

EDITORIAL

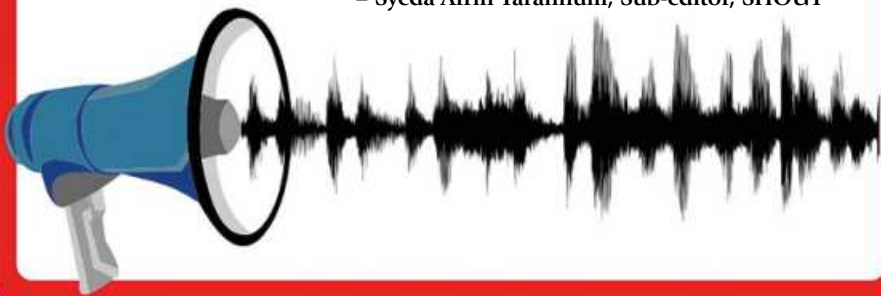
As I grow older, the idea of a new year somehow becomes more and more daunting to me. Maybe it's because the year has come to an end before I am done with all the things I promised myself I'd do.

The unfinished checklists and stacks of books (that I have spent a good part of my paycheck on) left unread sneer at me as I contemplated new plans and reading lists. I should know better than this, but somehow, I eventually stand at this point every year, in utter dismay of how fast it all went by.

This year, I've decided to give myself more credit. For pulling off some things I never knew I could, for accepting wounds I knew were coming my way and for losses I never wished I would have to experience. I believe I deserve credit for just making it this year. And so do you. A year where normalcy was constantly changing shape, we managed to make it through.

That is reason enough to celebrate. So take some time, and appreciate yourself and all that you do this New Year's Eve. Have a safe and happy new year!

– Syeda Afrin Tarannum, Sub-editor, SHOUT



PLAYWATCH

TV SERIES



SHOUT SELECTS TV shows that made an impact

RAYA MEHNAZ

As 2021 comes to an end, it is finally time for the year-end recommendation list for TV shows that had an impact on us at SHOUT. We asked our writers about the shows that made them laugh, cry or stare at the ceiling for some time, and they happily obliged.

So, here are our top picks, curated with love for our readers.

ALRAWABI SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

"A Jordanian masterpiece that is more than any regular teen drama, especially considering its top-notch cinematography, bleak storyline that is so heavy that it left me in awe. The way it showed how horrific bullying is and why revenge leads to terrible consequences is frighteningly accurate."

ARCANE

"Arcane redefined what a video game to TV show adaptation can look like with its utmost attention to detail, stellar animation and an iconic score from Riot Games. With relatable character intros and their bone-chilling yet awe-inspiring journeys, Arcane should now be a staple for what animation and storytelling can do."

MIDNIGHT MASS

"Mike Flanagan's latest Netflix original successfully combines elements of religion and mythology in such a poetic manner in a contemporary setting. The miniseries will leave you reflecting on your sense of faith and your ties to your own community and make you invested in this miniseries both emotionally and spiritually."

TED LASSO

"Ted Lasso delves into how a football team is managed behind the scenes, and

how crucial the role of a coach is in the team. It also illustrates how personal relationships, like the mentor-student relationship, are so crucial to their eventual success. Absolutely light-hearted, and recommended for anyone willing to learn a thing or two about man management."

QUEEN'S GAMBIT

"A greatly constructed mini-series regarding chess that got me hooked into the finer details of chess. Recommended for anyone looking for some ready-made entertainment, especially to chess lovers who want a bit of dramatic twist."

ONLY MURDERS IN THE BUILDING

"This show is an absolute treat for murder-mystery fanatics like myself, especially with its storybook style narrative elements, exploration of loneliness and unique sense of humour. The awkward and amusing trio of Martin Short, Steve Martin and Selena Gomez will awaken the amateur sleuth in every viewer as they start a podcast documenting the mystery they are trying to solve."

VINCENZO

"Vincenzo strays from a typical anti-hero concept. He did not rely on his traumas, but admitted his wrongs and stayed like that. The show opened up paths for his character to evolve in other ways, which I loved. Overall, a good show."

MIDNIGHT DINER

"Midnight Diner tells the story of a diner that is only open from midnight to dawn. It is a Japanese show that is, frankly, a healing balm to the soul. Whenever I needed solace from life, I watched this show and imagined a place like the diner, where I would find a warm bowl of butter rice and kindred spirits waiting for me."



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