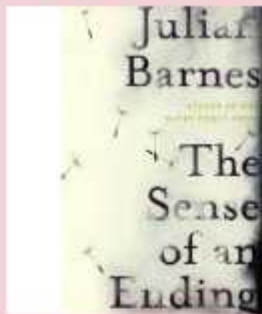


## TOP PICKS



### The Sense Of An Ending

—Tshewang Choden—

The novel follows a middle-aged man reflecting on his youth along with his friends. The book gives you a stunning psychological and emotional depth that begs its reader to finish it in just one sitting. It brings out a unique complexity of life that as a young kid you would simply wave it off, but it comes to back to bite in your adulthood. Navigating through Tony's life you must figure out the puzzles laid in front.



### Birds of Prey

—Ashlin Bangera—

Birds of Prey is a fast paced action packed film that is replete with good humour. Existing under the DC banner, the Margot Robbie starrer features a unique 'feminist' perspective to the storyline. Showcasing a balance between sanity and insanity, the movie's energetic fun filled action is sure to entertain audiences.



### D'Hungry Mogambo

—Passang Lhamo—

If you want to try their authentic Bhutanese cuisines then D Hungry Mogambo, on the right corner of Regent Plaza on Baner-Pashan Link Road, is an ace option. They serve Ema Datshi (chilli cheese) and Puta to savor the goodness of Bhutanese cuisine. Their pork momos and ribs are to die for. They also serve lip smacking Sel Roti with potato curry. The owners, Aditya & Varsha, have brought Bhutanese and Nepalese menu to Pune based on their personal experience of living in Nepal and Bhutan.

## Now, you can 'Ask for Angela' in Pune too

—Roop Sawhney—

Almost every woman has a bad date story and sometimes it takes only minutes for a date experience to go from bad to worse. Harassment is one of the most common factors that turns a date distasteful, and more often than not, victims find themselves in a situation where they are unable to overtly ask for help without alerting the offender.

So, what could possibly help would be a confidential alert to someone present on the spot who could offer help. This is exactly what a pub in Pune has come up with - a secret distress signal to the pub management who will unobtrusively help the victim.

In the UK, many pubs have a system where a distressed client could approach the bartender and 'Ask for Angela', or ask for the 'Angel Shot' - both of which are signals that she needs help.

A similar kind of initiative has been instituted by Elephant & Co., a gastropub in Kalyani Nagar in Pune.

The gastropub has put up posters in

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The 'Ask for Angela' movement took off in 2016 in England in order to curb sexual harassment at bars.

the women's washrooms based on the same concept as the 'Angel Shot'. The codeword here is 'ECO Hero Shot'. So, if a woman is feeling vulnerable, threatened, intimidated, unsafe or just plain uncomfortable with her date, and wants to be bailed out of the situation, all she has to do is order for a "ECO Hero Shot" - and the manager will escort you to a safe place and get your vehicle, or call a cab for you.

"As someone who does not frequent



The gastropub has outlets in Kalyani Nagar and Baner and both branches have followed the movement.

pubs that much, this is something that I would endorse as it makes me confident that my security and safety is not compromised," says Aditi Parida, a customer at the pub.

Customers will not find the "ECO Hero Shot" on the menu. Only the poster in the ladies washroom tells you what it is about.

Another customer said, "It was comforting to know that this pub cares for my safety."

## SID's FDM theme lights up the campus

—Anushka Mukherjee—

In the second week of February, the Symbiosis Institute of Design (SID) flagged off its annual inter-college fest, FunDaMental (FDM). From 11th to 14th February, the Symbiosis Viman Nagar Campus (SVC) witnessed a celebration of art, sports, music and dance - ending with a traditional goodbye to the fourth-year design students called Sampla - the Marathi word for 'concluded'.

This year, the theme for FDM was "Electro-Carnival", an amalgamation of the 80s' synth wave and the idea of a circus and carnival. The theme was evident in the several installations around the campus, as well as the design elements of the paintings at the entrance of the lifts, and also social media.

The fest began with a traditional ceremony as the officiating director of SID, Ms. Sanjeevani Ayachit, lit the lamp. Several sports as well as cultural competitions, which saw participation from across colleges, were flagged off on the first day. While the Stand-Up Comedy contest was adjudged by Ms. Aayushi Jagad - a Pune-based comedian - other



The FDM electro-carnival installation. Pic by Jyotsna Ramachandran

events such as 60 Seconds of Fame was overseen by Mr. Pritha Chakrabarti, a faculty of Symbiosis Centre for Media and Communication (SCMC). The Design Store on campus sold artistic knick knacks made by the SID students.

The second and third day of FDM signified the extension of the cultural events into more contemporary forms, with events such as the Rap Battle, Beatboxing competition and Battle of the Bands.

The chief guest on this day was Ankur Rathee, a celebrity actor and dancer of the Four More Shots and Made in Heaven fame. The highlight of the fest was the

Sundowner event on the SVC campus. Keeping with the "Electro-Carnival" Campus, the artists DJ Spinductor, Rappers Rockbeat, Hotfix and Kaambhari performed for the audience.

To mark the end of this three-day events as well the college journey of the fourth-year design student, the week ended with a farewell ceremony. The juniors bid their seniors farewell with a series of dance and musical numbers. A taskforce of 475 students who helped organize the FDM events signed out. A friendly "roasting" session for the FDM heads followed suit, marking the end of this annual fest in the event so rightly named, Sampla.

## Curtains come down on Raahi

—Govind Choudhary—

Theatre club (Raahi) heads of SCMC, Khushi Narula and Madhavi Jain from batch 2020 bid adieu on the last theatre session of the academic year held on Feb 06, 2020. They welcomed the next theatre club heads Filza Iqbal and Medha Kapoor from batch 2021.

The last day of theatre club session concluded well with a large audience including faculty members. This session was not only opened for theatre performers but it was inclusive for singers and poets as well.

Madhavi Jain said, "Over the last year, we have built Raahi to be more than just a club. It's a safe space that stands for love, passion and acceptance and that is amplified even further with the sort of bond we have made as a team. We have



Raahi members pose for a group photo.

become a family that is always there for each other. But that has happened through sheer hard work, dedication and rehearsals that lasted day and night".

"We had blisters on our feet and sore throats for weeks - but all was worth it when our performance was appreciated in the end. Now, with the help of SCMC's Director Sreeram Gopalakrishnan, we intend on going national with Raahi and

perform at esteemed theatre stages across the country" added Jain.

Raahi has written, scripted, directed and produced over four full on stage and street plays - that were loved by audiences.

It has won inter-college competitions like Sympulse and was invited by many colleges in Pune to perform in the past year.

Rounak Bhat, an active member of theatre club talks about his journey with Raahi. He said, "I never identified as an actor. My journey began as a writer with Raahi starting off with Badhbolli yoni itself. Later on we moved on to shorter plays that we did over the course of Anukram. Raahi made me explore a side to me which I never knew existed and gave me a family of people I would never otherwise make an attempt to talk to".