

VOL 6 | ISSUE 1

Quill's Will

Straws and Sustainability

An interview with
Dr Saji Varghese



01

Spider-Man: The Greatest

Timothy Nallal Sunder

03

Icarus's Relievers

Alexandria Mary Thomas



07



Acknowledgements

It would have been beyond our capacity to fabricate an environment full of pleasant experiences and satisfaction, without the continuous support, love and guidance of the constant well-wishers. Here, we would like to take the time and extend our gratitude and respect to all those without whom we wouldn't have been able to take this step forward.

First, we would like to thank Dr John Joseph Kennedy, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, for his immense encouragement. We would also like to thank Dr Anil Joseph Pinto, Registrar, for being our consistent support and guide. We express our sincere gratitude to Dr Shobana P. Mathews, Head, Department of English and Cultural Studies, for being our inspiration and a helpful guide at each step of this publication. Again, we would like to thank Dr Joseph Edward Felix and Dr Sreejith D, the programme coordinators of the MA program, for their innumerable efforts at making this magazine a successful one.

We would also like to thank all the contributors for their insightful and congenial works which helped us create an all-inclusive space and is keeping us boosted for future editions of this magazine. Last but not the least, we would like to thank the entire Quill's Will family, for standing in unity and bringing out the best version of this edition.

Thank you.
The Quill's Will Team

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Foreword

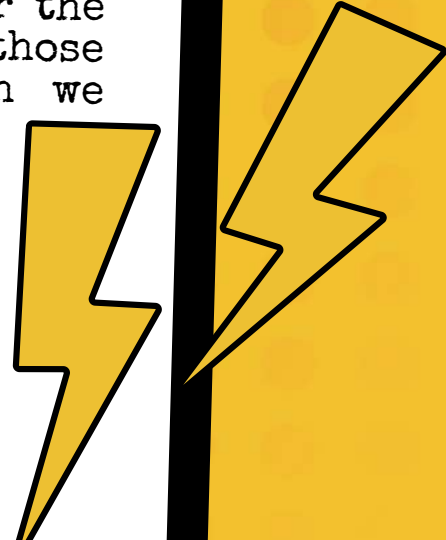
To all those who ever fancied superpowers and beyond!! Even for once.

For this volume of Quill's Will is an altar to the godly, goodly and the human-y timeless superheroes!

For they give us the courage to fight the monsters around and within. For they face adversaries and stand resilient. For they tell us that it's okay to get beaten up and tomorrow is another day! This issue celebrates the superheroes that we see in people around us and the ones we don't. For they live in us. As 'they' are us. We may not have Thor's hammer, the Invisibility cloak, the Shield or the Lightsaber; nor do we time travel, or breath fire or alike. What we have is the courage to live another day. And we know that they speak to us from within when we hear, "don't give up", is when we know that they live in us and they are us.

To the young and lively contributors of this edition of Quill's Will, I congratulate you for penning down the beautiful admiration you have for your superheroes. I do, and I take you for the same when it comes to living those deliberate imaginations into which we weave wishes and daydreams!

Dr Jyotirmayee Mallik
Faculty
Department of English and Cultural studies



Newsletter

Guest Lecture on World Literacy Day



The Department of Languages organized a guest lecture on World Literacy Day, i.e., 08 September 2022, at 09:00 AM in KE Auditorium, Block IV, Central Campus. Dr Saranya Francis, a poet and an alumnus of Christ was invited to deliver the talk. In association with B.M. Sri Prathistana, an exhibition displaying ancient manuscripts was also set up at the pathway from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Short Film Competition on Climate Change

The Ecological Diversity Cell in association with the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Central Campus is organising a short film contest, on the topic of "Climate Change: The Changing Hues of Mother Earth". The videos must be of a minimum of 5 minutes in length, and should be submitted by the 15th of September 2022.



Cricket Tournament

by MA in English with Communication Studies

The Department of English and Cultural Studies, Central Campus, organized a Cricket Tournament on September 3, 2022, at 11:30 AM. The event was conducted at the Dharmaram Sports Ground. Faculties and students from Master of Arts in English with Communication Studies joined hands to recreate the legacy of the department that was prevalent in the Pre-Pandemic era. Refreshments were provided to the players and the audience to boost their moral support and bring out a successful bonding.





TABLE OF CONTENTS



Straws and Sustainability An Interview with Dr Saji Varghese	01
Spider-man: The Greatest Timothy Nallal Sunder	03
A Step Away From Solitude Titikhya Panigrahi	04
Shin Chan - The Forgotten Saviour? Raghav Varma	05
Icarus's Relievers Alexandria Mary Thomas	07
To me Tarun Mittal	09
Jahnavi Nayak	10

Straws and Sustainability



An interview with Dr Saji Varghese

You've been working very closely on sustainability in Christ as an institute. How do you think you can expand your reach?

We are very ambitious even otherwise. Since launching this product, we have had vast packs of coconut plantations across coastal India, Nicobar Andaman islands, and other countries. So we are a little ambitious because we want to reach out to more and more communities. Already we have reached out to 5 districts in 3 states of India. And now, we plan to expand to Andhra Pradesh and later to the northern belt like Goa, Gujarat, West Bengal and Orissa. So we have a plan in action. The only thing is that we are trying to freeze our technology because we want a certain amount of productivity to happen. So once that happens, we will replicate it very fast. So we will be reaching out to many communities.

Considering an economic point of view, plastic straws are more affordable and many stores, like the eateries across the country, insist on using plastic straws over customised eco-friendly ones. So how are you able to make customised straws more cost-effective?

So that was our main challenge as well. Because no matter how much sustainability talk we do or how much of social engagements we commit ourselves to, they are not very keen about that. They are more focussed on the profits. So we are very pragmatic about that and as I told you we are trying to build up some upgraded machines where the productivity will go really really high and the economy of scale will help us to bring down the prices. You mentioned about plastic straws, so plastic straws are anyway banned and eventually they have to be phased out because there will be a lot of pressure from the government and so we are not trying to compete with the plastic straws. Because they will cost around 30 paise. What we are trying to position ourselves with is in the organic segment. There are quite a few alternatives that are available. Like hay straws, bamboo straws, etc. and our challenge is to position ourselves among them and be competitive in that space. And that's what we are working towards. It will not be as cheap as paper straws. And paper straws again are not a favourite with customers because they don't like the cellulose feel of it.

There will be an n-number of failures. But even then I think a few of us come together and take the path of entrepreneurship and create opportunities and can touch our communities in a meaningful way. So that's my larger agenda as a teacher who wanted to try the path of entrepreneurship. That's the larger joy I get. So I am most excited about the fact that it's an innovation which happened at the university and then what we have developed can now be deployed in the villages and employ people. Now 86 women are working with us and indirectly 103 women are working with us in all these 5 places; we have 5 production centres. And the product which they are making is now needed globally. So we have already sent it out to 10 countries.

Last month we sent 1 lakh straws to the Netherlands and also our straws were used at a very grand wedding in Italy. So that gives a lot of excitement and they announced at the wedding that it is made out of coconut leaves. And we are expecting a lot of orders now. So that gives us a lot of kick to keep looking at it. So the visibility that we get is really big. Suddenly I got an email from University of Pennsylvania saying that we came to know about your product and they have asked for our samples. They wanted to keep it at their prestigious Materials Resource Library, which is a spacious library. Generally we look to the West for research, we want an English name to be there. Only then we feel validated. But then it's very good that we create knowledge in our universities and people come asking for it. So I am really happy that our straws are kept at the prestigious library.

All forms of disposable plastic were banned in the capital in 2017 and very recently, the government banned plastic straws and single use polythene bags all over the country. However, there is a lot more work that needs to be done at the ground level to curb the use of plastic. How do you plan on taking this anti-plastic revolution forward with your recent innovations?

Yes. So I just walked out of a conference that was happening from the Ministry of Environment in Uttar Pradesh. It's going on now but then I have my team

members taking care of it. So even the government is now taking it. For example, now we have been picked up by funding from the government of Germany and they have an action plan in place. For example, now in Uttar Pradesh, if we are selected, they will facilitate our straws to be used all over in Uttar Pradesh. So I think there is a lot of public-private partnership that is going to play a crucial role in making these things go more across and being more effective. Now the next thing. The Tamil Nadu government has invited us. So this kind of a public-private partnership is going to be more effective than we as a small start-up trying to reach out to places.

Last October, we were invited by the Deputy Commissioner of Nicobar Islands and we were taken all over the island and we want to set it up for the indigenous people of Nicobar, and the product will be used for tourism in Andaman. So that is how it can all reach out. Plus, now we have enquiries from Sri Lanka, South Africa, Papua Guinea, Philippines, and there they want to start production. One thing I am very particular about is that we want to protect our IP. Because intellectual property is something we don't value. Like if it's your house, you value it as your property. Because, McDonald's comes, KFC comes, then we value it. They won't allow us to replicate. We have put in 3 years of intense research. Though it finally looks like a tube, but there's intense research into it. So we should value it. That is why, we'll have only joint ventures in these countries. We are already talking to people where Sunbird becomes a rural brand and we won't allow any rebranding. So this one aspect of our business that we are very particular about.

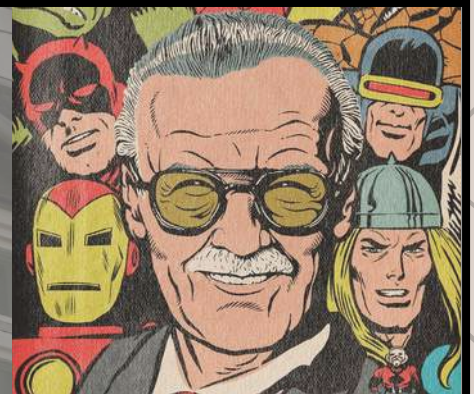
The products are patented and we allow production across. So we are adopting a contract manufacturing. For example, if you see the Parle-G biscuits, it's made at several bakeries. But the brand rules. We want to be that brand. Though we allow it to be replicated so that it becomes a common, mass product. But we as Indians should protect our IP and earn revenues from it. There's nothing wrong about trying to earn from your intellectual property and at the same time not being exploited. So that's the whole vision and we think about it a lot. Thank you so much :)

SPIDER-MAN: THE GREATEST

Timothy Nallal Sunder | 2243102

"A... definition of a hero is someone who is concerned about other people's well-being, and will go out of his or her way to help them—even if there is no chance of a reward. That person who helps others simply because it should or must be done, and because it is the right thing to do, is indeed without a doubt, a real superhero."

-Stan Lee



Ever since we were little, our young impressionable minds always strayed towards the strength of others. Strength fascinates us and makes us dream of being strong ourselves. When I was little, my father would lift me on his shoulders to make me feel like the tallest person in the world; he was my superhero. I did not know of Superman or Batman, and neither did I care. My dad was the greatest person in the world. He still is, though I would never say that to his face.



Of all the heroes I have had the pleasure of watching and reading about, the hero I personally admire the most is Spiderman. And my admiration has nothing to do with the superpowers he possesses, although they are fascinating in their own special way. In my opinion, Spiderman is the greatest creation of Stan Lee and Steve Ditko, out of all their other magnificent works. The story of Spiderman deserves to be spoken in the same tongue as The Labours of Hercules, Homer's Iliad, and other such revered literary works. After all, what feeling is it, which is common to every man? Pain. The people who go

through the worst kind of pain and come out successful are deemed heroic. But Spiderman is different. He is not a special person, he has no significant talent other than his knack for science, and the extent of his powers is feeble compared to the powers of his contemporaries - Thor, Hulk, Iron Man, and so forth. Everybody loves it when an underdog becomes empowered. Before being bit by a radioactive spider, Peter was a geeky high school student ever targeted by bullies. The empowering storyline creates an emotional connection with Spiderman, as viewers perceive him as an ordinary individual whose life

changed after a spider bite. Although other superheroes have unique storylines as well, Spiderman's rise from grass to grace makes him relatable to fans as people view him as a human superhero. Spiderman is not just a superhero, instead, he has been widely viewed as an inspiration.

His story proves that fortunes can change and that anyone, even the powerless, can become superheroes.

He is my favourite hero ever, only because he is the most human of them all, and yet he manages to give people what they need the most and what no other human can give - hope.

A STEP AWAY FROM SOLITUDE

Titikhya Panigrahi | BA ENG1 | 2233176

Wanda Maximoff is the scarlet witch who is forged, not born, and her powers far exceed the sorcerer supreme. She has no need either for spells or a coven. She is capable of spontaneous creation. Yet, apart from all these intricate terms and power and strength, all Wanda knew most of her life beyond a few glimpses of mirth was heartbreak, pain, grief, strife and simple soul-crushing solitude. Everyone she loved was eventually snatched away from her. Her parents lost to the bloodbath of the war, her twin Pietro lost heroically in the service of Avengers and the world, and the mere semblance of love and comfort she found with Vision and her twins in Westview was mercilessly stripped away from her, leaving her broken and grief bound again. After realising that her grief had turned her into a monster in the eyes of her own children, she destroyed Wanda Gore and created the illusion that she perished for the world, and then retreated to her solitude and meditation to repent the blunders her Chaos Magic had caused, while continuing to learn more about how to control and manifest her strong magic. After months of toiling away with Doctor Strange, she finally retained her peace of mind and realised that the Darkhold book had disillusioned her. Thereby, she started an anonymous charity for orphans by selling her property in Westview, so that all the distractions would vanish and she would begin her step forward again. However, though she was peaceful, the gnawing feeling of solitude had her in its claws, and she missed Vision dearly, the nightmarish memories of her kids calling out to her in the multiverse tormented her, and the promise of Vision's return replayed in her mind. Even though she knew that her twins would be loved and cared for, she often wondered what she would do with the love she had harboured for them and what should it be channeled to. She looked into countless possible realities, but in all of them was Wanda's alternate self, and soon, it became too hard to watch her kids grow up from afar. So she stopped looking for her kids. One day she was reminded of listening to Black Widow's story of being taken captive as a kid and how she and countless more children still suffer. She had even promised to destroy all Red Rooms before her untimely death. Now she had a mission, and kids to protect, and rightly so because the world had tossed them away, abused them, and turned them into someone else. Now they would always have Wanda, and there would be retribution and love for the greater good.

SHIN CHAN-THE FORGOTTEN SAVIOUR?

Raghav Varma | 1BScEM | 2243033

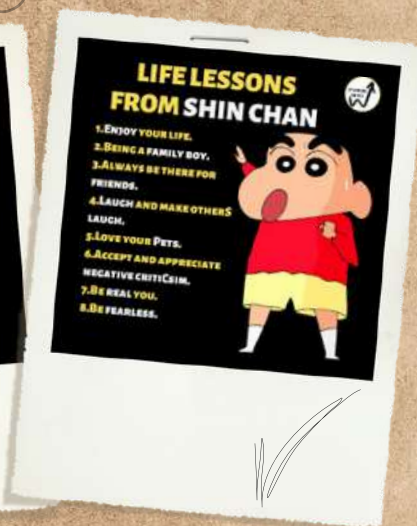
Yes, Shin Chan is my superhero. Yes, I am in college and the world around me is changing constantly. Especially with my perceptions being challenged and my vision getting broadened. This young guy from 1992 is still a mind-boggling five-year-old. I was born in 2004, and by calculations this Japanese superhero must be a young uncle to me and my generation. Childish, isn't it?



Why is he my superhero? Every one of us has an innate enthusiasm as a pre-schooler but tends to lose it as we come across the poem "Childhood" by Markus Natten. We quickly become aware that we are growing older but these experiences sediment those thoughts and we realize the naïve sense of joviality in life has disappeared in the process. Why can't we learn from Shin Chan? I see people on the road with expressionless faces, caught in the rat trap of the routine they despise. They despise the people they work with; the salary they receive and the frustration they face have shriveled them up from within.

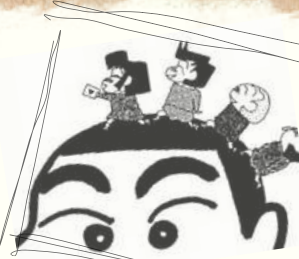


Do I not experience the same kind of frustration? Sometimes, yes. I, however, have learned from Shin Chan and laid a path to living my life to the fullest. Shin Chan teaches us that challenges and setbacks derived from external and internal feelings shall always be prevalent. One can build a routine, stick to it judiciously and exercise till one gets a six-pack. As a student of Economics and Business Studies, I connect to Maslow's Need Hierarchy Theory, which says, "A satisfied need can no longer motivate a person; only the next higher-level need will motivate him." It doesn't imply that goals are fatuous or that life loses its essence rather it suggests that sometimes we need to wind down and use the imperfections to kick back by focusing on finding solutions and not dwelling into problems.



Why not love? Can we care a little less and learn to live a little more by having set a personal goal to run towards experiences and challenges instead of shying away from them. I urge all the readers to revive the Shin Chan in themselves, slurp some ice cream and focus on positives, making oneself better every day. Maybe we do need Shin Chans within our family, friends, relationships and most importantly within ourselves. After all, "What is life if not worth living?"

Shin Chan from the Manga series written and illustrated by Yoshito Usui. Shin Chan made its first appearance in a Japanese weekly magazine called Weekly Manga Action, published by Futabasha: a Graphic Novel





Icarus's Relievers

—ALEXANDRIA MARY THOMAS
1PSECO

Weak dreams and shattered egos,
They called us Icarus's relievers.

Faster, stronger, gifted
-vanquishers of the vices within.

On foggy nights , post
broken up bar fights,
'Obscenity' protected from the eyes
ingenue.

Laws enforced by public bearers
dripping with honeyed words and
hidden agendas,
their silent angel investors controlling
fickle purse strings.

My role as scapegoat is completed
for tonight.

It would be easy to let go
of rage and destroy
against the hurls and accusations
of the hundreds alive.

A minute too late,

A stubborn child

Five minutes later,

A new corpse has arrived.

Weak breeze and an empty bridge,
the 'View from halfway down'

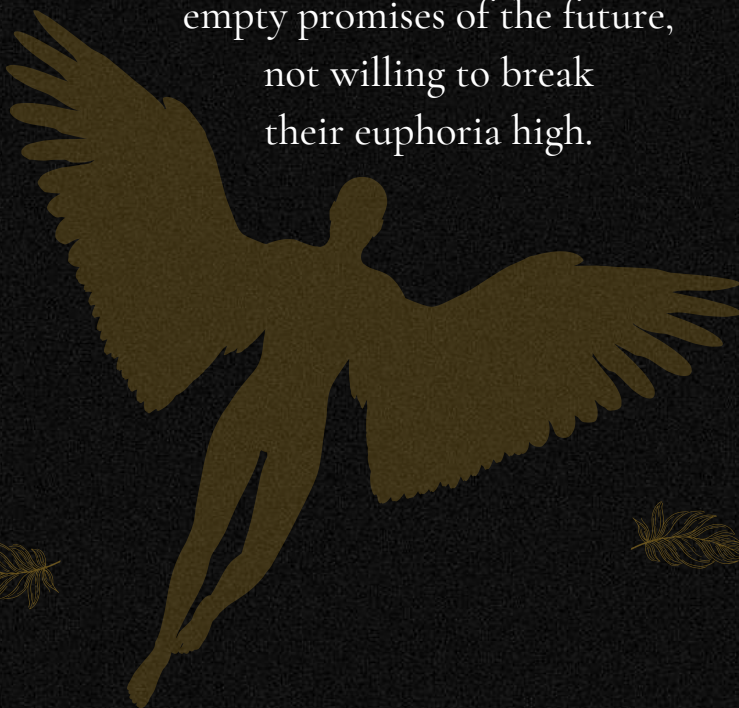
-I could not save her from



flashing camera lights,
blaring alarms, silent sobs
and wailing calls.

The children clamber up to me
with stars in their eyes
“You’re my hero” they cry.
Temporal mistakes and stories flash by
“I want to be like you”

(‘No, you don’t’)
I fake a smile and whisper,
empty promises of the future,
not willing to break
their euphoria high.





To Me

Tarun Mittal
22207591



Hippit hoppiti ho
Do you want to come to play, no?
The walls simmered in rich red
With brawn all over the bed

The hunter is the owl
And when the darkness howls
It will be my turn to play
But what will you do

When the hunter comes for its prey
Will it be a cat or the mouse
Or will it hide and seek
Or will you just run away
But beware no one hides

When the hunter comes for the hunt
No one escapes when you become the prey
And where is the fun if we don't play
So good luck!

.....or you might just die straight away.
You have just entered the slaughterhouse.....
Hope you enjoy your stay

Poet's note: This piece is based on fictional characters like char, scarlet witch, and batman who showcase child-like psychotic personality traits. Hence, the personalities of the characters are used to portray the idea of inevitability through poetry.



Jahnavi Nayak
2221158]

Flipping the last page of my ninety-ninth superhero comic,
I automatically return to the first page.
Nevertheless, with a dissimilar feeling this time,
I guess the forgotten child within wished to become a mage.

Who will eventually break the child's heart and soul?
Would it be me or the rancorous reality?
No, I lack the strength and courage to do so,
For the child still yearns to live in its lost city.

I know I cannot escape away from what is destined,
But, can't I create a few exceptions on the way?
People may term this hope as being childish,
Yet, we all deserve a break in moments of our dismay.

Ergo, I let my red cape of dreams fly high,
And see my superhero by looking in the mirror.
Flipping to the first page of my hundredth graphic novel,
Yet again, it is time to be the main character...



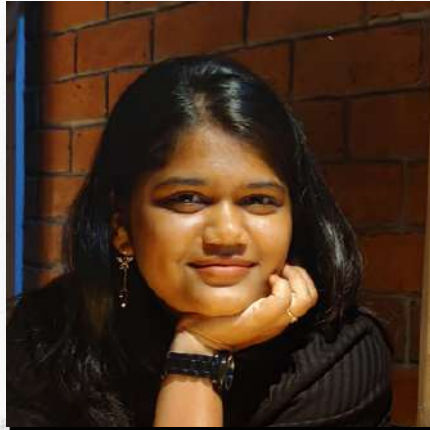


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MEET THE TEAM

POP!



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