

#PERCEPTION

How Animals See The World

Each type of animal on Earth has evolved a range of senses and skills which allow it to live successfully in its environment.



The world might look like a colourful place, but it really depends on what your eyes let you see. Humans, for example, are sensitive to just 3 colours: red, blue, and green; but this allows us to see the millions of colours derived from them. While animals have eyes that come with all different kinds of 'vision' with some even being able to see colours we can only imagine.

Dragonflies Vision

The most efficient hunter on the planet is not the lion or shark. In fact, lions only successfully capture around 15% of animals they hunt and sharks catch around 47%. One animal has an astounding capture success rate of 95%, the dragonfly. Dragonflies have compound eyes, which consist of a number of smaller visual units. While houseflies have 6000 compound eyes, dragonflies have up to 30,000. These units present the dragonfly with one picture not 30,000 little ones.

Dog Vision



Whereas human eyes contain three types of cone cells called cones, dogs have just two. Their cone cells are specialised for picking up yellow and blue-to-ultraviolet light.

Each cone type contains a pigment sensitive to particular wavelengths of light. The range of colours an animal sees depends on the combination of colour-sensitive pigments in their eyes and the processing by the brain.

With fewer cone types, dogs can't distinguish between as many colours as we can.

Garden Snail Vision



Although the eyes of garden snails can't focus or see colour they would just about be able to make out this other snail moving past or a predator approaching.

The snail's ability to discern different intensities of light helps it navigate towards dark places.

Dolphin Vision

Dolphins have pretty good eyesight underwater. As their eyes are located on either side of their head the dolphin's range of vision is wider than a human's including being able to see objects located behind them. It is still relatively unknown how detailed dolphin vision is or how many colours they can see. However, dol-



phins have another way to see the world, echolocation.

Echolocation also called sonar is the act of sending out sound waves and listening to the changed sound waves bouncing back. Dolphins and bats are 2 species that regularly use echolocation to find food and navigate.

Bird Vision



Birds have 4 types of cone cells in their eyes while humans only have 3. Not only can they see more colours than we can but they also see ultraviolet. Because of this when looking at a blackbird for example another bird might see them as colourful. That said no 2 birds are alike. Only a few birds for example canaries are believed to be able to see the colour blue.

Cat Vision



Cats have more rods in their eyes than we do allowing them to see in poor light. Generally the world looks much more blurry to cats than to humans but they have a larger visual field meaning they see more at once than we do. For comparison's sake we can see 180 degrees around us but cats see 200 degrees around themselves.

But the predominant image was of words. And those words have travelled the world and absorbed the meaning visible through photographs, identity cards, passports, notes, letters and typed drafts. These are words typed on yellowing sheets; words struck off with pencil; words rewritten with ink; words distilling and encapsulating an experience that became vivid after each rewrite. I wonder what kind of a writer Hemingway would have made today with the ease of editing that modern word processors offer making the act of retyping misspelt words redrafting and rewriting easy. For Hemingway revising a text was almost a religious experience. He said the more you throw away, the surer you could be that there was something substantial to begin with.

Hemingway & his Wanderlust



Vijay Salaskar
The writer loves travelling and writing about his adventures

Following the footsteps of Ernest Hemingway is a passion many journalists and writers suffer from. There have been many articles about Hemingway's Paris, his Barcelona, his Madrid, his

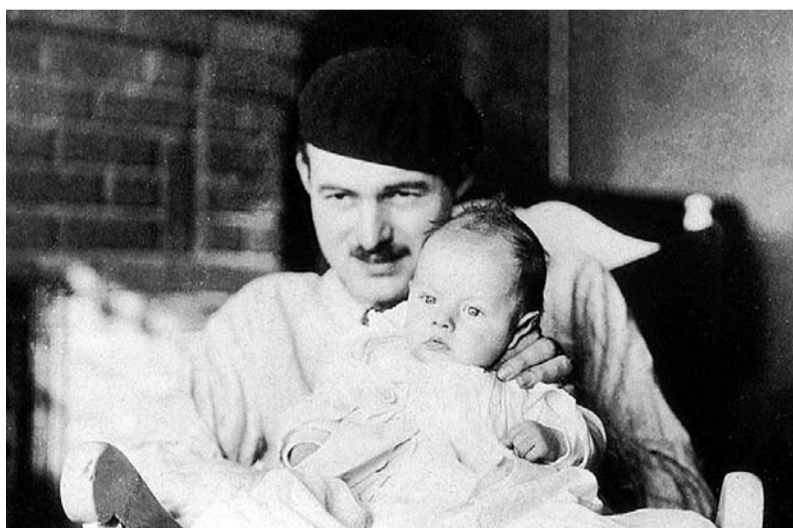
Africa, his Cuba – in each of which the writer following his footsteps imagines himself to be reliving a glorious past, made more glorious because of the circumstances in which he wrote (about the world wars); how he travelled (on rugged roads in Jeeps – often in close proximity of death), and the landscape he made his own (seeing Africa, true at first light or the twilight of Paris, with the reflection of its lamps shimmering on the surface of the river). I'm a victim of that disease too; I blame him for part of my wanderlust.

Male Writers

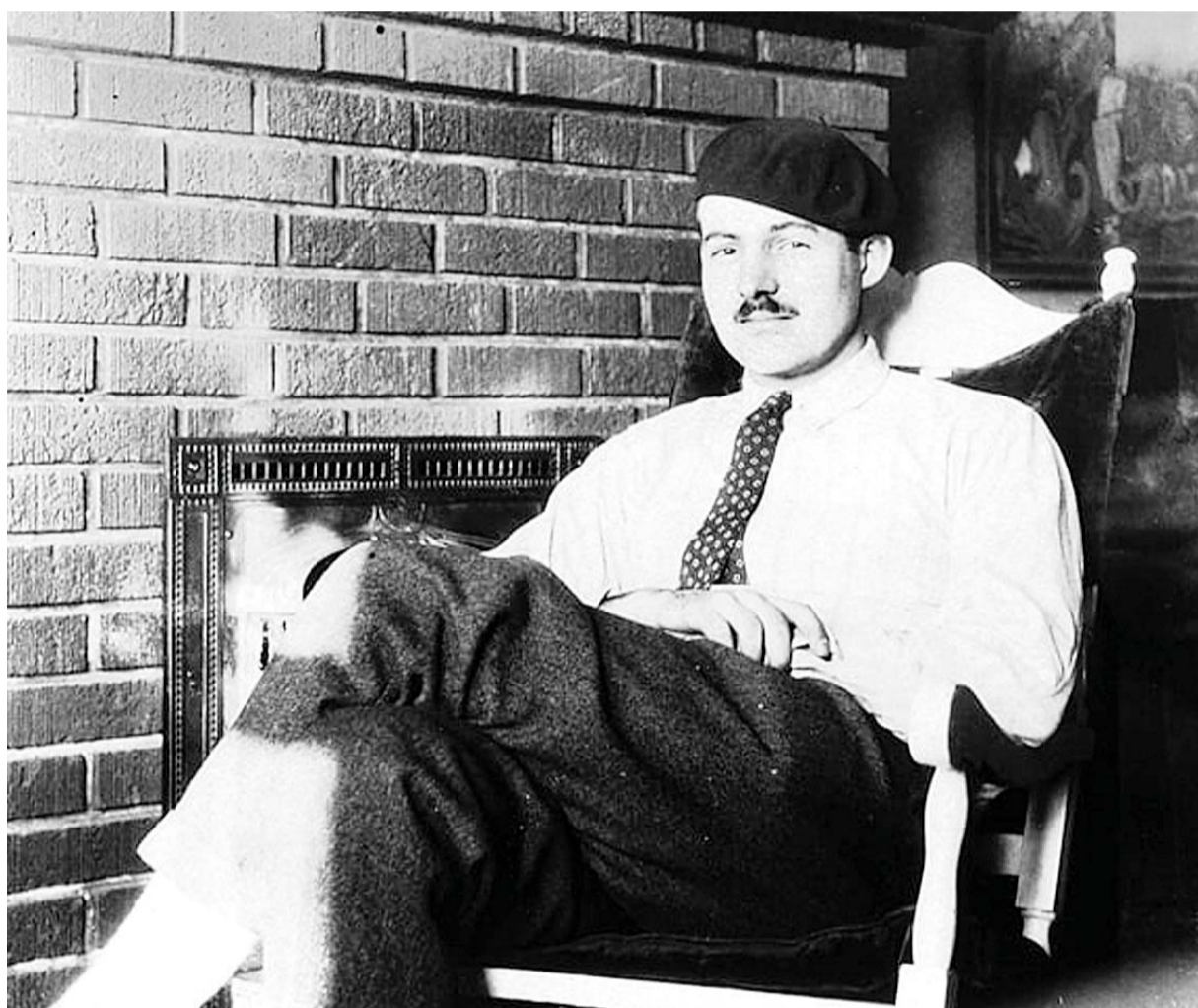
And the writers who follow Hemingway's footsteps are often male. He wrote about bullfighting and boxing, about wars and hunting, fishing and drinking. It is not as if women don't enjoy these pursuits but Hemingway's personality, his misogyny; his narcissism; his petty cruelties and his depression were hardly endearing, even though his sharp, crystal-clear writing culled the essence of human experience in a manner that many have imitated but few have equalled.

Images Made of Words

In early winter in New York, I went to The Morgan Library & Museum to see an excellent exhibition about Hemingway between the wars. There were indeed photographs and early yearbooks, but the predominant image was of words. And those words have travelled the world and absorbed the meaning visible through photographs, identity cards, passports, notes, letters and typed drafts. These are words typed on yellowing sheets; words struck off with pencil; words rewritten with ink; words distilling and encapsulating an experience that became vivid after each rewrite. I wonder what kind of a writer Hemingway would have made today with the ease of editing that modern word processors offer making the act of retyping misspelt words redrafting and rewriting easy. For Hemingway, revising a



Hemingway in Paris with his son, John.



Hemingway in Paris - by John F Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum - Wikimedia Commons.

text was almost a religious experience. He said the more you throw away, the surer you could be that there was something substantial to begin with.

Transforming Words

And he did so by capturing in his words the essence of a lived experience. At a young age he was in Europe, during World War I, and he was wounded in a mortar attack in Austria. The experience would transform him; while recuperating, he would meet the nurse he would love deeply. When you see the drafts of his writing from that time, not

#PERSONALITY

only do you see how he compressed emotion in sentences but how even visually the commas, semi-colons and dashes broke the rhythm of the sentences at just the right time, making you feel the disruptive unpredictability that wars bring.

The Beginning

Born in Oak Park, Illinois in 1899 to a physician father and musician mother, Hemingway began his career at seventeen, working as a journalist. He soon enlisted as a volunteer in the First World War, but was rejected by the Infantry Service, instead joining the Red Cross Medical Service on the Italian Front where he was badly injured. Following the war he embarked on a brief career as a foreign correspondent for the Toronto Star before returning home to the United States to focus on writing. Newly married, Hemingway would go on to settle in Paris, where he would be acquainted with the modernist American writers Ezra Pound and Gertrude Stein, who were also living in Europe.

Roller Coaster Wars

The experience abroad shaped him so much that while he gained fame as a great young American author, he was leaving the US far behind.



Ernest Hemingway and Marlene Dietrich in 1938.

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In his essay about the film Wizard Of Oz, Salman Rushdie writes: "...the truth is once we have left our childhood places and started out to make up our lives, armed only with what we have and are, we understand that the real secret of the ruby slippers is not that 'there's no place like home'."

A Local Travel

What made his writing so real was that he immersed himself in the societies in which he lived. He was not a correspondent, nor a tourist or a traveller; he became a local, so much so that Havana, Madrid, and Paris were as much home to him as were Key West (where he lived for many years) or Ketchum (where he died). About Oak Park, where he was born, he would write in a letter to his wife Mary Welsh: "Never have been back except to bury my Father that same fall (of 1928). Since, many times (sic), I haven't gone because it would be rude to go and not see my mother and I can't stand to see her."

Returning Home

It is not easy to return home, and where you return may not be where you began. T.S. Eliot put it profoundly in Little Gidding, one of the Four Quartets: "We shall not cease from exploration, and the end



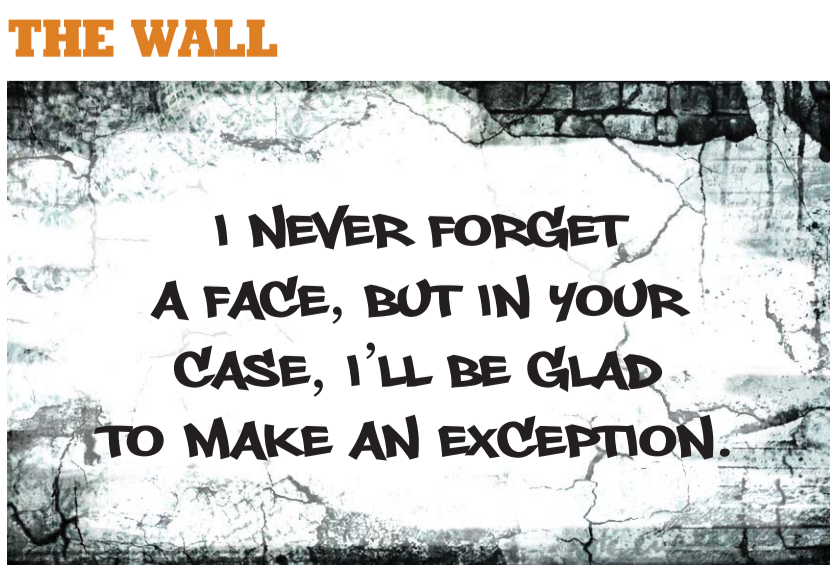
Ernest Hemingway and his first wife Hadley.



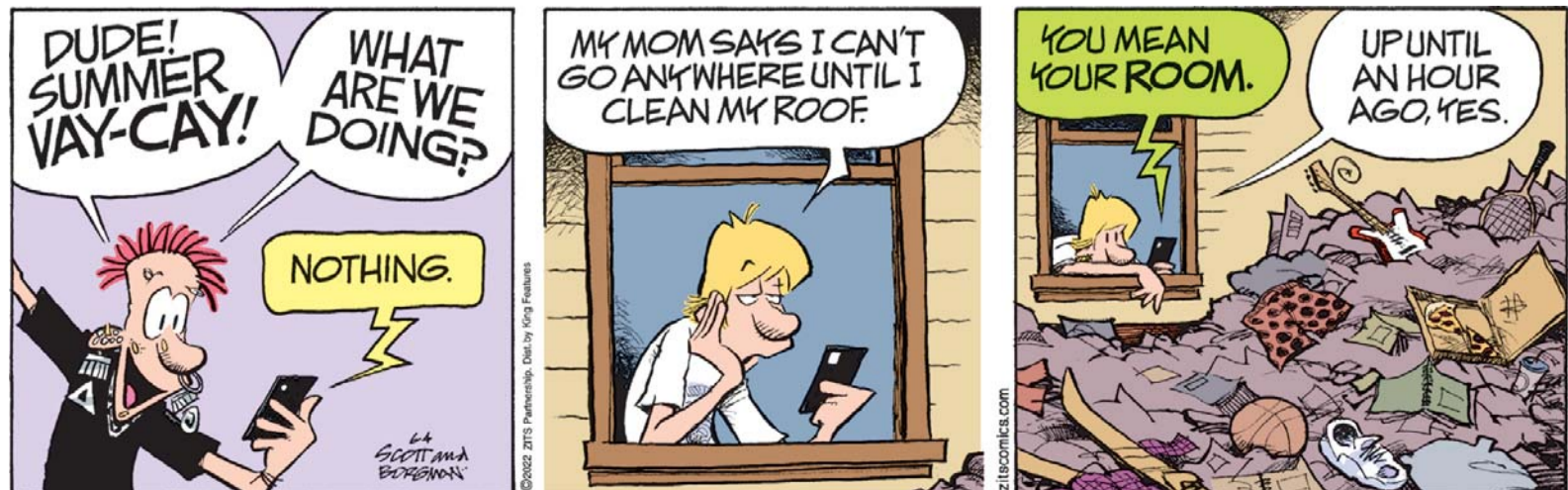
Ernest and his girlfriend Pauline Pfeiffer in Paris.

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

BABY BLUES



ZITS



World Industrial Design Day

Industrial designers envision products that fill homes, offices, hospitals and schools. These visionaries serve diverse working environments and create innovations to help serve the leaders of the global economy. They work tirelessly and out of sight to give people the best tools of the trade. World Industrial Design Day is dedicated to the industrial designers that create the vision of the future; teaching people about the history of industrial design and potentially getting people interested in the profession.



#VOX POP

Sologamy

In light of what is perhaps India's first case of Sologamy, women from Jaipur share their views on the idea with Arbit.



Tusharika Singh
Freelance writer and city blogger

Khushde mohabbat me pad gai. Kal mai apni hi dulhan banga... wrote the 24-year-old Kshama Bindu in an Instagram post following the act of marrying herself on June 8 in Vadodra, Gujarat. From the customary haldi, mehendi and pheras, Kshama's marriage was a full-fledged affair just like any Indian wedding sans one element – the groom. What is being considered as the first-of-its-kind case of sologamy in India has created a huge stir on social media. While some are applauding this step by her as a great expression of self love, others are of the opinion that this is merely a PR stunt to gain publicity. Some are ready to embrace sologamy just to get a breather from the perennial pressure of their family members and relatives to tie the knot. We asked some women from Jaipur to share their views on sologamy in the light of Kshama Bindu and here's what they had to say:



No Form of Marriage has any Meaning

Marriage is basically a transactional social construct. It is what guarantees a protection of property rights, of ensuring the lineage survives and that there is a form of companionship that matches standards typically set by our societies. The very idea of an irrevocable contract obliging the parties concerned to a lifetime of romantic effort is utterly absurd. Therefore, no form of marriage has any meaning for me – sologamy or not. But if this is the case, then the place from which we began, where you find that the place is no longer what it was, that place is new and each visit is like a new discovery because home is what you one day leave, taking new paths, new alleys, new roads, taken or not, even if the detour is much longer.

(here the girl in question) can legally and socially be exempt from further pressure of 'getting married', hell yeah I am all for sologamy!

- Sanjana Sarkar
Director of French Institute in India, Jaipur

Sologamy is a Silver Lining in Our Social Construct

Marriage is an extremely patriarchal concept and unfortunately is often seen as the marker of being settled or stable in life. At one point in my life when I had just moved out of my parents' house, started living on my own and was also healing from an abusive relationship, I started knowing my own needs. I understood what it meant to be committed to taking care of myself. Later, I got to know about sologamy and even though I am not bold enough to take that step, I think it is a beautiful concept. Kshama Bindu's move calls for a celebration as it is a silver lining in our social construct and culture.

- Lyta Frechld
Visual Artist, Activist, Entrepreneur

Self love, PR stunt or a way to stall traditional marriage?

Nothing is Taboo Any More

The recent ceremony of Kshama Bindu got a lot of eyeballs and it also went on to show that nothing is taboo any longer. This was her way of showing the world that the most important person in her life is nobody else but her, which is great and if that's what makes her happy, so be it.

- Shagun Chowdhary
Olympian Trap Shooter



A Celebration of Choice



I think it's been one of the most positive news we have received in a while, simply because it celebrates the freedom of self-expression and choice. Not all of us are capable of showing love and commitment to self the way Bindu did, it takes guts – and I celebrate it.

Another very positive aspect for me was a reassuring message of this act. Unfortunately, women have been still proving their worth through their patriarchal society functions, and Bindu demonstrated how a woman can feel fulfilled and complete in relationship with herself.

- Anastasiya Savchenko
Founder, Indian Women Blog

Societal Norms Need to be Adhered to



The traditions and formal wedding affairs are an intrinsic part of our culture which we have been following for centuries now. I understand one may need the freedom and liberty to follow their heart – which can be done in many other ways. For instance, one may dress up as a bride or go on a holiday to Goa just like that, one doesn't need to marry oneself or anyone else to do that. Keeping the larger picture in mind, we all owe a certain behaviour to our society and norms need to be adhered to.

- Riccha Singh
Founder of a matrimonial website and a lifestyle show

I Wouldn't OPT for Sologamy



Though I love taking care of myself, I also want to be pampered and cared for by another human. It is a cosy feeling that only a partner can provide so I would not opt for sologamy. However, I am not surprised at Kshama Bindu's move. I am a firm believer of love and let live. So if she is happy marrying herself, I don't see why it is anyone's business.

- Mariam Abuhaideri
Animal Rights Activist

A Unique Way to Tick off the 'Mandatory Milestone'



Kshama Bindu's self-marriage is a pleasant answer to the unpleasant questions which every single person over the age of 25 years is subjected to. We all grew up watching and reading love stories which often ended in a happily-ever-after. We didn't even realise when we developed an unspoken need/want for that someone special to come and complete our life. Marriage became a mandatory milestone and Kshama Bindu ticked it off her checklist in a unique way.

- Nupur Agrawal
Digital Marketing Consultant

A Publicity Stunt



To me, this entire event seemed unnecessary and extreme. To prove the intensity of your self-love, you need not mock a holy ritual. Traditions like marriage need to be protected and valued and not be used as a strategy to win a million views online. You can be vocal about why a woman is not a 'damself in distress' if she decides to remain single all her life using a lot of other ways. But again, as we say, each one has a choice of his own. While I admire her fearlessness and respect her relationship status and sexual preference, the process to authenticate it stands silly to me.

- Lavanya Bahuguna
Writer

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman