were looking for their old fellow Jugga, with a bad reputation. During the

event of the dacoit, however, Jugga was making love with his partner Nooran, who was the daughter of towns Mulla (who's a Muslim) whereas Jugga was Sikh. At the same time arrived Iqbal Singh, who arrived in the town to organise the peasants for people's party of India. Mali and the gang try to pin the crime on Jugga, which results in arrest of both Jugga and Iqbal due to local suspicion. They are arrested on the orders of the regional magistrate. While they are in prison, conflicts start to rise in Mano Majra, when a train full of Muslim corpses is brought to the town and burnt by soldiers. Not long after, a group of soldiers come by to evacuate the Muslim half of the town to Pakistan which leads Nooran to depart while using Jugga is in jail.

After the Muslims are evacuated, a local band of Sikhs comes to Majra to whip up anti-Muslim sentiment and sabotage the train that was taking Muslims to Pakistan. Hukum was although corrupt but racked with guilt, releases Jugga and Iqbal. Although Iqbal was a social reformer and Jugga was a Thug. But Iqbal drinks himself into a stupor and Jugga gives his life destroying the rope, the Sikhs had set up to throw Muslims on top of the train off to their death.



MY PERSONAL OPINION: A good read since it really kept its flavour at the end. I was startled especially with the ending it had. Also the hardships people had to go through due to partition is immense and unimaginable. There were too many unwanted characters I felt who did nothing though. The story was left hanging and then begins with totally different description. Full of drama, elaborated and flamboyant explanations of characters and scenes make it simple and easy to understand. Every character is etched out and one can imagine them vividly. It contains the tragic history of India during partition. I almost somewhere could feel the pain of the people during partition. No political or historical background given, tries to depict the picture via individual story.

By: Tanvi Chauhan, BA I



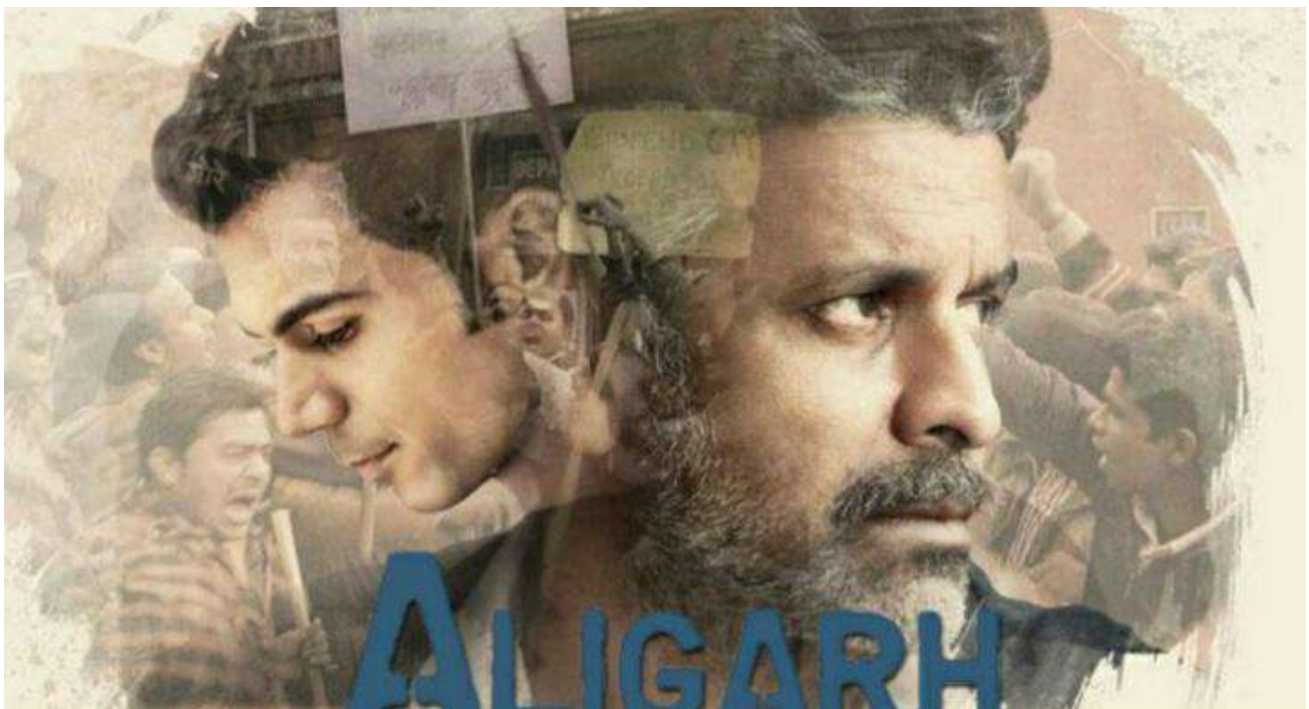
Movie Reviews

Aligarh : An Expression of Homophobia

DIRECTED BY: Hansal Mehta

Aligarh (2016), written by Apurva Asrani and directed by Hansal Mehta is a very reflective cinematic adaptation of a real life story about homophobia and its consequences for the victim. It is based on the life and death of Prof. Ramachandra Siras, a Marathi teacher in Aligarh Muslim University who is made to suffer mentally and physically for his sexual orientation.

The basic theme of the movie is to bring out the injustices related to being different from the mainstream society. It shows how homophobia in a reputed educational institution results in immense suffering to a professor who identifies as homosexual, which includes losing his accommodation, his post and respect from most of his colleagues. The story is presented to the audience through a reporter, who is keen to provide justice to the victim and ends up forming a strong connection with the professor. The story very subtly expresses the agony of the professor which starts from the breach of his privacy to ultimately his end.



Actors Manoj Bajpai (as Prof. Siras) and Rajkumar Rao (as Reporter) have established their characters very well with their exceptional acting. Citing a scene from the movie: after all the breach of his privacy, and forcefully recording his intimate actions with his lover who is a rickshaw puller, Prof Siras sits in his room, drinking and listening to *Aapki nazron ne samjha*; the emotion portrayal of the professor by Mr. Bajpai easily depicts the unmentioned pain and suffering in his heart and the turmoil in his mind, stunning the audience and making it one of the finest scenes of the movie. The writing genius is very well noted in the scenes including the conversations of the Reporter and Professor. One such line about the nature of poetry:

“Poetry shabdon mei kahan hoti hai baba. Kavita shabdon ke beech mei milti hai. Silences mei. Pauses mei. Phir har koi apne apne hisab se apna arth nikalte hai. According to their age, maturity, life experience. Understand?”

The movie very sensibly raises the issue of homophobia, also showing the unnecessary exaggeration and hate towards it. It is clearly portrayed how Prof. Siras strives for nothing but his respect, till the last moments. The fact that the scenes are portrayed so subtly, they engage the audience into the journey of Prof. Siras and his struggle for nothing but respect, in a land he considers foreign. The movie is highly centred on breaking the stereotypical thinking on which validation of every wrong action is given. This cinematic masterpiece gives the audience an incident, to think on critically about the harsh realities of the world. The



personalised touch to it by the actors actually takes the audience to a journey, which has an end leaving everyone teary eyed. One thing that was certainly left out was a little more emphasis on the take of the rickshaw puller, who was also badly harassed. His part could have added another perspective to the story, on how the underprivileged are made to suffer more.

The various aspects of the story and the emphasis on every part of the theme of the story very sensitively makes Aligarh, one of finest pieces of art, which tends to leave a deep impact on the mindset of the viewers.

By: Ambika Sharma, BA II



1971



DIRECTED BY : Amrit Sagar

After LOC, this was the second movie which moved me completely. 1971 movie is based on the war of 1971. The movie is about the war story depicting the struggle of an Indian prisoner of war in Pakistan and his struggle for freedom. I really love the courage and trust that the characters show towards each other. The movie is very touching and emotional. After watching this movie, we can understand that how hard our army is working day and night, just to keep us safe.

Myself being a part of an army family, I can understand how hard it is to live without your father at home and seeing your mother take the role of a father figure for us and do all the work in the family. Maybe I was more emotional because I deeply felt his struggles and pain to meet his family, as they wanted to go back home to India very badly. Their determination was so strong that they made it up to the borders; however, they got dragged back to Pakistan.

The movie started showing the heartbreaking struggle of the prisoner and ended at a point where I just expected that at least they could have a little more strength to pass the message regarding the P.O.W's trapped there. This movie has unraveled the hidden truth behind the 1971 war. This film is one of my favourites and I think is very underrated. I feel like this movie should be more appreciated and awarded. The actors have shown brilliant performances and have worked very hard to make this film a huge success. I loved this movie, after watching this movie I realised how important and respectable our army is.

By: Chuskit Dolma, BA I



Axone



DIRECTED BY: Nicholas Kharkongor

CAST: Lin Laishram, Sayani Gupta, Adil Hussain, Vinay Pathak, Dolly Ahluwalia, Lanuakum Ao, Jimpa Bhutia, Vijay Kumar Dogra, Aakash Bhardwaj, Tenzin Dalha.

REVIEW: A film which is based on the racial discrimination faced by the North-Eastern community in some part of India. It highlights the struggle to cook our own food in a place we don't belong. Axone (fermented soybean), is a delicacy of the North Eastern people. Though it has strong smell it is much loved by the North-East people. The movie line is not clear of what message it wants to convey to all and is problematic in many layers. It begins with stereotype and casual racism only to end with stereotype and casual racism again.

Then there is a scene where they compare the smell of axone to that of a septic tank. This particular scene unintentionally supports the racist mindset.

It would have been a better film if it created a sense of awareness to everyone that it is noble to respect other community delicacies and their culture in overall because PEOPLE of that culture, PEOPLE of that religion, they deserve basic respect we would want for ourselves.

Even though the movie line is not very good, it is quite an entertaining movie with the touch of comedy here and there.

By: Greta Yendrembam, BA I



The Perks of Being a Wallflower

DIRECTED BY: Stephen Chbosky

“The Perks of Being a Wallflower” is a story I came across a few year ago. Based on the 1999 book by the same name, released in the year 2012, this masterpiece was written and directed by Stephen Chbosky, a 1 hour 45 minutes of exceptionally made romantic/drama movie. Enacted by amazing actors like Emma Watson, Logan Lerman and Ezra Miller, it’s a story about a 15 year old introvert boy named Charlie and how he navigates through his new high school life trying to find a place for himself to fit in as well as learning to cope up with his traumatising past. It introduces us to an honest, coming-of-age drama which puts light on issues like mental health, sexuality, sexual harassment, drugs, self-love, etc., basically issues people shy away from.

Nonetheless it gave me some of my favourite quotes of all times. “We accept the love we think we deserve,” is what Mr. Anderson, Charlie’s English teacher said when he asked why good people let themselves be treated so badly. This simple statement urges us to be kind to ourselves and love ourselves the way we love our loved ones, for we accept the love we think we deserve.

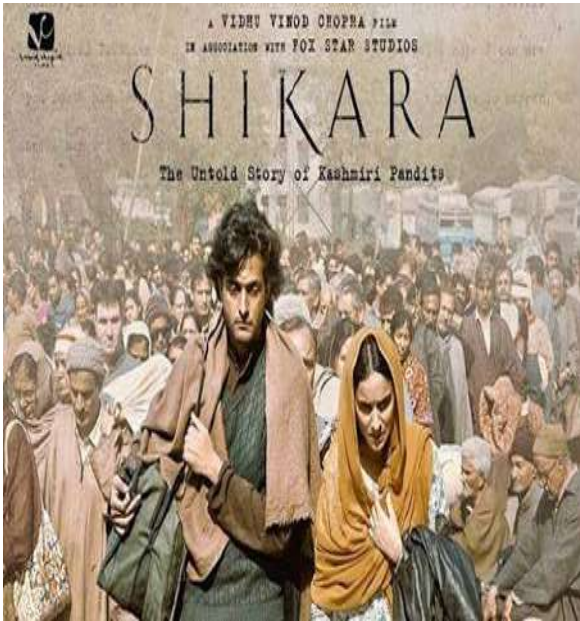
As the story progresses, we come across some really bold and well written characters like Sam, a senior who becomes a dear friend of Charlie as she welcomes him to the Island of Misfit Toys, another expression that reminds us that no one in this world is perfect as we hold on to our fair share of troubles and baggage in life. We also get the pleasure of meeting Patrick, a cheerful gay guy and another senior who becomes a dear friend of Charlie as they learn to deal with their own pains along the way.

The whole story is basically based on one idea which this quote from the movie sums up perfectly, “We can’t choose where we come from but we can choose where we go from there.” A story which gives us hope and courage to love, live, laugh, cry and just acknowledge every emotion we feel. It reminds us that there will be moments where life might feel like a burden but then again we need to survive those so that we can cherish the good that’ll be waiting for us. A movie that moves you with its story and touches your heart with its characters so that someday you too find a moment in your life regardless of all the hardships where you’ll feel the cold wind touching your skin and all you’ll think is that in this moment you are infinite.



By: Harleen Kaur, BA II

Shikara - The Untold Story of Kashmiri Pandits



*“Aye wadi shehzadi bol kaisi hai?
Ek din tumse milne wapis aaunga mein
Kuch barso se tut gya hun mein, khandit hun
Wadi tera beta hun mein, Pandit hun.”*

DIRECTED BY: Vidhu Vinod Chopra

The movie Shikara unrolls with the main character Shiv Kumar Dhar writing letter to the American President expressing his feelings as Kashmiri Pandit. Soon we are taken to a flashback where we are introduced to Shiv and his wife Shanti and their lovely times spent in the Kashmir Valley. We get a glimpse of how their romantic love story culminates into marriage. The things are bright and beautiful for the Dhar couple until their life is turned upside down due to forced exodus of Kashmiri Pandits on 19th January 1990. The Kashmiri Pandits were left with no other option but to leave their hometown in order to save their lives. Somewhere, deep

inside they hoped they would return back to Kashmir some fine day.

“Ae wadi shehzadi bolo kaisi ho? Bin tere khali hun mein, Kya tum bhi vaisi ho?” these are the lines that resound in the mind of Shiv when he is returning to his hometown Kashmir for the first time after exodus of Kashmiri Pandits in 1990. In order to meet his Muslim friend (Lateef, who is in his death pyre) on the orders of Indian Army to fetch some information (It has been supposed that Lateef was involved in mischievous acts). Shiv and Shanti happened to pay a visit to their previous house (named shikara) in the Kashmir Valley, which now was occupied by someone else. This is the most touching scene in the movie where they realise that things are no longer the same, and there are merge chances of them ever returning back.

Another scene which leaves us with dejection is when Shanti cooks Rogan Josh in her Srinagar house (which she named Shikara). We can see her face lit up with joy. Likewise, when she cooks Rogan josh in her 8×8 quarter at Jammu (refugee camp), she sheds some tears when she is reminded of all her good times back in Kashmir Valley.

Shanti longs to go back to Kashmir and it would be interesting for you to know whether Shiv fulfils her wish or not?

This movie is very close to director Vidhu Vinod Chopra, who has dedicated this movie to his mother Shanti who couldn't return back to her homeland Kashmir.

It's a beautiful movie which tends to focus on the untold story of Kashmiri Pandits but it proves to be a timeless love story in the worst of times.

By this I mean that movie somehow shifted its focus and threw much light on Shiv-Shanti love story and failed to highlight other larger Kashmir issues. The shayaris used in the movie are definitely going to steal your heart.



By: Ishani Tanta, BA II

Chhichhore



DIRECTED BY : Nitish Tiwari

CAST: Sushant Singh Rajput, Shraddha Kapoor, Varun Dhawan, Tahir Raj Bhasin, Naveen Polishetty, Tushar Pandey, Saharsh Kumar Shukla, Prateik Babbar, Sannand Verma and Mohammad Samad.

PLOT: A tragic incident forces Anirudh, a middle aged man to take a trip down memory lane and reminisce his college life along with his friends, who were labelled as losers.

MY REVIEWS: When I watched 'CHICCHORE' movie, I got very emotional. This movie seems to be connected with my life. A fun filled comedy with hostel and college days brought so much happiness into my life.

This movie is one with which we can all relate to with our own different perspectives. The heart and soul of this film is purely connected to hostel and college days with friends. Chichhore movie hits the main nerve of suicidal cases and also sings the bond of friendship and love.

The dialogue in the movie *'Tumhara result decide nhi karta tum failure ho, balki tumhari koshish decide krti hai'* is really inspiring for me as well for other teenagers who are going through this trauma. The theme of the movie is narrated in flashback memories. The best thing I found in this movie is the bond of friendship.

This movie is the classic case of exemplifying that the formula to success is not through rote learning but in knowing how to apply learning in real life. The whole cast leaves an imprint with their performances.

Therefore, Chicchore delivers an important message for all but especially for teenagers that suicide is not the option for failure and it's not appropriate to end your life if you fail once.

By: Jahanvi Mittal, BA I



Madaari



मदारी (2016) की एक भारतीय सामाजिक, रहस्य फिल्म है। यह फिल्म जीवन की अच्छी घटनाओं पर आधारित फिल्म है। जिसे निश्चित काम का निर्देशित किया गया है इसका निर्माण शैलेजा मिश्र, महान पालीवाल, सुतापा बिकर और शैलेजा-केजरीवाल द्वारा किया गया है। फिल्म के मुख्य कलाकार-इरफान खान, विशेष बंसल, जिमी-शेरगिन, तुषार दलवी और नितेश पांडे हैं। यह फिल्म 26 जुलाई 2016 में प्रदर्शित हुई थी। इस फिल्म में दिखाया गया है कि किस प्रकार व्यवहारी कर्मचारी अपना काम सही तरीके से नहीं करते। जिस कारण वह पुल हट कर लिए गया। उस पुल दुर्घटना में कई व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हो गई। फिल्म में कुछ घटनाओं को वास्तविक दिखाने के लिए निश्चित है कुछ वास्तव में वह चुके पुलों पर शूटिंग की है। इस फिल्म के पोस्टर पर इरफान खान ने माथे पर पट्टी बांध रखी और वे कलर की चाख ओढ़ रखी है एक हाथ में उन्होंने जुता पकड़ा हुआ है और दूसरे हाथ में रॉड। इसे देखा ऐसा लग रहा है कि जैसे कोई मदारी अपने खेल को शुरूआत करने जा रहा है। इस फिल्म में एक 10 वर्षीय बच्चे बख्त का उसके छात्रावास से अपहरण कर लिया गया।

शेहन शूटिंग का इकलौता पुल है उसके अपहरण के पीछे किसीका हाथ है यह पता लगाने के लिए सेना और सीबीआई इस मामले की जांच चालु कर रहे हैं। शुरूआत में यह मामला गलत पहचान का दिखाई देता है।

बोहन के मित्र चिकू का अपहरण करने के बजाय गलती से बोहन का अपहरण कर लिया। हर कोई यही अनुमान लगाता रहता है कि वह अपहरणकर्ता कौन है? बोहन का अपहरण वास्तव में निर्मल (इरफान खान) द्वारा किया गया होता है। एक दिन अपहरणकर्ता चिकू के पिता को फोन कर ग्रहमंत्री को बंधक लेने के लिए बोलता है कि अपहरणकर्ता-ने किसी खास उद्देश्य से ग्रहमंत्री के बेटे का अपहरण किया है। निर्मल की माँ होती कि सरकार उसका खोया हुआ बेटा उसे वापस लौटा दे। जो सरकार की लापरवाही के कारण मारा जाता है।

अपहरणकर्ता की जानकारी निकालने के बाद पता चलता है कि उसकी पत्नी के छोड़ जाने के बाद वह अपने बेटे अपू के साथ रहता है।

अपू की मृत्यु स्कूल जाते वक्त करते पर एक पुल गिर जाने से हुई। अपने बेटे को बचाने के बाद वह बहुत दुखी रहता था। वह उसकी मृत्यु का कारण वह पुल बनाने वाले मंत्री-जिम्मेदार ठेकेदारों, राजनेताओं और अन्य लोगों को ठहराता है। इसलिए वह उन

सभी लोगों से बदला लेने की ठान लेता है। यह खबर सभी समाचार पत्रों में फैल जाती है अंत में निर्मल बोहन के साथ उसको उसके घर छोड़ देता है। सभी टीवी चैनल के माध्यम से ग्रहमंत्री अमेत और अन्य सभी लोग अपना गुनाह कबुल करने लगे। वह बोहन के साथ खुद को भी मार देगा। वह पुल के ठेकेदारों, ग्रहमंत्री और अन्य सभी लोगों से स्वीकार करवाता है। उसके बाद निर्मल पुलिस को आत्मसमर्पण कर देता है।

इस फिल्म के द्वारा निश्चित रूप से यह सिद्ध करना चाहते हैं कि किस तरह एक व्यक्ति की लापरवाही से किसी की जान जा सकती है।

By: Kavita Bhardwaj, BA II

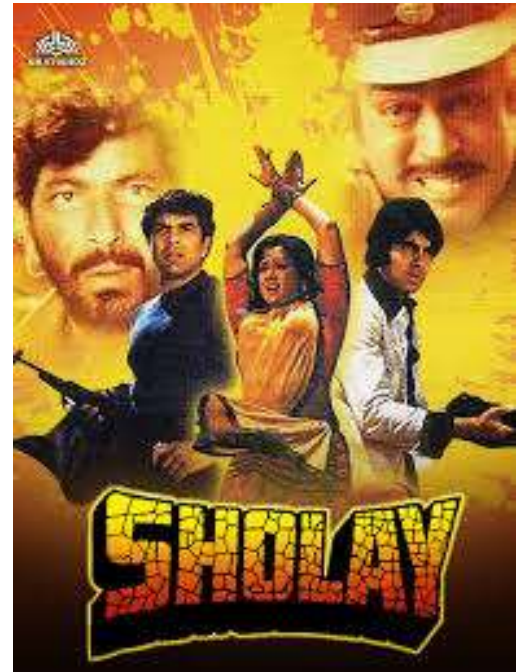


Sholay

A FILM BY : Ramesh Sippy

Blockbuster of the era-Sholay is worth being known as the greatest hit of all times. The most important and attractive thing of that movie is its blend of every emotion and relationships — be it of father, wife, friends and love. Love, drama, action and friendship every aspect is shown perfectly.

The movie begins with introduction of heroes of the film-JAY and VEERU. They had the bond of brothers. THAKUR, again the lead character of the movie, who was a policeman. JAY and VEERU were the ordinary thieves and one day they were travelling in the same train THAKUR was travelling. A mob hijack took place the moment they were travelling and THAKUR in association with JAY and VEERU killed them all. THAKUR was performing his duties away from his family in another city. While he returned home he saw that his whole family is killed, except his daughter-in-law who was not at home that time. THAKUR was astonished to see his dead family and he knew this assassination is done by GABBAR-the villain of the story. In extreme rage and fierce he rushed to GABBAR and found him and tried to kill him where he was caught. GABBAR found him more powerful than him so he chopped his arms off. From that moment THAKUR was full of revenge. He himself was unable to fight so he wanted to hire killers to kill him and take his revenge. He memorised JAY and VEERU who helped him kill those thieves. THAKUR called them to his village



On the way to village an interesting incident happened - JAY and VEERU met a beautiful girl BASANTI - the lead actress of the movie. BASANTI was a cart driver and name of her mare was DHANNO. Veeru found her lovely and fell for her. She took them to THAKUR'S house. At that moment JAY saw RADHA-daughter-in-law of THAKUR and liked her. Now JAY was in love with RADHA but she was a widow.

Now they started to plan of killing GABBAR. THAKUR put his condition before that he wants GABBAR alive. Then festival of HOLI arrived and every villager celebrated the fest with full enthusiasm. There the villagers were attacked by GABBAR'S men. There his men were defeated by JAY and VEERU.

After few days JAY and VEERU found GABBAR and tried to kill him but were unsuccessful. On the other hand the love stories of the heroes and heroines were taking place. The scene was wonderful and created a fine aura amidst tension and chaos. One day they decided to kill GABBAR with all preparations. They had a fight with him and his men where JAY and VEERU were in a bad condition. GABBAR too was wounded badly. GABBAR played a trick and divided JAY and VEERU. Where they both were fighting alone. then a sad moment came when JAY was killed by GABBAR. When VEERU came to know that his friend is snatched by him brutally he lost his temper and without thinking any second he rushed to kill GABBAR same as he killed his friend. He defeated GABBAR in a fight and was about to kill him then THAKUR arrived and stopped him reminding him of the condition he has put at first.

Then THAKUR himself killed GABBAR brutally without mercy and the chapter of villain ended. Everyone was sad on the loss of JAY along with RADHA. After their success JAY was returning back where he found BASANTI already waiting for him. The movie ended up here.

The title SHOLAY is given as a praise to the brave boys JAY AND VEERU. The movie was full of joy and sorrow both.

I loved the movie.

By: Kinjal Bir Singh, BA1



Kimi No Na Wa

DIRECTED BY: Makoto Shinkai

I used to think that animes are for children's entertainment but this movie proved me wrong. My friend suggested me to watch a fantastic anime "Kimi no na wa". Its translated "Your Name" in English. The Director Makoto Shinkai has done a fabulous job in making this anime, undoubtedly one of the best anime to ever exist.



The movie is a romantic tale of two teenagers from different places, Mitsuha and Taki. Mitsuha hates her city and wishes to be a handsome boy from a big city like Tokyo in her next life. Did she know she'd be switching her life the next morning with a boy from Tokyo named Taki?

The story seems to be a simple romantic tale in the beginning but honestly, it has got to give you some goose bumps when you continue to watch it through. The story has fantastic elements including time travel, time lag and body switching.

Both Mitsuha and Taki come to know about the scenario going on in their lives later and eventually fall for each other.

But one day it all suddenly stopped and Taki couldn't switch to Mitsuha. The movie unfolds to how Taki can find Mitsuha, the girl he never met, with the help of just a picture he drew of the village of Mitsuha.

The movie is so beautifully made and animated that every moment could be framed and used to hang on your wall or your mobile's wallpaper. The anime strikes your emotional roots and succeeds in making the audience want both the teenagers to fall in love. The cinematography looks so real, in fact even more beautiful than reality. This anime balances some fantasies and reality so excellently that we completely emerge ourselves in the scenes. The anime has some great plot twists giving chills to the audience and yeah a very big credit goes to the background music which has a great mind-blowing effect over our hearts. It perfectly matches with the ongoing emotions on the screen. The movie is a perfect combination of twists, love and happiness.

There's an excellent job done on the dialogues and characterisation. Every character looks so alive.

You will fall in love with the characters and their voices.

"Your name" is not just another romantic anime, it teaches us that even if the mind forgets the heart always remembers. How can a movie be ending happily and still making its audience cry? "Your name" proved me wrong on this too. The struggle of finding someone throughout the movie and ending meeting them but you don't even know their name but feels a connection. The movie ends with both the main characters standing on a staircase with their eyes dripping and asking each other's name.

The movie is a must-watch and trust me if you are a romantic genre lover, you may even end up watching it twice.

By: Rakhi Antil, BA III



Inception



MOVIE BY: Christopher Nolan

Inception is a visually arrest illusion that does not come close to reality like an impact of those durable cut objects. It visually trade around the crafty puzzles, mysteries and gestures of the direction's philosophy to perhaps trade or to inbuilt ideas in the minds of people. It analyses rather focuses on the plot of primarily nightmare that unfolds a three dimensional map, created by the sub conscious thoughts of the protagonist.

The story also points out the risking rather comprising marriage of the protagonist. The movie also uses a combination of drugs, wires in order to penetrate into the mind of their targets in order to stimulate useful



information from the sub conscious memory. The movie not only provides many technical visual conditions but also puts you in an unexpected mental espionage from the thoughts of the targets sub conscious memory. With such stunning visuals and imagination the storyline does build an excited plot that you cannot ignore but appreciate. Christopher Nolan's literally genius sense of mind processing sets the story into a marvellous world of sci-friction that you cannot deny.

By: Ridam, BA I



A Long Way Down



DIRECTED BY: Pascal Chaumel

CAST: Pierce Brosnan, Toni Collette, Imogen Poots, and Aron Paul (along with the supporting cast members).

PRODUCTION HOUSE: BBC films, HanWay films

PLOT SUMMARY: Based on the book, “About a boy, high fidelity” by Nick Hornby, “A Long Way Down” is a dark comedy. It revolves around four strangers who coincidentally end up on the same suicide spot on New Year's Eve, with a same motive being ending their lives to escape their personal sufferings. After meeting each other and making a pact to postpone their plans until Valentine's Day they form new bonds with each other and hence, their lives build differently. The movie ends on a happy note.

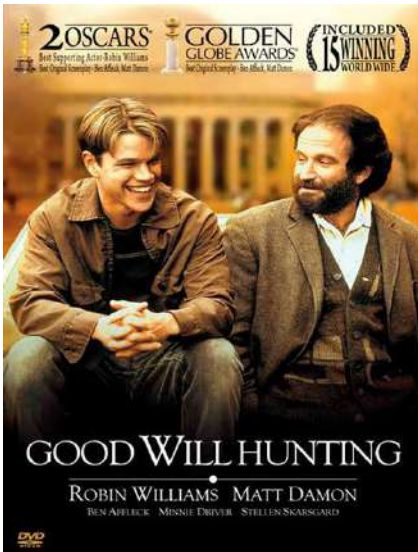
MY REVIEWS: I stumbled upon this movie accidentally while switching channels and now its one of my favourite movies. This movie features a wonderful cast and a light storyline. The critical reviews might be trivialising but I personally feel that this movie is quite underrated. The story unfolds beautifully around each character giving an individual background to each of them. It shows the realities of depression and hopelessness and the backlash of our own life choices. The movie, in the end, gives the watchers a sense of hope that eventually things turn out to be just fine.

By: Sheereen Khan, BA I



Good Will Hunting

DIRECTED BY: Gus Van Sant



It is heartbreaking when a genius won't recognise himself, and that is the most baffling problem of all in "Good Will Hunting," the smart, involving story of a working-class kid from Boston directed by Gus Van Sant.

The film stars Matt Damon as a janitor at MIT named Will Hunting who likes to party and hang around the old neighbourhood and who has a photographic memory. Stellan Skarsgard plays Lambeau, the professor at MIT, and Robin Williams as Sean McGuire, Lambeau's old college roommate, now a community college professor who has messed up his own life, but is a gifted counsellor.

The movie begins when Lambeau offers a prize to any student who can solve a difficult problem. The next morning, the answer is written on a blackboard standing in the hall but none of his students has done that. A

few days later, Lambeau catches Will Hunting at the board and realises he's the one who did it and is a natural mathematical genius. Lambeau wants to help Will, to get him into school.

But before this could happen, Will and some of his friends while cruising the old neighbourhood beat up a guy for which he is jailed. Lambeau gets probation for Will with a promise that he'll find him help and counselling.

Thus, "Good Will Hunting" is the story of how this kid's life edges toward self-destruction and how four people try to haul him back. One is Lambeau, the professor, second is Sean McGuire, the counsellor, third is Skylar (Minnie Driver), a British student at Harvard, who falls in love with Will and tries to help him and the fourth person is Chuckie (Ben Affleck), Will's friend since childhood, who tells him "You're sitting on a winning lottery ticket. It would be an insult to us if you're still around here in 20 years." But Will Hunting is a tough nut. He sees nothing wrong with spending his whole life hanging out with his friends, quaffing a few beers, holding down a blue-collar job. His reluctance to embrace the opportunity at MIT is based partly on class pride that this would mean betraying his friends and the old neighbourhood and partly on old psychic wounds. And it is only through

breaking through to those scars and sharing some of his own that McGuire, the counsellor, is able to help him. The film has a good ear for the way these characters might really talk. It sometimes seems to have perfect pitch when it comes to dialogue; like the scene where Matt and Skylar break up and say hurtful things, we can see how clear it is that Matt is pushing her away because he doesn't think he deserves her and the scene where McGuire finally gets Will to repeat, "It's not my fault." The outcome of the movie is fairly predictable; so is the whole story, really. It's the individual moments, not the payoff, that make it so effective. The movie has a bittersweet ending but is worth a watch.



By: Smriti Garg, BA II

Good Will Hunting

DIRECTED BY: Gus Van Sant

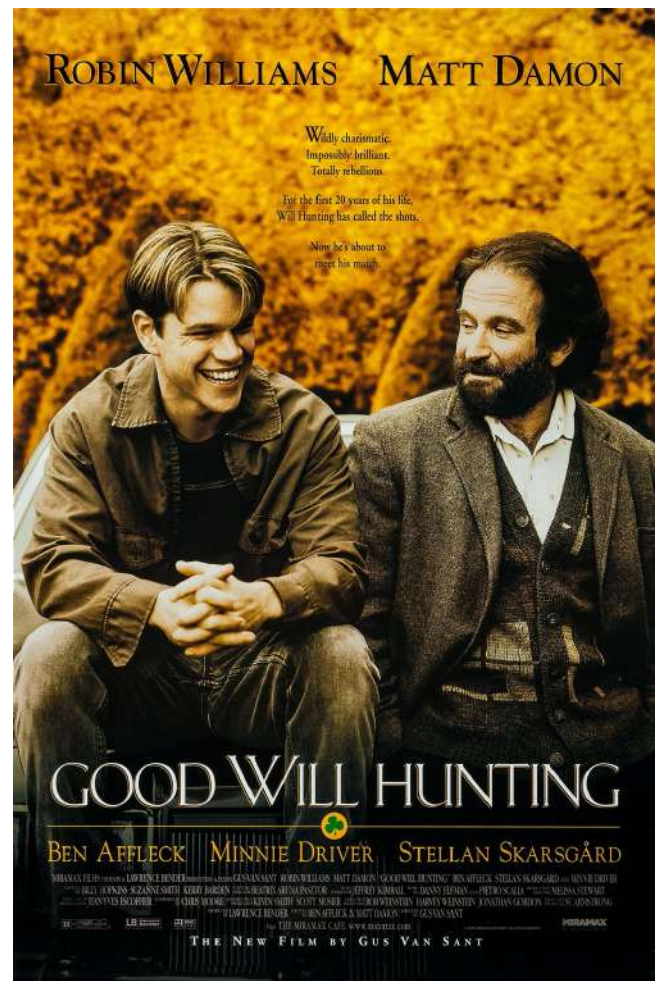
On rare occasions, some people come together and create magic on the screen, and the world appreciates it with an Oscar. That was the case with Goodwill Hunting released in 1997 American drama film directed by Gus Van Sant and starring Robin Williams, Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, Minnie Driver, and Stellan Skarsgård. Written by Damon and Affleck movie shows a 20-year-old Will Hunting an unaware genius who gets involved in a criminal offence and as part of a deferred prosecution agreement forced to complete mandatory therapy. Through his therapy sessions, Will gets the power to confront his past and reevaluate his future goals, making the audience feel the essence of the movie on a deeper level.

This movie became a timeless piece of art that many people can connect to, especially young adults. While it didn't make enough in the box office and isn't a mainstream film, it still carries that ability that most movies don't. The ability to make you move emotionally as it gives profound messages regarding relationships, dealing with the future, and learning to love and trust other people. The two actors who were at the peak of their career when they came together for this movie while a generation set them apart, their commitment to the craft of acting shines through in this classic film, 'Good Will Hunting.'

The title of this film is based on the name of its main character, Will Hunting (played by Matt Damon), a 20-year old, born and raised in South Boston. Will from outside seems to be a regular guy, but he was born with the innate gift of having a genius-level intellect. He holds a particular interest in mathematics but never enrolled in any course or never attended any school.

Will had a rough upbringing as his parents abandoned him when he was a baby, and he grew up in foster homes where his foster father abused him physically multiple times. As a result, Will had a fear of abandonment, and his social interactions were limited because of the abusive childhood he endured. Still, he is happy with his three friends: Billy, Morgan, and his best friend Chuckie.

Will's friends are loyal, but they are not the best influence on him. The group fights lead Will to acting out his aggression violently, which ends him up to assaulting a police officer, causing him to do mandatory community service and therapy sessions. Will, a cleaner at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, works during after hours to clean the bathrooms. Not known to both students and professors alike, Will in his spare time has been going around solving advanced Math equations that the regular MIT graduate students can't find solutions for. One night, Will is caught in the act as he gets caught doing an extremely difficult problem that no one else has solved yet. Professor Lambeau of the Mathematics department discovers Will solving this problem, but Will flees.



Lambeau tracks him down. Unfortunately, by the time the professor finds him, Will is in jail for assaulting a police officer.

The judge agrees to release Will under two conditions: he spends one day a week meeting with Lambeau and spending one day a week meeting with a therapist. Eventually, once several psychologists have rejected the young man, Sean McGuire, a teacher at Bunker Hill Community College, agrees to take the case. After a rocky start, the two form a relationship, and Will begins to explore issues and emotions he was holding behind his armour. As Will advances his self-awareness in sessions with Sean, he also learns about friendship from his buddy, Chuckie (Ben Affleck), and love from a Harvard co-ed named Skylar (Minnie Driver).

With the help of Sean and Skylar, he eventually learns that while his life has been tragic, that should not prevent him from reaching his true potential.

Sean also is the father figure that Will never had. Sean was also abused as a child and knew where Will is coming from. However, he has to learn how to put the past behind him and to not blame himself for what



had happened because it simply wasn't his fault. Will was an innocent child and can't be blamed for such a horrific event. Will has to learn again how to be emotionally open and vulnerable with the people who care about him like Sean and Skylar. Will had lost the inability to love and be loved, but it's never too late to get that back.

Throughout the movie, the relationship between Sean and Will through the therapy sessions keeps on progressing beautifully. Sean shares real-life experiences with Will to help him open up about his traumas. Like Sean shares his wife's stories, the one true love he lost to a long battle with cancer years ago hasn't been able to become romantically involved with anyone since then. Both men have their inner demons to fight, but they encourage each other to become better, strive for more, and live good lives. With Will's urging, Sean is also ready to put his tragic past behind him to begin anew. He sets out to travel the world, meet a special someone like Will has with Skylar, and truly live life again.

By: Sukriti Tomar, BA III



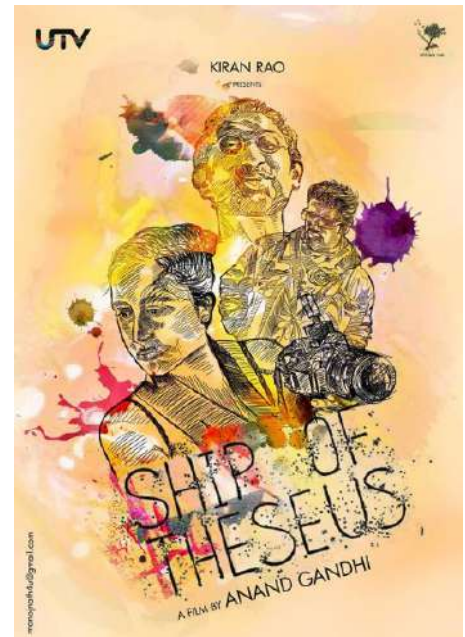
Ship of Theseus

DIRECTORED BY - Anand Gandhi

MAIN CAST - Aida El-Kashef as Aliya Kama, Neeraj Kabi as Maitreya, Faraz Khan as Vinay, Soham Shah as Navin, Amba Sanyal as Bhanu, Saar Kashyap as Street play actor.

Ship of Theseus is an Indian drama film which explores the question of “justice, identity, beauty and death” by the stories of a photographer (Aliya), a monk (Maitreya) and stockbroker (Navin).

PLOT: Aliya Kamal is a visually impaired Egyptian photographer undergoing a cornea transplant to restore her vision. Maitreya is a Jain monk who is a part of a petition to ban animal testing in India. He is diagnosed with liver cirrhosis. Navin, a young stockbroker who had just got a new kidney. He soon learns a case of organ theft. He initially fears that his new kidney was the one stolen. So he decides to go to Sweden and help Shankar get his kidney back. Ship of Theseus ends with Platonic Allegory of the cave. In the last scene of the film we see the shadow of the man in the walls of the cave.



THEMES AND INTERPRETATIONS:

SIGHT AND VISION: The visual disability of Aliya has been described as central to the idea of Theseus paradox, wherein one of her body parts is replaced as it was in the mythical ship.

IDENTITY AND CHANGE: The idea that a human changes through a period of time brings us to the question of “identity”. We also face the question of responsibility in the changing scenario. The film measures Mumbai’s changing scenario.

PERSONAL BELIEFS: The monk is faced with the dilemma of depending on the very people he is fighting against as a result of diagnosis, is forced to choose between dying and compromising beliefs.

MORALITY AND ETHICS: The film explores the intricacy of morality. The moral dilemma of all three protagonists ties the three different parts of the film.

MY CRITIC REVIEW: The Theseus paradox questions the ideas of authenticity, identity and death. There is a wealth of thought provoking incidents scattered in the film. All the three stories have one thing in common; organ transplant. Everyone may not appreciate the film because it’s a different kind of cinema which is not for the wider audience. It did not even gain much popularity because it is not for the audience seeking entertainment. The movie will take you to a journey that will be forever printed in your memory. It is a great piece of art and philosophy. One of the finest movies to have originated in India. Deep articulations with no judgments. Aida has nailed the screen. Also very visually appealing and great cinematography. The three protagonists have their own stories with the common question of identity. If you are inclined towards philosophy and want to do some soul searching, I would strongly recommend you to watch this movie.

By: Tanvi Chauhan, BA I



Avatar

A FILM BY: James Cameron

Avatar is one of the best Hollywoods movie having a heartthrob record in its history directed, produced, written and co-edited by James Cameron. It is a science fiction epic movie which shows the vastness of the industry and the minds of the people in it. Even though it's just a movie it tells us the probability of the existence of such similar life forms, people and planets which we termed as 'aliens'. It's shows the ability, capacity and imagination of the film industry and their progress.

One of the most interesting thing in the film was that of the Na'vi language it is a language, a fiction alone . It is an actual constructed language and has vocabulary and grammar too. Each and everything was made through works of man and it was on whole another level. The main cast of the film were Sam Worthington

(Jake Sully), Zoe Saldana (Neytiri) , Grace (Sijourney Weaver) and Stephen Lang (Colonel Miles).

Now, remembering and getting back in the scene. Jake was a paraplegic and former marine who agreed to go to Pandora substituting his twin brother who died as he was offered to get his legs back. There, on the Pandora, he met the Na'vi tribes and met Neytiri, the female protagonist. His abilities earned the trust of the people of Na'vi besides he got his legs in his Na'vi avatar. But Colonel Miles was disappointed in him as he fought him back. Earth's resources were all depleted. So with the help of the scientific progress, they moved to the colonising Planet Pandora where an element called unobtainium which sells for millions on Earth . But Jake didn't go as miles expected. Instead, he fell in love with Neytiri and became her soulmate. But Jake 'infiltration' of getting to know everything about the Na'vi avatar and the fact that his technically a spy.

Toward the end of Avatar, the RDA orders destruction of home-tree, Neytiri's home base because of the rich deposit of Unobtainium that lies beneath. By this point Jake was fully on the Na'vi team even though Neytiri and her tribes have turned against him after finding out about the spy thing. He completely changed his identity. But Miles huge military plane and massive guns and numerous soldiers overpowered the tribe and home tree was destroyed. During the battles many lives were lost, Neytiri's father, etc. But Jake finally succeeded in regaining their trust by finally bonding with the Taruk, a huge dragon beast whom the Na'vi feared. Jake neurologically connect to the tree of souls and ask Eywa to help them their defeat quest to RDA . Then at last the Na'vi tribe succeeded in moving out the RDA from the Pandora. Its those technologically advancement that will be Avatar's lasting legacy as well as Cameros ability to bring action and heart to some of his most relatable elaborate world.

In the nutshell, Avatar takes place in 2154. And it got its name from a Sanskrit word avatar originally meant the incarnation or embodiment. This incarnated form is called avatar. And this concept inspired Cameron to name the movie 'AVATAR' as the soul of human goes into the body of the Na'vi. Wrapping up, personally its one of my favourite movie of all time with undiscovered ideas, motivation and a thrilling one. So, I suggest all of you to watch this movie and to me its's a five star rated movie.



By: Yumnam Jyoti, BA I

