

Life of a forgetful person

MYAT MOE KHAING

A large portion of my childhood was spent wondering how two Bollywood characters, who had just fallen in love, instantly synchronise dance steps and lyrics. My real life was never even close to such movies. Ask me what I ate last night and my face will be as empty as an intern's bank balance. Everything I will say now will be relatable to you if you too suffer from Vitamin B12 deficiency. At least that's what I tell myself when I forget to do my assignments.

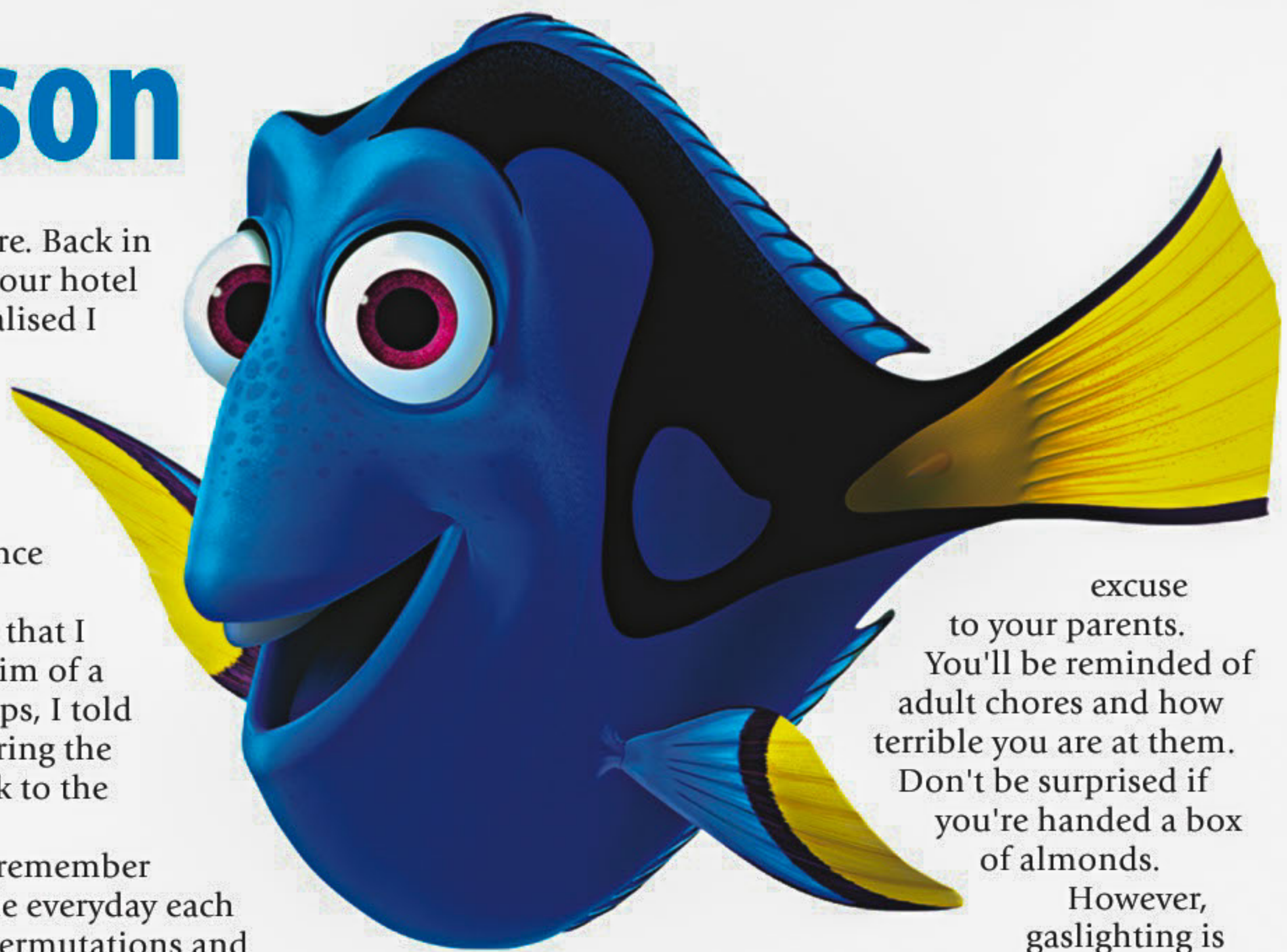
Many of us are geographically challenged. Regardless of how many times someone takes us to a place, we'll never be able to get there on our first attempt. Especially if it involves taking 5 turns, 3 U-turns, *paach tala* (lift er 4) on a road where all the buildings look pretty much the same. We are all doomed. We're often asked "You'll be able to find this place the next time, right?". You cannot say no because you've just been shown the location. I get into super shops and lose my mom as I lose track of alleys. No wonder, my name was announced in a fair from the lost kids announcement booth when I was 5.

Remembering details becomes harder if it involves an array of tasks. Imagine realising that you lost your passport three days prior to visa applications. Once you finally get one, you end up in the embassy instead of the VFS because your friends thought you'd at least remember last year's procedures.

My experiences don't end here. Back in January, I wanted to go back to our hotel in Athens to sleep. Because I realised I am an adult and should be able to take care of myself in a foreign land, I started to walk alone. I passed street after street in hope of finding a yellow building with red lights. Once I realised I was probably lost, I decided to still act confident so that I don't become the potential victim of a mugging. Thanks to Google Maps, I told my friends that I was just exploring the neighbourhood when I got back to the hotel.

The toughest challenge is to remember names. We meet so many people everyday each with names that are results of permutations and combinations which our brains can't decipher. A name as simple as Miraz can become Mizan or Nibras. Remember, silence is better than calling out the wrong name, only if you care about how the other person feels.

Forgetful acts are deemed as results of our irresponsibility. However, my excuse is that I am an escapist. I love rickshaw rides. I automatically stop responding to the person sitting next to me when I am on a commute. I choose to ignore everything that happens around including the colours of buildings. Don't show this



excuse to your parents. You'll be reminded of adult chores and how terrible you are at them. Don't be surprised if you're handed a box of almonds.

However, gaslighting is real. It is a manipulative attempt of one person to make others doubt their memory. Make sure you understand the lines of accusations. Retaining memory is a skill. It helps you in exams and saves your relations. Even if you don't have it, make the best memories out of your life.

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WOES OF THE FOUR EYED

Problems people using spectacles go through everyday

NAZIFA RAIDAH

Although wearing glasses provide us—the visually impaired—a clearer sight of the world, it comes at a trade-off of struggles that only people who have to wear glasses understand. Here's a few reasons for everyone to truly understand and empathise why wearing glasses is quite often a bummer.

It's a foggy situation

You had a rough day and you want to relax and enjoy your coffee at peace. You take a sip and your entire world turns blurry. To top it all off, if you're a klutz like me, you'll probably burn your tongue while you're at it too. Imagine how annoying it gets when that happens at every sip of coffee. There is a constant need of cleaning glasses every hour with the change in climatic conditions, especially when you get out of an air-conditioned room. Can't chill at peace can you?

"Honey, where are my glasses?"

I have stopped keeping count of the amount of times I have turned my room upside down looking for my glasses. It doesn't matter if you carefully placed it somewhere, your glasses will travel to another dimension and hide till you've given up all hopes just to find them placed carefully at the place you were sure you put them, or even worse, you find them placed carefully on the top of your head.



When it rains

Yeah the rain's lovely and all but you can't help but feel the dread, when you realise your glasses are going to look like wet car windows leaving stubborn water stains on your glasses.

Becoming a clean freak

You just cleaned your glasses and put

them on carefully to avoid smudges and exactly 10 minutes later you notice blurry lines on your glasses. How'd they get there? One of those divine mysteries I suppose. You'd slowly notice your transition of becoming a clean freak when you realise how much that little smudge or speck of dust on the rims and corners of

your glasses bug you. Let's also keep in mind that you can't clean spectacles the with any cloth, it has to be cotton or any other smooth fabric. And the next thing you realize, you have a cleaning kit ready just for your glasses.

The struggle of lying down

Tired of sitting upright while reading a book or watching a movie so you want to cozy up a little, and lie down? Unfortunately if you're four eyed, that's not happening for you as your glasses will simply move up from the position of your eyes leaving you feeling extremely uncomfortable. Worst case scenario, if you're not careful you'll end up breaking them as well.

Physical Activity

Its unimaginably difficult performing any physical activity while wearing glasses because you run the risk of losing or breaking them. But even if you manage to not lose them somehow, the spectacles will slowly droop down from your face because of the sweat. How convenient.

Well at least all this comes at a cost of clearer vision and looking smart. Right? Right, guys? Please tell me I'm right. Please. Please send help.

Nazifa Raidah is a paranoid teen who tries to dealing with her problems through food and memes but fails miserably. Send her life advice, music & movie suggestions at nazifa45678@gmail.com