



Eating the 'Yummy Chocolate'

Today is the true, definitive, purist 'World Chocolate Day,' so, celebrate with some of the high cocoa, rich, dark chocolate that makes you go tingly inside. World Chocolate Day is nothing short of a special tribute to mankind's greatest culinary invention. (Sorry Bread or even Pizza!) Chocolate can enhance and help to create the most luxurious desserts and can even be enjoyed and indulged on its own. We don't need to tell you what to do to celebrate this day, do we? Eat Chocolate! Also, you will find many bakeries, individuals, and candy stores joining in on the celebrations.

#ENVIRONMENT

Air Pollution Shorten Lives

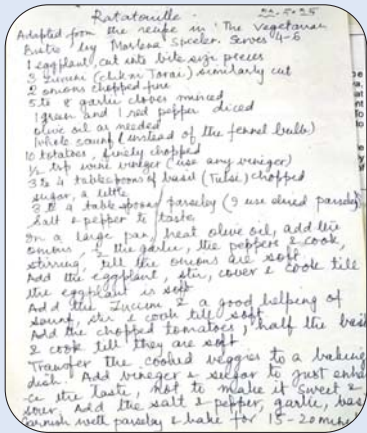
While smog seems like a difficult problem to tackle, some countries have proven that it's possible to clean up the air.



We can't always see the consequences of air pollution around us, but it's taking years off our lives. According to a new Air Quality Life Index report from the Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago (EPIU), air pollution is taking 2.2 years off the average global life expectancy. In some of the most polluted regions in the world, residents are expected to lose an average five years of their lives. In the past seven years, China has reduced air pollution as much as the United States has, in the past three decades. And since India's Gujarat state launched the world's first clean air market in 2019, they've been successful in cutting particulate pollution by at least 20%.



A Ratatouille Rendezvous at Jaipur Inn



It's a story narrated in first person by Takako, a young girl living and working in Tokyo. Her longtime boyfriend has decided to marry another girl at their common workplace. Heartbroken, and unable to face them daily, she quits her job. But with a rent to pay and other expenses, she is at a loss. Her mother arranges for her to go and stay with her uncle, Saturo, at his bookshop.

● Rita Nayyar and Pushpendra Bhargava

Reading and eating are the two basics of our lives, apart from sleeping. When brought together with a motley crowd, it can create magic and a dream well lived. It was my dream to have my wife, Reetika's mami, cook a French vegetarian dish at Cafe Jai, as well as read from a book of her choice. Even with both of us willing, it took years before this 'dream' actually materialised on June 22, 2025.

We worked on the invites together, but all the organisation was on the hosts, including Reetika. Finally, on the humid rainy evening, we were all there awaiting our guests.

Both of us were a little nervous, even though I, Pushpendra had organised several events. Rita, because she had never cooked the dish in such a large quantity.

We were all busy with last minute preparations, dealing with the demands in the kitchen, getting the evening tea organised, as Harish watched the match, and Vijay, the Nayyars' help and Jaipur Inn's Bahadur, helped us prepare the many vegetables required for the in-house version

of Ratatouille. We were so happy that all the many ingredients could be procured, and there was nothing missing.

And then, our guests arrived, all in time, and after introductions, we settled down soon for the reading session.


The book chosen was, 'My days at the Morisaki Bookshop,' written by Satoshi Yagisawa, translated from the Japanese by Eric Ozawa.

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She has not been in touch with her uncle as an adult, but has beautiful childhood memories with him. Four passages were read out to show how her uncle gently helps her to come out of her loneliness and dejection, and how after outright rejecting it at first, it's reading that finally brings her solace.

The reading was amazing, with the rapt attention of the listeners, even with some stumbling on the reader's part. Overall, it was an enjoyable experience for all. We had among our guests, Dr. Rekha

DAYS AT THE MORISAKI BOOKSHOP
BY SATOSHI YAGISAWA
BOOK READING BY RITA NAYYAR
22 JUNE 5-7 PM
JAIPUR INN



IN ADDITION TO THE BOOK READING, WE'LL BE SERVING THIS DELICIOUS FRENCH CLASSIC—RATATOUILLE—A TREAT FOR BOTH THE MIND AND THE PALATE.

#SUMMER DAYS



Our motley group
Standing L to R: Harish, Rohit, Shivani, Megha, Divij, Pushpendra, Alok
Sitting L to R: Reetika, Charu, Rita, Seema, Shivani, Rekha
On the floor: Jai

Mathur, who has been a professor in Kanodia college, who talked about her PhD thesis and her book,

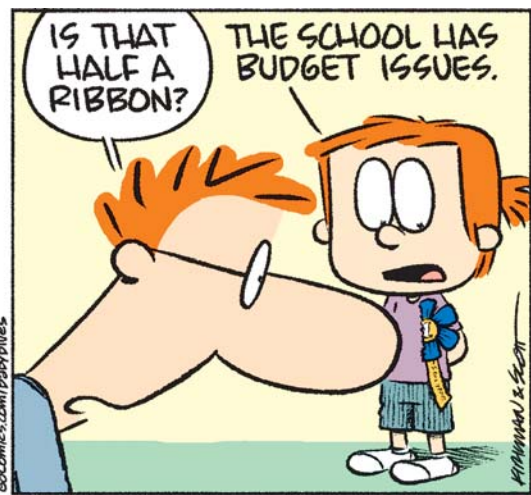
The reading was amazing, with the rapt attention of the listeners, even with some stumbling on the reader's part. Overall, it was an enjoyable experience for all. We had among our guests, Dr. Rekha Mathur, who has been a professor in Kanodia college, who talked about her PhD thesis and her book, 'Dhulichitra,' on the home and wall art done by women all over India, which goes by different names, 'Mandana,' 'Kollam,' 'Alpana' et al in different states. She told us interesting stories, one related to the Indian religious symbol 'satiya,' the Swastika, and

how it is created by the rotation of the constellation 'Sapta Rishi Mandal,' the Great Bear, and that

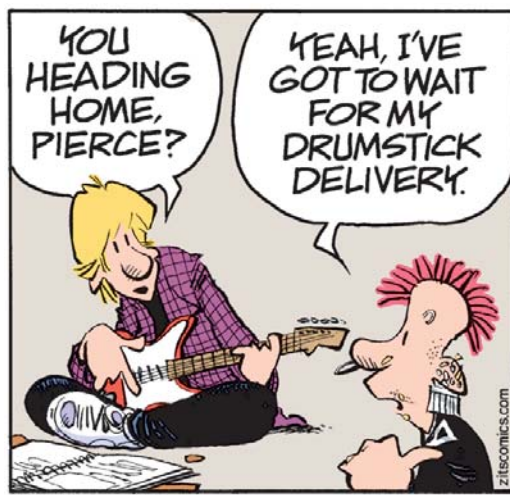


By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

BABY BLUES



ZITS



By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

THE WALL

