

The
Mira Press



THE MIRA PRESS

BY STUDENTS
FOR STUDENTS

BAZINGAAA!!!!

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We all have our favorite shows- the ones we watch for comfort, the ones we watch when we need a character to relate to, the ones we watch for that sweet escape from reality, where the show just runs us over and tramples our hearts. We all love sitcoms, and we all love talking about our favorite sitcoms- the characters, the plot, the costumes, you name it.

Thus, in these trying and despairing times, we bring you our newest volume of the year 2021- Bazzingaaa!!! - to cheer you up and add some joy into your lives, to get you talking about the things you love! This month's theme is all about Sitcoms and we hope you all enjoy the incredible work people have put forward.

-FROM THE EDITORS' DESK

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INTRODUCTION TO SITCOMS

Human beings are peculiar creatures. The majority of every "type" of humans took about 2-3 million years to evolve a single trait into their genetics (the stone tools that the Homo Erectus used did not change for 2 million years!), but then came around the Homo Sapiens who adapted at unprecedented rates. Hohlenstein-Stadel produced the Löwenmensch (Lion-man) figurine which dated back to prehistoric times. This ivory sculpture was the oldest of its kind and proved one thing; Sapiens had the gift of telling stories, something which no other human being had. The Neanderthal human could say, "A lion is coming!" but only Sapiens became the ones to say, "A lion, which is half human as well, is the protector of our tribe."

We took this ability to unimaginable heights and created a plethora of art through it. Everything that man made, is making, or will ever make comes with a story, be it true or false. It all started with being able to draw on cave walls the mighty beasts we encountered and now it has come to displaying moving pictures on an 8-inch box or a 46-inch window. This gift of telling stories can make man laugh, cry and yell. The sheer enchantment of it all!

Our parents enjoyed this as a rarity, sitting together on Sundays, before a television, watching Mahabharat, Ramayana, Nukkad, Phool Khile Gulshan Gulshan and Chhaya Geet. We grew up with F.R.I.E.N.D.S, Brooklyn 99, Grey's Anatomy, How I Met Your Mother and Modern Family. The joy it brought us and brings us till today is immeasurable. Many of us found a home and a heart in such sitcoms. Some of us adopted Monica's personality, some of us wanted to be as fierce as Rosa and many of us wished we had what Robin and Ted had.

Of course, there are two sides to a coin. There are downsides to so many of the sitcoms we watch- Barney was a player, Chandler's femininity was branded as "gay", Scully and Michael were fat-shamed repeatedly. Moreover, the binge-watch culture does more harm than good. But let's not deny the joy such sitcoms gave us, becoming an integral part of our lives growing up, colouring our lives even today, especially in the times of COVID-19. This edition of the Mira Press Journal is a tribute to these episodes of happiness and this tribute is coloured by you.

Alright, now I need to go binge-watch Modern Family again. Bye.

-Harleen Kaur Grewal



IT'S SHOWTIME

Atypical

It is a brilliant show with excellent writing, very amazingly convincing acting and shares a story I believe everyone needs to hear. It is a show for both parents and kids. The part of this show that grabs people's attention is the main character: Sam, a boy on the autism spectrum who is learning to become more independent in his teenage phase. Sometimes, we don't realise that things that are extremely easy for us may be difficult for someone else. Atypical makes you people on the spectrum. We often judge or make fun of people who are different from us without knowing how hard it must be for them.

he show also lets people know that there are so many dealing with their own problems in their lives and even though every single character has their own chaotic life, they still care about their loved ones and are willing to understand them.

-Joelin Johnson Lalzare

TYBA





Modern Family

The most important part of everyone's life is and should be their family but it doesn't stop just there, understanding the members of your family is important and yet the hardest task. Sometimes we're so worried about being understood that we forget to understand. 'Modern Family' is an American mockumentary family sitcom television series. It ran for eleven seasons but it will stay in my heart for now and forevermore. It is a show for both parents and young teens.

This is an ensemble comedy that offers a relatable and laughably honest portrayal of a contemporary family. Modern Family follows three different sorts of families (nuclear, blended, and same-sex) who are linked by Jay Pritchett and his children, Claire and Mitchell. 'Modern Family' brings home the idea that no family is perfect but you love them anyway. There will always be disagreements between one another but in the end, what matters the most is that you get past those differences and be there when your family needs you.

- Joelin Johnson
TYBA



COULD THAT BEEEEEE MORE RELATABLE?



'Hannah Montana' is a show that has helped almost all of Gen Z to develop their sense of humour. It is a great show because it's funny and super relatable. If you have something to hide that you don't want anyone to know, you can totally relate to Miley. I love her because my friends say my voice is like hers and I loved vibing to 'The best of both worlds'.

Now as I go back to the famous hook line, "we didn't realize we were making memories; we just knew we were having fun." It hits me right where it should.

-Gayathri Nair
TYBA



How I Met Your Mother

The character I relate to the most is Ted Mosby from 'How I Met Your Mother'. He is a guy who doesn't bail on his friends and promises to be with them when they are in need, at any time, putting himself behind for other's happiness.

Also, I feel so connected because he is a hopeless, romantic person and somehow, I feel the same.

-Olivia Fernandes

TYBA



ARTWORK



- Yogita Melwani
TYBCA

18 Pages Front and Back!!

To,
Det. Jacob Peralta; Amazing detective/genius.
99th precinct, Brooklyn.

Hello good sir,
I hope you're doing awesome today. (We both know that's the correct spelling, don't we?). Today I would like to write a short letter to you. Receiving this may come as a shock to you, but believe me, there isn't a single thing I would do other than write an amazing and a toit letter to you.

First off, I think you're the best detective NYPD has ever had (no doubt, no doubt, no doubt) and of course the noicest too. It's almost unbelievable, how well-good of a detective you are. I mean, you do your job so perfectly. Perfecter than perfectly! I love how you laugh in the face of adversity!!



Secondly, I want to let you know that I look up to you whenever I find myself in a situation that I know will be tough for me to face. To quote you, "Jake the hero, abs of steel, sha la la la!" Because you indeed are a hero, who has abs of steel (from all that workout with Terry and confusing your heart rate with the calories you burned!) But yes, you are a superhero. You've made me realize how beautiful life is and how beautiful even the tiniest things are and how nothing is impossible. You've made me realize how essential humour is in everyday situations and how we can make our worries lighter or almost disappear, just by adding a little bit of humour and of course, pizzazz. Thanks to you, I now get at least 20% less ashamed if I say "present ma'am" in a slightly different tone. You've completely changed my life!

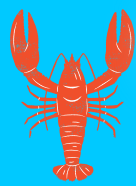
Okay, meep morp, jokes apart, you're the best (literally). By the way, how's the heist planning going on? Please tell me you're not getting Bill involved again because I know Charles will definitely cry over that and nobody wants him to cry!



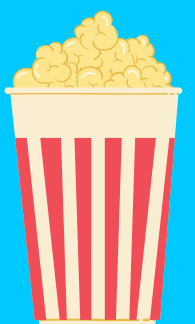
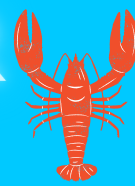
Might as well add that to your no-no list? Also, just a little heads-up, Cap'n Holt and Amy are probably well prepared and planned so you better hurry. Wow, just thinking about life at the nine-nine makes me so happy. I wish I could be a part of it one day! (TOYST)

Lastly, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for being YOU. You are the reason why I can deal with bad days and keep going. I'm so, so grateful for your existence as well as the existence of Brooklyn nine-nine because it gave me the strength and courage when I needed it! So, thank you, Mr. Noodle arms, and Mr. lady hands, for coming into my life and changing it forever, not joking this time. Cool, cool, cool, cool, cool, cool, cool. I'm sorry, I'm uncomfortable with emotions. Oh boy, here come the waterworks. Anyways, I'm gonna go cry in the bathroom. Peace out!

**Your biggest fan,
Priyanka Kalraiya.**



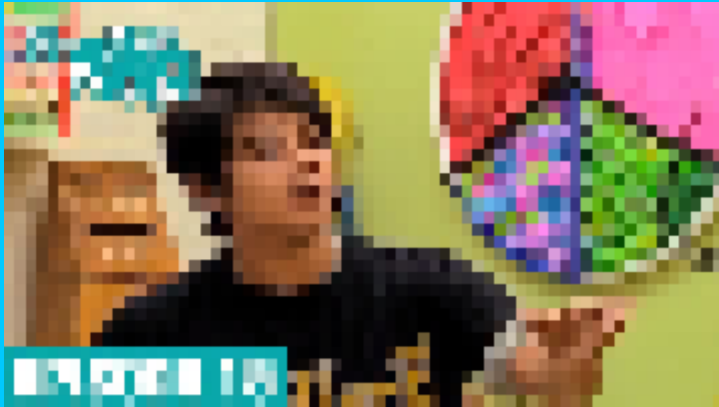
FIND YOUR LOBSTER



I	L	D	K	D	S	O	N	P	S	T	J	R	A
K	R	E	P	L	A	R	T	N	E	C	E	A	H
N	A	L	A	D	D	I	N	S	L	M	N	B	O
E	T	A	A	A	I	C	O	T	M	I	Y	V	I
P	C	T	A	A	S	R	O	E	L	M	L	A	E
E	A	I	H	H	D	R	R	D	A	O	K	J	L
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A	D	N	T	H	A	O	T	E	D	N	A	L	B
T	L	L	S	C	D	R	A	E	L	R	L	A	O

DAVID ROSE
 MANHATTAN
 THE OFFICE
 CENTRAL PERK
 MONICA
 BROOKLYN
 ALADDIN
 TED
 SHELDON
 JETHALAL

GUESS THE CHARACTERS???



Rohan from 'Best of Luck Nikki'
Vinnie from 'The Suite Life of Karan and Kabir'
Jetha Lal from 'Taarak Mehta ka Ooltah Chashmah'
Alex Russo from 'Wizards of Waverly Place'

Guess the sitcom???



Shake It Up
Alexa and Katie
Superstore
Suite Life Of Zack And Cody

"MONISHAAAA BETA SITCOMS BOLO YE COMEDY SERIAL IS TOO MIDDLE CLASS!"

The Indian Television Industry has been entertaining people for a long time. From black and white to coloured programs, there has been a drastic change in the presentation and content of the programs that have been broadcasted. The Indian sitcom has a huge range from the first sitcom, 'Yeh Jo Hai Zindagi' to 'Shrimaan Shrimati', 'Yes Boss', 'Office Office', 'Khichdi', 'Sarabhai V. Sarabhai' and the longest-running sitcom show of Indian television 'Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah' which we all love watching.

The Indian sitcom is highly influenced by the western world. The shows 'Hello Friends' from 'F.R.I.E.N.D.S', 'Sumit Sambhal Lega' from 'Everybody Loves Raymond', 'Comedy Nights with Kapil' from 'The Kumars at No. 42' are examples.

Indian sitcoms are entertaining and relax the mind better than the daily soap dramas of saas bahu.



-Kanishka
SYBA



THE PRIDE OF SITCOMS



When it comes to the representation of LGBTQ+ characters in sitcoms, it's safe to say we've come a long way. Over the years, the historically negative portrayal of the community has progressed, and we had groundbreaking shows pave the way for representation of the LGBTQ+ community on mainstream television. The LGBTQ+ community took a stand to increase representation and positive portrayal of queer characters in an attempt to increase tolerance among people. 20 years ago, it was easy to succumb to a trope or stereotype and categorize gay men as flamboyant and feminine, the opposite for lesbians. Bisexual and transgender characters were rarely ever represented, and if they were, bisexuals were 'sluts' and unstable in relationships. Queer characters were rarely ever leading or were there for comic relief. Queer people of colour were rare occurrences as well.

'Will and Grace' featured a gay male lead for the first time in sitcom history. Even though the characters sometimes made several homosexual or stereotypical jokes, it showed the world that there is more than one kind of gay, and helped people realize that anyone can be homosexual. It portrayed its gay characters as human and non-threatening, normalizing their existence.

There's no denying 'FRIENDS' was and still is beloved by millions across the world, but we can't ignore how Carol and Susan were only defined by their sexualities. There were several instances where 'FRIENDS' was stereotypical and reduced queer people to jokes. Although the show can be seen as a product of its time, the main characters were sometimes shown to be openly discomfited by the queer characters. We often saw Susan calling Ross out on his ignorance as well and when Rachel was going to hire a male nanny, comments were passed about his mannerisms, making him presumably gay.

‘Modern Family’ left its mark on the world. Portraying a gay couple in a stable family with a daughter took normalizing the community to another level. Their family was treated as an equal portion of the main titular family, with equal screen time and complex characterization. Cam and Mitch were portrayed as opposites of each other. Mitch was uptight and serious whereas Cam was dramatic and easy-going. They were portrayed as a regular family with real-life experiences and problems which increased the acceptance of the community.



'Brooklyn 99' is one of the most unproblematic shows in television history. The humour is never offensive, homophobic or discriminatory in any way. Captain Raymond Holt is a black gay lead and is held in the highest regard by his team. He is respected, and a realistic view of his past and struggles is portrayed on the show. Rosa Diaz is a badass bisexual who is one of the best detectives of the precinct. Both these characters are three-dimensional, well-written characters. Their sexuality is not their only defining characteristic and the show never stoops to any stereotypes.

'Schitt's Creek' is an iconic show and has had a strong impact on the LGBTQ+ community and the world. David Rose being pansexual is revolutionary, and his relationship with Patrick is completely normalized. In the show, they never received any hate and there were never any hints of negativity towards them. The general acceptance it portrays is refreshing. They aren't the 'side-couple' or the 'gay couple' but are the main characters everyone is rooting for.

As the world becomes more aware, the creation and writing of queer characters on sitcoms has changed with time. We still have a long way to go, but this is definitely a step in the right direction.

-Delna Anklesaria

ALWAYS AND FOREVER

“How you doin!?”

-Joey Tribbiani, F.R.I.E.N.D.S

Now, if you read that in Joey’s way, well that shows the great influence sitcoms have in our lives. The millennials don’t fail but adapt very quickly to the lifestyle depicted in sitcoms. Sitcoms portray love, anger, relationships and every human emotion in a desired way that our audience love to watch. Sitcoms have an integral part of human existence, now with the rise of OTT platforms it has become accessible to every mortal! But its impact on us is way more than American vogue and catchphrases.

The well-known sitcom, ‘The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel’ weighs mostly on female supremacy. Women are not only raised to get married and have a kid, but they could have a kid and a stand up!

“The world is full of disappointments, and sometimes people let you down. You can’t just run away.”

-Midge Maisel

However, the most path breaking view was Susan's and Carol's wedding ceremony, in 'FRIENDS', 'Modern Family' Cam and Mitchell, and many other couples stood their way out for the LGBTQIA+ community and supported them in all senses. While TV sitcoms today are still whitewashed, there is an increased level of awareness and inclusion of Blacks and other racial minorities such Asian-Americans. People of all colour and sexual preferences have been glorified in sitcoms, then why not in reality?

Although one cannot contradict that it has definitely enhanced our fondness for friends and even partners. Our expectations are far more than reality! American sitcoms display the progressive social changes in attitude and culture. They reveal how America has become more accepting and is involving minority groups. TV sitcoms are mirrors into our society. The civilization and society in which we dwell, yet has a long way to go and much room for improvement. The expectations are altering and the masses are changing their view points. But the question is: Do sitcoms always portray what is right? Well, who are we to judge?

I'm off to rewatch Jake and Amy's proposal....tissues please!!

-Rinita Adhikary

I WANT IT THAT WAY!

Question. In an ideal sense, what would one think of sitcoms? Are they boring? Unexciting? False! Let me be the one to tell you how sitcoms play one of the most exciting roles in all of our lives and bring so much happiness that cannot be measured! (Dwight Schrute will be proud.)

Sitcom, which is an abbreviation for "situation comedy", is a genre of comedy centred on a fixed set of characters who mostly carry over from episode to episode. All of us have, at some point, devoted a good fraction of our time to watching these. What is it about these sitcoms that make a viewer always come back for more? Or let me put my question differently. Why should we even indulge in watching sitcoms in the first place?

Sitcoms take us into a world full of happiness and laughter, a world that is entirely free of worries and troubles. No matter how stressful our lives are, just a few minutes of watching our favourite sitcom can elevate our mood and make us feel so happy, it's almost magical. Sitcoms also often give us a feeling of relatability where we identify with a character (who often becomes our "comfort character"). They allow us to relate to the characters as if they are people we know.



In doing so, we may have a sense that we relate to them directly or through other characters we identify within the story. Jake from 'Brooklyn nine-nine', Michael from 'The Office', Chandler from 'Friends' and so many more people are the comfort characters for so many of us! What's more satisfying than being able to understand regular and monotonous situations with a sitcom reference? That's what I call pure magic.

It's brilliant how these shows can bring so much light into our lives. Just to check, I hope the one reading this is having a good time because I specifically requested it! (Captain Holt reference right here!)

Lastly, the pandemic has already caused a lot of trouble for us, so the least (and ironically, the most) that we can do is sit at our home and binge-watch our favourite shows. Now, I'm not superstitious, but I'm a little stitious. (So is Michael Scott!) So, to avoid this awful boredom that the pandemic has given us, I would highly recommend you hop onto a sitcom right away!
Aap convince ho gaye, ya mein aur bolu?



-Priyanka Kalraiya

BAZINGAAA TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Why did Penny move to Pasadena?

To become waitress

To become an actress

To go to community college

Marry Leonard



2. What did Joey not share with Emma?

Cookie

Marshmallow

Grape

Jelly



3. What did the squad do to distract Terry from his lieutenants' test?

Take him to the bar

Hand him a tough case

Conduct the Jimmy Jab games

Halloween Heist



4. What instrument does Ted steal for Robin?

Saxophone

Trumpet

French Horn

Tuba

5. What was Ross' son's name?

Sam

Ben

Max

Bob

BAZINGAAA TRIVIA QUIZ

6. Who went to the space station in The Big Bang Theory?

- Leonard
- Sheldon
- Rajesh
- Howard



7. What's Pam's favorite flavor of yogurt?

- Vanilla
- Strawberry
- Mixed berry

8. What does Kevin suggest Dwight put in his gun holster?

- Cell phone
- Banana
- Toy gun

9. Where does the show How I Met Your Mother take place?

- Manhattan
- Brooklyn
- San Francisco
- Chicago



10. Who was the runner up in second Jimmy Jab games?

- Jake
- Rosa
- Amy
- Hitchcock

**Winner of the Instagram
Trivia Night Quiz
RACHANA BHALERAO
TYBCOM**



BINGEWATCHER'S PARADISE

Some recommendations



Friends (duh)

The Mindy Project

Young Sheldon

2 broke girls

The Office

Modern Family

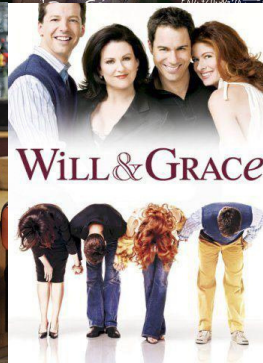
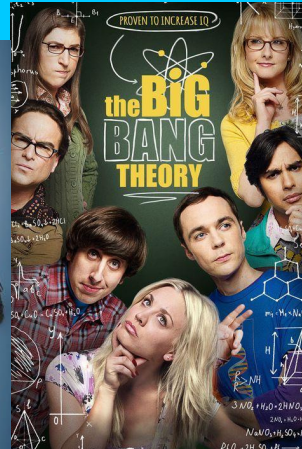
Brooklyn 99

Superstore

How I met your mother

Two and a half men

Wizards of Waverly places



Mom

Scream queens

That 70s show

Schitt's Creek

Man with a plan

Family guy

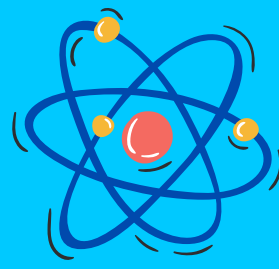
Atypical

New Girl

Happy Endings

Fleabag

Joey



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