



Quill's Will

Volume 5 | issue 6.5



Farewell Edition





Acknowledgement

A magazine such as this would never have been possible without the collaboration and guidance of multiple different individuals. A small token of gratitude and shout-out to the students of MA in English with Communication Studies, batch of '22.

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our gratitude to everyone involved in this colourful journey. We thank Dr. John Joseph Kennedy, Dean , School of Arts and Humanities, for your unwavering guidance in our endeavours with the magazine. We also express our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Anil Joseph Pinto, Registrar, for ushering us into the dawn of our truest potentials.

We convey our sincere thanks to Dr. Shobana P Mathews, Head, Department of English and Cultural Studies, Central Campus. We would not be where we are today without you, ma'am.

The Quill's Will Team thanks Dr. Joseph Edward Felix, Coordinator of the MA program, for constantly supervising our creative process and shining light on the path we were meant to take, through your steadfast encouragement and unequivocal support.

Last but not the least, we thank every creative contributor, for providing us with your innovative ideas, and sharing with us a part of yourselves. Despite not being able to publish every work we have come across, we are forever grateful for your ceaseless input and enthusiasm. It is incredibly vital that we also extend our appreciation for the hard work undertaken by the talented editors and designers of our team, who have invested their time to bring this magazine to fruition.


With Best Regards
Team Quill's Will



Foreword

Batch 2022 is unique in a way! Most part of your postgraduate experience was limited to being panels on the screen. On the day the class photograph was to be taken, one of your friends stated, "no one has 'seen' this class". That was a moment of deep sadness for me. A class is not bits and pieces or register numbers, but people. Memories. Togetherness. Friends. Not friends. Hope you could find all this in some ways in the time you spent on campus and with each other. Keep coming back so that we can get to 'see' the people, not the panel with a number. All the Best!

Dr Abhaya N B
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An Understated Psychological Horror Thriller

Arya E Prakash - 2MAENG

Bhoothakalam in Malayalam translates to "the past". Rahul Sadasivan's Bhoothakalam is a work of art that cannot be confined to one genre alone. It can be seen as a psychological thriller or a horror film or as a combination of both genres. The film begins with a static shot of a woman with white hair walking through the corridor of a house to establish the main setting of the story. This opening scene itself sets the mood well as the tone of ambiguity that pervades the film.

The movie revolves around the mother-son duo of Vinu and Asha played by Shane Nigam and Revathy respectively who share a bitter relationship where both are laden with societal pressures and mental health issues. Asha is a struggling mother who tries to make the ends meet with her sole income while also battling clinical depression. However, she does not let Vinu take up any jobs that are away from their hometown. Vinu, as an unemployed young man who is forced to take up a course he dislikes, and Asha, as a middle-aged mother who is worried about the future of her son, are highly relatable characters. Bhoothakalam manages to keep the audience at the edge of their seats with events that will send a chill down your spine. Here, it is the choice of the audience to pick an interpretation that suits them. The film is open to a number of possibilities and interpretations while touching upon the genres of a complete horror movie and

that of a psychological thriller.

The tightly written script by Sreekumar Shreyas manages to grip the audience to the film with the ambiguity of the plot and the horror element. Mental health issues and the subsequent isolation from the society are shown through the film while also adding horror elements. While Vinu tries to open up about the happenings around him, people seem to think he is mentally unstable and thus begin to isolate him in a way. The odd happenings however continue to happen and the film manages to engage its audience for the rest of the screen time. Shane Nigam is brilliant with his accurate portrayal of a young guy who feels caged in his own home while his friends fly off to greener pastures. Revathy as always has once again amazed us through her nuanced performance bringing the character Asha to life.

The film highlights its effective background score by Gopi Sundar and rightly placed, unhurried editing by Shafique Mohamed Ali to establish the narrative and submerge the audience into the story. Instead of a conclusive explanation of the story, the filmmaker manages to leave the reading of the film entirely to the audience to decipher the dominating theme. By bringing the tabooed topic of mental health to the surface, Bhoothakalam opens up a range of discussions and possibilities in Malayalam Cinema.

Pursuit of Passions: The Journey of Translating my Grandpa's Cricket Mania

George Mathews - 2037307

"The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep."

"Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening", Robert Frost



When I was studying in my 8th standard, Ms. Jeena Varghese, Ph.D. scholar, Faculty of Physics, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland, who was then tutoring me, advised me to set short and long-term life goals. After reaching home, I took my notebook and framed my goals. One of the most important goals I placed in my heart was to be called a writer and earn a Ph.D. At this moment, I feel extremely happy, humbled, and blessed to share my experiences in the translation endeavor of Mr. KM George's "Cricket Mania" from Malayalam to English which was published by Sahithy Publications Thiruvananthapuram. I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Department of English and Cultural Studies, Christ University, along with the faculty members for giving me immense support and encouragement. The book was officially launched as part of International Book Day, and it was reported in almost all the renowned Malayalam dailies.

The most interesting element is that the author, my grandfather, is a hardcore cricket hater, and the translator himself is a diehard cricket fan. As I am an ardent lover of cricket, it was difficult for me to chew and digest some of the observations and opinions of my grandfather in the book.

We used to have heated debates around the arguments and very insightful discussions as part of this translation journey. As a prerequisite, I used to do many translation exercises by taking certain paragraphs of books and news articles and translating them from Malayalam to English and vice-versa. On one side of the page, I would copy the Malayalam text, and on the other side, I would translate and write in English, then look at it simultaneously to analyze word by word thereby ensuring conceptual clarity and beauty of the same. During my UG, Mr. Jahafar Kutty Joe Mone, Assistant Professor of English who engaged with the "Translation Studies" paper, enlightened and boosted my passion. Being a literature aspirant, I believe that evaluating, understanding, analyzing, and most importantly, celebrating differences of opinions is very important in our day-to-day lives. Even though I strongly differ from certain perspectives of my grandfather about cricket, I am really glad that I could breathe life into the thoughts of my grandfather, who has always been a great source of inspiration and guidance in my life. I got into his shoes, sat aside him, understood the pulse of the original text, and then launched the translation. After completing the transcription, I carefully cross-checked for errors.



It is to be mentioned here that Mr. KM George, a retired Senior Administrative Officer at VSSC, ISRO running into his eighties, with full positivity and enthusiasm, has been productively spending time in work and creative writing. In the endeavor, the author makes an earnest attempt to point out the disadvantages of cricket and the undue importance given by the media to the game. The book, consisting of 23 chapters, tells about how it adversely affects different aspects of life. The book also suggests what should be done and what should not be done to counter this mania. The author has used a very simple, pure folk style of writing with a satirical touch throughout the book instead of using bombastic or flowery language. In the very beginning itself, Sri. KM George reflects the purity of the author's intentions by proclaiming, "I'm proud to say I am an anti-cricketer" and he offers apologies if it has offended the perspectives of the cricket fans. The book is also notable for its most attractive and insightful cartoons, which would be highly relatable for its readers. As cartoons have universal dimensions, certain cartoons are cited appropriately, which speaks volumes, and as such, no transcription is felt necessary. I earnestly invite you all to read the book and gladly accept your most valuable comments and suggestions, and they will reflect appropriately in the next edition.

Book Details

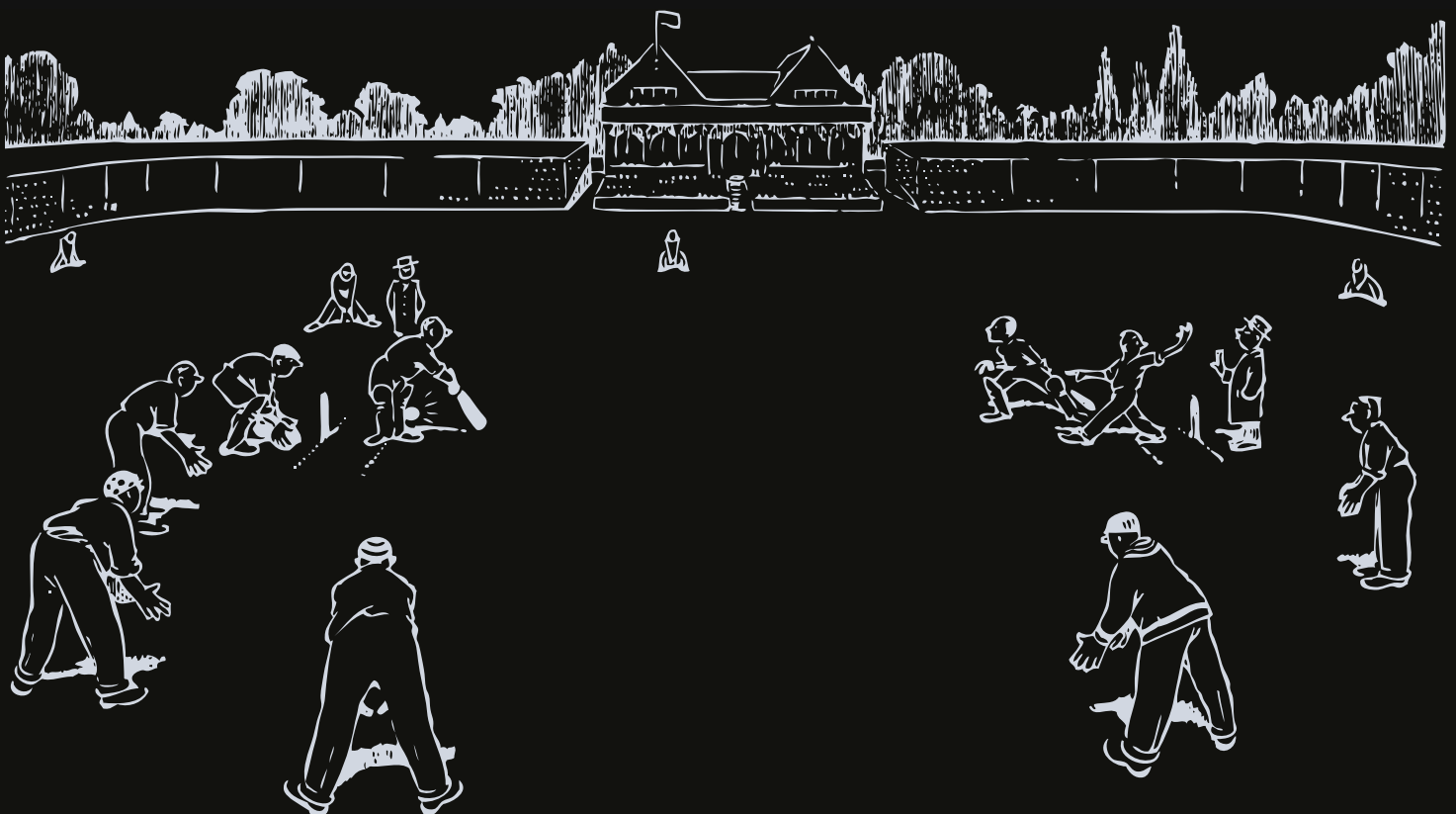
English Language

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A Trickle of Fire

Stephy Noby - 2MAENG

A trickle, a drop of fire somewhere deep inside,
If not found and dealt with in time,
Might mount like waves crashing over the seaside
Leaving ashes and ashes alone in the clime.

Burning down waterfalls, extinguishing the rains,
Leaving no space for gratitude, joy, or peace,
Soaking up rationality with its fiery trains,
Leaving the mind to climax in unease.

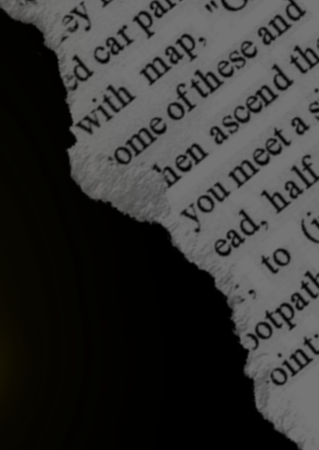

We stand detached from our own selves, torn
Between the dichotomy of wishes made in the corners
Of a black and white labyrinth where envy is born,
Unto our own conscience, we are but foreigners.

"I truly wished I didn't wish for what is yours" I pray,
Nevertheless, my mind spirals back to the top,
"But why does it have to be yours alone?" I say,
And then back and forth my mind sways without a stop.

Waiting and waiting for the grapes to turn sour,
I burn a little, die a little, and kill a little,
Not knowing that such thoughts could devour
Both you and me, turning our souls weak and brittle.

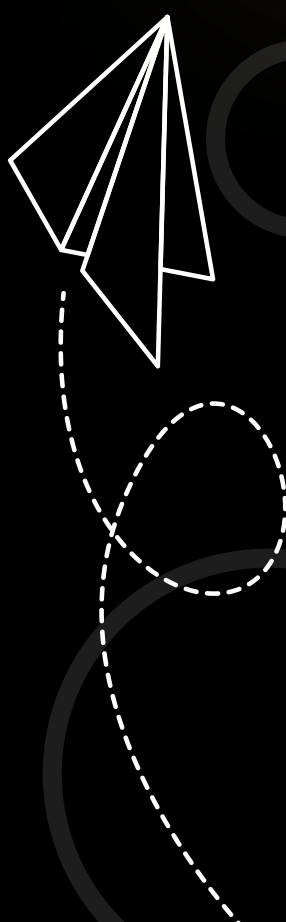
And when I awake to realize it all, it's much too late;
What I need now is not saving but a cure,
For the sharp pangs have driven too deep; I pity my fate,
Will healing come in a full circle? I am but unsure.

For the flames of soothing water could never tame,
The rampage of the storming fire that raged without a shame.



Ode to a Teachingale

Sera Grace John
2037348
4MENG

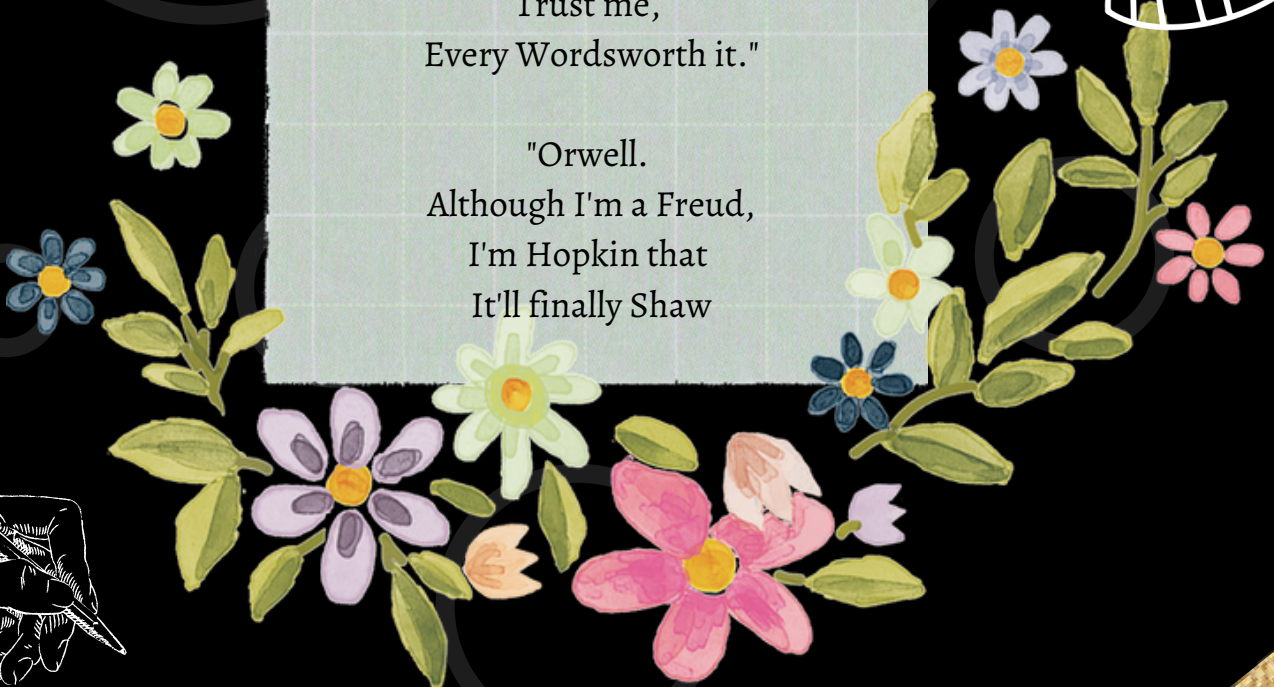


Remember when you asked me
How it was going and I bawled
"I Kant. I'm so Dunne!"

You didn't yell me
"Oh, Foucault's sake!
You Hardy try and
You call it your Marximum?"

But you did tell me
"Rumi a favour.
You Arnold enough
To know that this
Is not a rosy Plath.
You Nietzsche to try
And hang in there.
Trust me,
Every Wordsworth it."

"Orwell.
Although I'm a Freud,
I'm Hopkin that
It'll finally Shaw





And yes, it did!

From Philip Sidney
To Walt Disney
From Moby Duck
To Tequila Mockingbird
From Banana Karenina
To Julius Caesar Salad
From JK running
To JK Rowling

From The Tattooist of Auschwitz
To Uncle Tom's Cabin
To The Great Gatsby
And finally to Paradise Lost

Thanks to the Finch of hope
And all the Tolkien you did,
What began as a Comedy of Errors
Turned out to be
A Midsummer Night's Dream.
All thanks to you.

Thank you.
Thank you for being there,
To care and to share.
Thank you for becoming
A teacher!

Finn.



Meet the team



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BATCH OF 2020-2022