

# RISING STARS

## They Are Going Right Through You

by S G Moznabin Sheyum  
(A' Levels)

TO many of you, my dear readers, the above title might have suggested the beginning of an action-packed story; to few others, the overzealous ones, an in-depth study of armed hooliganism. Although this will not have anything to do with bomb blasting, picketing or stabbing, I can assure you that it will not be any less interesting. Believe me, this will be a lot easier than experiencing a cocktail rip through your body.

At this very moment, do you feel anything entering your body through one side and finding an egress through another? Most probably not. But believe it or not, about 200 trillion high speed particles are passing through your inner world every second! These particles, the neutrinos, will be the subject matter on this journey.

Neutrinos are evasive elementary particles. 'Evasive' because they hardly interact with anything. They are massless, chargeless and travel at the speed of light. Fusion, which takes place inside the sun, produces these particles in very large numbers and travelling at light speed they reach Earth in about 8 minutes. Feeling nothing in their way, the frenzied neutrinos zoom through every thing, sparing not even mother Earth (which has a density of about 5464 kg m<sup>-3</sup>).

However, there is a big difference between how we react and how Earth reacts to these transgressing guests from outer space. Unlike us, the zombies, mother Earth pulls on the neutrinos when they emerge from inside her. The pull (owing to gravity) draws them back into Earth. They (the neutrinos) then come out from the other side and are decelerated similarly by gravitational attraction. Eventually,

the particles are stopped inside Earth by the opposing (frictional) force which the dense material (making up our planet) offers.

The reason why neutrinos are elusive is that they travel at

measure of argon produced is used to determine the number of neutrinos that flow into the fluid.

What happens to a substance when its temperature is brought down to absolute zero

remains a gas even at fourteen degrees above absolute zero. Physicists at Brown University are using this magical substance (helium) at -273.06°C to detect neutrinos.

A very distressing news about neutrino detection is that, till now scientists have been able to detect the inflow of one third of the expected number of neutrinos from the sun. Why this? As answers to this question some say that the sun (the source of the particles) is undergoing changes while some others say that only one of the three types of neutrinos that are thought to exist, is being detected.

What role could neutrinos possible play in the future? The versatile genius Dr Asimov predicts that since neutrinos are not affected by anything, they could play an important function in communications. Any two parts, he says, would communicate by means of neutrino beams in Morse code, through mountains, buildings, and most important of all, through unwanted cars! Communication satellites would fall into disuse.

Mr Asimov more over, expresses his doubt regarding an ongoing quest of man. Since neutrino beams seem to be the ultimate carrier of messages, he points out that in the search of ET civilizations we ought to be looking for neutrino beams and not for microwaves (which is being done now). He says this because highly developed civilizations are perhaps using neutrino holes made by neutrinos on your scalp? Well, if you succeed, please do let me know. I have only a few more strands left on my head. Till today, I have found nothing. Give it your best shot. At least for the sake of science if not for my poor condition.



a very high speed-light speed. Since they spend infinitesimal time with any atomic nucleus, neutrinos remain unaffected by the presence of anything containing chlorine. While doing so, one in a million neutrino interacts with chlorine atoms and the interaction produces radioactive argon. The

(-273.16°C) Its particles cease to vibrate? Well, no. If this did happen then the uncertainty principle would be defied. Every known substance, with the exception of helium, is liquefied well before absolute zero, and their particles then have only a minimum vibration. Helium

Don M was the flashiest Demi Urge of them all. He lived in a penthouse, equipped with a jacuzzi, drove a new car every month and had his suits tailored at Saville Row. He was reclining on his back in his penthouse, listening to the latest KLF CD as his massive stereo on its 250 megawatt speakers and centralized room-to-room sound system when he thought to himself, 'Better give Super Judes her KLF CD back; otherwise, she'll be very very mad at me. And we all know how she is when she gets mad.'

Suddenly, he shot up and yelled, 'Oh my God! Super Judes! She hasn't called yet. Neither has Fearsome Shabs. They should've called after Sue had been stowed away safely! Something must be wrong! And then he looked at his Demi Urges emergency light, fitted on the wall, activated by a special paper attached to each Demi Urge. The light had been on for quite a while, but in his CD induced stupor, Don M had barely noticed.

He zoomed downstairs to his garage. Now I did say that he drove a new car every month, but that was in the pursuit of pleasure. On Demi Urges business, he would always ride his sleek maroon Sprinter, which he'd dubbed Superkar (obviously, he hadn't been in the most imaginative of moods when he thought this up), but the title was justified. Superkar, designed by Don M himself, would cause KITT of Knight Rider fame to go green with envy. Its dashboard was like the cockpit of a Concorde and it drove like one too!

'Where am I?' groaned Super Judes as she came to. She had the sudden urge to yell 'I want my mommy!' and then remembered that such behaviour did not become a super heroine. She also remembered where she was - down and out in CC's cellar. (Well, not out anymore, but still down.) Fearsome Shabs was on the other side of the room, his face red from all that wheezing and panting.

'You all right, Shabs?' she asked.

'I'll live!' was the groggy reply.

'Where are Saggie and Sue?'

## Fangs Jr VI

Sagheer Bin Faiz

Right now, it was zooming its way towards Dr Mash Rook's chambers.

He strode into the good (?) doctor's office, grabbed him by the scruff of his neck and smashed him into the wall.

'Alright,' Don M snarled, 'where are they?'

'Take it easy! Rook replied, 'they're safe.'

'Then why haven't they contacted me?'

'Who knows? The way phones are nowadays!'

'Look, Dr Rook, I've never liked you and I don't trust you. So if you don't tell me where they are, I will break your teeth one by one and make sure that millionaire's you're crazy about never looks at you twice!'

He left in two minutes; Dr Rook's teeth were intact!

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'Where are Saggie and Sue?'

'He's had them removed somewhere else!'

'Oh no! We've got to get out and find them!'

There was the squeal of tyres outside and, for the third time that day, the wall was smashed to pieces and Superkar zoomed in.

Don M got out and bowed (typical of his flamboyance) and at the same time said, 'Thank you! Thank you! I can do without the applause!'

'Thank God you're here!' said Super Judes, if for once in her life, she was happy to see Don M and could momentarily forgive him for not returning her CD.

'Where are the others?' he asked as he untied them.

'No idea!' this was FS.

'OK! Lets get out of this place first,' Don M said as he walked to the door, found it was locked and started to pick it with his tie pin.

'I know an easier way out,' said FS as he pushed Don M out of the way.

He smashed his foot through the door, which immediately became a doorway. They were out in the corridor now.

'Alright, FS! You go left! Super Judes and I'll go right!'

FS stormed his way down the corridor and took a left. He walked straight into a dead end. Funny how crumbly this

floor is, he thought. You never can trust these old houses...

CC was, at that moment, in his study with the evil genius Dr M M, that famous economist of economists, and CC's financial adviser. Right now, he was advising him on how easy it would be to take over a certain tiny South Asian republic. Suddenly, there was a roaring sound as the ceiling broke open and Fearsome Shabs fell through. Waffles was on him in a minute, with a loaded gun at his head, while CC and Dr M M were prostrate on the floor, not daring to get up.

Upstairs, Don M and Super Judes ran to the huge opening in the floor created by FS and looked down. CC stared up at them and yelled, 'At 'em!'

Waffles looked up and FS grabbed this moment. He gave the skinny chauffeur such a huge punch that the poor guy flew through the opening and through the roof and just kept on flying and flying, defying all laws of gravity. He flew out of the atmosphere and back through it again on the other side of the world.

In a school called Actisallochs it was business as usual. Class XII was enjoying an entertaining economics class when (for the second time in this story) the roof broke through and Waffles fell in.

'Hi guys!' was all he could say....

(To be continued)

## THE MOUNTAIN ADVENTURE

by Syed Saddat Qadri  
(Class III)

'Stephen! Stephen!' Matthew Williams was calling to his elder brother Stephen Williams. 'What is it?', asked Stephen coming out of nowhere. 'I need your help,' answered Matt. 'He was eighteen years old while his elder brother was nineteen years old. Just throw the rope over the carrier so that I can tie the suit-cases,' said Matt after a while. They were going to Georgetown, a place full of mountains.

At last everything was ready. In about two hours they reached Georgetown. They had some trouble in finding Hotel Amber. It was late in the afternoon, and both of them were hungry. They went to the lounge of Hotel Amber and asked for two pepperoni pizzas and also caramel pudding. It was Matt who always had a big appetite. After the meal Stephen wanted to go out on a trip to the mountains. When they reached their car BMW 73741A Matt found that the front-right wheel had a puncture. 'Blow!' cried Matt. He hated to fix the tyre when it had a puncture. 'Well you will have to,' said Stephen grinning.

After the punctured tyre had been changed, Matt drove to the mountains. They both got out and went to a shady place near a mountain. Suddenly there was a heavy crash and rocks and stones started to fall. They had guessed what it was - an avalanche. Stephen cried at

the top of his voice 'Run!' They both ran to their car which was parked far away from the mountain. When they reached their car, they quickly drove away from the dreaded spot.

'Wow!' cried Matt. 'That was a close shave.' 'It certainly was,' said Stephen when they were far away from that place. 'But what caused it?' asked Matt. 'We heard no shouts or cries.' 'Gosh, you are right, Matt.' 'Something must have caused it because avalanches do not happen by themselves,' said Stephen.

The very next day both of them woke up early because they wanted to investigate the place where the avalanche caused the day before. When they reached the place they parked their BMW 73741A the place where they parked it yesterday. When they were on the top of the mountain, Matt found a wire dug under earth. He said 'Over here, Stephen, I have found something.'

While the two boys were investigating, two men came up. 'What are you doing here,' one growled. 'Do you not know this private property.' Matt started 'I did not know that mountains belonged to people.' 'Well, they do to us.' 'But you did not tell us why you are here. Stephen said, 'Yesterday we came here on a trip here and an avalanche took place. So, to find out what caused it, we came here today.'

'You come with us,' growled the second man. Then he turned to go. 'Better come with us,' he said turning back. 'Or I shoot. Both boys obeyed.'

Stephen and Matt were both dragged into a cave. They went to a room, in which sat the strangest man the two boys had ever seen. He had a long moustache, a long beard, glasses which stuck at the end of his nose and sat on a seat with (at least) 30 switches. 'Who are they? He asked. Matt thought he spoke very bad English. One of the two men said, 'Boys interfering with our work.' 'Take them to the cellars,' the chief ordered.

Both Stephen and Matt were thrown into the dark cellars. 'What are we to do now, Stephen?' 'I do not know but have to think.' Suddenly Stephen said, 'I have got it!' Then he pointed at a sheet of paper. 'But how can we open a locked room with a sheet of paper?' Matt asked. 'Remember that they left the keys to the door? And do you remember the trick Dad taught me to open a locked room with a sheet of paper?'

In 10 minutes Stephen had opened the door and checked to see if any one was around. However, there was one. Matt took a tin and threw it at the guard. It hit his head and he fell, unconscious.

'Now is our chance, hurry,' Matt cried. Two men appeared. They charged at Stephen and Matt. Stephen and Matt were karate experts. When one of them charged at Stephen, Stephen karate-chopped the man on the head and he fell. The other man was big and burly. Matt had trouble in attacking him, but Matt found a hammer lying on the ground. He picked up the hammer and banged it on the man's head. He fell exactly the

same way the other man fell. When they were running away the chief spotted them and ran after them. 'STOP,' he cried. When Stephen and Matt were running desperately for the door, the chief went into his room and pressed hard on a button.

All the doors got locked. 'Oh no, we are trapped,' Matt said. 'Ha Hah Hah HAH,' laughed the chief with an evil smile. 'Now you are under my orders,' he said.

'Not so fast chief,' Stephen said and banged a log lying on the ground on the chief's head. 'Good thinking, Stephen,' Matt said.

'But there are still two more guards left,' Stephen said. 'No problem,' 'Just help me pick the ladder and run with it at the door so the two fellows fall.' 'Here we go!' Matt said and banged the ladder on the door. The two men fell with a thump. After 15 minutes they reached their car and went to Georgetown Police Station at once. When they reported about what happened, three police cars drove straight to the mountain. 'Well, well, well who is this? What?? said the police officer. 'Mr Gangster??' 'I cannot believe my eyes.' 'How did you catch him?' 'He is an extremely dangerous criminal. No police could ever catch him.'

'It's a long story,' said Matt. 'We will tell you about the adventure when we go home.' 'Right, lets go.'

When they went back to Georgetown, they told their adventure. 'Nice adventure,' the police officer said when they had finished. 'Yeah, I guess it was,' said Stephen. 'And hope we have more,' added Matt.



## Being Seventeen

by Tadiib Muqtada

Being seventeen isn't fun, if you start playing around with a gun. Your mom will say 'stop acting childish' as if you were young!

Being seventeen is no fun, if you want to go out and drive a car. Your mom will say 'you are not old enough' and you'll end up behind bars!

What I say you might doubt You can't skip seventeen, so wait and find out.

## The Silly Man

by Julian D'Silva

There was once a man who got in his car and saw that he had been robbed. He quickly phoned the police and screamed, 'Mr Policeman, I have just been robbed! My car's gear, steering wheel and stereo set are missing. Could you please come to the Hoof Lung Dung house? I'll meet you there.'

'We'll be there,' said the policeman, getting into his jeep. When he got to the man's house, he saw the man coming to him slowly. The man then said, 'Er ..... I'm very sorry about this. But I got up in the back seat by mistake thinking that it was the front ..... seat.' The policeman then went red and fined the man Takas 250/- for calling him for no good reason.



**ROBERT** By Shaked Chowdhury

For any comments or suggestions, write to: - shaked, 2-kajoli, Eskaton Garden Road, Dhaka.

**Jokes**

Milly: 'I have music in my soul!'

Molly: 'Yes, your shoes squeak.'

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Customer: Is there any soup on the menu today?

Waiter: There was, but I wiped it off.

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Customer: Waiter, I don't like the look of this cod.

Waiter: If it's looks your after, why not eat the goldfish?

## QUIZ CLUB

Here are this week's quiz questions now don't forget - if you get them all right you may win a very attractive prize! Prizes are given through lottery. So rack your brains and send in those answers no later than next Thursday! Also remember - participants must be under 21. A message for Muniish - one of our lucky Quiz Club winners - your prize is waiting at our office so come and collect it!

- Q1 What is the capital of Tajikistan?
- Q2 What does GATT stand for?
- Q3 What is the Agha Khan Cup awarded for?
- Q4 Who wrote 'Man and Superman'?
- Q5 Who created the character Hercule Poirot?
- Q6 Who was Fahren?
- Q7 What is the local currency of Mexico called?
- Q8 Which is the highest country in the world?
- Q9 Who made the first Fountain Pen?
- Q10 What is the national sport of Canada?
- Here are the answers to October 31st's Quiz Club:
- An award for songwriting talent
  - George Michael
  - Gabriel Garcia Marquez
  - Gerald's Game
  - Harvard University in Cambridge Massachusetts
  - Arkansas, USA
  - European Economic Community
  - Oxford
  - Dar-cs-Salaam
  - Majlis

## Registration

- Here is a list of new club members. Welcome to Rising Stars Club! Please send in your articles, poems, sketches etc with your registration number.
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| Rajan Sami<br>East Goran, Dhaka<br>RS: 0223          | Md Shehab Rashid<br>Uttara, Dhaka<br>RS: 0231              |
| Mohammad Asifur Rahim<br>Lalmata, Dhaka<br>RS: 0224  | Md Niamul Karim Showrov<br>Mymensingh.<br>RS: 0232         |
| Talat Talha<br>Dhanmondi, Dhaka<br>RS: 0225          | Tareq Md Yousuf<br>Eskaton Road, Dhaka<br>RS: 0233         |
| Syeda Nazia Hussain<br>Mirpur, Dhaka<br>RS: 0226     | Simin Chowdhury (Tatum)<br>Eskaton Road, Dhaka<br>RS: 0234 |
| Mir Omer Nashad<br>Shahjahanpur, Dhaka<br>RS: 0227   | Farzana Nahid<br>Elephant Rd., Dhaka<br>RS: 0235           |
| Adita Afroza Hasan<br>Elephant Rd. Dhaka<br>RS: 0228 | Tanni<br>R K Misson Road,<br>Dhaka<br>RS: 0236             |
| Tasneem Binte Alam<br>Mirpur, Dhaka<br>RS: 0229      | Mohammad Isam<br>Dhanmondi, Dhaka<br>RS: 0237              |
| Hafiz Sa'adullah<br>Green Road, Dhaka<br>RS: 0230    | Amir Saigal<br>Swarghat, Dhaka<br>RS: 0238                 |

## Picture Quiz

Here is another picture quiz for you to solve. Can you guess what this structure is? Answer next week. The answer to last week's picture quiz is: Two Onagers also known as Asiatic wild asses; the photograph shows only one head but actually the other head is hidden. Onagers live only in a few desert areas of Asia.



## A New System for Learning

by Maria Sultana Munnii

THIS year it has been found that many students have passed the SSC examination with good marks. This has been possible only because objective-type questions were given. The main objective of this system prevailing now at the SSC level is apparently, to know thoroughly the subject-matter of the subject. But in reality this goal is not achieved. Most of the students of our country are dependent on various kinds of guide-books available in the market. They are lucky because question-papers are set from the objective type questions prescribed by Education Boards and guidebooks are written in accordance with the prescribed questions.

If this system continues then the actual objective will never be achieved. Students will always be dependant on guide books. They will never exercise their brains and never learn anything.

It is high time therefore, that the system is modified. The objective type questions should be such that they make the students use their brain. This will require more than just ticking off an answer so that getting an answer right through guessing will not be possible. The nature of the objective type questions should be 'which one is correct? And explain the reason.' This will require more than just ticking off an answer so that getting an answer right through guessing will not be possible. To answer these questions will take more time. So the time may be increased or the number of questions may be decreased. Moreover, prescribed questions of Education Boards should be cancelled in preparing question-papers.

An education system is developed for the benefit of a nation. It should not be made in such a way as to break the back-bone of a nation.