



Book Gang

The new online book store in town

FARISA KHAN

A person's best company is books. Even in today's world filled with tabs, kindles and smart phones, nothing can beat the magic of a real book in your hands. The scent coming from the pages of a new book is incomparable to anything. To cater to the needs of book lovers, a new page has entered the scene, Book GanG. The page seeks to deliver the latest books, biographies, and novels. They have a varied collection of books including Harry Potter's 20th anniversary edition, Paulo Coelho's works, Game of Thrones series, Anthony Doerr's Memory Wall, About Grace, The Epic City: The World on the Streets of Kolkata, Audacity and many more. One can also get original comics from UK publishers and children's books.

The creator of the page is Sazzad Hossain who is currently finishing his BBA. He started the online book shop about two months ago. He was inspired by the fact that the type of books he looks for are not sold by any other book vendor in the country and he wanted to address the problem.

One of the major concerns for potential buyers is the price of the books being sold since they are imported. On this issue Sazzad replied, "We import our books from India and UK and we do it by ourselves. Yes, we are trying to sell our books at a reasonable price as we want bookworms to buy more books."

Book shops are a quintessential part of people who love to read. When asked if Book GanG will ever have an actual shop, Sazzad said, "We would like to open a shop within a few months because the response is quite good. People love this page as we are able to deliver their desired books and answer any queries regarding our products. We want to open this bookstore in Bangladesh so that people can enjoy latest books in no time."

Only bookworms know the joy of getting a new book for the first time in their hands. Books give you an escape from reality, even if it's only for a while. Book GanG is definitely a great way for readers to get lost in their favourite worlds.

Find them on Facebook: fb.com/bookgang07

A collection tinged with variety

SHAH TAZRIAN ASHRAFI

While I believe a sole authored novel regardless of being driven with one plot or a collection of short stories can be appealing to the readers, I also believe that a multi authored anthology deserves a space for itself in every reader's shelf. A collection compiled by various authors allows a reader to delve deeper into the meaning of each story while not getting bored of a monotonous stretch.

Disconnect is an anthology comprised of 20 short stories, edited by Aadiyat Ahmad, Kazi Akib Bin Asad, Rumman R Kalam, and Zoheb Mashiur. It is anthologies like Disconnect that create scopes for the emerging writers to have breakthrough. With the unfading vision of encouraging the young writers to express their creative way with words, the collection will hopefully draw an audience upon its launch in the coming weeks.

The various short fiction genres ranging from sci-fi to mystery to memoir blended with light humour, happiness, and sadness are as eloquent as they are mind boggling. The stories were threaded with out of the box intricacies that had me racking my brain. There were stories like 'password 123' which made me all excited to make it to the ending where the curtains of the mysteries were unveiled. From the mystery walking up to the character to the shocking conclusion, I followed every trail blended with thrilling progressions as I anticipated for the final revelation. There were stories like 'Flagstaff' and 'Glaciers in the Sky' which made me think about the fictional companions creating their own dimensions, detaching one person from the rest of the world for a while. And there were some stories (particularly 'Nearsight') that made me feel for friendship, family, and time.

As for 'Nearsight', I could relate to the looming presence of writer's block and the raw helplessness of detaching oneself from friends and family to put something on paper out of a blocked gaze. It was the balance between investing time in relationships according to one's comfort while being under pressure that stood as the strength of this story.

Also, there were sci-fi stories like 'They Want to See the World Burn' and 'The Helios Archives' that glorified emancipation and fair treatment. As for 'The Helios Archives', it



was a story I liked because of how with its literary devices, it emphasised on the risks of artificial intelligence taking over freedom of speech, revealing the well built character and humanity's fate as the story progressed, and this is where the hammer of the story strikes.

After devouring the stories here, it dawned on me that multi authored anthologies act as an

omnibus filled to the brim with diverse ideas, morals, genres, and insights sprawled before one. All in all, this is going to be my go-to book for existing in different storylines of different genres with an invisible eye.

To know more about the anthology, visit their Facebook page

fb.com/disconnect.fiction