

A Girl's Future

She is the girl in a dark world

Which provides fears

Though she has sight

She can't view her future

Her destiny is veiled.

Tears fall from her eyes

Like the sky pours rain

The mist makes her cold

and anxious

About her unpredictable future

Nightmares are painful

That destroy her sleep.

She is unaware.

Ignorance propels her into pain

Bringing darkness everywhere.

Adithya **Neelamabaran** I MA English Literature

A PLUNGE INTO THE OCEAN

Sudha S Babu

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The silver streaks of ecstasy,
The deepest plunge into the blue
The murmured lullaby of the silent green
Enchanting touch of the cold.
Rising up and moving down,
Floating in the emerald green
Dwelling deep in the colourful silence
Soft sponges play.
The shining crystals, slippery pearls
Swift schools pass by
With the beauty of a thunderbolt
Through the wrecked window.
The green curves intertwined
Nodding to the current above
Floating through the dungeon deep
The silver streaks glitter again.

A PROMISE

Tenzing Noryan

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Ask me what my greatest wish in life is and I will tell you that it is to see my father's family in Kathmandu. I often dream about going to my ancestral home and meeting my aunts, uncles, cousins and everybody there. People often ask me whether I am a North Indian and I reply in the affirmative. Because if I say otherwise, the next question will be, "Have you ever been to Nepal?" and here I'm silent. What can I say when I have never met my relations nor even spoken to them. Moreover, I don't even know if they realize I even exist. I know of them when my Papa tells me his sister is very caring, that his brothers are very serious, that his niece had won the Miss Nepal title, that his Mom was very loving and his Father was very strict and so on. I know through the media that Kathmandu is a very beautiful place but in spite of being the daughter of a native of Kathmandu I have never been to the place. It sounds ironical. On festivals like Diwali and Holy when my Papa talks of how they used to celebrate them in his childhood days, I can sense a touch of regret and sorrow in his voice. I know he misses his relatives when he is far removed from them here in Kerala, and this feeling surfaces at times when he shouts at me. Being the only daughter, I know what loneliness is. I know how lonely Papa feels in his strange land away from his people.

ATTITUDE

Suby Sarah Thomas

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If A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V
W X Y Z

is equal to

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26

Then,

HARD WORK,

H+A+R+D+W+O+R+K:

8+1+18+4+23+15+18+11 = 98%

KNOWLEDGE,

K+N+O+W+L+E+D+G+E:

11+14+15+23+12+5+4+7+5 = 96%

LOVE,

L+O+V+E:

12+15+22+5 = 54%

LUCK,

L+U+C+K:

12+21+3+11 = 47%

Most of us think this is the most important.

Then what makes 100% ?

Is it **MONEY**? NO!

M+O+N+E+Y:

13+15+14+5+25 = 72%

LEADERSHIP? NO!

L+E+A+D+E+R+S+H+I+P:

12+5+1+4+5+18+19+9+16 = 89%

Every problem has a solution, only if we change our attitude.

To go to the top,

to that 100% ,

What we really need is to go further... a bit more...

ATTITUDE,

A+T+T+I+T+U+D+E:

1+20+20+9+20+21+4+5 = 100%

It is OUR ATTITUDE towards Action and Life that makes OUR Life 100%!

ATTITUDE IS EVERYTHING

Change Your Attitude

And You Change Your Life

Believe in *the best*

When you open your mind
To some a little kind
It will help your troubles to unbind
And then surely you'll find
The problems you dealt,
The heaviness you felt,
The tensions which dwelt
Slowly begin to melt
Then you forget all the rest,
Pray and hope for the best,
Face life with zest.
And see troubles as passing jest
Instead of seeing life as difficult test.
Always learn to enjoy life
As a happy fest !

Bhavya

I BA English Literature

LIFE

Life starts with a baby
Born into a busy world
With the blessings of the creator
Cuddles in the arms of the mother
Opening the twinkling eyes
Beholding the beauty of nature
Growing up in knowledge and wisdom
Enjoying the pleasures of the world
Second by second, day by day
Year by year passes by-
But man knows not
Of his short life on earth
Enjoys the world, knows not his
creator
He knoweth not that the time has come
For him to leave abruptly.
His worldly belongings
And his treasures on earth,
He could not carry
On his journey to the other shore.
His life is a warning to the young
generation
To stay faithful to the creator.

Teena Jacob

I B.Com

The rain Drops sings

The mist has choked the life
Of the white beautiful clouds
Who were waiting for
the sun to rise
And their eyes were filled and
their hearts bled
For the sun never kept
his promise
Their tears flooded the earth
With the rain of agony
Drenched the cloud who waited
For unrealized dreams
to come true
To see the sun smile down
on the lotus
And then the winds rise
The words of wisdom
Trees whisper into
the clouds ears
"Life is never a good day"
But a day of losses,
misfortunes and deaths
And days later the cloud sees
The sun and breeze play
hide and seek
Interrupting the siesta of the earth
Basking in the sunshine
after days of rain.

Aswathy S

I BSc Physics

THE CYCLONE

In the midst of the night
At far Oceanside,
There arises with
heart breaking sound,
And devastating power,
'The cyclone' with
a powerful intention
And an exact destination.
The whirling body with
A foggy style and
a jelly structure
Charging at the Texas town,
Aiming at the tall buildings,
The orange- grape farms,
The diary fields and tall trees.
The hissing sound is heard
from afar

The rushing of people nearby,
The howling of children,
The trembling of parents at night.
The trees shaken violently.
Branches ripped off silently.
Fruits scattered.
Death advanced
Gluttonous to swallow
To take away the lives
Mercilessly.
The sun does not rise.
The animals do not cry.
Only the terrifying face
Of the darkness of death

Sruthi R. Prasad
I BSc Mathematics

The Monsoon Showers

Meera Lal II BSc Chemistry

How long can I reject your summons, my beloved? How long can my heart resist Your unspoken promise of an unknown world? How long... I try to recede from falling into the world Of your charm, your diabolism...in vain. I try not to be lured by your otherworldly looks, Your passion, subtle love...in vain.

Do you really know what you are, you rogue?

And yet, and yet...I love you. The wind, he brings me your course, The trees... your intention,

Nature herself promises me your

Presence

And leaves me restless, thoughtless, dreamy.

You drive me to you, I leave all my work

And run like a child to welcome you in my arms,

To be engulfed by yours.

The aura of your presence rejuvenates me,

The ghost of forgotten dreams reawakens in me,

The music of your soul

reverberates in mine.

All cells of my life come alive

To feel...that tantalizing touch,

To sink... in that sheepish smile,

To merge...into those enquiring eyes.

My body carefree, eyes closed, mind untroubled I submit myself to your charms, my dear And all locks that chain me are unlocked, All ties that serpent me are torn

away, All my pride, my ego melts away. My jealousy, my vanity dissolves

away. And I realize... how I should live, Bringing life to everyone. Giving love to everyone, Inspiring hope in everyone As you yourself do To this frivolous girl. And before I realize, How much I've lost myself in your

dare-devilry

How much I've yearned for that scintillating souvenir

Of your transcending touch and unalloyed love,

Of your world of unchained existence, you return...

Into your abode of green leaves, blue sky,

White clouds, red sun & brown earth.

And I stand agape, drenched to the core,

Taking to heart, the lessons that you teach

Beauty that you gift, love that blossoms in a

Heart that's always and forever yours.....

Do you really know who you are, my rogue? 

Value Based Education

No wealth is above knowledge underlines our old scriptures. But in the modern world, what is knowledge? What is education? Education today is about marks and about the ability to learn, not lighting the spark of longing for knowledge in young minds. The entire education system today is directed towards acquiring good academic grades. The child is taught that marks and certificates are the tickets to his future, armed with which they can reach higher positions of society.

The notion in our state is that people qualified with a medical or engineering degree certificate are the most respected in the social ladder. It creates a rush for these courses. In most cases, the students opt for engineering or medicine as a result of pressure from parents. Soon after the tenth standard ends, children cease to enjoy life, their life is full of tension and stress with entrance coaching and tuition classes. Their talents are not encouraged since it is time consuming as a result of which their creativity diminishes. There is a spark of creativity in every child. When his talents diminish, this light is extinguished. The child ceases to bloom from within and ultimately grows up to be a person without character.

Knowledge is not formed just merely by rote- learning of the prescribed textbooks. It is to be practiced in life with sincerity, loyalty, creativity and joy. Here comes the importance of value- based education. Children are the assets of a nation. Their innocent smiles ought to be retained. It should be these young blossoming buds that spreads the message of peace, love and brotherhood tomorrow. For this their talents should be encouraged and their worries should be alleviated. In this way they would learn to live a stress - free life finding comfort in their abilities. They develop into mature, responsible citizens and work for the nation with active participation ensuring positive outcome to the world. Galileo aptly said, "You cannot teach a man anything; you can only help him find it within himself."

Teachers can help spot the talents in their students and develop their creativity. Creative thinking is very essential in the modern competitive world.

Encouraging children to be involved with non-profit making, non-governmental organizations which help build up broken lives it creates a desire in their young minds to work for the nation. This helps them develop into efficient leaders, who are very essential in the contemporary circumstances.

Value based education thus is the nurturing of the ability in children, to knit the individual - physical, intellectual, emotional, creative and spiritual, as well as the social, moral and behavioral aspects of life into a coherent and meaningful whole.

SNAKES WITH LEGS?

The fossil of a new species of snake with small front and hind limbs was found in 95-million-year-old deposits near Jerusalem. The site was once an ancient marine environment, suggesting a seafaring lifestyle for the fossilized snake. Dubbed *Haasiophis terrasanctus*, it is the second limbed species of primitive snake to come from there.

The first such species, *Pachyrhachis problematicus*, is thought by some paleontologists to be a transitional link between mosasaurs-gigantic swimming lizards of the Cretaceous period-and true snakes. This view of snakes originating in the sea contrasts with the traditional view that snake ancestors were small terrestrial or burrowing lizards who eventually lost their legs through evolution.

A group of scientists from the Field Museum in Chicago and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem have concluded that the new species was closely related to *Pachyrhachis*. Each of the fossil animals has a hinged upper jaw and a skull that completely surrounds the brain - features not found in lizards. It is not known how the legs themselves might have been used since they are too small in relation to the animal's body to have any locomotor function.

OUR TINIEST ANCESTOR

In March 2000, a team of researchers led by Northern Illinois University paleontologist Dan Gebo announced their discovery of the fossil bones of 45-million-year-old monkey like primates, the smallest primates ever found. The new species, named *Eosimius* ("dawn monkey"), was discovered in a limestone quarry in eastern China.

Its foot bones are the size of grains of rice, and it weighs less than a dozen paper clips. Yet the miniature "Dawn Monkey" could represent an evolutionary link between lower primates and higher primates, a group that includes apes and humans. The structure of its tiny ankle bones suggests that it could walk flat-footed, using all four legs, like advanced primates. Unlike advanced primates, however, it probably "didn't have a lot of time to be social," guesses one scientist. That's because the little animal had to spend most of its time eating to feed its high-speed metabolism-when it wasn't trying to avoid being eaten by bigger creatures.

The discovery of this specimen in Asia suggests that our earliest ancestors did not live in Africa alone, as previously thought.

The researchers said that the minute mammals were tree dwellers that relied on a steady diet of insects, fruit, and nectar to fuel their high metabolisms. Unlike contemporary higher primates, the tiny primates were nocturnal and solitary creatures.

SOLAR "HEARTBEAT" DISCOVERED

Astronomers from the National Science Foundation's National Solar Observatory have discovered a "solar heartbeat" in the motion of the layers of gas circulating beneath the Sun's surface. Their research shows that some parallel layers speed up and slow down rhythmically about every 16 months. This internal cyclic action may explain the formation of sunspots and solar flares.

The Sun is not a solid object-it is made up of layers of gas. Unlike Earth, all points on the solar surface do not rotate at the same rate. Its equatorial region rotates once every 27 days, while the regions at the Sun's poles rotate at a slower rate of once every 35 days. The "differential" rotation extends through the Sun's turbulent convective layer, located about 130,494 miles (210,000 kilometers) below the surface, nearly one-third of the distance to the solar core. At the edge of the convective layer, the rotation period varies, completing a cycle about every 1516 days. Astronomers think that the patterns of these internal movements are connected to the cycles of eruptions seen on the surface.

FORMIDABLE FUNGUS

What is probably the largest living organism on Earth has been discovered by scientists in the Malheur National Forest in the Blue Ridge Mountains of eastern Oregon. A fungus living three feet underground is estimated to cover 2,200 acres. Officially known as the *Armillaria ostoyae*, or the honey mushroom, the fungus is 3.5 miles

across and takes up an astonishing 1,665 football fields. The small mushrooms visible growing above ground are only the tip of the iceberg. Experts estimate that the giant mushroom is at least 2,400 years old, but possibly as old as 7,200 years. By testing samples from various locations, scientists determined that the enormous growth is all one organism. Previously, the world's largest organism was believed to be another *Armillaria ostoyae* living near Mt. Adams in Washington State.

PIG ORGANS FOR HUMANS

The US. staff of PPL Therapeutics, Scotland, cloned five healthy female piglets, born on March 5, 2000, in Blacksburg, Virginia. This is the first time cloned pigs have been produced from adult pig cells. Their birth marks the first step in making genetically modified pigs whose organs and cells can be successfully transplanted into humans without being rejected by the human immune system. The process of xenotransplantation (the transfer of organs from one species to another) may one day solve the worldwide organ shortage problem *

WEIGHING MY LIFE

Lauella Amy

II BA Communicative English

Last April, when my best friend Jenny arrived from Mumbai, I organized a get-together for all our close friends from school. Everything about this get together was fun, except, the reaction of my family on seeing my photos with my friends. It was as if my folks were waiting for some evidence to bring up this new issue: I was putting on weight. Early next morning my Papa woke me up, made me drink a glass of warm lemon juice with honey. We did some exercise for about 45 minutes and then it was 'counselling time'. My mom couldn't resist this opportunity and joined in this grand event. My Papa (a journalist) who loves playing with language started talking endlessly about how a lifestyle change would benefit me. I had to do everything in the right way (from taking up the right breathing techniques, to how much water I drink, to posture of sleep...) and thus bringing about a positive vibe in my life. This was new information according to which I must freeze immediately no matter what I'm doing and start all over again. "This will wear me out, if not anything else", I thought to myself. My mom jumped into the conversation at the first opening she got. She, being a doctor, went on with the medical aspect of being 'overweight'. Oh, the very term shook me to bits and at the same time I was amazed how many times she used the term 'endocrinology' and 'hormones'. For the first time in my life I started hating Biology. I didn't understand the necessity of this conference over 'lil old me'. My friends always described me as a 'warm, lovable, plump and cheery' person. I don't think I could have described myself any better. Though my vital stats are not 36-24-36 (I think only Barbie has this ratio) I am not horribly overweight either. I believe I am a cheery person who loves to laugh and who eats when hungry. With anorexic looking girls running about the city, should I starve too? (Not in this life!) I can walk, do everything I love and more, and I am comfortable with my own self. "I need to lose a few pounds here and there, but I can't stop living my life or that", I shrieked.. The only thing I probably cannot do is to lie on the beaches of Goa in bikini (when my buddies and I go to Goa after college is over). But I think I can live with that! For my defence, I rang up my big brother (a journalist) who is in Pune. "Chetta, our folks are going wild with the thought of making my waistline perfect. Save me please." Little did I know that I was adding fuel to the fire. Let me brief you on the background details of my brother. 'A fitness freak' is not an exaggeration when describing him. He loves his proteins, biceps, 6 packs and thighs and to top it all, he is crazily in love with me. I got half an hour talk on gyms, proteins consumption, calories and ideal weight. So here I am now, 5kgs down and more to go. Listening to the endless lectures of the three most loving people in the world, drinking 10 + glasses of water daily and doing exercises are all part of my routine. Don't get me wrong when I say, "I love myself and the way I am". But I guess I love my family and my peace of mind more

YOU NEED ME..

God! *You* can't be without me

Neither can I be without *You*

You need me to love,

You need me to create,

You need me to exist,

You need me to be *You*.

Your existence is

clubbed with mine

You cannot be if I'm not.

You need me to be saviour,

You need me to make promises,

You need me to send your son,

You need me to keep track

with me.

You need me to speak,

Without me you are silent,

You need me God to exist,

So *You* created me for *You*.

Dr. Sr. Vinitha (Dep. Of English)