



Winnie the Pooh Day

Celebrating National Winnie the Pooh Day is way easier than it might seem. Dressing up as a bear, eating lots of honey, and watching favourite Pooh movies are all great options! Thanks to the sheer number of films, books, and TV adaptations, there are all kinds of ways to enjoy National Winnie the Pooh Day. In fact, there's so much content to consume, there's no way to get it all done in twenty-four hours. Grab a pot of 'hunny,' enjoy a game of Poohsticks, and revisit these beloved childhood stories about a bear and all his friends.

#MARTIAN LIFE

New evidence challenges ideas about Mars' past

A new study explores how variations in Mars' crustal thickness during its ancient history may have influenced the planet's magmatic evolution and hydrological systems.



Researchers have discovered new evidence for hidden water reservoirs and rare magmas on ancient Mars. Their new study explores how variations in Mars' crustal thickness during its ancient history may have influenced the planet's magmatic evolution and hydrological systems.

The study challenges the notion that granites are unique to Earth, demonstrating that Mars could also produce granitic magmas through radiogenic heating even without plate tectonics. These granites likely remain hidden beneath basaltic flows in the southern highlands, offering new insights into Martian geology. Additionally, the research highlights the possible formation of ancient groundwater systems in Mars' southern highlands, where high surface heat flux reduced the extent of permafrost and created stable subsurface aquifers. These reservoirs of water might have been periodically accessed by volcanic activity or impacts, resulting in episodic flooding events on the planet's surface.

The study, led by Rice University's Cin-Ty Lee, demonstrates that the southern highlands' thick crust, up to 80 kilometers in some areas, was not enough during the Noachian and early Hesperian periods (3-4 billion years ago), to undergo partial melting in the lower crust. This process, driven by radioactive heating, could have produced significant amounts of silicic magmas such as granites, and supported subsurface aquifers beneath a frozen surface layer. "Our findings indicate that Mars' crustal processes were far more dynamic than previously thought," says Lee, a professor of Geology and Environmental, and Planetary Sciences. "Not only could thick crust in the southern highlands have generated granitic magmas without plate tectonics, but it also created the thermal conditions for stable groundwater aquifers, reservoirs of liquid water, on a planet that we've often considered dry and frozen."

The research team, including Rice's professors Rajdeep Dasgupta and Kirsten Siebach, postdoctoral research associate Duncan Keller, graduate students Jackson Borchardt and Julin Zhang and Patrick McGovern of the Lunar and Planetary Institute, employed advanced thermal modeling to reconstruct the thermal state of Mars' crust during the Noachian and early Hesperian periods. By considering factors such as crustal thickness,



'The Darkling Thrush'

-Thomas Hardy

"I leant upon a coppice gate, When Frost was spectre-gray, And Winter's dregs made desolate, The weakening eye of day. The tangled bine-stems scored the sky, Like strings of broken lyres, And all mankind that haunted nigh, Had sought their household fires. The land's sharp features seemed to be, The Century's corpse outleant, His crypt the cloudy canopy, The wind his death-lament. The ancient pulse of germ and birth, Was shrunken hard and dry, And every spirit upon earth, Seemed fervourless as I. At once a voice arose among, The bleak twigs overhead, In a full-hearted evensong, Of joy illimited; An aged thrush, frail, gaunt, and small, In blast-beruffled plume, Had chosen thus to fling his soul, Upon the growing gloom. So little cause for carolings, Of such ecstatic sound, Was written on terrestrial things, Afar or nigh around, That I could think there trembled through, His happy good-night air, Some blessed Hope, whereof he knew, And I was unaware."



#HARDY'S FOREBODING



Public intellectual of Europe. In the midst of all the despondency, listening to the joyful songs of the bird, Hardy thought that unlike him, the bird must be aware of some happy tidings that the poet was unaware of, so that the bird could put out its full-throated song. Hardy was hopeful of that bright future unknown to him.

Hardy's current pessimism, as opposed to the bird's hopeful tones, had proved to be prophetic. Within fourteen years, the world had met with an armageddon as never seen before. The entire known world, particularly the European order, had vanished following the First Great War, from 1914 to 1918.

Your correspondent had the good fortune to study the poem under no one else than Professor P. Lal, a legendary teacher of English literature, and the founder editor of 'Writers' Workshop,' which had taken literary publication into new and unthought of directions. Professor Lal's selected publications of avant-garde young poets because these were bound in specially selected hand-woven fabrics of distinctive appeal and look.

Today, Professor Lal's interpretation of Hardy's poem reverberated in the mind about uncertainty and course of human history, the dichotomy between an individual's life and that of an entire epoch, which was depicted in the last chapter of Boris Pasternak's great novel, 'Doctor Zivago,' the story of an individual's life, tossed and twisted, in the context of the 1917 Communist Revolution in Russia. Today, we are filled with forebodings about the twenty-first century. The established global order is vanishing, challenged by

extending from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the larger part of Asia. As if, miseries do not come alone, away from Europe to Far East, China, in its turn, is baring its fangs and threatening all around it. China is on an equally outdated concept of aggression and expansion all around its neighbourhood, in search of a central role for the country.

Its historical fantasies are being fanned by its present success in building an arsenal of deadly weapons capability. It is working to threaten an established superpower like America. It is so to say, seeing its step on, what is being described as the Thucydides' Trap.

This is apparently a world in which even progress can pose new threats. Leading proponents of artificial intelligence, while pointing at the huge strides it can make in fulfilling human aspirations, emphasise the destructive potentials of the technology leading to complete annihilation. In this dangerous world, where humanity is facing an existential threat, it is timeless literature and these artistic creations that alone can provide space and a basis for optimism. We have the poet's lesson, "Beauty is Truth: Truth beauty! That is all ye know on earth/And all ye need to know."

And to regaining your ultimate hope, we have Shelley's words, "If winter comes, can spring be far behind?"

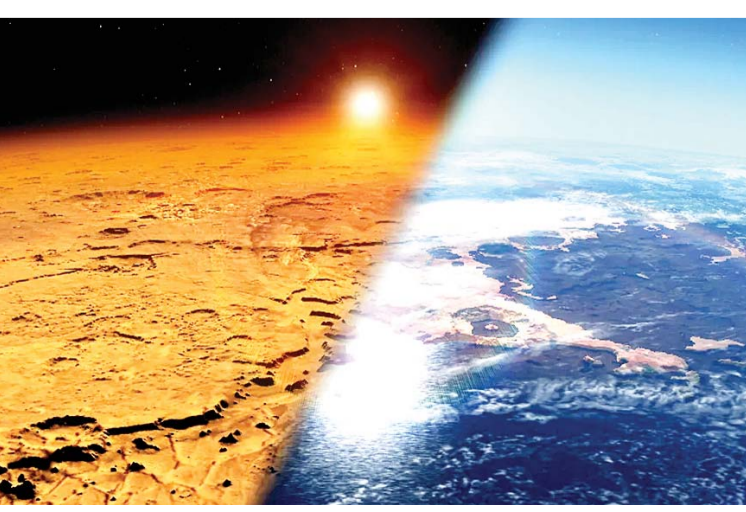
By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

ZITS

BABY BLUES



By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



WHEN ONE DOOR CLOSES, ANOTHER OPENS. OR YOU CAN OPEN THE CLOSED DOOR. THAT'S HOW DOORS WORK.