



The Demon Within

I've been wondering whether we, as a people, are gradually shedding all qualities that make us human – compassion, kindness, sense of right and wrong – or because of the all-pervasive reach of social media the ugliness from the darkest pits of our souls are now out in the open. Some days it becomes taxing to maintain faith in humanity; as news broke out of a 13-year-old being beaten to death, it was impossible. The perpetrators even recorded this – the video was being circulated on Facebook; I didn't have the stomach to watch it.

The majority of us are blaming law enforcement and the authorities, which is justified. But look within; we're all in on this. Every time you consider someone "less" than yourself – be it their age, gender, social standing, them deviating from what you consider "normative" – you become part of the problem. Hopefully, this holiday will be a time for introspection for all of us.

– Karim Waheed, Editor, SHOUT

THIS WEEK'S HORRORSCOPE

ARIES

When you trust people, they will get dirt and water over everything that's important.



TAURUS

You will feel inadequate when an old man flirts successfully with girls in your turf.



GEMINI

If you come into possession of a jar, it is your duty to keep a salamander in it.



CANCER

They took my bed. They took my life. I still have my dice and hourglass though.



LEO

Will the owner of a plastic ruler that says BATTERFLY please report to the parking lot?



VIRGO

If you use an empty box of chocolates as a pencil case it would be misleading.



LIBRA

Get your priorities straight this lucky Wednesday and you will get your newspaper.



SCORPIO

Would you rather have a very big shoe or a very big foot? Hint: think of the cyber bullies.



SAGITTARIUS

A mnemonic device is different from a demonic one but both are used in exams.



CAPRICORN

Who calls up someone after midnight to tell them they're a terrible person?



AQUARIUS

Capricorn called me after midnight to tell me what a terrible person I am! Wow.



PISCES

If you haven't been able to tell so far, this is the bit where I give myself good advice.



APP REVIEW

wattpad

CONNECT WITH STORIES

SALMA MOHAMMAD ALI

Platforms - Android, iOS

Size - 12.43 MB

Rating - 4/5

Wattpad is essentially a vast online library that is home to millions of books belonging to categories such as teen fiction, science fiction, mystery, thriller, horror, and interestingly enough, poetry and non-fiction as well. The app itself is free and so are all the books. They can be read online or added to your library after which they can be accessed when offline. Users may login using their Facebook/email account or make a Wattpad account. Furthermore it's a platform to share your own writing, free of cost, with a community of 40 million readers.

What makes Wattpad so interesting is the large variety of choices and the "discover" option that will help you pick a book of your choice, by category or author preference (authors are other Wattpad users) and the app also provides you with suggestions such as trending authors or popular

books in a particular category. Tapping on a book shows the book cover and blurb and if you're interested you can add it to your library. If you've added an incomplete book to your library you have the option of receiving notifications each time the author updates it or adds a new chapter. Users can also vote and comment with suggestions.

Since authors include a mix of professionals and amateurs, flaws such as bad grammar or typos are not uncommon. Also newly updated chapters often can't be accessed (to solve this problem just remove the book from your library and add it again). Nonetheless these can be overlooked because you're bound to find something to your taste. The options for changing background and font colours and size do make the reading experience easier.

Salma Mohammad Ali fears she is becoming a crazy cat lady and uses writing as a means to grasp on to sanity. Send her your views/hate/love at <https://www.facebook.com/salma.ali209>

MIXTAPE

Hendrix

The Cure
Purple Haze

Derek & the
Dominos
Little Wing

Summoner
1983 (A Merman I
Should Turn to Be)

Earth
Peace in Mississippi

All them Witches
Voodoo Chile