

Podcasts: The new radio?

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Content is changing, along with the way we consume it. Traditional radio was slowly replaced by satellite radio, and the next step in the transition is the podcast.

Podcasts are generally audio/video files available for users to listen online, or download. The true beauty of podcasts, however, is the diversity of content; there's something for everyone.

That is why I made a list of a variety of podcasts to help get you started.

STUFF YOU SHOULD KNOW

Ever feel like you're just not as aware of certain things as your friends? Maybe you hear a few buzzwords being thrown around in random conversations with your co-workers, but you have no idea what they're on about. The Stuff You Should Know podcasts may not help you become knowledgeable about the exact topic you need, but what it can guarantee is that you're left more learned on a variety of topics after each episode. From explaining how galaxies work all the way to discussing the Loch Ness monster, the hosts do their best to keep you entertained throughout the full duration of the show.

MYTHS AND LEGENDS

Are you fascinated by historical myths and legends? Do you scour the internet for more myths to quench your thirst for the mystical? Well, the Myths and Legends podcast is here to fill your need. The podcast focuses on the history of the myths along with the stories that encapsulate them. Discussing the stories of King Arthur to the Vikings and Norse mythology, there's no myth under the sun that this podcast doesn't try to cover.

GIANT BOMBCAST

Whether you're a hardcore gamer or even just a fan of certain franchises, the Giant Bombcast podcast is aimed at catering to your needs. The weekly podcast discusses games played over the weekend by the hosts, as well as



news on recently released games and general industry related news. If there's anything related to gaming that you're looking for, you're sure to find it in this podcast.

FOOTBALL WEEKLY by THE GUARDIAN

As a fan of football, there really isn't much to keep you busy once the gameweek is over. Thankfully, the Football Weekly podcast by The Guardian is here to keep you company. The show usually lasts around an hour, and the topics discussed are anything from transfer rumours to match analysis. If you're not happy with just the pre and post-match analysis, then this podcast is the one for you. There are already 375 episodes available, so you better get started now.

GRAMMAR GIRL: QUICK AND DIRTY TIPS FOR BETTER WRITING

Unlike all the other podcasts on the list, the Grammar Girl podcast is much shorter in length. If you're someone struggling with your writing ability, whether you want to become a writer or just need some help improving the quality of your assignments, this podcast gives out quick tips for you to help improve. There are over 673 episodes in the bank for you to catch up on, and I'd highly recommend it if you're looking to get into writing more seriously. **Honourable mentions:** Binge Mode (Game of Thrones-themed, yes); The Football Ramble; This Week in Tech; and Up and Vanished (crime show).

Why Riverdale should be cancelled

SUBAITA FAIROOZ

Disclaimer: This article contains spoilers.

I used to love *Riverdale* once. But now, I am a very disappointed fan. The show had something unique about it that we had not been exposed to before. Sure, *13 Reasons Why* and *Gossip Girl* also had the same premise of high schools, jocks, and cheerleaders, but their approaches were vastly different.

Riverdale used to be this breath of fresh air that we could turn to for a real as life reenactment of our beloved Archie comics characters. It knew what it was throughout the first season: a teen drama with a sprinkle of mystery and a dash of craziness. The characters were well thought out. They had quirks, they had a reason to exist, and even as they piled on one supporting actor after another, the core cast of the four lead actors was rock hard and the chemistry between them was palpable.

If I sat down to write about all that was good, there would be tons to write about because it was a show that really was enjoyable at a point in time. Then came seasons two and three and as the show runners began to forget what the series was really about, I began to lose touch with the reasons why I loved the show.



Season two started out strong with the introduction of the menacing "Black Hood". Then it brought in the character of Chic and all other subsequent mishaps that befell the mother-daughter duo of Alice and Betty had an agonisingly poor execution. On the other side of the small town, Archie struggled with his loyalty towards his girlfriend's father, and his friends and family, which frankly should

not have been a topic of discussion since Hiram Lodge is a convicted criminal, but I guess love does make one blind.

Let's not even go into all the other subplots throughout the show, but that brings me to my second point: there is no one true plot to focus on. It starts off with the Black Hood and then diverges so extensively that the whole mess spills out into season three. The most horrid part of sea-

son three had to be the storyline of Archie; take him out of the picture, like pluck him right out of *Riverdale*, and it would not make any difference whatsoever to whatever is happening in the town. Perhaps, they should have done just that—an Archie spinoff on how he fought off and escaped from a bear, and maybe he would have also won an Emmy, who knows?

Just like season two, this new season has far too many things happening at once. They want to bring in supernatural elements, mystery, romance, and forceful character arcs, and so at the end of the day, they have more mess to resolve than resolved messes. The biggest question for me personally, how did Veronica, who was so crazy for Archie that she literally helped mastermind a jailbreak for him, move on without so much of an episode showing her shedding tears from him? I mean, kudos to her for being so strong but it really begs the question—were they even in love?

And it is questions like these that keep me awake at night while I have exams to study for.

Subaita likes cats and dogs and everything that hops. Send her your favourite animal pictures at subaita.fairooz@gmail.com