



# THE BAYAN POST



A LOVE LETTER FROM BAYAN TO THE WORLD



## NEED SOME RECOMMENDATIONS?

*Pages 9, 14 and 15:* If you too are bored, take a look at what has been entertaining us during this time!

## LEARN A THING OR TWO

*Pages 6 and 7:* The Bayan Post encourages you to stay informed. Here are a few topics that we hope may interest you.

## HEAR FROM OUR TEACHERS AND ALUMNI

*Pages 2 and 16:* Believe it or not, they miss you. Read the words of kindness and support from some of our beloved faculty and students.



## A NOTE FROM THE EDITORS

As another academic year comes to an end, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Bayan Post for continually producing with passion. A very special thank you goes out to our greatest supporter, Ms. Mirna, who has supported this platform through which we express ourselves. This final issue is dedicated to our dear Bayan community as a collective effort of coping during this panic-ridden pandemic. By creating this, we continue to do what we love, and we hope to encourage you to do the same. We hope for our words to be a source of light in these dark times.

Stay safe.

- *Mirna Ashour and Suhaib Rajab.*

"It has not been the simplest of tasks, and at times it gets very draining, mentally; especially for someone who has been away from home for the past few months and was looking forward to coming back and spending quality time with friends and loved ones. Regardless, this is still a wonderful opportunity to be around close family members and sort out one's priorities, as well as a chance to gain independence and discover new skills or hobbies, albeit through reading, learning a musical instrument, baking, or whatever suits one's preferences. It is a rough patch that will surely subside with time eventually, so long as people abide by the precautionary measures that are set by the authorities."

- Yousif ALDaaysi, '19



Art by Noora AlHashimi, '17



# The Eye of the Storm

MIRNA ASHOUR, *Editor-in-chief*

Two months ago, I was walking the corridors of the school like any other day. The long-dreaded IB exams were looming on the horizon, casting a long, dark shadow of stress and anxiety. I could see no end in sight with every thought of mine consumed by an anticipation for the grand moment that would culminate four years of blood, sweat and tears. And although I was praying for the journey to be over, little did I know that something else was in store for me, creeping up behind me. So, when the end did at last arrive, it did so far sooner than I had expected, and in a way I had never imagined.



Instead of sitting the exams that have relentlessly haunted my senior year, here I am at home writing this instead. I must say, it is quite disorienting and disarming to have the rug pulled from beneath your feet leaving you suspended mid-air, clueless. Endless questions fill the air, but their answers keep changing every hour whether for the better or the worse. Numbers spike, anxiety peaks and panic ensues. That, my friend, is our dear nemesis, *Uncertainty*, ever so graciously stealing the spotlight. Unfortunately, nothing can ready you for the moment that it will come unwelcomingly knocking at your door. Rather, I advise that you greet it warmly with arms wide open, because the best first step to overcoming it is to acknowledge and embrace it.

*Uncertainty is Man's greatest peeve.*

We like things defined, exact, predictable. We like to fit everything and everyone into neat boxes labelled clearly and concisely. We strive for perfection and precision. We are creatures of habit balancing on a house of cards. We are also, to our dismay, well acquainted with Uncertainty, which takes the form of a vast, menacing abyss threatening to devour our frail sense of security. But the truth is, Uncertainty has always been around, and it is certainly here to stay. What we are control of, however, is how we react to it, and what we make of it.

The internet is bustling with hourly updates and news reports. Yes, it is crucial that you stay aware and informed, but this unfiltered consumption of a whirlwind of media is also the primary culprit of misinformation and mass-hysteria. Panic and hysteria are poisonous- they only add fuel to the fire. We can only heal by practicing patience, compassion, and solidarity.

Take time to reflect, to heal, to process. It is inarguably strange to experience isolation in an age where we are more connected than ever, and it is inevitable that we face obstacles on our treacherous path to recovery. Life, however, it is delicate balance of give and take, with the scales presently tipping dangerously towards the take. *Give in the way you can.* That



unharnessed energy and emotion welled up inside you is more valuable than ever. Invest it.

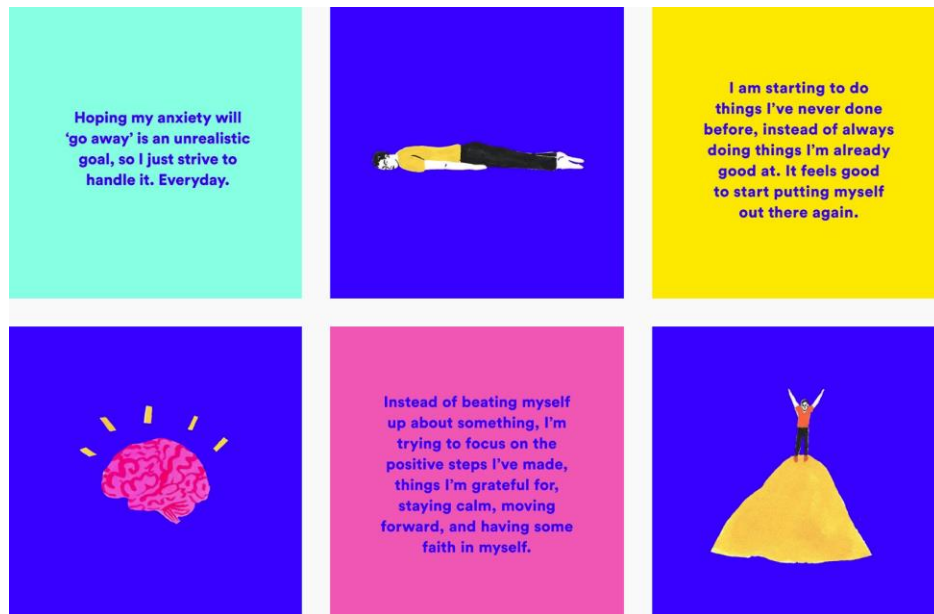
The world is hurting, but Mankind has persevered through far graver ordeals. Society is built on such a fragile infrastructure, but what shall always prevail- no matter by how small of a margin- is the indestructible force of humanity. Contribute to its strength and growth.

## When This Is Over

DANA BANI HAMMAD, *Grade 11*

"العسر مهما قسى فاليسر يتبعه، وعدّ من الله و هذا الوعد يكفينا"

When experiencing an unfamiliar situation, we often react to it in different ways. During the past few months, we have all had to adjust our lives in accordance to the pandemic "COVID-19". One thing to note is the essentialness of monitoring your mental health.



As per guidelines set by the government, we are self-isolating. Thus, it is not unusual that our mental health suffers which is why it is important to take into consideration the suggestions I will be discussing throughout this article and implementing them.

Firstly, this is merely a period of time that shall pass. We are going through a pandemic which does not necessarily mean that you are obliged to find a new hobby or create a new invention, regardless of what others pressure you to think, each individual has their own coping mechanism which is best suited and altered to themselves. Hence, take it day by day while being



kind to yourself and remembering that something good will come out of what is going on. For instance, reducing industrial action has allowed for the environment to revive itself which causes many of us to rethink our old habits that have previously affected mother nature negatively. We have also allowed for the flourishing of blue skies and clear air while closing the largest Arctic ozone hole.

Despite the positives of the pandemic, we are still under a lot of stress and anxiety, which is why we must filter news and social media. It is also important to remember that not everything we see on social media is true and following it constantly can cause our mental health to spiral. When in need of accurate sources, look at sources such as the National Health Service. Take breaks and filter out triggering keywords or accounts.

You should also take care of your body. If you do not feel like exercising on a certain day, then take deep breaths and meditate. Build a routine; wake up, take a shower, clear your mind, and practice healthy eating. Try the well-known “anti-depression diet”, which allows your body to be well flourished while reducing anxiety and stress. As hypocritical as it sounds coming from a caffeine addict, you could also try reducing your caffeine intake as it often increases anxiety and stress. Decrease the cups you have during the day, try challenging yourself and others around you while implementing a reward at the end of the journey.

Another method you could try is grounding yourself, use your senses in order to focus on the present moment. Find 5 things you can see, 4 things you can feel, 3 things you can hear, 2 things you can smell and 1 thing you can taste.

Also, it is important to communicate with others. It is a hard time, especially considering that Ramadan is usually the month in which we spend time with family and friends, hence, check in on each other through the numerous social media apps we take advantage of on a daily basis. Speak up on the way you feel and let your emotions run free.

Finally, when this is over, you will be able to hug your friends and talk to them about all it is you have been through. When this is over, you will be able to achieve the goals you have always strived for. When this is over, you will not remember the tasks you could not check off your checklist. Most importantly, *when this is over, you will be okay.*





# Animal Exploitation: The Root Cause Behind Our Pandemics

SELMA ALGOSAIBI, *Grade 12*

While reading this issue, most people are quarantined at home, cursing this virus that forced them to isolate themselves from their friends and family. Many are discussing sanitation methods and a possible vaccine, however not much is being done about preventing a similar outbreak from recurring.

As most are aware, the COVID 19 outbreak started in the Wuhan wet market and proceeded to spread through the world. The cause of this virus was the overcrowding of animals in tight spaces, easily allowing for zoonotic diseases to spread from animals to humans, especially when exotic animals are being slaughtered. China temporarily banned the farming and consumption of wild animals in reaction to the corona outbreak. The country received major backlash from the world on their unethical and inhumane treatment of animals, despite the fact that conditions of the animals in Wuhan are extremely similar to the conditions animals are placed all around the world in factory farms. Such conditions are where diseases throughout history have been born.

Unfortunately, this isn't the first pandemic to originate from animals. The Spanish flu pandemic spread in 1918, and infected about a third of the world's population, killing an estimate of 40 million people. The disease started in birds and spread to humans. Similar lockdown restrictions were put in place around the world, such as businesses closing and mandating the use of face masks. The Asian flu spread in 1957, causing around 1 million deaths. The cause of this virus was known to be a combination of avian and human influenza viruses. The Asian flu virus developed in the years that followed, sparking another outbreak of what is known as the Hong Kong virus. The combination of avian and human influenza caused an estimated 25-50 million deaths. Swine flu pandemic spread in 2009, causing over 1800 deaths. It first started in pigs, spreading through herds, then transmitted to humans. These pandemics were influenza type diseases, all caused by animals and their close association with humans.



An example of a disease caused by overcrowding of animals is the SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) virus, which spread in 2002. Similar to COVID 19, it started in Guangdong, China, and spread around the world. The virus was thought to have originated in small wild mammals and spread to humans when those animals were traded. In reaction to SARS China banned the sale of some wildlife, such as civet cats, however, these policies were not enforced properly. Another example is HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) was classified by WHO as a "global epidemic". It crossed from monkeys in the 1920s who were infected by SIV. When the



disease is transmitted, humans become infected with HIV. HIV originated in the Democratic Republic of Congo and was caused by people eating infected monkeys. Bird flu, or avian influenza, is an example of a zoonotic disease that infected people globally, the first outbreak started in 1997, and a second outbreak occurred in 2003. It began in wild aquatic birds, then proceeded to develop a virulent strain in the tight, unsanitary quarters of poultry factory farms. It then spread to other livestock animals and eventually to humans.

If one looks closely at the diseases humanity has faced throughout history, they will be able to see the connection between breeding animals and outbreaks. The pandemics we have faced are a result of what we have done to nature and how we mass breed animals, proving that consuming animals, and trading them not only harms the animals themselves but also threatens the well-being of humans.

## Artificial Intelligence and the Fight Against COVID-19

ZEYAD AL SAKHI, *Grade 11*



In these dire times, people have been suffering from the effects of the recent pandemic that had originated from one of the most populous wet markets in Wuhan, China, spreading across the entire globe in a matter of mere months.

Unemployment has increased substantially, health has deteriorated significantly, and economies have been hit hard. People have essentially fallen victim to this invisible assailant that has entirely changed the world and the manner in which it has functioned for decades and centuries on end.

Despite the traumatic series of events taking place, humanity has seen some hope in one of the strongest modern tools in its tool kit - Artificial Intelligence (AI). This refers to the simulation of human intelligence in machines to think and process information through the



analysis of considerably large datasets. AI's biggest advantage is its ability to learn and problem-solve through its experience and assessment of the surrounding real world. Now, in the context of such a menacing invisible war against this pandemic, how can such a new technological field be of any use on the battlefield? This is a question worthy of a concise yet thorough answer to those who are inherently curious beings.



Countless research projects are utilizing the power of AI to distinguish suitable drugs that were initially created to withstand the effects of potent diseases in the past, but which could perhaps be purposed to adapt to the coronavirus. Additionally, through the various studies on the molecular constituents of present drugs with AI, companies yearn to recognize those that are capable of combating the profound COVID-19. Despite the heavy biomedical research around chronic diseases over the years, COVID-19 has a few months' worth of research associated with it. However, researchers can use such data in tracking down other viruses with similar elements, deciphering the way in which they function, and then finally working out which drugs could be best used to inhibit the virus. Hence, more research and human trials will be needed to see whether the drug has the effects AI predicts.



In fact, Artificial-intelligence systems were recognized as one of the few that have managed to detect this global breakout as being deadly, when it was still present in Wuhan. However, we have failed to realize that what we have in our possession is one of the most powerful modern inventions, shown by the complacency of governments all around the world to act and find solutions accordingly.

## COVID-19 Prevention Tips



### WASH

Wash your hands frequently – for at least 20 seconds



### COVER

Use tissues when you cough or sneeze and dispose of them immediately, use your elbow if a tissue not available



### AVOID

Do not touch surfaces and then your mouth, eyes or nose



### DISTANCE

Practice social distancing by not shaking hands, hugging, etc.



### ISOLATE

Stay home if you become ill and prevent the spread of the illness





# Seeking entertainment? We've got you covered!

DANIAH AL AALI, *Grade 11*

As we end the academic year and deeper into quarantine, it's become clear that we're going to be indoors for at least a few more months. Although I'm sure we're all thankful for a break from our studies and piling schoolwork, I must admit that school has given us something to focus on and direct our attention to during these hard times. It has provided us with structure and a routine, while allowing time for us to socialize with our peers and teachers between lessons. However, knowing that many of you are bored outside of classes, I'd like to share some of the things that have kept me entertained during these past few weeks.

## 1. The Good Place



I've heard a lot of praise about this show and decided to give it a go. The premise is that a woman, Eleanor, who was not the best person during her life finds herself in 'the good place', a heaven-like afterlife. However, it seems that the system has mistaken her for someone else so instead of turning herself in she tries to earn her place by learning to be a good person. This show has quickly become one of my favourites, primarily because of how funny it is and the simplicity of the plot.

## 2. Brooklyn Nine-Nine



Like the Good Place, this show is hilarious and easy to digest. It's set in the 99th precinct of the New York Police Department following the work lives of the precinct's detectives and their relationships, along with their newly appointed captain. My favourite aspect of this show is how diverse the show's characters are and the fact that these characters are well developed, rather than having their race, sexuality, or gender define their identity.

## 3. One Day at a Time



This show follows the lives of all four members of a Cuban American family; Penelope who is a newly single Army veteran, her mother Lydia, and her two kids Alex and Elena. It's sweet, funny, and teaches you a little bit about Cuban culture, as well as talking about some pretty serious and relevant issues about race and sexuality.

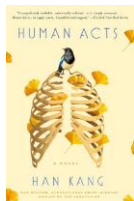


## 4. About Time



This movie quickly became a favourite after my first time watching it. It's a twist on your average rom-com following the relationship between Mary and Tim after his father informs him that all the men in their family have the ability to time travel. The concept of time-travel was woven so organically into the plot that it never seemed strange or like too much of a fantasy film, which I personally enjoyed.

## 5. Human Acts by Han Kang



I started reading this book for school this year and did not expect to love it as much as I did. It's set in Gwangju, South Korea during the 1980s. Each chapter is told from the perspective from a different person who's been affected by the uprising and is connected in some way to the boy in the first chapter, Dong-Ho. Not only are these stories completely captivating and important to share, but this may be the most beautifully written book I've read. Han Kang manages to describe some of the most horrible deaths in a way that's almost peaceful.



# A Message to COVID-19: Thank You!

KHALID TAMIM, *Grade 12*

Dear Corona,

You are part of us, your invisibility is embedded within our cores, you connected us all physically, spiritually, and definitely fatefully. You finally achieved what all of us failed to do, what we advocated for throughout history. Thank you for this unity between us all, we knew that the world has to change. Thank you for giving us a chance to build the world from the beginning. Thank you for the whirlwind that taught the vile a lesson, who broke the ego of the tyrant, and brought the servant closer to his Lord. Thank you for awakening the earthquake of conscience, and twitching the light of truth, for the hurricane that has tested our patience, willpower, and faith. Thank you for making humankind realize that no matter how one is domineering and exalted the day will come, when his arrogance will be broken. When his might will be crushed.



Thank you for stressing on the fact that having a calm walk in the middle of the day, admiring the breeze of cold air, enjoying a light meal with our beloved ones, and interacting with one another is a blessing that we never fully appreciated. Since when did going to the grocery store feel like attending the Oscars, or visiting a barbershop felt like receiving a rare gift or witnessing a supernatural miracle, and even feeling the sunlight's heat was a unique cosmic phenomenon?

Thank you for equalizing the rich and the poor, the ruler and the ruled, the politician and citizen, the educated and illiterate, and the youthful and aging. Thank you for your eye-opening impact, for letting us see how bombarded we are by the pleasures of life, not giving heed to the essential aspects of it. Thank you for proving that human ties and connections are the most powerful tools today. For justifying how incompatible you are in front of religion, race, colour, ethnicity, and even beliefs. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to put aside our racial, and societal conflicts, and to portray the significance of what actually matters. Thank you for making us appreciate the luxury we live in, the abundance of peace of mind, freedom, and health and to realize that we were taking it for granted. Thank you for opening the room to evaluate and reflect on our lives, to regenerate and to evolve. Thank you as we finally fathom how we are all connected, regardless of our differences and personal flaws, and that our sanity and wellbeing becomes a priority above all norms, stereotypes, and no matter how stigmatized of a global community we truly are.

Thank you for showing us our absurdity and the shallowness of our thinking, a mindset that is dominated by racial prejudice, racism, religious and sectarian fanaticism as well as bias. Thank you for waking us up from the coma of vanity and egotism, and for manifesting how far



we were from conviction and humility. May cooperation and cohesion be the new slogan of humankind.

Thank you for nurturing our hidden talents and skills. Thank you for showing us the priorities of our lives, the truth of our strengths and our fragility, our weaknesses, and our false tyranny. Thank you for the valuable lessons you taught us in the harshest yet most effective ways. Thank you for shedding light on the insignificant matters, for letting the materialistic aspects beneath us, and to rise with what is fundamental, for the sake of 'humanhood'. Thank you for giving the world a new vision. A vision that eliminates hate, oppression, and discrimination, rather fosters diversity, authenticity, and genuineness. A new shade, a shade that does not resist colour rather is wrapped with peace, cohesion, and solidarity.

Thank you, Corona, for you have proven to us that our destiny is united, and that the safety of this wounded planet is a shared responsibility. For showing how It takes two to tango. The gondola does not sail without riders, and the plane cannot take off without passengers and the streets may collapse without humans, and cafes and complexes have become the cemeteries of despair, the sarcophagus of pessimism, the devoid of light, and the heart of darkness. The darkness that comes beyond us. The Earth needs us, as much as we need the Earth. Therefore, we are among the leaders of the complexes and cafes, and we are the engines that fuel the plane to take off, and the oars for gondolas to sail. Now more than ever the universe awaits our love and gratitude, let's fight for the sake of our world, our lives, and our planet.

Your efforts will not go in vain.

...now isn't it time to leave?

Sincerely,  
The World



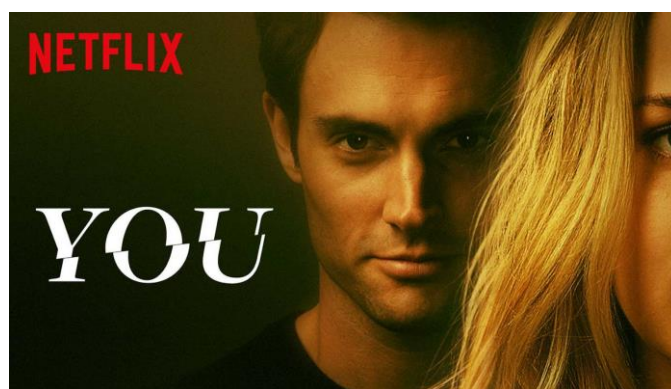


# The Duality of Joe Goldberg In “You”

HUSSAIN ALSHAIKH, *Grade 11*

The first episode of book to movie adaptation and Netflix Original “You” aired on the 9th of September 2018. Main character Joe Goldberg is a dynamic, deep, and perplexing person. At first look he may seem like an average Joe, he has no social media, no understanding of modern pop culture, and he loves to read. But on the other side he is an obsessive, overprotective murderer and stalker, which is where his duality lies.

By definition, Joe is a serial killer, as by the end of the first season he has already killed 5 people. The season starts off by introducing us to Joe’s love interest, Guinevere Beck. Joe then spends his nights stalking Beck, both virtually and in real life. This is where he starts to split as he turns into an ordinary bookstore clerk by day and an incognito stalker by night. After dissecting Beck’s life Joe deduces that Benji, Beck’s love interest, is a negative influence on her. Furthermore, he believes that the solution to this problem is to murder him. That moment precisely is when the domino effect starts and the origin of his malicious behaviour.



From that moment onward Joe continues to find reasons to justify his murders and chooses to be ignorant towards his actions. Joe fooled himself into thinking he is the white knight who is going to save Beck from her toxic friends. For the majority of season 1 the Joe that Beck knew was a charlatan parading as a loving and honest boyfriend when in reality he is a cold-blooded murderer and torturer. The season culminates with Beck discovering his true nature and being killed for it. This reveals to Joe that his method of cleansing Beck’s life is not sustainable, and at the end of the day, regardless of how many times he says his actions are for the greater good, he is still selfish deep down. His actions serve him only as he is a pathological liar, lying to himself and the person he claims to love.

In season 2 of “You” we see Joe regretting the murders he committed and vowing not to kill again, only to break that promise for another “love interest”. This shows how the character of Joe is a dishonest, lying, obsessive, serial killer. To be blunt, Joe is addicted to killing. His double life got the best of him as it tore him apart. He enjoys the thrill and danger that comes with being who his other side is. He sees himself as the vigilante who saved the day, whereas in reality he manipulated Beck and altered her life without her knowing. Joe is terrified of seeing himself for who he is which is why he comes up with excuses and justifications. Apart from glimpses of clarity, his darker side ended up consuming him. Which is why by the end of season 1 Joe is closer to a trigger-happy murderer than a heartbroken bookstore clerk.



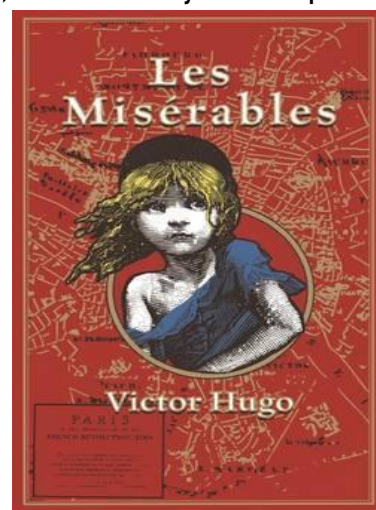
# Les Misérables by Victor Hugo

JUMANA BIN HUWAIL, *Grade 11*

*"Even the darkest night will end and the sun will rise."*



It doesn't feel right closing my Bayan Post journey without reviewing this breath-taking novel, the novel that has taught me that *there will always be a brighter tomorrow*, that it is important to *forgive yourself*, and that *no one is totally good or totally bad*. The novel '*Les Misérables*' written beautifully by Victor Hugo, explores humanity, and in the midst of the French revolution, it offers a mystical depth to topics of love, life after crime, war and survival. The novel follows the life of an ex-convict, Jean Valjean, as he seeks to redeem himself after serving a prison sentence for stealing bread to feed his sister's children. Disguising a mayor, he breaks parole to help a poor mother called Fantine by taking in her young daughter, Cosette, as she was horribly abused and abrogated by the Thénardiens, a pair of greedy Innkeepers who will do anything for money. Decades after, Jean Valjean continues to face struggles escaping from the inspector of the law, Javert, who is obsessed with pursuing him after his violation of parole.



The novel integrates political, psychological, and historical themes in a way I've never seen in any other work. Beyond doubt, Hugo's characters are so well crafted, cavitate the readers, and leave a profound impact. The novel is full of complex characters that you love or learn to love. You witness the burdens and struggles of the lower class, as well as those of students partaking in the French Revolution; in spite of their hardships, they're still driven by hope and resilience. Keep in mind that this novel takes place in the first half of the 19th century—a very turbulent time in Europe and France. I must admit however, the length and vocabulary of the book is challenging, but certainly worth the emotional rollercoaster. Every character's stories, big or small, touch my heart, one being Fantine's backstory that was genuinely soul crushing. Being a victim of fate, she becomes pregnant and then abandoned by her lover. Having to support Cosette, she hands her to the Thénardiens only to be raised as a slave. Moreover, she winds up losing her job, resorting to prostitution, getting arrested for alleged assault, and dies of tuberculosis. I'll stop at this point. I won't spoil any further...

Although *Les Misérables* was published in 1862 (yes, a very long time ago...), in my opinion, it is the finest novel ever written. It portrays what it means to be underprivileged in society, and paints a picture of the terribly selfish, harmful crimes of humanity, but still insists on finding the light at the end of the tunnel. It teaches you to believe in love, compassion, forgiveness, sacrifice, humanity, and redemption, which are acts we don't often see in the modern day.

TL;DR: this novel is a must-read. A definite A+. It does progress slowly in the very beginning, but as the speed picks up, and as the lives of the characters in the novel start to collide, prepare yourself for many sleepless nights of heartbreaks and tears (but the good kind).



# “Help! I don’t know what flagship smartphone I should get!”

SUHAIB RAJAB, *Co-editor*

Everyone loves owning the latest model of a smartphone, and if you’re a big techie, specs are important to you, and prices aren’t, then look no further! Because the smartphone flagships of Huawei, Apple, and Samsung are about to get compared before your very eyes. I’ll use a handy scoring system of 2 points for the winning phone, 1 point for the phone in second place, and 0 points for the lowest spec phone in each category of smartphone elements I”.

Just for reference, I’ll be comparing Apple’s iPhone 11 Pro Max, Huawei’s P40 Pro, and Samsung’s Galaxy S20 Ultra. I’ll be referring to them by company name.

## STORAGE:

So, Apple’s phone starts off with 64GB of storage for their lowest model whereas, Samsung has 128GB and Huawei has 256GB. That’s two points for Huawei and one point for Samsung.

## CAMERA:

All three companies have three rear facing cameras, Apple has three 12MP cameras, Huawei has 50MP, 40MP, and 12MP cameras, Samsung on the other hand, has a 108MP cameras, a 48MP, and a 12MP. So that’s two points for Samsung and one point for Huawei.

## DISPLAY SIZE:

Apple has a 6.5-inch display, Huawei has a 6.58-inch display, and Samsung has a 6.9-inch display. So, another two points for Samsung and one point for Huawei.

## RAM:

Apple has a starting ram of 4GB which is a bit low for phones these days, Huawei’s is at 8GB and Samsung’s is at 12GB. Another two points for Samsung and one point for Huawei.

## BATTERY:

Apple has a battery of 3069mAh, the Huawei has a battery of 4200mAh, and Samsung has a record breaking 5000mAh. In terms of high-end specs, Samsung is winning with another two points and one point for Huawei.

## CHARGING:

Both Samsung and Huawei use a fast USB Type-C for charging, whereas Apple still uses lightning cables, and all of them support fast charging. So, one point for everyone.

## THICKNESS:

Apple has the thinnest device at 8.1mm, whereas Huawei has a 8.9 and Samsung has 8.8mm. So, Apple gets 2 points and Samsung gets 1 point.

Thus, Apple ends up with 3 points, Huawei has 7 points, and Samsung has 11 points.

Overall, if you’re looking for a high-quality phone, the Samsung Galaxy S20 Ultra is for you, if you’re looking for a more lightweight phone with an easy to use interface, you should go with the Apple iPhone 11 Pro Max. If you’re looking for something in the middle, the Huawei P40 Pro is the perfect device. All comparisons were done without taking into account prices.



## FROM OUR ADMIN AND FACULTY

"The school year is almost over, and virtual learning is approaching its end after it has proven to us its impressive success. Bayan students have already proven that they are in an era of globalization that is not bound by place or time. You showed us your passion for education despite the conditions the world is going through. You attended virtual classes remotely. You actively participated in classes with your teachers and carried out your workload and assignments with enthusiasm and perfection.

This was a challenge to the circumstances in which we live. This challenge proved to us that we are able to face all difficulties together. We felt so proud when we saw how you resolved problems, worked hard, studied, and finally succeed to gain the skills needed for your future and further studies.

From this standpoint, I can only say thank you, dear students, for your dedication, hard work, determination, and compassion. Your success is our success as educators and administrators.

We are so grateful to have students like you.

Wish you all Ramadan Mubarak and Happy Eid"

*-Mr. Medhat Merabi, High school vice principal*

"I do not differentiate between my students and my kids, to me they are all my kids and I will help and support them no matter what. I love them all."

*- Ms. Nawal Mayoof, high school college counsellor*

"Dear Learners,  
We share the responsibility of ensuring each other's safety.  
Don't be afraid to be silent seekers and silent observers- make the best out of this experience and create opportunities.  
Remember that kindness costs nothing but means everything.  
During these uncertain times, invest in yourself- and start with a nod of encouragement."

*- Ms. Mirna Madi, IB English teacher and Bayan Post supervisor*





"These challenging times highlighted the importance of appreciating blessings and not taking things for granted. I truly miss meeting students at the school and exchanging smiles! I would like to ask them all to focus on mental health and well-being. Don't stress on expectations set by individuals. We all heal and deal with situations differently as we are all unique and special in our own ways. Time will pass and we will all get out of this stronger! Love you all unconditionally and hope to see you soon."

- Ms. Radia Ali, IB Economics teacher

#### #1 You matter, and I miss you

Dear Bayan students, you are being sorely missed. I love you all very much and I am constantly thinking of you. The memories of your smiles, stories and your playful antics bring me joy in these rough times we are facing, and I will do my best to support you all as we face the COVID-19 pandemic situation together.

#### #2 Stay safe

Just a quick reminder to all Bayan students: school is important, so is your health, take care of yourselves. No matter what happens this year, be proud of yourself, your resilience, and your ability to adapt to extreme circumstances. I am proud of each and every one of you.

#### #3 Find ways to make a difference

Dear Bayan students, it's easy to feel helpless in situations like this, but you can make small

differences. I hope you lift people up. Please call or WhatsApp someone (a friend, your grandparent, or a cousin) to say hi.

#### #4 I'll be here when you get back

Dearest Bayan students, 'Keep moving forward', 'Keep calm, Stay safe, Look after each other', 'Keep smiling' and 'We will get through this'.

I'm here for you. Love you and missing you all very much."

-Ms. Latha Richardson, IB Business teacher

"لقد أثبتت مدرسة البيان انها مدرسة عالمية في مواقف كثيرة ومنها التحديات التي قامت بها أثناء الأزمة العالمية المتمثلة في جائحة كورونا.

تحية تقدير واجلال لكل أعضاء مدرسة البيان من الهيئتين الإدارية والتعليمية على العمل الرائع الذي شهدت به كل البحرين من خلال التعلم الافتراضي الذي تم منذ اليوم الأول من الأزمة. كما أحيي طلابنا الأعزاء على التفاعل الرائع الذي قاموا به في هذه الفترة. البيان دائما في قلب كل منتسبيها."

- Mr. Omran, IB Arabic teacher



"We have watched movies and heard stories of people fighting an illness that had no cure. At the end of the movie they found the cure and lived happily ever after. What matters is what happens during the start and end. We stand together in these difficult times and when this is over, we will look back and thank every single person who did beyond their role. Be it the doctors, teachers and the students who stayed home to help overcome this pandemic. It's a matter of time before this story will turn into a real movie with a happy ending #stayhome"

*-Ms. Ghuson Mahammed, IB Psychology and TOK teacher*

"We have come together in a time we would never have thought of it's arrival, a time when we need one another to provide assurance that everything will be fine. Our roles are no longer at a standpoint but rather we all have multiple roles, we are all teachers, support givers and students. Matter of time and we will be back to how life left us, expect we would have learnt so much more."

*- Mr. Saleh AlShehabi, IB Computer Science and IB ITGS teacher*

"أشرفت السنة الدراسية على الانتهاء، عملنا جميعنا بجد واجتهاد في ظل هذه الظروف التي طرأت على العالم، ظروف لم نتوقعها أبدًا. لم نتوقع أن ننقطع عن المدرسة يومًا ومع ذلك عمل الجميع جنبًا بجنب للنهوض بالعملية التعليمية أثناء التعلم الافتراضي سواء إدارة المدرسة أو الأساتذة وكذلك الطلاب. وأستطيع أن أقول اننا نجحنا في هذا التحدي واستطعنا أن نجتاز الفصل الدراسي الثاني بنجاح لنا جميعًا. هذا النجاح ليس لطلابنا فقط بل للمدرسة بكل كيائها الإداري والتعليمي. وكللى أمل وثقة أن نرجع إلى بيئتنا الحبيبة عن قريب. سنرجع بإذن الله وكلنا قوة في اجتياز المحن والصعاب. فهذه الفترة كانت درسًا لنا لنكتشف أننا أقوياء، أقوياء بانتمائنا إلى مدرسة وقفت بجانبنا في أصعب الظروف وتمكن أبناءنا الطلبة من اكتساب المهارات التي تمكنهم من الالتحاق بالفصل الدراسي القادم أو الالتحاق بجامعاتهم بكل قوة وثبات. تمنياتي أن تتشع هذه القمة ونرجع إلى مدرستنا الحبيبة مع بدء السنة الدراسية الجديدة. شكرًا لبيئتنا، شكرًا إدارة المدرسة الثانوية شكرًا لكم طلابي الاعزاء. أبنائي الطلبة لقد أثبتتم للعالم إن طلب العلم لا يوقفه لا زمان ولا مكان وإن الطالب المجد يتحدى الصعاب لينهل من معين المعرفة. فهنيئًا للبيان بكم فأنتم مصدر فخرها وقوتها!"

*-Ms. Hanan Bukamal, IB Arabic teacher and Head of Arabic department*



## TO THE CLASS OF 2020...



Our year may have been cut short, but our hard work and resilience will not go in vain. We wish you all good luck on your future endeavours and are certain that you will continue to push forward unhindered.

