



B.S ABDUR RAHMAN UNIVERSITY

WRITERS INC

★ CRESCENT EDITORIAL E- MAGAZINE ★
★ SEPTEMBER 2016 ★

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The World Of Music



Do you ever have the habit of singing in the bathroom and wondering how your voice sounds so amazing, whereas hearing yourself on a recording sounds pretty awful! I understand; not all of us are great singers. However, we have accustomed to the term of 'Auto-tune' in the world of music.

Have you ever wondered how some artists sound pitch-perfect? A medium in which mediocre singing has never been a bar to entry, a lot of pop vocals, suddenly, sound great. Better than great: note- and pitch-perfect, as if there's been an unspoken tightening of standards at record labels or an evolutionary leap in the development of vocal cords. At the other extreme are a few hip-hop singers who also hit their notes but with precision so exaggerated that on first listen, their songs sound comically artificial. You guessed it! It's Auto-Tune.



Auto-Tune, which a surprising number of today's record producers use to correct the pitch of their singers, actually originated as a by-product of the mining industry. Andy Hildebrand had initially worked for the oil industry, interpreting seismic data. By sending sound waves into the ground, he could detect the reflections and map potential drill sites – in effect, using sound waves to find oil underground.



At a dinner party, a guest challenged him to invent a tool that would help her sing in tune. Based on the phase vocoder, which covers a range of mathematical methods to manipulate the frequency representation of signals, Hildebrand devised techniques to analyse and process audio in musically relevant ways. Hildebrand's company, Antares Audio Technologies, released Auto-Tune in late 1996.

Auto-Tune was intended to correct or disguise off-key vocals. It moves the pitch of a note to the nearest true semitone, thus allowing the vocal parts to be tuned. However, it has become so prevalent, in fact, that these days it is expected almost universally on commercial pop music recordings. Critics say that it is a primary reason why so many recordings sound the same nowadays. If anything, both its subtle, corrective use and overt, creative use continues to grow. So if you can't tell your Chris Brown from your Kanye West, it may be all down to Dr. Andy, and maybe the person who challenged him.



The Auto-Tune or not to Auto-Tune debate always seems to turn into a moralistic one, like somehow you have more integrity if you don't use it at all, or only use it occasionally. But seeing how innocuous-yet-lovely it could be, made me rethink. If I were a professional singer, would I reject the opportunity to sound, what I consider to be, "my best," out of principle?

The answer to that is probably NO! But then it gets you wondering. How many insecure artists with "annoying" voices will retune themselves before you ever have a chance to fall in love with their voice?



By Ahmed Rizwan, EEE

Competition



“Indian women are still prisoners under men, where they are given only limited freedom.”

Comment on the above statement.

Articles must be sent to crescentwritersguild@gmail.com by 25th October 2016. Winning entry will be awarded and published in the next edition.

BEST OF PRISMA COMPETITION



NIKITHA SHIRIN, BIOTECHNOLOGY



ANUFA HUSSIAN



ASISH, CSE

Keep sending your Prisma Photos to crescentwritersguild@gmail.com to get it published here.



REC

TOP 3 MUST-SEE PHOTOGRAPHS

00:15:67

BY CCP



The Crescent Club of Photographers is an army of budding photographers that can create magic with their lenses. Here are some of the best pictures captured by them:



By Ashik - Civil 4th Year



By Salman - Mech 4th Year



By Uzair - Civil 4th Year

One Day Shop

@

B.S ABDUR RAHMAN UNIVERSITY

B.S Abdur Rahman University, 1st Sept: “Surprise!” was the expression filled in everyone's face on this day, the 1st of September. The students went wild. Every one of them were dragged to ‘the Shades.’ Splendid was the moment when it all came right out of the blue. The One-day shop was one golden memory that was cherished to the fullest and will be preserved in the unforgettable pages of the diaries of Crescentians.

On the previous day, the organizers listed the event details. The stalls were categorized into three parts: Accessories, food, and games. The excitement began on the previous day. There was a sudden euphoria in the campus, with posters and pamphlets promoting the stalls. The Free slots in the timetable added joy and gave time for the students to involve in such events.

Accessories are something that attract every women the most but here, in crescent, there's a twist! The stalls had accessories for both men and women, and it was the men who were crowding the area. Electronic gadgets/accessories stalls were the hotspots for them. Leather products, branded items, clothing, footwear, perfumes, and tons of other products which were a great deal. Food stall was another major success in the circle. Ice creams, pizza, Shawarma, and a lot more to gulp down. Apparently, calories consciousness had to take a day off to pave a way to the varieties of taste!

Of all the stalls, as expected, the Game stall had its vibrancy. ‘Hold the brick,’ ‘Artifacts,’ ‘Get clicked’ were some of the big hits that went for a home run. There were pretty gorgeous takeaways that pleased the crowd too, of course with “*Terms and conditions apply: If won!”

To sum up, the event turned out to be a blockbuster! With its great glamour, the day ended with a sayonara to the event but with a promise that it will be back.

By: Noureen Taj, CSE

BOOKS COULD KILL? **Yes, THEN WATTPAD IT IS!**

The musky smell of dawn hits my nostrils, with an open book in my hands, I walk through the lanes, I find three thugs eyeing me from head to toe, my insecurity kept knocking my door and I craved to be swallowed into the earth. In a mere second the strongest of hands holds me by my waist and when I open my eyes, I stare into the most beautiful pair of eyes. Green eyes. He whispered huskily, 'You are the most beautiful girl I've ever seen.' And that is when I fell in love with the 22 year old mafia leader.

Now that up there doesn't make sense, does it? Or maybe, it totally does, because you might just happen to be one of the million squealing young girls or a guy (yes we know you have been there too) who has been reading chick-lit and romance that are clichéd as the sunrise! Of course, on WATTPAD!

The thing with Wattpad is that, you might be one of those sci-fic freak, but all of a sudden you are pulled into the world of romance and you have NO idea as to why you are still reading the book that could be rated 0.02 when it comes to grammar! But still you do. You never know when Wattpad starts playing with your life, but eventually many of us go into the haze. In the middle of the street, if you happen to have internet, no matter where, just when a notification pops up for your favorite book, you make it a point to drop everything else and read. And God, those characters! They are absolutely mesmerizing. Sometimes you wish you never lived in this world, rather in Wattpad where everyone is just absolutely perfect. The auburn hair of the girl, or the smirk playing on the guy's pink lips, there is something that every teenager within us is dying for on Wattpad.

But keeping it all aside, why exactly are you supposed to go into that world at least once? If you happen to have a knack for writing, then let me tell you, there is no better place to start. It can be anything, you might be the one to write lullabies for children, or those fabulous books for geek heads and philosophers, Wattpad is a home to all kinds of writers/readers!

The truth is Wattpad changes your life, because the books over there are written by the people who are in your community, and that just feels so beautiful. This connection that you form with other writers is something that can't be expressed in words. Finding like-minded people in this wide world is honestly too difficult, and if you happen to be one of those heartfelt writers who spills the soul onto the book, then you are likely to meet a handful of people who just think like you!

Apart from meeting people, it can act as a kickstart to your career. Thousands of people who thought they weren't anywhere close to being an author began writing on Wattpad and today their books have been sold in millions! Wattpad is the right place to hone your talent, to talk with people, to know what others think of your writing. As it is an open community, people would adore and criticize you, and just like the strong person you ought to be, you have to take it all in and carve the masterpiece that your mind wants you to carve.

So the next time when you are reading about that cliché introvert falling for the totally drool worthy Mafia leader from Italy whose gaze could kill every other girl, remember that every word that a person writes has a story to tell, cliché or not. Also, believe in the writer in you, and give it a try without a second thought. Who knows you might be one of those writers whose words could captivate the heart of a Romeo/Juliet out there?

- By CWG

Language - What does it mean to you?



Since the time we were born, we have talked in our own ways. According to me, even the babble of a baby has its inner essence. It does not matter in what language, accent or slang we communicate, every one of them is a different form of thoughts, feelings, and expressions. No man can be superior nor inferior based on their language. The pride over language exist ever since Human beings learnt to talk. In fact, Language is humanity's greatest invention and the age in which languages were formulated is the golden era of Human Evolution, and this is what makes human to be proud of his language. Over the years with the advancement of technologies and growing demands, the barriers put forth by languages are shattered. With People moving in and out of countries, trading all around the world, they tend to learn new languages. Many of us have now become multi-lingual, thanks to globalisation.

In today's world of Virtual Communication taking over reality, it has become a necessity to have a good language. People having a good hold over their language seem admirable. Though one can never be judged on how good their language is, it is always advisable to improve the way we communicate. It gives us the confidence and courage to deliver our ideas. It adds clarity to our speech and allures the audience.

I conclude by saying that, let the world know what you think clearly and precisely.

By: Aarifah.M
Architecture, 3rd year.

Success & Happiness - the conjoined brothers



From the day we came into this earth to the day we return to the grime, we search for something that doesn't have any physical existence but somehow becomes a part of our struggle to complete this journey of life. The latent entity which we seek is happiness. No matter what we do, ultimately all we want is to be happy in the end of the day. We seek pleasure in happiness. Success has become the source of happiness. When we succeed in doing something, we become happy.

Basically every man in this world is successful, wondering how? If you ponder, you would realize that you have indeed achieved something or the other that you wished for. It is just the definition of success that changes from time to time. For instance, when you were a baby, your milestone was to learn to walk. Then once you achieved that, you found happiness in being able to ride a bicycle. The point is we all have achieved our goals, but we never settle. Well that's the human nature but we all must master the art of being content with what we have or else we will struggle until death would knock on our doors. Eventually, we would lose the ability to be happy in this strife.

The secret to happiness is finding joy in the day to day life, the moments which you get with your friends and family. Don't ponder over future too much, because it is uncertain. Live in the moment to the fullest. Don't make it your destiny rather make it your journey.

By Aslam Noorani

Sindhu and the silver lining



Who is PV Sindhu? Until a few days ago, I didn't know. You didn't know either. In fact nobody knew she was part of Chennai Smashers. But wait! was there a team called Chennai Smashers in the Indian Badminton League? Oh! Did Badminton in India have an IPL like tournament at all? And yet as funnily as it can get, you, me and everybody rooted for her to succeed. For a country that is so starved of Olympic glory, her efforts came as an oasis.

In closely following Sindhu's progress through to the final match at Rio, I had two observations.

One. That her parents chose to look beyond a mere career in Engineering or Management. Talent in many ways is like a creeper. Give it support and it will grow over. If not nurtured, it can go haywire and gets ready to be cut. It takes guts worth its weight in gold to discover talent, garden it and allow it to blossom in the way it has been in her case.

Two. Sindhu actually lost the final and I am yet to hear or see a soul mourning the lost game. Wasn't she supposed to fetch us a Gold? Weren't we taught that winning is the only thing? She fought like a champion and we cheered her on. She lost but we didn't complain, we didn't cry, we didn't switch off the TV, we didn't blame the sad state of sports in India. Instead we for once looked at the positives. We liked the way she fought. We knew she gave her best against the world number One. And she made us proud because she reached a place no woman from India has ever been. How sweet?

Strangely, it is the same people who as parents cannot see the champion in their children. Instead, we are witness to constant anxiety and prodding to seek ranks in results. Be it a trivial spelling competition or a coveted singing competition, how we responded to the outcome of the match is more relevant and required for our kids too. Sindhu herself led the way in an admirable act of calmness and sports'wo'manship by gathering herself to congratulate Carolina and respectfully keeping her racquet in its place while she was still busy celebrating.

In taking a leaf out of Sindhu's book and in cheering for her, the way India did, I see a silver lining. A ray of hope that we will endeavour to encourage our children to compete and not push for the final outcome. And when our children compete like champions, success is a by-product. The power of positivity has more to mould our children than the heavy burden of expectation and overweighted cynicism. And who knows, we might end with more medals. As they say, as you sow, so you reap!

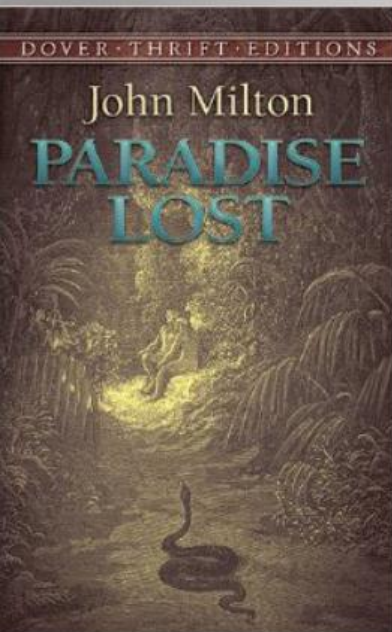
Thank you Sindhu!!

Shashikanth Jayaraman

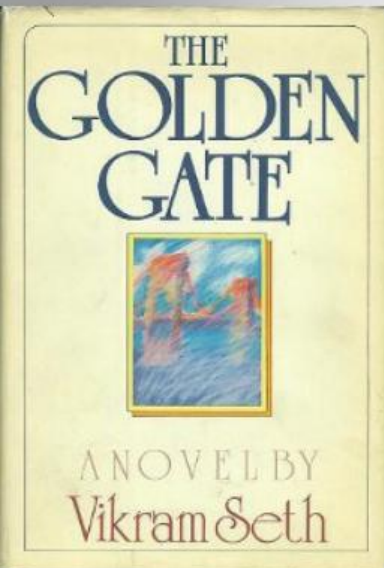
The author can be reached at sk@shashikanthjayaraman.com

Three Books of Poetry To Lose Yourself In

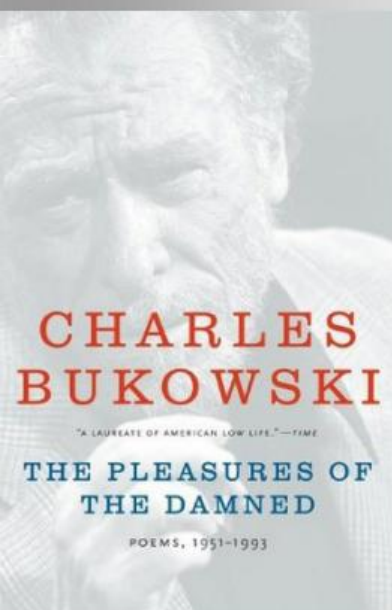
By Prem Sylvester



Widely regarded as one of the greatest epic poems ever written - with good reason - Paradise Lost is an exploration of Biblical themes of God and Satan, Adam and Eve, in a morally ambiguous and complex manner that few works approach. It is a meditation on what it means to be good or evil, and on the nature of morality itself. Milton unraveled the intricacies of the Biblical tale in unsurpassed blank verse, with often dark, vivid imagery, that is a beautiful testament to the power of words. It might be quite the task, but uncovering the epic tome that is Paradise Lost is incredibly rewarding.



Vikram Seth is one of the finest contemporary poets, and The Golden Gate is a compelling reason why. A novel in verse, it follows a number of characters that typify the 'yuppie' generation, finding - and often losing - their way in search of a meaningful life. The jumps between stanzas may seem disorienting, but the blur of emotions is eventually distilled into a number of themes that have seeped into the consciousness of that, and consecutive generations, including religion, civil rights issues, homosexuality, and a vote for careful thought. Truly a novel to be experienced multiple times to be understood.



The Pleasures of the Damned: Selected Poems 1951-1993 by Charles Bukowski – There is little that can be said about Bukowski that hasn't been said before. The man, the myth, the misanthrope. But the tragic wonder of his poetry lies in his brutal honesty in his view of the world, and the people who inhabit it. His works have never been 'happy' but they're always worthy of spending time with: attempting to decipher this often terrible man's contradictory tone: he dispassionately deconstructed the glamour of life, but suffused these same ideas with an inexplicable passion. To call the works in this volume poetry would be reductionist; they strip down life to its very bones, rattles them and rebuilds the body with an understanding of humanity unlike most others'.

Prem Sylvester is an IT student, aspiring journalist and an all around geek. You can read more of his work at wordswithflow.wordpress.com.