



THE NEWZTECH



EDITION: 2/ SUMMER EDITION

DATE: 09/09/2025

AGORA HISTORICAL STEPS OF IZMIR

- Agora of Smyrna is in Izmir on Namazgah Street.
- It was the state agora, used for politics, religion, trade, art, and social life.
- Rebuilt after the 178 B.C. earthquake with support from Emperor Marcus Aurelius.
- Most visible ruins belong to the Roman Period.



- Planned as a rectangle with a large central courtyard.
- Surrounded by stoas (columned galleries).
- Northern Stoa (Basilica): 165x28 m, with impressive Roman vaults.
- Western Stoa: two stories, used for shelter and walking; later cisterns were added.

- City followed the Hippodamian grid plan with straight, intersecting streets.
- Faustina Gate: monumental entrance with a relief of Faustina, wife of Marcus Aurelius.



Genç n. hemşehri

O Turkish Youth!

Your first duty is ever to preserve and defend the National independence, the Turkish Republic.

That is the only basis of your existence and your future. This basis contains your most precious treasure. In the future, too, there will be ill-will, both in the country itself and abroad, which will try to tear this treasure from you. If one day you are compelled to defend your independence and the Republic, then, in order to fulfill your duty, you will have to look beyond the possibilities and conditions in which you might find yourself. It may be that these conditions and possibilities are altogether unfavorable. It may be that the enemies who desire to destroy your independence and your Republic represent the strongest force that the earth has ever seen; that they have through craft and force, taken possession of all the fortresses and arsenals of the Fatherland; that all its armies are scattered and the country actually and completely occupied.

Assuming, in order to look still darker possibilities in the face, that those who hold the power of Government within the country have fallen into error, that they are fools or traitors, yes, even that these leading persons may identify their personal interests with the enemy's political goals, it might happen that the nation came into complete privation, into the most extreme distress; that it found itself in a condition of ruin and complete exhaustion. Even under those circumstances, O Turkish child of future generations!

It is your duty to save the independence, the Turkish Republic.

The strength that you will need for this is mighty in the noble blood which flows in your veins.

FROM THE EDITOR

Asst. Prof. Dr. Sinem Bezircilioğlu



Hey there, fabulous readers!

I'm very happy to unveil the summer edition of Newztech! We whipped up this sizzling edition to match the sunny vibes, especially when most of you are off-campus, catching rays. We hope it serves as the perfect antidote for that bit of "summer-time sadness" as we wave goodbye to the Summer.

Dive into tech news, reminisce over books, movies, and series you'll love to explore, celebrate the Wimbledon victories, uncover the tale of a baby receiving gene therapy with CRISPR-Cas9, join the buzz of student clubs, whip up yummy and easy recipes, and so much more! Plus, we've got a story from a young guest writer that's bound to charm you!

Enjoy reading!

The Newztech Team:

- EYLÜL BÜTÜNER, also known as september16
- Fatma Nur Babacan, rocking the name Nur
- Ebrar Sıla Bozkaya, aka ebrar bozkaya
- Emre Altun, our very own fenerli emre
- Jan Boren Doğ, simply jan

What's Happening in THE NEWZTECH This Issue?

WORLD OVERSHOOT DAY HAS ALREADY PASSED

WHAT IS GLOBAL FOOTPRINT NETWORK REPORT
STATES?

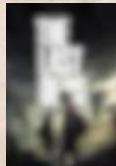
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A BABY HAS RECEIVED A GENE THERAPY WITH CRISPR-Cas9

by Nur

A great improvement happened this year, a baby named K.J Muldoon had received **a new gene therapy**. K.J was diagnosed with a rare, life-threatening metabolic disorder after he was born. The treatment, has adjusted the errored gene in the liver, was first inserted in his body when he was 7 months old. His condition got better each day and K.J quickly gained weight. Then he was successfully discharged from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia after 307 days.



Image: ABC News, "K.J. Muldoon receives gene therapy treatment", 2025



Getty Images / Miguel Riopa - Emmanuelle Charpentier ve Jennifer Doudna, 2020

CRISPR was first discovered in the 1990s as a defense mechanism the bacteries have against viruses. In the last two and half decades scientists have shifted this biological process into a breakthrough in gene engineering. **Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuelle Charpentier have won the 2020 Nobel Chemistry Award for improving the CRISPR-Cas9 method which is known as genetic scissors.**

HOW DOES CRISPR-Cas9 WORK

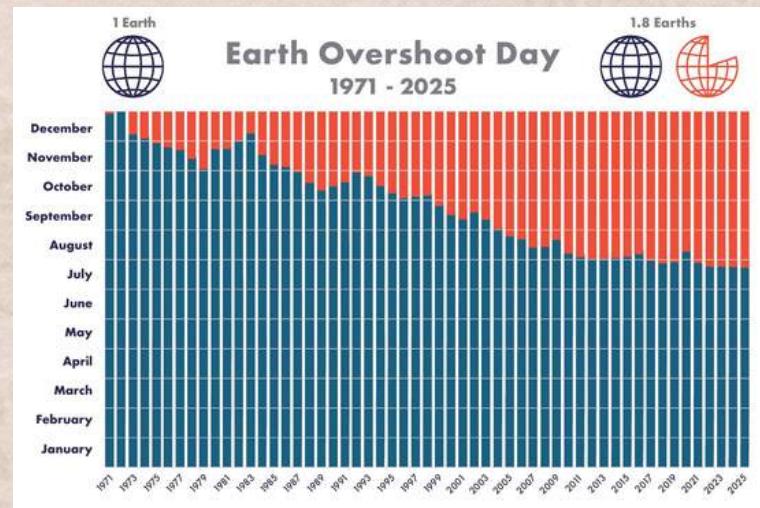
CRISPR uses a programmable guide RNA that finds the targeted DNA sequence. Then Cas9 enzyme cuts the sequence. Along with CRISPR, scientists also insert a template so cells could use it to repair the broken DNA.

CRISPR-Cas9 method is much **cheaper** and **faster** than Zinc-Finger nucleosis and TALEN proteins which are other ways of gene therapy. These two other methods require custom design proteins to recognize the specific DNA sequence. So scientists need to build new proteins for almost every genetic disorder which is expensive and time-consuming.

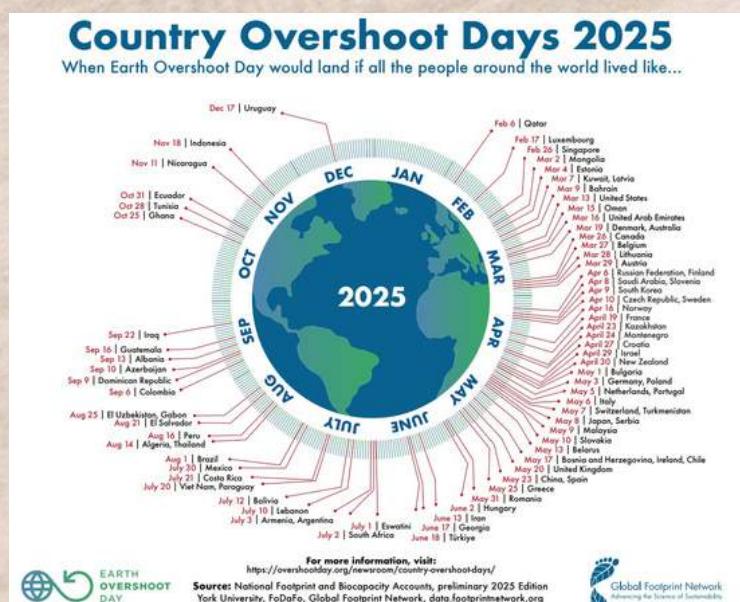
EARTH OVERSHOOT DAY IS GETTING EARLIER EACH YEAR !

by Nur

The Global Footprint Network has announced the Earth's Overshoot Day in 2025 is July 24 and the date is getting earlier each year which means earth is in an ecological depth. **Earth Overshoot Day** marks the date when humanity starts using more natural resources than the Earth can renew in one year.



According to the Global Footprint Network and UNEP's Global Resource Outlook, this ecological depth is caused by overconsumption, imbalanced CO2 emissions, unsustainable food systems, population growth, and global trade imbalances. One of the results of this environmental depth is the Country Deficit Day, when a country has used up all the natural resources its ecosystem can regenerate in a year. Türkiye's Official Deficit Day in 2025 is June 12, which states the fact that the nation is now borrowing from future resources .



Based on the ecological deficit trend documented by Global Footprint Network, the current ecological path is not inevitable. As the report states, "Economies that recognize the importance of resource security for long-term stability and proactively reduce their dependence on finite resources with determination can thrive both now and in the future." And the countries' approach and solutions will be presented in the next UN Climate Change Conference this year.

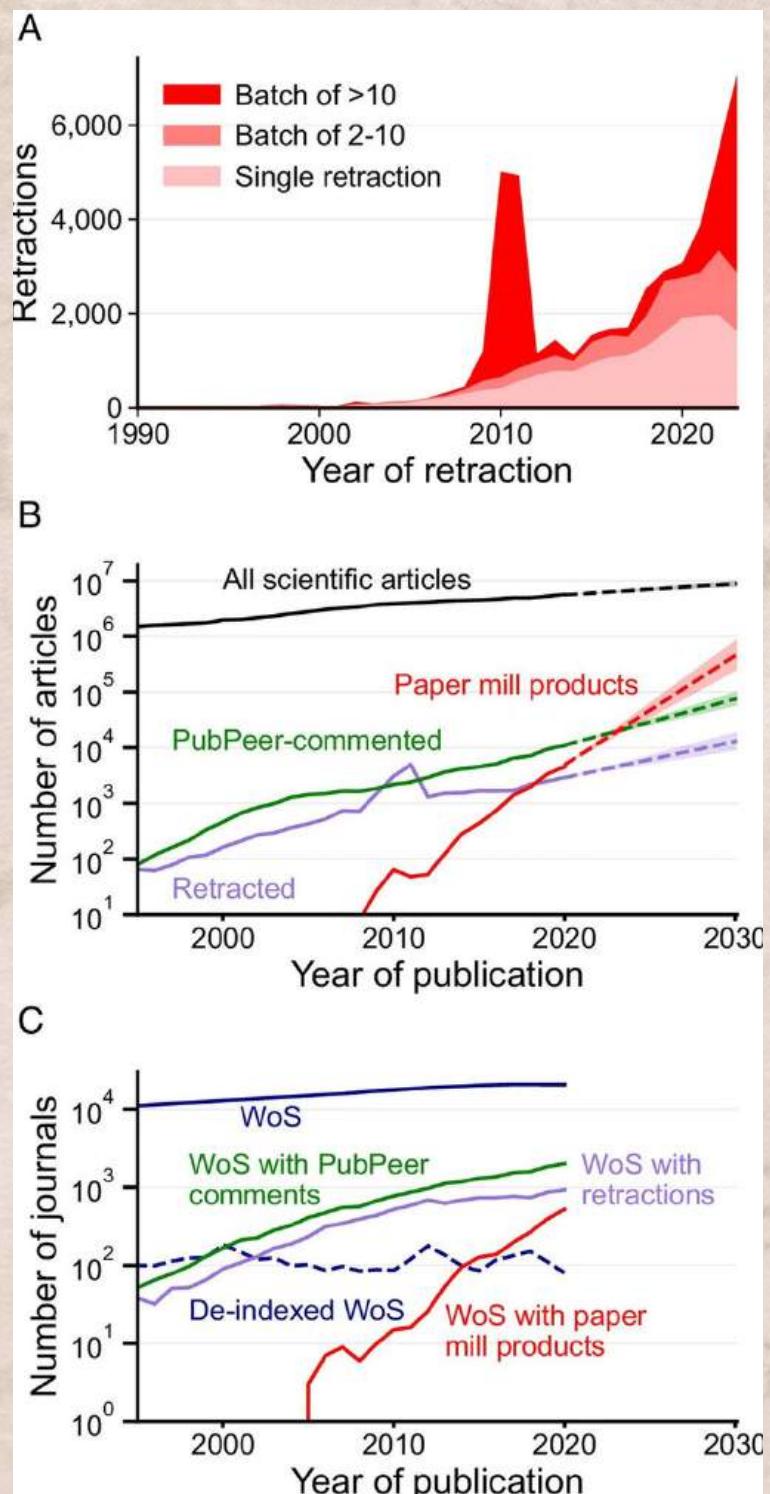
PAPER MILLS ARE GROWING FASTER THAN SCIENCE ITSELF

by jan

Large-scale investigation uncovers disturbing reality in academic publishing. Highly organized "paper mills" are producing fake scientific studies at an unprecedented rate, and they are getting better at avoiding detection.

The study, led by researchers from Northwestern University, and collaborators analyzed millions of publications, editorial records, retraction notices, and comments from post-publication review platforms such as PubPeer.

Their findings reveal that paper mills are large, resilient networks involving not only authors but also journal editors, intermediaries, and sometimes entire editorial boards. One striking result came from analysis of the open-access journal PLOS ONE: While only 0.25% of editors (45 out of 18,329) were identified as problematic, these editors had handled 30.2% of all retracted papers in the journal's history. Twenty-one authors were found to disproportionately submit papers to these flagged editors. In some cases, these same editors had also authored papers that were later retracted.

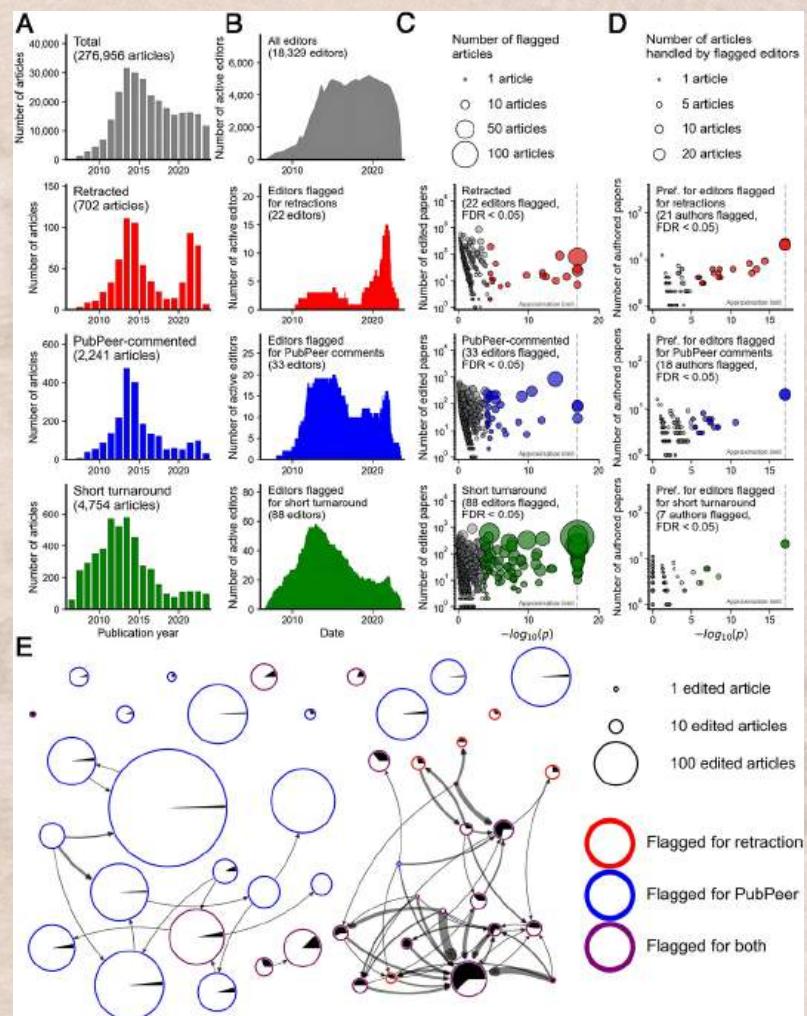


Source: Richardson et al., PNAS (2025),
doi:10.1073/pnas.2420092122, CC BY-NC-ND 4.0.

PAPER MILLS ARE GROWING FASTER THAN SCIENCE ITSELF

by jan

Image duplication served as another key indicator. The researchers found 2,213 papers that shared manipulated or duplicated images, forming 20 major clusters. The largest cluster contained 622 papers, many published in the same journals within short timeframes, suggesting coordinated bulk publishing. Only 34.1% of these papers had been retracted at the time of analysis.



Source: Richardson et al., PNAS (2025),
doi:10.1073/pnas.2420092122, CC BY-NC-ND 4.0.

The phenomenon of "**journal hopping**" was documented systematically for the first time. When journals get removed from major indexes like Web of Science or Scopus, paper mills quickly shift their operations to other indexed journals. For example, in 2020, 33.3% of Scopus-indexed journals advertised by one paper mill operation, ARDA (The Academic Research and Development Association), were later deindexed, compared to just 0.5% of all Scopus journals that year. ARDA's portfolio grew from 14 journals in 2018 to 86 by March 2024, according to the study's analysis of archived web data.

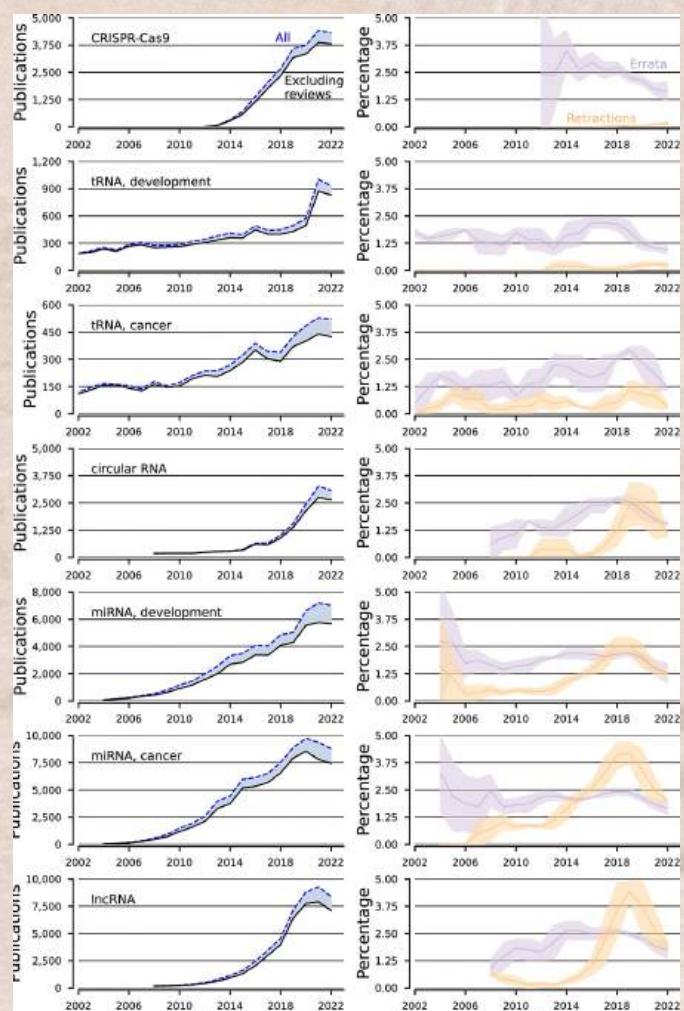
PAPER MILLS ARE GROWING FASTER THAN SCIENCE ITSELF

by jan

Some scientific fields appear particularly vulnerable. While **CRISPR-Cas9** research showed a retraction rate of just 0.1%, research on **circular RNAs** had a 2.5% retraction rate, and studies on **microRNAs**, and **long non-coding RNAs** in cancer reached 4% retraction rates. In certain journals focusing on these fields, retraction rates exceeded 10%, with some reaching over 10% according to PNAS supplementary data (SI Appendix).

The growth metrics reveal an alarming trend:

- Total scientific output doubles approximately every 15 years
- Retractions double every 3.3 years
- Papers with critical post-publication comments double every 3.6 years
- Suspected paper mill products double every 1.5 years



Source: Richardson et al., PNAS (2025), doi:10.1073/pnas.2420092122, CC BY-NC-ND 4.0.

To date, only 28.7% of identified suspected paper mill products have been retracted. Projections based on current trends suggest this may stabilize around 25% in coming years. The team emphasizes that existing measures, including retractions, and journal deindexing are failing to keep pace with the scale, and sophistication of these operations with only 10% of suspected paper mill products appearing in deindexed journals.

The study calls for urgent systemic reforms: independent audits of editorial decisions, faster removal of compromised journals from indexes, and advanced tools to detect fraudulent text, and images. Without such interventions, they warn that the integrity of the scientific record may suffer irreversible damage, particularly affecting emerging fields that rely on literature analysis.

10 THINGS ABOUT OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

by september16



1 *Many Worlds*

Our solar system has eight planets and five dwarf planets.



2 *Small Worlds, Too*

About 1,4 million asteroids, and about 4,000 comets are in our solar system.



3 *Lots of Moons*

Our solar system has hundreds of moons.



4 *Meet Me in the Milky Way*

Our solar system is one of the Milky Way galaxy's spiral arms called the orion spur.



5 *A Long Way Around*

Our solar system takes about 230 million years to orbit the galactic center.



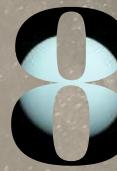
6 *Spiralling Through Space*

The Milky Way is a barred spiral galaxy.



7 *Diverse Atmospheres*

Our solar system has many worlds with many types of atmospheres.



8 *Ring Worlds*

The four giant planets- and at least one asteroid- have rings.



9 *Getting Out There*

More than 300 robotic spacecraft have left Earth's orbit, and 24 U.S. astronauts have traveled to the Moon.



10 *Life as We Know It*

So far, Earth is the only place we've found life in our solar system.

OUR CLUBS: YABITO

by nur and september16

The Life Sciences Society (YABITO) at Izmir Institute of Technology (IZTECH) was founded in 2014 by current rector Prof. Dr. Yusuf Baran and students from the Molecular Biology and Genetics (MBG) Department. While the society started quietly, it has grown into one of the most active and dynamic communities on campus in the last few years. Much of this transformation is thanks to the dedication of long-time leaders like Aslınur Uluşay and Yiğit Yurtsever. YABITO aims to foster scientific thinking, keep students informed about current developments, and support their academic and career growth. It also strives to create an inclusive environment where students from all disciplines can connect through science. At its core, the society operates on a spirit of volunteerism and teamwork. Members choose areas like communication, event planning, or design, but collaboration is key—everyone supports each other regardless of role.



Among YABITO's many activities, four major events stand out. YABIX brings biology together with other disciplines, such as chemistry (YabiXChemio) and food engineering (YabixNutricon), featuring speakers from both academia and industry. The UNESCO Workshop, co-hosted with the Biotechnology and Innovation Center, highlights themes like "Women in Science" and reaches across fields including health, politics, and architecture.

BILFEST is a collaborative science festival organized with other science faculty societies, where high school and university students present projects and explore academic opportunities. And the annual MBG Congress, now in its sixth year, invites academics from across Türkiye and abroad to share their work with students in engaging, accessible presentations.

Beyond these, YABITO runs hands-on workshops, technical tours, science film screenings, academic talks (YabiTalks), and social responsibility projects—such as fundraising events, school visits with simple science demos, and partnerships with LÖSEV. Funding comes from grants like TÜBİTAK, ÜNİDES, and private sponsors.

Although often associated with MBG, YABITO welcomes students from all departments. Events like YABIX help break down disciplinary boundaries and emphasize that science is for everyone.

With its collaborative spirit and growing impact, YABITO continues to build a vibrant, inclusive scientific community at IZTECH. **"Goodbye and stay with science."**

If you want to learn more or be a supporter, you can follow them on social media.

Instagram: [@iztech.yabito](https://www.instagram.com/iztech.yabito)

LinkedIn: İYTE Yaşam Bilimleri Topluluğu (YABITO)

FLOWERS ON OUR CAMPUS

by september16



flower colour: blue

Lysimachia monelli (Blue Pimpernel)

1- Common Names

- Blue Pimpernel, Flaxleaf Pimpernel, Mediterarrean Pimpernel, Italian Pimpernel

2- Biostatus

- Exotic

3- Origin

- Western Europe

4- Etymology

- **monelli:** After French horticulturist Jean Monelle, he was responsible for introducing a number of plants into France, including the pimpernel with the large blue flowers.



flower colour: orange

Lysimachia arvensis (Red Pimpernel)

1- Common Names

- Pimpernel, Red Pimpernel

2- Biostatus

- Exotic

3- Origin

- Eurosia, warm temperate and subtropical Africa, South America

4- Etymology

- **arvensis:** Growing in arable fields.



flower colours: red/pink, white

Anemone coronaria (Puppy Anemone)

1- Common Names

- Windflower, Puppy Anemone

2- Biostatus

- Exotic

3- Origin

- Mediterranean

4- Etymology

- **anemone:** From Greek anemos “wind”. Name means “daughter of the wind”. The name “windflower” is used for the whole genus.



flower colours: orange, yellow

Gazania rigens (Treasure Flower)

1- Common Names

- Gazania, Treasure Flower

2- Biostatus

- Exotic

3- Origin

- South Africa

4- Etymology

- **gazania:** Possibly from the Latin gaza “treasure” or “riches” alluding to the large and gaudy flowers, or alternatively named after the humanist and translator Theodorus Gaza or Theodore Gazis.

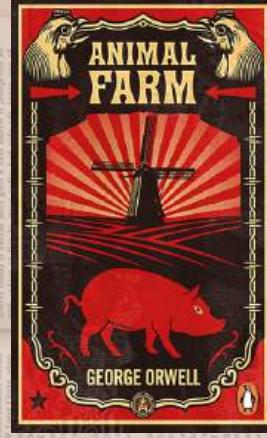
UNKNOWN FACTS ABOUT WRITERS & THEIR BOOKS

by september16



George Orwell

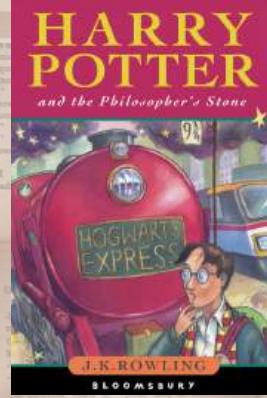
George Orwell's book "Animal Farm" got rejected from 4 different publishers. One of the publishers said that this book is politically risky. Today, it is among dystopian classics.



J. K. Rowling

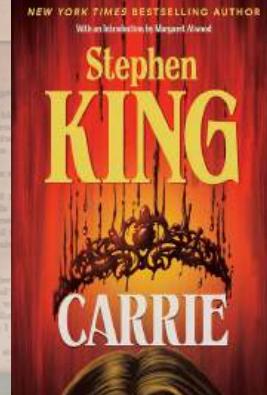
Rowling's book "Harry Potter & The Philosopher's Stone" got rejected from 12 different publishers.

Finally a publisher called "Bloomsbury" accepted to publish the book and the history was made. Editors who said "Why would children like witchcraft?" regretted their words.



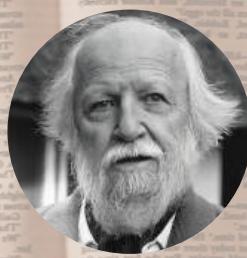
Stephen King

Stephen King's book "Carrie" got rejected from 30 different publishers. He almost threw the book in the trash, but his wife took it out of the trash. Carrie was his first book, the rest is well known: he became the king of horror literature.



UNKNOWN FACTS ABOUT WRITERS & THEIR BOOKS

by september 16



William Golding

William Golding's book "Lord of The Flies" got rejected from 20 different publishers. One of the editors said that "Who would read this kind of story?", the book won Nobel Prize in Literature.



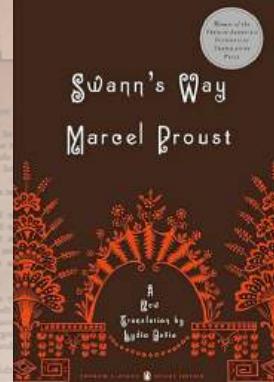
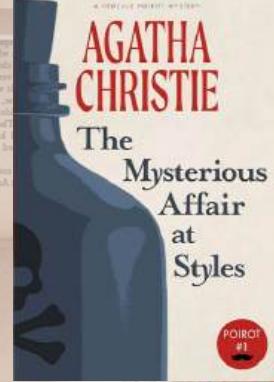
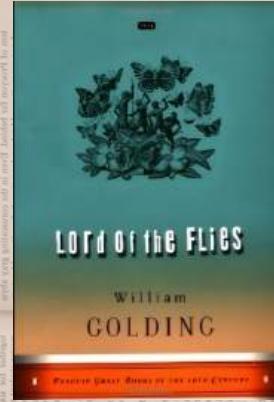
Agatha Christie

Agatha Christie's book "The Mysterious Affair at Styles" got rejected from publishers for 5 years. After 5 years, they decided to publish the book and detective Hercule Poirot was born.



Marcel Proust

Proust's book "Swann's Way" (1st book of In Search of Lost Time series) couldn't get any acceptance from publishers, so he published with his own money. Today, he is at the pinnacle of modern literature.

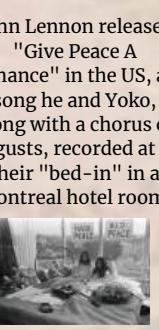
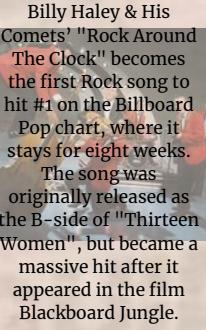
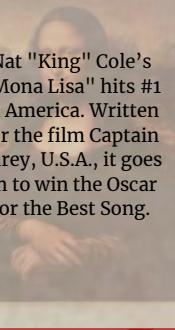
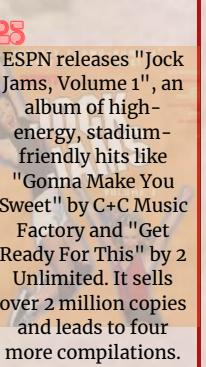
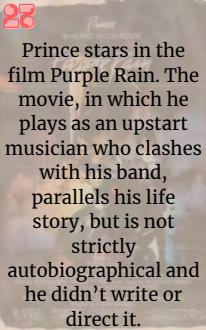
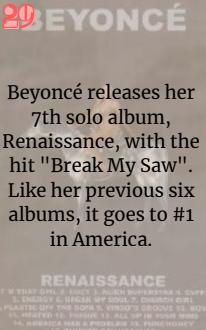
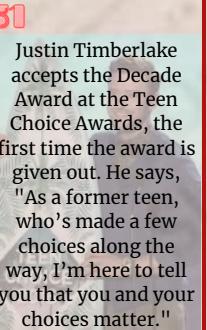


July

WHAT HAPPENED THIS MONTH?

by september16

July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
29	30	01  In memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, a concert is held at the newly built Wembley Stadium in London. Acts include friends of the Princess Duran Duran and Elton John as well as artists she enjoyed such as Nelly Furtado, Tom Jones and Kanye West.	02	03  Maren Morris releases her first major-label album "Hero". It goes to #1 on the country chart and includes one of her most enduring songs, "My Church".	04	05  Dolly the sheep, the first mammal to be cloned from an adult cell, is born. She is named after Dolly Parton because the scientist thought the country star was the person most synonymous with mammary glands.	
06	07  John Lennon releases "Give Peace A Chance" in the US, a song he and Yoko, along with a chorus of gulls, recorded at their "bed-in" in a Montreal hotel room.	08	09  Billy Haley & His Comets' "Rock Around The Clock" becomes the first Rock song to hit #1 on the Billboard Pop chart, where it stays for eight weeks. The song was originally released as the B-side of "Thirteen Women", but became a massive hit after it appeared in the film Blackboard Jungle.	10	11  The Rolling Stones release "Voodoo Lounge", with the tracks "Love Is Strong" and "You Got Me Rocking".	12	
13  The Live Aid concerts take place in Philadelphia and London to raise money for the hungry in Africa. The Beach Boys, The Four Tops, Paul McCartney, Tina Turner, Elton John, David Bowie, The Who, Queen, Eric Clapton and Bob Dylan all take part.	14	15  Nat "King" Cole's "Mona Lisa" hits #1 in America. Written for the film Captain Carey, U.S.A., it goes on to win the Oscar for the Best Song.	16	17  Universal Pictures releases the romantic drama Endless Love, starring Brooke Shields. The film is quickly forgotten, but the theme song, a duet by Lionel Richie and Diana Ross, spends nine weeks at #1 on the Billboard Hot 100 and earns Richie an Academy Award nomination for the Best Song.	18	19  Movin' Out, a stage musical dedicated to the songs of Billy Joel, premieres in Chicago.	
20	21  The day after the Apollo 11 moon landing, Duke Ellington performs a song he wrote for the occasion called "Moon Maiden" as part of ABC's coverage of the historic event.	22	23  Fiona Apple, 18, releases her debut album "Tidal", featuring "Shadowboxer" and "Criminal". It sells over 3 million copies in America.	24	25  ESPN releases "Jock Jams, Volume 1", an album of high-energy, stadium-friendly hits like "Gonna Make You Sweet" by C+C Music Factory and "Get Ready For This" by 2 Unlimited. It sells over 2 million copies and leads to four more compilations.	26	
26  Prince stars in the film Purple Rain. The movie, in which he plays as an upstart musician who clashes with his band, parallels his life story, but is not strictly autobiographical and he didn't write or direct it.	27	28  Beyoncé releases her 7th solo album, Renaissance, with the hit "Break My Saw". Like her previous six albums, it goes to #1 in America.	29	30	31  Justin Timberlake accepts the Decade Award at the Teen Choice Awards, the first time the award is given out. He says, "As a former teen, who's made a few choices along the way, I'm here to tell you that you and your choices matter."	01	02

WORD OF THE MONTH: “ETHEREAL”

by ebrar bozkaya

July

Ethereal is something extremely delicate, light, and beautiful in a way that seems not of this world.

“Ethereal” describes something that feels like it belongs to a dream rather than reality. It could be the soft glow of moonlight, the quiet of early morning fog, or the graceful movement of a dancer. It captures the feeling of fragile beauty—too perfect to be real.

OUR CLUBS: İYTE LITERATURE CLUB

by nur and september16

The Literature Club is basically a warm and friendly community of people who love reading and writing. It was founded before 2009, so it has a long history. But despite that, it's not "formal" or strict at all – it's more like a safe space where everyone can express themselves and feel at home. **Our mission** is to make reading and writing enjoyable, to show that literature isn't something boring you only find in classes, but something fun and worth sharing. We also aim to combine literature with social responsibility.

Over time, we've organized lots of different **events**. Poetry nights such as Ömer Hayyam and Poetry Night, reading and writing workshops, publishing fanzines, and letter projects with LÖSEV are just a few. **Last term**, we renovated the library of Balıklıova Middle School, organized Wizard of Oz-themed activities with kids, and held theatrical performances for LÖSEV. We also worked on awareness projects about femicides, ran writing workshops in collaboration with Urla Dam, and turned those writings into a fanzine.



Another highlight was the story **competition** we held during "Turkish Mythology Week." With the support of our rector, we offered prizes, received amazing stories, shared some excerpts, and announced the winners. Events like this both encourage creativity and keep the club dynamic.

Of course, there's the **financial side** too. Most of the time we rely on sponsors. We've received support from banks, and sometimes members bring in sponsors from their own networks. Fanzine sales also help a little. Our sponsorship coordinator and management board play a key role here.

When it comes to tasks, **we assign roles based on members' strengths**. Someone with strong diction might host an event, someone with wide connections takes care of sponsorship, and someone good at communication handles organization. The board has 17 members, and overall we have around 120 members. Participation keeps growing every year. As the president said, the main expectations are ownership and hard work.

In the end, we don't just see ourselves as a literature club – but as a **family** where people support each other, create together, and share their love for literature.

If you want to learn more or be a supporter, you can follow them on social media.

Instagram: @iyte.edebiyattopluluğu

LinkedIn: İYTE Edebiyat Topluluğu



STORY COMPLETION COMPETITION

OUR UNFINISHED STORY

On a spring day lit by the sun, Tony kicked a stone and asked, "Have you been here before?" Lenii pointed to the hill ahead. "I've only been up to that point," she said. "But the view from the top must be amazing." Tony looked around and took a deep breath. "It really looks beautiful," he said. Lenii smiled, adding, "I told you, you wouldn't regret it."

When Lenii suggested an exploration trip to Tony, they were climbing a steep hill on a narrow path. They only had their backpacks with them. As they moved forward, Lenii picked up a long stick and started using it like a cane. "Just in case," she said, laughing. Tony joined in. "Now you look like a witch," he teased. Lenii stuck out her tongue, laughing.

After walking through endless grasslands, they finally saw a yellow concrete hut in the distance. Next to it was a building that resembled a storage unit. The hut had two rooms and a low, elongated ceiling. Neither of the rooms had doors. Curious about what was inside, Lenii and Tony stepped closer to the hut. They peeked inside through the open doorways. The first room was almost empty—crumbling walls, a few rags, and rusty metal pieces on the floor, but nothing else worth noting. When they glanced into the second room, they felt like they might find something interesting. The air smelled of mold, and there were broken, worn-out pieces of furniture scattered about. One particular long, old couch stood out. Like the other room, the walls were crumbling, but this one felt as if someone had lived there before. A rusty hangar door, with half of its hinges broken, was hanging off the side of the room.

Just then, a hissing sound came from inside. Lenii cautiously tapped the door with the stick in her hand. "Be careful," Tony warned. As soon as the stick hit the door, the last hinges gave way, and the door crashed onto the ground with a loud bang. A brownish-yellow-scaled snake suddenly darted out of its hiding place. Lenii stumbled backward while the snake disappeared into a hole behind the old couch. It seemed to be its nest, which meant the hut had been abandoned for quite some time. Tony examined the structure next to the hut. It looked like a storage building, but there were no lights or any visible connections to power.

"This place feels strange," he muttered. Lenii broke the silence. "Such a weird place, don't you think?" she asked. Tony nodded. "Yeah, and what about the snake?" he said with a grin. Lenii let out a nervous laugh, and they continued walking.

They hadn't gone far from the hut when a sharp, unpleasant smell filled the air. They weren't too far from the city, so they thought it might be sewage and tried to reassure themselves. When they reached the end of the path, they saw a cliff ahead and, next to it, a round concrete structure. Lenii walked to the edge and looked down. "I guess we can't go any further," she said. Meanwhile, Tony walked around the structure. The walls were tall and made of concrete. Lenii wanted to see what was inside and asked Tony to lift her up. Tony clasped his hands together and helped push her up by the feet. Since the wall was high and there was nothing around to pull Tony up, Lenii jumped down inside the round structure alone. Tony waited anxiously for her outside as the sky darkened. Then, suddenly, a scream echoed through the air. A familiar voice was shouting at the top of its lungs.

How to Participate?

1. Read the story introduction published in this issue of the school newspaper.
2. Let your imagination run wild: An unexpected ending, a poetic closing, or a clever sentence could make you stand out!
3. Complete your story in 600 words or less and send it to [email] by [date].

Surprise Prizes

Note: Your story must be completely "original". We know that you might try to use AI and that you may try various ways to hide it. We are students too ;)) But unfortunately, stories of participants who use any kind of AI (even if they are written like Marcel Proust) will be disqualified. Finally, all participants agree to have their work published in the school newspaper.

If you believe in the power of words, this is your stage!

THE “SULTANS OF THE NET” MISSED THEIR GOLDEN GOAL IN THE 2025 VNL: FINISHED 6TH

by fenerli emre

The Turkey Women’s National Volleyball Team showed a strong performance in the 2025 FIVB Women’s Nations League (VNL), which started on June 4, but they could not reach their championship goal. In the group stage, the “Sultans of the Net” won 8 matches and lost 4 out of 12, finishing 6th and advancing to the final round.

From July 23 to 27, the final stage took place in Lodz, Poland. Turkey played in the quarter-finals against a strong opponent, Japan, but could not achieve the desired result and lost the match 3-2, ending their tournament.



The championship was won by Italy, who showed an outstanding performance in the final. Brazil finished in second place, and Poland secured third place.

“THE MEN OF THE NET” FINISHED 17TH IN VNL 2025



The Turkey Men’s National Volleyball Team played in the 2025 Nations League with a young and dynamic squad but could not reach their desired ranking. In the group stage, the team won 3 matches against China, Bulgaria, and Germany, and lost 9, finishing the tournament in 17th place and being eliminated.

Poland won the championship, Italy finished second, and Brazil took third place.



WIMBLEDON 2025



by fenerli emre

Wimbledon 2025 was held in London from June 30 to July 13, featuring historic moments in both the men's and women's categories. For the first time this year, line judging was completely replaced by the electronic system. Additionally, the start times of the final matches were adjusted to suit global audiences. During the first week, a record was set for the highest number of top 10 seeds eliminated in the first round of a Grand Slam.

Champions and Highlights

- Men's Singles: Jannik Sinner defeated defending champion Carlos Alcaraz, becoming the first Italian player to win Wimbledon. This victory marked his fourth Grand Slam title.
- Women's Singles: Iga Świątek defeated Amanda Anisimova 6-0, 6-0, achieving only the second such dominant score in a women's final in Wimbledon history. This was also Świątek's first Grand Slam title on grass.
- Men's Doubles: Julian Cash and Lloyd Glasspool beat Rinky Hijikata and David Pel to win the first all-British Wimbledon doubles title since 1936 in the Open Era.
- Women's Doubles: Veronika Kudermetova and Elise Mertens defeated Hsieh Su-wei and Jeļena Ostapenko. It was Mertens' fifth Grand Slam title and Kudermetova's first major victory.
- Mixed Doubles: Sem Verbeek and Kateřina Siniaková won their first Grand Slam title by defeating Joe Salisbury and Luisa Stefani in two tiebreak sets.
- Wheelchair Events: Tokito Oda won the men's title, and Wang Ziying won the women's title.





THE 2025 FIFA CLUB WORLD CUP



by fenerli emre

The 2025 FIFA Club World Cup was held in the United States with 32 teams participating, making it the largest tournament in its history. The competition took place from June 15 to July 13, 2025, in 12 different stadiums, providing football fans with unforgettable moments.

For the first time, the tournament was held with 32 teams instead of the traditional 7-team format. Matches were played across 11 different U.S. cities. The tournament followed the classic FIFA World Cup format with group stages and knockout rounds.

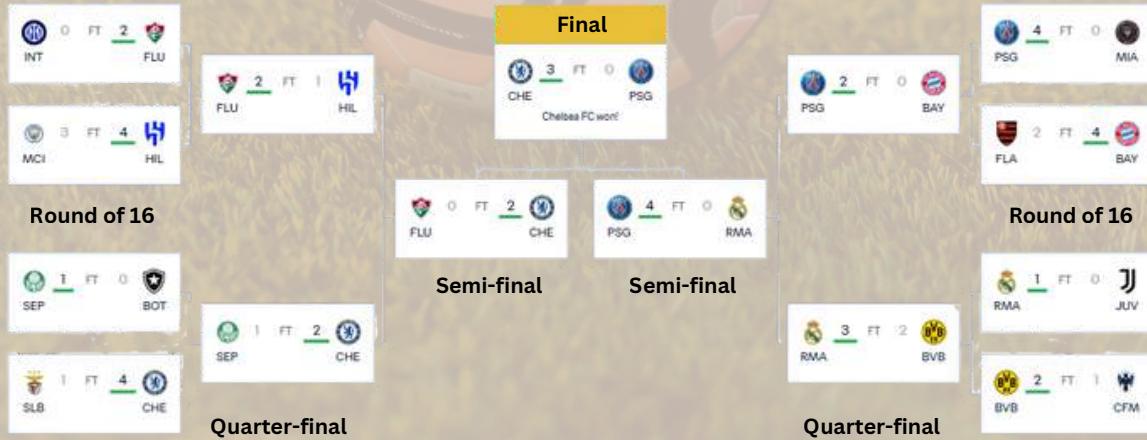
The 32 participating teams were determined according to FIFA's new format announced in 2019. Champions from the last four years in each confederation qualified, and additional European clubs were also included. Key teams included Chelsea, Paris Saint-Germain, Real Madrid, Bayern Munich, Manchester City, and Flamengo. The top two teams from each group advanced to the Round of 16.

Award Winners

- Adidas Golden Ball: Cole Palmer (Chelsea)
- Adidas Silver Ball: Vitinha (Paris Saint-Germain)
- Adidas Bronze Ball: Moises Caicedo (Chelsea)
- Adidas Golden Glove: Robert Sanchez (Chelsea)
- FIFA Best Young Player Award presented by Panini: Desire Doue (Paris Saint-Germain)
- Top Goal Scorer Award presented by Bank of America: Gonzalo Garcia (Real Madrid C. F.)
- FIFA Fair Play Award: FC Bayern München



Chelsea defeated Paris Saint-Germain 3-0 in the final to win their second Club World Cup title in history.

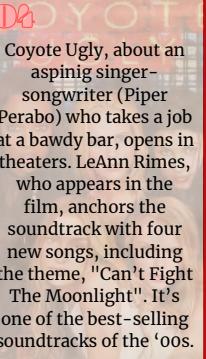
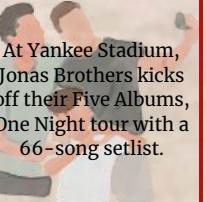
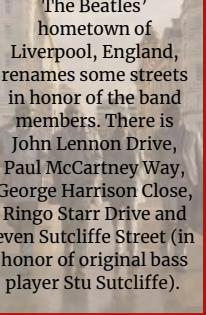
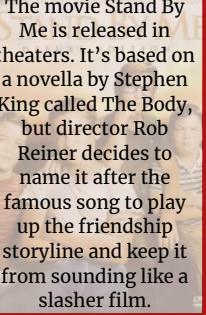
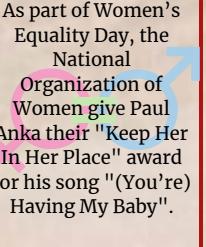
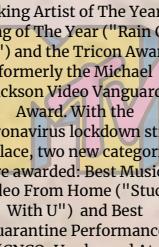


August

WHAT HAPPENED THIS MONTH?

August

by september16

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	01	02
						With a show in Hannover, Germany on the 246th date of his ÷ (Divde) tour, Ed Sheeran breaks the record for highest-grossing tour, surpassing the \$735.3 million U2 earned on their 2009-2011 360 tour. He finishes the tour August 26 with a final tally of \$775.6 million.
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
	 Coyote Ugly, about an aspin singer-songwriter (Piper Perabo) who takes a job at a bawdy bar, opens in theaters. LeAnn Rimes, who appears in the film, anchors the soundtrack with four new songs, including the theme, "Can't Fight The Moonlight". It's one of the best-selling soundtracks of the '00s.		 Hamilton, a hip-hop infused musical based on the life of Alexander Hamilton, opens on Broadway at the Richard Rodgers Theatre six months after a sold-out off Broadway debut.		 Taylor Swift becomes the first artist to debut at #1 on both the Hot 100 and US albums chart when Folklore and its lead single, "Cardigan", both go to the top. Folklore is her 7th consecutive #1 album.	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
 Red Hot Chili Peppers releases their self-titled debut album, an arduous collaboration with producer Andy Gill of the British rock band Gang of Four.		 At Yankee Stadium, Jonas Brothers kicks off their Five Albums, One Night tour with a 66-song setlist.		 The first presidential playlists are released. Barack Obama's selections include tracks by Bob Dylan, Aretha Franklin and John Legend.		 The USPS unveils a new commemorative postage stamp of recently deceased composer Henry Mancini, famous for the Pink Panther theme and several other film works.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	 The Beatles' hometown of Liverpool, England, renames some streets in honor of the band members. There is John Lennon Drive, Paul McCartney Way, George Harrison Close, Ringo Starr Drive and even Sutcliffe Street (in honor of original bass player Stu Sutcliffe).		 The Voyager 2 space probe is launched, carrying with it a "Golden Record" of sounds and images representing Earth.		 The movie Stand By Me is released in theaters. It's based on a novella by Stephen King called The Body, but director Rob Reiner decides to name it after the famous song to play up the friendship storyline and keep it from sounding like a slasher film.	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
 Microsoft launches the Windows 95 operating system. The start-up music is composed by Brian Eno, a pioneer in ambient music who in 1978 released an album designed to soothe travelers at airports (Ambient 1: Music for Airport).		 As part of Women's Equality Day, the National Organization of Women give Paul Anka their "Keep Her In Her Place" award for his song "(You're) Having My Baby".		 Katy Perry releases her 6th album, Smile. It's bundled with the video game Katy's Quest, which she is seen playing in the video for the title track.		 Lady Gaga is the big winner at MTV Video Music Awards, taking Artist of The Year, Song of The Year ("Rain On Me") and the Tricon Award, formerly the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award. With the coronavirus lockdown still in place, two new categories are awarded: Best Music Video From Home ("Stuck With U") and Best Quarantine Performance (CNCO: Unplugged At Home).

WORD OF THE MONTH: “RESILIENCE”

by ebrar bozkaya

August

Resilience is the ability to recover quickly from difficulties or challenges; mental and emotional strength to bounce back after hardship.

Resilience is the quiet power that keeps you going even when life knocks you down. It's not about never falling—it's about always getting up. It lives in people who grow through pain, who smile after tears, and who find light in the darkest times. Resilience is strength wrapped in softness.

SCREEN PAIR: SUMMER EXTENDED

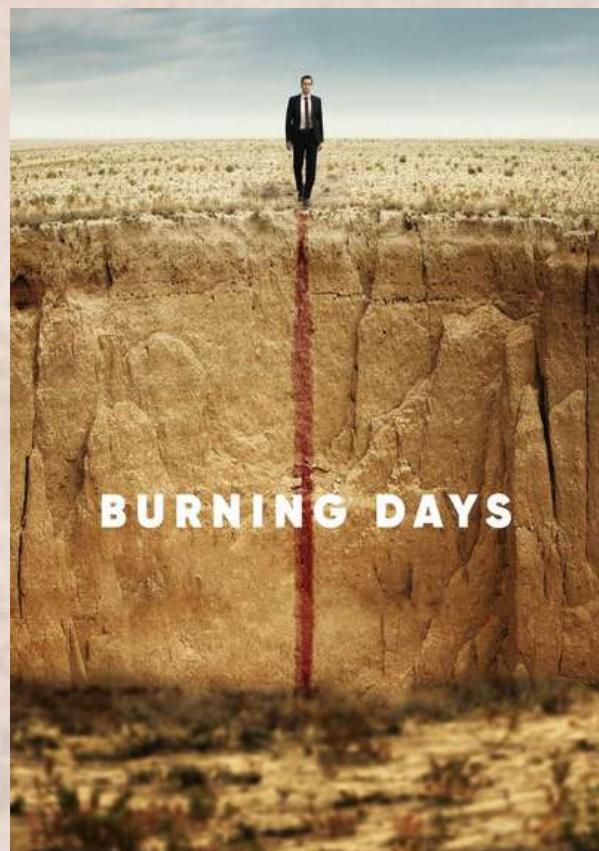
by ebrar bozkaya

BURNING DAYS (2022)

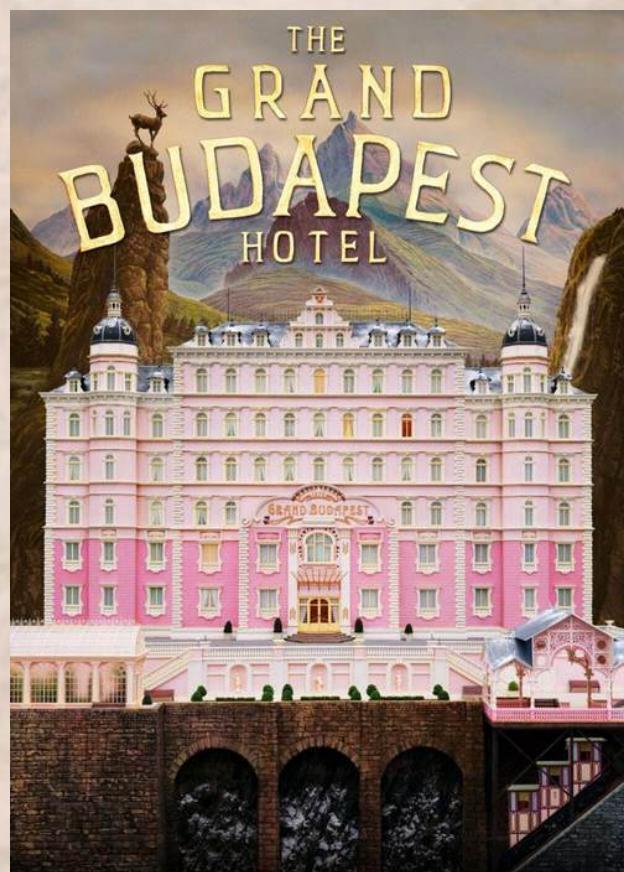
Burning Days is a 2022 film directed by Emin Alper. The leading roles are played by Selahattin Paşalı and Ekin Koç. The main character, Emre, portrayed by Selahattin Paşalı, is a young prosecutor newly appointed to a small town in Anatolia. As a man of law who is committed to justice and maintaining order, Emre's idealism soon clashes with the local political structures and power dynamics of the town. During this time, he meets Murat, an opposition journalist played by Ekin Koç, who is also an idealist trying to expose the corruption in the local system. While dealing with the town's water crisis, the upcoming local elections, and his first criminal investigation, Emre finds himself caught in a complex political conflict. His growing closeness with Murat and his own inner confusion make the situation even more difficult to navigate.

The film explores themes like corruption and populism very effectively. The use of metaphors such as drought and sinkholes adds both visual and thematic depth to the narrative, making the story more thought-provoking and engaging. With its strong storytelling and powerful performances, the film succeeds in deeply engaging the audience. Rather than being slow-paced, the film builds tension steadily, keeping the viewer alert with its constantly shifting dynamics.

Having competed in numerous national and international festivals and won over twenty awards, Burning Days holds a significant place in Turkish cinema. I believe it is one of the must-watch films of recent years.



IMDb : 7.5
Drama/Thriller



IMDb : 8.1
Quirky Comedy/Comedy/Drama

THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL (2014)

The Grand Budapest Hotel is a 2014 American-German co-production film directed by Wes Anderson, inspired by the writings of Stefan Zweig. The story is set in a fictional European country called the Republic of Zubrowka, where the Grand Budapest Hotel is located high in the Alps.

The film begins with a writer visiting the once-glamorous but now fading Grand Budapest Hotel, where he meets the hotel's owner, Mr. Moustafa. Moustafa, who used to work as a lobby boy named Zero, begins to tell the story of how the hotel came into his possession and the adventures he experienced with the legendary concierge, Monsieur Gustave. After the death of Madame D., one of the hotel's regular guests, Gustave inherits a priceless painting from her. This inheritance causes great anger among Madame D.'s family, who accuse Gustave of her murder. Moustafa then recounts the thrilling journey they went through to prove Gustave's innocence.

In my opinion, the film's strongest aspect is its visual style. The retro atmosphere, bold color choices, and perfectly symmetrical shots make it truly enchanting. Although the story moves at a fast pace, there is a certain kind of chaos that somehow feels well-organized. Alongside its romantic and fairy-tale-like elements and the genuine relationships between characters, the film also touches on darker themes such as grief and war.

With its layered narrative and rich storytelling, The Grand Budapest Hotel is definitely a film not to be missed. Having won numerous awards and received wide acclaim for its exceptional cast and cinematic quality, it is a masterpiece worth watching.

THE LAST OF US

The Last of Us is an American TV series that began airing in 2023. It is adapted from the popular 2013 video game of the same name. Starring Bella Ramsey and Pedro Pascal, the story takes place in a world devastated by a deadly outbreak that has destroyed most of civilization.

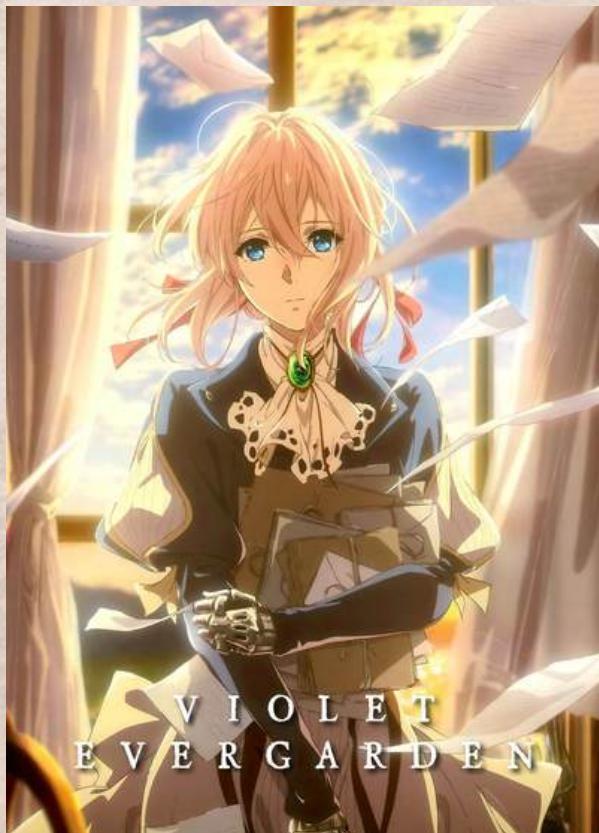
Bella Ramsey plays Ellie, a 14-year-old girl who has been infected but shows no symptoms of the disease. Because of this, researchers want to study her in hopes of finding a cure. Pedro Pascal plays Joel, a man who used to be a smuggler in a quarantine zone. He witnessed the beginning of the outbreak and lost his daughter in the chaos. Since Joel knows how to move outside the quarantine zones, he is tasked with escorting Ellie to another region where the research can be carried out. What follows is a dangerous journey through a world where people have turned into zombie-like creatures. Along the way, Joel and Ellie face many challenges and begin to form a strong father-daughter bond.

Their fight for survival and the emotional connection that grows between them are among the most powerful aspects of the series. The plot is also grounded in realistic and logical storytelling, which makes it even more engaging. The show's visuals and atmosphere are detailed and immersive. While the video game has been popular for years, the series has gained widespread praise for its strong performances and expanded narrative. The second season was released last April. If you haven't seen it yet, it's definitely worth a watch.



IMDb 8.5

Dystopian Sci-fi/Drama



IMDb : 8.4

Anime/Drama/Fantasy/Romance

VIOLET EVERGARDEN

Violet Evergarden is a light novel series written by Kana Akatsuki. In 2018, it was adapted into an anime series by Kyoto Animation. Violet Evergarden is a soldier who knows nothing but how to follow orders and fight like a killing machine against her enemies. Although she possesses an enchanting beauty, she has no understanding of emotions. After the Great War, she loses both her arms and the person most precious to her – Major Gilbert – goes missing. One of her commanders takes her in and helps her start a new life by offering her a job as a letter writer at his postal company. Violet quickly becomes skilled at her new job, and with the help of the people she meets, she slowly begins to understand human emotions. Along the way, she builds deep friendships and starts searching for the major.

Violet Evergarden is one of the most emotional anime series I've ever watched. What makes it truly stand out is the way it allows the audience to hear the stories of different people and empathize with each of them. In every episode, we meet a new character and listen to their personal story. However, what impressed me the most was the animation quality. The visually stunning scenes and the touch of fantasy elements elevate the series to another level. Its excellence was also recognized when it won the Best Animation award at the 2019 Crunchyroll Anime Awards. In addition to the main series, there are also two films: *Violet Evergarden: The Movie* and *Violet Evergarden: Eternity and the Auto Memory Doll*. Whether you're new to anime or a long-time fan who missed this gem, *Violet Evergarden* is definitely worth a chance.

YOLPALAS MURDER

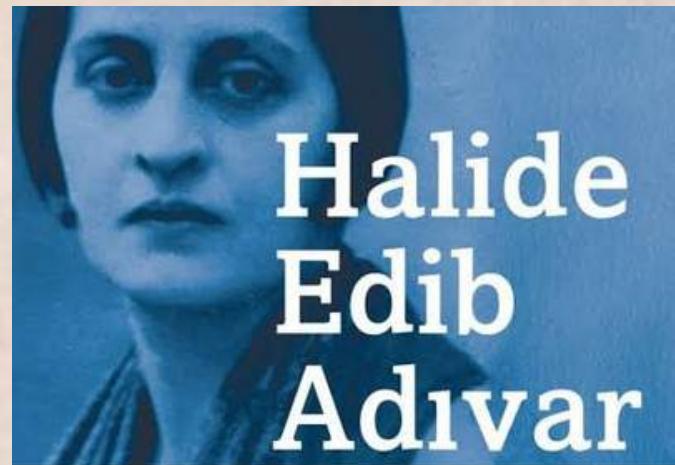
by ebrar bozkaya



Yolpalas Cinayeti is a novel written by Halide Edib Adıvar and published in 1936. While the book presents murder story, it also deeply explores the social structure of Istanbul in the late 1920s, highlighting class differences and shifting values. The novel is set in the Yolpalas mansion, where a wealthy and glamorous family resides. The murder that takes place in this household becomes a tool for the author to explore themes such as moral decline, the role of women, and social corruption.

The story begins with Sacide, who grew up in a poor family and marries Murat Sallabaş. After their marriage, she moves into the Yolpalas mansion and becomes a part of upper-class life. We witness her luxurious lifestyle and interactions with her surroundings. In one of these scenes, we meet Akkız, a nanny well-known in the household. Shortly after, we are introduced to Mükerrem, the family's chauffeur. The main event of the novel is Akkız murdering Mükerrem due to an incident from her past. When Murat Sallabaş's nephew Rifki, a lawyer, decides to defend Akkız in court, the mystery begins to unfold.

I think this story is incredibly valuable for understanding and interpreting the conditions of that time. One of the reasons is that it not only reflects the social structure of Istanbul but also touches upon life in Anatolia. Moreover, Akkız's life and her reaction to what happened, as well as Rifki's pursuit of justice, are among the most striking parts of the novel. In my opinion, this is a short and gripping novel that you can finish in one sitting. As one of the significant works of Turkish literature, Yolpalas Cinayeti is definitely worth reading.



Yolpalas
Cinayeti

Selim İleri'nin sonsözüyle

12. BASKI

KYK-FRIENDLY RECIPES

by nur

CHIA SEED YOGURT



CHIA SEED WATER



BUT WHY ?

Chia yogurt offers a multidimensional nutritional advantage over chia water, combining soluble fiber with probiotic-rich dairy to support gut health, satiety, and metabolic balance. While chia water delivers hydration and basic fiber, the yogurt base slows digestion, enhancing nutrient absorption and stabilizing blood sugar levels. This synergy not only sustains energy longer but also fosters a more resilient microbiome—making chia yogurt a functional food with both immediate and long-term benefits.



FOOD SYNERGY



Tahini and walnuts create a powerful nutritional synergy that supports both brain and metabolic health. Tahini, rich in plant-based fats and calcium, enhances the absorption of fat-soluble nutrients found in walnuts—especially omega-3s and polyphenols. Together, they reduce inflammation, stabilize energy levels, and nourish cognitive function more effectively than either ingredient alone.



NO SUGAR CHOCOLATE

- Tahini
- Honey
- Cocoa powder
- Coconut oil
- Walnuts

Preparation

Mix all ingredients thoroughly and freeze.

GRAVITY DIDN'T TEACH US

by a guest writer nil

Colors feel like they grow duller with each passing day. The sky fades into the land, the land into gray. Houses mirror houses, brick by brick, bland and bare, with people passing by in pairs: none quite smiling, none quite there. They don't frown because they're sad, but because they've forgotten how to care. How to be glad. How to dare.

The sky used to sing in a bluer tone, didn't it? The sun once shone like it meant it. Houses had warmth. People had depth. There was laughter stitched into breath. Or am I lying to myself with a memory I've re-dressed? Was life ever sweet, or do we just digest the past in softer colors because the present tastes less?

Let me just make it—till the end of the test, till the semester rests. Let me just cross that line. It will all be fine. That's what they say. But does it ever pay? The slope just steepens. The echo deepens. The more I try to halt the fall, the wind behind me starts to call—pushes me faster, harder, hollow. And I follow.

Everyone aches for the days that passed, claiming the world was kinder, slower, built to last. They mourn old clothes, old songs, old youth, as if the past held all the truth. But what if the next wave rises too fast, so far from the shore that no child can cast a memory back to "better times"—because better never lasts?

Have we forgotten how to be human? How to find joy in the mere being? How to marvel at the small, or feel peace without fleeing? What once was simple now costs too much—touch, time, truth, a moment of hush.

Our hearts now filled with hatred, our souls fuelled by gluttony, possessed with hunger, beat by greed. We bleed and need. Always aching for more, dreaming of a distant shore. It took one apple to fall from a tree for everyone to learn gravity, yet thousands of bodies drop and crash but we still didn't grasp humanity. Maybe gravity pulled us down, but it never pulled us close. Maybe we learn how things fall but not how to hold what matters most.

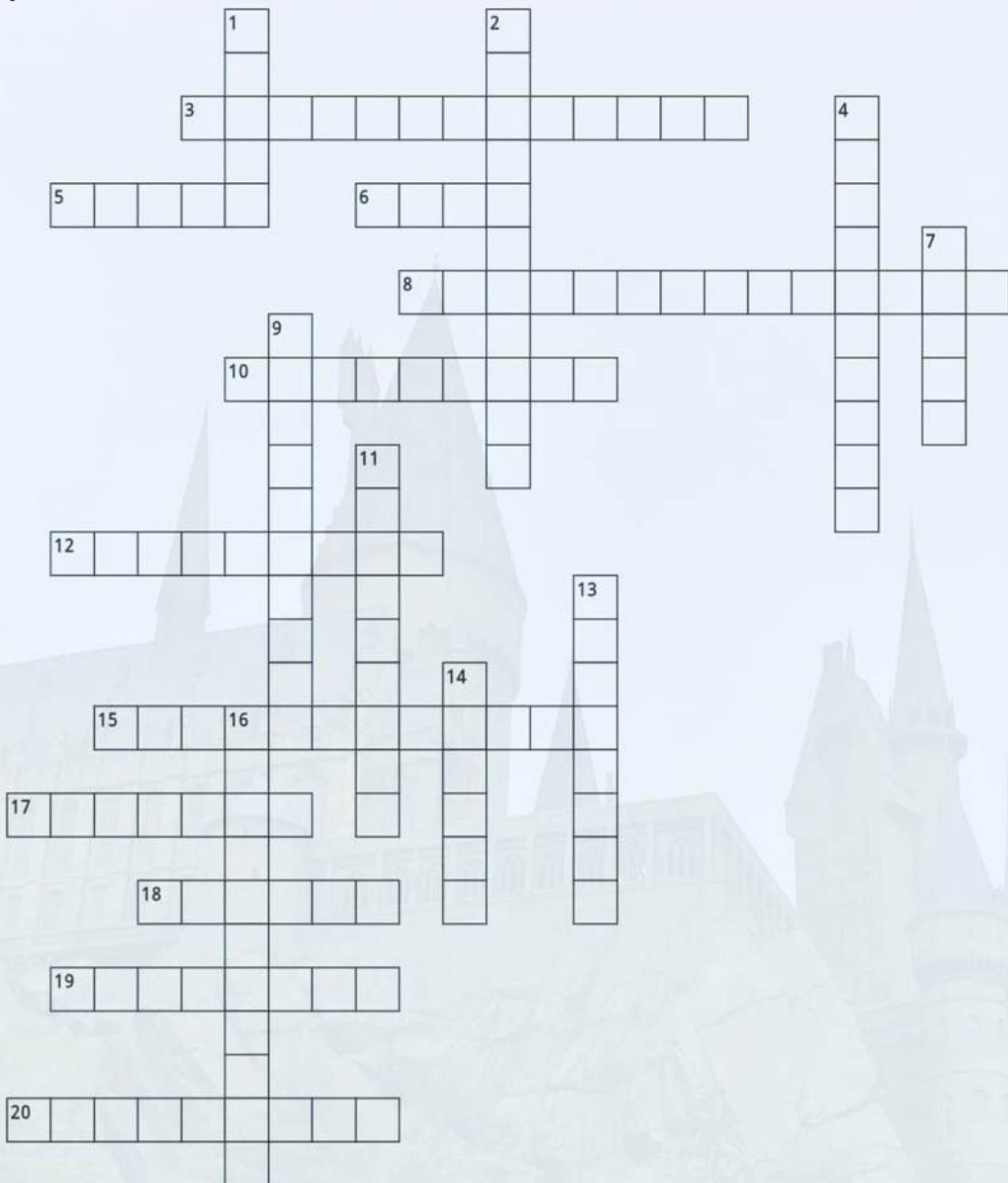


PATTERHEADS

by september16



THE NEWZTECH



ACROSS

- 1. MAP THAT SHOWS ALL SECRET PASSAGES
- 2. SMALL CREATURE WITH LEATHERY SKIN
- 3. HARRY'S MOTHER'S NAME
- 4. VICIOUS TREE WHERE RON AND HARRY DRIVE INTO WIZARD'S SPORT
- 5. HOUSE WHEN ANYONE DOES ANYTHING TO ACHIEVE THEIR ENDS
- 6. LANGUAGE OF THE SNAKES
- 7. MYTHICAL WHITE HORSE CREATURE
- 8. HAGRID'S DOGS NAME
- 9. FATEST BROOMSTICK
- 10. LUNA LOVEGOOD LIVED IN THIS HOUSE

DOWN

- 1. HALF BLOOD PRINCE
- 2. THE BOY WHO LIVED
- 3. HOUSEWHERE NO ONE FITS IN GOES
- 4. FAMOUS HOUSE HELP
- 5. GREATEST HEADMASTER
- 6. WIZARDS BANK IN LONDON
- 7. SOUL SUCKER CREATURE
- 8. GOLDEN BALL WITH SILVER WINGS
- 9. HARRY'S GOD FATHER

Emoji Quiz

by september16

Each puzzle hides a character from a movie or TV series. Decode the emojis, guess the character, and enjoy the fun!





PATTERHEADS

by september16



THE NEW ZTECH



ACROSS

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THE NEW Z TECH



MORE THAN WORDS

