

# AYDIN PENS

*Young*



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## THE NEW NORMAL: CORONAVIRUS AND OUR CHANGING LIVES

The world is in chaos! The fast spread and serious health risks of the new Coronavirus have rapidly started to change our lives and our daily habits. So, what are some of these changes?

First, the way we greet each other and show love or affection such as handshaking, kissing and hugging are quite different now. The term "social distance" has entered our lives, thus we have started moving away from each other physically. Then our hand washing frequency has increased, and new items like disinfectants, medical masks and gloves have also entered our lives. For instance, the traditional lemon cologne became the number one antiseptic product in Turkey. We

searched a lot, but we couldn't find it. It became rare and expensive. Isn't this so unbelievable?

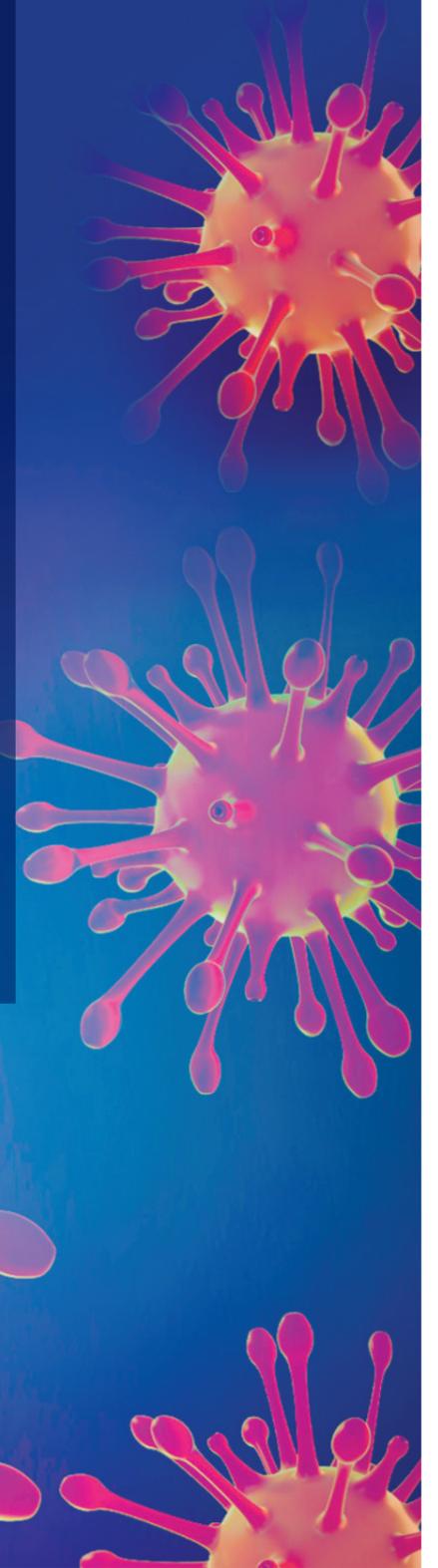
Secondly, the virus has caused a lot of changes not only in the digital environment but also in people's daily habits. Lessons are now being covered through online distance education programs due to the fact that schools are closed. These days most people are holding their meetings online. Many companies, banks, and public institutions have their employees work from home. They are now running their businesses as digitally as possible. Besides, our preferences have changed in many areas of our lives - from public transportation, shopping, and mobile games to socialization. I think

we need to get used to this process which is now called "the new normal".

Finally, we understand how important the feeling of freedom is in this process. We see that nature could quickly rehabilitate itself. We understand again that we should protect the nature and living things more than anything else.

If governments that manage communities around the world make more constructive decisions to protect the earth, our hope for the future will be restored. Sadly enough, nothing much has changed so far, has it? I believe young people will try to make a difference in the future. Or I just want to believe so...

Mustafa GÜVEN



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# CAN THERE BE ANYTHING GOOD FROM THE CORONA VIRUS?

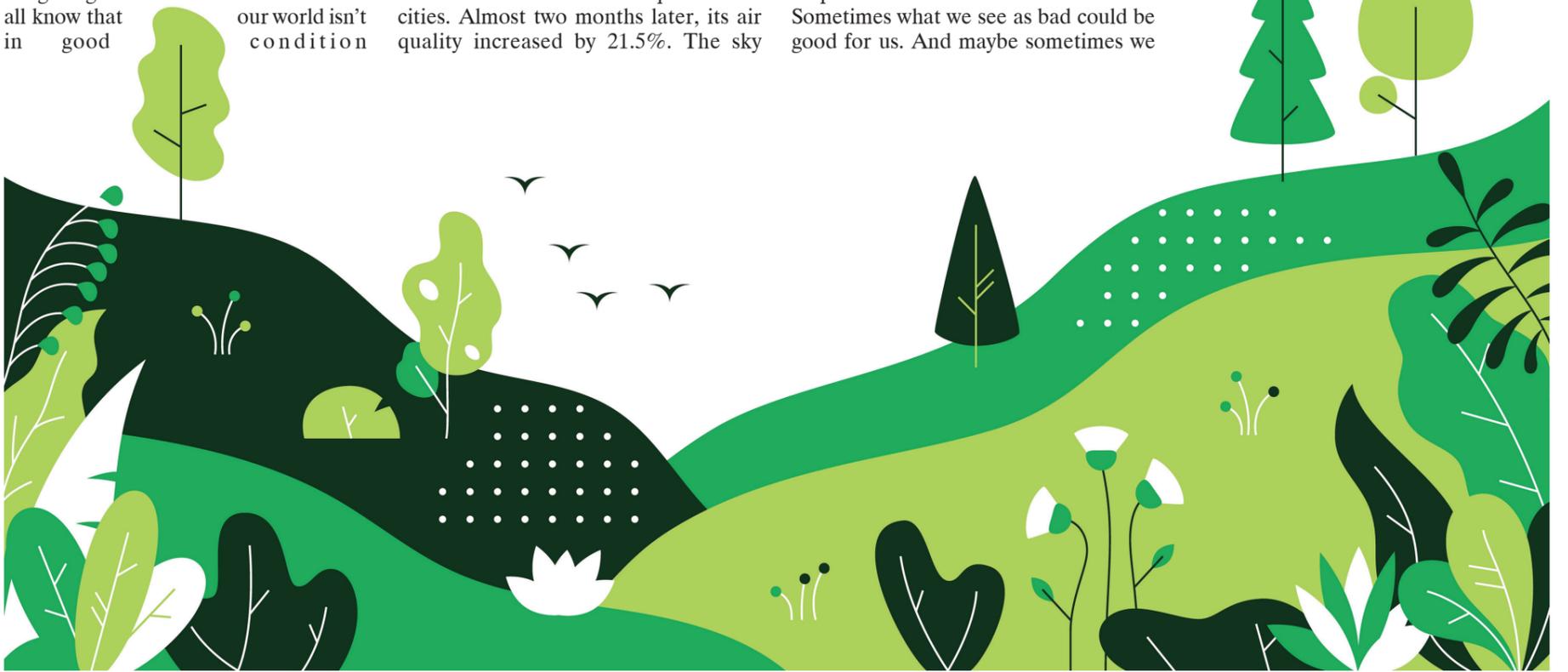
We all know about the horrible coronavirus. People are dying and we are all concerned about this. There is a video about Covid-19 that National Geographic has made and I would like to share some of their words with you. Coronavirus is actually helping us live in the world with a little more time. It is giving the Earth a rest. We all know that our world isn't in good condition

globally because of air pollution, global warming, environmental pollution, etc. But because everyone is at home to keep safe from the coronavirus, nature is actually taking a break from human activities. In this case, something interesting has happened - the pollution levels dropped and some wild animals freely roam now. Wuhan was one of the first quarantined cities. Almost two months later, its air quality increased by 21.5%. The sky

turned blue all over China. NASA also acknowledged these changes. Travel restrictions have also helped reduce the CO2 level and the rest of the world has been impacted by this. In Venice, Italy, the water became clearer because there were fewer gondolas on the water. As you can see, the coronavirus also helped make our home a little better. Sometimes what we see as bad could be good for us. And maybe sometimes we

have to look at the bright side to give our minds a rest. The world actually has a great balance and even in these hard times, we now have something to smile about.

**Burcu İLZE**



## THE PANDEMIC AND NATURE

**C**oronavirus has badly affected all the people around the world. With the spread of coronavirus, people have closed their doors to the public and kept themselves in their houses. The cities and streets are left with animals.

The population of the world has

increased. This has caused the disruption of nature and narrowed the areas where wild animals live. The only good thing about this virus is that the lockdown has allowed wild animals to breathe comfortably. Also, people have had less damage on nature. This virus has shown how

people harmed nature. We have seen how nature has become more beautiful since people took their hands off it. I wish we hadn't had to experience this pandemic to see how beautiful nature was.

Now we are aware of the fact that we are in need of nature to be able

to continue our lives. When the world goes back to the way it was before, people must take care of nature with extra care.

**Ayşenur ZENGİN**



# ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF ONLINE EDUCATION

As you know, learning in traditional classrooms has become very difficult and online education has become part of our lives especially due to the pandemic. Also, our daily lives are confined to the home and we need to do a lot of courses online. In this article, I will explain the advantages and disadvantages and what I think about the online lessons which we've been having for a long time.

One of the advantages of online

education is flexibility. If students cannot attend the course, they can watch a video of this course later and they can also watch the videos of those topics they don't understand again.

Secondly, it is more comfortable to attend classes from home as you can sit in comfortable seats and you can drink your coffee too. You don't have to get permission from the teacher to go out.

Lastly, online education is cheaper than traditional education. You don't have to pay for transportation and books. This is an advantage for students with financial difficulties.

On the other hand, one of the disadvantages of online education is the lack of social communication. In traditional education, students easily make friends and chat face to face. They can help each other when there is something they don't understand. But in online education, this is almost impossible.

A second disadvantage in online education is that the teacher can-

not directly help the students, the students must learn by themselves. Lack of teacher control leads students towards laziness. Therefore, in online education, students need more self-discipline compared to traditional education. This is the most difficult situation for me.

And finally, we face several problems with online training. For example, if the internet connection is disrupted, we become late for the lesson and this situation affects the students' learning process. Moreover, the computers students use may have some technical issues. As a result, they may not be able to join the course. Sometimes the teacher is disconnected and the same problems occur.

In conclusion, online education has advantages and disadvantages over traditional education. Online education is more flexible and cheaper than traditional education. However, online education allows students to study harder than traditional education and requires more self-discipline and control. I think traditional education should be continued and be supported by online education.

**Mustafa GÜVEN**



## Should kids be forced to study ?

You get what you focus on so focus on what you want. All parents worry about their children. They always try to provide the best things for them but sometimes parents can force their children to do whatever they want and ignore the children's demands. They are going to live their own life not their parents' lives. This question can be looked at from several points of view. As time passes, parents should consider their children's abilities, interests and their dreams. Children have to follow their dreams and become the person that they want to become, not what their parents want.

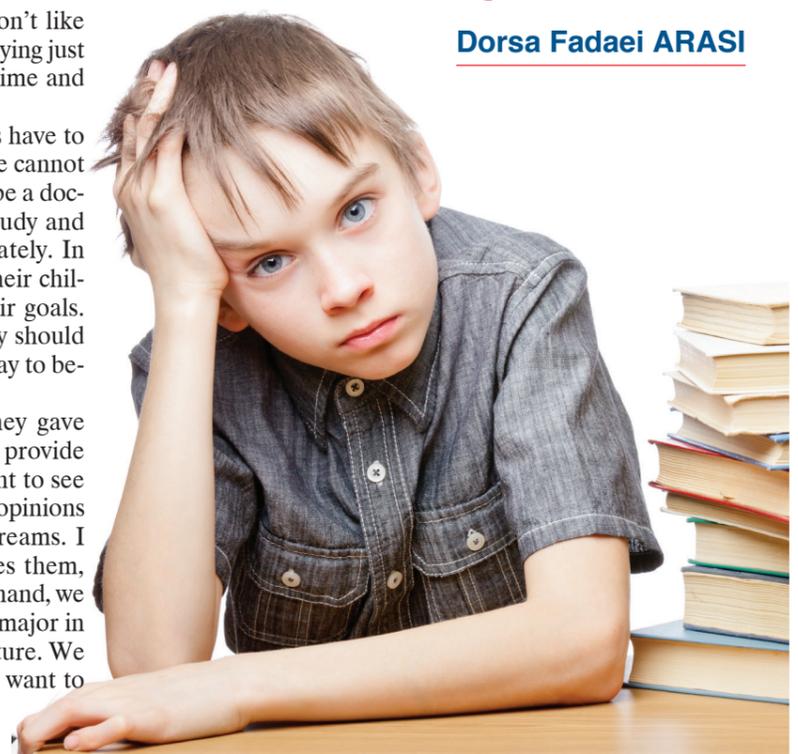
The first reason is their dream and their future job. If they follow their dream, they will be the happiest in the world. It is not only about their emotions but it is also important for their health. Parents shouldn't force their opinions and wishes on their children. Their children are going to live only once and choose their future. For example, if someone wants to study music but his or her parents don't let him/her do that, the person always thinks about that. Sooner or later, that person may follow his or her dream. Hopefully, it won't be too late to achieve their goals.

Secondly, to be successful they should do whatever they want to do or whatever they want to study. If you love your field of study, you will work hard for

that to be the best experience but if you don't like your lessons, you will not study hard and studying just for grades is not valuable. It's just wasting time and money.

The final reason is about abilities. Parents have to consider their children's abilities. If someone cannot be a doctor, they shouldn't force him/her to be a doctor or sometimes, children don't want to study and instead they want to start working immediately. In these situations, parents should talk with their children and show the best way to achieve their goals. They have a point in being worried but they should persuade their children to choose the best way to become successful in future.

On the whole, they are our parents. They gave birth to us and they help us to grow. They provide what we want and what we need so they want to see our brilliant future. We should respect their opinions and talk with them about our plans and dreams. I believe that if our outlook on life convinces them, obviously they would accept it. On the other hand, we have to think about the field of study or the major in university which are so important for our future. We live to become successful in life so we don't want to waste it away.



**Dorsa Fadaei ARASI**

# PARALLEL UNIVERSE

**T**he parallel universe can be defined as the fact that there are other dimensions, realities and the possibility that our different versions may live in these different dimensions, unlike the reality we are in now. Even if it hasn't been proven for centuries, it has always been an ongoing debate that a universe other than the universe we live in may exist in many religions and philosophies.

The first time that the concept of the parallel universe based on Einstein's ideas came about was in 1954. American physicist Hugh Everett had suggested that there may be other universes independent of our universe apart from the universe we live in. After the studies of Hugh Everett, many scientists also did studies on parallel universes. After accepting that there may be life in another dimension other than the universe we live in, the idea that all these universes may be related to

each other has gained importance. Although it sounds like a philosophical concept when it is heard for the first time, it is actually a concept that can be explained by science. Stephen Hawking, Brian Greene, Leonard Susskind, Max Tegmark are scientists who advocate and study multiple universe models. Although the parallel universe theory is accepted by many scientists, there have been many people who think that this is a concept that should be associated with philosophy rather than being a branch of science. Jim Baggott, David Gross, Paul Davies are some of those who believe such.

Recently, two views have come to the fore regarding the parallel universe. One of them is the scientist Max Tegmark. He classified and explained the parallel universe with four models. These are the expanding universe, external reality, quantum physics which doesn't

collapse, and expanding multiple universes. The other believer of this view is Brian Greene. In his work named *The Hidden Reality*, he explained the parallel universe with nine models.

## CAN THIS BE PROVEN?

NASA may have found evidence of the reality of parallel universes. NASA, who has been looking for evidence for years about the parallel universe, started a new research. The data found in the study conducted by Peter W. Gorham of the Hawaii University claims that the parallel universe may exist. Peter W. Gorham and his team, who took part in the study, flew ANITA, which was developed to detect high-energy cosmic neutrinos, with a giant balloon over the glaciers. During the third flight of the balloon, scientists decided to reconsider the data from

previous flights. The signal seemed to come from underground rather than from space. Examining the data in the field free from external factors such as radio waves, experts have reached traces of high energy particles millions of times stronger than those occurring on Earth. Arguing that such high energy particles can be detected in the depths of space, Gorham stated that these findings point to the parallel universe theory. Gorham stated that moving different types of particles in this way on Earth can be explained by going back in time. According to this theory, during the Big Bang thought to constitute the universe, a parallel universe, which went back in time, also occurred. It is claimed that the last particles detected may be the clearest proof of this.

**Gizem ASLAN**



# MURPHY'S LAWS



Have you ever thought about the impact of Murphy's Laws in our lives? Many of you may have heard "If there is anything that may go wrong, it will go wrong." However, many of us might not know where this actually comes from. The beginning of the Murphy's Law's story is related to ancient times. In those days, people were doing some research to measure the resistance of the human body against acceleration. Edward Murphy, the inventor of Murphy's Law, was the head of these researches and when things went wrong with his project, his infamous statement came out. Many people think that Murphy's Law is forecasting disaster scenarios while trying to be optimistic on something, but it is not entirely true. The most prominent aspects are first to see the glass as half empty, to prepare our expectations against anything that can happen and to be aware of our ignorance.

From ancient times until today, many philosophers have said that instead of always looking at the half full glass, i.e. being optimistic, we should rather look at the half empty glass, i.e. being pessimistic. They claim that this can bring better opportunities in our lives. When we look from this perspective, Murphy's Law always encourage us to see the half empty glass; looking at this perspective in our lives can transform our failures into a source of motivation, therefore we can become more aware of our mistakes thus avoid them in the future. As well, problems that made us successful can be solved much more easily; we could be more successful than we used to be. Knowing what happens next can protect us against failures. Actually, knowing that Murphy's Law is always in harness, this knowledge might make us more careful from the onset of a task, project, interaction or anything that would require us to analyse and plan more. Today, small companies as well as big companies take Murphy's Law into consideration while doing projects, business, marketing strategies and such - they always try to see the glass as half empty instead of looking at the bright side of things because they noticed that doing so can help them avoid making mistakes and prepare them for possible problems and

issues. Then it is really easy to identify how much Murphy's Law can actually influence our lives. In brief, we could see that Murphy's Law is not actually a law, but a strategy to avoid making dire mistakes. We have to be aware that it is not entirely about being pessimistic, but it may truly bring us much bigger success; we have to be aware that even negative thoughts can be valuable in every part of our lives.

Human beings have always wanted perfection in their lives and that is why while doing something, almost everyone has lots of expectations that are usually much higher than what they can actually do. For example, when we have a project and if we study hard about it, naturally we will expect perfection, but we forget a thing, there is always something that can go wrong and if something goes wrong with it, we can lose our motivation and thus abandon our work. However, by asking ourselves questions like how much can go wrong, we can prepare our expectations and it will definitely be both more logical and we will be more prepared for our endeavour. Additionally, we have to prepare our psychology to manage our expectations. In this view, we can notice that Murphy's Law encourages us to think of mistakes and give them a chance. When we look at the meaning of Murphy's Law in our lives, we may think that they push us to be pessimistic and always think in a bad way or that everything will go wrong. Though in truth, it means we simply have to manage the measurement of our optimism level. In our lives, everything is possible to go wrong and mistakes are part of it. That is why being aware of something that can go wrong will make us more careful and aware while beginning something new. To sum up, if we manage our expectations and notice that something can go wrong, we may bring more success to anything we invest time and effort in. Knowing Murphy's Law helps us be in charge of our lives, to understand and be fully aware that nothing can be perfect. If we manage our expectations at the beginning of a work, we will have less regret if something goes wrong at the end of it.

Another philosopher, Epiktetos, said "My reason for making mistakes is because of my ignorance." When

we are not aware that something can go wrong, we cannot take precautions against mistakes. Therefore, we can understand Murphy's Law is also a symbol that tries to inform us not to make mistakes in possible bad cases. While doing something, if we do not have any information about what can go wrong or what is to happen in the next steps, we will definitely make mistakes. In fact, Edward Murphy used his theory, which is named Murphy's Law, while doing his research to inform himself that something may go wrong and they might make mistakes. Additionally, another interpretation of Murphy's Law says that "You might think that there are four ways for something to go wrong and you can take precautions for all of them, however there is definitely a fifth way." That law informs us that there are possibilities of other ways something can go wrong, that is why we also have to be aware of these ways. When we look at the overall truth of Murphy's Law, we can understand that it tries to inform us that there must be other ways that we could not predict. If we can be aware of our ignorance, we can protect and prevent ourselves from making mistakes. In short, before making a mistake, we have to know its causes when it comes. Murphy's Law informs us that we may make at least one mistake that is why we have to take precautions before it comes. Therefore we can see them in every part of our lives such as education, business, scientific research etc. However we have to notice that they are not something to make us nervous, they are there to prepare ourselves against making mistakes.

In conclusion, Murphy's Law has been in our lives for years and we should always use them before beginning something so as to not make mistakes. It is normal to see Murphy's Laws in our lives since human beings always make mistakes, yet making mistakes is not important; what is important is whether we are aware of them or not. For thousands of years, our glass has been half empty and half full. Looking at the full side of the glass can give you joy of life and we should look from this side as well, all the while being aware that there is also the empty half.

**Esma TOKSUN**



## SOUND OF A SHADOW

This story was created spontaneously by 12-year-old Kenan C.C.

Trembling, the hunched-over man shuddered. Now lying on the cold, hard floor surrounded with his own blood, he cried out. He was melancholic as tears trickled down his skin. It was dark and the trees danced in the nearly silent wind. The silence was loud. The chilling breeze flowed through the air, hitting the disheartened man in the face. He fell unconscious with two chunks of steel in his stomach.

20 years earlier

Charlie, 11 years old, was filled with joy as he and his father scurried and raced down the wet alley way. "You win, you win," Charlie's dad announced as they both came to a hut. Charlie chuckled. "I love you Dad," Charlie said with a grin on his face. "I love you too," Charlie's dad replied. They instantly hugged each other with passion. Charlie's sight was behind his dad's back and what he saw shocked him. Charlie's jaw dropped and his eyes widened. "Dad! No!" screamed Charlie. Bang! Charlie's father groaned and his body was flown to the pathway planting his face on it. Charlie, confused, ran with all his speed around the nearest corner. He yelled with emotion, sadness, anger, confusion.

The present

A loud sound called out from the shadows, waking up the man named Charlie. "Help me, please!" The floorboard of the ancient bridge screeched with every step which lay upon it. The mysterious figure stepped out of the shadows and showed himself. Charlie gasped with amazement and sadness. The mysterious man instantaneously let go of the pistol which filled his shaking hand. "Dad?"

**Kenan CINEMRE-CRAWFORD**



## Is change a good or bad thing?

**H**ave you ever tried to change yourself? Everyday half of the people in the world can't take new steps because they are afraid of changing. However, the other half can't stand doing the same things over and over again. Since change gives more experience, brings fun, and it's also a necessity, I believe that change is good and important in life.

Firstly, change gives more experience. Personally, I believe that nobody can know what they really love if they don't try different things. Change helps people to find out what they are really into. For example, someone might be playing the guitar for five years. One day he might decide to try playing the piano, and when they do, they might figure out that piano is better for them and more enjoyable. Additionally, change

gives better chances. Most of the time there is a better chance waiting for each one of us. However, we don't pay attention to it because we are too busy doing the same things. To illustrate, people can find a better job in a better company if they keep looking for a better chance. Because of all the reasons mentioned above, we can see how change gives experience and chances.

Secondly, change is fun. When people try different things in their lives, it brings them so much fun. Change gets people out of their comfort zones. Many people are afraid of changing because it gets them out of their comfort zones and breaks their routines. Nevertheless, getting people out of the area they have been creating for years requires courage and provides a new refreshing feeling. Moreover, change helps to

discover new things which people have never tried before. For example, when someone goes to a restaurant they have been to before, they prefer to have the same meal they usually have instead of trying something new because they are afraid of the new one and they think it won't be as good as the one they usually have. However, when they try a new one, they discover a new flavour and a new style of food. Owing to these facts, we can now have a clear idea how change brings fun.

Lastly, change is a necessity. Most people agree with the fact that routine causes depression. However, the only way to break the daily life routine is by changing, even the little details. Change isn't only about great decisions or something huge, it also includes little and tiny details. For example, a

person can take a new road to school, work or anywhere they go to daily. Also, changing the way people arrange their furniture can provide some kind of satisfaction. Furthermore, I believe that change is a way to survive. Trying new food, new style of clothes, and everything that people do in daily life makes life more exciting and helps to get rid of boredom.

If you are afraid of change, please give it a shot and try simple things. You will feel more satisfied and experience things that you have never been in. You never know what you are missing! I will always agree with the fact that change is good, and I will try to get all the people around me to change themselves and try to live as I'm living.

**Raneem HAMWI**

## WHO SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ELDER PEOPLE?



Imagine you were elderly, would you like to leave your family and go alone to the seniors' or nursing home? Nowadays, there is a big argument between sending the elderly to the nursing homes and have the government take care of them, or keep them living with us while we take care of them. Sending them to nursing homes might solve some problems like having no time to take care of them. Or if you totally don't want to take this responsibility and just pass it on to the government. But I do not agree with this because of several reasons.

First of all, the real meaning of family is having people who won't leave you whether you are sick or in trouble. They love each other, help each other, are patient with each other and never leave each other just because they become elderly.

Moreover, think about it - did your parents leave you when you were just born just because you were crying a lot, always urinating on yourself, cannot walk by yourself or cannot eat and take a bath by yourself? Did they leave you because they had to work and had no time to do these for you? I'm sure that 90% of parents didn't do these. So remember that when they become elderly and

become moody, when they can no longer control themselves and wait to go to the bathroom, when they want you to assist them while they are walking, when they cannot eat any of the foods we can eat or cannot take a shower or bath by themselves, will you keep them alone because you feel fed up or tired or not have time to do that?

Finally, the biggest problem is that the government has to do many other things so are you sure that the government will really take care very well of your parents? Even if they want to do that, are you sure the nurses working there won't get fed up and shout at your parents? Are you also sure there won't be other people, maybe an elderly one too who is senile and suddenly hurt your parents? Who knows? Seniors or nursing homes are not 100% safe. So sending them there is not a good idea.

I believe all of our parents taught us to say "thank you" to the one who gave us candy. So what will you do to thank your parents? It's up to you. But at least don't leave them at the time they need you most.

**Sohyla SHERIEF**



## THE USAGE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

**S**ocial media is an inseparable part of our lives. Every one of us spends considerable amount of time on it every day. Of course, there are some reasons and outcomes behind that.

Firstly, so many things occur every second all around the world. In 2020, there's war in Syria, a constant threat of earthquakes in Turkey and the terrifying coronavirus pandemic all around the globe. In fact, we're just in March, but look at the scenes! While all these crazy things are happening, people are counting on social media to be updated. The reason behind that is social media is instant. As a result, if something happens, people see it on their Twitter or Facebook pages first.

Therefore, people who want to catch up on what's going on keep refreshing their main page.

Secondly, social media gives us a chance to be in contact with our friends anytime. You can read their opinions on Twitter, see their photos on Instagram and chat with them on Whatsapp. For those who don't like too much contact with people, it might be irritating sometimes. However, for the majority of people, this is an indispensable tool in their lives and according to recent research, it might not be so innocent. Some studies have shown that the constant stream of retweets, likes and shares have affected the brain's reward area to trigger the same kind of chemical reaction as other drugs like

cocaine. Therefore, you need to be careful when swimming with retweets and likes.

Thirdly, social media offers you a powerful voice to express your opinion. It's very important especially for many countries like ours which don't have a significant right to speak. Generally, all mass media is controlled by government in these countries. Therefore, people express their opinions and share the hidden truths on social media. For instance, Twitter took a big role on the Arab Spring in 2010. Many people organised meetings on Twitter and Facebook to protest against dictatorial governments. Also, it doesn't have to be political at all. For example, #MeToo movement led to a huge impact, thanks

to Twitter. Following the exposure of the widespread sexual abuse allegations against Harvey Weinstein in early October 2017, the movement began to spread virally as a hashtag on social media. Many women, including celebrities who had been sexually harassed, came forward and created a powerful voice for those who couldn't speak up.

To conclude, social media is a permanent thing on our life now. We can't get away from this. It will be in our lives and affect us in many ways. It keeps us updated about recent events, contacted with friends and gives us a chance to express ourselves. Therefore, we have to use it wisely.

**Ümit EKİNCİ**

## A True Angel: Don Ritchie

**D**on Ritchie was born in Sydney, Australia. Many people think that he was a hero. It wasn't just because he was a soldier though. Don Ritchie lived near the famous ocean cliff "the Gap". So, why was the Gap very famous? Why did it matter?

The Gap is in Sydney, Australia. It is a peninsula which is adjacent to the ocean. However, it didn't become famous for its natural beauty. It is actually infamous because the history of the Gap is very tragic. There are some people who have committed suicide here. In fact, the number of deaths is over a thousand. If

so, why are you reading about Ritchie's life? Firstly, he was an angel. I'm serious. His nickname was "the Gap's Angel". He went up to people to convince them not to jump off the cliff many times. Secondly, he always asked: "Can I help you in some way?"

He made suicidal people drink coffee or tea with him. In this way, he saved a lot of people. Finally, according to official records, he rescued 160 people from suicide. Don't you also think that he was an angel just like his nickname?

**Berkay GÜL**



# DIABETES

Neima OMAR

Diabetes is a serious condition where your blood glucose level is too high. There are two main types, Type 1 and Type 2. They're different conditions, but they're both serious. The hormone insulin moves sugar from the blood into your cells to be stored or used for energy. With diabetes, your body either doesn't make enough insulin or can't effectively use the insulin it does make. But we all need some glucose. It's what gives us our energy when glucose is released into our blood.

The Type 1 affects about 8% of people. The pancreas does not make any insulin. Your body attacks the cells in your pancreas that make insulin so you can't produce any insulin at all and we all need insulin to live. It does an essential job as it allows the glucose in our blood to enter our cells and fuel our bodies. Your body still breaks down the carbohydrates from food and drink and turns it into glucose (sugar). But when the glucose enters your bloodstream, there's no insulin to allow it into your body's cells. Presence of Type 1 in your body can cause some symptoms as irritability, frequent urination, weight loss, blurred vision, extreme hunger and fatigue. In addition, there are some ways to manage and can help you cope with it such as doing regular exercise, following a healthy diet and eating plan and also insulin replacement through lifelong insulin injections (up to 6 everyday) or use of an insulin.

Another common type which is Type 2 affects about 90% of people with diabetes. When you have Type 2 diabetes, your body still breaks down carbohydrates from your food and drink and turns it into glucose. Your pancreas makes some insulin (but usually not enough), and or the body does not respond normally to the insulin your body makes. For some people with Type 2 diabetes, this can eventually tire the pancreas out, meaning their body makes less and less insulin. This causes even higher blood sugar levels. The symptoms of diabetes of Type 2 are similar to the symptoms of Type 1 such as frequent urination, always thirsty, always hungry and always tired, blurry vision, numb or

tingling hands or feet, sudden weight loss and wounds that won't or don't easily heal. For managing Type 2 diabetes, you need to eat well to help manage your blood glucose levels and your body weight, exercising helps the insulin work more effectively as it lowers your blood pressure and reduces the risk of heart disease and having regular blood glucose monitoring tests whether the treatment being followed is helping to manage blood glucose levels or whether you need to adjust your treatment.

Diabetes is a serious life-threatening disease and must be constantly monitored and effectively subdued with proper medication and by adapting to a healthy lifestyle. By following a healthy lifestyle, regular check-ups, and proper medication, we can have a healthy and long life. According to the Center for Disease Control, cases of diabetes have risen to an estimated 34.2 million people (26.8 million, diagnosed; 7.3 million undiagnosed).



## Who should be Responsible for Elderly Care

**W**e are all born alone and we will all die alone. Each of us are responsible for ourselves. Some people believe that the government should be responsible for looking after elderly people, but on the other hand some people think that people should save money for their future individually. From my point of view, people should always make certain of their future and have a plan for that.

Imagine you were an elderly person, would you want to be dependent? Since I think I dote upon my independence, I definitely wouldn't want that. I will go to live in a house with other elderly people instead especially because I won't want to rely on my family's care. They don't have to take care of me, I mean, they have their lives and families too and they shouldn't spend much of their time on me.

Majority believe that the government should be responsible for elderly people. If the government's elderly care center have poor and inadequate conditions, what would they do? Everybody's life is valuable and no one deserves a bad life. We all came into life once and we should use this chance well.

Of course the government has duties and responsibilities. But I wouldn't want to live just on government

support. I desire the best life like others desire so I will set up my future as I want. If elder people want a good and high quality of life, they shouldn't rely on someone else. They should prepare themselves for all possibilities.

The things that I mentioned above is valid for a regular aging process. Of course everyone may have unexpected events like car accidents or aging-related health problems and need someone to take care of them. There are more than three million people who needs care in our country. The main question is who must be responsible for these people?

The unemployment ratio of our country is very high and these people can be directed to help those who need to be taken care. They can be hired for special care and facilities can be built for them. Although it seems like there are such institutions now, these institutions should be further developed and operated by qualified people.

As a result while people are preparing themselves for the bad days, they must still be supported by governmental or private institutions. I wish for all healthy and prosperous lives. I hope that everybody's conditions will be much better in the future.

Deren FILEK





# HARRY POTTER VS THE LORD OF THE RINGS

If you consider yourself to be a reader who enjoys the fantasy genre, there is a high possibility you have read both of these novels, Harry Potter (HP) and The Lord of the Rings (LOTR). As a law of nature, there has been a huge competition between these novels' fanatics. Sometimes they may claim that while the one of these novels is a piece of art, the other is rubbish. Personally, I don't appreciate this kind of unrealistic fanaticism. I think they are both very important for the fantasy genre and of course they have some similarities. However, they may differ in regard to their worlds and characters.

If an author wants to tell a story that demands readers' long hours, it has to have a well-designed and persuasive world. I think J.R.R. Tolkien and J.K. Rowling absolutely managed that. Although they both created very interesting worlds, they differ in regard to their scale. LOTR is actually a "small" story in a huge universe called "middle earth". You can do the math. Tolkien didn't behave timidly while creating his universe. He was inspired by mythol-

ogy and he created a solid universe that is a home to elves, orcs, hobbits, humans and so on. He even created whole new languages for them. And he did all of these from 1937 to 1949! On the other hand, J.K. Rowling had managed to color our world with magic. She added an extra layer to our day-to-day lives. Although her world is smaller than LOTR, she managed to fit every one of us into the Hogwarts' common room. She tickled our minds with an idea that unknown magicians are living among us! They have their own government, schools, newspapers, sports and everything. It's a very interesting and fun-to-read world.

Besides, there are some differences between their characters. Since LOTR talks about a heroic and epic story, its characters are heroic and epic too. We meet Aragorn, who is the expected king of man in prophecies, and Sauron, who creates one master ring to rule all the 19 rings and, in the darkness, binds them. We can witness the ultimate war between good and evil with these

powerful characters. By comparison, HP includes relatively sympathetic characters who are closer to our lives. First of all, the majority of its characters are children. During the course of the story on these seven books, we witness their growing up with the main character Harry. Of course, there is also a dark story that is developing in the background. In contrast to LOTR, this time, teenagers can easily remind you of your school years like how it takes part in these dark events. I think this is the most powerful side of Harry Potter. Although none of us had learnt the Patronus Spell in school, we all easily picture ourselves in Hogwarts' classrooms.

To sum up, they are both "must-read" books. They both offer you long, full of curiosity and fun hours. They both have very special place in the fantasy genre and they always will be.

Ümit EKİNCİ



# LOVE BOND

Today I will tell you about my best friend. Her name is Hera. She is a dog, but I think she is more than just a dog. Because she always understands me. When I feel sad, she approaches me and we begin to talk. She is two years old. We like to play ball together. When she feels hungry, she walks towards me and looks into my eyes. That is how I understand she is hungry, and then we eat something.

In my opinion, everyone should have a friend like Hera. Sometimes

you can't share everything that you feel. However; if you have a dog, you can tell it everything. Please don't think they won't understand. I am sure they understand you quite well.

Finally, we humans aren't the only beings in the world, are we? Please, don't forget to leave some water and food for animals. Most importantly, don't forget to show them love.

Berk KÖSE



about  
ME

## MY DEAR DOG

### "Fasulye"

When it looks at me mournfully by turning its black eyes, I am very fond of it. Besides, by shaking its tail, does it not mean as if it spoke?

We met him on a sacrifice feast. When those who looked after him went on holiday, they left him to us and after the holidays we gave him back. But one day he whimpered as I passed by, it was as if he said "Save me." I decided to own it at that point because he needed real love. After a while, the owners started talking about putting him into an animal shelter. It was then that we implemented our decision and adopted it. As soon as we moved to our new house, we brought him with us. One day, we tried to tie him up and when he broke his chain we figured out that he did not like to be chained. He never tried to escape and he would go to the seaside for a walk in the daytime and come back again.

We spent three beautiful years with Fasulye. We shared many great memories as he was my daughter's sole friend at that time because there were no children in our neighborhood. My daughter was used to playing with children but she played with him instead of her school friends. She had a different communication with him. As is, they were partners with each other about their problems. There wasn't any day that we did not talk about Fasulye. He communicated differently with all of us. He put me as his mother and my husband as his father. Although my son wasn't always home, when he came, he was crazily happy and he was running around the garden even at midnight.

He really liked to be caressed. I can never forget that time we came from a long vacation and he was so happy to see us that he ran crazily at midnight and was whimpering like a baby. It was as if he was afraid

that we would not come. He had really missed us.

When we went to the seaside for a walk, he followed us. If we went by car, he followed our car. But if we went out of the city, he never followed us. He never entered our home even if the door was open. He never ate or chewed on anything if he was not hungry. Fasulye was quite an honorable dog.

We shared lots of things with Fasulye and we would have shared much more if my husband was not assigned to work somewhere else. We cried a lot that night. Our tears were for Fasulye because we would not have a garden where we were going. What would he do without us? He would be like an orphan.

First, my husband went to the place he was appointed alone. We were supposed to go a few months later. When my husband was leaving, Fasulye ran like crazy after the car. But he got used to this situation over time because my husband often came back. Fasulye thought this situation would go on like this. Sometimes he started to get angry when he went. He did not run after his car. Finally, when the time for us to leave came, Fasulye didn't know what to do. He was hurt by that. He didn't even look at our faces. We tried to speak to him many times, but he turned his head to the other side. When my daughter and I got in the car, we cried together. However, he didn't have any reaction. Normally, he used to run after my car every time but this time he didn't move at all. We went to my friend's home who called us for a cup of coffee. When we went outside, we were greatly surprised because Fasulye was lying down near my car. We started to cry again. Fasulye ran and he jumped in my lap and whimpered. As if he said to us, "don't go anywhere,



don't leave me." When we got in the car, he ran along us just like before. He ran and ran. While we were passing through our former house, he turned towards the house. He looked at us for the last time as if his eyes told us "I am going to wait for you in this place."

We visited him several times after we left and he waited there every time. He waited for us with longing, joyfully and sadly. He waited for us in front of the house until new owners moved. They didn't want him in the garden. So he waited for us on the street until autumn came. After the rains started, he went to my husband's former office's garden. Fasulye was afraid of the rain and he used the bottom of the balcony like a shelter. He made the place for himself. Our close friends looked after him very well. He waited for us there patiently. He met us with cheerfulness when we visited. He waited for us in front of the hotel the whole night and he ran and came with us everywhere.

Our smart and cute dog. We would have taken you if we had a house with a garden. We can never forget you. We didn't leave you desperately waiting there because we love you so much.

Hande ÇAĞATAY

# EUTHANASIA

“Of all the arguments against voluntary euthanasia, the most influential is a slippery slope - once we allow doctors to kill patients, we will not be able to limit the killing to those who want to die,” said Peter Singer. Euthanasia nowadays is causing many arguments among people all around the world. Due to these arguments, a huge gap has developed and now it's much harder to reduce it. I've attended a debate about this topic, it wasn't easy at all. Euthanasia should be forbidden all over the world. And I believe it doesn't differ much from execution, except that euthanasia is voluntary.

We all as human beings live for ourselves and also for the people who love us. Normally, we don't hurt ourselves because that pain we have also affects our beloved ones. However, euthanasia is the opposite. It affects other people, not only the patients themselves. We don't have the right to affect other's lives

just to “end our suffering” as all the pros to euthanasia say. Mothers, fathers, partners and friends are all people who care for us, so we have to strengthen ourselves for them as they've been encouraging us in our whole life.

From a medical aspect, allowing euthanasia will discourage the search for new cures and treatments for the terminally ill. Doctors' and scientists' motivation will go down because there will be no more disabilities from the patient. Determination will fade when it's the main thing expected from the doctor. However, it has also been said that it is not fair for the patient to suffer and wait for years until the doctors find a new cure and try it on the patient to see how it works. It could be regarded selfish to keep the patient waiting. However, the cure won't be only for that patient, but also for all the people who have or might have the same illness. Besides, this way

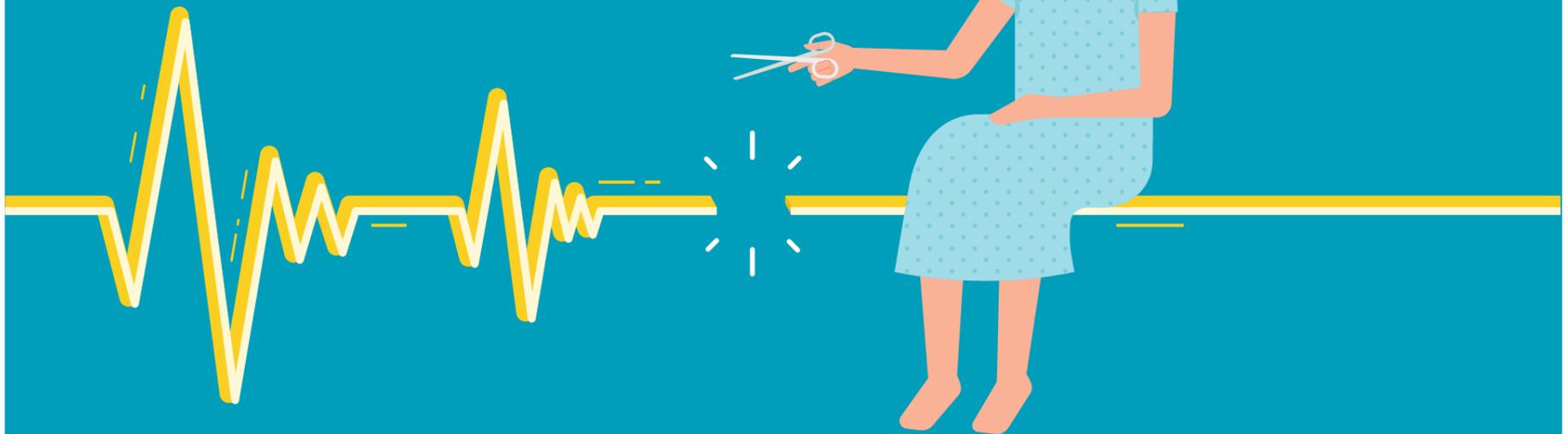
people close to the patient will keep on being happy because they will know that person is alive and well.

Last but not least, accepting euthanasia means that some lives are less worthy than others. When the doctors or the government give permission for euthanasia, the society would have a way of thinking that some people don't deserve to live longer. For example, people with disabilities and serious diseases would want to do it to live their last hours peacefully and then to end the suffering. However, that would create a kind of thinking that these people are insufficient and worthless to live because they are weaker and have made such a decision. Yet, others also believe that when those people continue their lives and stay alive, they themselves would think that they aren't worthy to live because they're different and not active

like others. Since the patients have a different situation and can't be as efficient as the normal people are, they would think negatively about themselves and would have that idea about whether their lives are worth living or not.

In conclusion, euthanasia is surrender, and we shouldn't let the negativity beat and make us give up. Euthanasia and assisted suicide are illegal worldwide except in 6% of jurisdictions. Of around 196 countries in the world and 50 US states, only 18 have legalised some form of “assisted dying”. That would show that euthanasia isn't the good decision. If it was, more countries would allow and make it legal. What is the cost of euthanasia? You are!

Raneem HAMWI



## HAPPINESS IN LIFE

Dorsa Fadaei ARASI

**D**o you think you are happy in your life? It seems like a simple question, but for some obscure reason, we instinctively reply with an easy “yes” or “no”. Most people want to be happy and they want to enjoy being here in this big and confusing world. But too many people struggle with being truly happy. Also, most of the scientists have been debating about the mystery of happiness. To be happy and have a good life we should know some helpful tips.

First of all, being happy depends on one's desire to always feel joy, even when it is difficult to find happiness these days. However, happiness doesn't happen out of anywhere, it has to be worked on and created. People's ideas of happiness vary widely. For me, shopping could make me happy but maybe others feel bad or guilty spending their money when buying something for themselves.

Secondly, happiness depends on how you spend your time. Many people spend their time in their jobs. Most workers and employees spend at least 40 hours working each week, that's at least 160 hours in a month. This means that if you want to be happy, you have to

make a good decision about your job and career. If the job makes them a bad person, they should probably look for another job or post.

Finally, happiness can come in different forms for each person. There are people who find happiness by making others happy. I think that most people would agree that one purpose of life is happiness. There are several things that bring happiness to my world such as my family, my friends, health and laughter. The primary thing that brings joy to my life is my family. I don't know where I would be without them. They have taught me almost everything in life.

In conclusion, happiness can most certainly be found and that is not something that comes to a person randomly. In fact, most people have to work very hard for a very long time to finally find happiness and to create the best possible version of it. Moreover, happiness is a special feeling that any person can build on their own and it can happen to anyone who expects it - therefore, everyone deserves to be happy.





## A REVIEW: WHY YOU SHOULD WATCH "THE CROWN"

"The Crown" is a historical drama streamed television series. I would say it is kind of like a documentary about Queen Elizabeth II's and other British royal members' lives. The series has got three seasons. I obtained a chance to get to know the young Queen of England through the series.

In my opinion, it is fascinating because thanks to this series I can see many interesting places like the Buckingham Palace, find out about the royal family's way of life so I can empathize with them when I watch the show. I've also learned a lot about British culture while watching "the Crown". For example, they say "Her or Your Majesty" to Queen Elizabeth II.

Another reason I like this series so much is because I'm curious about some English castles as well as one of their former prime ministers, Winston Churchill. I think they really care about and love their own country. Queen Elizabeth is a powerful, noble, conservative, punctual, clever, obsessive character. Her accent inspired me to improve my British English. On the other hand, Prince Phillip is a bit flirtatious. Fortunately, he is loyal and he falls in love with the Queen.

The first season showed a young and pretty Queen of England. The second season showed an older Queen in some of Great Britain's colonies in Africa, the murder of the American President Kennedy and the Queen's dancing gaily with Ghana's president. Finally, the third season showed the Queen's life when she was much older.

Well, this is pretty much everything I can tell you about the series without revealing any more spoilers. Are you interested in the lives of royal families? Are you into British history? Then you must definitely watch this fantastic show on Netflix!

**Hakan AYDIN**

# THE BEST *Lahmacun*

My father has a considerable amount of knowledge about food. He always knows the best places for each food. "You want to eat this, you should go to this place." "This place has the best hamburgers.", he says. One day he told me, "I'm going to take you to the best lahmacun restaurant in Istanbul." Although lahmacun isn't my favourite food, I accepted that offer and I'm so glad to have done this because I had never thought a lunch including lahmacun could be so enjoyable.

The restaurant is in Fatih and we live in Basaksehir. Therefore, it meant we had to bear the mad traffic of Istanbul and after long hours, we finally arrived at Fatih. This district is where my father grew up so he has beautiful memories of every corner of Fatih. During this trip, he told me many stories. And finally, we arrived at our destination which was the restaurant that is right across the Cerrahpasa University and a small mosque.

When we got out of the car, a small restaurant with a modest signboard welcomed us - Gaziantepi Mehmet Usta. To be honest, I wasn't expecting this kind of scene I witnessed. Although it was a tiny and humble restaurant, there was a long line through the street. Luckily, after five or ten minutes, we were able to find a place to sit. However, we were supposed to eat with strangers at the same table. Apparently, this was normal for this place because nobody cared. The decoration of the restaurant was a classic example of "artisan restaurant".

We ordered two pieces for each of us and after a couple of minutes, our food was ready. It was in a metal plate and it looked different from the others that I'd eaten before. After I took a bite, I realized the taste was very different from the others, too. First of all, it wasn't too greasy or dry. It was just right. Normally, when I eat lahmacun, my stomach starts to ring fire alarms. However, when I ate this, my stomach literally told me,

"Dude, I don't know what you are eating right now, but you should send more." It was definitely the best lahmacun I had ever eaten! Apparently, Vedat Milor, who is a Turkish gourmet, sees eye to eye with me on this, too. He says, "It's neither thin, nor thick. It's crunchy enough and every part of it is equally baked." To sum up, it's a very balanced lahmacun. I think, that's why this place is so famous.

After a long way back, we finally arrived home and I thought it was definitely worth it because it has changed my perspective about lahmacun. If you want to experience this, I highly recommend it to you.

\*Lahmacun: Lahmacun or Lahmajoun known as Turkish pizza, is an Anatolian and Middle Eastern dish usually made up of a round, thin piece of dough topped with minced meat (most commonly beef and lamb).

**Ümit EKINCI**



## From Criminal to Hero

We all know some inspirational figures in our lives. Maybe from social media, from the homework teachers gave us, or maybe from magazines. But why did I choose to write about Malcolm X? His life will teach us some valuable lessons and through his words, maybe you will be able to change the world someday.

Malcolm was born in 1925 in the USA. His life wasn't easy when he was a little boy and his father was killed by some racists. His house was burnt down and because of his father's death, his mother had a psychological breakdown, the family was separated and the children were sent to foster homes by the government's social services. After he got adopted, he went to school and became one of the best students as his grades were pretty good. He wanted to be a lawyer but racist comments were always chasing him. He was black after all and blacks then could never be lawyers. This racism literally pushed him to commit crimes. At the age of 13, he was kicked out of school. When he got older, he was put in prison but that was the place where his life had changed completely.

When Malcolm was in prison, his brother got him into books and he read a lot that he forgot he was in prison. He also got to know about the Nation of Islam through his brother who wrote him regularly about it. The Nation of Islam was a religious movement that taught black self-reliance. He learned about Elijah Muhammed who was the head of the Nation of Islam. Elijah was also black and he hated white people. Malcolm later became a Muslim after meeting Elijah and joined his cult. But Malcolm didn't know they were going to be separated one day and that his ideas were going to change from hating whites to loving everyone.

Years passed and he got out of prison. He became well-known in the Nation of Islam. He built lots of mosques. But this sudden rise attracted the FBI and the CIA's attention. The time when he got more famous was when a black Muslim named Hinton Johnson got severely beaten up by cops.

Malcolm rushed to the police station when he heard about it and where he saw Johnson covered in blood. Malcolm convinced the police to have Johnson brought to the hospital. There was also a big group who supported Malcolm's appeal to the police. They were there to support Malcolm and to not remain silent in this particular situation. That was the time when Malcolm himself and the entire country realized his power as people followed him quickly when he told them to leave the police station.

He became the face of the Nation of Islam and started speaking in conferences. In 1963, when John Kennedy was assassinated, Elijah prohibited his people to talk about the assassination and wished John Kennedy's family strength. But Malcolm talked bad about it and got banned from preaching for 90 days. After this event, he left the Nation of Islam and founded his own community - the United Afro-American Organization. He also founded the Muslim Mosque Organization.

He still hated white people because Elijah was his first inspiration although there was already a growing conflict between them. After all these things, he went to Hajj and he said that place had nothing to do with racism. He said, "I ate from the same plate with whiter than white and darker than dark-skinned people." He also said there was no black or white, but there were good or bad people. He changed his name to El Hak Malik El Shabazz but these changes made him more prominent and he was literally on the target board of the FBI. Then his car was bombed. In the Nation of Islam newspapers, the headlines were cruel - that someone like Malcolm deserved to die. In 1965, when he was preparing to give a speech at the Audubon Ballroom, he was assassinated. In front of his children and wife, three people shot him 23 times. Stories about who assassinated him whether it was law enforcement agencies or by some Nation of Islam members have continued for decades.

As you can see, even when he received so much hate, he never gave up. He was a criminal but he had a goal. He did everything to make his dreams come true. He ultimately wanted peace and put an end to discrimination. He didn't give up when they bombed his car. He didn't give up when he heard the hate comments. He didn't give up when they were against his ideas because he knew he was right. He knew most of the people hated him but this didn't stop him and he still did his best. As a result, he died as a hero.

No matter who you are, no matter what conditions you are in, there is always a way to make your dreams come true if you really want it. Don't let anyone stop you and always try harder. Also, if you research about him, you will realize that he is more than an inspirational character and you will be impressed by his life. It is obviously more than I have just shared. I hope Malcolm X's life story inspires and reminds you to never give up on your dreams.

"I'm for truth, no matter who tells it. I'm for justice, no matter who it is for or against. I'm a human being, first and foremost, and as such I'm for whoever and whatever benefits humanity as a whole."

"If you're not careful, the newspapers will have you hating the people who are being oppressed, and loving the people who are doing the oppressing."  
- Malcolm X

## SHOULD YOUNG PEOPLE TRAVEL FOR A YEAR BEFORE UNIVERSITY LIFE?

When you hear the word travel, what comes to your mind? Tasting new food, seeing new places and learning about new cultures, maybe? Many young people don't have the opportunity to travel for one year. But those who do have sometimes experienced both bad and good things and develop themselves while they travelled.

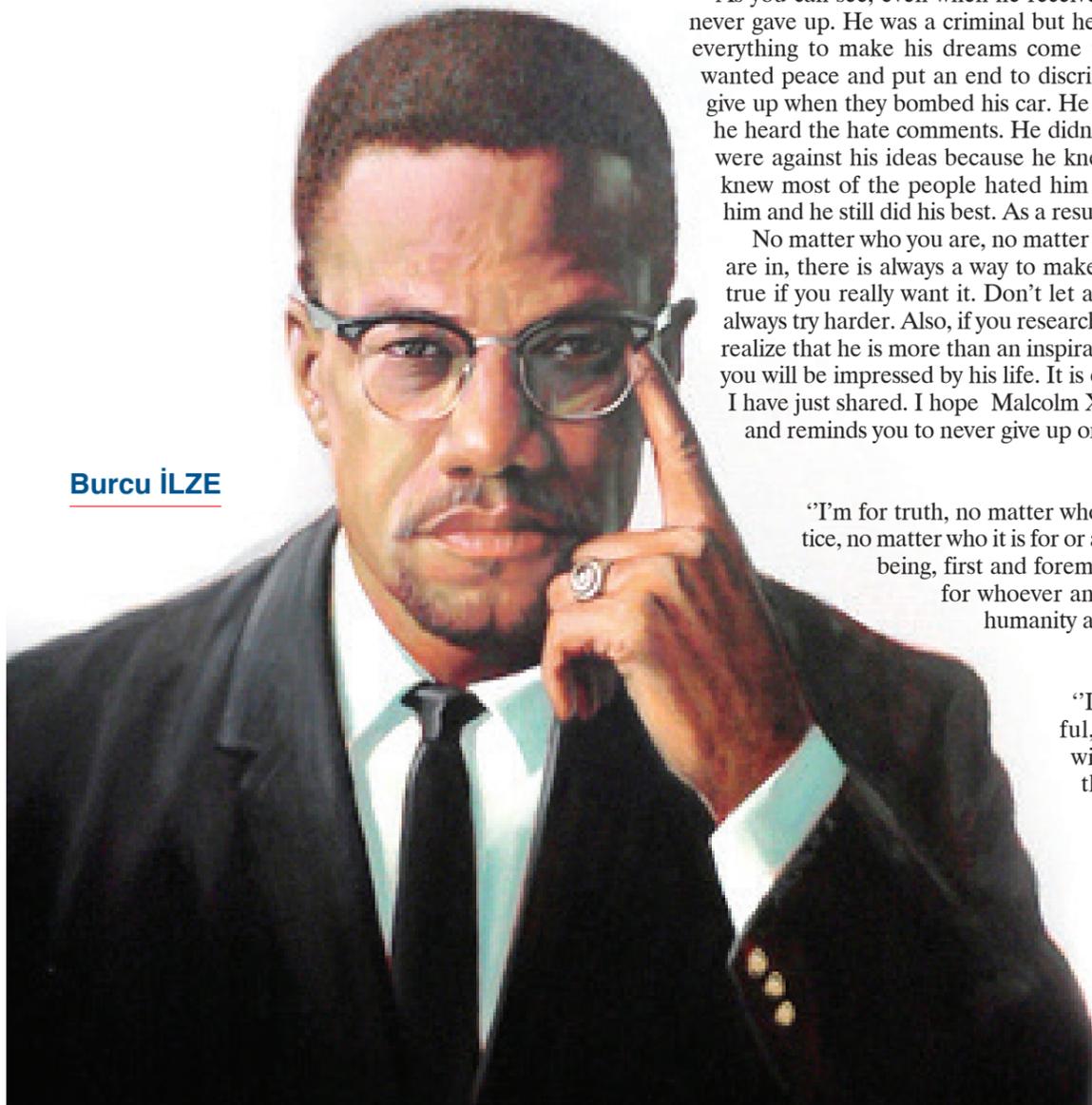
First of all, if you decided to travel for one year you need to take this seriously. You should have a good organized plan and for emergencies you should have a plan B. If you are travelling alone it will be more dangerous for you.

Travelling when you are young can change your views. It can make you more mature in your outlook in life. It is not only about the time that you have spent while you are travelling. It is about the many new situations and adventures that you experience. It is about leaving your routine and trying to do new things.

But it can be challenging sometimes. You can be bored of being away for one year. You might feel tired. You might want to go back to the routine that you always had but before this, think about the person at the beginning of your trip. Then you are going to start seeing the changes inside of you.

To conclude, travelling may give you bad experiences but that's how you grow. Also, good and new experiences and learning by living give you distinct and permanent knowledge and life lessons. Don't be afraid to be on your way. Maybe that one year can be the best year of your life.

Güzide CALAYIR



Burcu İLZE



## Who is your best friend?

In human nature, most people don't like being alone. So we all have some friends but one of them is more special than others. That is the guy who is your best friend. Actually, this question is hard because I have three close friends. However, I choose Bilge because she is more reliable than my other friends. I think trusting someone is really hard in our world but she is the only person who I can trust a hundred percent. So she is my best friend and there are three important reasons for this.

Firstly, the situation of relying on someone is really hard. I can trust her because I have known her for 14 years and during those times we have dealt with a lot of situations together. For example, I had some problems with her boyfriend who is one of my close friends. She took control of the situation before it started becoming worse and she supported me even though the problem was about her boyfriend. She has always been by my side and she has never betrayed me. She stands on my side even when I am wrong.

Secondly, she is really intelligent. If she wants to learn something, I am sure that she is going to get that thing because she is very practical and determined. If I have a problem, I always go to her first and she always finds a way to solve it. For example, when I was preparing for the university exam, we studied together. One day, we had some problems about our course because the course administrators didn't keep their promises. I was so mad because of that situation and she made me calm before my temper could explode. She offered to protest against that situation. We had talked with the other students from our course and we planned not to join classes for a while. After that successful protest, they had to keep their promises.

Thirdly, she is always respectful to me. I think showing respect is necessary while we communicate. She always knew her limits and she never tried to go against them. Also, I know her limits too so this helps improve our conversations. For example, we never have miscommunication issues regarding our behavior.

Finally, she makes me happy with all her personal qualities. We have a lot of memories together. When I remember them, it makes me smile. So she has been my best friend for 14 years now and I think it is going to be like this until our lives end.

**Alihan Efe ÇİFTCI**



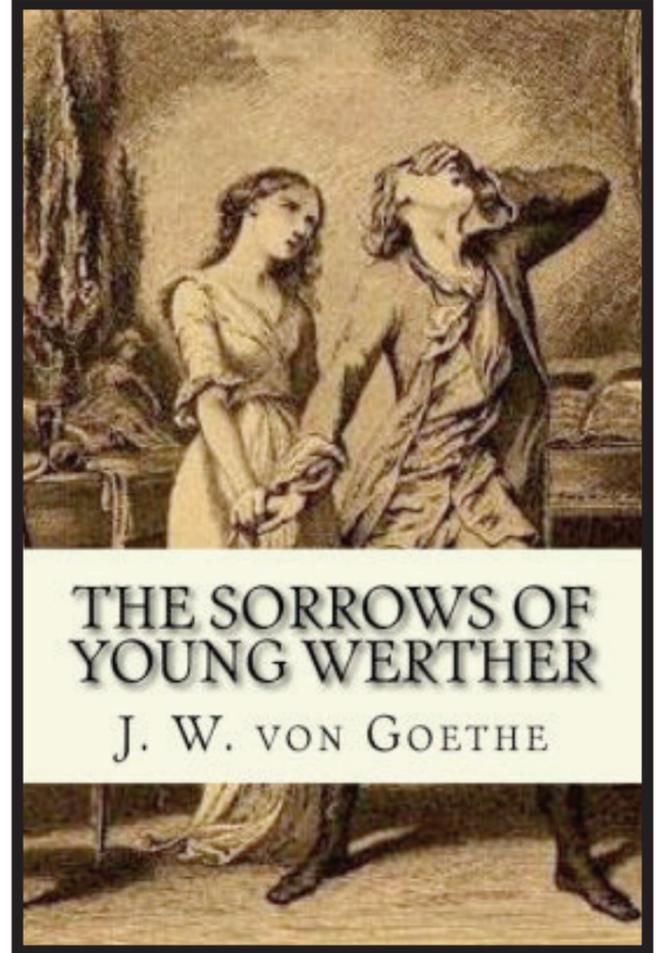
# THE SORROWS OF YOUNG WERTHER

**B**efore I start, I must say this is very hard for me. Whenever I decide to read this novel, it makes me cry like a river. I've read it four times so far, and every time I finish reading, it has a different effect on me. Goethe wrote this novel in 1772 when he was 25. The book tells us about Werther's unrequited love for Lotte, but it changes all our perceptions of life. It is such a book that 14 people committed suicide after it was released. To understand this book - more importantly to be able to feel this book - you have to have a strong psychology and a sense of self-understanding because only people who understand themselves can understand Werther's pain.

Firstly, the book is composed of two parts. The first part would be absurd for someone who doesn't believe in love at first sight like me, but Werther falls in love when he first sees Lotte. It is impossible not to bow in front of such a passion. I think the reason he fell in love with Lotte is because she is friendly, clever and she behaves ethically. Even though he is engaged to someone else, she cares about Werther even if she finds him extreme. That's how he describes his feelings for Lotte, "She is to me a sacred being. All passion is still in her presence." I felt how sad it was to feel such passionate love in my heart. Werther also makes up such a sentence while summarizing the despair of his situation and the pain he suffered. "I cannot pray, "Leave her to me! And yet she often seems to belong to me. I cannot pray, "Give her to me!" for she is another's." There are so many different feelings sometimes I don't know what I need to feel and also, everything's so clear that I can feel everything deeply. When Goethe wrote that he proved to be an excellent writer.

In this story, he described the past so beautifully that it is a perfect book for me, who admires old times. It is impossible not to find yourself on every page of the book and impossible not to feel his love. He also describes his love in this sentence. "I have possessed that heart, that noble soul, in whose presence I seemed to be more than I really was, because I was all that I could be." Isn't love like that? Doesn't the person feel that s/he is stronger, more peaceful and safer than anyone else when s/he is with the right person? Oh dear Werther, this world will never see anyone who loves you like you do. Neither Romeo and Juliet nor any other story can ever be told with such deep suffering and despair in my eyes. At the end of the first part, Werther, who is thinking of going away from Lotte at the end of the first episode, says goodbye like this, "We shall recognize each other under every possible change! I am going, I continued, going willingly; but, should I say forever, perhaps I may not keep my word." It shows that he always contradicts himself.

Secondly, before I start to write about this part I needed to take some time to feel better. In the beginning, the story tells the problems Werther had and the problems which are still going on even in this century. "The silly creatures cannot see that it is not place which constitutes real greatness, since the man who occupies the first place but seldom plays the principal part. How many kings are governed by their ministers—how many ministers by their secretaries? Who, in such cases, is really the chief?" The situation we read has always happened in all of the centuries in the world. As we keep reading, we see the feeling of emptiness Werther felt about not seeing Lotte. "The heaven which animated my existence is gone: the charm which cheered me in the gloom of night, and aroused me from my morning slumbers, is forever fled." The love towards Lotte is too strong and that love in Werther makes him go to sleep for her and in the mornings he wakes up for her. Poor Werther was crawling in pangs of love. Is it love? Is it worth that much pain? Is Lotte worth the pain? I don't know, but I hope it's not. I feel different every time I read the book, but I'm not sure if I agree with Lotte who knows about the feelings Werther has for her. She sees him as a friend until the end. She prefers to convince herself not to feel this way. Well, is it her fault that Werther fell in love with her? No, definitely not. It is not her fault not to share the same feeling with that person. But it was her fault not to take Werther's feelings seriously. It is such a strong feeling



that he blames Lotte for falling in love with another person. "I sometimes cannot understand how she can love another, how she dares love another, when I love nothing in this world so completely, so devotedly, as I love her, when I know only her, and have no other possession." The way he got obsessed makes him get closer to his end and he knows that.

Eventually, he can't stand not seeing Lotte, so he goes back to her. He is back to the married Lotte. He is such a hopeless man and he is not enjoying life. Connecting to someone so blindly, jumping to the well you end up with such love is something that only mad people will do. Although he was happy with love in his heart, before he died, Lotte's blessed lips were not enough to make him stay alive because he wanted more. And when the expected end comes, "Heaven favours my design, and you, Charlotte, provide me with the fatal instruments. It was my desire to receive my death from your hands, and my wish is gratified." And "Farewell Lotte." was his last sentence.

Personally speaking, in this story the victim is Werther because of his faith in love. Whenever I read the book I think this is an impossible story. After I read the book, I remind myself every day not to have faith in love. The reason Werther impressed me so much may be that we are very similar. I don't know if I want to live that love but I know it's impossible to live that love. It was my favorite one from the moment I read this excellent book. The point I was wondering about is what Werther thought when writing the letters. Understanding what he feels when he doesn't write letters, thinking like Werther, understanding the integrity in the book is more absorbing for me. If we think of the letters written as a letter rather than a book, the integrity of the stories and feelings is one of the features that make the book readable in a way.

As a result, this is not a love story. It is the story of a murder committed by love. I think not reading this book is both a great loss and a great favor. Thanks to Werther I understand the definition of love better every time I read it, and thanks to Lotte I understand my feelings.

**Nazlı ÇALIŞKAN**

# WHAT DID YOU DO TO US CORONA?

Who could have known this would happen? Who would have guessed that life would stop because of a virus?

A lot has changed in our lives because of Covid-19. For example, everyone is confined to their homes, people are victimized. That is why whatever happens we have to stay at home during this period and we should be careful, I think ignorance kills not Corona.

I hope this virus ends in a short time and everyone returns to their old lives. In the past, we could stroll the streets, have fun and be with our loved ones. Now we just expect to go through this situation in our homes. Now that vaccines have been found, there may be an end to all this. I think it will take a long time for us to return to our old lives. Who knows, maybe we will not even return to our old lives.

Finally, let's stay home and pay attention to hygiene during this process, but I am sure that if we stick together, this will too pass.

**Berk KÖSE**



# YOUTUBE: A REGULATED CONTENT

We all use YouTube for almost every content, right? These could be anything from watching funny videos, uploading and viewing videos to listening to music. Almost everyone finds it entertaining. However, I think that entertainment is risky! Now that it is even more available to reach, YouTube should reconsider regulating its content.

Nowadays, almost all children have tablet computers, and they spend too much time with it. They watch cartoons, play games and such. One of the websites that kids know is YouTube; the site has become very popular with kids. The creators even made a special website for kids, YouTube Kids. Is it safe, though? The content on YouTube Kids comes from YouTube itself. It has features for parents such as: blocking searching for kids and setting a timer. Also, it filters content for kids. Even if the content on YouTube Kids is kid-friendly and filtered, users have noticed harmful things popping up on the site like cartoons with graphic sexual language, child

suicide, family violence, and scary creatures that order kids to harm themselves or their parents. That is to say, no matter how secure the website is, harmful content is still available to reach.

The more that YouTube has become popular, the more people have started to create their content. However, due to this crowded environment, the contents are not rare like they used to be, and they are just ordinary now, such as beauty routines, mukbangs, people playing video games and so on. That's all you can see when you log in to the website and everyone does these same contents. YouTube cares about content theft and its members' efforts, but there is not much to do when its population is growing more and more every day.

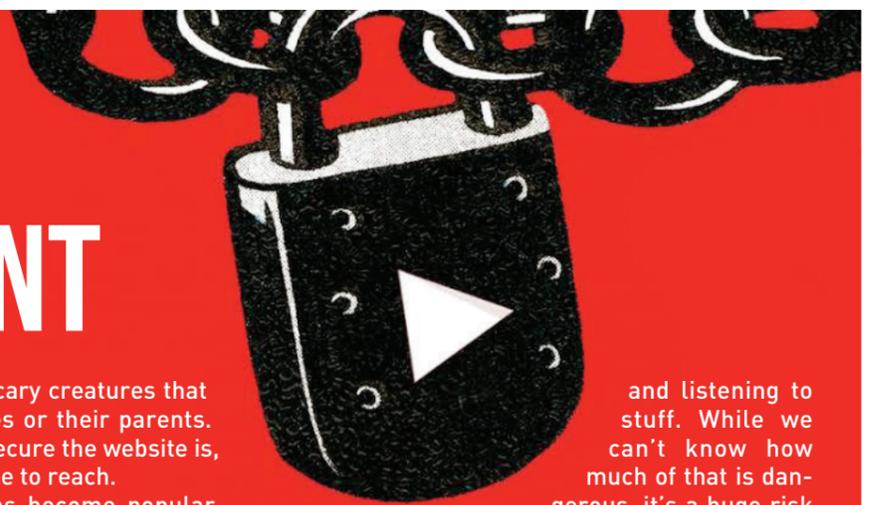
Proponents of YouTube argue that the more it grows, the more beneficial it will be for the content creators. However, with that growing content and membership, people who want to give harm are lucky with that. We spend too much time watching

and listening to stuff. While we can't know how much of that is dangerous, it's a huge risk

that we take. Sometimes it can be a recommended video that we click and sometimes it can be something that we watch with a bunch of hidden messages. We have an important part of using the website correctly and even if we do that, harmful contents are always by our side.

YouTube is now working on better regulation for making its website more secure and more enjoyable. When these improvements are over, we will reach and enjoy a greater quality. In the end, regulation, when it's done correctly, is always a good thing, isn't it?

**Sena PALA**



# AYDIN *Young* PENS



## A LEGENDARY WRESTLER

I would like to write about my grandfather in this article. His name is Ahmet Mersinli. He is also known as "Mersinli Ahmet" or "Ahmet Kireççi". He was born in 1914 in Mersin. He was a Turkish wrestler. He started doing sports at the age of 17. His branch was boxing and athletics. He was injured while training so he had to quit athletics. After that, he entered the Wrestling Club of Kumkapı in Istanbul and became very successful. Here are some of his achievements.

- 1932 Balkan Championships: Gold medal
- 1936 Olympics in Berlin, Germany: Bronze medal (Freestyle Middleweight)

- 1937 World Championships: Bronze medal
- 1940 Balkan Championships: Gold medal
- 1948 Olympics in London, England: Gold medal (Greco-Roman Heavyweight)

He couldn't speak English, therefore he always just said "Hello" while he was competing abroad. It was the only English word he knew. People thought he was very lovely and friendly, so they nicknamed him "Mr. Hello". He passed away because of a traffic accident in 1978, but he will continue to make me proud and he will inspire me forever.

**Ebru Dilfer RENKLİ**

# HOROSCOPES



## ARIES

The first sign of the twelve zodiacs. It represents the start of all things and shows a powerful urge to lead. Aries is risk-taking, lively, spearheading, and brave. Arians consistently need to be on top. They are generally straightforward and open but they are also egotistical and obstinate. Arians love experience and nearly has no dread.

## GEMINI



The third sign of the zodiac. It represents the speed of thought. Geminis are great communicators. They are dynamic and cunning. Geminis are versatile, flexible, open, clever, scholarly, and smooth. At some point they can be cynical and it is brought about by their dualistic nature. They generally keep the principles of the game.



## CANCER

Cancers are defensive, customary, and enthusiastic. Cancer is probably the most emotional of all the signs. This causes Cancers to be sentimental and modest. Occasionally they can be forceful in obtaining what they need. They can be happy and melancholic in just a minute. The core of their character is affectability. They feel secure when they are with their families.

## LEO



Leos are similar to lions. They are vivacious, free, and autonomous. They like completing things. Leos are brilliant pioneers due to their truthful and courageous character. They are faithful to others. They are outgoing. They also like giving presents.

## SAGITTARIUS

They have vigorous and dynamic character. Sagittarians want to know it all and everybody. They like travelling and being close to nature. They are loyal to others. They are also understanding, so people can share their problems with Sagittarians. They are not sentimental. They can adapt themselves to any environment.

## CAPRICORN



Capricorns do not make the same mistakes again. They are cautious and frugal. Their relationships may be affected negatively by their reserved personality. They are always loyal to their family and friends. They are also kind and affectionate but this is stifled by their shyness.

## AQUARIUS



Aquarians are delicate and affectionate. They are not amiable. They like being alone or they prefer the companionship of their close friends. That is the reason why they choose their close friends cautiously. They like getting praises and are usually forgiving. Generally they are quiet and genuine.

## PISCES



Pisces are free and mysterious. They are emotional and adoring. Adapting themselves to any situation is easy for them. They can be very colorful at times and this causes them to negate their own principles and standards. They can deal with a number of assignments without a moment's delay and succeed in every one of them.

## TAURUS



The second sign of the zodiac. It represents development and improvement. Taurus is tolerant, dependable, caring, adoring, and steady. Taurians don't like changes much and this determines their cautious and realistic nature. They show an incredible enthusiasm for every single physical issue. They are also dedicated to their companions and sweethearts.

## VIRGO



When someone goes against them, Virgos like attacking back. Attention, reverence and appreciation is what Virgos need. They are skilled and powerful. They are also reasonable. They can tackle issues quickly. They do not do it for praises. They are thrifty. As they are perfectionists, they like everything to be in order.

## LIBRA



Libras are good-natured and being part of a group is joyful for them. They have delicate and refined characters. They like being applauded and spoiled. They are also sticklers. They are faithful, mindful, and versatile. In terms of friendships and relationships, they are very trustworthy.

## SCORPIO



Scorpios have complex character. They are intelligent, considerate, and self-protective. They give a lot of importance to money. They can be intuitive at times. They can feel things by instinct that others cannot. They are faithful to their friends and family. They can easily adapt themselves to new situations.



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