

DU VIDHA

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DU Vidha : Pooling Creativity at DU ...

This issue of DU Vidha brings to you your own imaginative journeys of fantasy and freedom. From the students across departments, courses, colleges and different centres the responses received have been enthralling. "What if?" is the question that each creative piece asks and answers it by ushering the reader into an imaginative world full of new possibilities.

The inventive potential of fantasy is laid bare in many a creative piece selected for this issue. The first section includes works that offer expressions of imaginative wonderlands that boldly re-characterize the epic heroes and reclaim the fairytales of distant childhood days. The reader may face tense moments as well as immense exhilaration in some pieces when one stands on the threshold of the other world...a world which enables one to question, compare, change and rewrite everything that is known and understood. Reality is challenged, expectations are frustrated and stereotypes are dislodged as the old woman in the woods offering fruits to young forlorn children is anything but a witch. The mirror of fantasy is turned upon reality so that the world of muggles is shaken up and begins to feel outlandish. Imagination is given a freeway as stories and tales are read into otherwise inarticulate bird songs. Coincidences lead to beautiful discoveries while the imaginative drive lasts. This is what many of these pieces seem to suggest.

Fantasies serve as a haven for unfulfilled dreams and inspiring alternatives. The second section of this issue brings together pieces that project fulfilment and emphasise upon the importance of positive faith. Strung on the wings of fancy these pieces celebrate freedom from pressing social expectations, from inner turmoil, from greed and from outrage. These pieces look towards the fantasy world for answers to questions that may be silenced and suppressed in the real world. Things concealed, overlooked and sometimes intentionally ignored in the mundane reality of day-to-day are brought to the forefront and allowed to breathe and grow.

In these pieces, the inventiveness of fantasy makes it not just a refuge from what is set and dictated but the birthplace of freedom, novelty and change.

Writing itself is a meditative and creative task. Nothing is more fantastic and yet real than engendering into existence an imagined space through one's writing. This innovative exercise that lets us create new characters and relate new tales in words of our choice can be painstaking. Yet, a creative piece of one's own making that gives one satisfaction is no less than a dream come true. In the final section therefore we have collected all the pieces that meditate upon the feeling of fulfillment that the creative exercise brings to an artist in any and all modes, whether it be through songs, poems, or photographs. Forever active, imagination has different ways of functioning, sometimes stormy at others balmy, always helping us to broaden our perspectives. These works demonstrate how one's imagination has the potential to bring forth wonder-worlds despite the darkest thoughts that may have captured one.

Imaginative and creative journeys cannot be dismissed as strategies to escape reality; in fact they give us an opportunity to grapple with our inner self and feelings, to engage with deeper reality and empower us to confront the challenges of life with renewed confidence. It is with this faith and conviction in creativity that we offer this rich selection of 84 original pieces (poems, imaginative prose writings and visuals) by students from nearly 50 institutions of the University of Delhi. Enjoy!

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Concept

Fantasy is not simply to be understood as a means of escape. It is in fact something that is deeply rooted in real life experiences. Writings that succeed in creating wonderlands too spring from reality. An imaginative writer uses the mundane world in an inventive and quixotic manner. Disbelief is suspended not to rashly lose track of reality but to bring it into a better perspective by positing it against the unpredictable, wonderful worlds of our own imagination.

The impossible becomes possible through a convincing depiction. In that, our deepest fears and truest aspirations find expression. Indeed, it is difficult to tell where fantasy ends and reality begins.

संकल्पना

डीयू विधा का अगला अंक आपको कल्पना की उड़ान भरने के लिए आमंत्रित करता है। आइए, अज्ञात की खोज कीजिए और फंतासी की दुनिया में साहसिक प्रवेश कीजिये! हिन्दी या अंग्रेजी में कल्पनाशील लेखन, कविताएँ, कहानियाँ लिखिए और भेजिए, जो आपको और पाठक को फंतासी और उसकी चमत्कारिक दुनिया में सैर करा सके।

फंतासी को महज पलायन का साधन नहीं समझा जाना चाहिए। सच तो यह है कि फंतासी का मूल वास्तविक जीवन के अनुभवों में निहित है। जो लेखन आश्चर्यलोक का सृजन करने में सफल होता है वो यथार्थ से ही उत्पन्न होता है। एक कल्पनाशील लेखक व्यहारिक जीवन का उपयोग सृजनात्मक और स्वप्नद्रष्टा के ढंग से करता है। अविश्वास का स्थगन इसलिए नहीं किया जाता है कि हम बेतहाशा यथार्थ का मार्ग खो दें, बल्कि इसलिए कि हम अपनी कल्पना के आश्चर्यजनक और अप्रत्याशित संसार को यथार्थ के साथ रखकर और बेहतर सन्दर्भ में लाएँ।

यदि चित्रण विश्वासप्रद हो तो असम्भव भी संभव लगता है। हमारे गहनतम डर और सच्ची आकांक्षाएँ उसी में अभिव्यक्त होती हैं। दरअसल, यह बताना मुश्किल है कि कल्पना कहाँ समाप्त होती है और कहाँ यथार्थ शुरू होता है।

CONTENTS

<i>VC's Note</i>	I
<i>Editorial</i>	II
<i>Concept / संकल्पना</i>	V / VI

Section I

FANTASY

फंतासी

01. मेरा सपना	सिद्धि जांगिड़ (लक्ष्मीबाई कॉलेज)	2
02. Micro-tale (Harry)	Bedotroyee Bhattacharjee (Daulat Ram College)	3
03. Self Esteem	Jasnosor Kaur (Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce)	4
04. The Night Before	Kritika Chawla (Department of English)	6
05. Maths Nightmare	Shubham Gop (Shaheed Bhagat Singh College)	10
06. पेड़ और पत्ते	सिद्धि जांगिड़ (लक्ष्मीबाई कॉलेज)	12
07. The Untold Tale of the Nightingale	Aishwarya Kumar (Shaheed Bhagat Singh College)	13
08. Untitled	Shreya Chatterjee (Miranda House)	14

09. Untitled	Prabhjot Kaur (Vivekananda College)	19
10. अगर औरत ना होती	नितिन कुमार (किरोडीमल कॉलेज)	20
11. Somnolence	Amit Kumar (Law Centre-II, Faculty of Law)	22
12. A Journey of Discovering the Self	N K Vinutha (Department of English)	23
13. Queen of the Night!	Aishwarya Kumar (Shaheed Bhagat Singh College)	25
14. एक संवाद लंकेश के साथ	निखिल अग्रवाल (किरोडीमल कॉलेज)	26
15. Twinkling Bird	N K Vinutha (Department of English)	28
16. Star in the Sky	Prerna Singh (LC-II Faculty of Law)	30
17. Fantasy and Reality	Abhinav Anand (Maharaja Agrasen College)	32
18. A Girl Named Love	Shrey Ahuja (Acharya Narendra Dev College)	34
19. Haunting Fantasies	Sanjeev (Shaheed Bhagat Singh College)	38
20. फिर भी कुछ कम है !	भावना चौहान (कालिंदी कॉलेज)	40
21. वो रात काश फिर आ जाए	अनुप्रिया (लेडी श्रीराम कॉलेज फॉर वुमेन)	41

Section II

OF FREEDOM

स्वतंत्रता की उड़ान

22. That Girl	Ananya Baruah (Shaheed Bhagat Singh College)	44
23. Who Am I?	Amit Kumar (Law Centre-II, Faculty of Law)	46
24. स्वतंत्रता	बिसमिल्ला मिसबा (जाकिर हुसैन दिल्ली कॉलेज)	47
25. बदलाव	नितिन कुमार (किरोड़ीमल कॉलेज)	49
26. The Fallen Star	Arijit Roy (Sri Venkateswara College)	51
27. Untitled	Chhavi Goyal (Kalindi College)	52
28. बचा हुआ है	विशेष नमन (एस. जी. टी. बी. खालसा कॉलेज)	53
29. A Facade that turned into a Dream	Rashi Bareja (Kalindi College)	54
30. माँ की डायरी	विशेष नमन (एस. जी. टी. बी. खालसा कॉलेज)	58
31. She!	Mehak Garg (Shaheed Bhagat Singh College)	60
32. पुकार	निशा तिवारी (आई. पी. कॉलेज)	63
33. आगे बढ़ना	नेहा राजपूत (आई. पी. कॉलेज)	64

35. When I Thought I Wasn't Strong	Dhara (Acharya Narendra Dev College)	65
36. ज़िंदगी	अविनाश कुमार (संगीत एवं ललित कला संकाय)	66
37. Hibernation	Mani Singh (Department of English)	68
38. City Lights	Nitisha Vatsa (Daulat Ram College)	69
39. Outrage!	Rachit Gupta (Satyawati College)	70

Section III

ON THE GROUND

जमींतर

40. पिकनिक	श्रेष्ठा चोपड़ा (लक्ष्मीबाई कॉलेज)	72
41. लेखनी	निशा तिवारी (आई.पी.कॉलेज फ़ॉर वीमेन)	77
42. My Photographs Talk	Bedotroyee Bhattachajee (Daulat Ram College)	78
43. तुम बिन	पूजा सिंह (केन्द्रीय शिक्षण संस्थान)	80
44. Heaven?	Arushi Ahuja (Kamala Nehru College)	81
45. बारिश और तुम	अविनाश कुमार (संगीत एवं ललित कला संकाय)	82
46. The Sepia Morning	Amit Kumar (Faculty of Law)	83

47. Lost and Found	Kashish Koma (St Stephen's College)	84
48. टपकती दीवारें	सत्यम प्रियदर्शी (मोतीलाल नेहरू कॉलेज)	88
49. The Nights	Ankita Biswas (Shaheed Bhagat Singh College)	90
50. Endlessness	Chirayu Goyal (Deshbandhu College)	92
51. बेजुबानों को समझो	दीपक	94
52. Holocaust Journal	Bhavya Srivastava (Kalindi college)	96
53. काश मैं भी लड़का होती	आयुष शुक्ला (संकुल नवप्रवर्तन केंद्र)	101
54. Dilwaalon Ki Delhi	Arijit Roy (Sri Venkateswara College)	103
55. मैं:स्वयं की एक खोज	अनीश चंद्र प्रकाश (संकुल नवप्रवर्तन केंद्र)	105
56. The Hidden Truth	Shrutika Jha (Acharya Narendra Dev College)	106
57. Peace	N K Vinutha (Department of English)	109
58. Haunting Fantasies	Shrey Ahuja (Acharya Narendra Dev College)	111

Section IV

VISUALS

चित्रांकन

(116-143)

List of Reviewers

(144)

Submissions at a Glance

(146)