

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 1

Quill's Will



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Cinesthesia MA English With Communication Studies



Acknowledgements

As we unveil yet another edition of our college magazine, we are filled with gratitude and enthusiasm for the creativity and dedication that have gone into its creation. In this dynamic compilation, we celebrate the power of expression and the diversity of perspectives our students bring to the table.

First and foremost, we thank Dr John Joseph Kennedy, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, whose vision and leadership have played a pivotal role in fostering an environment of creativity and innovation. Our heartfelt appreciation also goes to Dr Anil Joseph Pinto, Registrar, whose expertise has been invaluable in ensuring the smooth coordination of various aspects related to this magazine's publication. We are grateful to Dr Shobana P Mathews, Head, Department of English and Cultural Studies, for academic insight and encouragement that has inspired countless students to explore their talents and contribute meaningfully to this magazine. Furthermore, we extend our thanks to the dedicated coordinators, Dr Joseph Edward Felix and Dr Sreejith D, who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring this magazine to fruition.

We also extend our deepest appreciation to all the talented contributors whose commitment to sharing their voices and vision made this magazine a treasure trove of insights, emotions, and inspiration. A special word of gratitude goes to our editorial team, whose tireless efforts have meticulously curated this magazine. Your dedication and discernment have brought coherence and meaning to the multitude of creative expressions, turning them into a harmonious symphony of ideas. Last but not least, we express our heartfelt appreciation to our readers whose engagement and curiosity fuel our desire to continue delivering fresh and thought-provoking editions each month.

Thank you,

Team Quill's Will



Foreword

Quill's Will is the monthly magazine designed and presented to you by the students of the MA in English with Communication Studies program of the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Central Campus. It is one of the earliest magazines conceptualized and initiated by our students since we became a University.

Over the years, Quill's Will has been well-received and has become popular among students and faculty alike. The magazine has evolved since its first edition into what you see today. The magazine serves a dual purpose. One, it thrives on the several contributions submitted to the team by students across the campus who want to exhibit a wide range of writing styles, skills, and talents in the form of short stories, interviews, poems, photographs, drawings, paintings, reels etcetera on a reputable platform. Two, while putting the magazine together, our MA students learn and/or demonstrate various skills of interviewing, proofreading, editing, designing, formatting, etcetera which will assist them in their careers. The initiative and the passion with which our students put an edition together each month despite their academic schedules and other commitments is appreciable and noteworthy. They strive to make each edition better than the last.

We at the Department of English and Cultural Studies are proud of this effort made by our students, and we wholeheartedly support them. Team Quill's Will looks forward to your contributions with each call for submission, and we hope we continue to inspire, inform and entertain you with all our future editions.

So, cheers to another academic year, more fun, entertainment, and learning. Together, let's learn, grow, and we hope you enjoy reading Quill's Will.

Thank you!

**Dr. Joseph Edward Felix
Department of English & Cultural Studies
Central Campus**



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Newsletter

August 2023



01. Workshop Organised by the Incubation and Consultancy Cell

The Incubation and Consultancy Cell of the Department of English and Cultural Studies, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Central Campus, organized a workshop titled 'Becoming Master Storytellers to succeed in your corporate lives.' Sandeep Das, a corporate leader and author of 'How Business Storytelling Works,' was invited as the chief guest for the event. It was held on 1 September 2023 at Central Block, Central Campus, Bangalore.

02. Session on Yogic Technique

The Department of Psychology, Bangalore Central Campus, arranged the session, 'To Her,' aiming at yogic techniques to reduce the distress associated with PCOS and menstruation. The session was hosted by Dr. Aishwarya V R, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, on 30 August and 6 September 2023, at the R&D Block, Central Campus.



03. Certificate Programme in Basic First Aid

CHRIST (Deemed to be University), in collaboration with Division of Occupational Health Services, St. John's Medical College, organized a Certificate Programme in Basic First Aid. The batch was held on 25th August, 2023 at Central Block, Room 105. The session was from 1:00-4:30 pm and the fees were Rs. 250/-.



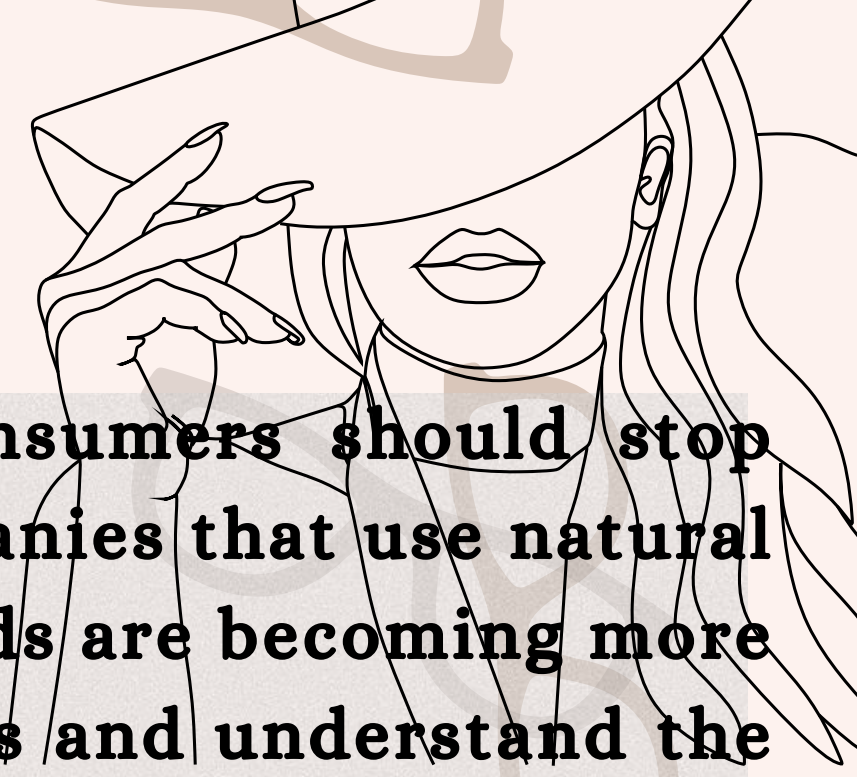
SUSTAINABLE FASHION : CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

GITIKA MITTAL | BACP | 2331931 | CENTRAL CAMPUS, BANGALORE

Throughout the world, consumption and production are heavily dependent on our natural environment. We use the resources provided by nature in a way causing destruction to the planet. In the last century, economic and social development has resulted in environmental destruction that threatens the systems on which we depend. As part of the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN, Goal 12 is to "ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns." This means being careful about how much we produce and use so that the earth's resources can be preserved for future generations.

Sixty percent of clothes are discarded in the first year, and \$400 billion worth of fashion waste is generated every year. In 2050, textile waste will be found in landfills in excess of 150 million tons, contributing greatly to the greenhouse gas emissions of 1.2 billion tons per year. The fashion industry generates over half a million tons of microfiber pollution every year, comparable to fifty billion plastic bottles. Burberry, a luxury brand, admitted they burned forty million pounds of clothing when they could have reused them.

The real problem, however, is fast fashion. Fast fashion is defined as low-cost, stylish apparel that takes inspiration from the runway or celebrity culture and swiftly transforms it into outfits at high-street outlets to satisfy customer needs. It contributes to the vicious spiral of overproduction and consumption that has made fashion one of the most polluting industries on the planet. Over \$500 billion worth of clothing waste is produced annually due to fast fashion. The question thus arises, how do we as consumers try to get rid of fast fashion and switch over to sustainable fashion?



In order to make the fashion industry sustainable, consumers should stop supporting fast fashion brands and start supporting companies that use natural fabrics and sustainable means of production. A lot of brands are becoming more sustainable and eco-conscious. We must educate ourselves and understand the importance of selecting brands that are both environment-friendly and cruelty-free. Reusing and upcycling clothes are also important measures that must be taken up by us.

You can also curb fast fashion by renting or thrifting your clothes. Thrifting clothes is the practice of buying clothes that have already been used by the previous owner but are in good condition to be used by a new owner. Regarding fashion and textile consumption, thrifting is one of the most sustainable methods; it keeps clothes in the cycle of use and consumption much longer than fast fashion, and it requires less production to produce more clothing. A good way to reduce overconsumption is by asking yourself the question, "Will I wear this thirty times?" Buying vintage is also great for the environment and you will find one-of-a-kind pieces that no one else will own. Another alternative way to become sustainable is by purchasing clothes made of organic materials, such as cotton instead of polyester. Finally, being aware of how your clothes get disposed of is vital. Make sure that clothes in good condition are re-sold or donated. If they are worn out, ensure that they are recycled. If we follow these simple methods, the amount of trash can be minimised.

Quite a few fashion labels have changed their methods of garment disposal, opting to reuse fabrics or upcycle their clothes, resulting in the reduction of their carbon footprint. Luxury brands have committed to halving greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and using "priority materials" such as cotton, viscose, polyester, wool, and leather. There are brands using digitally produced custom prints to reduce water waste and ink usage. Some of them create made-to-order pieces to avoid overproduction. Certified recycled paper is being used for packaging to reduce waste, and shipping is also done by road and boat. These brands develop each piece using deadstock fabrics or sustainably sourced materials such as recycled polyesters and organic cotton, prioritizing environmental consciousness.

Following these simple methods will help slow down the fast fashion industry and foster a sustainable fashion industry, which will make all of us more eco-friendly, and help fulfill the motto: "do more, with less."



HERD INSTINCT

K.SHRADDHA | 2331787 | 1BACE | CENTRAL BLOCK

“HERD INSTINCT “... a word that interestingly reminds me of a cult, though it is not. It is far more dangerous than a cult. Unfortunately, not many people realise the dire consequences of a damaging action. Before navigating the magnitude of this issue, we need to understand why it happens. To understand this, one must know the powerful tool, the intellect.

We have been neglecting the intellect for a long time by mistaking it for intelligence. What people do not know is that intellect and intelligence are completely different aspects. Intelligence is the knowledge of the extraterrestrial world; it only helps earn a living. The intellect, on the other hand, is the faculty innate in us, a faculty that is solely responsible for our reasoning and judging abilities. It is more interesting because no other being in the world has an intellect. In other words, it is an exclusive perk we’ve been given. So, we must know how to use it best.

To progress further, we must realise the emergent need to develop and strengthen the intellect. To do this, one must develop the ability to think and introspect. Face the truths and realities of life by delving into them. To better understand the intellect, analyse the hypothetical scenario of a man who loves sweets. He is diagnosed with diabetes and is strongly advised by the doctor to avoid consuming sugary treats. His boss invites him to a party a few days after the diagnosis. He attends out of courtesy and gets to know that each guest is served a platter of their favourite sweets. He tries his best not to indulge, but instead, he gives in and consumes a lot of sweets. Analyse his personality carefully. He has intelligence but lacks the intellect to control the desires of his mind. If he had refrained from consuming the sweets, he would have used his intellect.



Now that we are clear about the intellect's role, we can look into the cause of herd instinct. Herd instinct usually arises when there is no intellect to govern our actions. As a result, we act on the impulses, whims, and fancies of the mind. If continued, it can lead to many dangerous consequences. Here is an incident that portrays exactly how gruesome herd instinct is.

In July 2005, a newspaper in Turkey carried the caption, "1500 sheep take a suicide leap off a cliff." The report referred to an incident in Gevas, a town in eastern Turkey, when a sheep leapt to death from a cliff. Following a herd instinct, nearly 1500 more sheep plunged into the 15-metre drop in a bizarre mass suicide. Stunned shepherds looked on helplessly as their sheep took the fatal leap.

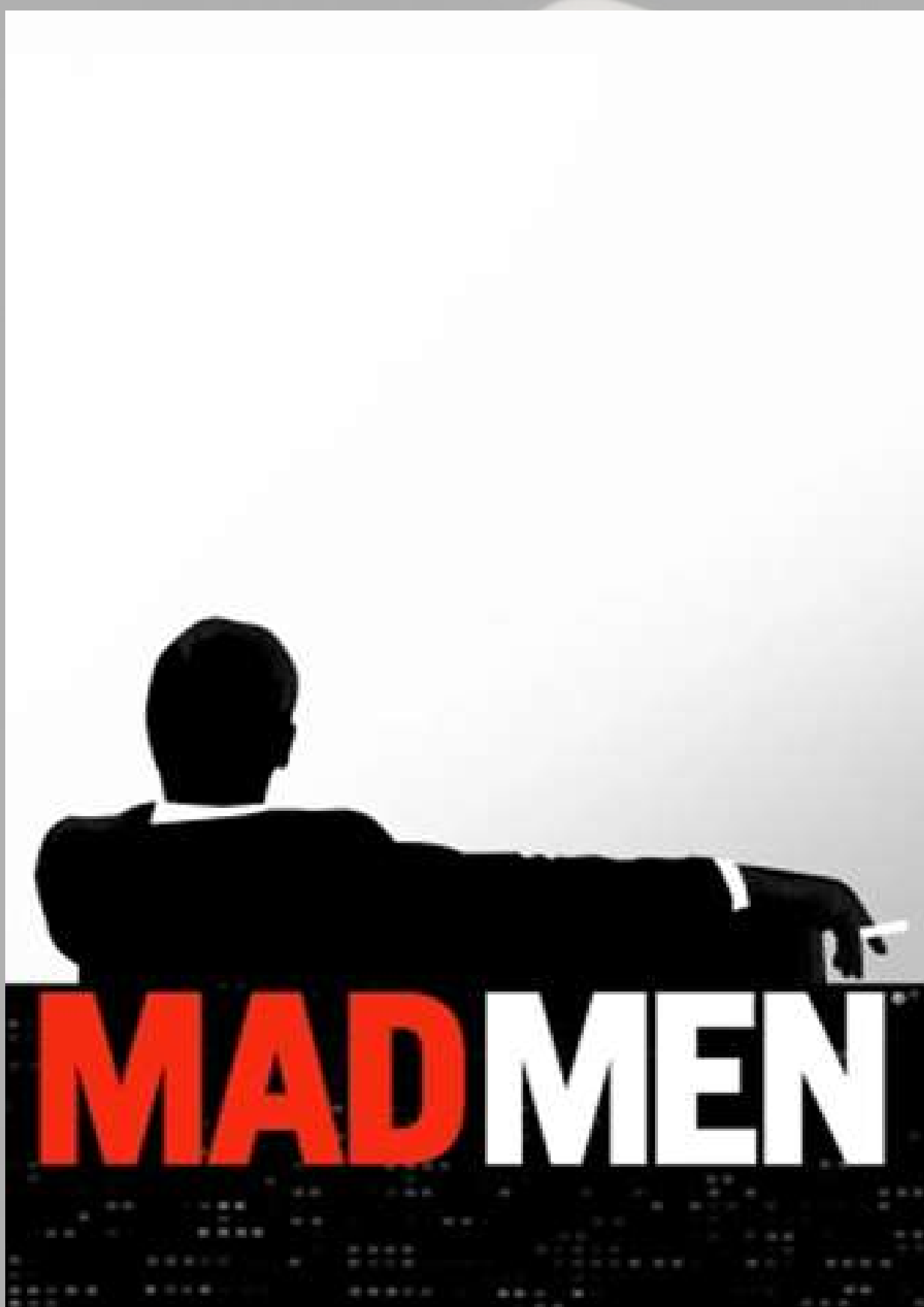
This unfortunate event happened because the sheep here do not possess intellect. We need to understand that we have intellect.

Unlike animals, we do not move in packs or herds. We are individuals with our own nature, personalities, likes, and dislikes. So, we need to develop the intellect, as it helps and prompts us to pause, reflect and introspect. Very few people stop to analyse their actions instead of just going ahead with the ordinary course of action expected from society. Just think about it, our parents enroll us in kindergarten, then we go to school, and later we progress to colleges or universities. Very few people have questioned this generational pattern and have chosen their paths. Few have been successful, while others have not. So, the best way to avoid going down a path set by our predecessors is to question everything and always think twice before taking an action. Use the reasoning faculty within you to judge, decide and make decisions. This helps build and strengthen the intellect, a tool that can save us from the regular lifestyles we are expected to follow. Instead, break the cycle and make the most out of a tool available only to us.



THE ARTIFICIALITY OF DON DRAPER

• Rohan G Das • 3JPEng Dept. of Media Studies • 2231361



One of the most artistic and intuitive shows of the 21st century, *Mad Men* (2007–2015) has received critical acclaim for its writing, visual style, and almost unerring portrayal of the tumultuous and controversial counter-culture era in 60s America.

The show's protagonist – Don Draper (Jon Hamm) – is a man of mystery and ambiguity, envied by his colleagues and respected by his superiors. Irresistible by the women that want him and admired by the men who want to be him, Draper is the perfect embodiment of the American masculine dream. A thriving advertising agent in New York, if Don fails to impress you with his looks, he

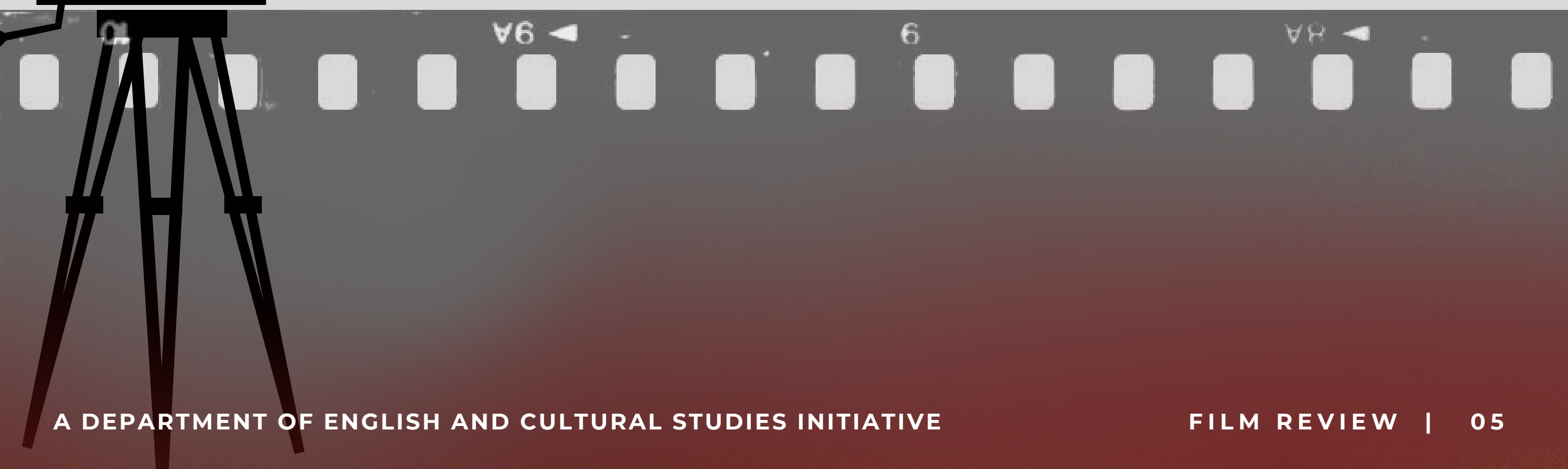
will definitely not fail you with his splendid words and engaging ad pitch. The show revolves around Don's excellent professional life, but he is perpetually failing personal relationships with his colleagues, "friends," wives, and mistresses. However, it is soon evident to the viewers that arrogance and eccentricity are just the coping mechanisms of a man trying his hardest to run away from something even though he is completely aware that it is impossible to bury it forever.



In some respects, the fact that the show takes place in an advertising agency is fitting for who Don Draper is. Advertising is an effective symbol that shows us the flaws in Draper's mentality. Just like how advertising is not about deep personal connections but rather about the instant gratification that can be achieved by altering something so minute and objective in life, Draper initially believes that instead of introspection about who he is and where he came from, perpetual modifications in his life will enable him to become the person he wants to be. And who is this person that he wants to be?

That right there is the essence of the show. His self-destructive behaviour, disregard for social norms, and inability to form any connection with anyone except the men he regularly impresses in board rooms are all caused by his short-term desire to be someone he is not. Draper's image is thus superficially appealing but essentially hollow, reflective of the advertising he sells. He is not the epitome of masculinity but rather a poor boy who had to adopt these characteristics as his identity because they were the standard of success.

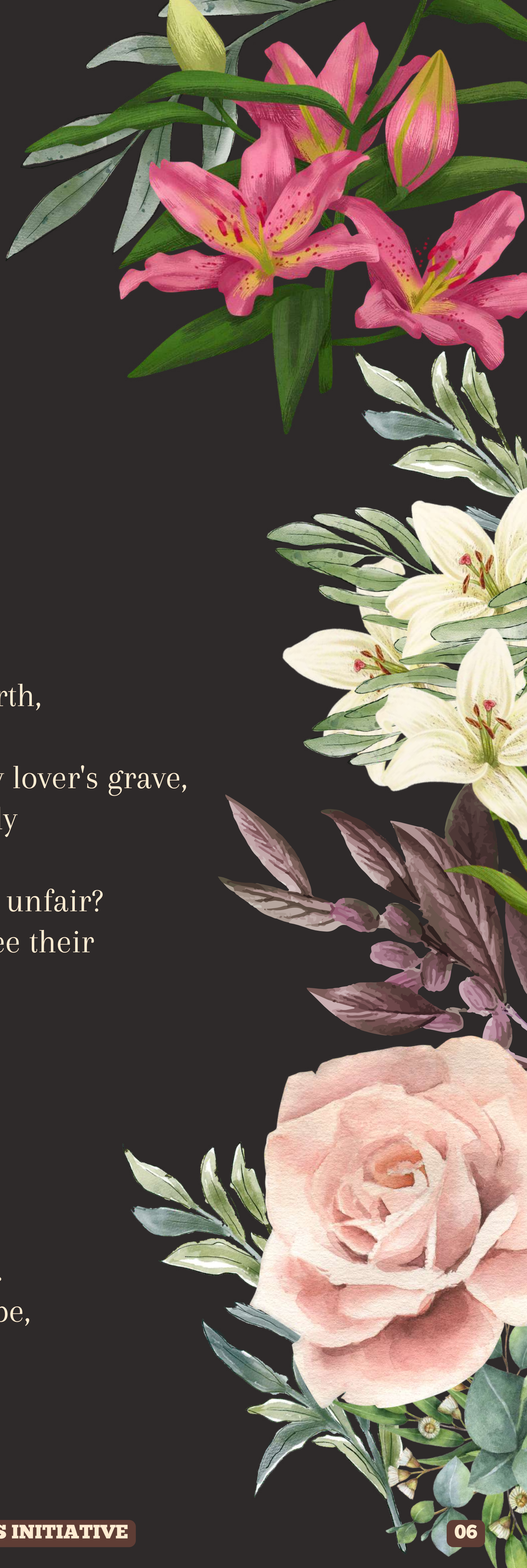
There is a common misconception that *Madmen* is an awesome story of a macho man in a suit smoking cigarettes, philandering women, and living the ideal masculine life. In reality, it is a depressing episode of a non-person fighting against the hollow shell that is his life. He is an unhappy man selling happiness.





Roses & Lilies

Tia Ananya Bansal | 2331997



Red roses glow in the air,
I am choking.
Their thorns are stuck in my hair,
bleeding out courage and despair.
The white lilies were bought at a fair
until I realised this wasn't fair.
The roses should seep through the earth,
and enwrap my cadaver.
For the lilies were dancing around my lover's grave,
At mine, they play a poignant rhapsody
too heart-wrenching to hear.
Hey, Destiny! Why did it have to be so unfair?
I yearn to hear the earthworms and see their
polyphonic appearance.
In the nothingness, the hollow air
caresses my carcass.
But a tint of blush is forbidden,
Even when the roses are rare,
seemingly cadaverous.
Seeking comfort is to dare,
The barren land was stuck in solitude.
Thus, it had no choice but to let it all be,
To be a coheir...



Homewrecker

Jane Caryn Thomas | 2131368 | 5JPENG

Your wandering eyes, my cautious smile,
Our naked thoughts, clear as glass,
Reflected only the beholders,
Passion, power, guilt, agony,
I was a name written in blood,
doomed to disappoint.

Your casual pretence, my glassy countenance,
It's an art to you, burning people,
Watching them die for you,
And here I am, a bomb waiting to blast;
A fire threatening to break, swallowing everything in its wake.

What is love?
Is it but a clandestine cove?
You say we'll be fine; no one will know.
And I trust you like a fool.
It's all rosy until the signs start to show, until the cracks start to grow.

Oh Lord, how could I have been so blind?
A lowly traitor to all of womankind,
Where do I even begin to explain this?
To your wife - to my sister, to your kids?

But you know me so well,
You know I'd ruin myself before I'd let the flames touch you,
So, I do.

A golden beginning, an annihilated end
A proclamation of promotion, torn hope. Broken.
Rose-gold glasses lie forsaken,

I can't breathe fire,
So, I breathe my last.



THE SONGS OF LIFE

Sara Mathews | 2331780 | 1BACE

Listening to the songs of life,
I wondered how I had missed it so far,
I was in a sea of pain,
That I forgot the island of love.

I missed my fortune by negligence,
And I called it 'misfortune.'
I forgot how the world works,
Maybe for the worse.

Every action has its effect,
Whether it is good or bad,
I have to sharpen my mind
For the beautiful future ahead.

Now, here I am, amidst these lies
With the broken wall of selfishness,
Can we make the bridge of love,
A bridge for me and you, my life?

Music lies within me and you,
It flows within us for sure,
But would we listen to the song of life,
The song with endless lessons?



Where is the Film Club?

Cinesthesia opened with its first ever screening of the film Piravi, directed by Shaji N. Karun.

✦ **The inaugural began with brief addresses from our Dean, Dr. John Joseph Kennedy, HOD of the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Dr. Shobana P Mathews and Student Coordinator of the film club, Fahim Seettha.**

The significance of film appreciation from a literary and academic point of view was discussed. The event was attended by students from both 1st and 2nd MA programme.

✦ **Post screening, there was a short discussion on the film's theme of 'Loss', 'Wait' and 'Politics'. It was also marked by observances on filmmaking as a craft continuously evolving and progressing.**

Here's what some of the students had to say:

Nabarun Writes...

EXERCISING THE RIGHT TO WAIT

Nabarun Deb | 2237304 | 3MENG

As the baby wails in pain, so does the old man whose heart aches for a son to return home. Strewn with hopeless promises of the city bred, they take chances one after another to try and weave out a finish line. An ending, a culmination. But not so easy it is to reach a point. In fact, there is no point. While in village, patience has lost its train of thought - for whom to grieve and whom to remember, the city scape makes the innocent/vulnerable characters especially the old father dance under the predictable music of beaurocrats, politicians and policemen. It is no torture but a perennial doubt painted of uncertainty and inexplicability. Clouds loom and rains splash on memories in the end ruining everything.

For me, this film is an act to give hope a chance. Like how in Pather Panchali, Sarbojaya did for her husband to return so Durga (an embodiment of hope) could stay alive but alas she died. Here, I am nowhere relating these characters to being vulnerable and helpless. They are brave. Sarbojaya sells her utensils to keep money coming and here the old man crosses the river everyday to wait for the sight of incoming headlights around the looming darkness.



We see each frames in waiting. Like a lock put on door, the trees amid the nature rests at ease with no one to knock on it. Nothing at all to uproot.

Raghu's room bears this too where his unsent letter waits inside an envelope to be sent and his sentence about his sister whom people come to see, waits for a finishing verb. It is not a narrative that dictates a chase towards a goal but an endless cycle that ensues for a search. First the father emerges knocking on doors of a minister for whose education he funded money and then enters the sister to visit the world of her brother, his connections, his friends and a world that he created for himself in the dorm, in the hostel, in the university.



Nabarun Writes...

EXERCISING THE RIGHT TO WAIT

In all such attempts, a collective alienation emerges. They realize it is not so easy here to find a return. Although a bus can take them but it can't bring back returns it promised.

In such circumstances then, 'waiting' becomes a right. Rememberance becomes a continued exertion to bring back a memory, a childhood story, a submerged time period that rests away from the shallow horns of development and fast life of runs in and run outs in cities. Because, recollection needs effort, it needs a continual fight.



Here the battle is not only to bring back a person physically but a version of who he was before the police summoned him. It is to fight with the demon or a mere doubt of who he might have become now. Now that he went through what he had to.

And in that fight, his father rests, his mother waits and his sister weeps while the village recieves rainfall in contrast to the beginning of the film when it doesn't, when it stays static in dry spell as the conductor says, "It feels good to come back to a place that has no rainfall from a place that has".





Krati writes...

Krati Maheshwari | 2237335 | 3MENG

Personally, what intrigued me most about the film was the voice of memory playing in the minds of the characters in the present, the present that is deprived of any noise. This replay of the voice shows the vacuum created in the space by the loss of Raghu. More than imagining, I could see the loss of Raghu in people's lives. There are instances when the camera becomes Raghu, who strolls around the village and home chatting with his father or mother. These scenes evoked the helplessness of being lost somewhere unknown to my family with only memories to relive. I became Raghu for a while; I went missing for that while.

The other scene that dealt with space was the boat scene, where the rower looks at the empty seat in front of him where Raghu might have sat and chatted with him. This scene reversed the viewer's role from being a missing person to a person who misses the missed one.

Again, there is an effort to evoke a sort of attachment. It is to question the science behind such human connection - How can a person who is mine can suddenly go missing? How is it that he was right here yesterday and not here today? That emptiness feels like an illusion beyond understanding. So, along with this, Piravi reimagines a new alternative for this loss. A grief that is new and non-evocative. Not an act but an inner personal turmoil.

The space that is not shown. The space that resides in the imagination and rests there, waiting for a return.



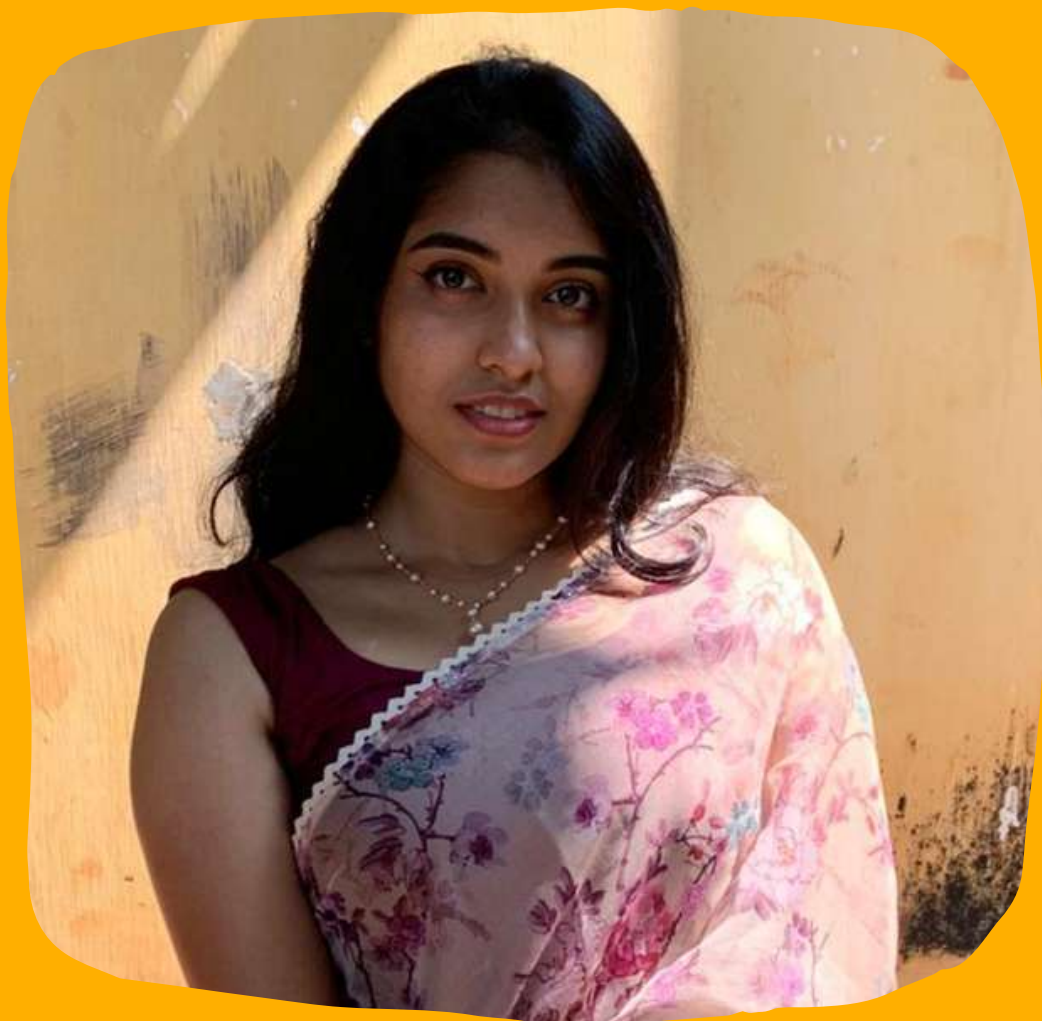


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