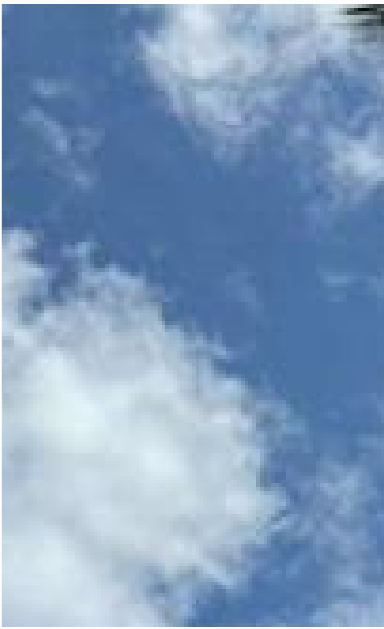


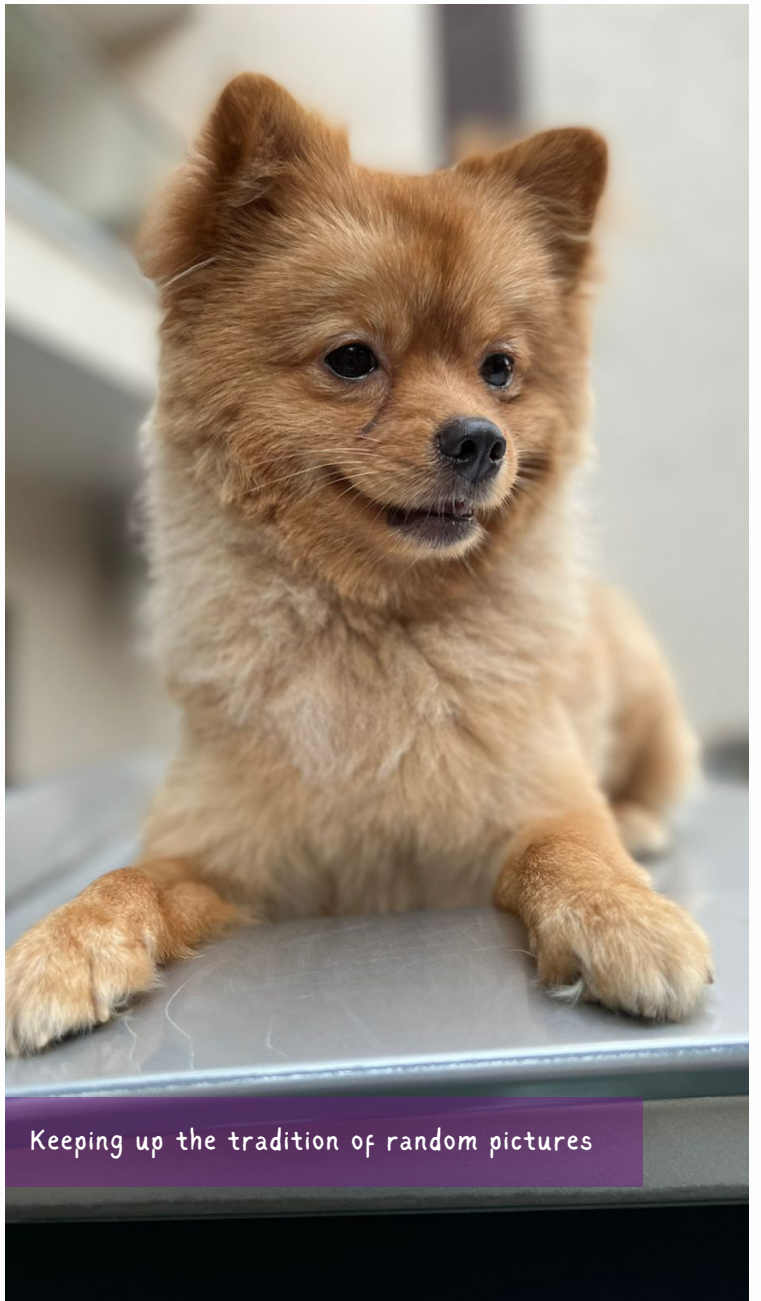
# Scribble

The 'PRIDE' Edition

Celebrate the LGBTQ+ community's month with us through this issue!



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Keeping up the tradition of random pictures

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# The Teacher's Note



I take great pride in the young minds of the Scribble Team who chose to dedicate this issue to the Pride month and the LGBTQIA+ community. It is unfortunate that in India, we still shy away from discussing these gender identities, understanding sexual orientations and keeping an open mind to accepting those whom we deem 'different'. Many live in ignominious darkness unaware, and often, remain knowingly silent. I am glad that our students support this community in their right to live their life, their way.

-Geetanjali Mukherjee (English H.O.D.)



The teacher who is herding a bunch of hyperactive hormonal kids who want to make a newsletter a.k.a. The Best Teacher To Ever Exist.

# The Editors' Note

To start off, we would like to thank Ravi sir, who read our newsletter and congratulated us on the snarkiness of our last editor's note. We would also like to thank Geetanajli ma'am again for everything. Ma'am, sir, you guys are honestly our favourite teachers- no cap. And the team of course! The team! We have a vague suspicion that they read the editor's note, the last time we dissed them because lately they have been very punctual (\*happy tears\*).

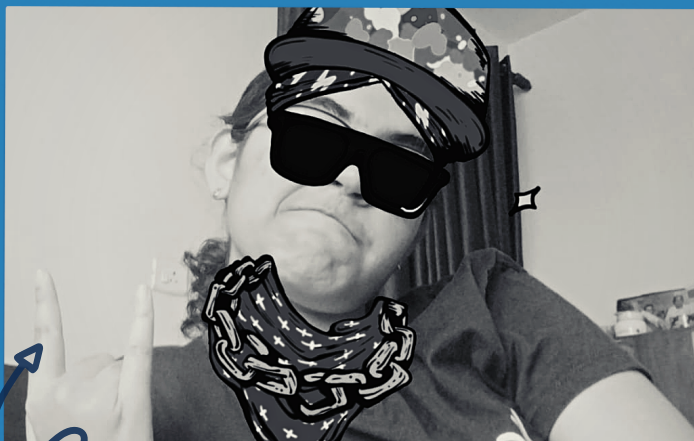
Incase you were wondering, yes we did get these pictures from each others 'blackmail materail' folder. And, if you are reading this page and you even remotely know any of us- Do not bring this page up in conversation!

Also, shoutout to any of the gays, theys and other cute people in the school who have come out to their friends! That was very brave of you sweetheart! Those who are still in the closet- All the best!

Taking this discussion to a serious note, a route we rarely take, we'd like to tell anyone and everyone who is reading this and is a part



The killer lady who is the mafia boss's second in command



The boss lady who smo-uhhh- runs the whole joint!

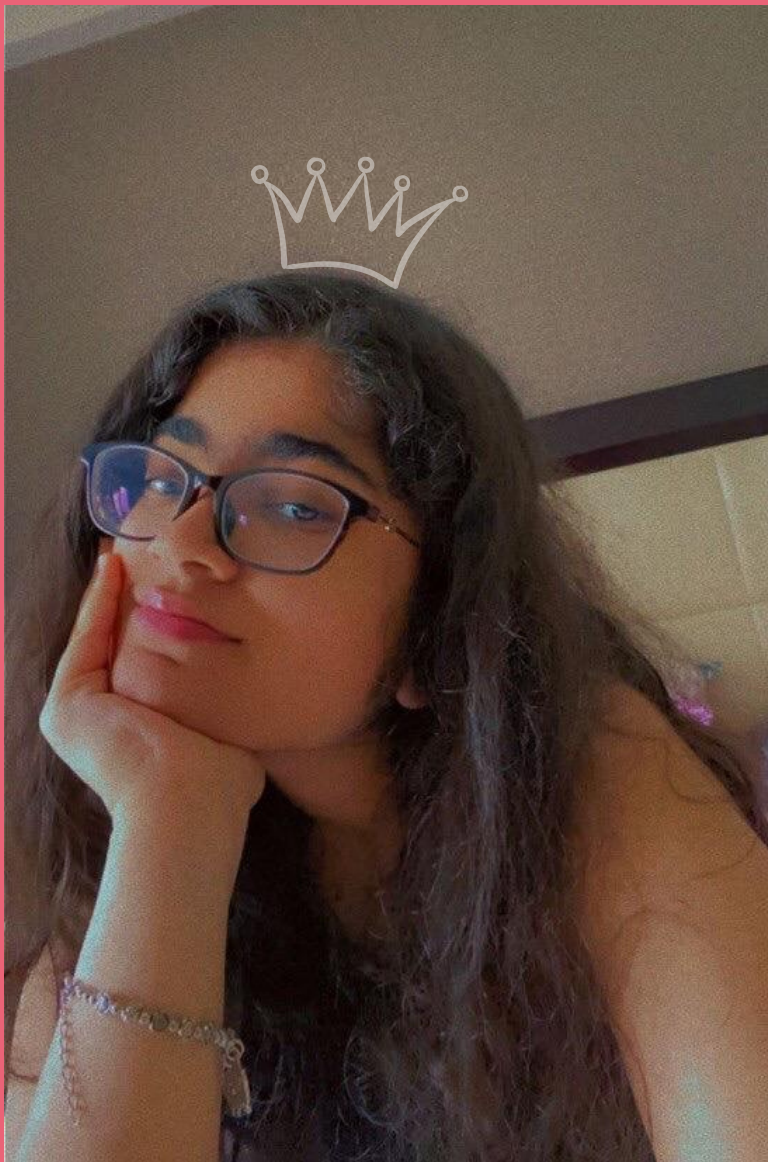
of the LGBTQ+ community that we support you all and you deserve respect and love just as anyone else. You guys are awesome whether closeted or not, out or not, sure or not. And if anyone tries to demean you, just pull a Adam Rippon on them and make them insecure about their 'straight' eyebrows. Two things that were impossible until now? Same sex relationships in India and comeback lessons in an editor's note-well, that's progressive.

On a final note- Happy Belated Pride Month to everyone reading. Love y'all!

-Aditi and Anwita (Editors)

# Behind the Prints

We just realized, that you haven't ever met our team! You might know these people, but we've never introduced them to you! What difference does it make if we don't introduce them? Well, actually a lot. Each issue that we print is during the school year, right? So there are these handful of beautiful individuals who handle us with our 3 am over-caffeniated brains, manage their school work, get top grades and still have time to write a report or draft an article. And it's vital that we honour them! That's why we present to you- (drumroll) The brave, the undefeated, the creative, the fantastic TEAM OF SCRIBBLE !



Ananya Bajaj (Co-Editor)



Anushka Gandhi (Journalist)



Kashvi Tanwar (Content Director)



Pranav Gupta (Content Director)



Alvina Akhlaq (Coloumnist)



Pratyush Gupta (Designer)



Shaurya Ahuja (Cartoonist)



Maahir Mittal (Photographer)

# WASSUP ENGLISH?

From the English  
Department



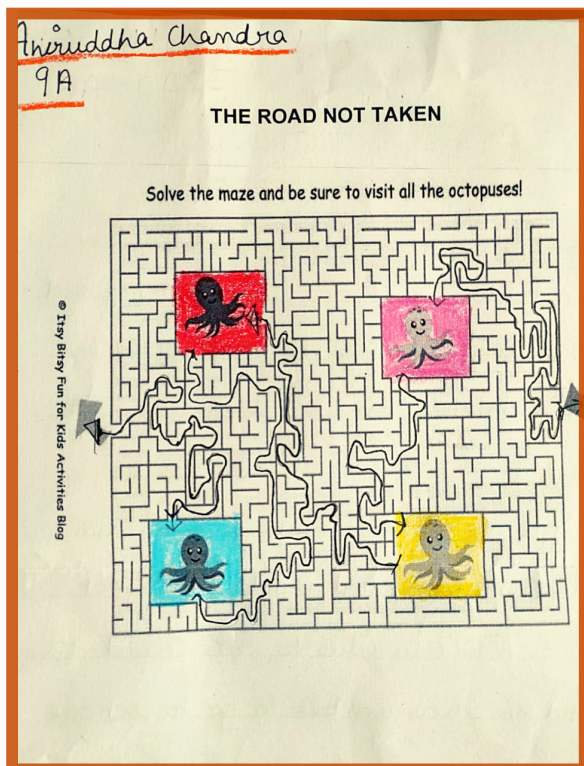


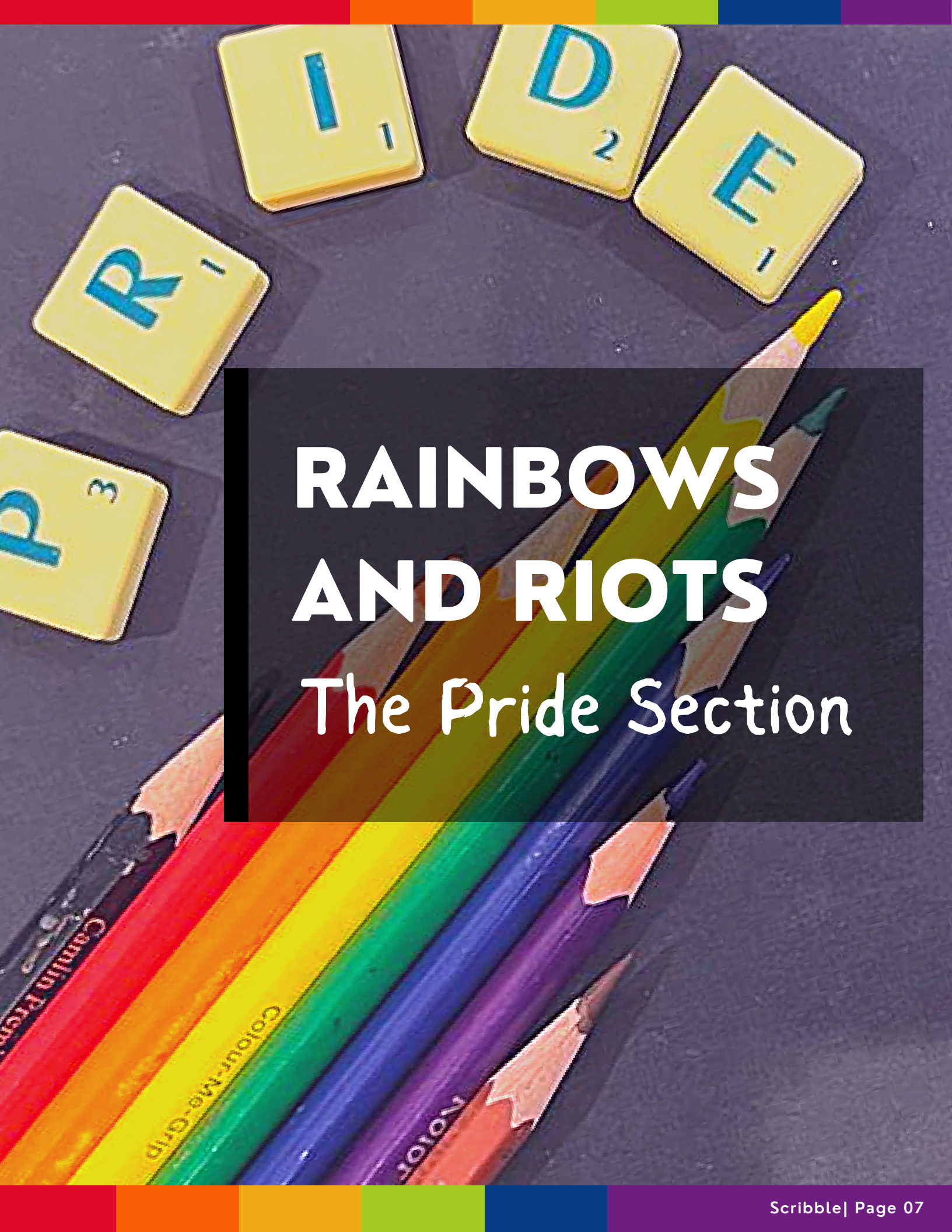
# From 9th Grade...

The poetry 'The Road Not Taken' from the literature book Beehive was taken up in class 9A during the week 18 – 22 April 2022. The poem was introduced through an activity of a maze game and the short story 'The Gift of Magi'. A video was shown, and the story discussed keeping in mind the decisions taken by the characters.

The second day, the poem was read and discussed thread bare. At first, the literal meaning of the poem followed by the figurative implications were discussed. The life of the poet Robert Frost and the decisions he took in his life were connected to the poem thereby encouraging a holistic approach to the poem.

The third day, a speaking activity was conducted wherein the students were encouraged to speak on the topic 'Life is all about making choices.'





# **RAINBOWS AND RIOTS**

## The Pride Section

# The Legality of Love

On June 28, 1969 the police of Stonewall made a raid in Stonewall Inn, a gay bar. Back in the mid twentieth century, gay bars were very common. Pubs built specifically for homosexuals, under the control of the Mafia. The police raid wasn't on the mafia (surprise, surprise) but instead on the gay members. This led to a series of protests from members of the Gay and Lesbian community. Imagine this: hundreds of people, of all sexualities and of all gender orientations marching out and protesting in front of pubs and bars. If your imagination doesn't fail you, you would've visualized what June 28, 1969 looked in Downtown Manhattan of New York City. These protests were famously called the Stonewall Protests.

This was the first time ever, the LGBTQ+ community came out and their voices were heard. After the Stonewall Protests, the conditions of the LGBTQ+ community everywhere started changing for the better. Laws all over the world underwent gradual amendments and the general mindset began to alter. And this change is good enough, isn't it? Well, if it were still the late twentieth century, probably. But now, in the twenty first, it isn't. For perhaps half a century, laws have been changing but haven't changed yet. The wait for all people to love, legally, continues.

And it's not just laws. The people who make those laws and the people who are governed by those laws haven't changed much either.

## Love with conditions isn't love at all.

Bringing the ball home and hitting it close to heart, let's look at India. Anti-gay violence has tripled since 2013, same sex marriage is still not recognized, a comprehensive anti-discriminatory code for the LGBTQ+ community in India does not exist, the representation of queer people in Bollywood is next to nil and homophobia is so common that my classmates use the term 'gay' as an insult and being 'bisexual' is nothing more than a threesome. How chauvinist can high schoolers get? Apparently, a lot.

It's not just India that is falling behind in the concept of 'tolerance' and 'acceptance'. There are 195 countries in the world and only four of them completely ban conversion therapy. There are 195 countries, yet in only twenty-seven of them are same sex couples allowed to adopt a child.

There are 195 countries in the world yet only thirty of them allow same-sex marriage. There are 195 countries in the world yet only fifteen of them allow Transgender people to change their status legally. But this shouldn't be surprising right? Especially since in seventy-two different countries homosexuality is still considered illegal and is punishable as an offense.

Love isn't a debate. It's a feeling, an emotion. Unfortunately for us, the world has achieved the remarkable feat of curbing emotions. It's time for the world to actually change and not just stay in the midway process.

It's time that we transform, shed the skins of our patriarchic and homophobic society and finally stop defining love by its legal status.

BY: A Bisexual

# LGBTQ-

## The Abrosexual Flag



Abrosexuality is having different levels of sexual or romantic attractions throughout your life. It also refers to an individual whose sexuality is changing or fluid.

The Abrosexual Pride Flag has existed since 2015. The flag was created by Mod Chad of pride-flags-for-us after another anonymous person requested it.

It is unknown why this person chose these colours specifically.

## The Pansexual Flag

Somebody who does not limit in sexual choice with regard to biological sex, gender or gender identity is referred to as an awesome person also know as a pansexual.

The flag that has been widely adopted by the pansexual community got its start on Tumblr. It's been in use since 2010, when it was posted to an anonymous Tumblr by its creator Jasper V, a queer, non-binary person living in England.



Each colour strip of The Pansexual Flag represents the following:

- Pink denotes attraction to femme-identifying people or people who identify as a female.
- Yellow represents the attraction to non-binary and people who have no distinct gender identity.
- Blue – Attraction to those who are male-identified people.

## The Bisexual Flag



When a person is attracted to both their own gender and the opposite gender they are termed as bisexual.

This flag created by the bi activist Michael Page in 1998, has three colours each symbolising a different kind of attraction.

- Pink – Attraction to your same gender.
- Lavender – Attraction to both and/or multiple genders.
- Blue – Attraction to a different gender

# + FLAGS

## The Lesbian Flag



When a woman is attracted to her own gender i.e., a woman, she is identified as Lesbian. Consisting of 7 colours, each one representing a different thing, this flag is the most commonly used Lesbian flag. Being a fairly new flag, this was made in 2019 by a Tumblr Blogger, Emily Gwen. The colours from top to bottom represents gender nonconformity, independence, community, unique relationships to womanhood, serenity and peace, love and sex and lastly femineity.

## The Gay Flag

When a man is attracted to his own gender i.e., a man, he is identified as Gay. This flag also consists of 7 colours. Even though this is a less commonly used flag the symbolisation in this flag is just as strong. The original version of this flag being proved controversial resulted in a new flag to be created. The new flag was created by a Tumblr user named gayflagblog in 2019. This flag is known to symbolise healing, joy, Trans Men, Nonbinary, and Nonconforming, Love, and Courage



## The Transgender Flag



Transgender people are the people who have a gender identity or gender expression that differs from the sex that they were assigned at birth. Consisting of 5 stripes and 3 colours this flag was designed to represent the Transgender Community. It was created in 1999 by Monica Helms, a trans women and Navy Veteran, at the encouragement of Michael Page. This pattern is such that no matter which way you fly it, it is always correct, signifying the fact that we all

are correct in our life no matter what gender we are . The colours symbolise the following-

- Light Blue represents the traditional colour for baby boys.
- White represents intersex, transitioning or neutral gender people
- Pink represents the traditional colour for baby girls.



## The Intersex Flag

Intersex is a general term used for a variety of situations in which a person is born with reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't fit the boxes of 'female' or 'male'.

In 2013, Morgan Carpenter, an intersex man and activist, designed what's since been embraced as the official Intersex Pride Flag.

He sought a symbol that would be freeing for his community. The colours and circle don't just avoid referencing gender stereotypes, like the colours pink and blue – they seek to completely

avoid use of symbols that have anything to do with gender at all, instead, the circle is unbroken and unornamented, symbolizing wholeness and completeness.

This flag has been used by numerous media and human rights organizations for drawing attention to the intersex community and their issues. In 2018, the intersex community achieved an extraordinary feat when the New Zealand raised the flag outside its parliamentary building and thereby acknowledging the community.

The term genderqueer means someone who does not follow binary gender norms. To classify it they may be non-binary, agender, pangender, genderfluid or another gender identity.

This flag, designed in 2011 was created by the genderqueer activist Marilyn Roxie.

The flag's three colours each carry a specific meaning:-

- Lavender – Androgynes and Androgyny. Roxie also pointed out that lavender is a colour that's "long been associated with queerness".
- White – Agender and Gender-Neutral people.
- Chartreuse Green – The inverse of lavender is to represent the people with identities defined outside of and without reference to the binary

This flag was developed by Kye Rowan and was supposed to refer to everyone who didn't identify with their birth assigned gender.

## The GenderQueer Flag



There are some people who don't identify with any gender they are known as Non-Binary. In 2014, then a 17-year-old Kye Rowan designed the Non-Binary Pride Flag for those who didn't feel represented by the existing Genderqueer Pride Flag. The colours, as broken down by Non-Binary

## The Non - Binary Flag

writer Cade Hildreth, are meant to represent the following:  
Yellow: People who identify

outside of the cisgender binary of male or female.

- White: Multigender People.
- Purple: People who identify as a blend of male and female genders.
- Black: People who are agender or genderless
- The flag was supposed to be an addition rather than a replacement to the gender queer flag created by Marilyn Roxie.

Aromantic folks generally don't feel romantic attraction to others, which means they generally don't desire to be in romantic relationships with people or engage in romantic acts with others. Although there are a few aromantic flags in use, this version, created by Tumblr user cameronwhimsy in 2014, is considered the main one. The intention behind each colour in this flag is:-

- Green is a representation of aromanticism
- Light greens shows the Aromantic Spectrum
- White stripe represents Platonic and Aesthetic Attraction
- Grey is a representation of the people who fall under the label of aromantic and demiromantic.
- Black is a standard symbol of the sexuality spectrum.

The colour green is so dominantly used in the flag since it is the complimentary opposite of red- a colour which is associated with love, in the colour wheel



## The Aromantic Flag



## The Asexual Flag

Somebody who does experience sexual attraction to anyone can be termed as Asexual. Before the Asexual Pride Flag was born, a number of different symbols, including the ace of spades, black rings and even the yin-yang, was used to represent the asexual community. In 2010, AVEN (the Asexual Visibility and Education Network) decided it was time to coalesce around a shared symbol. Two AVEN users, known as standup and Bristrek, led the effort, with standup's design ultimately winning the vote. The flag's four colours each have their own meaning:-

- Black: Asexuality
- Grey: Grey Asexuality and Demisexuality
- White: Non-Asexual Partners and Allies
- Purple: Community



## The Agender Flag

Agender is defined as not having a gender. Some agender people describe it as having a lack of gender while others describe it as being gender neutral.

In 2014, Salem, an agender and panromantic demisexual artist from New York, says they were seeing a "huge influx" of identities and pronouns being discussed and strengthened on Tumblr. "I figured if there was a time to come up with a flag for genderless people, this was it!"

The colours of the flag they designed are commonly understood to represent the following:-

- Black and White: An absence of gender
- Grey: Semi-Genderless
- Green: Non-Binary Identities



## The Progress Pride Flag



Inspired by the new Philadelphia Pride Flag, Daniel Quasar, a queer, non-binary graphic designer in Oregon, set out to create a version of the flag that would help elevate marginalized queer identities even further. Released in 2018, their "Progress" Pride Flag incorporates the colours of the Trans Pride Flag and, in its black stripe, also honoured those both living with and lost to HIV/AIDS. The inclusion of an arrow, as Quasar explained, was intentional, too: "The arrow points to the right to show forward movement, while being along the left edge shows that progress still needs to be made."

## The Intersex Inclusive Pride Flag

In 2021, the Pride flag got another update from intersex writer and Intersex Equality Rights UK advocacy group member Valentino Vecchietti. Incorporating the design of the 2013 intersex flag, it got a positive response from members of the community. Writing on their Instagram, Vecchietti's advocacy group said: "Since we posted this flag... intersex people and allies from all over the globe have said it is bringing them joy to see intersex inclusion."



## The Rainbow Pride Flag



The Rainbow flag has been the symbol of the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) community since its creation in 1978. It is also called the 'Pride Flag.' The flag was created by Gilbert Baker of San Francisco, California in 1978. The flag was first used at a LGBT pride parade in San Francisco in 1978, at that time it had eight colours. The next year it was changed to six colours, so it could be easier to make. The flag was first made by Gilbert Baker, to be used instead of the pink triangle symbol used before. The pink triangle was used by Nazis to show who was homosexual. Homosexual people were sent to concentration camps in Nazi Germany, where they made homosexual men wear a pink triangle. This was like the yellow Star of David for Jews. LGBT people were not ashamed of the pink triangle, but they wanted a more positive symbol. The colours of the flag each have a significance and relevance to the LGBT+ movement. Red is for life, orange is for healing, yellow is for sunlight, green is for nature, royal blue is for serenity/harmony, and violet is there for spirit.

# Rainbow Capitalism

BY: Anushka Gandhi (XI B)

LGBTQ Pride Month, also known as Gay Pride, takes place in June all over the world and features colorful and uplifting parades with floats and celebrities, as well as joyful festivals, workshops, and parties. Pride Month commemorates the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer community's years of battle for civil rights and the continued pursuit of equal justice under the law, as well as the accomplishments of the LGBTQ individuals. As pride month has grown in popularity and visibility over the years, a growing number of entrepreneurs use it to promote their products and improve sales.

To express their support for Pride Month, many entrepreneurs release new items and branding, but this rarely results in any real change for the LGBTQIA+ community.

Pride month has reached a pinnacle of commercialization, and it appears that marketers are leveraging it more than ever this year.

In honour of the 30 days, everyone from big banks to restaurant companies to candy businesses appears to have painted themselves Rainbow. This is known as rainbow capitalism.

This behaviour is evident in the big corporations where all types of products are sold in rainbow colors as limited editions during pride month. The question is why only during pride month, why not all year round. These tactics are used by entrepreneurs to attract clients and generate sales. There are countless memes and Twitter accounts devoted to corporations in June showing an image of a happy LGBT couple, person or just a logo with rainbow colors and then corporations on July 1 reverting back to the same iconography of straight couples and their usual logo. All we ask is for continued attention and commitment from these corporations, organizations, and anyone who expresses allyship beyond the month of June into perpetuity. Rainbow capitalism concentrates corporate profits and interests, making capitalism in general the focal point of many Pride celebrations.

Corporations profiting from rainbow capitalism have taken over spaces designed for LGBTQ people, making Pride less about protests, rights, and freedom, and more about a way to make a profit.

# Queer Liberation, not Rainbow capitalism

-A poster from a pride march

When brands capitalize on queerness, they confine our perceptions of queer freedom by connecting it to heteronormativity and capitalism, as well as reducing queer issues to singular themes – namely gay rights and gay marriage.

Corporations profiting from rainbow capitalism have it concealed how queer justices are related to colonialism, racism, transphobia, and capitalism. It also becomes a problem when companies sponsor anti-LGBTQ organizations or partner with manufacturers to create their products in regions where LGBTQIA rights are not fully acknowledged. Unfortunately, Pride has become increasingly about consumerism, with people visibly 'showing' their allyship through purchased goods, rather than being anchored in activism, as a result of rainbow capitalism's negative effects.

Rainbow capitalism washes the core of Pride under the colourful sponsored banners of corporations by neglecting the basic reasons of LGBT oppression, the history of Pride, and the ongoing violence performed against various intersections of the queer community.

At every stage of their business models, brands should think about how they can be better supporters to the LGBTQ community, from employing queer employees and leaders to implementing policies that ensure the group is properly

acknowledged. This includes providing non-binary and trans people with gender-neutral bathrooms in their offices and retail areas, as well as utilising appropriate gender pronouns.

Shifting to impact measurement requires companies to think more expansively about the role their products and services play in society. The goal is to discover how products improve people's wellbeing and their environment. Numbers and reach often are poor indicators of real impact on real lives. This means companies need to reframe their assessment methodologies thus finding new measurements that paint a more vivid and ultimately more meaningful picture of the societal benefit their products can provide.

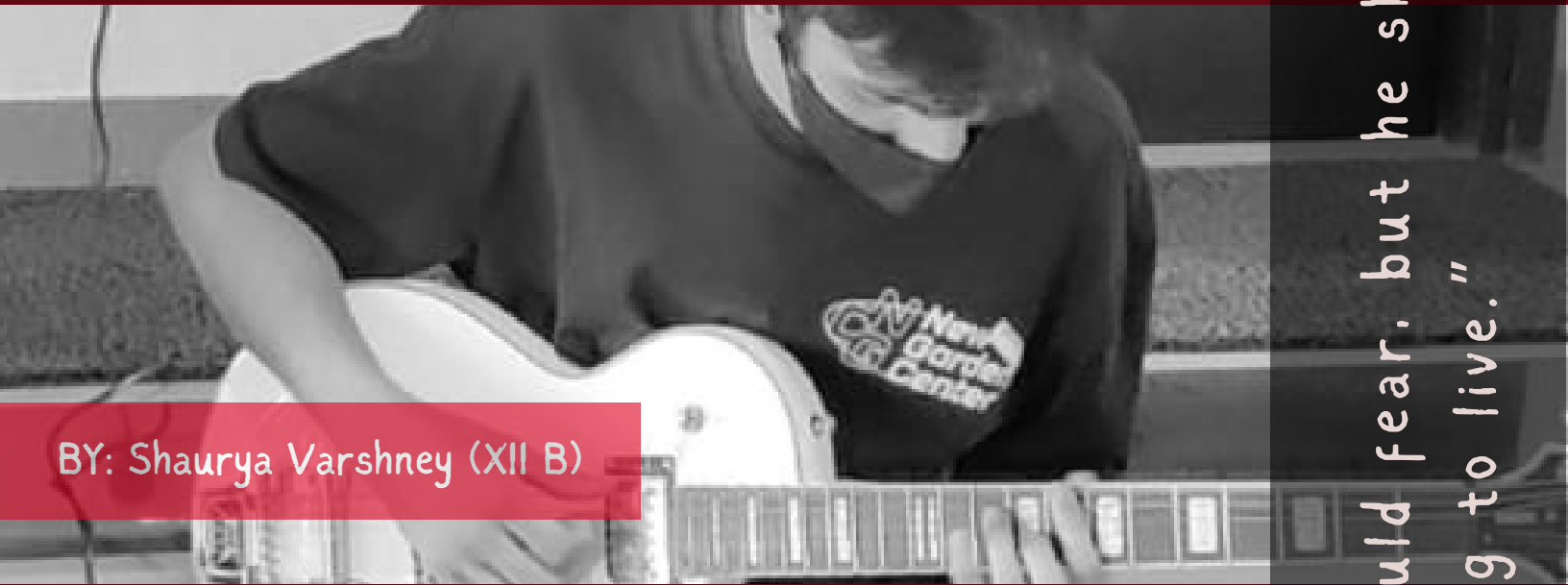
Companies must think more broadly about the role their products and services play in society as they shift to impact measurement. The goal is to figure out how products can help people and the environment. Numbers and reach are frequently poor indications of real-world influence. This implies businesses must rethink their evaluation processes, identifying new metrics that create a more vivid and, bathrooms in their offices and retail areas, as well as utilising appropriate gender pronouns. ultimately, more relevant picture of the societal benefit their products can give.

A wooden desk with a colorful comic book, markers, and a blue text box. The comic book features various panels with cartoon characters and text. The markers are in the foreground, and the blue text box is in the center. The background is a dark wood grain.

# SUBMISSIONS

## The Creative Section

# A Tune To Life



BY: Shaurya Varshney (XII B)

"Never begin to live" – powerful words. Nonetheless, one may wonder what exactly life is. Is it not the amalgamation of eating, metabolizing, excreting, breathing, moving, growing, reproducing, and responding to external stimuli? This is the definition on Google, and the modern generation swears by Google. Doesn't it? But is this truly the meaning of life as Aurelius thought of it? I tried to define life my way. According to me, life is one grand, sweet song. So, start the music and, as the Bard once said, "Play on!" Why music? Well, to me, music is life itself.

Music is the beauty of life, and that's what a survey I conducted reflected as well. Most responders described life as hard, and some even refused to answer the question, but they believe that music is the one thing that calms them down, provides them with peace and helps them through.

On the other hand, when asked what they had learned from musicians, none of them had a proper answer. Most people enjoy music as a wonderful creation that has been, and will forever be, with them. Why is music so beautiful and peaceful for everyone? It is because of the 12 notes that nature has created, for sure, but more importantly, it's because of how these 12 notes are used by people called musicians. They are the reason for this last magical remnant left on earth and the beauty behind it. We generally learn so many things from music about how to live our lives. We dance and sing along, but quite often we forget to focus on these magicians who gifted this beauty to us. Just like life, music teaches many indelible lessons—the legacy of the musicians.

"It's not death that a man should fear, but he should  
fear never beginning to live."

Take 27-year-old Jacob Collier, for example. The musician who got 9 Grammy awards for his work shows us the beauty of music and how it links with nature through unprecedented chords and beautiful harmony.

He surely shows the evocative power of music—how it can make you drop a tear or put a smile on your face. One of the main reasons for his success is his curiosity which has led him to be the best musician of all time and probably the best one we will ever see. Another reason for his success is his obsession with music, because of which he has been able to explore this art in depth and learn so much that there is not even a number to how many instruments he can play or how many things he knows about music. Collier's expertise reminds me of Evelyn Glennie, about whom I read in the story, "The Sound of Music" in Grade IX. A child who began to lose her hearing at the tender age of eight rose to be one of the most prominent percussionists in the world with a mastery of more than a thousand instruments and three languages: English, French, and Japanese.

For Collier, in the end, the work is evidence of the love he has for music. From this love comes the motivation to do the things he does, such as singing the lead, bass, baritone, tenor, alto, and soprano vocals, layering them on top of one another, and harmonising the notes with himself.

Jacob Collier shows that there is no limit to music, just like there is no limit to life. He conveys in his song, "Sleeping on My Dreams," that we might just be sleeping on our dreams instead of working on them, knowing they are all going to come true because that's why we have seen them. So, this great musician says, we can all do what we love and dance along.

Guthrie Govan, who is considered to be the best guitarist in the world and hailed as the "virtuoso's virtuoso", is recognised by his peers as possibly the scariest guitarist alive as well. His techniques and how precise he is with the



guitar are scary. How he plays it in a way that can't really be put into words but conveys the beauty of music is scary. His hands play leads, which very few people can play because they are full of amazing techniques and that they are lightning fast, and that is scary. What makes Guthrie Govan unique is also the backstory.

Guthrie was not from a well-to-do family, but that did not stop him. He was a self-taught artist; he learned to play the guitar and write music on his own without the help of anybody. He had become his own teacher and still is, which shows us that anything is possible. There are no excuses when you really want something.

Let's move on from individual artists to a



band. Polyphilaia is a revolutionary instrumental progressive rock band based in Plano, Texas. It was formed in 2010 and started by posting covers on YouTube. The four members of the band Tim Henson, Scott LePage, Clay Gober and

Clay Aeschliman eventually became one of the pioneers of the new viral genre of music - Math Rock. A progressive and Indie Rock musical style employed in songs like G.O.A.T. Polyphilia thus, shows us the future of music and rock. This claim is supported by most musicians because of the "personality" of their songs, catchy drum beats, guitar and bass which are at a

high tempo, and fast. Indeed, their music is a true reflection of words such as fresh, new, futuristic, cool and so on.

To me, the world of music and musicians is not only interesting but downright fascinating. I wonder what it would be like being an amazing musician and how can we be a gamechanger in the prolific world of music. For that matter, how do we bring such passion and precision in our own fields or life.

In a movie named Whiplash by Damien Chazelle, starring Miles Teller and J. and K. Simmons, one can learn how being a musician is a great challenge. What it takes to make it as a fish in this pool of talent is unrelenting practice, an obsession to be the best and the sacrifice required to become the next masterpiece. The movie shows what people such as Jacob Collier, Guthrie Govan, Polyphilia and many others may have gone through to be where they are today. It is their hard work and passion which is revered in the world and one can catch a glimpse of their journey through this movie.

The scene which is etched in my mind from the movie is where Andrew Neiman has to face a challenge. He has to play a part at an unimaginable fast pace. It is very hard to play; nonetheless, he never gives up and keeps on practicing. He plays the drums so fast that his hands start bleeding but he still continues because he really wanted to be the best version of himself.



ORIGINAL



REIMAGINED

BY: Zoya Ahmad  
(XII B)

# Amrita Shergil's Painting 'Three Girls' Reimagined

Amrita Shergil has been called "one of the greatest avant-garde women artists of the early 20th century" and a "pioneer" in modern Indian art. Zoya Ahmad reimagined and repainted her work 'Three Girls'. Here's what Zoya says about her work.

The idea is based on Marxist feminism. It depicts three girls sitting next to each other wearing bright, clean clothes and jewellery with an aura of melancholy. The story line of the artwork, according to me, is that the three girls are granddaughters of a wealthy man. Thus, the girls come from a bourgeois family, pampered with wealth but downcast as they know they are heading towards the same fate. The vibrant colours they wear contrast with the exhausted looks on their faces. Their shadows fall on the dull grey background, which deepens their desolation, albeit in a harmonious composition. Despite sitting together, the loneliness in their sense of being isolates them from each other.

Each woman is akin to a blank canvas, a tabula rasa, on which their husbands can paint their new identity, perhaps more suitable to patriarchal norms. In my version, their larger black eyes almost melt away, which aims to derive empathetic pathos from the viewers. These girls in the painting are enslaved and exploited by the system and are not given the right to freedom because they must be dependent on their economically productive husbands for monetary support. They live a life devoid of meaning where their only role is to appear beautiful and be submissive to the breadwinners.

Art is a brilliant medium of expression. It is therapeutic - makes people feel things, lets all the words one wishes one could yell, ring loud and clear, from the platform of the canvas. It lets you paint all the things you couldn't be. All the things you wish you could be.

In the poem, "An Introduction," by Kamala Das, she also explores her complex emotions regarding the system controlling her life and the lives of countless suffering women. In 'Aunt Jennifer's Tigers', a poem by Adrian Rich, the tigers designed by Aunt Jennifer are fearless, but she herself is afraid of her husband. Art helped Aunt Jennifer be someone she only wished she could be. And while that is a painful realization, it also enables Aunt Jennifer to step into the world of imagination and express herself fully. Thus, Amrita Shergil's three girls could also be a symbol of the three social classes and how loneliness and helplessness are felt throughout the world irrespective of wealth.

To put it in simple words, art can both break and make people into who they are, were or will be, and that, is beautiful.



# Photography Section



By: Angad Singh Bhatia (XII B)



BY: Maahir Mittal (XI B)

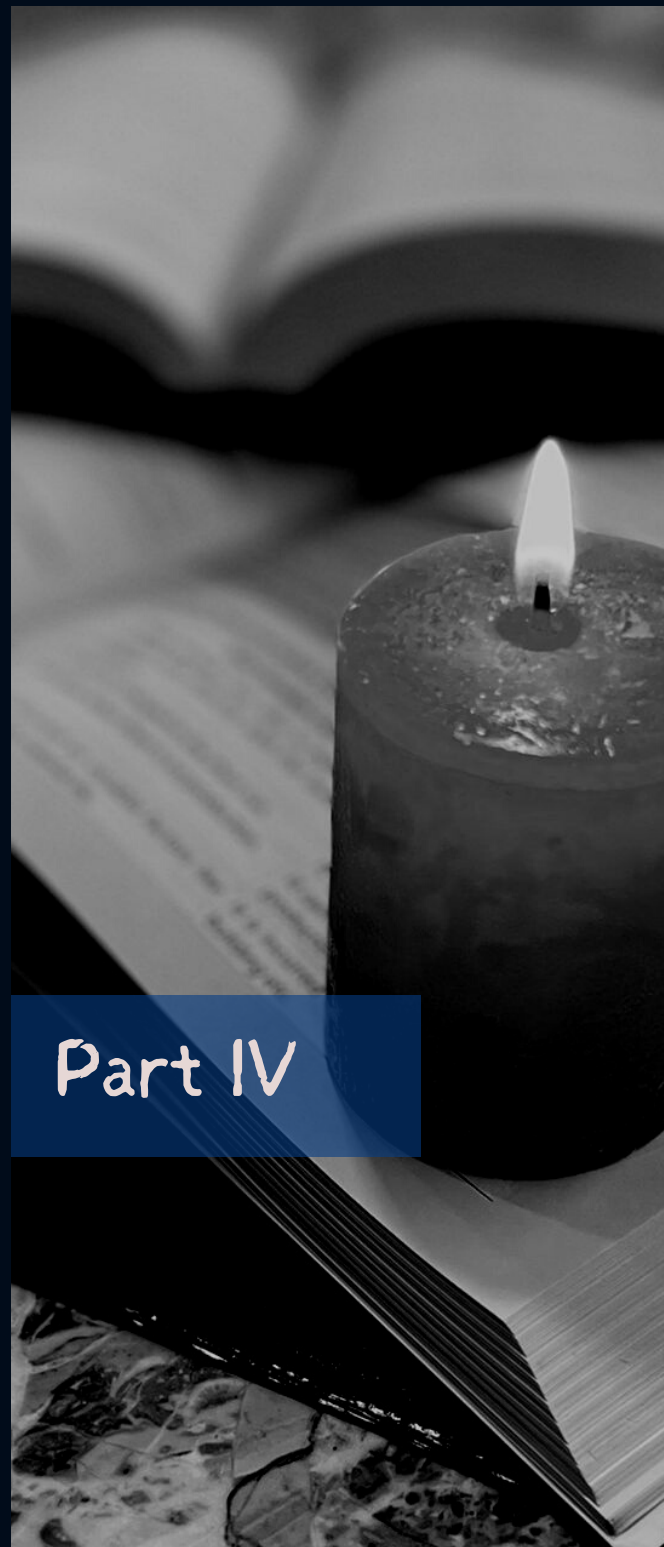
# Deals With Death

BY: ANONYMOUS

Black got up from the bed, he picked up his walking stick and shot me a glance. It was a peculiar expression. A part of me wanted to believe that it was awe but then, why would he be in awe of me? I wanted to speak up, I needed to speak up, but I felt drained. I felt the pain that I felt when I first came into this room; When it had a cot instead of a tester bed and broken and dirty sills instead of mahogany window frames.

I saw the cloak that Black had given me, lying next to me on the bed. A sudden fear grasped me. Arguably that fear was rational. It's not every day you drape yourself with a cloak only to hear the crying and dying whispers of thousands of humans. I wasn't even sure that some of them were humans, the voices were so raw and so desperate.

I looked up from the cloak, Black was looking at the clock on the wall. The second hand had slowed down to its normal pace now, the other hands were still on 12. Black's back was towards me. I wanted to feel afraid of him, after all it was his cloak. Did he trap those souls in his cloak? How had I unleashed the dead? I wanted myself to be terrified to meet that man's gaze but when he turned back and gave me a reassuring smile, I felt reassured.



Part IV



I could tell that my reassurance didn't reflect on my face because Black took a step forward and asked me, "What are you afraid of?" His expression was sincere.

I thought of the voices I heard when I had draped his cloak over my body. I thought about the desperate screams I had heard. I thought about Black. He was a Grim Reaper, an employee of death. I thought about the pain in my body coming back in waves.

"Everything..." I answered under my breath because that's all the strength I could muster. I felt my eyes stinging and my throat going dry. I tried swallowing the lump in my throat but that only resulted in more tears. I hadn't cried for such a long time. But right now,

I couldn't help as the tears made their way down my cheek and as I stared back at Black and croaked back my answer again, "I'm afraid of everything." Black nodded. He walked over to me, picked up his cloak from the bed, and crouched down in front of me.

"Nian," Black called me by my name softly. I looked up from my lap to his face. For some reason I felt that he knew what I was going through, better than anyone did. He laid out his palms so that I could put my hand in it. "I don't wanna die..." I sniffed miserably as I put my hand on his.

It was the first time since Black's arrival that I had reconsidered my death. When he came in through the window and talked to me, perhaps for just the amount of time we were engaged in conversation, I thought that maybe entering the thirteenth hour wasn't a bad idea. Before he came to this room through the window all I had been thinking about was how I was pawned off to Death and how I was going to perhaps die at such a young age. You know when you ask people their greatest fears, it's always failure... or the darkness... or some creature like snakes or spiders? Nobody ever says death. Everyone thinks that death is some great quest after life or death is when you find peace again- it's not. It never was to me anyway. I felt that death was the end. The end of the beginning, the end of the middle, the end of the end- the end of everything.

When you die, you don't necessarily find peace or go on living in the afterlife but what is certain is that once you die whatever part of you made you human is no longer there. Whatever secrets you had planned to tell are left untold- or worse yet, people find out your secrets without you to vouch for their credibility or to tell your perspective of your crimes. Whatever you couldn't do in your life remains an uncrossed box on bucket list. Whoever you loved the most, now lives in a world where they have no one to love them how you loved them. Everything remains undone when you face death.

"I don't want to die..." I croaked out a bit more firmly than before. The clouds thundered outside.

"You are not going to die, Nian." Black said as he drew small circles with his thumb on my hand. It happened just like it had before. The pain started slowly ebbing away. His touch was healing. "I won't let you," Black promised with an unfeigned face. "You're not going to die," He repeated. I didn't want to believe him. People broke promises. I didn't want my life to be a promise.

"You can't promise me that in the Land of the Dead," I pointed out to him, wiping away my tears.

They had dried off anyway. He smiled at me.

"You'll be surprised at what a Grim reaper can do." He replied and I chuckled. Hope rekindled. The pain was almost gone, but the fatigue wasn't. I felt a hundred years old. I probably was a hundred years old too. Time was... different here.

"Get up," he said softly. I did. My feet felt unfamiliar to me. "We're going for that walk." He informed me, patting my shoulder.

"Through my room's door?" I couldn't help myself from asking.

It had been bothering me for quite some time. I had tried re opening the door once I had been locked inside the room. Each time I made contact with the door, I felt I was being stabbed over and over again all over my body. That didn't stop me the first time, or the second time, or the sixth or the twelfth time but eventually I had limped away from the door, tears pouring down my face while I whimpered for a saviour. "I can't go through that door Mr. Black." I stressed with furrowed eyebrows Black shot me one of his puzzled looks and then realization dawned on him. "How many tries?" he asked tenderly.

I lowered my head and admitted, "sixteen..."

A second later, I was enveloped in a cold hug. I reluctantly hugged Black back and he stroked my hair gently. A sense of security crept into me, and I became a little too overwhelmed. I wondered how the hug would look from an outsider's view. I knew how it looked of course. I had seen other parents hug their child on the school grounds when an impeccable feat was reached, or an equally remarkable scandal was caused. I just wanted to know if it looked the same for me as it did for them.

"It's not going to hurt anymore." he whispered.

Black kissed my head and repeated, "It won't hurt anymore." I held back my tears successfully but in retrospect I felt that I should've let them flow.

Black released me from the hug, stroked my hair one last time and took in a shaky breath. He then took his cloak, walked to the door, and looked at me briefly for a second before swinging it open, I flinched hard and involuntarily tensed my shoulders. A few seconds later I realised that I wasn't hurting. My body relaxed, and all I felt was the cold air from the rain as it entered the room and whipped my face. Black was holding the door open to a small path of cobblestones.

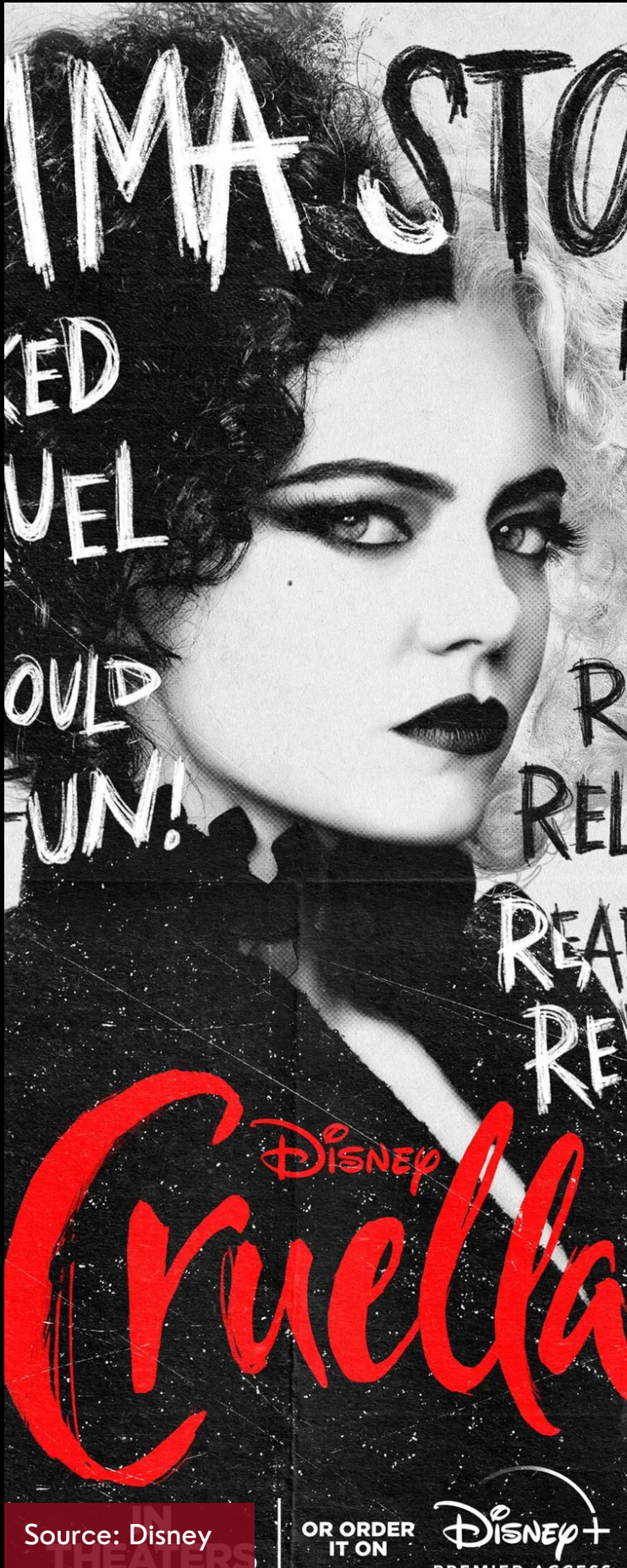
I looked at him hesitantly. Should I really try stepping out? Black nodded and gave me a small smile. His eyes were glimmering and that was enough of a reassurance for me. I inhaled, walked out of my room, and took a small step crossing the threshold. I almost broke into tears again when it didn't ache.

# Photography Section

By: Angad Singh Bhatia (XII B)



By: Angad Singh Bhatia (XII B)



# CRUELLA - Movie Review

One of the most popular movies, Cruella (2021), is not only a good source of entertainment but also motivates and inspires the youngsters to follow their passion and reach great heights. This movie revolves around the main character Estella, her passion of becoming a fashion designer and how her two best friends stay by her side throughout her journey.

Estella's friends arrange a job for Estella at a fashion designing company. Estella learns the secret that the head of the organization was linked to the death of her mother and the traditional necklace she lost. An intense battle begins between the two. Estella starts living as two different people – Estella and Cruella. The competition grew tough and so did Cruella's plans!

The creator of this movie shows us the importance of passion, dedication and courage. It also shows the power and strength of friendship. I would surely recommend this movie to all of you, and it will help you spend good quality time with friends and family.

BY: Alvina Akhlaq (VIII A)

By: Maahir Mittal (XI B)



# Photography Section

A top-down view of a wooden surface. Scattered across it are several yellow Scrabble tiles with blue letters. To the left, there are several chess pieces, including a white king, a black king, and a black rook. In the bottom left corner, a crossword puzzle is visible, showing a grid and some text. A large, semi-transparent orange rectangle is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text 'FUN FIZZIES' and 'The Interactive SECTION' in white.

# FUN FIZZIES

## The Interactive SECTION



# W.o.W. crossword

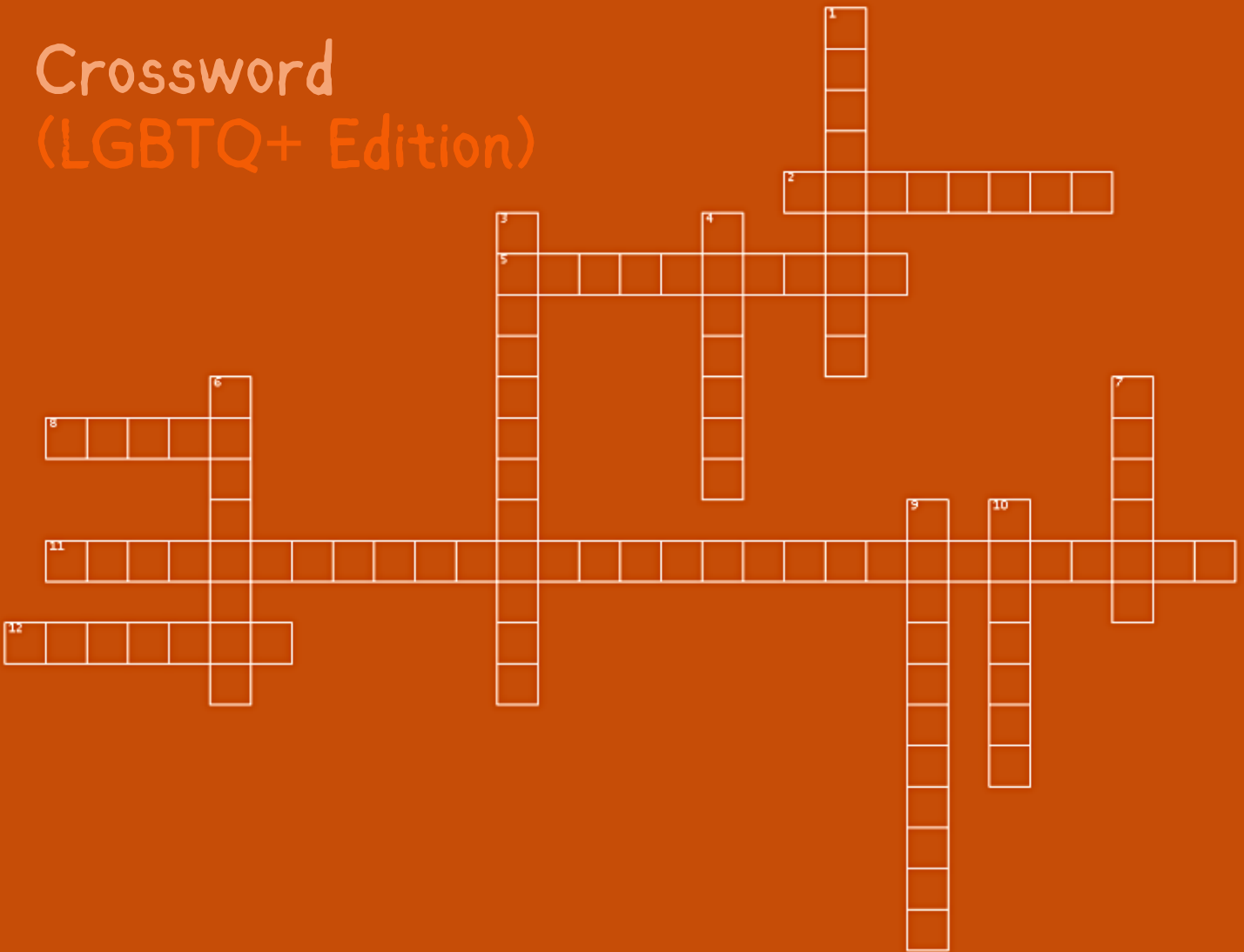
## Across

- Someone who is attracted to their and their opposite gender
- Someone who experiences different levels of sexuality throughout their life
- Trans women are \_\_\_\_\_ and anyone who doesn't agree with the statement is a transphobe
- An LGBTQ+ flag that represents almost all the people of the LGBTQ+ community
- A synonym for gender-neutral

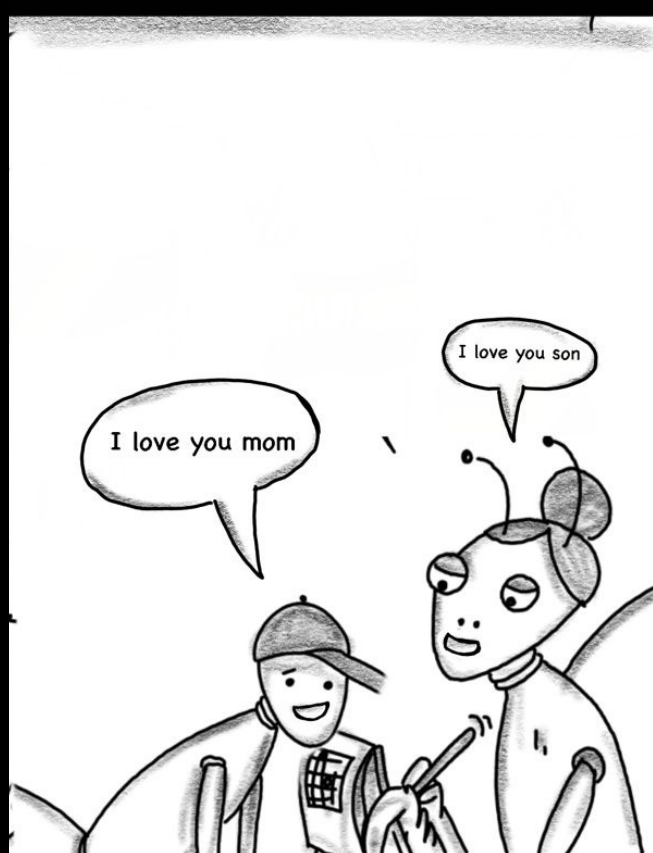
## Down

- Someone who doesn't conform to the general female and male genders
- Someone who does not limit their sexual choices with regard to sex or gender or gender identity is known to experience \_\_\_\_\_
- A woman who is attracted to another woman
- Someone who is born with sexual anatomy that doesn't really fit the boxes of male or female
- The website where most of the LGBTQ+ flags came from
- Someone who's gender identity differs from their birth gender
- Someone who doesn't experience sexual attraction

## Crossword (LGBTQ+ Edition)



COMIC STRIP



BY: SHAURYA AHUJA (XII B)