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TRAILBLAZERS OF CHANGE :

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023

International Women's Day is an annual global celebration held on March 8 that honours the achievements and contributions of women throughout history. The day has great significance as it highlights the achievements of women from different backgrounds and cultures and at the same time sheds light on the challenges they face. International Women's Day is a platform to raise awareness and promote dialogue on these issues. It encourages individuals, organizations and governments to take steps to achieve gender equality. Every year, International Women's Day takes



a special theme that reflects the current challenges and aspirations of women around the world. These themes inspire individuals and organizations to take action and promote gender equality. International Women's Day is a significant global event that celebrates the achievements of women and encourages them to continue working for gender equality. It serves as a platform to raise awareness, promote engagement and inspire positive change. By recognizing the contributions of women and highlighting the challenges they face, International Women's Day brings us closer to a world where all people, regardless of gender, can thrive.

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ARAVALLI GREEN WALL PROJECT

On March 25th, 2023, the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, inaugurated the Aravalli Green Wall Project which aims to green the 5 km buffer area around the Aravalli Hill Range in four states – Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Delhi. The project was launched on Mar 21, 2023 and is a part of the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification and Land Degradation Through Forestry Interventions.

1ST URBAN CLIMATE FILM FESTIVAL

The National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), a Central Autonomous Body under the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, is organizing the Urban Climate Film Festival under the CITIIS program. The festival aims to create wider awareness of the impact of climate change on life in cities and engage the public in the dialogue on sustainable urban development.

Unraveling the Enigmatic World of CoHo's 'Verity'

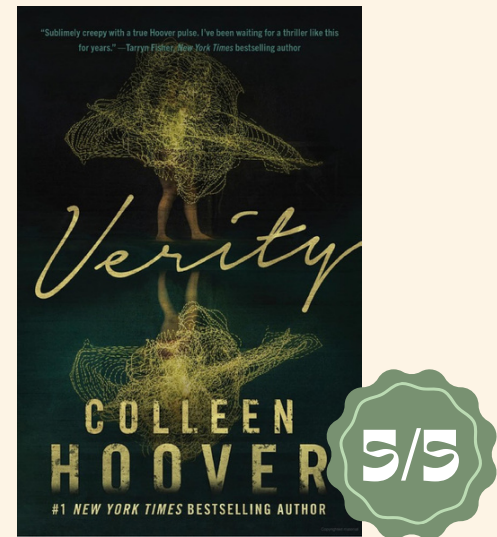
-Heer Panchal

Book: Verity
Author: Colleen Hoover
Genre: Thriller, suspense, paranormal romance

(Trigger warnings:
Abortion, Child Violence,
Murder)

Colleen creeped me out with this one because of the whole plot and plot twists. I mean, how did she even think of writing something so mind-blowing, cruel and unpredictable? It was terrifyingly brilliant & I loved it because it messed with my brain and I dare

not be dishonest in my reviews. If I could, I would give 'Verity' a 10000000000/5 because it deserves it. I have many doubts in my mind, specially at the lingering question asked in the end and I desperately need the correct answer to it, but it feels like I know the answer somehow. I am still taking in the last few pages even though I finished this book months ago. The plot is stuck to me so bad. I would recommend this book to everyone who loves



thriller, suspense, crime, heartbreak, a little horror, romance etc. It basically had most of the genres and THAT is what makes this book so special to me. I love it. Must read novel indeed !

A CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS

-Khushi Vira

Mumbai is known for its vibrant nightlife, bustling streets, and delicious food. However, the city also has a darker side with many haunted places that are said to be inhabited by ghosts and spirits. Here are some of the most haunted places in Mumbai:

D'Souza Chawl (Mahim)

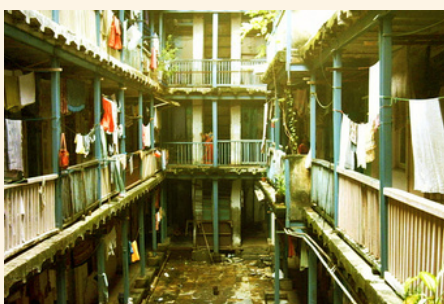
Families living in the chawl testify to a woman's tragic death after she accidentally fell inside a well some decades ago. Ever since then, her reluctant spirit is said to roam the chawl complex. Call it somebody's fertile imagination or the work of gossip enthusiasts, people living in the chawl prefer to stay indoors after sunset.

Sanjay Gandhi National Park

Come nightfall & you might catch the guards saying a silent prayer & crossing over to the less dense areas of the park. Delve further & they'll tell you of their encounters with a lady ghost, who often tries to stop people driving around. People who live in tiny hutments in the park don't dare to venture outside in the dark.

Tower of Silence

The place is infamous because of its reported connection with the paranormal. It is used by the Parsi community as a graveyard, where bodies of the demised are left on the terrace for vultures to feast. With reputation like that and people reporting of "an eerie presence". this place ranks quite high in the list.



The Silent Enemy: Unmasking Gender Discrimination in Everyday Life

- Tanya Purohit

We all have heard the term 'Gender Discrimination', but does this issue attain importance in our day-to-day life? We say the word gender easily but do we understand the term 'gender'? Gender refers to the characteristics of women, men, girls, and boys that are socially constructed. Gender discrimination is when someone is treated unequally and unfairly based on their gender identity. The biases among gender can be traced in India back from the 17-18th Century.

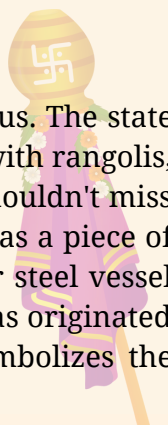
The most common gender biases we see today is between male and female. Gender discrimination can be evident in the family, where a male is always seen possessing exclusive rights in the family. Indian psychology still believes that a son will bring more economic growth to the family rather than a daughter. We have all witnessed or heard that on the demise of anyone in the family, all the after-rituals are being done by the son in the family. In today's era, we do raise our voices towards the prohibition of Dowry but there are still practitioners of the same, which clearly portrays women as a liability. A woman faces gender discrimination even before birth, we all are well-versed with the term 'female foeticide'. How people forget that any child whether it is a male or female is the same for the almighty. We raise awareness, we talk about those issues socially but are we legally taking it into consideration? As per what we are being taught in our universities, education is a fundamental right, then why do we still come across females who were deprived of the right of studying, whose rights were taken away from her for the sake of what? And what basis? Just for being a female gender? It is bitter but it is the truth!



Discrimination is not only limited to households or amongst illiterates, this goon of inequality is somewhere stuck in every mind. We often come across interviews of celebrities who talk openly about how they are paid less compared to male leads, even at workplaces we often see between a male and a female, it is the male gender who is given more priority than a female. Whereas whether it be a male or female, the hard work and the output can be the same. Gender Discrimination is a severe problem which hasn't got permanent solutions and it can never get as this mindset is being inculcated in our minds since our childhood, "what we observe, is what we adapt" and to save the upcoming generation from such an environment it is vital to change our mindset. There are several legal norms to protect the rights of each gender. Every gender whether it is male, female or someone belonging to the LGBTQIA+ community, each and every person deserves a life of equality and respect !

GUDI PADWA

Gudi Padwa is a festival that marks the beginning of the traditional new year for the Hindus. The state of Maharashtra witnesses enthusiastic celebrations on this auspicious day. The day begins with rangolis, erecting the "Guch" and some special dishes such as Shrikhand Puri and Puran Poli. One shouldn't miss the "Shobha Yatra", the processions carried out in the morning hours. The "Gudhi Dhwa" has a piece of saree of cloth decorated with mango and neem leaves attached to the "gathi". A copper or steel vessel topped on it. Raising the Gudhi signifies the return of King to Pathan. The word "Padava" has originated from the Sanskrit term, "Pratipad" which is the 1st day of the lunar month. It also symbolizes the Brahmadvaj, as it is said to be the day when Lord Brahma created the universe.





~ Palak Rana



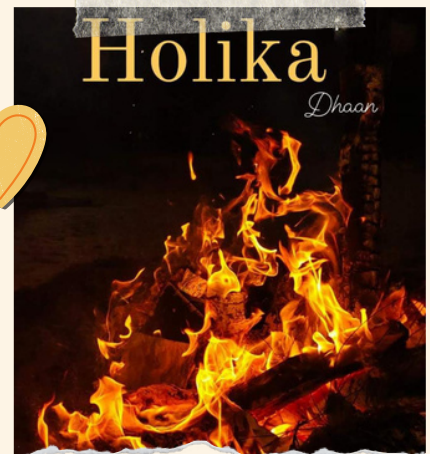
~ Palak Rana



~ Tanya Purohit



~ Riya Bagwe



~ Nandini Chothani

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