

OPEN WORLDS: A CURSE OR A BLESSING?



Now that 2015's over, I looked back at how the video game industry fared and the first thing that popped up into my mind was that a plethora of titles followed one trend that has been growing in popularity in recent times: open world. Love 'em

or hate 'em open world games are becoming more common nowadays. You'll get games filled to the brim with content like the Witcher 3 and Fallout 4 who make really efficient usage of their vast open worlds. On the other hand, you have games like Mad Max where vast swaths of land are just filler; terrain for you to merely traverse. The side activities on such mediocre open world games aren't that good either.

At the end of the day it comes down to what we, the gamers, want. Nowadays, games following linear level design are criticized. Developers should strive to have enough meat on the game's skeleton so that the experience doesn't feel stagnant.

– Shahrukh Ikhtear, Sub-editor, SHOUT

THIS WEEK'S HORRORSCOPE

ARIES

To be rich, start shearing yourself.



TAURUS

Never believe a matador, he lives because of you.



GEMINI

Gemini loves Gemini, but loves to date a Virgo.



CANCER

The more legs you have, the more you weigh.



LEO

Don't meow meow, SHOUT!!!



VIRGO

Why are your eyes still dry? CRY CRY CRY!



LIBRA

You are so light and pale; brighten the dark.



SCORPIO

You don't have wings so get back to your mate.



SAGITTARIUS

Hide your tiny little tail for this week.



CAPRICORN

Your DNA says you are SATAN.



AQUARIUS

Empty pitchers make the loudest noise.



PISCES

2016, 2017, 2018; these are the years you will remain single.



GADGET REVIEW

The Xiaomi Mi Band

RUMMAN R KALAM

As far as fitness bands/trackers go, shelling out 10k for one is not something I'd ever remotely consider. However, after getting a Xiaomi Mi4 and loving it so far I considered the Mi Band which came at a mere Tk. 1300 in the Gadget Gang 7 year end sale.

First off, the build quality is pretty good as things are kept simple with an elliptical tracking module that slips into the band snugly. With an IP67 rating, it should be pretty waterproof to the point where you can wash your hands with it or even take showers but let's not test our valuable gadgets that way. The biggest plus of the band is that after a day of keeping it on, you will barely feel it on your wrist. The charge lasting for 30 days is a blessing.

The Mi Band app is what you use to track your daily steps (goals) and sleep. I found the step-tracking to be somewhat inaccurate as it counted rickshaw rides as well. Good for cyclists, I guess? I didn't get the Mi band for being a glorified pedometer. The sleep tracking is where it's at. It automatically detects when you sleep and wake up pretty accurately. The alarm feature in the app wakes you up when you're in a light sleep cycle within half an hour before your alarm setting. The band vibrates along with your phone's alarm. Pretty nifty.

If you have a Xiaomi phone, you can use the smart unlock feature to have the

phone automatically unlock when you are wearing the band.

All in all, the Xiaomi Mi Band is a decent fitness tracker for its price and can help you with sleep. Anything for good sleep, man.



MIXTAPE

CYBERPUNK

Trevor Something

Summer Love

Fujiya & Miyagi

Uh

VHS Glitch

Blood in Blood Out

Apparat

Holdon

Lorn

Sega Sunset

Timecop1983

Dreams