

## Van Gogh and his love for English Literature

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Vincent William Van Gogh was a Dutch Post Impressionist painter. He is one of the most influential painters in the history of western art. In just over a decade, he created approximately 2100 artworks, including around 860 oil paintings. His work includes landscapes, still lifes, portraits and self by bold colors and dramatic brushwork. His works contributed to the rise of expressionism in modern art. He was very fond of English literature. He continued to read Dickens until his death. In his letters, he has mentioned over one hundred books by British authors. He was influenced by George Eliot's social realism reflected in her novel Middlemarch. Besides, he was an avid reader of Shakespeare. He mentioned Shakespeare in several letters written to his family. In fact, Van Gogh could speak English fluently besides French and his native tongue Dutch. His most acclaimed canvas painting is starry night. It depicts the view from the east

facing window of his asylum room at Saint-Remy-de-Provence, just before sunrise, with the addition of imaginary village. The Starry Night is the symbol of hope.

## I wish my village and Gauripur town would be filled with Neem trees

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Neem tree is one of the two species in the genus Azadirachta. Neem tree is native to the Indian subcontinent. Neem tree grows in tropical and sub tropical areas. Its fruits and seeds are the source of neem oil. Neem is a Hindustani noun derived from Sanskrit nimbi. Neem tree is a medicinal plant. Neem leaves are dried in India and placed in cupboards to prevent insects eating the clothes, and also in tins where rice and wheat is stored. The neem trees have been used in the traditional medicine of India for centuries. Even we have seen that the villages of Asharikandi, my native place, use neem leaves for treating skin troubles and rheumatism i.e

arthritis. Since neem trees purify air by removing pollutants and producing oxygen, therefore, I wish that let neem tree be planted on the dumping ground beside the bank of Gadadhar river.

## The Lincoln in the Bardo

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The 2017 Man Booker Prize was won by George Saunders for his polyphonic Lincoln in the Bardo. George Saunders is the author of nine books. The novel 'The Lincoln in the Bardo' set in 1862. It tells the story of Abraham Lincoln and the death of his young son Willie. The narrative unfolds in the bardo, a Tibetan Buddhist concept of the afterlife, where spirits linger and reflect on their past lives. Narrated in a series of monologues, the novel begins with the voice of Hans Vollman explaining how he died, though he won't admit he has actually passed away. The Lincoln in the Bardo is a novel based on the true story of the death of William Wallace who was named after the dead son of Abraham Lincoln. In 1862, Willie Lincoln died of typhoid fever at the age of 11. The novel opens in the

bardo, which is an intermediary state between life and the afterlife. Willie Lincoln materializes in the Bardo and is greeted by Hans Vollman—a deceased printer who was killed at the age of 46 by a falling support beam—and Roger Bevins III—a young man who took his life after being refused by a young man named Gilbert with whom Bevins was in love. In the Bardo, everyone that Willie meets is a person has died and been buried in the same cemetery as Willie. Though they are in the Bardo, they are able to view the cemetery around them. They also believe that they are not dead but merely sick. However, Vol Iman and Bevins encourage Willie to pass on to the next stage of the afterlife, as they know that the Bardo is a dangerous place for young people.

Editorial:

We are happy to publish a little magazine called IXORA. Ixora is a small trees that have leathery evergreen leaves. The Assamese name of IXORA flower is ‘rangan’ or ‘rogiyal’ and we come across the flower blooming everywhere in Gauripur and its surrounding areas. Ixora is said to be native to Asia whose name derives from an Indian deity Iswara. It stands for passion and energy. The departmental little magazine has been

named after Ixora with a view to giving thumps up to fortune and abundance. The little magazine aims at to discover the joy of learning. On the cover of this issue we have used Van Gogh’s canvas painting ‘The Starry Night’ which also stands for hope.

### Spring blooms

Tulika Dey  
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Rolln: 75

I look out  
Through the window  
As if I was starring at your eyes  
That blooms like a spring  
A butterfly flutters  
Onto your hair lock  
As it flutters on the petals of roses  
I gaze around  
And see you  
You bloom like  
Sesame flower on the other side of the  
bank

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## IXORA

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