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# WRITERS

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A GUIDE FOR A LOST SOUL



# INDEX

## Poems:

- Beauty was the Beast — Niharika Khedekar 5
- a bird flaps its wings and... — Pratham Bharadwaj 9
- Widow— Aadya Pandit 11
- Who am I in your story? — Swarrali Shah 13
- Aristos Achaion — Nirat Gill 15
- A Letter to Death — Anshika Singh 19
- The Post Office — Mohammad Qamar Pathan 23

## Articles:

- CRISPR Cas 9 - An Advancement or an Abasement — Niharika Khedekar 27
- The Fashion Industry - Representation is Bare Minimum - Mohammad Qamar Pathan 31
- Dark Humour and Cyberbullying - Aadya Pandit 39



A detailed painting of a hand holding a quill pen over an open book. The hand is positioned in the center, with the quill pen held between the fingers. The book is open, showing several pages. In the background, there is a desk with a stack of books, a glass container, and a red cloth. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, creating a classic, scholarly atmosphere.

# Poems



Remember reading or watching the story of Beauty and the Beast as a kid? As a writer, I love twisting and turning stories in more ways than one. What if the dainty graceful beauty, was the beast on this while, feeding off on the naïve supposed "beast"? Here's my version of the twisted one-sided tale of love.

-Niharika Khedekar

# BEAUTY WAS THE BEAST

## Bella's Point of View

Lady Bella shone as bright as beauty e'er could shine,  
Yet in their gaze, 'twas but my face, ne'er the Lilith in  
mine.

I, the sorceress, who cursed the king, transformed to  
bestly form,  
Then donned the guise of maid futile, whose fortune  
was forlorn.

I bent the beast to love's cruel snare,  
And masked my sins with gentle care.  
I seized his treasures, rich and vast,  
Whilst cloaked in darkness, silent cast.

Lady Bella shone as bright as beauty e'er could shine,  
Yet in their gaze, 'twas but my face, ne'er the Lilith in  
mine.

My wings of thorn I hid beneath the crimson rose's  
bloom,  
I veiled my wickedness in beauty, hid the spectre of  
doom.

A beast he was, yet blind to woe,  
For love had bound his heart in glow.  
I claimed his glory, bound his will,  
And once again, 'twas beauty still.

# BEAUTY WAS THE BEAST

## Beast's Point of View

Beauty was so beautiful with her face and heart  
combined,

But she always seemed as if, in my palace she  
confined;

I gave her all my love,  
I loved her over and above;

But she always stayed in her own little world ,  
And never spoke a word.

I knew she was stealing all my riches,  
I stitched my betrayed bleeding heart with stitches;  
She thought she was clever and that I would never  
know,

But I loved her from all my heart, even if she stooped  
so low.

I thought it was a phase, and she was tired of being  
deprived,

But she hid the money that she looted as soon as I  
arrived;

I let it slide the first couple of times, thinking she  
was good at heart,

Because her face was so beautiful, her mind must be  
a piece of art.

Maybe she was hesitant,  
Maybe she was reluctant;  
Maybe I was the problem here,  
Maybe my looks, for her were a fear;  
I just wanted her to feel my love,  
And not just see the mask above.

I never thought she would be evil,  
And her thoughts would be quite civil;  
But what if I was wrong?  
What if she made me weak when I should have been  
strong?  
I pushed away all those thoughts,  
Even when I had doubts of all sorts;  
And focused on her beauty,  
Because I was the one who fell in love and made her  
my duty.

**-Niharika Khedekar**



While writing this poem, I found myself captivated by the serene beauty and boundless freedom depicted in the flight of the bird. Through vivid imagery and rhythmic language, I aimed to convey a sense of wonder and awe for the natural world. With each line, I seek to immerse readers in the journey of the bird, allowing them to experience the gentle embrace of dawn, the expanse of golden meadows, and the ethereal dance among the stars. In crafting this poem, I aspire to evoke a deep appreciation for the harmony and majesty of nature, while also contemplating the timeless mysteries of existence.

— Pratham Bharadwaj

## a bird flaps its wings and...

In the soft dawn's light  
a bird flaps its wings  
and flies away in solitary flight  
It soars up and high and  
looks upon the sun shining bright  
It flies over golden meadows  
beating its wings with might  
It weaves through clouds  
in a graceful flight  
As the breeze blows calm  
it's a pure delight  
As the sun sets down  
It embraces the night  
The stars start to shine  
painting the sky with light  
The bird still flies  
A celestial flight  
An endless flight

— Pratham Bharadwaj

She was too grief-stricken to cry. She had graveyards in her lifeless eyes, the little girl, the lover, and the mother all died, and now she just stands, stands lifeless, a standing corpse.

It's my take on an innocent mother who had nothing to do with the war. A common woman, robbed of her only people, to the horrid war.

-Aadya

# WIDOW

Women in black veils, stand in tow,  
They gaze away at nothing, just the bloodied  
grounds.

I could sense their mouths moving,  
but couldn't see beyond their eyes  
Gleams died with their children,  
I'm left staring into a void. I see them  
standing unmoving,

It's like the corpses came alive to stand in  
revolt, standing over the bones of their dead  
children,

Their brothers and mothers.

Standing corpses, find no solace.

They die now.

and again.

They die a thousand deaths.

and weep their tears  
into the loudest silence I've ever heard.

-Aadya

In the quiet of my study, I penned  
these words to capture the  
essence of our connection. You're  
not just a character; you're the  
heartbeat of my narrative, the  
gentle gale that guides its course.

- Swaralli

WHO AM I IN YOUR STORY?

Who am I in your story?  
just a wanderer, or someone really important? In  
the needlepoint of your dreams, do I weave? A  
passing breeze, or a love to believe? Who am I in  
your story?  
just no one, or someone crucial? Who am I in your  
heart?  
Just a memory, or a cherished thought? Who am I  
in your story?  
just a random being, or someone necessary? Who  
am I in your narrative?  
A whisper of dread, or a gentle gale? Who am I in  
your story?  
just a fleeting moment, or an eternal glow? Tell  
me, in the chapters of your existence, Am I but a  
whisper, or your spirit?  
In the silence of this dead night, where dreams  
just fade away, Am I just a memory, or a price you  
must pay?

-Swarrali

"I, aimed to encapsulate the essence of Achilles, the illustrious Greek hero. Born of regal lineage, his father a monarch and his mother a nymph of the sea, Achilles was proud of his strength and powers, hence earning the title 'Aristos Achaion'—the best of all Greeks. He was said to be made for war, an outstanding weapon for bloodshed, destined for unparalleled feats of valour. It saddened me how his actual self was overshadowed because of his strength. So i diverged from conventional portrayals and sought to unveil his more tender and joyful side. This piece draws inspiration from the seminal works of Homer's 'Iliad' and Madeline Miller's 'The Song of Achilles,' whose narratives have influenced me greatly, yet it is still an original work written by me"

-Nirat Gill

# ARISTOS ACHAION

He who was the best of the Greeks He  
who was born to battle

The prince of Pythia The demi-god

The golden boy

Achilles

With hair like honey in sunlight and  
Eyes like a brook reflecting trees, He

learned to love And sing

And to play a Lyre

He wished to change his destiny To live  
with his lover in serenity His lover who  
was half his soul

But the peace was robbed from him He  
was dragged to fight

In the Battle of Troy

The Trojan war



Filled with bloodshed and slaughter  
The war where his lover died  
Half of his soul was ripped from him

His happiness

His light

His good part

All met demise

He became a vassal with rage and  
sorrow

Blood sullied his marble skin  
Tears stained his golden cheeks The  
gods interfered

To stop him from altering fate And  
aimed at  
Achilles's heel

**-Nirat Gill**



In this poem, I aimed to capture the journey of confronting mortality with courage and determination. Through the speaker's introspection, I explored the shift from fear to defiance in the face of death. The poem conveys a sense of resilience and empowerment, emphasizing the speaker's refusal to be overcome by life's greatest challenge.

— Anshika Singh

# A LETTER TO DEATH

I have never seen your eye  
But my curiosity leads me to try

Are you beautiful or not,  
Are you real or a thought

I have been hiding from you for years  
Mourning the loss of my dears

But, now it's enough  
You burned my heart so  
Much  
that now it's lit

I have faced you once,  
I will conquer you again,  
I won't stop until everything  
I've lost is gained

I have gone through you  
now I am acquainted with  
the cunning tricks and  
the made-up myths

You are too mild  
more like a child

Let's turn face to face  
now you fear, I am at your  
pace

I have gone through a lot now you do  
I stand like a mountain  
Untouched by you

Death, there are some things  
Of us that are overdue  
The next time you come to  
me, remember this  
Letter to you.

— Anshika Singh

(ii)



In writing this poem, I aimed to express the pain of unspoken words and missed connections. I aim to display the confusion of emotions surrounding unanswered letters, by a loved one. This piece describes the longing pain of an individual to receive the letter from that one person, he considers before all. The pain of running to the post office; his longing for closure and connection, despite the odds.

My poem is an attempt to display the universal experience of longing and regret in matters of the heart.

-md

# *the post office*

24 June 2024 Issue

*here is to the letters i never sent,  
here is to the good times together  
we never spent,  
everyday, my head is spinning  
round and round again.  
broken hearts, broken dreams,  
opinions,  
they rule my life again,  
i run to the post man and ask,  
"where does that guy live again?"  
the post man never bought his  
letter to me,  
my mother said, we weren't meant  
to be...*

*they say my pain is my paint,  
they say it and they faint,  
a bird flaps its wings and then,  
i keep running to the post office,  
again...*

*-md*



# HOME

New York Times

All the News  
That's Fit to Print

# Chicago Tribune

NEW YORK, N.Y.

er's Path and a Killing  
tlight on Mental Care

Debt Bill



All the News  
That's Fit to Print

# HOME

# ARTICLES



## **CRISPR-Cas9: An Advancement or an Abasement?**

The groundbreaking gene-editing technique CRISPR-Cas9 has enormous promise for improving human health and making medicinal advancements. Though its accuracy in repairing genetic disorders and improving human characteristics is praised, ethical quandaries cloud its uses. The potential of CRISPR to target and modify particular DNA sequences presents a promising treatment option for genetic disorders such as sickle cell anaemia and cystic fibrosis. Furthermore, it creates the foundation for boosting physical attributes and cognitive functions, which could change the course of human history.

Imagine living in a world where the revolutionary gene-editing tool CRISPR can shape our physical features and mental capacities. The options appear limitless, ranging from improving intelligence to changing the colour of one's eyes. When we consider the consequences of using CRISPR to modify human characteristics, we are forced to address not only the moral issues but also the fundamental nature of humanity. So, as we stand at the crossroads of science and morality, the question arises: what does it mean to be human in a world where genetic augmentation blurs the distinction between what is natural and what is engineered?

Using CRISPR-Cas9 to start your genetic improvement journey opens doors to a world where advancement,

enhancement and evolution come together in ways never seen before. The basic human desire to surpass our boundaries and expand the definition of what it means to be human is at the centre of this attempt. Think about the DNA-encoded evolutionary imperative that drives us to adapt and survive in a world that is constantly changing. With the help of CRISPR-Cas9, we may quicken this process and modify our genetic makeup in ways that strengthen our resistance to illnesses, harsh environmental conditions, and even the passage of time.

Furthermore, the desire for improvement is profoundly embedded in the human psyche. Our desire is to reach our full potential and discover our own untapped potential. A new age of human intellect and creativity has begun with the discovery of CRISPR-Cas9, which gives us the ability to enhance not only our physical characteristics but also our cognitive abilities. However, in the middle of this desire for improvement, we must proceed cautiously and be aware of the moral implications that come with such great power. We need to ask ourselves the following question as we consider our options: What are the consequences of using CRISPR-Cas9 to alter humankind? How can we make sure that our appreciation for variety and human dignity is not eclipsed by our drive for progress?

Achieving a balance between ethical considerations and scientific advancement is crucial when negotiating the complex ethical environment of CRISPR. Responsible research

procedures, strong regulatory frameworks, and open discourse are crucial for CRISPR to serve humanity's best interests while preserving the values of justice, equity, and respect for human dignity. It is only via meticulous consideration and cooperation that we use CRISPR to our advantage by using it as a tool for advancement rather than denigration. The desire to create people who are faultless in every aspect and to perfect humanity is, in fact, tremendously alluring. As we proceed along this route, though, we must stop and ask ourselves: Do we need a "Perfect Human Being"? When it comes to our inherent diversity and flaws, is perfection a goal worth pursuing?

— **Niharika Khedekar**





# THE FASHION INDUSTRY: REPRESENTATION IS BARE MINIMUM



## INTRODUCTION:

The fashion industry, broadly characterized by its fast-paced interests, comes with trends which constantly evolve and change in response to cultural, economic, and social factors. This global industry spans continents and cultures, connecting people from all walks of life to one straight-line path, rightly for the prominent factor of self-expression and the language of style. At its core, the fashion industry is driven by trends, creativity and consumer demand, but as rightly said " NOTHING YOU DO GOES UNSEEN", the fashion industry does have a controversial history of making people's bodies used as "TRENDS". In recent years, it seemed like the fashion world was finally moving toward celebrating all body types, which was a great step forward for inclusivity. But if we look closer at past fashion weeks, it's clear that things might be taking a turn in the wrong direction. There's been a noticeable decline in the representation of diverse bodies on the runway, which is worrying for the future of body positivity. Shockingly, only 3.8% of medium-sized models were featured in fashion shows across major cities like New York, London, Milan, and Paris. It makes you wonder if inclusivity was just a passing trend after all. For a deep study of these controversies, let's back up to the year 1980s when the prominent controversies began.

### 1. THE FUR CONTROVERSY OF 1980S -

FUR, a material considered to be a pure gem for the launching of the fashion industry, was considered a luxurious texture, the 1970s and the 1980s were prominent for their use of fur, mainly in the production of coats, this texture was considered to be the status symbol which was often associated with one's financial capability and importance, according to the people in the 1970s and 1980s these coats earned them a tittle of affluence and sophistication's fur controversy gained significant attention as animal rights activists protested against the fur industry's practices, highlighting concerns about animal welfare and environmental impact. The decade saw a rise in anti-fur sentiment and advocacy for alternatives, leading to increased public debate and regulatory scrutiny. This period marked a turning point in attitudes toward fur, setting the stage for ongoing discussions and changes in consumer behaviour.

### 2. GRUNGE AND MINIMALISM OF THE 1990S-

The fashion scene soon took a sharp turn with the rise of grunge and minimalism. Grunge fashion, which was inspired by the music subculture, embraced an anti-establishment vibe with its thrifted, consisting of layered looks and rugged aesthetic. It was a rebellion against the glitz and glamour of previous decades. On the other hand, minimalism emerged as a contrasting trend, focusing on simplicity, clean lines, and understated elegance. Both styles sparked discussions about authenticity, reflecting the cultural shifts of the era and their impacts.

### 3. FAST FASHION AND GLOBALIZATION OF THE 2000S-

In the 2000s, fast fashion took off big time. It was all about snagging the latest trends at really affordable prices. But as I started to learn more, I realized there were some serious concerns behind the scenes. A lot of these clothes were being churned out in factories where workers weren't treated fairly, and that just didn't sit right with me. Plus, the environmental impact of producing clothes so quickly and cheaply was pretty alarming. And then there was the issue of cultural appropriation, where big brands were borrowing designs from other cultures without acknowledging their origins. It made me rethink my shopping habits and consider the bigger picture beyond just looking stylish.



#### 4. DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY OF THE 2010S-

In the 2010s, there was a great push for diversity and inclusivity within the fashion industry. This involved a great focus on promoting body positivity, ensuring racial diversity, and advocating for LGBTQ+ representation. While significant strides were made in these areas, controversies continued to arise, highlighting ongoing concerns surrounding cultural appropriation, the need for greater size inclusivity, and the importance of ethical sourcing practices. Despite progress, the decade served as a reminder of the work still needed to create a truly inclusive and equitable fashion landscape.

#### 5. SUSTAINABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE 2020S-

In the 2020s, the fashion industry has shifted its focus towards sustainability, ethical practices, and accountability. This ongoing conversation is around pressing issues like waste reduction, ensuring fair labour treatment, and promoting transparency in supply chains. These concerns have become important to discussions and controversies within the industry, reflecting a growing awareness of the environmental and social impacts of fashion production. As consumers and stakeholders demand greater responsibility from fashion brands, the need for systemic change and genuine commitment to sustainability has become increasingly evident.

Although these issues were prominent, decade-wise, the fashion industry still is wrapped around a lot of controversies and many other details that regularly ruin lives, some of these issues are:

##### 1. MISTREATMENT OF MODELS-

The modelling industry is notoriously cutthroat. It's long been plagued by allegations of mistreatment of underage girls, lack of diversity, sexual harassment, promoting an unhealthy lifestyle and just about any other horrifying cliché that has ever been ascribed to fashion.

As published by THE VOGUE MAGAZINE ON THEIR SOCIAL PLATFORMS, in recent years, the magazine conducted various sessions with models that were later published on the platform, the series consisted of various blood-curdling interviews of models, most of whom broke down

down during the interview, which suggests the distraught and inhumane treatment given to these models, here are some statements listed below of some of the models and their sessions with Vogue:

- MODEL CHANEL IMAN- "Why somebody would not even take a look at my book, because of my colour?"

Chanel emphasizes the topic of racial discrimination in the modelling industry which to this date, still continues behind closed curtains, passive racial discrimination is what most models have a complaint about for YEARS, and the fashion industry has done nothing but ignore the fact, and just represent women of colour on the runway to gain the title of "INCLUSIVITY" for their brand.

-MODEL PATRICIA VAN DER VLIET- "It dawned on me... I had to get away" During the conversation Patricia discussed a time when she was very excited to work with a photographer, who soon was going to have an exhibition of his work, she explained that when she got on the set after a few sessions the photographer asked her to move to the bedroom for more shots, which later resulted in her getting assaulted, this was disgusting act was carried on by the photographer on the entire 3-day shoot, Patricia explained that when she reached out to her agency, the said "He is known to do that with girls...." this statement again proves the lack of safety on sets, where models are forced to be assaulted in order to get the future job.

-MODEL SARAH STEPHENS- "One look at my body....that is not going to work"

Sarah explained an incident when she was called for a casting in a room full of people, where the designer gave her a dress to put on, with no changing room available, she was forced to change in front of the entire crew, and the designer, later on, looked at her body and said, "That not gonna work" this shattered Sarah to her core, and took her self-esteem to bits, in an industry that claims to be "inclusive" Sarah was forced to go through that experience and left alone in that room....

-MODEL PALOMA ELSESSER- "It's just difficult, it's passive, in the systemic way at which being marginalized, and, racism and fatphobia and transphobia still exist and they're so pervasive in this industry. It's evident in how it's puppeteered."

The new Model of the Year 2023 explained in this interview how the industry does just pretend to be inclusive, they consider the term as a trend, for the growth of the brand, she explained that designers would just put either one woman of colour or a plus-size model on the runway just for clout, not for the true term of inclusivity.

-MODEL BELLA HADID- " You can't make people do things that they, don't want to do"

The now 2 time Model of the Year winner, Bella through her experience spoke out on the industry and how it pushes models to cross their level of comfort and personal boundaries to meet their expectations of work, she further stated that this industry will have no place for inclusivity if people and their ideas, rather than being listened, get rejected on their faces, and results in them not getting the next casting... to which she exclaimed as a very common activity in the industry, during her childhood Bella often was compared to her, supermodel sister Gigi, which resulted in her suffering from various mental health issues, Bella has also been shamed for where she stands on political grounds and what she supports, this sometimes made the casting directors refuse to include her in the campaigns to which Bella issued the statement,

"When I speak about Palestine, I get labelled as something that I'm not. But I can speak about the same thing that's happening there, happening somewhere else in the world, and that's honourable. So, what's the difference?" Bella later on in a statement said,

"I'm not afraid to lose modelling jobs & I will continue to speak up on Palestine".

## 2. THE BALENCIAGA CAMPAIGN-

The last big controversy of the year was possibly the biggest, two disastrous ad campaigns released by Balenciaga around Thanksgiving. One posed child models with BDSM-inspired handbags and the other included a visible legal document related to child pornography. Together, they caused a massive uproar that led to multiple apologies from both the brand and creative director Dema, as well as the pulling of both campaigns, a lawsuit (which was later dropped) and the potential loss of Kim Kardashian as a powerful ally of the brand. This shows how brands have a lack of understanding of what to include in their campaigns or not.

## 3. THE "SICK" TREND

(DISCLAIMER- the following writing suggests and discusses EATING DISORDERS, FOOD RESTRICTIONS, BODY IMAGE ISSUES AND AGGRESSIVE WEIGHT LOSS)

So, this "trend" apparently first became a thing in the early 1990s, when the high fashion industry promoted models that were EXTREMELY thin, with pale skin and dark under-eye circles. this era was named Heroin Chic, now the fact that it is named after a drug wasn't bad enough for the fashion industry, this term was clearly not meant for any good but, the fashion industry quickly embraced it, it was introduced to end the trend of having athletic, healthy models on the covers and the runways, to walking chopsticks, smoking, substance use, and a no sleep look, depressed, were all glamourized, the shoots all presented the following looks of a model, presented to the public on cover stands, but what most people don't know, some of these models actually resulted in becoming addicts of substance use, and instead of receiving help their bodies were turned into a "FASHION ASTHETIC". The media and fashion industry finally stopped promoting this dangerous trend when a 21-year-old photographer David Sorrenti who used to photograph this trend and the models of the era died of an OD. The media finally started paying attention to this trend although this trend fell off in the early.

However, the damage had already been done to a generation of girls and young women who had developed EDS. Hence, the fact that this is now being promoted again is very disturbing. Sadly, many Millennials remember how in the early 2010s this trend already had its first comeback and unhealthy food habits were actively promoted and glamorized on social media platforms, Tumblr, which had no trigger warnings, the term BODY-POSITIVITY was unheard of. Fatphobia has actively normalized of course the fact fashion industry was behind this comeback because luxury fashion houses like Chanel again started using extremely thin models on runways and in campaigns but like I already mentioned the fashion industry constantly switches body trends, according to one report by the International Society of plastic surgery between 2015 and 2020 the number of bbls performed globally grew by almost 80 per cent. But Trends, come and go in the fashion industry will never let one body type be trendy for too long because they profit off of women feeling insecure so of course as soon as body positivity became a thing here comes to a new era and they are actually trying to bring back Heroin Chic again, a real article was recently published in the New York Post and it says that models like Bella Hadid Lila moss and Kaya Gerber are bringing back the supremely svelte figures you've probably noticed that for the past six months or so a bunch of celebrities started dropping weight very quickly some also are rumoured to have removed their implants. people have even used the medication 'Ozempic', which needs to be prescribed in order to be consumed, to lose weight as it reduces appetite. this overconsumption has led to a shortage of medication for people who actually need it. But, many people have come out to protest and stop this sick trend of reducing bodies to trends, remember "YOUR BODY IS NOT A TREND".

## CONCLUSION:

While it's important to acknowledge the shortcomings and challenges facing the fashion industry, it's also essential to recognize the strides that have been made and the potential for positive change. By raising awareness about issues such as labour rights, environmental sustainability, and inclusivity, we can work towards creating a more responsible and equitable fashion landscape. By supporting brands that prioritize ethical practices and by advocating for greater transparency and accountability, we can contribute to a brighter future for fashion. Ultimately, through collaboration and collective action, we have the power to transform the industry into one that celebrates diversity, promotes sustainability, and respects the dignity of all individuals involved.

Let's embrace inclusivity once and for all!

-Mohammed Qamar



## **Dark Humour and Cyberbullying**

"A man has both light and shadow sides, if willed to do so, the man can bring the best out of either."

The appeal of dark humour lies in its ability to confront taboo subjects and societal norms with irreverence and wit. In an age where authenticity and irony are supreme, dark humour offers a form of rebellion against conventional wisdom.

For many, the ability to find humour in the darkest of situations is a badge of an intellectual, who is signalling a keen understanding of irony and satire. Now that is humourous.

Dark humour has evolved from its Western origins to become a global phenomenon, and is pretty popular in Gen Z. Initially popularized in American cinema through iconic films like "Dr. Strangelove" and novels such as "Catch-22," this brand of humour found a new home in the digital age, flourishing within meme culture and online communities like Reddit. However, what began as a form of entertainment, making jokes about trauma and taboo topics has morphed into something more critical, a form of humour turned into cyberbullying and humiliation

The advent of the internet and the mixing of cultures have given rise to the rapid spreading of Western cultures including dark humour. So we embraced the Westerner's culture, like all the other things we so readily adopted.

"Dark humour turned into cyberbullying":

Dark humour really was never much of a problem before people started to overdo it, or as I would like to say, "doing it wrong." It was not long before people turned supposed humour into **outright humiliation**. In anonymous cyberspace, individuals feel emboldened to push the boundaries of decency, often at the expense of others.

What begins as harmless banter can quickly escalate into cyberbullying and harassment.

Jokes stopped long after becoming jokes, they were the infant of man's evil, shadow side, that was never free to express thoughts that were just straight hurtful, offensive and mean, law, society and their own conscience held them back, but man's anonymity and lack of strictness by social platforms, gave fuel for little evil man to come out. People aren't even this mean in general, but to fit in and just be as "cool" as the majority, unfortunately, people give into peer pressure.

The more offensive the joke, the greater the funnier was it perceived to be. This fuelled the culture where empathy was an endangered bird. The culture where I grew up, the culture which I yearn to stop.

The rise of social media turned the spark into a full-fledged fire, the negative aspects of dark humour, amplifying feelings of inadequacy and insecurity among young people. Platforms like Instagram and TikTok instil unrealistic beauty standards, fostering a culture of comparison and self-doubt. Moreover, the curated nature of social media feeds creates a distorted reality where everyone else's lives seem more glamorous and exciting, fueling the fear of missing out (FOMO).



As we address the darker side of comedy in the internet age, it is critical to cultivate a culture of empathy and understanding online. Education and awareness efforts can assist in clarifying the repercussions of cyberbullying and promote healthier modes of communication. Furthermore, platforms must take proactive steps to reduce the spread of dangerous information and encourage healthy connections.

Generation Z's dark humour reflects the complexities of current life, merging cultural influences with the rapidly changing digital world. While comedy is an effective tool for social critique and self-expression, its abuse may have serious effects. We may use humour's transforming potential to benefit society by cultivating a culture of compassion as well as comprehension, and reflection.

— Aadya Pandit





THE END... (Not really)