

VOICE

AUK® STUDENT MAGAZINE

FALL 2022 | VOL.19 | Issue 1

For The Students, By The Students.



A word from the Editor in Chief:

“Dear fellow AUK students, A new semester comes carrying new chapters, opportunities, and beginnings. This is a new chapter in the prosperous history of V O I C E magazine. V O I C E has been a beaming light of joy and erudition at AUK for years, and is now ready to shine brighter than ever. I, along the rest of the team, hope to share a cheerful year with all of you, and provide you with content, values, and events that enrich our university’s heritage and your experience. We are dedicated to providing you with a platform free of prejudice to be your voice. AUK’s VOICE: For the students, by the students.”

VOICE MAGAZINE



'I am a Junior English Literature major and SBSA minor. My passions range from reading and writing poetry to practicing martial arts, specifically Kick boxing and Muay Thai. Talk to me about social issues and moral philosophy.'

Nuha Al-Sahli: Editor-in-Chief



'I am a Senior International Relations major from Kuwait-Lebanon. I enjoy good food, good people, and good vibes.'

Omar Al-Yousef: Co-Editor



'I am a Junior mixed cultural artist studying graphic design. I am a walking colour palette full of joy.'

Taiba Al-Husain: Graphic Designer



'I am a Junior majoring in English Literature and minoring in Communications & media. My inspiration is Rory Gilmore. Hoping to be a cat in my second life.'

Roubina Agha: Reporter



'I am a Junior English Literature major. I love mythology, cute and relaxing video games, and Studio Ghibli films.'

Safeia Mubarak: Reporter

VOICE PODCAST



'I am a marketing major who enjoys meeting new people and trying new things. I love spending my free time reading, watching movies, and listening to music.'

Riad Kahale: Podcast Coordinator



'I am a senior Electrical Engineering major and a 3D artist who likes his sleep.

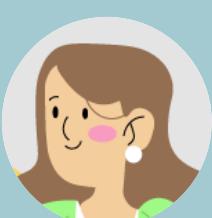
I always learn from the mistakes of others who take my advice.'

Anas Rasheed: Video-Audio Engineer



'I am an International Relations major, which is my primary passion. I spend most of my time reading and researching within the IR sphere. Some of my secondary hobbies include playing the violin, Muay Thai, and learning new languages.'

Farah Waez: Host



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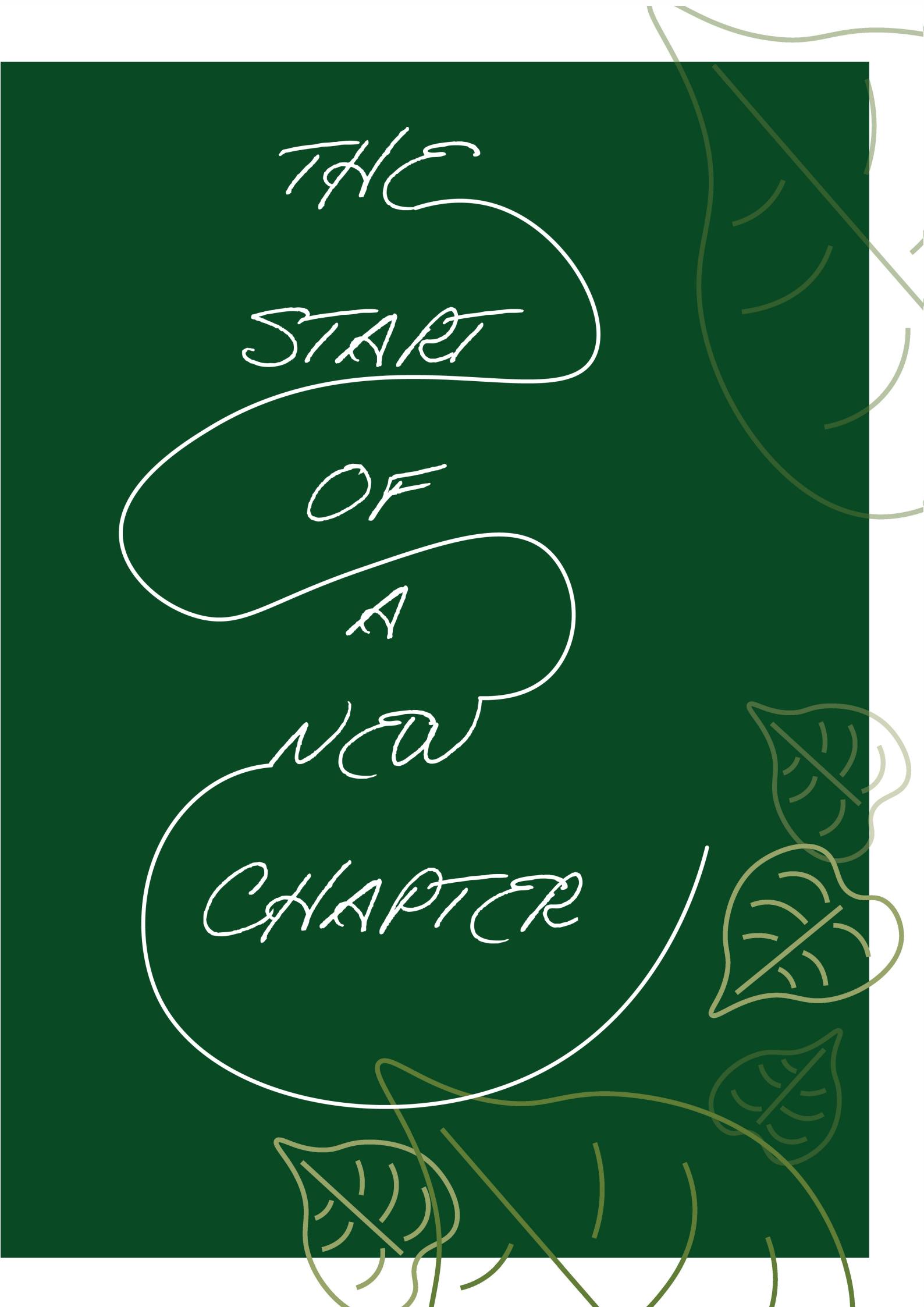
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THE
START
OF
A
new
CHAPTER



What You're Looking For at AUK

By Safeia Mubarak



David Bowie
<https://www.epicrights.com/roster/david-bowie/>

College of: Arts & Sciences

Major: Graphic Design

Major Description: This degree program offers a balance of theory and practice in the art and science of visual communication. The program cultivates cultural and aesthetic sensibilities while emphasizing critical thinking, analysis, and problem-solving through the teaching of design history, methodology, and technologies to produce designers capable of producing meaningful designs in a diverse global community.

Common Jobs: Freelancer, Web Designer, Multimedia Animator,

Celebrities who graduated in this field: David Bowie, Freddie Mercury, Alan Rickman

Hear from a senior: “GDES allows you to be super creative and you learn how to bring your ideas to life. Be ready to toss out work you've put hours into and start over. This major requires a strong mind and strong will that is able to take criticism on hours of work.”

Major: Communications & Media

Major Description: This department educates students to be ethical, analytical, and creative leaders in a multi-media and multicultural society. Providing a first-class liberal arts education to undergraduates, this major is designed to help students become better consumers and producers of public information, strengthen their understanding of the role of communication in their personal and professional lives.

Common Jobs: Public Relations, Politics, Brand Strategist

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Oprah Winfrey, Jimmy Fallon, Matthew McConaughey

Hear from a senior: “COMM and Media allows a space for creativity in terms of media. COMM unfolds the history of media platforms and allows students to explore the varieties of media. Which is perfect for someone who's interested in Media.”



Matthew McConaughey

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/politics/2021/10/08/matthew-mcconaughey-against-sb8-and-pro-mask-remains-blank-slate-on-almost-every-other-texas-issue/>



Emma Watson

<https://hashtaglegend.com/style/emma-watson-kering-board-directors-jean-liu-tidjane-thiam/>

Major: English Literature

Major Description: This program provides students with the ability to use the English language effectively, think critically, and reach their full potential as creative individuals, engaged citizens, and lifelong learners. Through its emphasis on developing cultural awareness, rhetorical flexibility, information literacy, and appreciation for literary traditions.

Common Jobs: Technical Writer, Lawyer, Digital Copywriter

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Emma Watson, Sigourney Weaver, Steven Spielberg

Hear from a senior: “As an English Literature student every story you’ve heard, read, or watched on the big screen can be relevant to your classes if you look at them from the right perspective. This major requires a lot of reading so to thrive you should be able to read a lot daily.”

Major: International Relations

Major Description: This department offers students a course of study that focuses on diplomacy, conflict resolution, history, international law, and political economy. The curriculum is interdisciplinary in approach and is designed to provide students with theoretical knowledge and practical skills. The program encourages creativity, critical analysis, and research.

Common Jobs: Political Consultant, Interpreter, Diplomat

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Kevin Ford, Ron Silver, Bill Clinton

Hear from a senior: “As an international relations student I believe that being open minded and accepting of other people’s opinions is crucial to becoming a critical thinker.”



Ron Silver

https://www.thestar.com/entertainment/2009/03/16/actor_ron_silver_dies_of_cancer_at_62.html

Major: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Major Description: The mission of this department is to advance knowledge of humanity through critical inquiry. The Department achieves this mission by employing multidisciplinary methods to examine the human mind, individual and group behavior, societies, cultures, and the environment. Coursework in the disciplines of anthropology, psychology, and environmental studies prepare students for lifelong learning.

Common Jobs: Research Assistant, Social Worker, Crime Analyst,

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Nina Dobrev, Regis Philbin, Samuel L Jackson

Hear from a senior: “SBSA opens your mind to the different perspectives of cultures all around the world, giving us insight into the lives of those out of our reach. SBSA is a great start for those who wish to learn, and discover things they would not otherwise learn in any other field”



John Grisham

<https://www.bestsellingreviews.com/books/authors/john-grisham/>

College of: Business & Economics

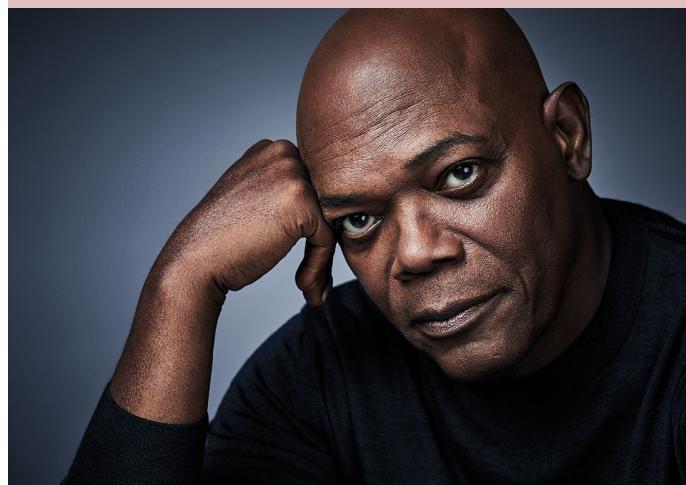
Major: Accounting

Major Description: Accounting is at the heart of every company and essentially functions as the “measuring stick” for all business transactions. The primary objective for the accounting program is to expose students to the many facets of accounting. It provides accounting and business knowledge about practical and conceptual accounting and the use of accounting information for effective managerial decision-making.

Common Jobs: Bookkeeper, Payroll Clerk, Auditor,

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Janet Jackson, Chuck Liddell, John Grisham

Hear from a senior: “I find being an accounting major to be interesting, however you must work hard to achieve good grades. To do that I mainly study the chapter right after class and I practice examples as it helps me understand the rules better.”



Samuel L Jackson

<https://www.emmys.com/news/features/samuel-l-jackson-defies-destiny>

Major: Economics

Major Description: Economics is the science of making choices in allocating scarce resources for consumption, production, and distribution of goods and services. It endeavors to rationally understand behaviors of decision-makers and how these behaviors can be changed. Economics emphasizes the use of problem-solving skills and applies quantitative methods of analysis to investigate choices-constrained maximization to satisfy human needs.

Common Jobs: Financial Planner, Supply Chain Analyst, Finance Advisor

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Steve Ballmer, Cate Blanchette, Mick Jagger

Hear from a senior: “As an Econ major, you develop a special perspective on things. It also helps you develop the tools to make sense of systems that at first seem irrational. It’s a fun major for those who like solving complicated problems.”



Morris Chestnut

<https://tvline.com/2021/09/21/our-kind-of-people-morris-chestnut-season-1-preview-fox/>

Major: Finance

Major Description: Finance is a functional area that impacts all decisions in a business. Finance employs mathematics and economic concepts using information from accounting data and quantitative techniques to assess results to make decisions. Students can specialize in any of the fields within finance to focus on a career path.

Common Jobs: Actuary, Real Estate Agent, Hedge fund Manager,

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Morris Chestnut, JP Morgan, Phil Knight

Hear from a senior: To be a Finance major you should enjoy math and numbers. Finding the most efficient way to get things done is a good skill to have to stand out within this major.



Cate Blanchette

<https://artslife.com/2021/01/13/cate-blanchett-collezione-darte/>

Major: Management

Major Description: Management is a challenging and exciting field. It plays an essential role in powering the economy, and management decisions and practices can have substantial impact on individual lives. This major allows students to learn strategies, techniques, and ethics for effective organization.

Common Jobs: Entrepreneur, Business Consultant, Development Director

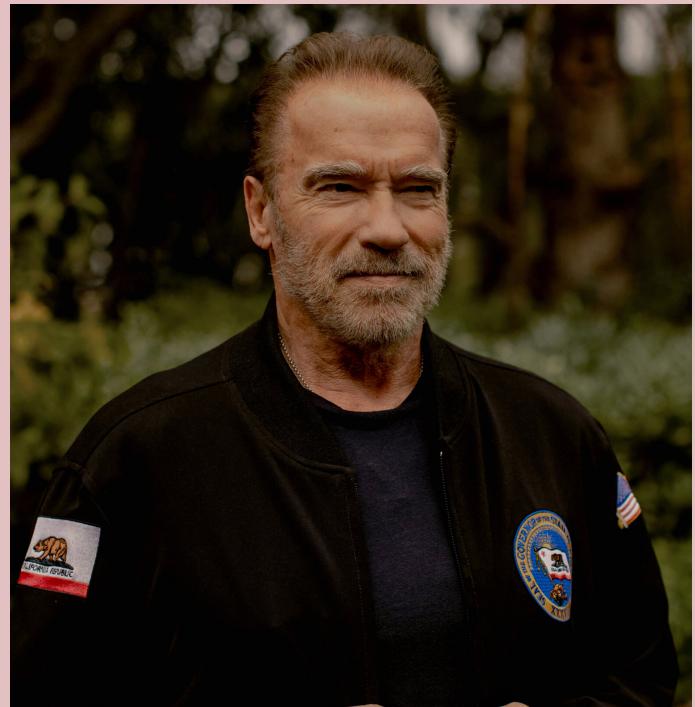
Celebrities who graduated in this field: Vince McMahon, Lisa Leslie

Hear from a senior: “Management is about the development of the world and to do that, I believe one must be willing to undertake the anxiety of being a visionary in order to truly succeed in a management career.”



Lisa Leslie

<https://www.watchtheyard.com/akas/wnba-lisa-leslie-alpha-kappa-alpha/>



Arnold Schwarzenegger

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/03/17/world/europe/arnold-schwarzenegger-video-putin.html>

Major: Marketing

Major Description: Marketing is a leading field in business, responsible for researching and satisfying customer needs through product and service development, pricing, promotion, and distribution. In addition to being an exciting and creative academic major, marketing is practical and provides vital skills for success in both professional and personal lives.

Common Jobs: Brand Management, Social Media Marketing, Content Copywriting,

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Wanda Sykes, Kevin Costner

Hear from a senior: “Being a Marketer involves being a massive extrovert. Have a big smile on your face, be friendly, know your product and you'll do well.”

Major: Computer Engineering

Major Description: This major provides high-quality engineering education centered around the key principles of liberal arts, specifically, lifelong learning, critical thinking, and effective communication. The engineering programs prepare students to become successful engineers and be able to contribute effectively to their profession and community.

Common Jobs: AI developer, Computer Engineer, Database Developer,

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Mark Zuckerberg, Zoe Quinn

Hear from a senior: “CPEG requires commitment and practice. It’s like learning a new language; you’d have to learn it, practice it, and show it off.”



Zoe Quinn

<https://www.wired.com/2017/09/geeks-guide-zoe-quinn/>



Rowan Atkinson

https://www.upi.com/Entertainment_News/TV/2022/05/26/Man-Vs-Bee-trailer-Rowan-Atkinson-Netflix-series/9321653573407/

Major: Electrical Engineering

Major Description: This program provides high-quality engineering education centered around the key principles of liberal arts, specifically, lifelong learning, critical thinking, and effective communication. The engineering programs prepare students to become successful engineers and be able to contribute effectively to their profession and community.

Common Jobs: Acoustic Consultant, Electrical Technician, Controls Manager,

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Nikola Tesla, Rowan Atkinson

Hear from a senior: “Electrical engineering is quite interesting, and it requires interest in order to excel at. I highly advise you to study your material regularly and maintain a personal schedule which grants you enough time to study, and more time to practice your hobbies.”

Major: Systems Engineering

Major Description: This program provides high-quality engineering education centered around the key principles of liberal arts, specifically, lifelong learning, critical thinking, and effective communication. The engineering programs prepare students to become successful engineers and be able to contribute effectively to their profession and community.

Common Jobs: Network Administrator, Software Engineer, Environmental Engineer,

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Bill Nye, Neil Armstrong, Teri Hatcher

Hear from a senior: “Being a systems engineering student requires understanding the internal structure of businesses and what it takes to keep a business online in a manner of speaking. This major requires someone who is on top of their game most of the time.”



Liam Neeson

<https://www.esquire.com/uk/culture/film/a15388446/liam-neeson-what-ive-learned/>

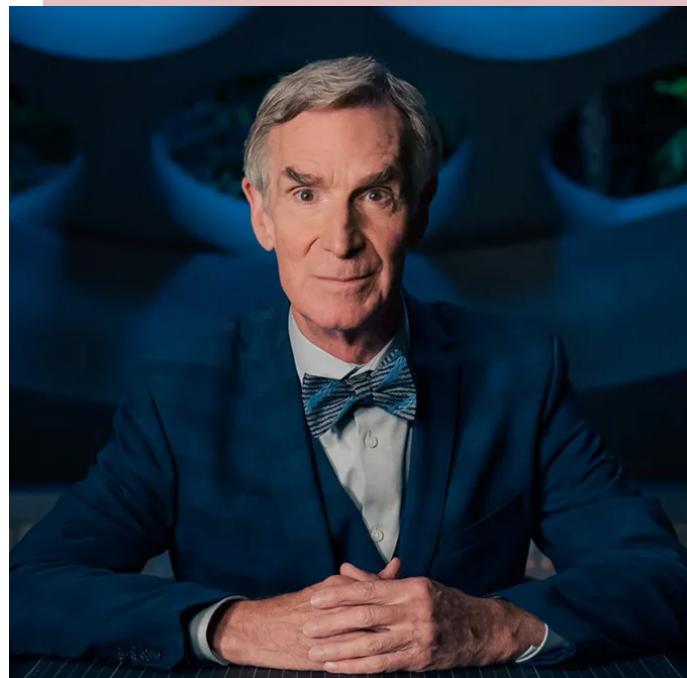
Major: Computer Science

Major Description: This program provides its computing students with a quality education based on computing fundamentals, entrepreneurship, and the Liberal Arts.

Common Jobs: Web Designer, AI Engineer, Video Game Developer

Celebrities who graduated in this field: James Gosling, Liam Neeson, Anita Borg

Hear from a senior: “Practice, Practice, and then Practice some more, you can’t learn programming by just following the lectures. Every time you take something test it out on your IDE and try to fully dissect it.”



Bill Nye

<https://www.cnet.com/science/bill-nye-on-embracing-scientific-reasoning-we-would-be-done-with-this-pandemic/>

Major: Information Systems

Major Description: This program provides its computing students with a quality education based on computing fundamentals, entrepreneurship, and the Liberal Arts.

Common Jobs: Network Administration, Consultant, Computer Programmer,

Celebrities who graduated in this field: Nick Jones, Bernard Lagat

Hear from a senior: “Information Systems is interesting because you get to learn the details of developing systems for businesses, and you must practice how to do it often which is beneficial. If you’re interested in understanding the technological software part of businesses, this is the major for you.”



Bernard Lagat

<https://www.zimbio.com/Bernard+Lagat>

Freshmen, Need a Hand?

By Rubina Agha

As a new university student, you would often find yourself in very uncomfortable situations. You could ask yourself “what went wrong?” Or “why did that specific student or professor misunderstand me?” Moving from the high school phase to the first year of university can be an irritating transition for some. It requires courage and lots of patience to settle down in a new environment. As a junior right now, I can tell you that moving from one stage to another requires lots of effort and courage; you need to blend in and keep up with the latest emails to know what is going on around you. This piece of advice is addressed to everyone, but especially to the freshmen students.

Entering a new educational stage is considered a huge change for an individual, because becoming a university student means more responsibilities. The responsibilities start the moment you register yourself as a student; there is no parent's help offered with registration or picking subjects for your first classes. You must rely on yourself and earn the knowledge as fast as you can because changes happen rapidly on campus, and if you're a shy student, then you're about to miss out on all the fun happening around you. To begin with, you're starting from scratch, you're gaining new knowledge and information each day, and if you miss out on one piece of information, you're likely to get lost. It is crucial that you take mental notes of everything you hear from your classmates or students around you because they might know something you missed or have heard something you haven't. Start with making friends, even if that means just a person or two, it is still considered something! Having university friends will truly transform your experience. Most importantly, know your priorities! Whether you are a self-paid or a scholarship student, you should always prioritize your studies over anything else, because the first two years will help you cut your way through university and guarantee you a high GPA if you work hard for it. Note that the advising center is always available if you need help registering for classes and keeping up with your journey towards your degree. Now, if your charisma and character helped you to blend in the AUK society easily, then this is step number one of success, Congratulations! Now you need to understand your educational system and keep up with it, whether it is how to write your first email or how to do your first assignment, there are always people who are willing and more than happy to help with such things. Keep an eye out for the various events and workshops the university offers that help you with career opportunities, resume writing, and much more. If you're struggling to do your assignments, do not hesitate to contact the tutoring center, they are incredibly informed and helpful.

All you have to do in order to keep up, is simply ask questions. And no, it is not stupid or something to be ashamed of.

We're all human and need assistance at the end of the day.



However, following all of the steps above does not mean you are guaranteed a high GPA. Working hard and listening to your professors carefully is what's going to help you earn good grades. Asking other students about a specific professor before registering with them can help you know whether you're comfortable enough with the professors' teaching style. If you are, then you are more than welcome to join the course and be a part of that class. You would find students telling you to never take with a specific professor, but that doesn't mean they are necessarily right! Because everyone has a different experience. Maybe that student did not meet the expectations of the professor or did not get the work done properly. This is why you can't solely rely on other students' experiences. Therefore, make sure to ask your professors what you have in mind during add and drop week. Add and drop week is the first week of a semester, and according to that, you get to keep the class if you're comfortable with it or drop it if you think it is too advanced for you or you did not like the teaching style offered by a specific instructor.

Another important aspect to keep in mind is your mental health as a newcomer. Often, most beginnings are stressful and if you push yourself too hard trying to do everything at once, you might end up harming yourself. You have to keep it all together in order to survive adulthood and university. Talking to someone about a situation or an incident that is causing you stress makes you half-way to solving the issue. AUK's counseling center offers great help to those who are in need. With a team of mental health professionals and expert listeners, they can help you find a solution to your problems. Do not hesitate to ask for help in case you need it, whether you need someone to vent to or someone to answer specific concerns.

Frankly, each person will have a different experience as a freshman, but that does not mean it has to suck! It could be a wonderful beginning in your journey to adulthood. Remembering a few steps to keep up with the rapid change happening on campus is what every new student needs, along with asking questions and meeting people from different events. Setting an educational goal and plan and believing that you can achieve it, is one of the best things you could do for yourself as a student. Remember, education comes first, friendships and activities will come eventually when you put the right effort into them. Mental health matters as much as your physical health. If you don't feel well, stop, take a break, and then go back to shine the way you are.



Meet Your Student Council

By Safeia Mubarak



Lolwah Salem is the Student Council's President. She's double majoring in International Relations and Social and Behavioral Sciences, aspiring to either pursue a career in Psychology or work with the United Nations. Lolwah enjoys swimming and reading. Her favorite genre is fantasy sci-fi, and her favorite trope is enemies to lovers. To relax,

she binges on Disney shows, draws, and plays guitar.

Describing herself as loyal, ambitious, and friendly, Lolwah encourages all students to get involved with student life: "It's less scary than you think, and it is really worth it to push yourself and get out there." Through her position as Student council President, she hopes to revive campus life for all students and create an environment where there is always something fun for students to do. She hopes to make sure everyone at AUK feels seen, heard, and included.

Khushal Zafar is the Student Council's Vice President. He's majoring in Management. He describes himself as visionary, adventurous and artistic as is evident in his hobbies. He enjoys writing, playing guitar, hanging out with friends and playing sports. To relax Khushal reads or paints, enjoying abstract pieces of art with hidden meaning behind them. One of his favorite books is *The Picture of Dorian Gray* among many other titles.

Khushal aspires to bring more enjoyable activities to the AUK community because he believes that "Nature doesn't work, it plays and through play all work is accomplished" Also aspiring to integrate the university within its society more professionally, he and others are working to bring more competitions and business to AUK to better prepare students for the professional world that lies beyond campus.



Dalal Al-Azemi is the Student Council's Secretary. She's majoring in International Relations. She describes her-self as organized, task manager and trustworthy. To relax and have fun, Dalal plays video games such as Fall Guys and her favorite game Valorant. Dalal says she was previously socially awkward but after taking baby steps she is now more social; offering the same advice to students she says: "Don't hesitate to take the necessary steps to be more social. Start with baby steps and work your way up to bigger steps. Do the things you want to do even if they are out of your comfort zone." She hopes to improve campus life for students and strengthen the community through the Student Council. Dalal then wishes to do this on a bigger scale by joining the United Nations for human rights. Wanting to speak out on issues in a professional atmosphere to improve matters around the world.



Joanna El Chanti is the Student Council's Treasurer. She's majoring in Social Behavioral Science; aspiring to specialize in ADHD treatment and to help women and children suffering from it. She enjoys fidgeting with her rubik's cube, making playlists and listening to music; some of her favorite artists currently include The Strokes, Clairo, and Omar Apollo. To relax Joanna enjoys watching cooking videos and reading up on studies. She describes herself as a foodie, creative and down to earth person. The desire to join the Student Council stems from the desire to help the AUK community thrive. Joanna was always helpful to her fellow AUKers. Wanting to be helpful on a larger scale Joanna decided to join student council to help all students by making campus a safe haven and second home where all students are comfortable to ask for help.



Fatemah Ashkanani is the Student Council's Public Affairs Officer. Her major is Communications and Media, which gives her the opportunity to learn many things including music history. This is ideal for Fatemah as she loves music. Her favorite genre is Pop. Some of her favorite musicians include Taylor Swift and 5 Seconds of Summer. A friend of Fatemah's describes her as genuine, supportive, and dedicated which was evident in her advice to students wanting to be more social. She mentioned a famous quote, the source of which she isn't sure of: "Be comfortable being uncomfortable." Being uncomfortable means you're experiencing growth and trying something new. It can initially be awkward and scary, but you don't realize how saying yes to one thing can open up so many doors for you." Through her position within the Student Council and beyond, Fatemah aspires to put a spotlight on all the hard workers behind the scenes that make campus life a clean and safe space for us all, such as the cleaners and the security guards. Fatemah hopes students feel comfortable approaching her to discuss anything whether it is a complaint or just an opinion and she will do her best to listen and assist.

Care or Constraint?

Meeting Family Expectations

By Rubina Agha

There are days when you find yourself extremely overwhelmed, not knowing what to do or how to act. You feel the pressure of acting according to your family's idea of how you should be. As a young adult, you are expected to act, dress, talk, walk, have a specific degree (even if it's one that you hate!), and be just as your parents want you to be. Families have high standards when it comes to their children, but is that appropriate or toxic? Do parents think being that way will make them look like the finest? And how can society avoid spreading this phenomenon?

To begin with, us university students definitely share one thing in common! Which is the desire to achieve high grades, even if you're forced to be a part of a specific major that you dislike. However, once you are involved, it is not easy to back off or try to convince your parents otherwise. So, you might find yourself being pushed to your limits and trying to do your best to succeed and meet your family's expectations. It is easy to hate them, but every-one wants their children to be top students, and to carry great importance in society. Half the blame can fall on society in general for favoring specific jobs over the others, not just parents. Our parents want us to be the best in the eyes of society when it comes to our career paths, and our personal style. The idea of having to dress in a certain way just to satisfy your family is an irritating idea in itself. The desire to study something you are passionate about but getting a refusal from your family because they want you to be a doctor or an engineer like one of your relatives that you dislike is not what any of us want. Luckily, most of us have that in common.

Being a part of a strict society that coerces you to act how it wants and study what it wants, is not the best thing feeling in the world, to say the least. It is human nature to seek flexibility and passion, yet society demands perfection in an uncomfortable way. Sometimes pushing a person way too hard, could lead to depraved results. No one should be forced to do something they don't want to, just to satisfy a group of people and No one should be forced to do something they don't want to, just to satisfy a group of people and Tomohiro Kato. Kato succeeded in his school educationally and physically, and by the time he got to middle school, he was the tennis club president.

It was an astonishing achievement for him and for his family. But behind all that success, his mother used to abuse him physically and mentally, and she wouldn't care who was listening. She would go to extreme lengths just to maintain the perfect image of her star of a son. Both parents did not care about their child's physical or mental health and kept pushing hard so that he continues to succeed. Kato is now in jail, waiting to be executed for a horrible crime he committed. It is fair to assume all the physical, mental, and emotional pressure he faced growing up caused him to have a breakdown and hurt others. No grade or social achievement is worth pushing someone to their limit, causing them and others pain and suffering.

Parents in charge now could either help their children build a future or destroy one that hasn't even been built yet. Spreading awareness about how forcing children into something they don't accept will have a negative impact on both parties, is a step in the right direction. Needless to say, you are not alone. Our generation got lucky enough to learn about how all these standards are unfair and unnecessary. This generation is aware of the magnitude of the issue and are using different techniques to handle these kinds of matters. University students are under an incredible amount of pressure because it is difficult enough trying to decide what kind of adult you want to be, without the pressure of parents telling you which one you should be. We are all in this together. Being different is okay. It is not a crime to pick a path that is not similar to your family's. As long as you are happy with your decisions, it is not anyone's right to tell you otherwise.

Meeting family expectations is not always an option for everyone. Some individuals might be able to do so, whilst on the other hand, some won't. It is only fair that families let their children decide what they want, whether it was their degree, their style, or the people they love. Forcing all these high standards is just like building a fence between the family, making it harder to communicate, and would only damage what the family once had. Every human being on earth should be free to pick a path, not expect any special requests from the family to meet their standards. Having to face the struggles of the outside world besides the struggles of family issues would damage one's mental health and make their life more difficult.

Meet AUK's Student Employees

Here's what some of the hard-working student employees at AUK had to say about their job!



Abdulwahab AlQarouni, student lounge assistant:

"My job allows me to ensure students are having fun in a safe environment."



Malak Hussain, Student Life front desk employee:

"I love helping students with any and all academic inquiries they have."



Joanna ElChanti, Student Life front desk employee:

"Student Life creates a fun working environment and gives us the chance to connect with other students and engage in AUK's community."



Lolwah salem, Student Life front desk employee:

"I enjoy helping students navigate through the university in the best possible way."

All student employees share one thing in common: their love for the work environment at AUK! They find it to be supportive, understanding, and friendly, and they encourage you to become a part of it!

"Did You Know?"

"Did you know that you too can become a student employee? All you have to do is head to the Self-Service Banner, click on E-forms, and apply through Student Employment. If you have any inquiries, you can email the specific center you would like to work at, or ask



What's Happening In Kuwait?

The Cult of Fast Fashion

By Rubina Agha

Do you find yourself wanting to dress the trendiest? Or be the most good-looking person in the room? Frankly, we all do, but we never look at the consequences that might come with our fashion desires. Shopping is one of the most common activities done by individuals lately. If you're feeling low, you can easily go shopping to lift your spirit. If you're wanting to give your wardrobe a quick and inexpensive makeover, go shopping! Everything is about shopping now. However, it is important to know where we shop. Most of the purchasing process is done either online at reasonably priced websites, or in fast fashion stores that would give out trendy but low-quality pieces. Both purchasing processes have a huge impact not only on the environment but on labour as well.

Individuals who are more likely to go out and show off their personality with their clothing and style, are often the ones who shop the most. These fashion consumers want to replace their old pieces with newer ones constantly and follow up with the most recent trends to not look outdated. Stores that constantly produce quick and low-quality pieces are called fast fashion stores. So, what is fast fashion anyway? Fast fashion is low-priced and trendy clothing pieces, that do not last a long time due to their low quality and their purpose of fitting a trend that would last for a few months anyway, before you go ahead and buy more. For fast fashion stores to produce clothes quickly, they do so in a way that harms the environment and their workers. This is based on the demand of customers to look like celebrities and fashion icons by catching up with short-lived trends. Have you ever heard the theory that some lip balm brands add substances that would make your lips chapped if you were to stop using them, causing you to constantly buy them over and over? The same can be said for Fast Fashion brands, as they sell low quality pieces that would not last you a long time, so you are forced to buy clothes more often. These fast-produced pieces are made using a very low-quality fabric and often do not last for more than a couple of months because of their terrible manufacturing, which compels individuals to get rid of and replace their pieces with new ones. Another method for fast fashion clothing is the online websites that keep up with the Black Friday offers to get rid of the remaining unwanted clothing for an extremely low price, so they can produce and manufacture new pieces without the need to accumulate less recent ones in storage. Fast fashion stores and websites have spread widely lately, and it became one of the most contemporary issues that activists are trying to shed light on.

This would be the right time to ask who is producing these pieces? How long do they work to get everything done in shape and on time? Well, to begin with, each company and factory has a specific way to complete the work, and it varies depending on the region. Some regions are less likely to have censorship, and they would use children to work for them for free or underpay them. On the other hand, other regions are more likely to be watched and censored so they would hire adults, but still force them work for up to 75+ hours disguising it as paid overtime, although in most cases it isn't. Workers of the biggest fast fashion stores are forced to work with no mercy just to produce

as much clothing as they possibly could, and are then paid very little. Fast fashion retailers are motivated by how much money they can make, and therefore they pay their workers extremely little, and the workers are trapped in a cycle of poverty. Additionally, these companies do not care for their workers' well-being, and clothing production sites have been breeding grounds for diseases, accidents, fires, and injuries. Many of these companies have been accused of physically abusing their workers if demand is not met.

Let us look at the environmental damages caused by fast fashion. The main components of manufacturing these pieces are mainly water and polyester. Shockingly, the amount of water used to produce one cotton shirt is enough for a person to survive thirst for two and half years! And the more amount of polyester used to create clothes reflects negatively on the environment because it is not an eco-friendly fabric. The materials used by fast fashion companies dry up water sources and pollute rivers and streams. Not to mention that the amount of textiles being dumped by these companies and their consumers each year causes thousands of tons of microfibres being dumped into the ocean which causes the same damage as plastic.

It is important to note that many people have low income, and cannot invest in a pricey, high-quality item of clothing. Therefore, they tend to turn to fast-fashion stores for their low prices. The blame must not fall on these people as their financial situation limits their options and makes it harder for them to make socially conscious choices. The blame falls on the companies, along with the people fueling them by spending hundreds and thousands of dollars on their items, only to repurchase after a short period of time. Most low-income people tend to cherish the pieces they get and do not get rid of them often, while many people with high incomes solely buy fast fashion clothing items to keep up with trends, then discard the items when a new trend surfaces. Updating and restocking our wardrobes on a weekly or monthly basis is not a need. Looking at things from a different point of view might help us in knowing the priorities and duties towards the working hands and the environment. Putting into consideration that materialistic things come and go and trends will not last for more than a month or two, would help decrease the number of purchased clothes, which means less work for the workers and fewer pollutants for the environment to digest. Teaching and spreading awareness about this issue is a great way to start. Making people aware of the size of the issue of extreme production is their first step to start purchasing less. Also, considering thrift shops, outlets, and second-hand clothing is one of the best ways to enjoy new pieces for an affordable price without having to affect the environment. To wrap it all up, making selfless choices would help sustain a healthy environment and help workers get the rest they need considering the hours they spend working.



Meet CAT SQUAD

By Nuha Alsahli

CAT SQUAD is a team of two people that rescue, rehabilitate, and re-home dumped house cats in Kuwait. The owners, Haya Alkhaldi, and Ismail Alali, specialize in cat welfare, cat behavior services, as well as cat care guidance. Dumping house cats is a severe issue that is not foreign to Kuwait, and CAT SQUAD saw the severity of this issue and decided to offer their help in the adoption and fostering field. AUK alumni Haya Alkhaldi was kind enough to share with us her insight on the issue, as well as introducing us to this crucial organization. “First of all, it is important to note that there are no official shelters in Kuwait. Every shelter here does this on a volunteer basis. They use their own resources, their own homes or they rent apartments. And because people do this voluntarily, it is difficult to get proper funds and proper care because they rely on donations.

This is why you have probably seen many people on social media asking for donations to cover hospital bills for the animals, because their resources are limited.” Alkhaldi points out.

“How does CAT SQUAD help in tackling these issues?”

“So, we established CAT SQUAD in 2018. Since then, we have had people who we work with occasionally, who we consider as partners because they follow the same protocol. The stray situation is way too major for individuals to control, which is why we focus on dumped house cats. The chances of dumped house cats surviving on the streets are slim to none. They cannot survive in the streets. And because we are using our own resources, anybody who wants to surrender a cat must pay a small fee, and must get them vaccinated amongst other things, then we will take the cat. At the moment, we are way over our capacity. We stopped taking new cats since we have over 40, and we want to make sure that they have a good quality of life. If we exceed this number, the cats won’t have the optimal life quality that we wish for them. So, amongst food, shelter and a safe environment, quality of life is also important.”

“How do you make sure all the cats have a safe environment?”

“What happens with people that rescue an increasingly large number of cats is that the cats get sick. They get exposed to new rescues and they catch something from them and so on and so forth. Therefore, we are not taking any more cats than what we have now. Our process for taking in new cats is putting them in a “quarantine room” which is a room that has been disinfected much like a hospital. There are separate corners for each new cat in the quarantine area and once they have been cleared, we move them to another room and help them socialize with the other cats. Moreover, it is very important for us to take our cats to the best hospitals. We are definitely not cheap in that sense. We also provide them with high quality food, and get discounts from our usual places, which is great. We also learned to vaccinate our cats and we regularly consult vets and are up to date with our cats’ health.”

“How do you make sure the adopters will continue to give them a safe environment?”

“Unlike many cat shelters, our adoption process is very strict. It is strict because we want to make sure that whoever is going to adopt a cat from us is going to be a suitable caretaker and not someone who will view them as toys. Everybody tells us our adoption process is tough, but it is the reason why we have had wonderful adopters who were serious. We are not going to have a “we have a cat please come take it” attitude. We send potential adopters our terms and conditions along with questions and paperwork. If we feel like they have answered correctly, we schedule an interview. If we still have some doubts, we schedule another interview until they can see the cat. This really helps us in the adoption process because we know anybody that sits through all of this is a serious potential adopter. The ones that are not serious do not even respond when it is time for the interview, which is great as it saves us the trouble. We also give people who already have another cat a probation period in case the cats do not accept each other. If that is the case, we take the cat back. After our cats go into fostering, we always keep a space for them in case they come back as well.”

“How has this experience been so far for you?”

“It has been both a rewarding and challenging experience. The most rewarding part is being able to save a life. Cats do not say it to you, but you can feel their gratitude. Being able to make a difference in this animal’s life is so rewarding. We make sure they are safe and happy, and we do our best to find them the right adopters. It is very rewarding to be able to make a difference that transforms an animal’s life. On the other hand, having had faced many challenges is a given. The biggest challenge is knowing that you cannot save them all. The biggest difficulty for any rescuer or animal lover is keeping in mind that you cannot save them all. Again, the fact that there are no official shelters in Kuwait and no governmental support is very challenging. We must use our own resources and many shelters rely on donations.

When one is asking for donations daily, they are less likely to get donations because people are tired from seeing the same thing every day. Thankfully, we have developed a system when asking for donations and it works because we do not ask on a regular basis and everybody from our family, friends, and people who know us well have been very helpful in donating and spreading the word. Our shelter is currently funding itself, and we do not ask for donations unless one of our cats needs a surgery.”

“Do you have any plans to expand CAT SQUAD into an adoption center?”

“That was always our dream and our initial plan that we are currently working on. We are always looking for golden opportunities to expand our shelter and my partner currently manages a pet store. A couple of our cats are residents there and people go to see them all the time. It is almost like they have a fanbase. There used to be a hotel there, but it had to be closed down because it was not very successful. Some people would even bring their cats for a while because they are traveling and they pay for their stay for the agreed upon time, but then they never come to collect them. Which poses another challenge because now those cats are under our care, and we have to find them a home. These are things that do happen, unfortunately, even at the hospital, which is why the hospitals are tough now because people sometimes leave their cats there and just never come back. But, hopefully in the future we would be able to make this vision a reality and have an adoption center.”

“Unfortunately, the more rescuers there are, the more people feel comfortable dumping with the idea of knowing that somebody is going to take them, which is a double-edged sword. And there are special places where people like to dump because they know rescuers go there. They know people go there to feed cats and you see a new cat there every single day like many famous parks. This is horrible because a house cat is going to be completely traumatized during this time. Education is the way to go. We must educate people on why this is wrong and how to take care of your cats properly and what to do if you can't keep the cat anymore.”

AlKhaldi adds: “Overpopulation is the root of all problems. It is the reason why this is out of control, why people use poison, why kittens are dying and why nobody takes this issue seriously. Because there are just too many stray cats and dumped cats. We are hoping to get the attention of the government because this should be a national initiative. We must TNR: Trap, Neuter, Release. In many countries, the government takes charge of the strays. They trap, neuter, and release them with tags that have their up-to-date information and vaccinations. There should be something such as this initiative or official shelters because this issue is far too big for individuals. As animal lovers and rescuers, we still try to help as much as we can.” up-to-date information and vaccinations. There should be something such as this initiative or official shelters because this issue is far too big for individuals. As animal lovers and rescuers, we still try to help as much as we can.”



A Chat with Dr. Shahd Alshammari

By Nuha Alsahli

Dr. Shahd Alshammari is a Kuwaiti author, academic scholar, and assistant professor at GUST. She has released a variety of books and research that focus on women's rights, disability awareness, and illness narrative. After reading her short story collection, *Notes on The Flesh*, I was inspired by her fresh perspectives and the vital questions she had posed through her narration. Dr. Alshammari has joined me for a small chat to delve into her work and introduce AUK students to such an important voice in Kuwait.



“Dr. Alshammari, can you tell us about your start as a writer, and where did this passion arise from?”

“Just like most nerdy kids, we always start by constantly reading. Despite not knowing it at the time, reading was my form of therapy if I ever fought with my siblings, got a bad grade, or needed an escape. I read lots of classics, such as *The Babysitters Club* and *Goosebumps*. Basically, any series of books that would require me to read more and more. I fell in love with reading although I did not understand what literature meant and what the “classics” were. However, I noticed that most of the popular books I read lacked women's voices and more severely, Arab voices. Consequently, the more I read the more I realized that I wanted to write something as well, just with Arab characters and names this time.”

“Has your family been supportive of your dream to become a writer?”

“They supported my decision to be a teacher or professor, but not a writer. Just like almost every writer, I constantly heard that it would get me nowhere and that it would not sustain a living. But I think becoming a writer is not just about me or how it will help me, it is about giving back to the community and putting things together for the reader. It is a two-way street. It surely does not make a lot of money, but it is rewarding in other ways.”

*“Can you tell us about your feelings and the publication process regarding your first book **On Love and Loss**?”*

“Well, it was my first-time publishing something, and I was incredibly nervous. It was self-published, and

I think there is no shame in that. There used to be a stigma around self-publishing, but I think people are accepting it now as a valid form of publishing. So, the reason it was self-published was because I couldn't find any publisher that would publish work by some random Arab author who wanted to write poetry. So, I decided to try publishing on my own. I urge a lot of young authors who want to start out to get an editor to look at the work, then do the self-publishing if you can. You can put it up as an eBook, put it up on Kindle, or on Amazon. At first, I just wanted the book to be out there. I wanted my friends to read it. I wanted people to start thinking about love, and about loss. So, that was my first experience with publishing.”

“In Notes on the Flesh, you share the voices and stories of women and their issues. What would you say is the importance of sharing such stories, especially in Kuwait?”

“In the Arab world in general, there is a lot of silence around women issues. If you think about the English classes you take, you probably mostly read male authors and novelists, although female voices have always existed. The Canon is full of Shakespeare and Edgar Allan Poe, but how many books written by women do you actually read? Even in our own lives, we barely hear stories of women. I find it incredibly important to start sharing stories of women.

When I was younger and I was reading novels written by men, they almost always portrayed women falsely. They are always silenced or not important enough to have their own stories. In my community, I have seen a lot of disabled women, divorced women, single women, and abused women that deserved to have their stories shared. Because I have the privilege of being able to write, I want to make sure their voices are heard. I want people to be aware of the issues us women constantly face.”

“When writing these stories, you also focused on the point of view of men. Was it difficult to put yourself in their shoes?” “It definitely was not easy. I have a lot of male friends, and I have asked them what they think throughout the writing process. There is a lot of toxic masculinity that men have, and there are many issues that men don't get to talk about. As much as women aren't talked about enough, issues of men when it comes to their emotions are not talked about at all. There is a lot of stigma regarding men feeling vulnerable. They constantly hear “You are not man enough” or “You are not tough enough.” Despite me trying to write from men's point of view and trying to explore their minds, when I asked my male friends if my writing sounded like a man was talking, a lot of them said that it did not. It sounds more like a woman writing and I think that's because men don't talk about vulnerability. So, the fact that I did, automatically exposed me as a woman. I don't think I have captured the male voice, but that is fair since I don't think male writers ever captured the female voice. I would love to see more men be open and vulnerable when writing.”

“How have responses to your books, whether negative or positive, affected you?”

“Most of the responses have been positive, thankfully. Of course, there have been a few negative ones. The one that upsets me the most is when people comment that this is unrealistic. They say, “women don’t go through this.” I often hear that there is a lot of tragedy in my writing, that there is a lot of pain in my writing and people find it hard to believe. I think that is the most difficult response to get. I am writing from a space of real lived experiences, and I am writing about my experience with my body and illness and my friends and family’s experiences with theirs. So, for someone to say that isn’t true or that is unrealistic is incredibly con-descending and invalidating. A person is telling you a story that happened to them, and they are experiencing pain and suffering, and you reply, “oh that is too tragic you’re making it up”? I think that is the worst thing you can say to someone. The worst thing you can do is not believe them. These reactions are hurtful, but I focus on the positive ones. I have received so many of them, especially from the younger generation as they are very supportive and open to vulnerability. I am glad they’re open to talk about things that society labels taboo.”

“When you write, what do you hope to deliver to the audience reading?”

“So, I realize that literature is a really powerful tool. My goal is to use it to invoke some sort of change. When somebody picks up my book, they learn something new. It is important that the audience that’s reading is interested in changing their attitudes because of what I say.”

They’re reading my book to listen and through that, they are changing many misconceptions they may have previously held. My goal is to do something to change how people think about disability, how they think about mental health, how they think about success, how they view women and how they disregard women’s issues. All the difficult expectations that we have in the Arab world. Unfortunately, there is stigma around people with mental illness. They are seen as a burden on society. I want to change that because many of us live with mental illnesses, many of us live with depression and anxiety and it’s something we must deal with every day. Many of us live with invisible disabilities and there is no awareness. The small awareness that we do have reinforces stereotypes and myths so that is my goal: to be able to spread good awareness through my writing.”

“What advice would you like to give current students, especially aspiring writers?”

“I urge students to build a personality outside of university. Publishers do not want to publish the work of someone who just woke up and thought “Oh hey I will write a book!” They want to see that you have built yourself as an aspiring writer. The first question they will ask is “Who are you?” And “What have you done?” So, find writing jobs, or even keep a blog. Slowly build a platform to pitch a book one day. As for general advice, for all students, I would tell you to take things day by day. Success for me is all the little victories I accomplish during the day, whether it is getting out of bed or going to the gym. Students are under a lot of pressure, so do not compare your success to others.”



Creative
Lens

Evicted without Notice

By Safeia Mubarak

Today was just like any other day. I woke up with the sunrise, brushed out my wings, did my hair, got dressed and as I flew out of my beautiful tree-home, I grew from pixie size to human size and made my way to school. Or at least I thought it was a normal day until I came across the poster on the big announcements board:

OLIE INDUSTRIES IS MOVING TO ORHILL TOWN

“Join us in celebration as we say goodbye to the Blessing Tree before it is cut down to make room for the newest members of our community, Olie Industries!”

This has got to be a sick joke. I rush down to the mayor’s office.

“Ah, Tania, I’ve been expecting you.”

“Sir, what is this I hear about my home being uprooted?”

“Yes, we need the space. The tree has lived out its days. It’s time for a change wouldn’t you agree?”

“A CHANGE?! Would you randomly evict any of your other citizens?!”

“The other townspeople don’t have an ancient agreement with the founders of this town that they haven’t delivered on in over five years.”

“That’s why you’re doing this?! Sir I told you that my full powers haven’t set in yet. You told me you’d be patient.”

“I’ve been patient... for five years. This town is losing tourists and in turn, money. Olie Industries will rectify that problem.”

“Sir, please!”

“Tania, get out of my office. I have preparations to attend to. See you at the celebration.”

“Don’t you mean execution?”

I walk around town trying to clear my head when I spot a man in a fancy suit being shown around town by Holly, Daniel’s secretary. As I walk up to them, I overhear Holly “And this beautiful river is where the children play during the summer.”

“Correction, this is where your company will be dumping all its toxic waste.” I force a big and uncomfortable smile at the guy in the suit who saw me walking up, Holly being caught off guard jumps a little. “AH!” She giggles through her words “Tania, hi, I was just showing Mister Paulson around.”

“You realize that tree your company plans on tearing down is my home, right?” He eyes me up and down, when we make eye contact, I make my eyes sparkle orange.

“A fairy?” He laughs. “All the better.”

I want to punch him in the face but if I want to get anyone on my side, violence is not the answer.

I walk away before I cause any trouble and run into my friends.

“Tania!” Maria squeals excitedly and jumps on me. I hug her then set her down.

“Hey guys.”

“Did you hear about the big announcement?” Concern fills Jake’s eyes as he asks. I nod in response.

“What’re we going to do?” Maria looks at me, her expression is determined and ready to fight.

“I’m not sure...” I drop myself back onto the bench and slump forward like a deflated balloon. Maria stands on the bench and jumps off holding her arms up like a general declaring her soldiers to charge forward. “We’re going to fight! Obviously.”

“That’s a great idea. Two humans and a fairy, all sixteen, all with no influence or power. We’re going to fight the mayor and a rich oil company. We got the A team here folks.”

At The “Celebration”

“There’s a big pink ribbon around my home. Mayor Daniel is holding up big shiny scissors and as he cuts it, the cameras capture the moment, many reporters seem to have come to Orhill Town to cover the news. Perfect” Right as Paulson and the mayor are about to shake hands, Jake and Maria get in-between them and try to push them apart. I come out from the middle, holding up a very old piece of parchment paper. I hold it up to the cameras and begin to address them, hoping they’re reporting live.

“A great injustice has taken place at Orhill Town. This document shows the agreement made by the founding members of the town and my ancestors decades ago stating that this tree belonged to fairy kin.” The mayor yells “The fairies haven’t served this town in over ten years!”

I try to ignore him and stay focused on the cameras. “Unfortunately, my parents got unexpectedly sick, and they died five years ago. My abilities have yet to come in. I am sixteen years old; this is my home. I am serving Orhill town best I can by getting an education and I plan on getting a job, and once my abilities come in, I will be contributing both as a fairy and as a human would.”

A young man steps out from the crowd; he’s wearing a fancy suit just like the older gentleman

Jake is trying to keep aside. “If everything you say is true then I am so sorry. I had no idea.”

“James, don’t!” The older gentleman tries but the young man puts his hand up to silence him.

“The deal has already gone through, and this land already belongs to Olie Industries.” I feel my heart drop. “But we will not build here, and since this plot of land under the tree belongs to my company, I will keep your home protected and untouched. You have my word.”

I drop to my knees, tears of relief streaming down my face. “I did it. I saved my home.”



No Longer There

By Reem EL-Sabaa

I remember stepping into your house.
Climbing every stair.
Small it was yet gorgeous, how I dare
To pass by it and not give it a stare.
It was always warm and cosy
Where the sun always stayed.
And how calm and sleepy was it when the stars were there.

I admired every moment, it's sculpted in my veins
I miss every second, can we play that again?
You'd smell the spices from such a long way.
You'd feel welcomed, you'd love to stay.
But unfortunately, you're gone... and all I can play
Are the memories you left... the ones you allowed to stay.

I rushed inside but you weren't there.
I searched the place hoping to find you somewhere.
But then it dawned, how heart-breaking.
The person that gave this place life is no longer living.
The sun stopped visiting; the stars were gone.
The place had died along with your soul.
Now the house is in boxes, and I still can't carry
That the one I want is no longer there.

Titanic: Your Favorite Movie, Revisited.

By Rubina Agha

Are you a fan of the movie Titanic? I can expect most responses would be along the lines of “It’s a cheesy movie!” or “What a lame romance.” However, one thing I can guarantee is that you have at least seen it. It is one of the highest grossing movies of all time. It is a great masterpiece for several reasons. The first being that it is based on a true historical event. The second reason why Titanic makes a great film and a joy to watch is because of its short-termed love story. Sometimes in order to understand something, individuals must look at it differently. As for the Titanic, it has more than just a love story to give the audience. It teaches people a lesson, but no one has paid enough attention.

In 1912, two years before the first world war, a huge undefeated ship was built. This ship was supposed to set sail from England to New York, and it had approximately 1,500 passengers. Unfortunately, the ship sank and faded with a few days’ worth of memories. But as they say, some memories will never be forgotten. This has proven to be true as these memories were later told by the people who survived the heartbreaking iceberg accident and are still remembered to this day. What makes the Titanic movie special is how it portrayed to us an incident that we would have definitely not learned about in any of our history classes. Seeing a great ship be easily destroyed by an unnoticeable iceberg raises several questions: could the blame fall on the captain? Or was it because of the owner who said that this ship would never get destroyed? Due to this incident, it is more popular with the older generations.

James Cameron, the 1997 movie of all generations. Sometimes to make a person survive. The in the movie were Jack, played DiCaprio, and Rose, played by Kate Winslet. They had a love story similar to that of Romeo and Juliet as they only knew each other an incredibly short time, their relationship was forbidden, and had a tragic ending. Jack and Rose met on the board of the ship. On one hand, Rose came from a wealthy family and was engaged to a man with a good reputation named Cal. On the other hand, Jack came from a much lower class. Rose was on the verge of committing suicide until Jack caught her at the very end and saved her life. Their short-lived romance tale began from there. They spent all their time together despite it being against Rose’s family rules.

happening in 1912, it is easy to assume it is more popular with the older generations. However, thanks to Director James Cameron, the 1997 movie of all generations. Sometimes to make a person survive. The in the movie were Jack, played DiCaprio, and Rose, played by Kate Winslet. They had a love story similar to that of Romeo and Juliet as they only knew each other an incredibly short time, their relationship was forbidden, and had a tragic ending. Jack and Rose met on the board of the ship. On one hand, Rose came from a wealthy family and was engaged to a man with a good reputation named Cal. On the other hand, Jack came from a much lower class. Rose was on the verge of committing suicide until Jack caught her at the very end and saved her life. Their short-lived romance tale began from there. They spent all their time together despite it being against Rose’s family rules.





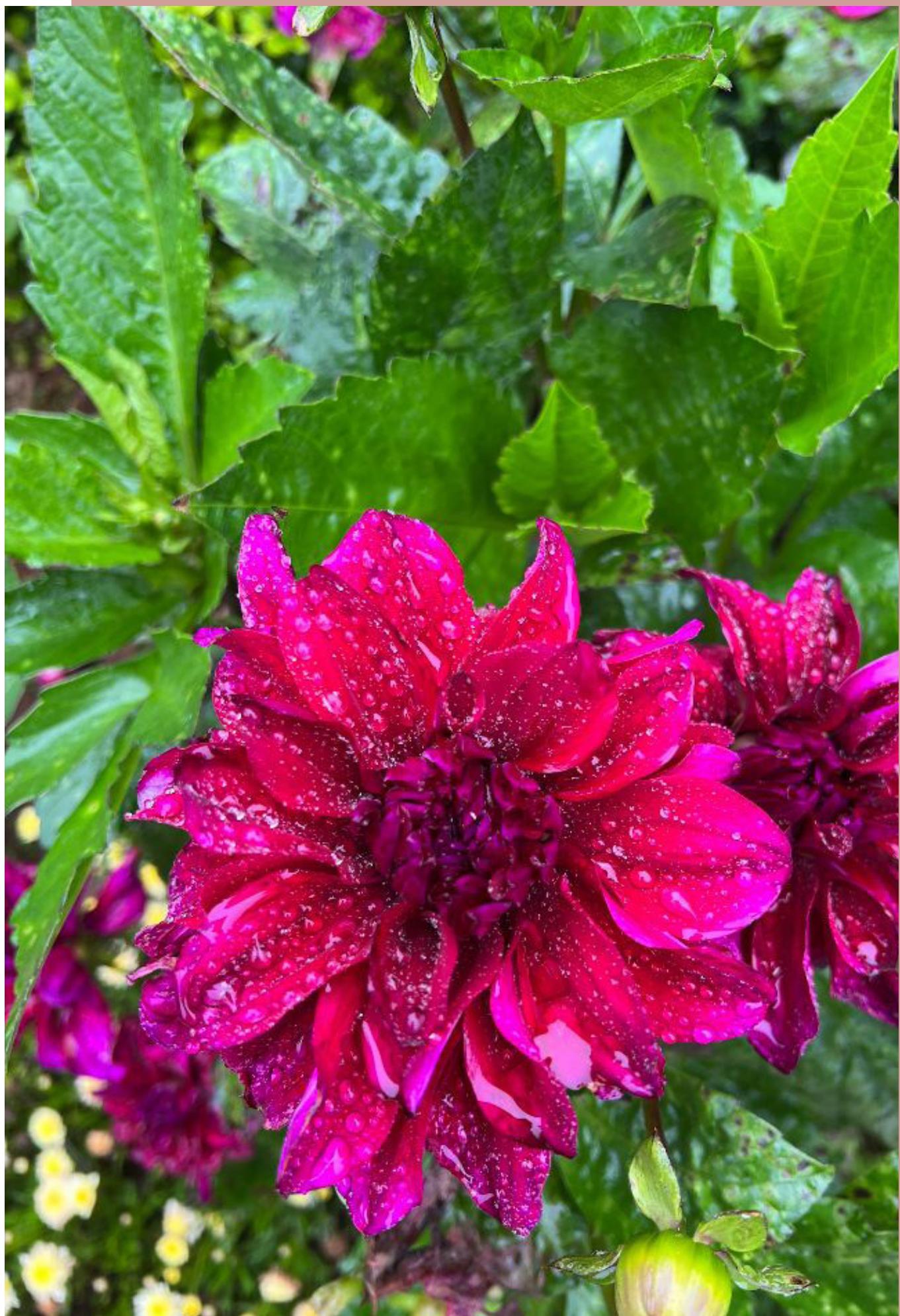
Her family and fiancé had to interfere multiple times to break whatever it was between her and Jack, but they couldn't. Rose was too stubborn to listen. Jack was the best at entertaining Rose. She felt different with him and got to experience things she never did in the uptight nature of her social class. It is fair to say she was sick of the higher-class rules and regulations and was ready to throw it all away for a chance at true love. In the few days Rose spent with Jack, he gave her a lifetime of happiness. Eventually, their love had to be cut short due to the sinking of the ship.

This took away their chance at spending the rest of their lives together as they decided. Their love was limited only to the ice-cold waters, never to touch the land. The moral of the story is, if Jack never sacrificed his life in order for Rose to live hers, the story would've taken a different direction. That's why love is not everything you need to make a relationship work.

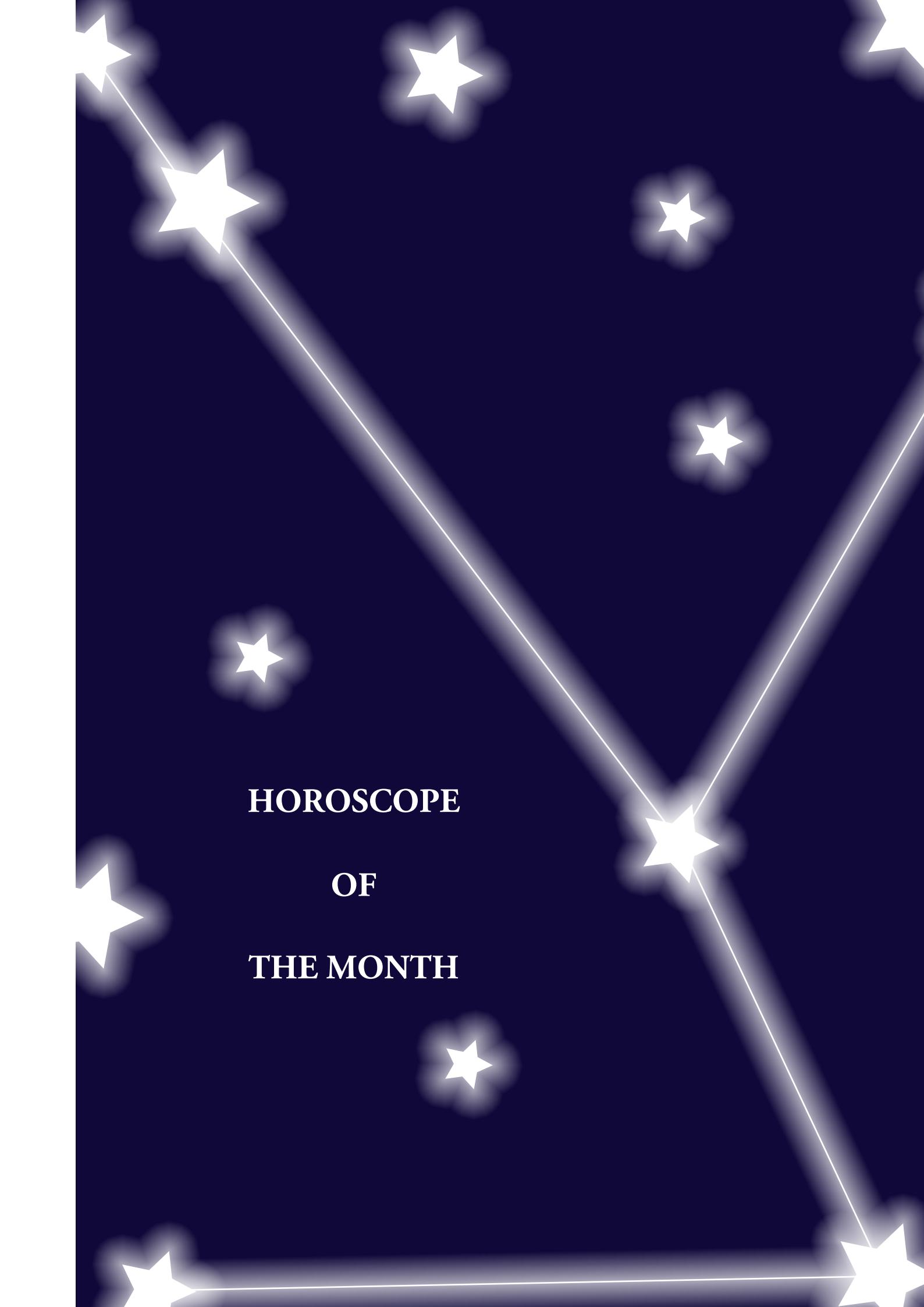
This short romance film not only emphasizes the importance of love, but it addresses the audience in many ways. It showed us an event that would have most likely gotten neglected over time. It shows that great things can be ruined, and all good things must come to an end. Some undefeated and undestroyable things are meant to be destroyed and broken, in order for people to recognize them. Moreover, it also sheds the light on the fact that love does not know a time and place, or class. If a person is willing to save something they love, even if it means sacrificing their life, they would. In conclusion, Jack will always be remembered by Rose as the guy who gave her a second chance to live this world differently and to look at things differently. To live and love outside her family's constraints, and to retell their story.



Through the Lens of
AUK Students







HOROSCOPE OF THE MONTH

Horoscopes of The Month

By Safeia Mubarak



Virgo (August 23rd – September 22nd)

Symbol: The Maiden of agriculture

Element: Earth

Planet: Mercury

Birthstone: Sapphire

Facts about Virgo:

Virgo's constellation is the largest in the sky.

“Spica” is Virgo’s star, and it shines bright, making it easy to find.

Virgo is linked to the Greek and Roman goddesses Demeter and Ceres.

Virgo is meant to be personified by Persephone (The Harvest Goddess) who is Demeter’s daughter.

One of Persephone’s many titles is “The Maiden.”

The symbol of Virgo looking like the letter “M” is speculated to stand for Maiden.

Celebrity Virgos:

Blake Lively, Keanu Reeves, Alexis Bledel

Salma Hayek, John Mulaney, Bebe Rexha



Libra (September 23rd – October 22nd)

Symbol: The Scales

Element: Air

Planet: Venus

Birthstone: Opal

Facts about Libra:

Libra's constellation technically does not exist as it was taken from Scorpio's constellation and just reimagining it. Thus, turning the claws from Scorpio into the scales of Libra.

Libra is personified by the Greek goddess of justice "Dike" who is Zeus's daughter.

Dike was responsible for weighing the souls of the deceased to determine if they were good or bad and she would reward or punish accordingly.

The symbol of Libra represents the scales of balance.

It is said that the moon was in Libra when Rome was founded. Libra is the only sign out of the twelve signs to be represented by an inanimate object.

Celebrity Libras:

Will Smith, Jimin, Halsey,

Noah Schnapp, Avril Lavigne, Bruno Mars

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