

KHWAJA MOINUDDIN CHISHTI LANGUAGE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND M.E.A.L.



LITERARY LANE

JANUARY EDITION

2025

TABLE OF CONTENT

1. Advisory Board
2. Masthead
3. Editorial Board
4. Editorial Team
5. Words From Vice Chancellor
6. Words From Dean
7. Words From Faculty
8. Managing Editor's Note
9. Editor's Note
10. Disclaimer
11. Who I am?
12. College in my new world
13. Chaos & Life
14. Black and Grey
15. A Girl's Dream
16. New Media - An Elixir to Alleviate Stress
17. Portrayal of Social Issues in Modern Literature
18. From Radio Jockey to Podcaster
19. The Philosophy of Simplicity
20. Smile and Hawker
21. That Moonlight Night
22. And the forever promise begins here
23. Thank You Note

Masthead

Advisory Board

- Prof. Ajay Taneja, Vice Chancellor (Chief Patron)
- Prof. Tanveer Khadija, Head, Department of English & M.E.A.L. (Patron)
- Prof. Sauban Sayeed, Dean of Arts & Humanities
- Prof. Chandna Dey, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences
- Prof. Syed Haider Ali, Dean, Faculty of Commerce.
- Prof. Ehtesham Ahmad, Head, Department of Commerce
- Prof. Masood Alam, Head, Department of Arabic
- Prof. Fakhre Alam, Head of Department of Urdu
- Prof. O.N Upadhyay, Head, Department of English & M.E.L., University of Lucknow
- Prof. Rashmi Attari, Department of English, Aligarh Muslim University
- Prof. Rajneesh Arora, Head, Department of Linguistics and Contemporary English, EFLU, Regional Campus, Lucknow.

Editorial Board

- Prof. Tanveer Khadija, Head, Department of English & M.E.A.L., Chief Editor.
- Dr. Haroon Rasheed, Asst. Professor, Department of English & M.E.A.L., Sub-Editor.
- Dr. Shipra Singh, Asst. Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.
- Ms. Sadaf Fatima, Asst. Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.
- Ms. Shikha Singh, Asst. Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.
- Mr. Yusuf Ayaz, Asst. Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.
- Ms. Mansi Bose, Asst. Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.
- Dr. Musi Raza, Asst. Professor (T), Department of Urdu, Member.
- Dr. Zafrun Naqi, Asst. Professor (T), Department of Urdu, Member.
- Dr. Aradhna Asthana, Asst. Professor (T), Department of Hindi, Member

Advisory Board



Prof. Ajay Taneja
Vice Chancellor (Chief Patron)



Prof. Tanveer Khadija, Head, Department of
English & M.E.A.L. (Chairperson)



Prof. Syed Haider Ali, Dean, Faculty of
Commerce, Member



Prof. Chandna Dey, Dean, Faculty of Social
Sciences, Member



Prof. Sauban Sayeed, Dean, Faculty Arts &
Humanities, Member



Prof. Masood Alam, Head, Department of
Arabic, Member



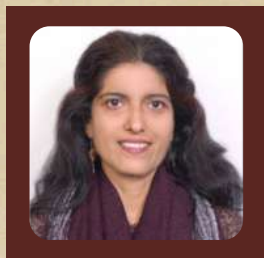
Prof. Ehtesham Ahmad, Head, Department of
Commerce, Member



Prof. Fakhre Alam, Head of Department of
Urdu, Member



Prof. O.N Upadhyay, Department of English
& M.E.A.L., University of Lucknow, Member

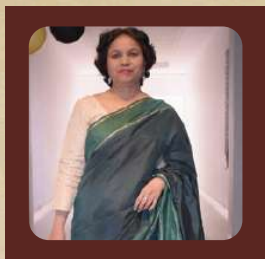


Prof. Rashmi Attari, Department of English,
Aligarh Muslim University, Member



Prof. Rajneesh Arora, Head, Department of
Linguistics and Contemporary English, EFLU,
Regional Campus, Lucknow. Member

Editorial Board



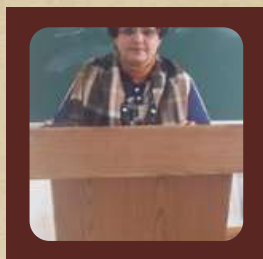
Prof. Tanveer Khadija, Head, Department of English & M.E.A.L., Chief Editor.



Dr. Mohd. Akmal, Asst. Professor, Department of Urdu, Asst. Editor



Dr. Haroon Rasheed, Asst. Professor, Department of English & M.E.A.L. Asst. Editor,.



Dr. Jahan Ara Zaidi Asst. Professor, Department of Hindi, Asst. Editor



Dr. Shipra Singh, Asst Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.



Ms. Sadaf Fatima, Asst Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.



Ms. Shikha Singh, Asst Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.



Mr. Yusuf Ayaz, Asst Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.



Ms. Mansi Bose, Asst Professor (T), Department of English & M.E.A.L., Member.

Editorial Team



Sajidur Rahman Ansari, Managing Editor

Sajidur Rahman Ansari is a Student of Masters in English Literature, with a deep interest in the political history of India. An avid writer, Sajid enjoys writing articles and exploring new ideas. Additionally, he has a passion for reading Urdu Adab (literature), which enriches his understanding of diverse literary traditions. With a commitment to engaging with complex topics, Sajid seeks to contribute meaningful insights through his writing.

Naba Anjum Usmani, Editor & Designer

Naba Anjum Usmani is a literature enthusiast pursuing English Literature at KMCLU. She graduated from Banaras Hindu University. Professionally, Naba works as a Social Media Manager and content writer for an Organization. As a writer, she's a co-author of "Alone Amidst Crowd" and is currently working on her debut book. Naba's passions include writing, poetry, articles, stories, and arts & crafts.



Faiza Siddiqui, Senior Content Coordinator

Faiza Siddiqui is in her MA in English Literature from Khawaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University while also working as a teacher at a school in Lucknow. She has a passion for writing articles and has previously worked as a content writer for an organization. In her free time, Faiza enjoys reading fiction and novels, further enriching her literary interests.

Kajal Kuswaha, Content Facilitator

Kajal Kuswaha is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in English at Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University, driven by her passion for literature and language. In her free time, she loves to read books, constantly seeking to broaden her knowledge and perspective. Additionally, she has a deep appreciation for folk music, finding joy and cultural connection in listening to traditional songs.



Mahi Srivastava, Proof Reader

Mahi Srivastava, currently in her third year of a BA at Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University, has a deep passion for writing and a constant drive to learn new things. Creativity plays a significant role in her life, inspiring her to explore different ideas and express herself in innovative ways.

Zara Afzal Ansari, Proof Reader

Zara Afzal Ansari pursuing a Bachelor's in English at Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti Language University. She possesses strong skills in communication, time management, and attention to detail. In her free time, Zara enjoys reading a wide range of genres, including fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. She is also passionate about creative writing and photography, which allow her to express her creativity and capture meaningful moments.





PROFESSOR TANVEER KHADIJA

Head of Department - English and MEAL, KMCLU

WORDS FROM FACULTY

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Literary Lane* English Magazine, a collective initiative of the teachers and students from the Department of English and Modern European and Asian Languages, Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University, Lucknow. This literary magazine emerges from a shared sense of responsibility that we have as human beings and a belief that words have the potential to delight our senses and teach human values. Through poetic and prosaic expressions, we seek to create a space where voices, both familiar and new, can resonate, connect, and transform.

It is with this spirit that we take the first step on our creative journey and intend to go a long distance. Every submission in this issue represents not just the work of an individual writer but an interaction, an invitation to engage with something that might inspire and challenge you. Our aim is to be a platform where writers feel free to explore new ideas, express their voices and contribute without fear of conforming to trends or expectations. Whether they are established authors or emerging talents, each contributor brings a unique perspective, and we are equally honored and delighted to give wings to their creative ideas and literary pursuits.

This magazine isn't just about showcasing great writing talent, but also about building a community which has a passion to perform and excel in whatever capacity they are functioning. We wish *Literary Lane* to be a creative platform where readers and writers can come together, share ideas, and start a dialogue to create an environment conducive for academic growth. Writing can often feel like a solitary act, but when shared with others, it becomes a way to communicate and connect with the fellow beings. We invite you to be part of this literary endeavor, whether by contributing your own work or simply by engaging with the editing, managing and publicizing the magazine.

Editor's Note

The Power of Stories: Unlocking the Depth of Self-Discovery and the World



Stories are one of the very few things that remain constant in the middle of the roller-coaster waves of constant change in today's world. They had been a line connecting us since the beginning of human civilization and were well above borders, languages, and time. In the middle of all these virtual displays and data, we see today, the wonder of stories still manages to capture our hearts and help us escape, reflect, and, ultimately, understand ourselves and the world within us.

Stories, at their very origin, are not just for entertainment but for preservation. It is through them that the histories, the customs, the lessons get passed down. They become stores of culture that prescribe our perception and our definition of identity and community and even morality. From the epic myths of past civilizations to the tale revolving in today's novels, movies, and even social media posts, stories continue to produce a tremendous power over how we interpret our place in the world.

But why are stories so powerful?

One reason stories are so powerful is that they show empathy. A good, well-written story allows us to feel the joys, sorrows, fears, victory and triumphs of others as if they were our own. This ability to step into the shoes of another, to live a moment in their reality, broadens our perspective, allows us to connect across cultural, social, or ideological divides.

Every word so carefully put, every character so carefully crafted, does so to serve a purpose in literature. Whether it is a short and simple poem or an epic novel, the written word invites us to dive deep into the human condition and find emotion and challenge. It is in the searching that we come across parts of ourselves reflected in the stories that are read, and in this, we find new ways to go about our lives.

We, as contributors to this magazine, are committed with the obligation of composing and writing such stories. Whether they be poetry, fiction, or essays, our work is not simply for entertainment but for enlightenment, encouragement, or inspiration. It is not writing for oneself but in service of the reader seeking comfort, brilliance, or simply for that temporary escape from reality.

Let us remember, then, that the stories we tell today shall shape into being the world to come. They shall be the windows generations yet unborn shall look through to see us as we were and what we loved. So let us write with intention, with empathy, and with a purpose well-defined. For in the end, it is there that words can alter minds, hearts, and even history.

SAJIDUR RAHMAN
Managing Editor
LITERARY LANE

Editor's Note

Embracing Change and Growth Through Language



As we enter in our First edition of our departmental magazine, we are reminded that language is always changing and matters a lot in our lives. Language is not a tool for merely communicating thoughts but is a stronghold of culture, emotion, and even identity. It fashions our worldview and lets us communicate our thoughts, dreams, and aspirations to others.

This edition celebrates the vibrancy and diversity of the English language. From impassioned articles on the subtleties of literary masterpieces to contemporary poetry that carries raw human emotion, each article or poem is a part of a grander conversation about how language in turn drives us and how we, in our own right, influence language.

At its heart, this magazine is more than words. Written with flair, passion, and a degree of intellectual curiosity by our contributors, it is testament to them; we talk on these pages not just of the beauty of the printed word but also of the complexities of our world: politics, culture, society, and art. Contributors have strived to write with unique viewpoints, to help in making meaningful conversations and to further provoke thought.

As we continue to struggle through a world increasingly stitched together by the motive of technology and constantly divided by language, we must not forget this year: the power of language in the cultivation of understanding and sympathy. Let us remember, through our writing, we could build bridges between people, shake awake assumptions, and eventually bring about a change of paradigms.

Welcome, dear reader, to soak yourself in these pages. Let's discuss ideas and take away something new-fresh points of view, further understanding, or maybe even renewed passion for words. With that in mind, let us continue to explore together the limitless possibilities of language.

Naba Anjum Usmani

Editor

LITERARY LANE

DISCLAIMER

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN *Literary Lane* ARE OF INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS AND NOT NECESSARILY OF THE EDITOR AND PUBLISHER. THE EDITORS AND PUBLISHER WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY FALSE PLAGIARISM UNDERTAKING PROVIDED BY THE CONTRIBUTORS.

Who Am I?

I am the body that feels the air,
I am the eyes that see everywhere,
I am the mind that can think,
And the feelings that can sink.

I am a son loved by my mother,
I am the heart of my father,
I am the water that is deep,
And the soil that produces a seed.

I am the sky up high,
I am the bird that can fly,
I am the sound of an instrument,
And a part of a monument.

I am the light in darkness,
I am the man with calmness,
I am the consciousness in everything,
Not just a human being.



Sushil Kumar Singh Parmar
M.A. English 3rd Sem

College in My New World

College, in my new world,
Fantasies fall apart at the entrance, as expected,
A reality check, harsh and uninvited,
Shattering dreams, like fragile glass, already fractured.
Roaming, but not exploring,
This is my way of living in the moment,
No curiosity, no awe, no wonder,
Just navigating through familiar halls, like a hollow thunder.

Pass, shouting and hooting,
Not for playing, but my rage,
A cry for freedom, trapped inside,
A scream that echoes, but nobody hears, nobody engages.
No one would understand,
College, in my new world,
Where lectures are a distant hum,
And grades, the only measure of success, numb.

In this sea of faces, I'm lost,
A solitary figure, adrift, forlorn,
Searching for meaning, but finding none,
Just going through motions, until the day is done.
Yet, amidst the chaos and noise,
I find solace in quiet, hidden joys,
A book, a thought, a fleeting glance,
Moments that make life worth a second chance.



Naba Anjum Usmani
M.A. English 3rd Sem

Chaos & Life

Thousands of people, thousands of stories,
Each life is a book with varied glories.
From quiet whispers to roaring dreams,
A symphony of voices in endless streams.

Complicated to understand, a web of tangled threads,
Each strand is a twist of fate, where clarity sheds.
In the maze of emotions, truths often lie,
Beneath the surface, where secrets quietly sigh.

Life is complicated, a tangled, winding road,
With shadows and light in every mode.
In its chaos, a hidden grace,
Where meaning unfolds at its own pace.



Tahira Fatima
BSc Biotechnology 1st Sem
Major English

Black & Grey

Undeniably, there's darkness in here.
Look for ways to crawl out, but darkness persists.
Silence, so loud and clear.
Find a way out, unable to resist.

Why do you tremble, under the weight of it.
It's your life, don't grit.
Do you not know the sheer size of your responsibilities?
Do you not know this?

Say, do you see?
The downward spiral of your incompetency?
Swallow it, the pills of rationality,
You are a slave of reality.

Can you dream in this world?
It's blue and gray.
This darkness, you know it.
The silence, you're unable to resist.



Zara Afzal Ansari
B.A. English 3rd Sem

A Girl's Dream

In the realm of dreams, she dances free,
A girl of wonder, a sight to see,
With eyes that sparkle, full of glee,
In her laughter, the melody of the sea.

Her spirit soars on wings of light,
A girl of courage, shining bright,
In her presence, all feels right,
A beacon of hope in the darkest night

In her smile, the sun's warm embrace,
A girl of kindness, full of grace,
In her touch, a gentle trace,
A portrait of love in every space.

She walks through life with gentle stride,
A girl of depth, nowhere to hide,
In her soul, a universe wide,
A tapestry of dreams, side by side.



Mahi Srivastva
B.A. English 5th Sem

New Media - An Elixir to Alleviate Stress

In today's highly competitive and digitalized world, everyone is experiencing some stress, anxiety, and psychological problems. It depends on individuals what coping strategies they use to mitigate their daily stress and anxiety. With evolving technology and the growing digitization landscape, the ways to deal with and manage daily stress have taken a paradigm shift.

We live in an intensely technology-driven world and with changing times our problems also require extraordinary solutions. According to a study, it has been found that using new media could help in lowering stress levels, psychological distress, and anxiety. As per researchers, digital tools and social media make it easier for today's generation to connect to like-minded people easily, foster relationships and get health-related information swiftly. New media plays a pivotal role in reducing and managing stress.

Stressors nowadays look for instant ways to deal with their stress due to time constraints, hectic working hours and challenging work-life balance. People have become more comfort-centrist, and seek prompt solutions to every problem with just a click away. The new media increased manifold over the past few years and it continues to grow rapidly. It has paved the way for interactive digital tools that can help de-stress the mind and body, thereby enhancing holistic well-being.

Today's generation finds solace in a variety of online apps to keep themselves relaxed and tension-free. These apps are being invented with the aim of letting users unwind and feel refreshed after a strenuous day. There are several apps available online that cater to everyone's requirements to mitigate stress. Some of the apps are Mood Tracker, Personal Zen, Happify, Pocket Yoga, FITBIT, etc.

However, the question arises how many of them are ardent followers of the new media? Maybe only a small fraction of people use such apps to manage their stress who are tech-savvy and comfort-centrist in their approach to relaxation.

With the changing times, even the older generation is trying their hands at technology but cannot keep up with it due to the complexities it comes with.

Nevertheless, watching spiritual YouTube videos, motivational speakers, meditation videos, and listening to wellness podcasts helps in expanding worldview and relaxation. New media has become an intrinsic part of our lives be it millennials or Gen Z, everyone is embracing it wholeheartedly to seek solutions to any problem and explore it efficiently to acquire life skills.



Aadrit Maurya
M.A. English 3rd Sem

Portrayal of Social Issues in Modern Literature

When we talk about social issues, we are referring to concerns that affect society as a whole. These issues can also be portrayed in works of fiction as reflections of society. Social issues are depicted from an author's own perspective—how they see society—and they often serve as central themes in a story's plot.

Social issues are prevalent in our surroundings, and an individual's environment plays a significant role in shaping their character as they grow up. Portraying social issues in literature helps people understand the problems within society, and authors may offer solutions from their own perspectives.

Literature has proven to be one of the best ways to understand and address the social issues we face in our society or within specific groups or classes of people.

Literature is a powerful tool to raise awareness about social issues, and many modern literary works explore a variety of these issues, including racism, colonialism, individuality and free thought, poverty, and magical realism.

Modern literature enables readers to understand what social issues are and how we can resist or challenge them by questioning societal norms and encouraging critical thinking. Other prominent social issues in literature include age/aging, gender, ethnicity, and human rights.

Racism refers to all the laws, policies, and ideologies that prevent people from experiencing justice, dignity, and equality due to their racial identity. It can manifest in the form of harassment or abuse. However, racism also exists in systems and institutions that operate in ways that perpetuate injustice.

Colonialism refers to the control of one group of people by a more powerful group, often through the establishment of colonies, with the aim of economic dominance. In simple terms, it involves imposing religion, language, economics, and cultural practices on those who have been colonized.

Individuality and free thought are ideas that vary from person to person because everyone has their own identity and unique talents or characteristics. Free thought is the belief that people should not accept ideas as truth without proper reason or knowledge.

Poverty can be understood in many ways. It is a lack of resources needed to meet the basic needs of life. For instance, poverty includes not having shelter, food, or clothing, being unemployed, lacking access to medical care, and being unable to receive an education. It is essentially the condition of not meeting the basic standards of living.

Magical realism is a genre of literature that depicts the real world with a sense of magic or fantasy. It is a type of fiction in which an author presents fantastical elements as part of the normal world, illustrating how magical powers could change people's lives from the author's perspective.

CONCLUSION

Overall, the portrayal of social issues in modern literature helps us better understand societal norms and develops our critical thinking skills to resist or resolve these social problems in modern society. Whether it involves individuals or specific places, social issues such as racism, class inequality, or poverty can only be addressed if society educates itself on these critical matters and takes action against those who perpetuate colonialism and impose their beliefs on others. Ensuring equal treatment for everyone will help dismantle these issues in our modern world and provide access to education, allowing people to improve their economic and financial situations for the betterment of future generations.



Mohammad Zuhaib
M.A. English (Batch-2024)

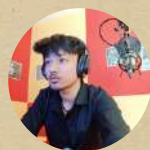
From Radio Jockey to Podcaster

Did you know that 71% of Gen-Z in India listen to podcast weekly? This unexpected amount highlights the growing trend for digital infotainment , especially podcast , where conversations can reach a large audience . Imagine being part of this digital wave ! As a second year student at Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti language University . I have always been passionate about storytelling and communication in which my English major background has certainly shaped my craft. This passion lead to creation of ‘ Chill Talks Podcast ‘

The podcast was born out of a simple idea . while I was interning at Radio Mirchi , I was co-hosting shows , attending events , meeting new peoples and celebrities , And I realized that what sets me apart from others is my own conversation skills . So the very next thing that I did after completing my internship was launching my own podcast on every social media platform possible . It took me months to build the team and hire enthusiastic people, but it was a kind of chaos , I wouldn't trade for anything.

It became a cornerstone of my personal and professional growth as a creator, initially Each episode of Chill talks is designed to engage listeners in thought provoking discussions and has featured variety of guest , from tech enthusiast who started coding and earning at early stage to famous bike enthusiast and businessman . These conversations are not just about sharing knowledge, but also about inspiring others to think critically and explore their interest .

As the host, I make it point to explore topics that resonate with the target audience who appreciate the honest and unfiltered nature of conversations . For me, this podcast is not just a passion project , it's a platform to amplify perspectives and guide curious people . I look forward to expanding the podcast and making it a space for More voices, stories, and ideas ‘ Arigatou gozaimasu ‘
‘ Thank you ‘ for giving me chance to present myself in this magazine



Aakshat Rastogi
B.J.M.C 3rd Sem
Major English

The Philosophy of Simplicity

An old man was sitting in his small boat holding a cigarette between his two fingers and a book in the other hand. Reading the book, he took a drag from his cigarette and then released the smoke upward, looking at the clear blue sky and the birds flying under it. He was enjoying the solitude and the company of his book until he was disturbed by a young man, whose large ship was just anchored beside the old man's boat.

The old man was busy reading his book and smoking the cigarette. As he raised his head to exhale the smoke, he noticed a handsome young man standing just two steps away. His black sunglasses on his white long face were making a good impression. His clean white clothes, the glittering Titan watch on his wrist, and the expensive smartphone in his hand were clearly reflecting his wealth. The old man was looking at him, thinking about the reason for his arrival there.

The young man looked at the fishing net of the old man and asked, "Why are you not catching fish?" The old man replied calmly, "I have caught enough fish for today." He glanced at the fish caught by the old man and said, "Why don't you catch more?" What he would do with more fish asked the old man.

"You can earn more money." The young man explained. "With that money, you can buy a bigger boat and a larger net to catch more fish going to the deeper water areas. The more fish you catch the more money you will make. Eventually, you can own a big ship and become rich, like me."

The old man asked, "And then what?"

The young man replied, "Then you can relax and enjoy your life."

The old man looked at the young man, threw his cigarette into the ashtray, and laughed as he said, "What do you think I am doing right now?"

Closing his book gently, the old man continued, "Happiness and peace are not in materialistic things. Happiness and peace lie in being satisfied with what you have and contributing your part to your family and society. Chasing after money for more and more wealth will never bring you true peace or happiness. In fact, it prevents you from enjoying what you have right now. Don't waste today's joyous moments in long hope for an unseen tomorrow."

The young man was standing in silence, absorbing the old man's words. He glanced at his expensive watch and then at the vast ocean before him. For the first time, he felt the weight of his possessions and the emptiness they failed to fill. The old man returned to his book, while the young man remained still, lost in thought. Slowly, he lowered his sunglasses, taking in the simplicity of the old man's life, and wondered if perhaps he too had been missing the essence of true happiness.



Mohammad Anas
B.A. English (2022 Batch)

Smile and Hawker

It was a sweltering summer afternoon in Lucknow. The streets were abuzz with families enjoying the weekend, and among the crowd stood two 12-year-old boys, Raj and Santosh, huddled together window to window trying to gain some wealth.

Raj and Santosh weren't just ordinary kids. Raj lived with his grandmother, in a cozy but worn-down house on the edge of town. His grandmother worked tirelessly as a seamstress, and the extra money Raj could bring in from his balloon stand helped with the bills and groceries. Santosh, on the other hand, lived with his single mother, who worked two jobs as a waitress to make ends meet. His mother often worked late, so Santosh took on responsibilities at home, including helping with his younger brother.

They had no stand but they carried those colorful bright balloons in every color imaginable and a shiny bubble maker in their tiny hands, walking window to window of cars in search of some sale.

I happened to stop in traffic, curious about the vibrant colors and the laughter emanating from the road side. Raj and Santosh noticed me immediately. Raj, with his tousled brown hair and freckled face, flashed a wide, enthusiastic smile. Santosh, a bit quieter but equally cheerful, gave a friendly wave.

"Hey there!" Raj called out, his voice brimming with excitement. "Would you like to buy a balloon or a bubble maker? They're only 20 rupees each!"

I approached, intrigued by their entrepreneurial spirit. "What's the story behind the walk?" I asked, genuinely interested.

Santosh glanced at Raj, and with a nod, Raj began. "We set this up to help our families. My grandma and I could use the extra cash, and Santosh's mom is working really hard too. We thought we'd try this out to lend a hand."

I could see the pride in their eyes and the determination behind their smiles. "That's really admirable," I said. "How about I take a balloon and a bubble maker? It seems like you've put a lot of effort into this."

Raj's face lit up, and Santosh's eyes sparkled with appreciation. Raj quickly handed blame a bright blue balloon, and Santosh carefully wrapped the bubble maker in a small newspaper.

"Thank you so much!" Raj said, his excitement barely contained. As I prepared to leave, I asked, "How long have you two been doing this?"

Santosh answered this time, "A few months. We're still learning, but it's been fun, and we've sold quite a few. and we are still trying to sell more. then they walked away happily."



Azal Mumtaz
B.A. LLB 1st Sem
Elementary English

That Moonlight Night

“Do you have special feeling for someone?” Rose asked John.

John was silent for a while. Suddenly his eyes filled with tears. John fell down on her lap. Rose was trying to make him relax. Linda was observing that situation.

Rose a 21 years old girl. She used to live in Florida with her parents. Linda is her childhood buddy and her neighbor.

John was 24 years young boy. John and his parents were not from Florida. They are from Alabama. They have recently shifted in Florida.

Rose and John's father were good friends from their college. As their parents were good friends, John, Rose and Linda were studying in the same college, as a result they have a better enough bond between each other. But Rose has special feeling for John. Her feelings were increasing day by day for John.

Unfortunately, Rose was not a person who can fall in love easily. She is a mature girl. She didn't waste her time with cheap discussion. Rose likes flowers very much. And John was giving her flowers. When John came closer to Rose, she felt so immersed in John's fragrance that she had forgotten where she was. Sometime, John tied her hair. He would remove the dust from her hair with his hands slowly. Rose liked all these things of John's very much. Maybe, Rose liked John so much because of this personality.

It was a moonlight night, the moon was also very beautiful and was shining brightly. The weather was also very nice, a slowly breeze was blowing. There are stars twinkling in the sky at the time. John, Rose and Linda sat on the roof together. And perhaps that was the last night when all three sat together because John was going to Andorra for a few years for his job. And Linda was also moving away from Florida to complete her studies.

John had a flight the next morning. All three were spending their last time together that night. Perhaps they would never meet again like this and Rose had the last chance to express her feelings to John. She didn't know that John also loved her like she does. Rose was feeling uneasy and afraid of what she would do if John refused? How will she handle herself?

And she is worried that her friendship will never be the same again. This time was very difficult for her. She prayed a lot that last night.

All three were sitting on the terrace, joking and talking about their childhood. And they promised to stay in touch.

Suddenly, Linda ask to john, " John! Do you fall in love with someone?" John was laughing and became silent after hearing this question from Linda. Then after some time he said, "Linda, why this question today?" asked John.

No, just casually! Now you are going so far, if you like someone in Andorra then that petty girl will be waiting for you.

John laughed for a moment and then said, "I'm going to do that job, not love, and I'm not going to like anyone at any cost."

"You mean you like a girl here?" Linda asked teasingly.

"I don't know." John said little sadly.

"John! Now you will hide it from us, from your friends and we are a good buddies." Said Linda.

John was sitting silently and looking at the moon. Rose also got interested, she also wanted to know, she thought for a moment that maybe John loves her, perhaps he was silent.

"John! You have a girlfriend. Seriously!" said Rose.

John staring Rose and said, "yup! I had a girlfriend in Alabama where I lived. John's words were enough to make Rose faint. Rose's heart was fell down and broke into pieces. she didn't know what to do, "You never told me about her before. Even though we've been together for so many years." Rose asked seriously.

"Because we aren't still together." Said John.

"Oh! What's her name?" Linda asked to John.

Her name is Bravy. We both read together. She was a very different kind of girl, she couldn't tolerate bad behavior, she didn't like many people, she was always on top in school." He said as he looked at the moon.

"Did you both like each other?" Rose asked to John.

"Yes, a lot" he said as he look at Rose.

"So, why aren't you two together now?" Linda asked to John

John started looking at Linda, he was silent. His eyes were moist.
“John! What happened, tell us something” Rose was saying while placing her hand on his shoulder.

He suddenly started crying like a small child as if someone had broken his favorite toy.

Rose was totally shocked because she never seen him crying like this. John was crying his head in Rose’s lap. Rose was trying to calm down him. After crying for a long time, John finally became a normal.

“Bravy never heard anything bad behavior and gave the stand for behavior. It seemed as if I was being banned. I have given up her freedom to think.”

“One day she came and told me that let’s do a break up. I am not staying with you any more. Maybe she was right, maybe she like her work more than me.” John Said.

As soon as he said this, he started crying again and kept saying that I loved her very much. I will never forget her.

Rose’s heart was filled with tears. Today she was going to propose him. Seeing John crying like that, she was also crying but she couldn’t cry in front of him. She was tapping her hand on John’s shoulder, trying to console him.

Rose is also crying in her, because her heart and her illusion has broken, that John also loves her. She broke down that he does not love her. What Rose feels for John is the same feeling John had for someone else. All the things John did just to be a friend meant nothing more to her than his one best friend. At that time, Rose was considering herself to be the biggest idiot for proposing to John without knowing his feelings. Whatever John did was just a friendly effort. Rose mistook this friendly effort for love.

“John! Please calm down. If you didn’t I will go from here and never come again. Tomorrow you are going to California and I don’t know when you will come and I don’t want us to spend this last night like this. Please don’t cry, we have enjoyed the last night with you.”

She was saying this with a smile but she felt deep sorrow. She needs a quick exit from him and wanted to cry a lot, because she couldn’t cry in front of John.



Umme Habiba Naeem
B.A. English 5th Sem

And the Forever Promise Begins Here

Hannah, a dedicated school teacher, enjoyed a life filled with her students' love. Her world was simple and peaceful. Meanwhile, Ren, an enthusiastic MBBS student in his third year, was passionate about medicine and committed to his studies.

One day, Ren responded with a friendly 'Hi there!' to Hannah on social media and they began chatting about their interest and professions, with Hannah sharing her love for teaching children and Ren talking about his medical school . Their conversation was elegant and uncomplicated , as their random chats turned into daily conversations. They discussed their favorite movies, foods, colors, hobbies, personal dreams , and played rapid rounds with interesting questions. They shared a sense of humor and curiosity about each other and created a special bond.

After a week of chatting, Ren suggested they should have a meeting. Hannah agreed, and they planned a casual movie date at a local cinema in the city. Their first meeting was filled with laughter and relentless conversation, making both realize that their connection was more stronger in person. After returning back home, they talked to each other and concluded that it is more than friendship.

Hannah, who was interested in writing poems, proposed to Ren by dedicating poetry to him . Ren said yes to her "*And the forever promise begins here.*"

With time, their bond is growing stronger and stronger. They started exploring the city, attending fests together, and also shared their social media and Ott platforms with each other. Each new experience brought them closer and made their relationship unbreakable.

Despite the differences and their field, they found common things in their profession for making good changes in the world. They supported each other through the ups and downs of their respective journeys.

Their relationship faced challenges, particularly the demands of Ren's rigorous medical training and Hannah's academic responsibilities. In their busiest schedule they worked hard to find balance, adore the time they had together and understand each other. Their mutual respect and support become the groundwork of their relationship.

As Ren completed his med schooling and went abroad for residency and further studies. Hannah continued with her teaching career and started preparing for a competitive exam to become a professor in English literature. Despite the distance, Ren and Hannah connected through video calls and messages.

Ren shared his experience and challenges in a new country ,while Hannah kept him updated on her daily life. Ren's life was quite changed due to new surroundings, but he was always loyal towards Hannah.

Ren and Hannah made an effort to maintain their bond. They planned virtual movie nights and took time to discuss their daily life and future plans. Whenever Ren had a break between his schedule, he made an effort to return home and spend time with Hannah. These meetings were precious, filled with love and peace. However, the long distance relationship had its challenges misunderstandings and the difficulty of not being physically present for each other on special moments. Somehow, they faced these challenges with patience and trust, finding the strength of their love and communication.

Over the time Hannah cracked her exam and started practicing as a professor. On the other hand Ren completed his studies and became a senior resident. The way they motivated each other during the phase of life made their love pure and genuine for each other . They started making enough money together and have a wealthy life.

After 3 years, Ren decided to return home; on the other hand, Hannah was clueless about this. Ren surprised her, and they began their lives back to normal. But this time Ren and Hannah were living a different life. The stress from their career began affecting their relationship with Ren's unpredictable shifts and Hannah's intellectual and social engagement , leading to misunderstanding and frustration.

The different professional schedules led to communication issues. Ren was exhausted with his shifts, and Hannah was busy in preparing lectures or attending academic events. Their attempts to discuss their challenges sometimes led to arguments. After continuous misunderstandings and arguments, Ren and Hannah decided it would not work like this; they should tie a knot and get married to each other. Their wedding was a beautiful reflection of love and unity . All the friends and relatives came together to celebrate their special day.

Over time, Ren and Hannah made conscious efforts to prioritize their relationship , scheduling regular date nights and supporting each other's professional goals . They shared values and mutual understandings .

Ren and Hannah's marriage flourished as they managed to navigate their different career demands empathy and compromise. Their love and commitment to each other helped them overcome the obstacles posed by their careers, proving that love and commitment can bridge even the most distinct professional worlds.

Ren and Hannah's relationship grew stronger with time , blending their worlds of literature and medicine into a perfect relationship. They embraced their journey together, celebrating both their personal and professional lives .



Lubna Khan
M.A. English 1st Sem

Death of a Salesman



The Play took place on 29th April 2024 in the English Department under the Supervision of Sadaf Ma'am. Dr.Haroon Rashid, Shikha Singh & Yusuf Ayaz Were also Present.

THANK YOU NOTE

Thank You from the Bottom of Our Hearts

As we unveil our first-ever English departmental magazine, we can't help but reflect on the immense support we've received from our amazing teachers. You've been there for us every step of the way, and we're so thankful for your constant encouragement and guidance.

A very special shout-out goes to **Dr. Tanveer Khajida**, our incredible Head of Department. Ma'am, your leadership and support have meant the world to us, and this magazine wouldn't be possible without you.

We also want to express our heartfelt thanks to **Sadaf Fatima Ma'am**. Your advice and guidance have been a driving force in shaping this project, and we're deeply grateful for your mentorship.

To all our teachers, thank you for believing in us, encouraging us, and helping us bring this vision to life. This magazine is as much a reflection of your efforts as it is ours.

With all our gratitude,
The Editorial Team