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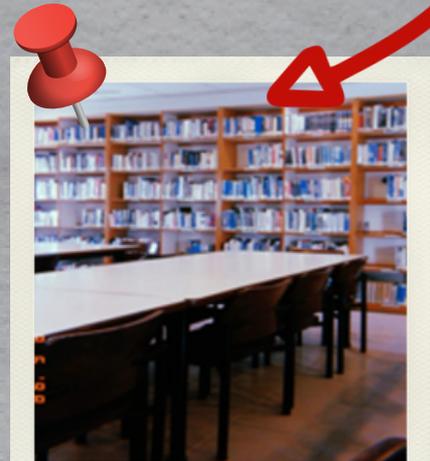


Places to be missed in Lyceum

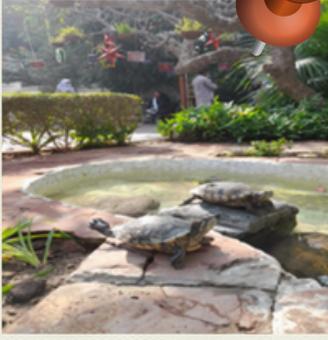
By Sana Fatima Patel
and Natasha Bilal

Students are always excited to experience everything that Lyceum has to offer and now that the school year has ended, the graduating batch would surely miss quite a few places in lyceum.

If you want some peace and quiet, Lyceum has a beautiful library that is perfect for people who want to get some work done. If you want to read something, it has a wide range of novels of every genre, there are also a number of academic books which always prove to be very helpful. There is also an AV room which has a very cool touch screen and also has a number of computers which can be used by the students.



The Library



The D-Zone

Other than that, there are also the famous turtles of Lyceum that are found in the pond situated in the 'D-Zone'. Students usually hang out with their friends in that area and are often seen playing board games such as Chess and Ludo.

The canteen is a little slice of heaven, and what makes it so special, is Bashir Bhai's scrumptious and delectable food. All his special meals are mouthwatering. The students love to sit in the canteen and discuss the events of the day, catch up with friends, and unwind.



The Canteen



The Terrace

The terrace is the hub where all the games and sports activities take place. Everyone gathers during their free time to release their stress and enjoy games with their friends like Carom, table tennis, badminton and so on.

Last but not the least, the back-shed is a place where the whole student body gathers for all the events, such as musical programs, theatre plays, match screenings, society meetings and other major events.



The Back-shed

A Chaotic Morning with Miss Nida Khan

By Usman Larik and Zara Zahid



Q: WHAT INSPIRES AND MOTIVATES YOU? WHAT IS THAT ONE THING THAT TELLS YOU TO WAKE UP IN THE MORNING AND WORK AS A THERAPIST AS WELL AS A TEACHER?

Being around people. I can't find anything better than human energy and it can never be understimulating or boring. Both being a therapist and a teacher involves chaos and I love chaos.

Q: AS SOMEONE WHO HAS WORKED AS A THERAPIST WITH A LONG EXPERIENCE WITH TEACHING AS WELL, WHAT PART OF EACH PROFESSION HAVE YOU ENJOYED THE MOST?

In teaching, my favorite part is the random tangents we get to in class conversation and that is actual learning. It's unplannable and unpredictable. Therapy cannot be planned. I don't know what the energy will be like so there's always something that's unplannable. It's chaotic!!

Q: HAS THE FIELD OF PSYCHOLOGY TAUGHT YOU MORE ABOUT YOURSELF AND THE WORLD AROUND YOU?

100 percent. You can only take someone as far as you are willing to go yourself. Look at it this way: water is an analogy for life. If we want to swim in the deepest ocean with someone, we need to build the capacity for ourselves first. You need to know the depths of the ocean yourself before taking someone with you.

Q: YOU HAVE OFTEN DESCRIBED YOURSELF AS A PERSON WHO IS NOT VERY SELF-CONSCIOUS. YOUR STUDENTS ADMIRE THAT QUALITY. DO YOU THINK IT IS AN IMPORTANT QUALITY TO HAVE?

I think it's a helpful quality to have. Far be it for me to pass judgment on someone else. I think it helps to embody ourselves as contiguous and we need to find our home in our own bodies first. We need to belong to ourselves first and foremost before belonging to the world. This helps us to live in the world. Also, with all the mental energy that goes into curating and thinking, it is simply easier to live that way.

Q: THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT YOU HAVE INSPIRED MANY STUDENTS IN AND OUTSIDE OF YOUR PSYCHOLOGY GROUPS. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY TO THE STUDENTS WHO WANT TO PURSUE PSYCHOLOGY IN THE FUTURE?

Look forward to a lifetime of learning to do things that confront you and the darkest parts of yourself. You're going to continually meet yourself in the darkest places. It's rewarding!!

Q: THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IS YOUR SPIRIT ANIMAL AND WHY?

Earthworm. I find it aspirational. I am about to get very excited for a moment here. *takes a deep breath* Earthworms are givers. Their movement in the earth and their existence in the soil makes the soil fertile. They are the opposite of what we call "try hard." They would live and digestion would come to them. So, in reality, they create magic without doing anything. They don't have to build webs like spiders but are simple creatures. They have to make nothing and do nothing. They embody the earthworm principle of life. So I believe earthworms are magical. *Casually mentions a student once gave her a card with a drawing of an earthworm on it.* (A2 psychology students, this is your hint. Give Miss Nida a card with an earthworm drawing)

Q: HOW PSYCHED ARE YOU AFTER THIS INTERVIEW?

Of course, I'm psyched. You know, it's impossible to be psyched after a cool conversation because you get serotonin. That's just how it works. *mission accomplished*

Miss Raheen's Interview



By Zainab Zahid and Yashal Rumman

Q. What is your favorite doggo-related memory?

My favorite dog related memory? I've had dogs my entire life, as in, there were dogs in my house before I was even born and so it's really hard to pick one memory over a lifetime, because I feel like no matter how many dogs I've had-- each of them has left a mark on me. But I'll tell you a memory that does stand out, and it's one that you would expect. The first time I was ever bitten by a dog, I was 7 years old. It was a pretty bad bite, it was my cousin's dog. Even when I was 7 years old, I realized the fault was mine. I was with my cousins, and she had two dogs. One of her dogs started eating from the other's bowl, so I tried to move her and she turned around and bit me. However, I'll say this much, even when I was 7 I never blamed the dog. And I was back playing with that dog the very next day, with a bandage on my hand. I have many warm and fuzzy memories but the reason I bring this one up is because I think that a lot of people who are scared of dogs, inherit that fear. I was very lucky in that regard because my entire family loved animals, and there was no one who lamed the dog either. Everyone explained to me that it was my fault. It was the first time I was able to understand the dogs' perspective.

Q. Following up, how did you revive LyPaws?

LyPaws has been there long before my time, it was started by Ms. Zehra Raza I believe, but when I came to The Lyceum it had sort of died down. There were a lot of patrons coming and going, these things happen sometimes maybe due to a lack of interest. When I heard LyPaws existed, I knew it was something I wanted to revive and Mrs. Ahmed was kind enough to let me do that. Part of it is because I love animals, and the other is that I have been involved with ACF in some ways since it began. I have always felt like instilling the basic value of compassion, not even just in the Lyceum sense necessarily, but generally because I feel like if we can't be compassionate to the most vulnerable in our society then how can we be compassionate towards each other? And so, I think this is very important because The Lyceum has a lot of animals as well that need to be taken care of and where would we be without our iconic turtles? I've got a great Chair too, Sasha is very committed and I couldn't ask for better.

Q. As a student and later a teacher, how would you compare the student culture in the UK with the culture in Pakistan?

I'm a Grammarian through and through, like my parents before me. I did my Undergrad at the University of Kent where I studied Politics and International Relations. Then I did my Masters in International Peace and Security at King's College London, and I absolutely loved what I studied. My experience in the UK was at the university level, so there's always a contrast between school and university. It's not that big an academic adjustment, similar to Pakistan, the education in the UK is very exam based. But I think the biggest difference is the kind of independence you're given-- not only at university but at a university outside of Pakistan-- it's very different, because there's no one chasing after you. Attending your classes, doing your work, studying, it's all on you. So you're treated as an adult from the second you arrive, if you don't understand something it's on you to pursue your teachers and lecturers to explain it. But no one there will spoon feed you. Here, we're very used to a system where a lot is done for us by teachers and tutors, especially nowadays where we cater to students a lot. It's very different from the UK where the system is very sink or swim-- but there's a lot of value in it as well. It teaches you responsibility because often there's no other choice but to be responsible.

Q. So as a teacher, do you try to apply the same philosophy to your students?

I'm not interested in the amount of As and Bs my students get, instead I try to push my students a lot because I want them to walk away without regrets, feeling like they did the best they could. To me it's always more important that a student tries, that they walk away with more confidence in communicating and better deductive reasoning even if they don't have an A at the end of it all. That is what is most important to me, because my biggest regrets will be where I didn't try hard enough and I don't want my students to have these same regrets. I feel that when you teach a subject like English General, grades are only one way of gauging your ability in the subject but the nature of English General is to discuss. We discuss all sorts of topics, from history to politics to science and art. The whole aim of this subject is to develop multiple perspectives and I think that's very important. Even if you struggle to write but you're able to think from a different perspective, it creates a much more well rounded person and creates a space for dialogue within society. We live in a very polarized world, where communication is of the utmost importance-- even if we don't agree, being able to listen to another perspective is essential.



Q. What has your theatre journey been like throughout your life?

My theatre journey began in school. I was never a very confident person, a shy kid, quieter than most of my other friends. But you put me on a stage, and perhaps it was the distant between you and an audience/ actually talking to someone, I found myself very comfortable. It started with just that, roles in school plays, playing a reindeer with one line in 3rd grade. It just kind of went on from that, I acted in school throughout. When I came back from university, my school's alumni association used to put on plays to raise money for students in need, from schools all over Pakistan. It was kind of cool because you had people from different generations coming together to put on a play, and it was interesting because we were all working people but for 6 weeks a year, we'd get together every night and rehearse, sell tickets and we would put on a play. Along the way I realized I found directing extremely interesting and I paid attention. As an actor I was very much a director's actor. I followed instructions, but I started paying attention to the kind of instructions, positioning, sets. I also love watching theatre. I've seen a number of productions in Pakistan, whether it's Anwar Maqsood or the days when Nida Butt would do these incredible musicals. Whenever I've traveled abroad and had the opportunity, especially in England at the west end, I would go to see plays, try to observe the staging of it, trying to understand Theatre from every aspect. Really it's been a lifelong love, the sense of community, working together, actually getting to see something you've worked so hard on come to life, I just feel that's a real thrill. There's nothing like live performances.

Q. Following up on theater, how did Lytheatre come to you?

Theater has been very active at the lyceum. Yaseen bhai has been the patron of theatre, the first Lyceum play I ever saw was one of his actually, an Urdu play. It was a bit of serendipity when I joined, and Mrs. Ahmed was looking for someone to take over the english part of Lytheatre. When I was in school actually, my mother was a teacher and was also the person involved with theatre, and many years before my time, she had directed Mrs. Ahmed in a play when Mrs. Ahmed had been a student. So when I joined Lyceum, Mrs. Ahmed had asked me if Theatre was something I was interested in, and like I said, for me theatre has been a lifelong love. When she asked, I said absolutely. And I promise you that performance is just one thing I like, I really love that collaboration and the teamwork and the sense of everyone working together, and it's really a community sense that develops and all of it comes together in a production. I love giving young people that outlet.

Q. We want to get to know Raheen Mani as an individual apart from the many roles you take on in the Lyceum community. Keeping that in mind, What is the one attribute that you seek out in the people you surround yourself with?

I think it's not looking for one attribute. I look for diversity. I'm someone who gravitates to a multitude of people. There is something of value to be learned from every type of person that you meet. Yes, there are people who I don't like, of course there are. I tend to not gravitate towards someone who is narrow minded, but as a person you have to be open to meeting as many kinds of people as you can. As a teacher, you'll have a student who gets As and sure that's wonderful and you love the fact that they're so good at your subject, but I could equally like someone who hardly shows up to class. Maybe someone doesn't fit in the formalized classroom setting, that doesn't mean they're a bad person. They could be equally, if not more, smart or creative and I would never think less of them. As long as someone tries their best in whatever thing they're passionate about. Even in my personal life, my friends are diverse.



Q. Which art form do you think is most valuable in present day /modern day culture?

That's like asking someone to pick their favorite child! How to pick one over the other. I love music personally, but then I love theatre, I love the fine arts, photography. The thing is, it's not about the form of art, it's about what speaks to you. Mona Lisa is perhaps the most famous painting in the world, doesn't mean it speaks to me. Maybe there's a line of poetry from Keats that speaks to my soul just as much as a Guns N' Roses lyric. I don't think it's about form, I think it's something so personal. It's about any form of art that speaks to your soul.

RAPID FIRE

Q. Which music artist living or dead would you like to get a cup of coffee with?

Axel Rose.

Q. How do you like your eggs in the morning?

Any way I can have them. I love eggs. But I guess nothing beats a good desi omelet.

Q. If you could pick one movie to erase from the universe, what would it be ?

To erase? Oh god. Old Yeller. I would erase it- The dog dies!! While we're at it, get rid of Bambi too. Who thought that was a good idea to show to a child-

Q. Which Friends character would you like to play on stage?

Easy, Rachel. I'm convinced she is my friend.

Q. Pick one class to study at Hogwarts.

Defence Against the Dark Arts.

Q. What's the opening theme song to your life?

Ah. Give me a second, I can't rapid fire this one. There's been so many different songs for different parts of my life- OKAY, how about Karma Chameleon. Good old 80s.



Interview of Zulfikar Bhai

by Zehra Tejani and Laiba Irfan

Note : This interview was taken primarily in Urdu, it has been translated to English for ease of the readers.

Q1- How long have you been working here?

18 years! I started working here when I was 19 years old.

Q3 - How has Covid-19 changed things around you?

(Pauses for a while) It cannot be denied that Covid has changed our lives for the most part. In regard to students, I would say *keh bache thora parhai se door hogaye hain, lyken main iss ka blame students konahi doon ga*. Online classes and studying from home, both are very different from physical school, so it was inevitable that their lives slowed down. But, inshallah *aap log mehnat karein ge, result le aayenge*, especially now that we are slowly returning to regular school.

Q5 - What has motivated you to continue this work for so long?

When I came here, I was 19 years old and now I am 38 years old, but *phir bhi kaam waisa hi karta hoon, jazbaat waise hi hain mere*. It is all because of the love I have received from the institute and from the students. It makes me so happy that, whenever any previous Lyceum students visit (those who have graduated; some even married), they make sure to come meet me. The realization that *unn ko main abhi tak yaad hoon* fills my heart with joy.

Q2 - Wow, that's a long time! How has lyceum changed your life? And what has this experience of working in Lyceum taught you?

Earlier, I used to work at a factory but ever since I started working here, Lyceum has welcomed me as a part of their family, *kabhi bhi mujhey mulaazim nahi samjha*. I started from the bottom here, learnt how to work on computers, and now I can even understand English. *Main apne ghar se ziyada waqt yahan guzaarta hoon*, so Lyceum has become my first family. I have learnt to be kind to everyone around me; be it the students, faculty members or co-workers.

Q4 - You have spent a good chunk of your time here, what would you say is your favorite part of Lyceum?

(Answers very quickly), *Yeh first floor ka corridor*. It's been fifteen years since I have been assigned the management of this corridor. They did try to shift me to some other spot, but *main kaam aisa karta hoon keh teachers ka bhi favorite hoon, aur bachon ka bhi favorite hoon*, which is why I have been able to consistently stick to this floor.

Q6 - Any message for our beloved students of Lyceum?

My message to the kids would be that education is definitely important, but *sab se bari baat hai ikhlaaq aur tarbiyat*, these two things help to make your parents, your teachers and your institution proud. Wherever you go, *aap apni puraani journey ko mat bhoolein*, it helps you stay grounded. *Meri buhat saari duaayein hai aap sab ke liye, jo bhi karein, imaandaari aur mehnat se karein*.

SPOT LIGHT

to trust yourself
strongly believe that
moment you decide
ng yourself when
right for you. I
at your chosen
you'll become n

@scaredofwords

Words have always been a way to express what I feel about my emotions, ideas, or sometimes just to understand the state of the world. That is one of the biggest reasons why I started @scaredofwords, to talk about my ideas and create a safe space for everyone else to share theirs.

i) The night is silent, and the moon is weeping. The Chenab river flows onward and onward, and it shall till the end of time. In the Chenab, lie Sohni and Mahiwal, whose names shall never be apart, whose names shall live on the fertile soils of Punjab for evermore. The clay pot drowned in the water, the unsound (kachhiyaan) can only go so far. That you drowned tonight was in your fate, and perhaps this story shall settle in everyone's hearts, it shall be told every time someone crosses Chenab. And perhaps someone might find peace in the fact that you both drowned together. Sohni and Mahiwal, to exist together, forevermore.

"Yaar noon milegi aaj laash yaar di. Tonight, a lover will be greeted with the corpse of his beloved."

ii) You're gone, I've stopped trying to bring you back. You faded away as unexpectedly as you came in my life. Maybe I'll never move on, maybe I'll still remember you in my poetry for infinity. I'll remember you in all the shades of green.

the.reality.of.escapism ...

@the.reality.of.escapism

in the pottery studio

@THE_REALITY_OF_ESCAPISM

Almost every element of my page is rooted in hidden symbolism- the hand-drawn logo of the phases of the moon representing constant change and growth, the oxymoronic username itself, and the first post being a piece about my struggle with self-acceptance, from the perspective of a clay pot. Originally, I started it as a self-fulfillment project- putting something up online that was so close to my heart felt like revealing the innermost layer of my being with someone anonymous who might resonate with a post made by a new

Instagram page with a handful of followers. I intend to use the page not only as a means of proof of my proficiency in language to future figures of authority who might need it, but also as a place where I can post original pieces that I wrote without the overwhelming pressure of swaying a crowd, or restricting my creative flow with the fear of censorship.



@_CAPTIVATINGCANVASES_

With the ongoing state of lockdown, shelter in place, and self-quarantining, there's one certain good outcome: you have plenty of time. The sudden closure of museums, galleries, concert halls, and theaters in March upended the art world. The resulting financial and personal impacts of the pandemic on artists and art lovers has been enormous. Can the arts stage a comeback? With this thought in mind, I decided to utilize my time at home and unleash my inner desire for art through a blog on Instagram. I brought back my creative connection to art through social media during quarantine. Art to me is an expression of emotions, events, feelings and words. As the saying goes "a picture is worth a thousand words" but what's more, an artwork which was created from the heart is priceless. This idea is what I hold in every artwork I do. I love to play around and experiment with different mediums, working in acrylic paints, gels, pastes, and grounds and what not. I pour my heart and soul into each artwork to do my absolute best. Some of my works have been sold both nationally and internationally, and I'm so grateful for the admiration I've received. I will continue pursuing this passion in my future as well .



@metanoiabyr

I wrote a piece on womanhood (currently the only piece on the account, I'm just starting out) as the events that have recently been taking place deeply affected several women I know, hence I wanted to convey their thoughts and emotions.



Humans Of Lyceum



MUZZAMIL HUSSAIN
KHAN

1) What attracted you towards Lyceum and how has your experience been so far?

It's one of those things that never occurred to me twice. I always knew that The Lyceum as an institution catered to my every need as a student, pushing me one step further in the direction I'm headed. The faculty here is like family to me, all my teachers mentored me in the best possible way and helped me utilize my 'trump cards' wisely. My two year journey sure did conclude fast enough; but I've met some amazing people, made even better memories and had one too many cups of chai from the canteen.

2) Coming back to college after an almost full year of online schooling must have been tough. What was the shift like, back to physical classes?

Aah don't ask me horrible it is to resist your bed at 8am only to stare at a screen for hours on end. I totally understand how annoying online schooling is, but I think we all need to appreciate the ones getting up even earlier trying their level best to teach us via online presentations. It's really unfortunate to have gotten barely a year of on campus classes. Nevertheless, something's better than nothing right?

Editor: Coming to class as late as 8:30 almost everyday definitely made him appreciate others who were in school at 8.

3) What's your routine like? How do you manage your life?

Honestly, I don't believe in following strictly drawn-out plans. Allow yourself the freedom of flexibility; take a little time off once a while to unplug, play video games (especially Valorant), go out with your friends, do whatever works best for you. Work efficiently according to the type of person you are, night-timers o



often try too hard to be morning people but it isn't an easy change. Other than that, never forget to enjoy the process.

4) Favourite memory?

Too many. This would obviously include getting 'pretend-beat up' numerous times on stage, all credits due to Ella's Incredible Illucinations.

Editor: Being the first one in chem P5 classes is definitely on the top too along with being called Osama bin Laden.

5) What morals do you live by?

Faith, Integrity, Perseverance.

Editor: Annoyance too :3

TARHEEM DENAZ

Tell us about your Lyceum experience so far.

It's been interesting, and sentimental, like I've been welcomed into a family; LyTunes has played a huge part in that. Experiences like Reader's Theatre, and the bonds I developed with the amazing people I worked and performed with are ones I'm grateful for. Lyceum introduced me to new opportunities (MUNs and Mock Trials) and I can't wait to see what the rest of my time here holds.

You're an active member of many creative skill-based societies.

Have you ever considered turning that into a career?

I've thought about majoring in design. With fashion design, there's much that's already been done, and so interior design, to me, feels like the path where I'll have room for creativity and innovation.

Everyone who knows you, knows you're super cheery. Why don't you tell us about something that annoys you.

I think I could keep going on forever but, loud chewers! The sound puts me in a murderous mood.

Lastly, if you were made President for a day, what's the first thing you would do?

Lower the legal age of getting a driver's license to 16. Then, I'd introduce a policy which allows best quality coffee everywhere. No more coffee disappointments!



Rapid Fire

1) Who is Zain?

Zain is someone who would always be there for you

2) One thing that makes you get up in the morning?

Tea, breakfast, food in general

3) Your spirit animal?

Fox

4) One song which you want to unhear?

Tahir Shah, Angel.

5) Biggest fear?

Losing people around me

6) If you were a Harry Potter character who would you be?

Voldemort



ZAIN HAIDER MUFTI

Why did you join Lyceum and what have you learnt in your two years?

With great faculty and an environment that resonated with my hopes and aims, Lyceum was always my first choice and honestly, I've never looked back. These two years of my life have been truly transformative. From captaining the Basketball Team of Lyceum which stood third out of eleven teams in Karachi to polishing my non-existent public speaking skills- I have actually learned quite a lot not just about books but about myself too. In these two years I've made everlasting bonds and have been a part of some memorable experiences that have made me who I am today.

What is one thing you've regretted all your life?

Not being more active at Lyceum

2) What is your best memory of Lyceum?

Hitting the game winner against Beaconhouse at Njv tournament.

3) You're someone who thinks he is good with replies so how do you feel when Ramsha beats you every time?

If Ramsha beats me, it means I'm being a gentleman



MAHA ALI



What is your favourite colour?

OKAY SO I can't narrow myself down to one favourite colour because obviously colours, I love colours, but also because I associate my friends with certain colours. Like, Alveera is black with hues of hot pink, Zainab is caramel brown and Safiah is sparkly pink.

What have you learned from the Lyceum community?

It might be cheesy but Lyceum and its community made me who I am. Lyceum showed me how many different kinds of people and social groups there are and brought me out of my bubble. It taught me to stay true to who I am, to have fun and make memories because those memories and the people associated with them are what you remember when things get hard.

What is your biggest fear?

My mom getting mad at me but philosophically speaking, it's being forgotten by people and being disappointed by them.

What's a song lyric that's gotten you through difficult times?

When I start feeling sick of it all
It helps to remember I'm a brick in a wall
Who runs down from the hillside to the sea
When I start feeling that it's gone too far
I lie on my back and stare up at the stars
I wonder if they're staring back at me - Home by Passenger.
No, it's not a Taylor Swift lyric. I'm surprised too.



What would you do with your life if you didn't have to worry about making money?

I would probably study English and Philosophy. I want to learn everything about the world. My logic is that when you know nothing about yourself, you can learn about the world around you instead and that helps you keep a grasp on life. Making money is a scam.

What's your favourite childhood memory?

When I was around 6 or 7, my Dad taught me to play chess and after the game, we would play with the chessmen and make up stories such as the King and Queen having dinner - DON'T LAUGH I WAS SEVEN.



How does being a hijabi impact you?

I feel like people make assumptions about me on the basis of my hijab and then realise I'm completely different when they talk to me. I come from two worlds, having had a liberal education and a conservative family. I'm trying to get better at balancing the two worlds because I've realised you need to believe in something in order to not lose yourself.

Advice on starting college that people aren't told?

Oh boy okay. I was the only person from my friend group who came to Lyceum and I was terrified but it's not as scary as people say. You will always find people who are like you. For anyone with "gifted kid syndrome" like me, you have to study. Putting in minimal effort like you did in O' levels won't cut it anymore. Be organised. Make friends who are smart and have their priorities straight-trust me, you'll find that it'll help you a LOT. But also, don't just use your friends for help. That's not cool o/10, not a very Maha-approved thing to do.

You switched subjects from Physics to English Language. What motivated this and what was the impact it had?

Physics never made sense to me but before I used to be able to put pen to paper and things just happened on their own. A2 however was a different story. I failed my first Physics test in A2 and I took that really hard because I'm a perfectionist. I thought dropping Language would give me more time to focus on Physics but I realised I just hate Physics so I took up Language again. Language just makes sense to me. Anyone can relate to it. It helps us understand the world we're living in and the 'post-colonial hangover' we're all navigating.

Being 'Maha Ali - the Language Student' or 'Ex-Physics Student' has literally defined me in Lyceum. My somewhat toxic-no wait my extremely toxic- relationship with English Language is one of those niche Lyceum inside jokes that everyone knows about.

How do you think having such diverse academic interests impacts you?

I think I've learned a lot about the world from different perspectives and more importantly, connecting and applying what I learn from different subjects to each other. I can also make really lame puns from a variety of subjects which I now feel like is just a plus to me because I think I am absolutely hilarious.

How do you deal with ex-gifted child syndrome?

It's so hard because I've always wanted to be perfect and in my head, perfection was equated to academic validation and more importantly, people's approval and love. In A-Levels, I realised perfection is this unattainable standard that striving towards would just make you unhappy and dissatisfied. If you wait till you're perfect in order to be happy, you're never going to be happy because you're never going to be perfect. Man, I'm such a hypocrite, look at me saying all of this- I don't believe in this one bit, I still want to be perfect.

What's your new and improved idea of perfection?

I think, just being happy. People have grand plans of living in New York or going to the best universities but I don't think that's necessarily what makes people happy. I've realised that I don't always know what's best for me and instead of praying for something very specific, it's better to just pray for what's best for me and I hope that someone answers that prayer.



Maryam Malik's Interview

by Maha Ali and Shoaib Raza

Qs. What is your favourite item from Bashir Bhai's canteen?

My favourite item would probably have to be the chicken roll. It is perfection in 100rs, like I don't know what they put in that but it's literally delicious. My biggest complaint is that it's so small and gets devoured within seconds especially when you're with friends.

Qs. Which powerpuff girl do you relate to the most and why?

I probably relate to Buttercup the most because of how determined she is. She's a tough nut to crack with a hard exterior with the softest interior and cares passionately about what matters to her. If that doesn't describe me, I don't know what does. Just like her I love bullying my friends (out of affection I swear!) and I love Buttercup's spunk and spirit. She gets her stuff done in her own unique way, so I'm probably her. And maybe Bubbles a little, but mostly Buttercup.

Qs. The honors society at Lyceum is primarily an academic one. What does the word honour mean to you outside this context?

To me, honour basically means having integrity and respect, which is the first thing that comes to my mind when I think about honour because without respect, no relationship can ever be formed. It doesn't matter what you feel for anyone, respect is the most important thing there has to be in any kind of relationship, so I feel like if you really want to honour a relationship, you need to have respect and integrity.

Qs Talk us through the pros and cons of being the honours chair- do you feel like you have to meet additional expectations just because of your role?

I feel like, yeah, a lot of my teachers expect me to excel academically all the time, but also outside of that I often feel like they expect me to not make any mistakes at all, be it with regards to attendance, or submitting assignments on time, and I get all of that, of course, the peer tutoring society revolves around having good enough grades to be able to peer tutor, but then it's a lot of pressure on me. It's overwhelming, you know, I'm a perfectionist by nature myself, and then this added pressure because I'm "the honours chair" so I need to get like the top marks and I find that very suffocating sometimes. But the pro would literally be seeing the joy on people's faces when you've helped them or when you're able to match them up with a tutor when they're struggling, This sounds so corny and I probably sound like a teacher but that's literally one of the best feelings ever.

Qs. How will you summarize your experience in lyceum in a sentence?

Lyceum has been nothing short of a feeling of home, warmth and hugs

Series Review



Marvel Studios has released a number of television series this year which included WandaVision, The Falcon and The Winter Soldier and, one of my favorites, Loki. After this tremendous success, Marvel Studios decided to mark the end of the year with their most awaited series, Hawkeye leaving no opportunity, yet again, to wow us with its perfect storyline and lots of action.

We finally got to learn more about Hawkeye, previously considered to be one of the most mysterious characters in the Marvel movies as he was always seen fighting on the sidelines while Iron Man and Captain America usually stole the spotlight. Kate Bishop, a character many Marvel fans might be familiar with, was introduced by the Marvel studios in this season and as expected, did not fail to entertain us with her witty personality and amazing archery skills. The story was a perfect blend of action, fun, loads of superheroes and a lot of Christmas cheer.



HAWKEYE

By Sana Fatima Patel

The first episode of the series gave us an insight as to why Kate Bishop decided to become one of the best archers in the MCU. As the series continued, we saw the bond between Hawkeye and Kate Bishop grow as he came to her rescue to keep her out of danger, but Alas! Kate being Kate, she just could not let Hawkeye handle the dangerous missions on his own. It was exciting to see the two of them together in action.



"You're Hawkeye!"

"Who the hell are you?"

After watching the series, I can say for sure that The Marvel Studios made the right choice by choosing Hailee Steinfeld as Kate Bishop and Jeremy Renner as always, rocking the role of Clint Barton, aka the one and only, Hawkeye. In the end, it is safe to say that Marvel Studios has a lot in store for us even after the end of its Phase 3 with Avengers Endgame.



SQUID GAME

By Mahnoor Shahid



Squid game is a thrilling drama series trending on Netflix worldwide. Everyone fell in love with it, including myself. The series gets more thrilling as the story unfolds. It is full of action, emotions and suspense, though it can be depressing for some people. It is about 456 people in various states of debt and trouble in their personal lives who are invited to participate in a mysterious survival game with six rounds in total, with the promise of a large cash prize for the winner. Each participant is “worth” ₩100 million and every time someone gets eliminated from the game, their “worth” is added to the prize pool. That means at the end of it all, the winner walks away with ₩45.6 billion. They have no idea what games they’ll be playing, but things turn ugly real quick.

‘Red Light, Green Light’ was the first round of the game. Players are only allowed to move when the “it” person

(in this case, a giant doll that was creepy enough on its own, to be honest), has their back turned; as soon as they turn to face the crowd, players need to immediately freeze in whatever position they're in. We all got a shock when that first gunshot revealed exactly what getting "eliminated" meant? No mercy, no time to figure out what was happening – just a straight shot to the head. The chaos and panic that broke out amongst the remaining players was 100% understandable, though it just led to a downfall of bullets every time one of them moved.



One of the most emotional and heart wrenching scenes was during the Marble game. The pairing between Sae-byeok and Ji-yeong was one of the scenes that captured people's heart and made us all cry. The two women decided to just play one sudden-death game towards the end of their 30-minute time limit, instead spending the time having a conversation about their lives and potential plans after the game. At the end, it's clear that Ji-yeong has decided that Sae-byeok deserved to live more than she did, essentially throwing the game away so that she would lose.



"You have a reason
to leave this place,
but I don't.?"

The tempered glass game was an action packed scene. It had most of us biting our nails because each step was a 50% chance of survival, or maybe it was the shock value of seeing the glass shatter and the unlucky player just... drop. Before the game even started Gi-hun, the main lead, had to decide between the first and last spot. It ended up being a choice between life and death without even knowing what the game is!



Gi-hun's victory was bittersweet, at best. He walked away with all of that money, but at what cost? He lost friends he had made while inside the game, not to mention Sang-woo who was practically like a younger brother to him. After witnessing all of that death and just one bloodbath after another, it's hard to imagine what kind of trauma he'll be living with for the rest of his life, too. When he finally got to his house and it was all dark, and his

mother wasn't responding when he called out to her? You just knew that she was already dead, and he was too late.

The last scene is what shocked all of us the most. The scene between Il-nam and Gi-hun, with the former on his deathbed leads to a shocking twist where we learn about the origins of the game and how Il-nam was still fighting to play one last game with Gi-hun. This was a beautiful ribbon to tie up the series. Heartbreaking, but beautiful nonetheless.

ONLY MURDERS IN THE BUILDING

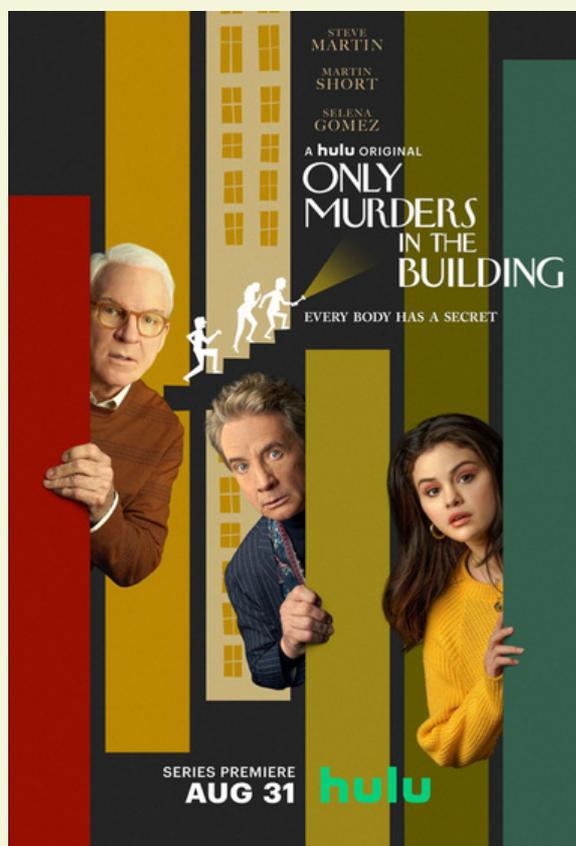
By Natasha Bilal

Who doesn't love a great mystery! We finally have a fresh exciting alternative to all the zombie/supernatural/reality tv regurgitation that floods the streaming and network channels. For those of us who crave crime adventures, this show delivers as promised. Centered on a group of true-crime obsessives who start their own podcast after a fellow apartment building resident dies under mysterious circumstances, 'Only Murders' stars Steve Martin, Martin Short, Selena Gomez, the picturesque and autumnal Upper West Side of New York, and a variety of enchanting outerwear.

Gomez, Short, and Martin all play neighbours in an enormous and glamorous apartment building called the Arconia. Martin is a former TV detective named Charles-Haden Savage, whose only real social

stimulation comes from getting recognized on the street and who, lately is getting recognized less and less. Short is Oliver Putnam, a Broadway director who surrounds himself with souvenirs from a career of flops. Gomez is Mabel, a closed-off young woman, who Oliver and Charles note early on is much too young and not nearly wealthy enough to be living in a building like the Arconia. But all three of our main characters are harbouring secrets of their own!

'Only Murders' is a solid murder mystery series with both dark and comedic tones. I liked the distinct style and direction the director took, especially with some abstract and surreal scenes to convey emotions and ideas. The cast is great, I loved Steve Martin and Martin





Short as two old yet eccentric characters.

Selena Gomez is, surprisingly, a strong fit for this character type as well. The makers brilliantly

stitch together an intimate tapestry around the building and its inhabitants. With every resident being a suspect in the mad-hat case, their characters are nothing but sheer joy on the screen.

As the trio races against the suspects, and sometimes, each other, we get moments of dread, laughter, rancour and pomp, making us want a little more at the end of every cliff-hanger that is an episode. While comedy legends, Short and Martin, are nothing short of a treat for the eyes in this off-beat thriller, Gomez gives Mabel a sardonic edge, giving way to some of television's most powerful depictions of generational shifts and friendships.

Not only does this series delight the audience with its old school high-jinks and witty banter, but it latches onto your heart with the private personal struggles of each main character. The charisma and energy bouncing between Steve Martin, Martin Short, and Selena Gomez makes this series outstanding.

Only Murders in the Building is a triumph of tone, character, and quirky one-liners. It's tricky to have a story that, itself, also serves as a lesson about storytelling, but Only Murders is a gem of a show that can be both serious and playful. It can draw you in with warmth while also pushing you out a bit with self-referential silliness. Steve Martin,

Martin Short, and Selena Gomez make for an unbeatable triple combo, presenting characters you want to root for in the midst of a mystery designed to pull them all out of their shells.



SCHITT'S CREEK

By Mahnoor Nauman Shaikh



"Gossip is the devil's telephone.

Best to just hang up."

What happens when a spoilt, rich family loses everything except a small town full of eccentric residents they had once bought as a joke because of its name? A whole lot of fun that's what. The show's use of witty and dry humor keeps the viewer hooked episode after episode but what makes this particular series stand out from the plethora of comedy shows is its ensemble of characters. Story arcs that illustrate their growth as individuals and how their relationships with each other develop are done rather beautifully. One is compelled to care for them as much more than a character that makes you laugh.

The Roses start off having a rocky relationship but with the progression of the show, they learn how to be a family with lessons from co-existing in the small confines of a motel in a small town. They discover the best versions of themselves. This slow and believable evolution must be credited to the writers and how well they crafted this story. No doubt this journey of self-discovery also makes for an entertaining watch with the brilliant comedic performances of the cast. A true balance of hilarity and emotion is what elevates Schitt's Creek from an average sitcom to a great show.



Schitt's Creek

Movie Review

ENGLISH VINGLISH

By Aleena
Allawala

In honour of Siridevi's death anniversary, we will be looking back at one of her greatest works. A story of a woman from India, going to visit her sister in America. Despite not knowing a lick of English, we watch as she embarks on a hilarious journey filled with Hindi and English blunders, and learns to navigate the streets of New York and gradually heads toward becoming a fully fledged New Yorker. If you are someone who enjoys family drama, a big Indian wedding and an underdog coming out on top, this is the movie for you. Watch as Siridevi's character, Shashi, navigates the troublesome English language; a pain we can all relate to, and engages in some tense moments with a mysterious French man. Feel the angst and stress of the moment while holding on to the edge of your seat and trying to control your laughter. Watch Shashi and her English class fight their way through their biggest battle yet, trying to be an English speaking New Yorker.



"Family is the only one who will never make you feel small. Family is the only one who will never laugh at your weaknesses."

An Original Piece Written in Collaboration With Lyslam

Ramsha

The corridors aren't the same anymore
They now remind me of the stories I have witnessed
The memories I've made
The smiles I've passed
They remind me of you
The notes of the piano still brings back those emotions I
think I had buried
*Woh ehsaas jo mai bhool jana chahti hoon. Magar afsoos aisa
na hua.*

The blue colour of copper sulphate in the lab still makes me
feel what I felt with you- *sukoon sirf
aur sirf sukoon*

But it was all a facade- a facade I had forced myself to
believe in- a facade that kept me going
I wish I had ended it the last time we met but I couldn't.
Bohat koshish ki thi phir bhi nahi karsaki

I had practiced my lines a million times in my head but at
that time I couldn't find the right words-
or maybe there never were any right words- maybe we are
better off without saying goodbye.

And suddenly we have to say goodbye like we
didn't know all along that birds go away when the
winter comes. Maybe I never learned to say goodbye
and I should've. Because maybe the other side of this
world won't have the same jokes we had, the jokes no
one would understand. Maybe the other side of this
world won't save a chair for me and let me take his
fries. Maybe the other side won't be kind like the
golden leaves that land on our skins and turn our
blood into ichor.

Usman



Descriptive Piece

🔍 Umm-e-Abeeha Khan Yousufzai ✕

I hurried up the path, the soles of my boots sinking into the soft soil, leaving footprints that trailed behind me from my house to the carnival. I ducked under one last bush, pushing thorns away with arms red with previous scratches. It was the third, and last day, that the carnival was in town, and I had managed to sneak into it without paying the entrance fee, all three days.

With a final yank, I pulled away one last branch that obstructed my path, and stepped into the gleaming and glowing world, that was the carnival. The magic of it never lessened, no matter how many times I visited it. Hiking up my dress, I hurried over to the nearest stall, a spectacle of bright red and azure, selling what normally would be considered ice-cream, but in this setting, was no less than a concoction from the ancient worlds. I stood in line, my eyes sweeping my surroundings, as I drank it all in. Lights flashed in my vision, bright as Sirius, hypnotic and numbing. This was what I loved about the carnival; the serotonin rush just standing within it gave.

I lifted my head up, letting myself drown in the fantasia that played over all the chatter, letting it take me away to wherever it desired. I felt unrooted. Flowing. And then, the ding of a nearby game stall brought me back. Taking my ice-cream, I made my way over to a game stall. The coins clinked gently against the cold metal of the register, as I aimed my gun at the wall of balloons towering over my five-foot-two frame. I narrowed my gaze, focusing it, trying to ignore the myriad of colours, lights and noises that surrounded me. Taking a deep breath in, I pulled the trigger.



Licking my melting ice-cream, as it raced down to stain my clothes, while struggling to hold onto the three feet tall teddy bear I won, proved to be more difficult than anticipated. Setting my belongings down on a bench, I sat down beside them, and looked around. A boy, looking no more than four, stood crying near a man in a clown suit. At the 'Spin the Wheel' stand, a man stood, quietly trying to bribe the boy running the game into letting his girl win; he succeeded, and she went home the proud owner of an inflatable rubber duck. Opposite me, on another bench, sat an old man and woman, sharing a bucket of popcorn, resting their heads on each other's shoulders, their fingers laced together. Beside them, sat a mother, her baby nibbling on her finger, as she furiously rummaged through her baby bag, that looked like it weighed a ton.



My eyes came to a rest on the Ferris wheel, the most fascinating part of the carnival, and one that I had unfortunately never experienced. Seeing the short queue, I took advantage of the opportunity, and got in line. It was darker now, and under the cloudy sky, the carnival looked like its brightness and intensity had been turned up. The music had transformed from a mix of jazz and rock, to 80s pop. I got into my seat on the Ferris wheel, letting the protection bar swing into place. With a jerk, the wheel sprung into motion, my seat swinging in the wind. I looked down, the rows of stalls and games, looking like the Pac-man maze, neon lights lighting up the paths. I had just closed my eyes, letting a wave of serenity cascade over me, when a loud and collective gasp made me look down. The wheel was lit up, lights flashing in different patterns, different colours, following the beat of the music. I was high enough now, to be able to see most of the town, and could see people coming out on rooftops, mesmerized by the show. We all new what would follow this; the carnival always ended majestically. Sure enough, seconds later fireworks erupted before my eyes, whistling shrilly and leaving behind them a trail of broken stars. I blinked away the yellow spots in my vision, that would have put Van Gogh's stars to shame, not wanting to miss a second of it.

RED (TAYLOR'S VERSION)

BY SAFFA HAIDER AND FATIMA MUSSADIQUE

Taylor Swift is known to be a singer who writes songs with a powerful meaning behind each lyric. Her songs have impacted millions of people all over the world and still continue to do so. She recently released an album, named "Red" on 12th November 2021, which made waves across the world. Taylor swift re-released the album after firstly releasing some bits of it back in 2012. This album includes songs which she was unable to put in before. Most of them perfectly encapsulate the feelings a person goes through, in and after a relationship. With each and every lyric hitting hard, Taylor Swift has surely created a masterpiece. The use of ecstatic and expressive vocals and vivid imagery adds to making the album "oh so perfect".

Every song from the album was a bop however the song "All too well" with a short film definitely made waves across the internet.

Red was even at No.1 for seven weeks on the Billboard 200 album chart. This album was surely a masterpiece and the ultimate version of her gloriously ambitious mega-pop manifesto.



PLAYLIST



PUBLIC PLAYLIST English Playlist

- 1 **Lovers Rock**
TV Girl French Exit 3:34
- 2 **willow**
Taylor Swift evermore 3:35
- 3 **Just Click**
Emily Warren Quiet Your Mind 3:39
- 4 **fever dream**
mxmtoon dawn 3:16
- 5 **Day 1**
HONNE Love Me / Love Me Not 3:54
- 6 **Emotional Girls**
Sawyer Emotional Girls 3:00
- 7 **Soft Glow**
Taletta Soft Glow 3:31



PUBLIC PLAYLIST Urdu Playlist

- 1 **Waqt Ki Baatein**
Dream Note Waqt Ki Baatein 4:03
- 2 **Laaree Chootee**
Call Dhoom 3:59
- 3 **Kabhi Kabhi Aditi**
Rashid Ali Jaane Tu... Ya Jaane Na 3:39
- 4 **Pasoori**
Shae Gill, Ali Sethi Pasoori 3:44
- 5 **Tu Jhoom**
Naseebo Lal, Abida Parveen Tu Jhoom 6:38
- 6 **Joona**
Hasan Raheem, Abdullah Kasumbi Joona 3:09
- 7 **Dou Pal**
Taha G, Maanu Dou Pal 2:54
- 8 **Filhaal**
Towers Filhaal 4:15
- 9 **kidhar?**
Maanu, Zahra Paracha, Talal Qureshi kidhar? 3:34
- 10 **Sajni**
Strings Thirty 4:18

art corner.

The Approaching Hunter



Evening in Paris



Hyper Realism



**Kiran
adnan**

Venetian Renaissance



Gaucha in a red poncho



Somber



Yousuf ahmed



YEARBOOK

QUOTES 2022!

Abeeha: yk when you pspspsp a cat and it looks at you and chooses to walk away? yeah, that.

Ramsha: Everyone has issues, mine are just more important.

Maha Ali: Fahad should be jailed

Musab Kasbati: Help where you can; cry when you can't

Maryam: ramsha parvez, damn

Awab Qureshi: WDYM there's a class happening, let me play Piano

Ayesha Brohi: can we skip to the good part

Alveera Basit: but Vanessa i'm a matewial gowrl

Yumna Hashim: WHEN A GARBAGE MAN GOES TO WORK HE GONNA SMELL LIKE TRASH BUT ITS TIME TO TAKE THE TRASH OUT THE HOUSE

Shiza: mein ne pehne party shoes

Aahad: ALWAYS REMEMBER WEST WAS YOUR BIGGEST W.

Atikah Tariq: I'll complete all my work on the weekend.

Safia Farhan: another beautiful day without using sin cos tan

Zainab Zahid: I am an industry plant I don't need a job

Fahad Fuflu Siddiqi: Don't take orders, learn to make decisions yourself.

Anum Atif: I promise ill come back to this with a better yearbook quote.

Samie Ahmad: Life is a party, I'm the piñata.

Muhammad Ebad Hussain: The Office, season 7, episode 19, minute 14:45

Syed Muhammad Hussain: Can I please stay another year? - said no one.

Ramis Hussain: Same as Syed Muhammad Hussain's quote.

Naheel Malik: Feet on the ground, head in the clouds

Anusheh Tanveer: I still have no idea where my classes are <3

Umna Aziz: took maths to calculate the slope of my life going downhill

Khadija Malik - 'A levels is going to easy, it's 3 subjects' - said no one ever

Syeda Sukaina - No, I'm not hiding Voldemort in my Hijab..

Momina Sadullah : Believe in 4:20 not angel numbers

Rahimeh Durrani: thank you for giving pakwiggies clout

Maria Khanani: you're supposed to make banana bread when life gives you rotten bananas, but I've just made khichri.

Salwa Farid: What class

Hasan Saad: "Dans la contradiction et le paradoxe, vous pouvez trouver la vérité"

"In contradiction and paradox, you can find the truth"

Zoya Bhagat: you're welcome for making this college tiktok famous

Eesha Esbhani: Sab ka katayga

Aleeya Rizvi: Mahnoor if you're reading this, "Don't waste your time lukin backwardzz at wht u hav lost"

Hussain Ali Shah: This quote is too important to screw up, so i am playing it safe.

Azman Morani: Life is Chill

Sobia Ali: Life is Chill

Mahnoor Gul: somebody call 911

Khawla Humayun Nazir: losing hair & friends.

Mekael Diwan: Jack Ma ko AliBaba ki idea maine hi di thi

Areena Khurram: don't try the Oreo shake

Mehreen Waqas: Tum mai oor aik cup chai

Meerab Malik: qawali night is the one and only event we will be talking about forever

Hasnain agha: Burnt out since July'21

Adeena Talib: Google show me cool yearbook quotes

Mubeen Shaikh: Have no fear, only ambition.

Hassaan Rashid: Pakistan mein gadhon ki tadaad mein tezi se izafa horaha hai

Taha Ahmad: Never gonna give you up never gonna let you down never gonna run around and desert you.

Aly Asad Khowaja: "It's better to be memorable than boring."

Zarak Abbasi: Hey lyceum vote for Zaraaak Abbasi

Syeda Fakhira Saghir: To all the trees and walls at the Lyceum, you'll be missed and to all my friends don't kill me for this ;)

Mahad Mir : Thank God you didn't see me clean shaven.

Jaweria Akber Moten: Still can't believe hannah montana and miley cyrus are the same person.

Fatima Muhammad Junaid: Don't give up on dreams, just keep sleeping.

