The Quiz Of All Times

QM: **PRAYAG MOHANTY**

1.

“Mountain of Dreams: The Golden Years of _____" is a 1976 book by Leslie Halliwell. The book focuses on the history of this studio during its most successful period.

The original logo of this studio is said to be inspired by Ben Lomond Peak in Utah. Legend has it that founder William W. Hodkinson doodled his dreamy childhood imagination of this peak on a napkin.

The logo features a particular element, 22 in number. Each of these elements represented an actor under contract with the studio, as popular actors were commonly referred to by the same term as this element.

Which studio?





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Paramount Pictures

2.

The Golden Circle is a new *public house* in Sarjapur, Bengaluru opened on Jan 2025

The design of this establishment is inspired by a consumable, that they majorly produce. The space incorporates contemporary aesthetics with warm *golden* hues and *white* reflective rooftops.

Which item is the building inspired from?




THE GOLDEN CIRCLE

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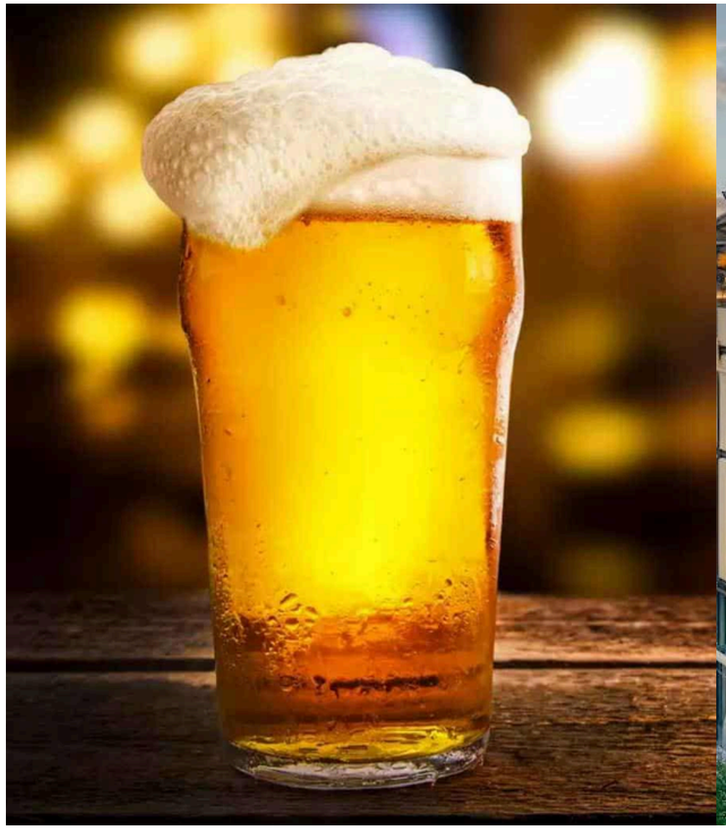
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Beer

3.

M.M Keeravani is a renowned music composer, who made India proud globally in 2022.
What is his claim to fame?

Since March 2025, he's performing his all time greatest hits in his *live-concerts*. The name of the concert series is a phonetic pun on his most popular song, which is also his claim to fame.
What is the name of the concert?

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He won the **Oscars for Best Original Song** for ‘Naatu Naatu’


NaaTour M·M·K
LIVE IN CONCERT
USA
INDIA
AUSTRALIA
POCKET TV
SHORTS
GET TICKETS ON
district
BY ZOMATO

NaaTour

4.

This structure is a circular platform set in an outdoor space - *designed to accommodate bands performing musical ensembles*.

Originally from UK, these soon spread onto the British colonies in the late 1800s and a particular of their kind in Mumbai dates to 1867.

What are these gazebo-like structures called?







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Bandstand



City | MumbaiMirror

Cooperage bandstand to soon get its beat back

BMC is restoring the heritage structure to its original architecture; work nearly complete

Tanvi.Deshpande
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @Tanvi_MIRROR

Years after it fell into disuse, the iconic Cooperage bandstand at Nariman Point will soon turn into a site of acoustic delight. The 143-year-old stage is being restored to its original architecture by the BMC at a cost of nearly Rs 60 lakh.

If all goes as per the plan, the renovated structure might see a performance on the Independence Day.

The restoration of Cooperage bandstand is being carried under a BMC project to revive and maintain heritage structures like the Wadia Clock Tower, the Kala Ghoda statue and the Flora Fountain in south Mumbai.

Initially, bands would play near the National Gallery of Modern Art, but after the demolition of the Fort wall, they shifted to Cooperage in 1967. Famous bands such as Marine Battalion, Nine Regiment, 113th Infantry played at the venue, drawing huge crowds.

The stage fell silent after police and Navy bands stopped playing there, turning it into a place for quick lunch or afternoon siesta. In 2009, a project led by the Oval-Cooperage Residents' Association restored the place.





Work in progress Cooperage bandstand; (below) the original stand

Officials said the BMC's heritage conservation department has now felt the need for another round of restoration.

"There had been massive degradation of the wood. The Mangalore tiles used back then were not in line with the heritage structure. The paint had come off. That is why we decided to re-do it," said an official from the department.

The corporation had to source original Burma teak wood for the job. The eroded portions were replaced. The submerged plinth has been exposed again. The flooring has been redone with Bharat tiles (ceramic patterned tiles), while the roof has been changed to metal.

"Most of the work is done. Only painting and installation of decorative lights are remaining. We are expecting work to be complete in two months' time," said an official.

5.

INNOVATE

Looted Leather and WWII Tires: How [redacted] Came to Be A German doctor's need for better boots sparked innovation and a fashion phenomenon.

BY SARAH SICARD, EDITOR, INC. @THESARAHSICARD

FEB 21, 2025



Initially popular among workers like postmen and factory employees for their durability, this shoe brand soon became a symbol of rebellion and individuality in youth subcultures.

From punks and goths to grunge fans and fashion enthusiasts, the boots transcended their utilitarian origins to become a global fashion statement.

Which shoe?

INNOVATE

Looted Leather and WWII Tires: How [redacted] Came to Be

A German doctor's need for better boots sparked innovation and a fashion phenomenon.

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FEB 21, 2025



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Doc Martens

6.

The city of Los Angeles boasts a larger Armenian population than anywhere else in the United States, as more than 500,000 people have ties to the landlocked state in the Caucasus.

Last month, the Los Angeles Kings celebrated Armenian Heritage Night by selling scarves that was inspired by the country’s flag emblazoned with the team’s logo.

However, they had overlooked certain logistics, which ended up them publicly apologising for selling scarves and are offering full refunds for anyone who bought the scarves.

What *historic* blunder ?

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The manufacturer was **Turkish.** Turkey is responsible for the **Armenian genocide in 1915** - which they don’t recognise

7.

_____’s Crude Oil is a reinterpretation of Scottish artist Jack Vettriano’s 1992 painting, The Singing Butler

Vettriano’s work depicts a well-dressed couple dancing on a windswept beach. _____ reimagines the beach scene as the elegant couple continues to dance, and a butler holds an umbrella over them. The painting also includes two toxic waste removal men on the beach with a sinking oil tankard in the distance.

This is a rare hand painted artwork, considering _____ is infamously known for his disruptive and *out-of-the-box* style of work.

Who?





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Banksy

8.

This video clip is the first official sighting of X for the year 2025. There have been multiple such occurrences, but none have been verified.

In October 2024, advanced sonar technology used to explore the depths of a _____ _____ picked up a massive anomaly. That discovery came just a few days after a ship captain with Cruise _____ _____ claimed that sonar on their vessel detected a large object somewhere deep underneath their boat.

What?



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Nessie (Loch Ness Monster)



9.

Hanumankind, Kalmi, and Parimal Shais released this song for a highly anticipated series, which explores societal struggle one endures before they suceed.

Which series?

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SQUID GAME 2
079
040
404
THE GAME DON'T STOP
HANUMANKIND
KALMI & PARIMAL SHAIS

Squid Game 2

10.

Uma Devi Khatri was a playback singer in the 40s but due to the rise of new voices of the Mangeshkar sisters, she lost work and gained weight.

She later ventured into acting. She was named X by Dilip Kumar; when filming a scene, he tripped over her due to her relatively larger physique, and the name stuck. Soon, industry type-casting and existing social mores ensured that the name became synonymous with a caricaturish figure who embraced crude jokes about dark skin and size made at her expense.

Often regarded as India’s first female comedian, X would also remind you of a popular childhood character.

What is X or how do we know her?





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Tun Tun

11.

The following paintings are part of the collection of artworks at Indian Institute of Science “Arting Science”. These artworks are reinterpretations of scientific concepts in folk art (here, Phad & Madhubani styles respectively)

The first art refers to a famous law, while the second refers to a biological process.

Identify both the concepts











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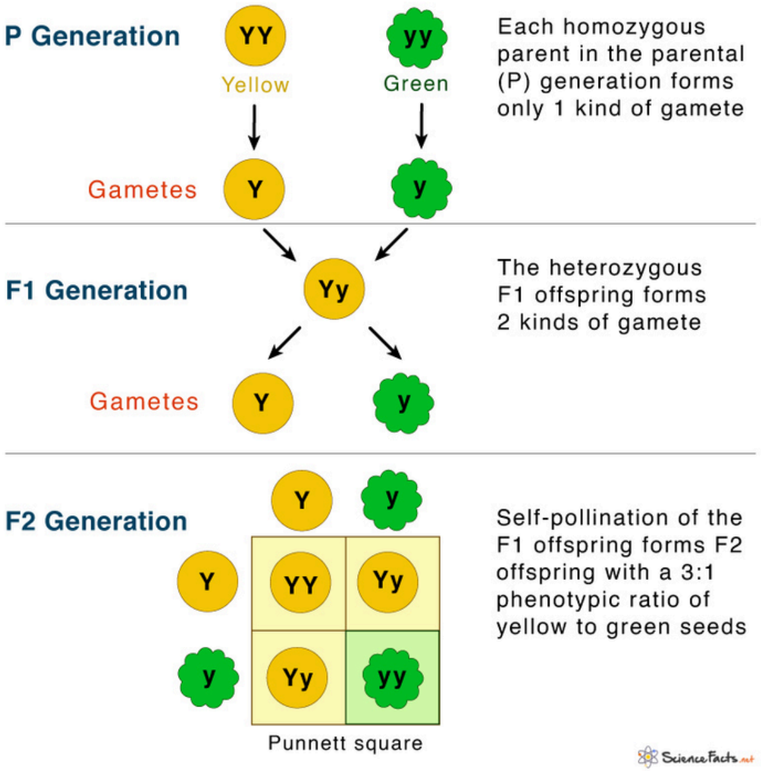
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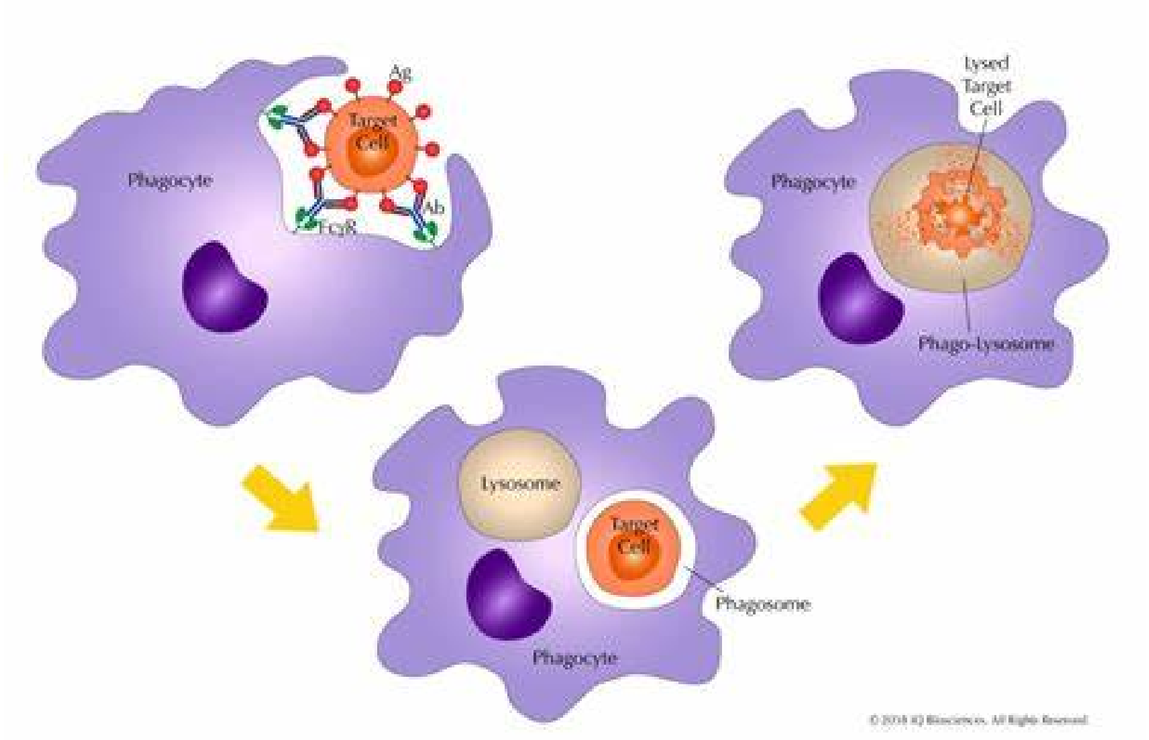
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Mendel’s Law of Dominance



Phagocytosis (antigene and antibody fighting}



12.

This brand recently renamed itself to X. The founder of X said that he wanted to build something that lasts beyond the lifetimes of its founders and employees and, thus, changing their name to X.

Ironically, the company isn’t focussed on instant gratification but wants to build a sustainable business in the future.

ID X



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Zomato renaming
itself to **Eternal**

13.

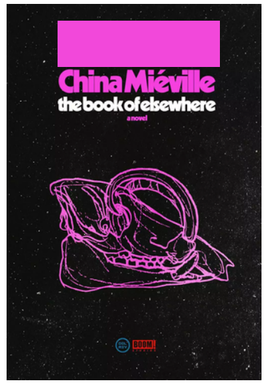
BRZRKR is a comic book series created by X and Matt Kindt, with artwork by Ron Garney. The story follows an immortal warrior known as B, who has been alive for 80,000 years.

The idea for BRZRKR originated from X' fascination with a character who could inflict extreme violence but was also cursed with immortality. It contains themes of violence and compassion, which are also present in many of X's films.

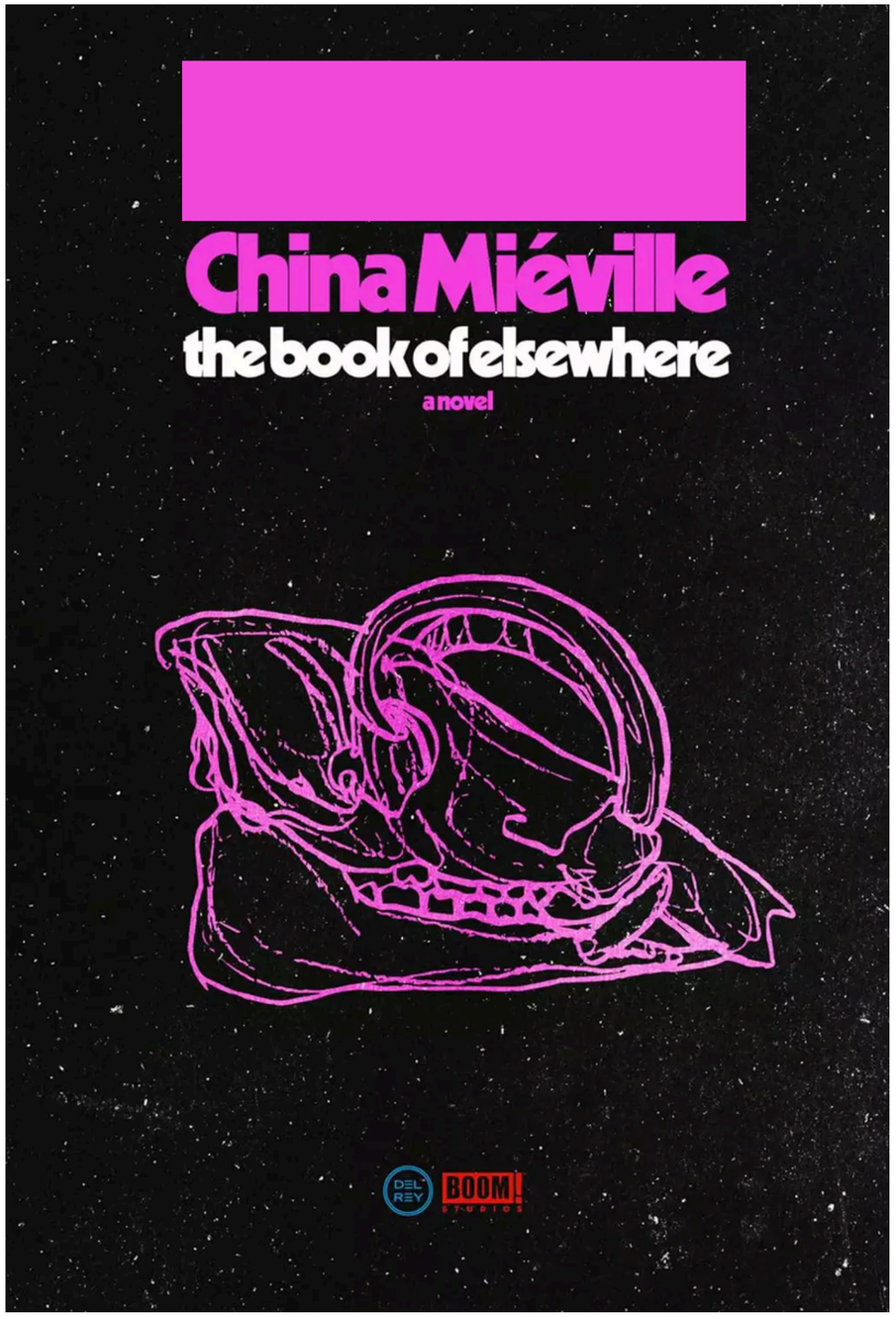
The Book of Elsewhere, is a spinoff novel delves into existential questions about mortality, identity, and the human condition, echoing X' own musings on life and death.

Who is X?






RON GARNEY BILL CRABTREE
BRZRKR
VOLUME ONE


China Miéville
the book of elsewhere
a novel
DEL REY
BOOM! STUDIOS

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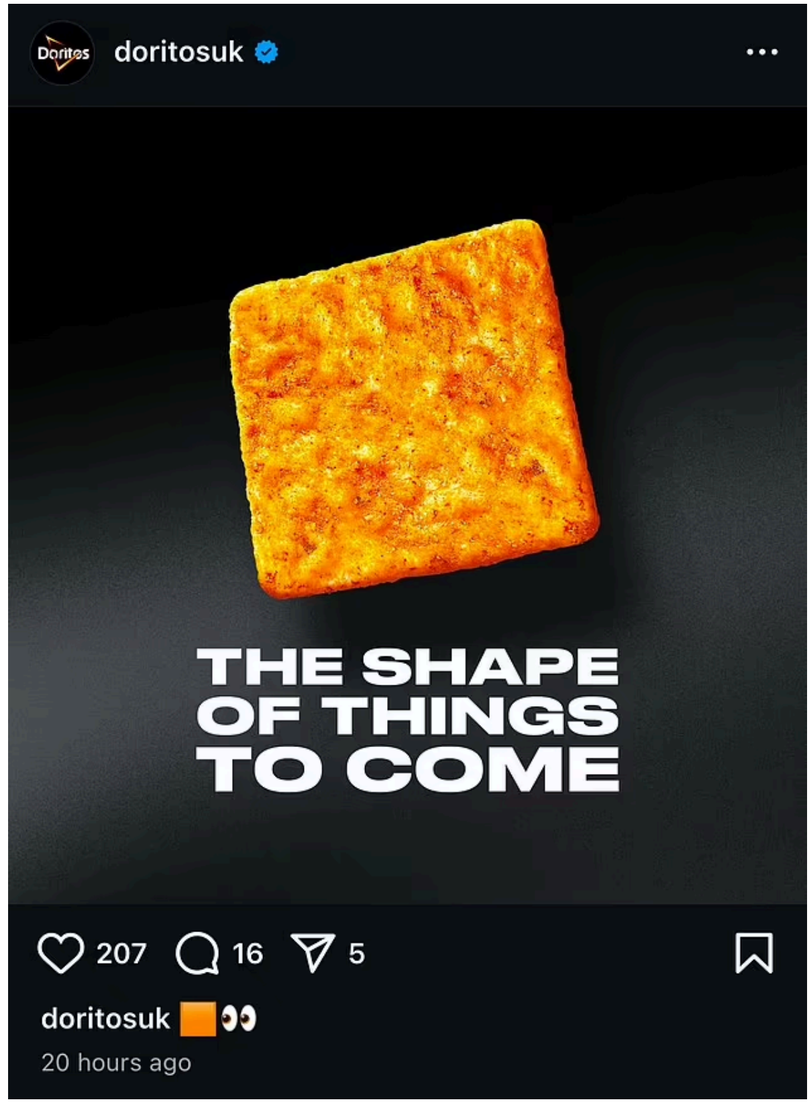
Keanu Reeves

14.

What prompted Doritos to launch a square version of its chip – the first time the iconic triangular shape has ever been altered.

It was in partnership with a movie.

Which movie?



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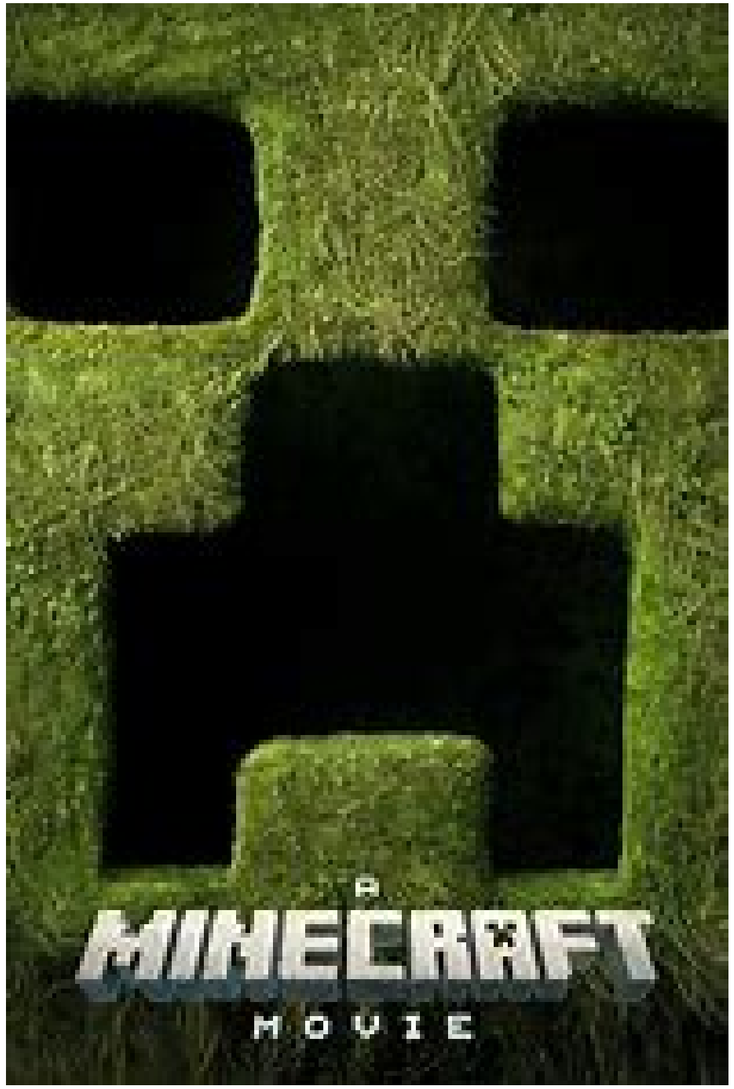
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A Minecraft Movie

15.

Seen in pic. is BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla offering his prayers at a samadhi of a ‘person’ in Pakistan.

The tomb of this mythological figure is situated in the cultural capital of Pakistan, which also gets it’s name from this person.

Some would argue Rajeev Shukla went there to appease the right-wing factions, back in India.

Whose tomb? Which city?



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Lav (from Luv-Kush), Lahore





16.

Shannon K is a 24-year-old Indian-American singer who made history as the first artist of her kind to perform at the 2025 edition of the hottest event. She blended her original tracks with tributes to her father's Bollywood hits, who also inspired her to pursue a career in singing. Her surname contains his name as well.

Who is her famous father?

The name of the iconic event is a corruption on the Spanish pronunciation for “Little Shells”, referring to the fossil shells found in the area.

Where is she performing?

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Kumar Sanu



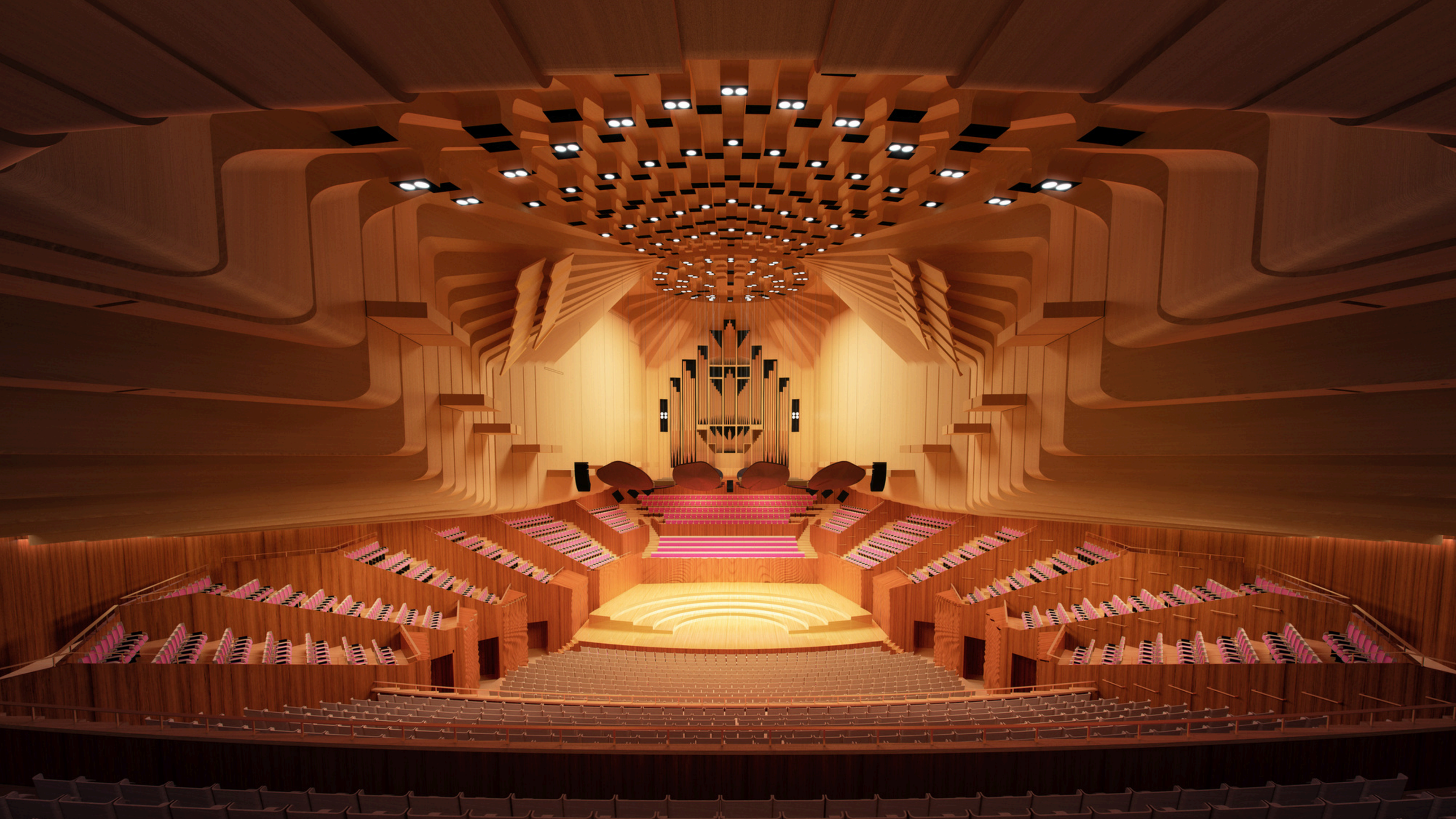
Coachella (From ‘Conchilla’)



17.

Where would you be, if you have this view?





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Sydney Opera House

18.

_____ __ _____ (5,2,11) by Allan Fotheringham is a satirical and humorous critique of Canadian politics, particularly during the era of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

This wordplay draws parallels to the nonsensical qualities of Carroll's original work.

____ (5) suggests a biting, critical tone, contrasting with the curiosity and innocence associated with the protagonist and aligning with Fotheringham's sharp commentary on political missteps; while _____ (11) emphasizes a world of gross incompetence and folly.

Both words are rhyming to the original words. **Give me the wordplay**



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Malice in Blunderland

19.

The NYC Subway used to have a fixed price token to ride before the MetroCard was introduced in 1993 (and OMNY afterwards, in 2019), where one dropped the token into a slot to unlock the turnstile.

What problem arising from the way these tokens were carried around led the MTA to switch from a Y-cut token to a completely solid one?




NEW YORK CITY
TRANSIT AUTHORITY
NYC
1970
NEW YORK CITY
TRANSIT AUTHORITY
NYC
1980

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Cutout from older versions of tokens would trap lint from people’s pockets. That lint eventually clogged turnstiles.

20.

Published in April 2025, X by Aditi Krishnakumar is a murder mystery set in 1900s Tamil Nadu.

It follows 14-year-old Aru, a young widow navigating societal stigma and personal loss, who finds hope through education and a new role as a companion in a landlord's household—only to uncover dangerous secrets that put her life at risk.

The title is inspired from a rare flora’s contrasting ability to bloom in muddy waters and is used an offering to gods and goddesses. Unrelated but it famously shares the name with a pop-cultural phenomenon which reeks of privileges & murder mystery.

What is X?

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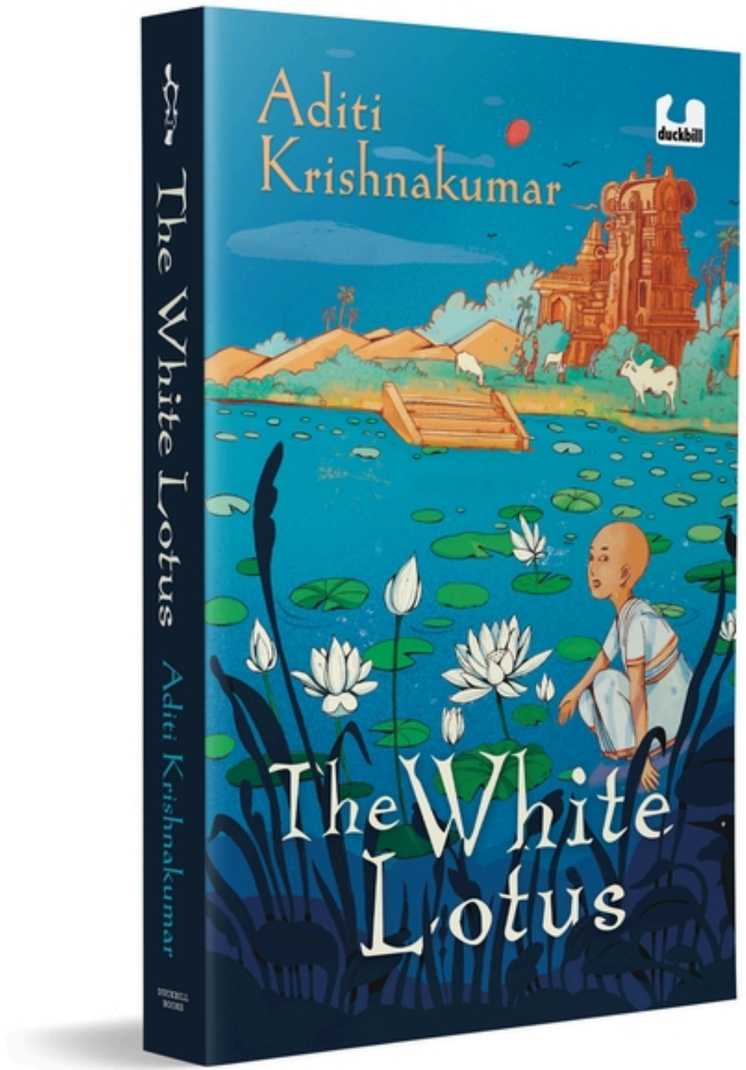
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The White Lotus

21.

Craig Robinson is a former basketball player and coach who played college basketball at Princeton, earning two Ivy League Player of the Year awards. He later coached at Brown University and Oregon State University. After coaching, he transitioned to executive roles with the Milwaukee Bucks and New York Knicks and now serves as Executive Director of the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC).

He and his famous sister have teamed up to launch a new weekly podcast series called IMO. Produced by Higher Ground, it’ll address everyday questions shaping the world. IMO is also a sly nod to his sister’s initials.

Who is his famous sis?



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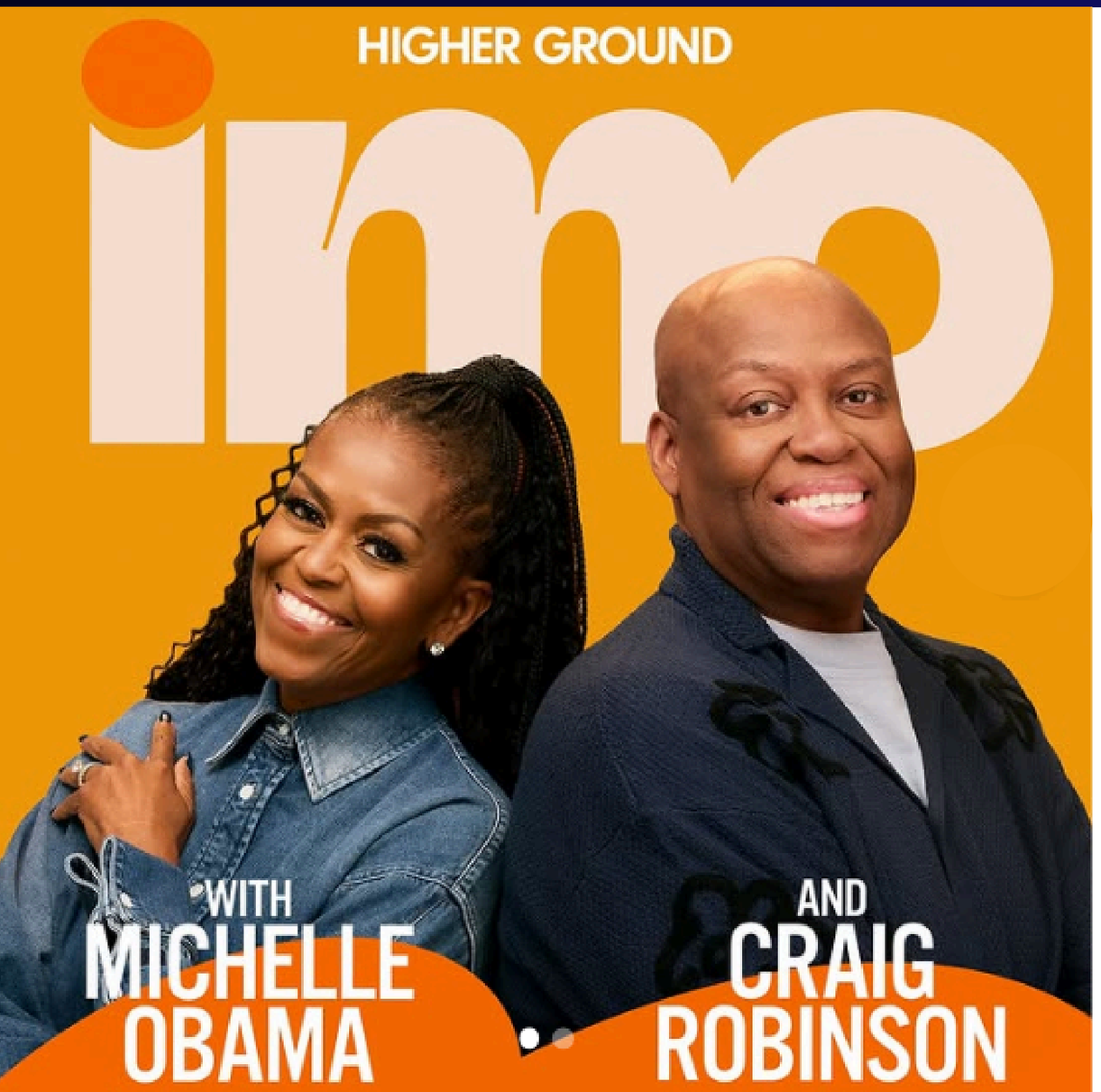
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Michelle Obama

22.

Robert Mugabe described her as ‘Golden Girl’ for her spectacular performance at the Beijing 2008 Olympics. She won a gold medal and broke the world record in the women’s 200 meters backstroke. She was widely praised across racial lines as a source of pride in her country at a time when it was reeling from Mugabe’s policy of violently seizing farmland from white people.

She is also the most decorated Olympian from her region. At the time of her retirement, she had won the most individual Olympic medals in women's swimming, only to bee surpassed by Katie Ledecky in 2024.

Who?





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Kirsty Coventry
President, IOC

23.

The actual recipe of this dye is a secret well guarded by the city’s plumbers' union. The only thing publicly known is that- it is an oil-based environment friendly dye.

The story goes - This particular dye was first used to locate the source of leaks in the sewage system along the river as part of a development project, and when some of those color stains were seen on a plumber’s coveralls.

The union’s business manager implored Mayor Richard J. Daley to use the dye to turn the river green to celebrate the holiday.

Which dye/ where is it used?

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The Chicago River is dyed green for St. Patrick's Day every year to celebrate the holiday.

24.

Based on a common vocalisation used by those from this country, **which nation** is known in the Maori language as 'Wi-wi'?

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France

25.

The X statues, known as the Winged Figures of the Republic, are iconic sculptures located at the entrance of an engineering marvel.

Created by sculptor Oskar J.W. Hansen, these statues symbolize strength and represent the spirit of innovation behind the structure's construction. Each figure stands about 30 feet tall and is designed to embody the greatness of human achievement, reflecting Hansen's belief that X is one of the greatest man-made structures in history.

ID X





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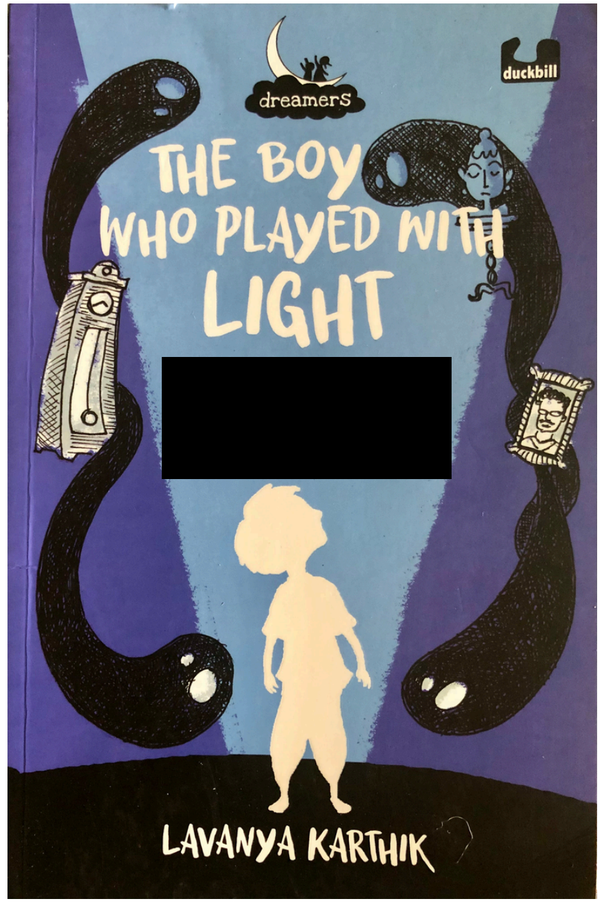


Hoover Dam

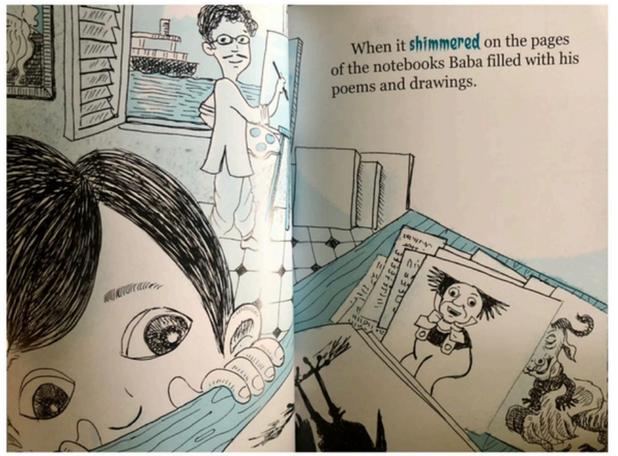
26.

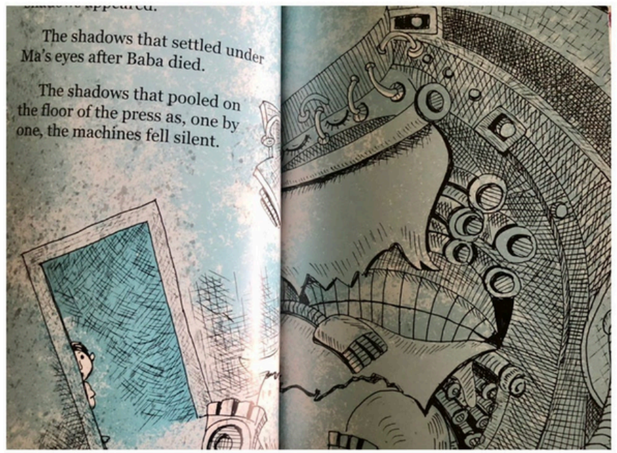
Shown here are the cover and opening spreads of 'The Girl/Boy Who ... ' series by Lavanya Karthik.

Who is the subject of this book?











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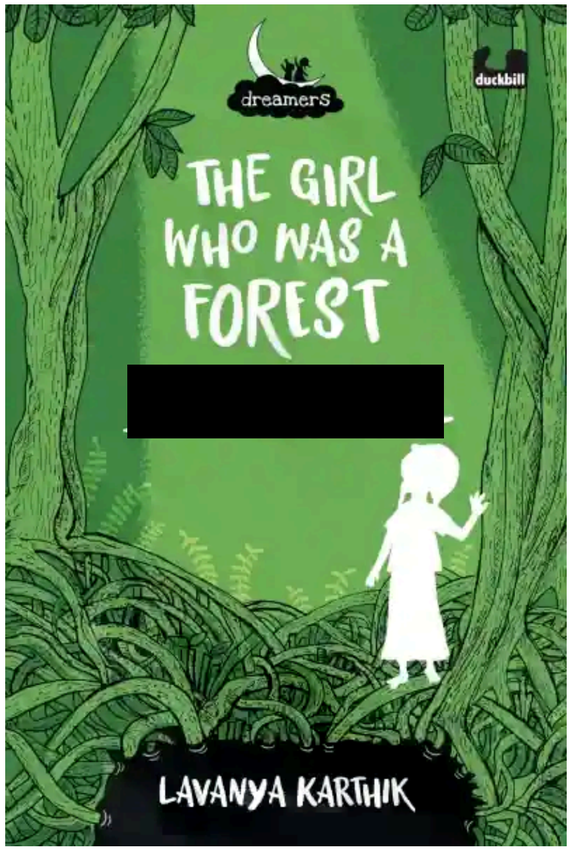


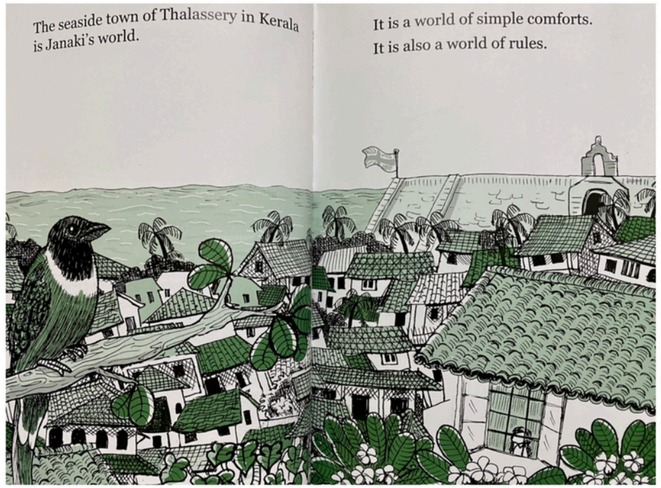
Satyajit Ray

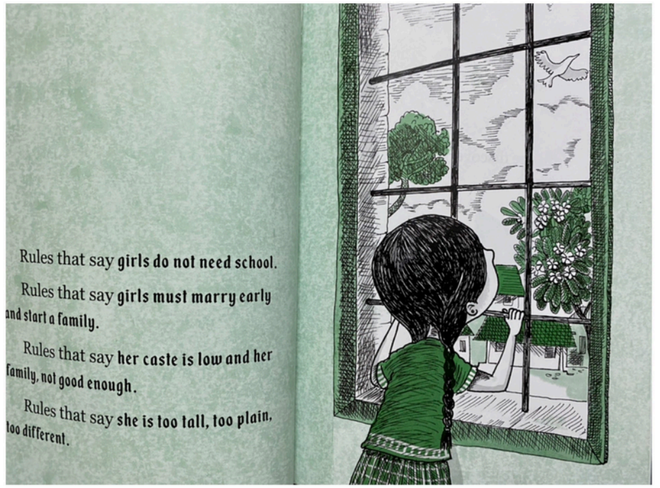
27.

Shown here are the cover and opening spreads of 'The Girl/Boy Who ... ' series by Lavanya Karthik.

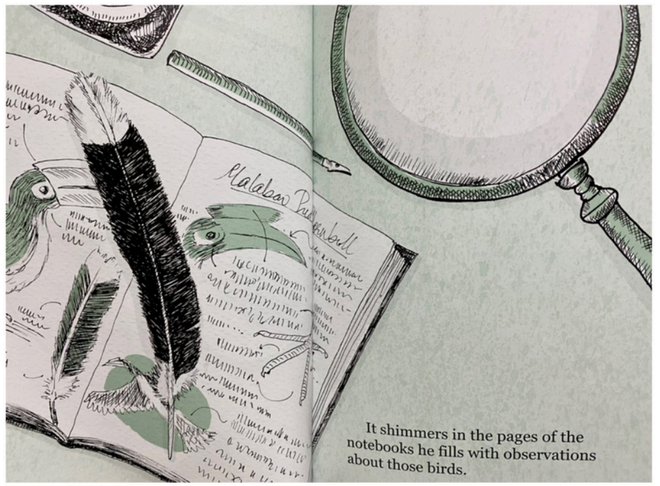
Who is the subject of this book?











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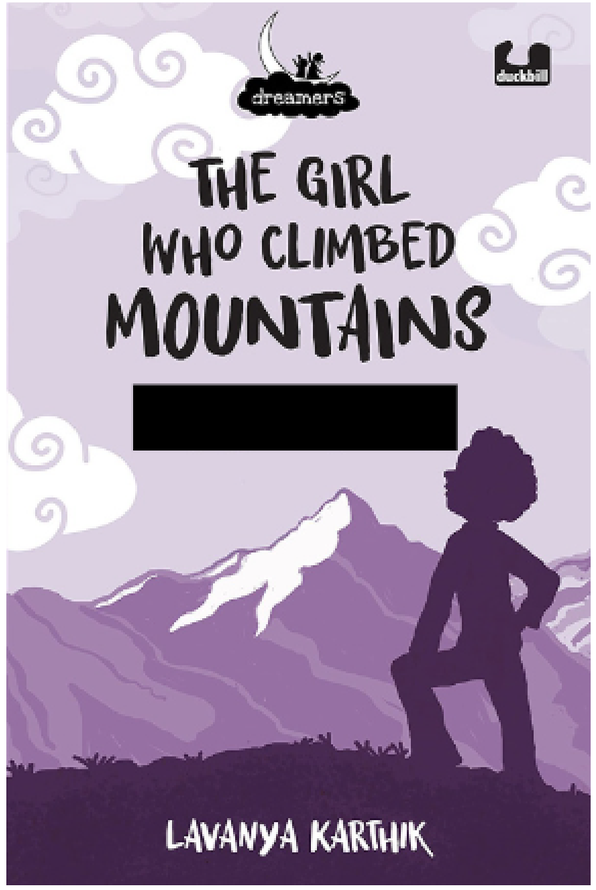


Satyajit Ray

28.

Shown here are the cover and opening spreads of 'The Girl/Boy Who ... ' series by Lavanya Karthik.

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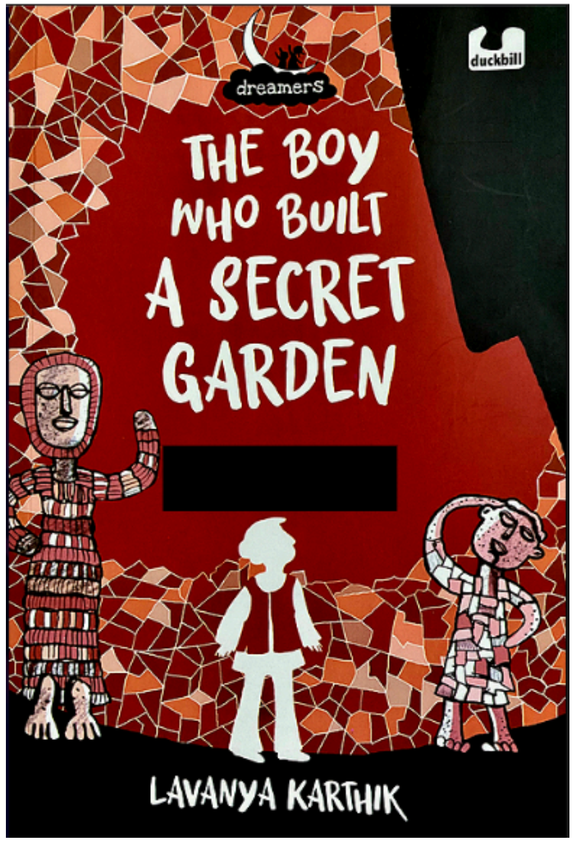
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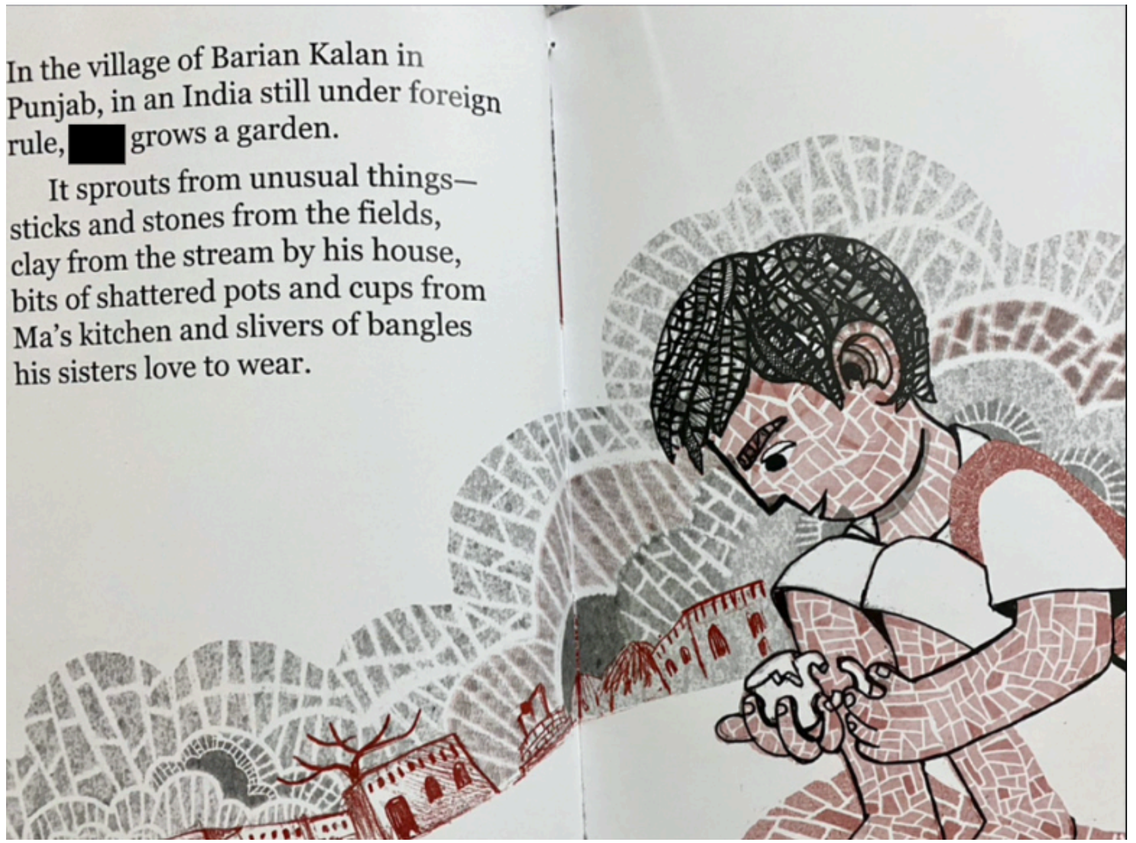


Bachendri Pal

29.

Shown here are the cover and opening spreads of 'The Girl/Boy Who ... ' series by Lavanya Karthik.
Who is the subject of this book?





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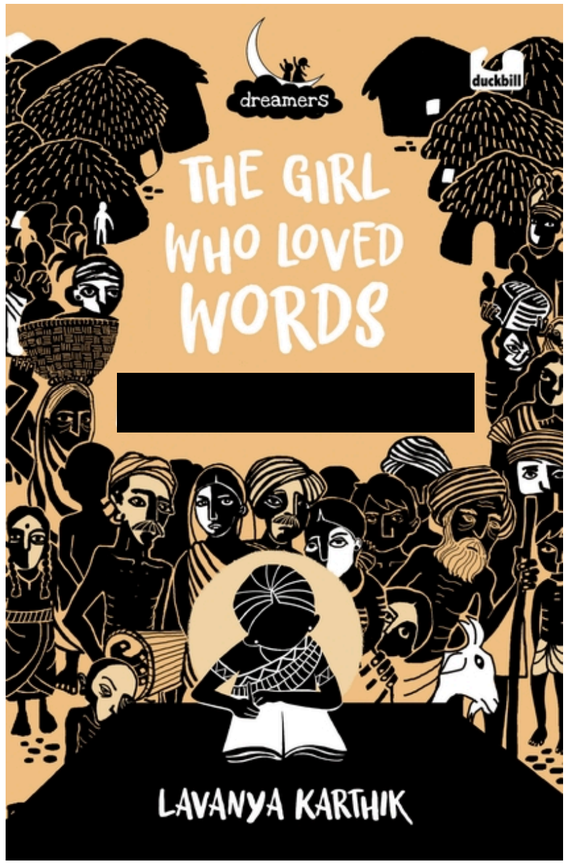


Nek Chand

30.

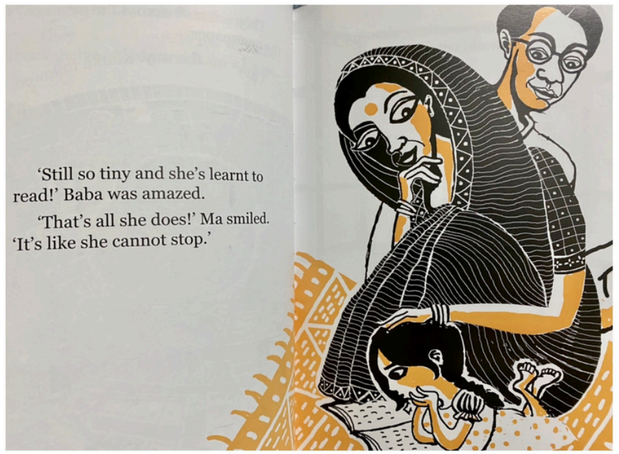
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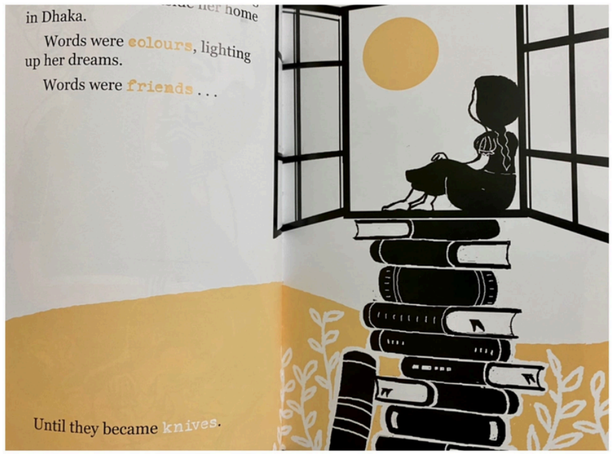
Who are the subject of this book?











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Mahashweta Devi

31.

The basis of a bilingual Hindi-English pun revolving around the number 110, **what term** for a Biblical event came from a Greek word literally meaning 'the road out'?

31.

"For decades, Chili's has inserted itself in culture – introducing the now-famous Baby Back Ribs jingle, and most recently unleashing Triple Dipper cheese pulls on TikTok. But we've also seen the brand come to life on screen through the years, and that includes being tied to _____ (8) despite never having a location there. That changes this year with our newest restaurant," Chili's Chief Marketing Officer George Felix said.

This comes nearly 20 years after the famous episode aired where employees of a fictional company celebrated their informal annual awards at this restaurant. **Which location?**

Brinker International, Inc. owns Chili's, Maggiano's Little Italy and other restaurant brands.
What is it’s ticker symbol?

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Exodus



Scranton

EAT

32.

This recently-released book, which is facing calls for it to be taken off shelves, is the work of the former director of global public policy at **which company?**



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Meta

33.

In rural Thailand, Hae Nang Kew is a traditional rainmaking ceremony that typically involves parading a cat in a cage through the village, with the belief that the cries of a feline will appease the rain gods and bring much-needed precipitation.

Due to several months of limited rainfall last year, the ceremony was held, but out of concern for animal welfare, plush toys representing a fictional “cat-like” creature were used instead of a real cat.

Which character?





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Doraemon

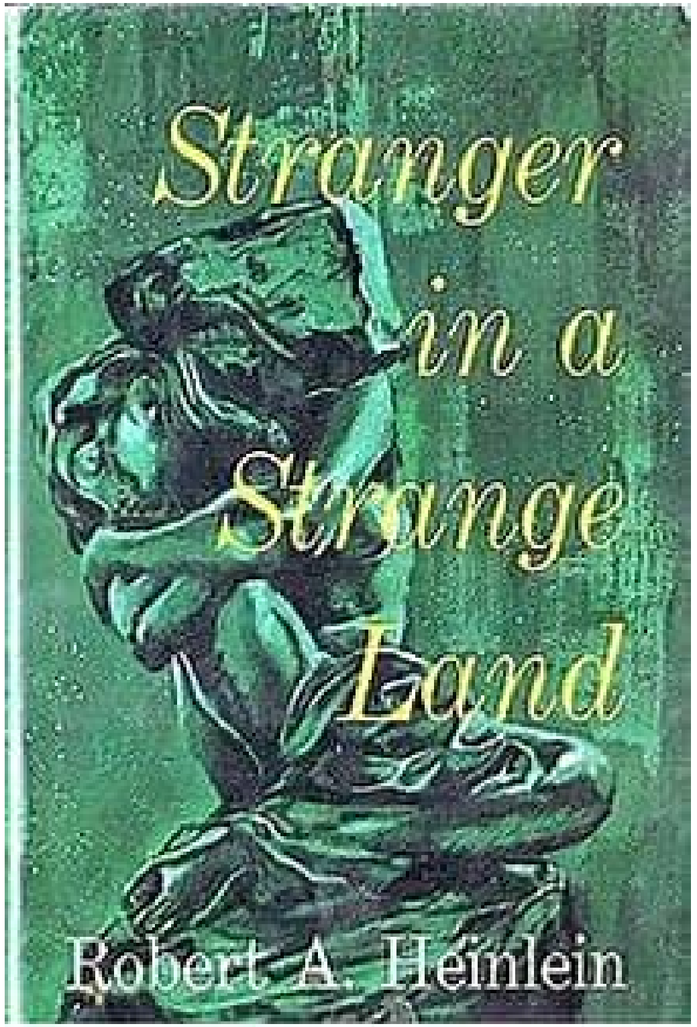
34.

Stranger in a Strange Land (1961) by Robert A. Heinlein is a sci-fi novel that explores the story of Valentine Michael Smith, a human raised by Martians and brought to Earth.

The story's protagonist, uses the term ___ (4) to convey a profound and intuitive understanding of something.

This made-up Martian word came back into mainstream consciousness, earlier this year by a famous figure who has rather strange affinity towards the red planet.

Which term?



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Grok (from GrokAI)

35.



The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

Style Arts & Entertainments Power The Media Fashion Of Interest

Is [redacted] making your dog freak out?

Forget about [redacted] baby goats for a second. We need to talk about our pets.

March 10, 2025

The Washington Post reported that many dogs appear to freak out when their owners watch this critically acclaimed show, perhaps due to the constant elevator “dings” or the omnipresent blue color palette.

Which show?

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The Washington Post
Democracy Dies in Darkness

Is ‘Severance’ making your dog freak out?

Forget about Lumon’s baby goats for a second. We need to talk about our pets.

March 10, 2025

Severance

THAT’S ALL folks