

RISING STARS



Fragments of Childhood Horror

by Trishna

LIKE many victims of child abuse, Patricia Bissell survived the violence of her childhood, only to find herself abusing her own children, particularly her son Patrick. Mrs. Bissell bravely reveals the tragedy of child abuse that scarred her life.

"I was born in 1928 to an affluent family played by demons that must have lurked in dark crooks of the family tree for generations. By any measure, my childhood was a relentless horror. Before I was two years old, my mother died at the hands of an abortionist to whom she had been forced to go by my father."

"We went to live with my father's mother, a cruel and self-righteous woman who

"A spark of hope for Wally came from his older sister."

Spare the rod and spoil the child

was viewed as a community and church leader. Every memory I have of my early childhood is gripped by overwhelming fear of my father. He struck me practically every day with his leather razor strap — a practice my grandmother endorsed. Sometimes he locked me in a closet."

"Fragments of horror from that time litter my mind. One of the most terrifying was a 'parlor trick' my father enjoyed. He would pick me up, hold me firmly atop his shoulders and with great laughter, dance about the room. Then he would saunter through a doorway and smash my head into

For years we knew he had extraordinary stamina and coordination, and she got Wally to join her ballet class, when he was ten. I have wondered whether she was trying to keep him safe from me."

"As Wally was making his way through dance schools with brilliant performances, he was also cementing lethal habits: he was drinking heavily and experimenting widely with drugs. He once told an interviewer — I do good performances and then I punish myself with drugs. I try to destroy myself. It's a weird kind of cycle. This sense of failure was the terrible legacy I

Sharier's advice to parents



Do not kick your kid even if you have reasons to do so...

have my son."

As Patrick Bissell's career as a dancer skyrocketed, he made heavy use of cocaine and alcohol. Just months after his release from a treatment programme, his fiancee found him dead from a drug overdose. He was 30 years old.

"When the terrible news of his death reached us, I was sick with remorse. It was agonizingly clear to me that I had led my child to this tragic end. By this time extensive therapy had helped me understand what I had done to my children — and why. But it was too late to reverse what I had done. I had taken away everything Wally had needed to be able to handle life."

"For a normal person it is nearly impossible to understand how a mother can beat her child. I do not believe that any mortal alone has the strength to break this powerful cycle of horror. My hope is that never again will anyone have to face the kind of searing anguish of my life and the life I gave to my son."

This hope is not only Patricia's but also mine to all the readers. Punish your child, but not with brutality, otherwise today you read Patricia's pathetic story and tomorrow people will read yours.

From ABC's of human mind.

Wise words

Compiled by Ismat Haseen

1. Delay not till tomorrow to be wise. Tomorrow's sun to thee may never arise. — Congreve.
2. A person may not be as good as you tell him he is, but he'll try harder thereafter. — C V M.
3. Reading maketh a full man. — Francis bacon.
4. Most pleasures, like flowers, when gathered, die. — Young.
5. Common sense is an uncommon degree what the world calls wisdom. — Coleridge.
6. Revenge is an abject pleasure of an abject mind. — Juvenal.
7. If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong. — Lincoln.
8. The art of conversation consists as much in listening politely, as in talking agreeably. — Atwell.
9. Prejudice is the reason of pools. — Shakespeare.
10. All true zeal for God is a zeal also for love, mercy and goodness. — R E Thompson.

We Came Close to the Dream

by Shahid Latif

I was born in the year 1935. The month was July and the date was 11th. Lucky for me, I had the opportunity to see all the uprising of this century.

The freedom of the subcontinent from the British, the division of India & Pakistan. I have seen the Language Movement of 1952, the uprising of '69 and the Liberation War of '71.

But now looking back, I want to write something about my experience, because now to us our Liberation War has become a story. Our new generation is not actually aware of the truth. To them all I would like to say is without this country no one in the world would know you or me.

So just for our own need we must have some respect and love for our country. In the next three or four paragraphs below I am going to write about the historical 26th March which is now a story, a legend only.

Ever since the British left this subcontinent in 1947 dividing it India & Pakistan in two separate countries, the subcontinent turned into a time bomb. Both India & Pakistan had fought three wars in this time. The father of India our beloved Mahatma Gandhi said that there would be only one country known as Indo-Pakistan. But the leaders of Pakistan said "as Pakistan is dominated by Muslims they have a right to have their own country. After much blood-bath India & Pakistan were divided into two different nations. Bangladesh at that time was known as East Pakistan & West Pakistan was known as what is now called Pakistan. The distance between East & West Pakistan was 1200 miles and in between these two parts laid the vast India. As we were so far away from each other our culture, language, style everything differed. But still we were called 'Pakistanis'. We, the people of East Pakistan also had many great leaders who fought for our right who stood up for us and voiced for us.

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was one of the prominent leaders of our time. He had a magnetism to attract the people and what he said was fully obeyed by the people of our country. During the Language Movement of '52 Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was the main leader to lead us. I

just wonder how much self-confidence and self-belief he had in himself that he led seven crore people of Bangladesh to voice for their own right. He was a leader who was uncompromising and for him and the hundreds of people who gave their time during the Language Movement we can speak in Bengali.

After winning the language war against Pakistan we were more confident. After their first political defeat our relationship with West Pakistan turned sour which was never good any way. And from that time onwards the great leaders

party wins there, they would have an assembly. The party from East Pakistan won a landslide victory and the leaders of West Pakistan sensed that they made another political blunder.

They dilly-dallied in the formation of an assembly by holding meetings after meetings with the leaders of East Pakistan without any progress. Actually this was just a show off, they had something else on their mind which the people

killing and burning. All through out the night the killing and burning continued. The next morning it seemed like a dead city, everywhere, you could see corpses and burnt houses, at places the fire was still burning. The air smelt of raw burnt flesh.

It is impossible to say about that night, I do not think that any country in this world had experienced anything like the night of 26th March.



of Bengal began to ignite the heat among the ordinary people, and a time came when they freed themselves.

Years after our Language Movement, the uprising of '69 took place. After that uprising the Pakistani Government tried hard to convince the leaders of our country but nothing seemed to work with them. They kept on saying that we have nothing in common except religion and we were far away from each other, we should have a separate country known as Bangladesh.

But the leaders of Pakistan kept on saying "no". Both the parties sat at meetings but their differences seemed to enlarge after every meeting. So seeing no other alternatives the Pakistani government ordered to hold election in East Pakistan and if the

people of Bengal came to know on the night of 25th March.

The leaders of Bengal also sensed that they had no intention to hand over power they were just passing their time, they also began to warn the people that something was on the way.

Weeks before that horrifying night of 25th March armed Pakistani soldiers were marching to Dhaka from Pakistan, on the other hand the leaders were engaged in fake meetings.

After the leaders of Pakistan failed to have any compromise with the leaders of our country they left on the 25th March without any solutions. And on the same day the Pakistani soldiers jumped upon the sleeping people of Dhaka

The next day we heard that Sheikh Mujibur Rahman has been arrested and taken to Pakistan. In his absence Ziaur Rahman, an army captain of that time on behalf of Mujibur Rahman asked the people to take up arms and liberate our country. So, after nine long months of bloody war we came close to our dreams.

We had a land, a home which we could call our own. All this happened because of the leaders and the people stood together on those days to free the country from occupying force.

Lastly, I would like to say I love my country, I have my people, I have my soil. Long life the people of Bangladesh and God bless Bangladesh, but it is us and you the children who would actually save Bangladesh. We came close of our dream but standing still there. We forgot, in the process of merry making and rejoicing that we did not fulfil our dream.

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The village on the river bank

by Naina Ahmad

STEPPING down from the steamer onto the muddy water, I took in deep breath of the fresh air. It felt so cool and refreshing after the stuffy atmosphere on the steamer.

As I took a step forward the marvellous view of the river caught my eyes. It was four thirty in the late afternoon and the river glistened in the mild setting sun.

Already the aroma of cooking food had filled the air. As I turned around to walk back to my steamer, I heard the prayers being offered from the mosque on the river bank. The sweet smell of ripening crop, cooking food and of nature filled my lungs and refreshed my soul.

Here was a world of satisfaction and peace — quite a contrast to the intricate and complex life of the city where the people always wanted more... here the people were satisfied with whatever they could get and willingly shared it with each other.

As I boarded the steamer and left behind the fresh cool breeze, I could hear the noisy clatter and shouts of the people on board. It was fair fifteen and the steamer was about to leave. I stepped onto the corridor and stood by the rails. The river bank was hardly visible for it was quite dark outside. Slowly, one after another, lanterns were being lit in every house, illuminating the river bank.

Suddenly a shrill whistle pierced the quiet calm of the atmosphere and our steamer moved away from the bank. As I eyed the muddy wharf, the boats tied to poles on the river bank, I could hear the occasional tones of a flute being played from somewhere. Soon a chorus of songs could be heard. As our steamer moved further away the merry singing became fainter till it could be heard no more...

Hearing only the splashes of waves against the steamers hull, I felt somewhat sad... sad at leaving the village on the river bank....

Why do we have April Fool's Day?

by Zinnia Ahmad



OME customs, holidays, and traditions are very hard to trace to their beginnings. We just do it and can't explain why. April Fools' Day, and how it originated, has been explained in several ways, but no one is quite sure.

First of all, there is a day like our April Fools' Day in nearly all parts of the world. It is a day when practical jokes are played on friends and neighbours, like sending them on foolish errands or tricking them into doing silly things.

It is believed that April Fools' Day started with the French. When the calendar was reformed, the first nation to adopt the reformed calendar was France. Charles IX ordered, in 1564, that the year should begin with the 1st of January. Until then, New Year's visits and the exchange of New Year's gifts had been associated with the 1st of April.

Now, after Charles issued his decree, all this became associated with the 1st of January. But there were many people who objected to the change and refused to go along with it. The other people made fun of them for this.

They did it this way: they sent them mock gifts, they pretended to be visiting them, they invited them to mock New Year's celebrations — all on the 1st of April. In other words, they were April Fools — people who still felt April 1st was the beginning of the new year. Also, the custom of fooling somebody on this day started with the mock gifts and celebrations they had with these people.

Source: Here's More Tell Me Why

Top 10 Singles

Song	Artist	Album
1) Return to Innocence	Enigma	Both Sides
2) Everyday	Phil Collins	The one thing
3) The one thing	Michael Bolton	Bat out of Hell II
4) Rock & Roll Dreams	Meatloaf	So Far So Good
5) Please Forgive me	Bryan Adams	Grave Dance
6) Black Gold	Soul Asylum	Union Face the heat
7) Lonely Nights	Scorpions	Get a grip
8) Amazing	Aerosmith	Bump Head
9) Wild World	Mr Big	The chronic
10) Nothing But	Dr Dre	

Top 10 Albums

Artist	Album
1) Dr Dre	The Chronic
2) M People	Elegant Slumming
3) 4 Non Blondes	Bigger, Better Faster More
4) Inxs	Full Moon Dirty Hearts
5) Enigma	The Cross Of Changrs
6) John Cougar Mellencamp	Human Lalhees
7) Richard Mary	Paid Vacation
8) Chrisrea	Expresso Logic
9) U2	Replugged
10) Captain Hollywood Protect	Love Is Not Sex

Courtesy — SPIN

talent of Brit — originated virtual reality. Brosnan's back.

5. **LOOK WHOSE TALKING NOW:** (Comedy) — Starring John Travolta, Kirstie Alley. Series literally goes to dogs with man's best friends making their thoughts heard. Danny DeVito and Candice Bergen are the doggies.

6. **ON DEADLY GROUND:** (Action) — Starring Steven Seagal, Michel Caine. Alaskan oil-rig roughneck sides with Eskimos against cavalier company.

7. **THE GOOD SON:** (Comedy) — Starring Macaulay Cul