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The Ortus

“DILEMMAS”

SUNCITY SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIA

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DEAR READERS,

If it feels like a trap, you're already in one. Life is a tapestry woven with choices, the ones that *seem* right and the ones that *are* right. The choices we make go on to define who we are. But it's not easy.

We, the students of Grade 10 International Academia, are delighted to bring to you this edition of *The Ortus*. We explore the theme 'Dilemmas' in this edition and we hope that this newsletter will give you an opportunity to reflect on the many dilemmas you may have in life and the significance of making a choice.

We believe this is a crucial theme, as dilemmas, in essence, are a test of one's morals, principles and character. Choice and rejection are two sides of the coin called 'Life' and the thin partition between these two sides is the space occupied by dilemmas.

As the editor-in-chief, I have faced a lot of dilemmas through this edition. Choices such as what to include, what to reject have tested me personally, as I have tried to give space to diverse voices. Therefore, it is my earnest hope that you accept this labour of love.

HAPPY READING!

- KAIRA MANCHANDA
(Editor- in- Chief)

Two Paths

*I'm stuck between two choices, you see,
And it's hard to know which way to be.
One path seems smart, the wise thing
to do,
But the other path calls, "This one's for
you!"*

*My head says, "Go left, that's the
sensible way."*

*My heart argues, "But right looks like
where my heart plays!"*

*Responsibility tugs me one way,
While temptation whispers, "Come out
and play."*

*The future's a mystery, consequences
unknown,
Whichever direction I decide to go on.
Doubts and questions keep me torn,
As I look at the fork in the road with
scorn.*

*Which voice should I listen to, which
path to take?*

*With every decision, more dilemmas
awake.*

*Stuck between two choices, feeling so
conflicted,
I just want an answer, clear and
unrestricted.*



CHOICES



It all about choices,
Failed ones and the ones that won't make it too.

It's about feelings that matter,
And the ones that you pretend don't affect you.

It's about ideas that fail,
And the ones that would make you -
unapologetically you.

It's about considerations that you should
consider,
And the ones you can't even change even
though you desperately want to.

It's about adjustments that you must adjust
with,
And the ones that maybe you would rue.

It's about dilemmas, that you can't process,
And the same dilemmas, that would change the
way you perceive you.

-TRISHAAN CHATURVEDI



The Things I Would Hate to Have



-Naisha Chawla

The things I would hate to have
are things I pine for earnestly,
because there is no better loathing to do
than in the tomb-remnant of departing love.
If I can love and lose,

I can choose what it is that i want in this life.
I want the right words to come to me
and I want to be a heart-breaking vessel
which breaks hearts and watches,
the shifting paradigms of solitude.

Nothing comes close
to the reviling revelling in misery
of a self-imbued sadist conspiring against this
world,
as if their words hold no meaning and their
kindness is treachery upended,
but treachery is treachery,
sharp-edged and conniving.
Be a cynic, a liar, a hater
Never be an optimist
with a reality so fictitious as their despair.

The truth to be rued,
is, at last
that i cannot be anyone else you would not
love.

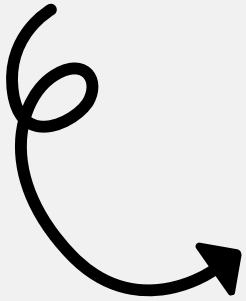
I cannot be unloved or unlovable
because in my amygdala of amygdalas
I know what I am, and to hide who I am
is to love what I will wish to hate.
To travel and cross the creases and troughs
of disengagement, dissociation,
and dismantling desperation to
hide, hide,
HIDE.

So, I can guide these sails
across all sales.
Even my innately perpetuated capitalism
could stop the craving of materialism.
What is leaving a faux fur drape behind
to someone leaving behind
integrity every marching second?

Labyrinth



lost in the labyrinth
of my mind

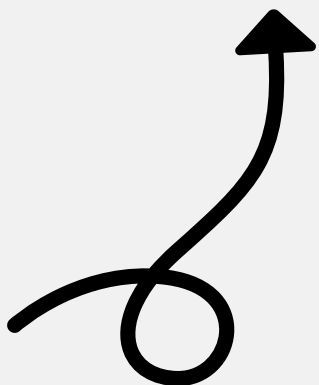


In the stillness of the night, a choice awaits,
A forked path where uncertainty dictates.
Between the whispers of heart and mind's
decree,
Lies the essence of dilemma, profound and free.

To grasp the fleeting dreams or hold onto reality's
shore,
Each option beckons with a promise, yet more.
Should we follow passion's fiery embrace,
Or tread the cautious path, in fear of disgrace?

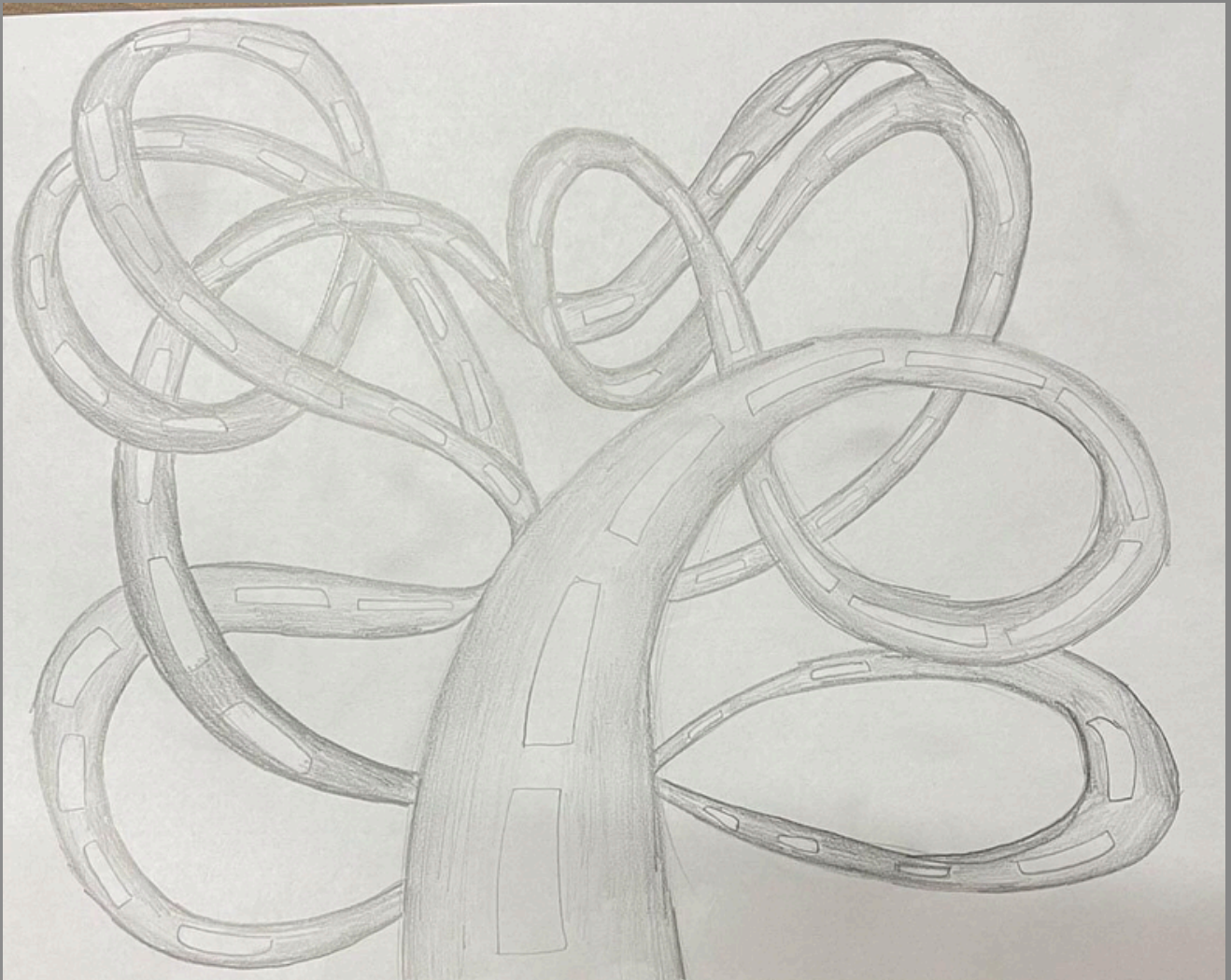
In the labyrinth of choices, we wander lost,
Betwixt desire's allure and reason's cost.
Oh, dilemma, thy tangled web we weave,
In search of solace, yet reluctant to leave.

Yet in this quandary, we find our strength,
For from adversity, courage extends its length.
So let us embrace the duality that binds,
And in the heart of dilemma, true purpose find.



The Tangled Trail...

IMPRESSIONS



-Vaanya Rai



The Euthanasia Dilemma

(Assisted by a Case Study)

Enter the ethical maze of euthanasia as I explore its multifaceted dimensions. From defining the concept to dissecting its legal and moral implications, join me in unravelling this contentious issue. Through probing questions and real-life case studies, navigate the complexities of life, death and human autonomy. Prepare to challenge preconceptions and ponder over the ultimate question: Is euthanasia a compassionate act of mercy or a moral minefield?

INTRODUCTION

You may have this question in your head as you read this: “What in the world even is ‘Euthanasia’?” Well, Euthanasia, pronounced somewhat like ‘youth in Asia’ (while having quite literally nothing to do with Asian kids), is the act of inducing painless death in individuals with physically debilitating diseases or painful and incurable conditions, or the practice of letting them pass away by not providing medical life-support or therapy. It is typically viewed as either murder (if carried out by someone other than the patient) or suicide (if carried out by the patient) because most legal systems do not specifically provide for it. Keeping this definition in mind is pivotal for fairly considering all standpoints to this dilemma.

THE ETHICS OF EUTHANASIA

Numerous excruciating moral conundrums are brought up by euthanasia:

1. When a patient is suffering greatly and has a fatal illness, is it ever appropriate to take their life?
2. if at all, under what situations is euthanasia acceptable?
3. is murdering someone morally different than allowing them to die?

The myriad perspectives on the purpose and value of human existence lie at the heart of the disagreements surrounding euthanasia. The topic of whether choices about life and death must be made exclusively by humans is at the centre of this discussion. While detractors warn against the possibility of abuse and unethical behaviour, supporters wrestle with ideas of personal liberty and alleviating pain in a caring manner. Concerns about protecting against abuse and preventing euthanasia from being used as a cover for murder, which are based on real-world difficulties, add to the complexity of the ethical issues. The danger of euthanasia being abused highlights the complex ethical puzzles that arise when making end-of-life decisions, even if some people think it is morally appropriate.



LAW AND JUSTICE

A LEGAL PERSPECTIVE

Suicide was regarded as a legitimate and even noble decision for people to make in many civilizations throughout history, and those who chose to take their own lives in this way were respected. Fewer people know that suicide was encouraged in Greece and Rome in the West, even if most people know that the Samurai in Japan saw it as a suitable way to regain lost honour. Two of the greatest thinkers of their times, Socrates and Seneca, both killed themselves at the behest of the government. Furthermore, a modern soldier who voluntarily gives his life in defence of his nation is effectively committing suicide to achieve a greater good. However, the use of suicide to end the lives of terminally sick people who want to stop their suffering and costs before their impending demise has been the subject of modern legal philosophy. Religious, philosophical and legal debates exist; for example, the Catholic Church views suicide and aiding suicide as grave crimes; while other organisations and people assert that a competent adult has the undeniable right to pursue their happiness. Countries where Euthanasia is legal include Colombia, Australia and the Netherlands, amongst others.



CASE STUDY: Brittany Maynard 2014

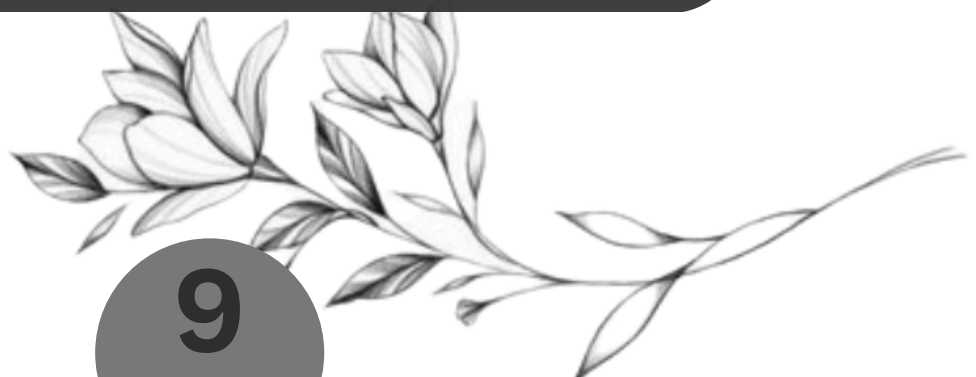
The Brittany Maynard case sparked a Science & Society Round Table at Duke University and prompted a thorough investigation of the moral dilemmas surrounding end-of-life decision-making. When Maynard decided to take her own life in accordance with Oregon's "Death with Dignity" statute, significant concerns over patient autonomy, doctor participation and social ramifications arose. Anita Swiman, a paramedic and Dr. Jennifer Hawkins provided commentary, raising issues regarding the line that separates alleviating pain from transgressing medical ethics and the possible social repercussions of such legislation. Swiman offered a pragmatic viewpoint, stressing the necessity of following legal procedures despite protests from family members. In order to contribute to the ongoing ethical conversation around physician-assisted suicide, the discussion highlighted the continued need for scientific investigation into the nature of suffering and the effects of "Death with Dignity" legislation.



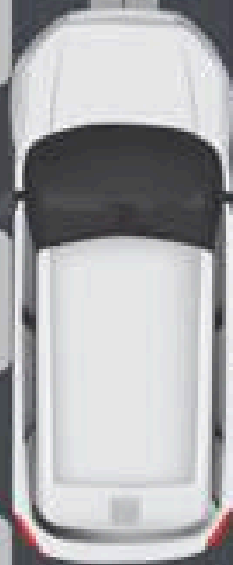
CONCLUSION

Euthanasia, in conclusion, raises significant moral and legal issues pertaining to autonomy, compassion, and the sanctity of life. The discussion covers a wide range of viewpoints and intricate issues, including moral dilemmas, legal frameworks and actual case studies like Brittany Maynard's. It becomes crucial to manage the fine line between public interests and individual rights as society struggles with these problems. The story of Brittany Maynard is a moving reminder of the moral difficulties that surround end-of-life choices. Going forward, promoting awareness and developing kind, knowledgeable responses to this difficult subject require constant discussion and ethical investigation. So what do you think? Is Euthanasia morally right? Or is it morally wrong? This multifaceted dilemma necessitates a comprehensive examination, considering its intricate intersections with medicine, law, ethics, and beyond.

-YUVRAJ ARORA



DILEMMAS



Movie Review:

DUNE

What a wild ride Denis Villeneuve took us on with his two-part adaptation of the classic sci-fi novel *Dune*! I was skeptical at first about splitting up the story, but I was truly blown away.

Dune (2021) just dropped you right into the deep end of this bizarre, dusty, almost medieval-feeling world of noble houses battling over some life-giving spice on the desert planet Arrakis. Timothée Chalamet was perfectly cast as the young messianic figure Paul Atreides, holding his own against heavyweights like Oscar Isaac, Josh Brolin and an unrecognizable Stellan Skarsgård.

Rebecca Ferguson was awe-inspiring as was his mother Jessica too. But the real stars were the jaw-dropping visuals Villeneuve crafted. Every gutting sandworm appearance, ornithopter flight or shield visualization was so richly imagined and utterly spine-tingling, especially with Hans Zimmer's booming score behind it. I loved all the intricate detailing in the scenes too, from the bathing rituals to those creepy noseplugs. You could get deliciously lost in all the minute details.

Luckily, *Dune: Part Two* (2023) definitely didn't disappoint. If *Part One* was about full immersion into this frank future's harshness and political machinations, *Part Two* went even deeper into exploring the tolls of Paul's cosmic hero's journey on a more intimate emotional level. Chalamet was like a man possessed this time as the doubts and sacrifices weighed heavier on Paul. And holy hell, those sandworm-riding battle scenes were like nothing I've ever witnessed before! Stuff of nightmares and magic at the same time. Austin Butler also really committed as the slimy villain Feyd-Rautha that you loved to hate. But amongst all the spectacle, Villeneuve kept the whole story grounded with resonant ideas about environmental destruction, colonialism and what it means to be a savior figure. He didn't flinch from any of the ugly implications of Paul's path either. Heady stuff, yet a fun, sumptuous watching experience overall. Villeneuve's *Dune* double-feature is a towering creative achievement that did right by the source material while putting its own stamp on the material. These two movies are musts for any true sci-fi fan seeking a transportive epic that'll stay with you long after. Loved getting lost in this crazy, sandy world!

-Arjun Mann and Keyur Kumar

The Art of Decision



-Aanya Kapoor



THOUGHTS ON DILEMMAS

Everyone goes through periods of time where they may need to choose the right path and make the right decision for a better and bright future.

• -Vaanya Rai IGCSE'25

Dilemmas are like crossroads where you get stuck between how your heart feels and what your mind thinks.

-Aanya Kapoor IBDP'26

To me, dilemmas are like walking tightropes in our minds, pulling us between choices, each with its own consequence. Sometimes, even leaving us feeling guilty as sin, haunted by the roads not taken and the what-ifs that linger.

-Yuvraj Arora IBDP'26

Dilemmas resemble a jigsaw puzzle, where the pieces don't always fit neatly together, mirroring the complexity of human relationships.

-Keyur Kumar IGCSE'25

"The most difficult thing is the decision to act, the rest is merely tenacity."
- Amelia Earhart

"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing."
- Theodore Roosevelt

"It is our choices that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities."
- J.K. Rowling

"Between two evils, I always pick the one I never tried before."
- Mae West

Quiche



recipe

Here is a classic recipe for quiche:

Quiche Lorraine

Ingredients:

- 1 pie crust (homemade or store-bought)
- 6 eggs
- 1 1/4 cups heavy cream or half and half
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp black pepper
- 1/4 tsp ground nutmeg
- 6 oz bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 1 cup shredded Swiss or Gruyere cheese



Instructions:

1. Pre-bake the pie crust according to package directions for a partially baked crust. Allow to cool slightly.
2. In a bowl, whisk together the eggs, cream/half and half, salt, pepper and nutmeg until fully combined.
3. Spread the crumbled bacon evenly over the bottom of the pie crust. Sprinkle the shredded cheese over the bacon.
4. Pour the egg mixture over the cheese and bacon.
5. Bake at 375°F for 35-40 minutes until the center is set and the top is lightly golden brown.
6. Allow to cool for 10 minutes before slicing and serving.

Some variations include adding sauteed onions, mushrooms, spinach or other fillings. The base of eggs, cream and cheese baked in a pie crust is classic quiche. Serve it warm or at room temperature.

Trivia

1. THE COLD WAR WAS PRIMARILY A CONFLICT BETWEEN WHICH TWO SUPERPOWERS?

- A. UNITED STATES AND CHINA
- B. UNITED STATES AND SOVIET UNION
- C. UNITED KINGDOM AND GERMANY
- D. UNITED STATES AND JAPAN



2. WHICH FAMOUS LITERARY WORK BEGINS WITH THE LINE, "IT WAS A BRIGHT COLD DAY IN APRIL, AND THE CLOCKS WERE STRIKING THIRTEEN?"

- A. ANNA KARENINA BY LEO TOLSTOY
- B. PRIDE AND PREJUDICE BY JANE AUSTEN
- C. 1984 BY GEORGE ORWELL
- D. CATCH 22 BY JOSEPH HELLER

3. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING FICTIONAL CHARACTERS SAID, "IT IS OUR CHOICES THAT SHOW WHAT WE TRULY ARE, FAR MORE THAN OUR ABILITIES?"

- A. ALBUS DUMBLEDORE
- B. GANDALF
- C. YODA
- D. ATTICUS FINCH



4. WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING IS A LONG-LASTING ANXIETY DISORDER IN WHICH A PERSON EXPERIENCES UNCONTROLLABLE AND RECURRING THOUGHTS AND/OR ENGAGES IN REPETITIVE BEHAVIOURS?

- A. BIPOLAR DISORDER
- B. OCD
- C. PHOBIA
- D. SCHIZOPHRENIA

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