

The

A MONTHLY LITERARY E-MAGAZINE

Literary Mirror

A Venture of LITERIA Insight

Ellora Mishra,
Winner, The Lit Digital Awards 2020



Samyuktha Nair

First Runner-Up



Anandajit Goswami

Second Runner-Up

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Fields Of Sonnet

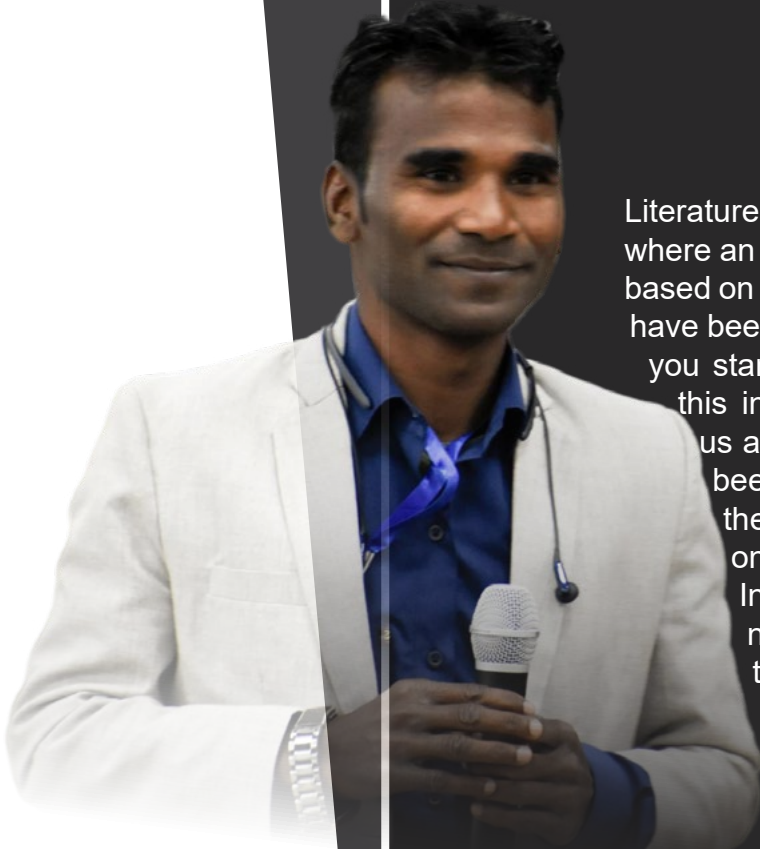
Suchismita Ghoshal

This book is a compilation of various poems, mainly based on the theme of being human more than being a materialistic one both from inside & out. Here, the pivotal role of nature in building an open mind & its literary importance have also been depicted elaborately through the poems. The poems are simply striking enough to shuffle the minds with a ride of frabjous feelings.

Available on



From the
**EDITOR'S
 DESK**



Literature has always been a power house where an individual can muscle his power solely based on his or her literary skills. No matter what have been your educational background or age, you stand at par with your counterparts. And this inherent nature of literature has made us aware of great works which could have been perhaps unheard of, if we had made the mistake of evaluating a person's work on the prevalent social demarcations. Indeed! These demarcations have not been able to stop us into delving the deeper insights and we had been blessed with various masterpieces. These social atrocities which have always acted as a deterrent get a severe blow specifically when a fresh voice is being recognized for his work rather than his social status. The status which he had acclaimed through his sheer hard work in spite of the serendipity of few diseased souls.

This edition of The Literary Mirror is dedicated to those winners who have broken these meaningless social shackles and have proved their mettle again and again.

May Literature Embrace the Outlander!

Nitish Raj, Editor-in-Chief, The Literary Mirror

The **Literary Mirror**

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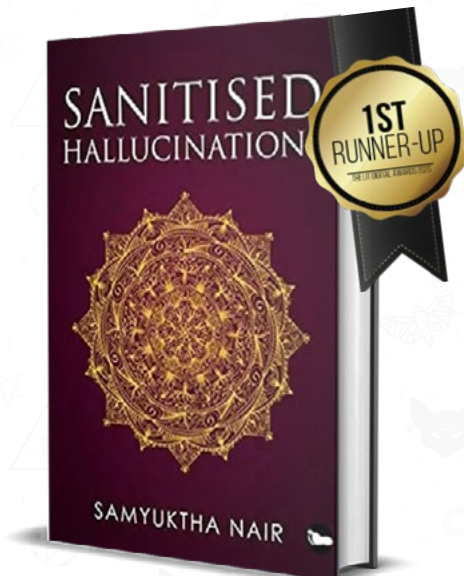
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FEATURED

This feels really unexpected, but I am really happy because the fact that my book, *Sanitised Hallucinations*, is the first runner up, proves to me that being in the literary field is truly my calling in life.

-Samyuktha Nair



Some people say that you didn't win the silver; you lost the gold. However, being the first runner-up at the Lit Digital Awards 2020 is far from a disappointment to me- in fact, I consider the moment I found out I won second place to be one of the happiest moments of my life. Ever since I was a child, I loved scribbling. Even before I knew my ABCs, I would scrawl untidily on the walls in what I thought passed for human handwriting but more closely resembled the progress of an extremely drunk person from point A to B. Nevertheless, words always fascinated me. Whether it was listening, starry-eyed, to the bedtimes read out by my parents, or devouring my new English Literature textbooks during the summer holidays itself, even before school reopened, I consumed words faster than I could walk. And then, I began to produce them. What started as random, four-line 'poems' that I would tear up before anyone saw them progressed to half-written stories that were abandoned when the characters died a natural death during exam season. However, it was the height of all exam seasons- my Class Ten boards- that led me to write my very first novel, *The*

Warriors of Javida. I would let off steam (Pent up Due to Hours of maths And physics and organic Chemistry) by reading every fantasy book i could lay my hands on at the library. However, i soon finished them, and my Rick Riordan- and- Prince of Persia- obsessed self needed a new outlet.

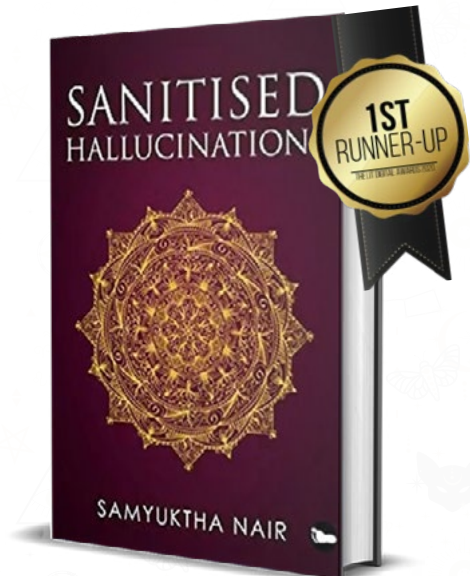
That's how I started writing a story about a mystical prophecy buried in the sands of Javida which turned out to be my stepping stone into the literary world. However, there were still times when well-meaning teachers and neighbours treated my interest in literature like a hobby. The career I was meant to pursue was one of the Holy Trinity of Indian Academics- engineering, medicine, or chartered accountancy. I rebelled and opted to major in English in college. I guess the saying that 'when you like your work, it becomes fun' is actually true. When I wrote the national-level entrance exam for a central university after my BA, I secured a high rank in the first all-India list released, and maintained straight As throughout my undergraduate and postgraduate studies. I don't really recall ever feeling upset or stressed with my studies- it was literature, and I absolutely loved it.



After my studies, I worked as a copywriter, news blogger, English teacher, and now have settled into the role of Editor in the publishing industry. In my free time, I read and write as

much as possible, and I feel blessed that my job is such that it involves reading books for a living! My happiness at winning second place at the Lit Digital Awards 2020 is unparalleled because at the age of 24, after having released 3 books, I was finally able to prove to everyone who shook their heads when I opted to immerse myself in the field of literature that literature is not just a 'soft subject' meant for those who don't have a strong academic record. It is a solid career path, a life, a legacy of one's own, where you share bits of your mind and soul with the world through your writing. How many 'conventional' career options let you do that? To have been recognised for my talent by such qualified and experienced judges is truly a humbling experience for me. I consider it to be the validation I sought when I was younger and still taking baby steps into the literary world. It is also a major inspiration to me to keep writing, keep improving my work, and make my mark among Indian authors.

To conclude, I would like to quote John Keating (played by the late Robin Williams) from the 1989 film Dead Poets Society. Since it was my book of poems, Sanitised Hallucinations, that won me this recognition at the Lit Digital Awards, I feel it is especially fitting: "We don't read and write poetry because it's cute. We read and write poetry because we are members of the human race. And the human race is filled with passion. And medicine, law, business, engineering, these are noble pursuits and necessary to sustain life. But poetry, beauty, romance, love, these are what we stay alive for."



The Lit Digital Awards 2020

If Lord Buddha wrote a dystopian science fiction?

By: Anandajit Goswami



Anandajit Goswami

Author

Today, on an auspicious day of Guru Purnima, I am writing a column on dystopia. So, when I started imagining about this piece, I was continuously awe struck by a DeJa Vu. The DeJa Vu kept on rolling on mind and told me - "The End is Beginning and Beginning is the End". The essence is that time is looped and re-looped through a set of human actions on this little droplet star in the larger scheme of science, nature, universe, galaxy, milky way.

No one yet knows why something begins or something ends, but we know how it begins and how it ends and then again how it begins. So everything is a DeJa Vu. Even dystopia which is completely reverse of an Utopia also follows the same cycle of DeJa Vu. It begins and then ends and then it begins again. For dystopia too, "End is the Beginning and Beginning is the End".

On the day of Guru Purnima, my sense of DeJa Vu is more intense because today was the day - "When Lord Buddha gave his first sermon to the world by sitting under a tree". The sermon was about realities of life, time, progress, enlightenment, the ultimate consciousness about the forms of life and time.

Lord Buddha highlighted about how everything is a DeJa Vu. The way, life progresses is always in the form of a DeJa Vu. In the journey of that DeJa Vu, the mortal forms will always go through - "Dukkha (sufferings), Tanha (desire), Nirodha (renouncement), Magga (path to enlightenment)". It is an unending time loop for every life form in the universe. Sage Veda Vyasa also was born on July 5. If we study deeply the work of these two sages and also our Upanishads, Vedas, Ramayana, Mahabharata, Bhagvad Gita, Manusmriti, Arthshastra, what we learn is not to dwell on past but to focus on the present, purify the thoughts, believe in faith and truth. This is because sun, moon and truth cannot be hidden and finally, faithfulness and contentment defines a strong society.

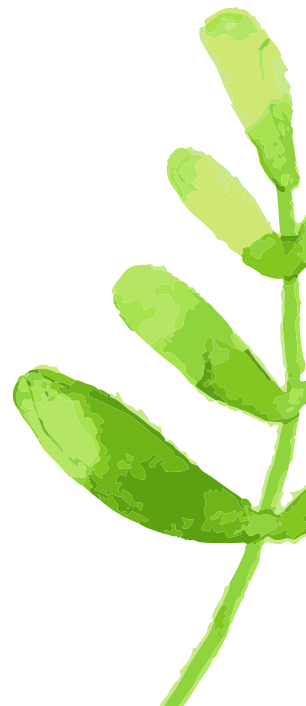
If today, Lord Buddha was supposed to write a sermon again for the new dystopian times, very naturally the same teachings and sermons of July 5 will become very important. Our cultural past has certain things to offer in this Guru Purnima, which again has become important to come out of the new norm and form of dystopia that is looming above our mother Earth.

If Buddha writes a dystopian science fiction today, he will also refer to the literature of Hugo Gernsback's disaster science fictions of a time around 1926 which also ended with certain solutions. But Lord Buddha won't stop at that. He will be critical of the society which has created a peril for herself and mother earth through a technological change driven by a need of a desire. For that, Lord Buddha will also refer to Alvin Toffler's work - "Future Shock" in 1970. Lord Buddha will not also shy away from quoting Aldous Huxley's work - "Brave New World" of 1932. Brave New World highlighted about the importance of existence of high and low end cultures for a dystopic situation.

However, the larger question is - "Will Lord Buddha in today's sermon focus on a cultural clash as a main determinant for the current or future dystopia" or "Will Lord Buddha will in his sermon for today suggest that this clash is a deterrent for the humanity to come out of dystopia"?

My own sense is that Lord Buddha will believe in a culture of sustainability and will rather understand a context, challenge and come up with a sermon to follow as a salvation. He won't just stop at reading Eastern, Western, Middle Eastern, Persian, African, Mesopotamian or Oriental Literature. Understanding and action are more important than only reading in the current context of dystopia. Who knows more about it other than our - "Lord Buddha" of Sarnath and Bodhgaya.

Hence, in an unending DeJaVu of beginning is the end and end is the beginning, let's wait for our own Lord Buddha of 2020 to come out of dystopia. It will surely happen again as end is always a beginning.



BOOK REVIEW



Book Review: 'Unveiling The Blue Jade by Shobha Nihalani'



Shobha Nihalani
Author

A young woman's discovery of a precious relic hidden inside her grandmother's statue of Mirabai, the legendary Rajasthani princess-saint, fastens the reader into a gripping narrative in Shobha Nihalani's *The Blue Jade*. A novel, set in Hong Kong and later moves onto India, examines the terrains of history, mystery, and adventure.

Shobha Nihalani's simple yet careful creation of Neelam Bhatia, an art curator in Hong Kong, lays out the dots which appear to be linear but unfolds into a gripping tale of discovering the mystery behind the most sought after blue jade pendant which was long thought lost. The story finds Neelam amidst the violence and conspiracy meshed across the South East Asian network of art mafias and dealers. Before you know it, the scene shifts to Mumbai where Neelam dons the role of an undercover agent.

At the request of Indian officials and private investigators, Neelam leaves Mumbai and takes up the journey ahead which becomes a mixed bag experiences collected at Ahmedabad, Ajmer, Pushkar, Mewat, Merta, Mathura, Dwarka, and Chittor. The parallel journey of Mirabai from her birth town to her last tryst with Dwarka runs along with Neelam's story. Adamant to complete her family's unfinished mission of returning the jade safely to the Indian monument where it belongs, Neelam battles the external forces of murky art black marketers while questioning her individuality in the light of her grandmother's and her parents' past. It cannot be simply relegated to an expedition or a mission; it becomes an inner journey whereby she mediates along the lines of Mirabai and her life. The narrative pitches ahead with fast-paced action



Book Review by Devina Chandola

Book: The Blue Jade
Author: Shobha Nihalani
Pages: 203

Price: INR 320.00

Publisher: TreeShade Books

Rating: 4.5/5 ****

sequences enabling growth for the character and the storyline. Neelam evolves not only through plots and twists of the adventure that she has welcomed for herself but also via the humane bonds. There is a sense of warmth which her character exhibits that is derived from the stories, especially with Laj, an old woman who welcomes Neelam as her

guest in Mumbai. Laj's stories of partition and how the macrocosmic event results in impacting the microcosmic world of the individual serve as a focal point for Neelam's augmentation. She starts seeing beyond her cocooned life in Hong Kong which she was not ready to give up. The relationship between the two pierces into the human connections that people forge based on the simple acts of storytelling. Along with the need to outrun a deadly ring of smugglers, international dealers, and corrupt government officials who are after the prized blue jade, the reader is gripped by the mystical link of Mirabai with each step that Neelam undertakes. With the coming together of geographical as well as historical locations of Mirabai's life and times, the novel's landscape metamorphoses into a battle between the good and the evil or "as her (Neelam's) grandma often said, good and bad was all a matter of perspective". Nihalani's exquisite plot is skilled in its temper and it carves out the details associated with each location. The meticulous craftsmanship of a writer's pursuits is imbibed in Neelam's handling of murderers and agents sent to acquire the blue jade. Whether it is psychopathic art aficionados or simple private investigators, with their dramatic tough talk and clear cut vision, the characters get under your skin.

Everything directs towards the blue jade where the only thread that connects the past and the present is Mirabai. Shobha Nihalani's in-depth assessment of the saint's life is no less than a feminist exemplum. As the most definitive aspect of the novel, Mirabai becomes a medium for Neelam to discover and soar into the fearsome splendor of action and adventure. As Neelam, herself puts it out while addressing Golden Women's Business Group, "Imagine if that kind of passion existed now. If there were thousands of Mirabais today, imagine what kind of world we would have". India too becomes a site of rediscovery, unlike the white lens that often puts the Orient as opposed to the Occident. Neelam reluctantly travels to the cosmopolitan Mumbai only to find herself at the behest of Mirabai's enchanting and eccentric relationship with her roots and the blue jade.



Devina Chandola
Book Reviewer

Reviewer's Bio:

Devina Chandola is a freelance writer, editor, and proofreader. She runs her own venture for writing-related services called Weaver Finch. She has pursued her BA (Hons.) in English from Jesus & Mary College and MA in English from Hindu College, University of Delhi. Weaver Finch provides specialized writing-related services to digital platforms and has worked for sectors like Publishing, Education, IT, Travel, Décor and Lifestyle, Fashion, and E-commerce.



FICTION

Poem

The World will go on

The world will go on
 The world will go on
 Without any mourn!
 One day she will die
 Without even a single sigh!
 The trauma of past holds her tight
 It will be the only cause of her plight.
 A few days left,
 From a life which was of theft
 Some will cry with a phony sigh!
 Some will not meet her
 Until she won't die.
 Some will gossip
 About the days when she was alive
 And how she lived a lifeless life?
 Besides all her plight
 Had an optimistic sight!
 The newspaper's column
 Will tell her poem,
 She knows, no one will takes interest in her life
 Whether she decline to shine
 Or write about thine
 Because everyone has a new story line
 The world will go on
 Without any mourn!

-- **Simran Tripathi Shringi** (Research Scholar, Rajasthan), India

About the Poetess



A research Scholar by qualification, Simran Tripathi Shringi has established herself as a poetess. Her literary career got its initial wings from the esteemed digital platform Your Quote which helped her to make an initial mark in the literary fraternity. Hailing from Ajmer, Rajasthan she has imbibed the varied facades in her personality as a feminist which have enabled her to spectacle the mere mortals through a prism of changed perspectives. At this juncture of modernity, when feminism has been prone to fallacies she has channelized her feminine competence in deciphering the various malfeasance of the society. Besides being a feminist, she is a poetess and short story writer of "Chikti khamoshi."

Dots And Streaks

Journey

Ellora Mishra

Young was still the dream
 Almost in it's infancy
 When she started to scribble
 Disarray of the lines
 Weaving tales of words in her mind
 When she started to scribble
 A story declined, a story published
 A child's fantasy after all is meant to perish
 But then scribble she still did
 To escape the cacophony sometimes
 Or so the haunt of the silences
 Capturing the musings of life
 Be it joy, be it sorrow
 Or just a life's ploy
 When she started to scribble
 Anonymous to her other self
 A soul known just to her words
 An escape to that safe haven
 When she started to scribble
 But, for the dream
 A dream in hibernation that lived
 Young as ever even without any nourish
 The dream that was conceived
 To bear the writer's epithet
 When she had started to scribble



My inclination for writing started when I was 9 yrs old and there was this story taught in our English class in which a little girl used to maintain a diary of daily happenings in life. I was so impressed with that concept that I started maintaining a journal. Every night I would religiously note down my entire day in it. I don't remember anyone having read my journal ever and that secrecy somehow had made it all the more special to me.

But as expected, that habit did take a beating with academics pressure and otherwise. I also remember as a child seeing the names of the writer's below each narrative in Tinkle Digest and fantasizing my name there.....and that rejection letter that I had received signed by uncle Pai for

my submission.

I had stopped writing in my diary and in my stories journal. It was only in 8th standard when there was a competition in school for story writing in which the entire class had to participate and my story got selected to be published in Young World Publication of Hindu Newspaper. That was the first ever time I actually saw my name below a published story. But again, hailing from a family that encouraged academics over such hobbies I lost track of writing again.

My next engagement with my passion was only after I started working. That's when I started my blog. For some

reason I loved penning down my musings on my blog under my pen name and loved keeping it unknown and anonymous to everyone around. Maybe because that's how I thought I can escape to that secret haven of mine whenever I yearned or maybe because I wanted to keep that other self of mine a separate identity.

Writing has always come to me in bouts filled with many a long hiatus in between, more like when my inner soul called for it I had yielded. As I could never be consistent on my blog nor did I ever explore the blogosphere avenues. A major part of the reason I can attribute is to my corporate job and my academic ambitions and a small part of it to my complacency for not exploring my passion. Even though I personally had no monetary milestones in mind but I guess I did fall prey to the popular belief that value can only be attached to what yields monetary benefit and hobbies may not necessarily do so therefore pursuing them always took a back step. Anyways I personally believe that money making is the work of mind but passion is always pursued from heart although yes the heart's calling does get muffled most of the times!

But then as life is something that cannot be harnessed contrary to one's belief! A day came for me when I felt as if the balance of loss vs gain has started tilting more towards the former in running that corporate race. When the losses started to overweigh and stare me in my face one fine day I decided to drop it all. I quit the corporate job and joined my spouse on one of his abroad assignments and that's when I rekindled my passion and decided to give it all and start from the start again :)!

That's when blogchatter A2Z happened or should I say the universe conspired! I having been a stickler all my life for meticulous planning but for once I decided to go with the flow and so I did. I embraced the moment and jumped into the wagon which was like a roller coaster ride accompanied with cheers from the co-participants all along and before I knew it I opened my eyes to the e-book carnival plunge :)! And it's been one enjoyable and enriching ride so far. I hope I carry forward this encouragement in pursuing my maiden endeavor and explore the realms of the creative world of writing further to all its lengths and depths.



EVENT

The
Literary Mirror
A Venture of *Literia Insight*

Presents

The Lit Digital Awards 2020

Ellora Mishra Wins The LIT Digital Awards 2020

After an exhaustive evaluation of the various manuscripts in the coveted The LIT Digital Awards 2020, the masterpiece which could stand true to its potential in front of the renowned jury members was Dots & Streaks by Ellora Mishra. The debut poetess had made a huge shout out to the literary fraternity by grabbing the coveted award. It has come as a pleasant surprise that not just the Dots & Streaks is a poetry collection, but also the Sanitised Hallucinations by Samyuktha Nair is a poetry collection which grabbed the First Runner-Up. The Second Runner-Up spot was grabbed by Anandajit Goswami for Pink Gender: The Extended.

Ellora Mishra, being a winner not just won a cash prize of 25,000 INR but also secured a Publishing Deal with Author's Ink Publication. The First and Second Runner-Up received a cash prize of 15,000 INR and 10,000 INR respectively.

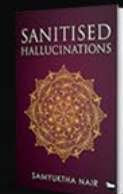
Nitish Raj, Editor-in-Chief; The Literary Mirror thanks all the competing authors, readers and especially the honorable jury members; Lipika Bhushan, Dr. Anuradha Bhattacharyya, Shirsh Srivastava and Kartik Dayanand with special mention to our Chief Guest, Amnaat Jefferey. Mr. Raj believes that it has been an enchanting experience for all the ardent fans of literature and the whole team of The Literary Mirror will continue to serve the literary fraternity in forthcoming years.



Dots & Streaks



Ellora Mishra

Winner

Sanitised Hallucinations



Samyuktha Nair

First Runner-Up

Pink Gender- The Extended

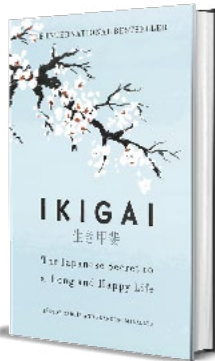


Anandajit Goswami

Second Runner-Up

Books Of The Month

Amazon Bestsellers



Book: **Ikigai: The Japanese secret to a long and happy life**

Author: Héctor García, Francesc Miralles

Publisher: Random House UK

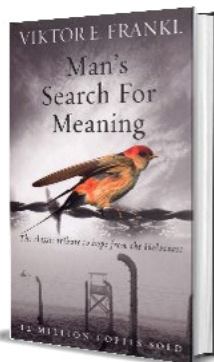
Price: ₹395

Pages: 208

Customer Reviews: 4.5/5

Language: English

We all have an ikigai. It's the Japanese word for 'a reason to live' or 'a reason to jump out of bed in the morning'. It's the place where your needs, desires, ambitions, and satisfaction meet. A place of balance. Small wonder that finding your ikigai is closely linked to living longer.



Book: **Man's Search For Meaning: The classic tribute to hope from the Holocaust**

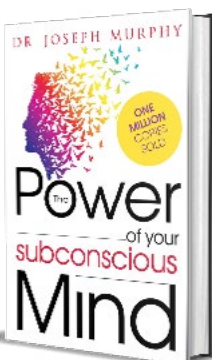
Author: Viktor E Frankl

Publisher: RHUK

Price: INR 299

Pages: 160

Man's Search for Meaning was first published in 1946. Victor Frankl was a leading psychologist in Vienna when he was arrested for being a Jew during the Nazi regime. He survived holocaust and used his experiences to write this book. He propounded the theory that it is Man's constant search for meaning that allows him to survive even the most brutal, the most degrading situations in his life.



Book: **The Power of your Subconscious Mind**

Author: Joseph Murphy

Publisher: Amazing Reads

Price: ₹225

Pages: 312

Language: English

The book is available in two types, the kindle edition as well as the paperback edition. The book contains 312 pages of wisdom and positive energy. The modern English language used is easy to understand.



Book: **Legend of Suheldev: The King Who Saved India**

Author: Amish

Publisher: Westland

Price ₹399

Pages: 352

Repeated attacks by Mahmud of Ghazni and his barbaric Turkic hordes have weakened India's northern regions. The invaders lay waste to vast swathes of the subcontinent - plundering, killing, raping, pillaging. Many of the old Indian kingdoms, tired and divided, fall to them. Those who do fight, battle with old codes of chivalry, and are unable to stop the savage Turkic army which repeatedly breaks all rules to win. Then the Turks raid and destroy one of the holiest temples in the land: the magnificent Lord Shiva temple at Somnath.

Knowledge

is very important for creativity



GyaanSutra - Educating the Future is a start-up founded by 20 years old Jamshedpur residing Entrepreneur, **Shweta Das**, who has won several awards in the field of Entrepreneurship. GyaanSutra is a platform which not only provides online tuitions to students at a price which is far lowest than it's competitor, but it also provides free notes and contest details to it's registered members which will help the students to gain experience in a particular field and can also help them to win awards and scholarships. GyaanSutra's per day class starts at Rs. 30 per hour, where new user gets it's first class free of cost. Their monthly classes ranges from Rs. 400-900 ,which depends upon the number of subjects chosen. It caters it's services to the students of class 8-12 and to the college students of stream BCOM and BBA. GyaanSutra aims at having smooth and friendly LIVE classes, therefore GyaanSutra's tutors are all knowledgeable, young and energetic, which creates a good friendly bond between the teacher and the students. GyaanSutra is currently working in Jamshedpur and is concentrating on the education system over Jharkhand. GyaanSutra aims at reaching out to each and every student by providing it's best service at the most lowest price ever!



• **Shweta Das, Founder, Gyansutra** •



Live what you love, the practice itself unfolds creativity within that space of

art - Tejaswita Anant, Artist, Bhopal (India)

Tejaswita Anant identifies herself with rhythm in its various mediums of art. Sense of comprehension in music and dance engraved her learning while participating in workshops and performances for a long time. A commerce graduate who later mastered in English literature, despite being a banker with undying interests, carried her out to the arenas of performing arts whereby in 2015, initiated a journey with Bhopal based repertory named Vihaan Drama Works as a participant under Flamenco dance workshop in addition to a music workshop which continued with some Rang Sangeet (theatre music) presentations alongside taking part in dances and acting in plays which further raised her persuasion in rhythm and percussions over music pit. Meanwhile a footstep of playing 'Dholak' for a show hereby gauged across to twenty plus other percussive instruments as in cajon, djembe, darbuka, conga, bongo, tabla, dubki, drums, timki, sambar, nagada, mandal, taasha and so on in the past few years. Tejaswita's range of percussion keeps on multiplying with each new production and every new challenge of playing versatile music or producing background sound effect for varied styles of dramatic. Besides being a formally untrained practitioner she could blissfully recognise her strength through theatre by sharing a self-reliant space in Vihaan, surrounded by devoted team spirit lead by guiding mentors who support oneself to seek for variforms like dancing, singing, acting, composing music, writing, back stage management, property designing, crafting, critical thought of literature and culture and many more. Fortunately together with above apprehension, she took hold of an opportunity to identify 'Pakhawaj' an instrument majorly played by males (world's former percussive instrument) and received its learning as well. Leading at percussions in theatre and a band "Maargi" (a wing of Vihaan) at whose core is the creation of self-written, literary, or raw folk music through unique sounds with the combination of modern and traditional instruments provided her a spot to make up experiments with diversified genres which facilitated great platforms as battles, along with a greater possibilities to unfold creativity as well. Amidst theatre and music, she steals the chance to discover dance from all around, while practicing 'odissi' (a classical dance form of Orissa) is another source of love for her as well as nurturing others with her self-taught skills and uplift her mystic approach of knowing the self through multiple arts.



EDUCATIONIST FORMING KARMIC

Connect through Music

An educationist by profession, Sandhya has always been passionate about performing arts. Right from her school days, she was an avid dancer and trained with the acclaimed dance maestro Shiamak Davar. Dance and music have always resonated with her and have formed a deep karmic connect. She has been an active theatre artist and has done couple of workshops with Vivek Mansukhani, Madhu Sagar and Rashid Ansari .

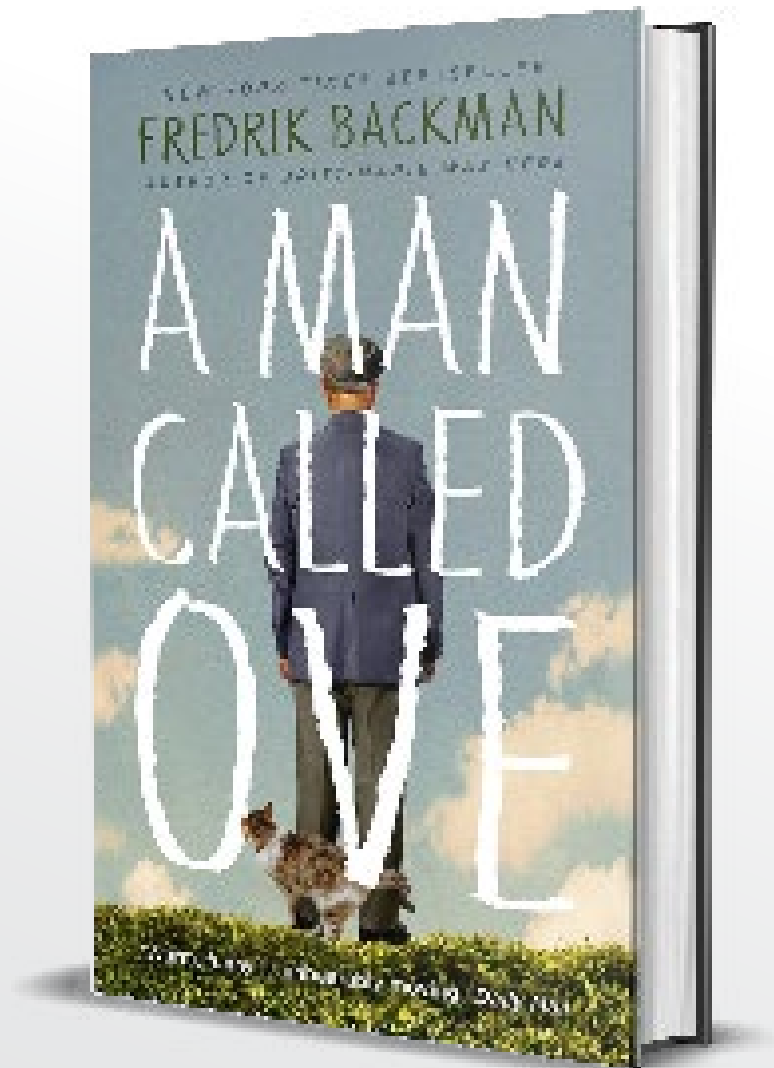
She had also worked as a child model for Sunday Times for many years along with modelling for The Pioneer, Grihshobha. Her creative instinct had led her association with MGF Malls, Fever 104 & Cartoon Network.



Sandhya Chopra, Piano Artist, India

Music has been a transformational source in Sandhya's life helping her juggle the roles of a doting mother, a dedicated teacher and most of all a happy human being. A day in her life is typically managing responsibilities and rehearsing on her grand piano, the rehearsals usually lasting beyond the midnight. Her dedication to music had made her more disciplined and full of resolve which has also been a source of inspiration during the pandemic.

Her love for music has also rubbed on to her son Shiv, who at the age of 13 year's is an exceptional drum player. Enthused and inspired by his parents, Shiv practices playing drums everyday despite managing excellent school grades and does so with great elan. Sandhya feels music has the ability to heal and nurture. It's definitely something which needs to be felt by everyone.



A Man Called Ove

Fredrik Backman

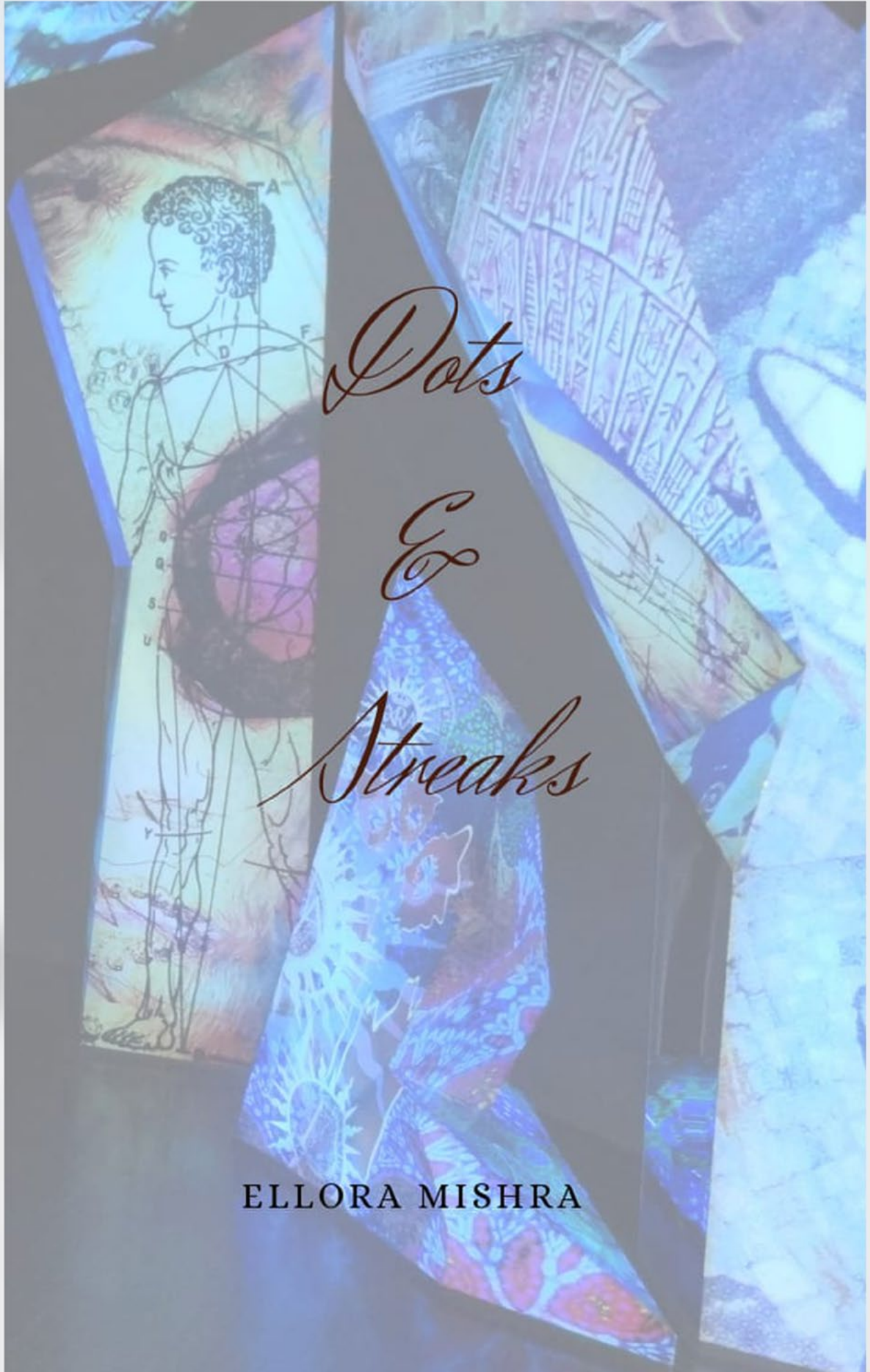
At first sight, Ove is almost certainly the grumpiest man you will ever meet. He thinks himself surrounded by idiots - neighbours who can't reverse a trailer properly, joggers, shop assistants who talk in code, and the perpetrators of the vicious coup d'etat that ousted him as Chairman of the Residents' Association. He will persist in making his daily inspection rounds of the local streets.

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