

#KING-OF-FRUITS

Most Expensive Mango Variety

Recently, Miyazaki mango priced at around Rs 2.75 lakh per kg in the international market was showcased in the seventh edition of Siliguri's three-day-long Mango Festival. Read on to find out more about this mango variety.



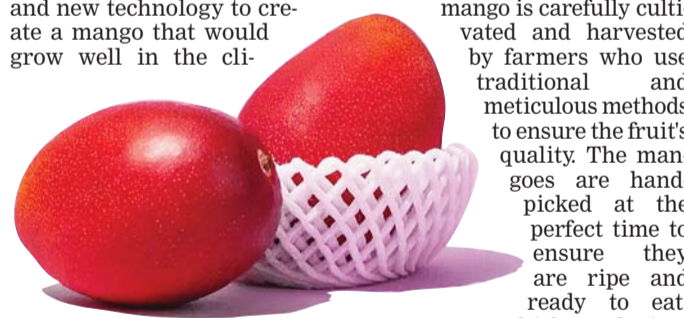
Summer season would be incomplete without mangoes. From Dashedi to Langda to Malda to Alphonso, there are umpteen varieties of this delicious fruit present in different regions of India. The 'King of Fruits' is known for its culinary versatility as it can be incorporated in a myriad of dishes-be it desserts, drinks or even main course. But have you heard of Miyazaki mangoes, the most expensive mango variety that is cultivated in Japan? The Miyazaki mango is one of the most famous fruits found in the Miyazaki city in Japan.

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Origin

The Miyazaki mango originates from the Miyazaki city in Japan's Kyushu province and its history dates back to the 1980s, when a group of researchers from Miyazaki University and local farmers came up with the idea for the plant.

Researchers used both old-fashioned breeding techniques and new technology to create a mango that would grow well in the cli-



mate and soil of the area. This led to the invention of Miyazaki mango, which was not only tasty but also had a longer shelf life and was less likely to be eaten by pests.

Benefits

Also known as 'Egg of the Sun' due to their bright colour and egg-like shape, these mangoes are generally cultivated during the peak harvest period between April and August. Unlike regular green or yellow mangoes, the skin of Miyazaki mango turns from purple to flaming red when ripe.

Miyazaki mangoes not only offer a delectable tropical treat but also provide several health benefits. These mangoes are

an excellent source of essential vitamins and minerals, including vitamin C, vitamin A and dietary fibre. Vitamin C supports a healthy immune system, while vitamin A promotes good vision and skin health. The fibre content aids digestion and contributes to a healthy gut. They also contain antioxidants that help protect against oxidative stress and promote overall well-being.

While Miyazaki mangoes are a delightful treat for most people. Additionally, individuals with specific medical conditions, such as diabetes or kidney problems, should monitor their mango intake due to the fruit's natural sugar content. It is advisable to consult registered dietitian for personalised advice if you have any concerns about incorporating Miyazaki mangoes into your diet.

Why So Expensive?

The reason for its high price is due to several factors which make it unique and sought-after. Firstly, the Miyazaki mango is grown in a region with ideal conditions for its cultivation, which includes a warm climate, fertile soil and access to clean water. This results in a fruit that is larger, sweeter and juicier than other mango varieties.

Additionally, the Miyazaki mango is carefully cultivated and harvested by farmers who use traditional and meticulous methods to ensure the fruit's quality. The mangoes are hand-picked at the perfect time to ensure they are ripe and ready to eat, which results in a superior flavour and texture.

Moreover, the nutritionist also pointed out that the Miyazaki mango is also highly regulated by the Japanese government, which ensures that the fruit meets strict quality standards before being sold. This includes criteria such as weight, size, sugar content, and appearance, which further increases the cost of the fruit.

The Miyazaki mango has become a symbol of luxury and exclusivity in Japan and around the world. Its high price tag has created a sense of prestige and desirability among consumers who are willing to pay a premium for this rare and exceptional fruit.



Amritsar was born in the family of Sodhi Khatri, a family of ancient kings, a family that was destined to rule not just the kingdom of this world, but also the higher realm, miri and piri, as articulated by the sixth Sikh Guru, Guru Hargobind. These kings were not destined to be ordinary rulers, but true rulers, Sacha Padshah, whose reign would overshadow the reign of the mighty Mughal Empire. This new kingdom that was their destiny was born, along with Amritsar, in Lahore in the year 1534.

Haroon Khalid

Amritsar was born in Lahore. It was born inside the walled city, in a small house in its narrow and winding streets. It was the month of Assu, corresponding to the months of September and October in the Gregorian calendar. It was a month when the monsoon rains, having unleashed their fury, had finally taken mercy and receded. The demons of the summer had been defeated, while the tyrant winter was still imprisoned. It was that time of the year when there was perfect harmony, when nights were balanced by day, heat by cold. It was the time of the year so uncharacteristic of the extremities of Punjab that it seemed out of sync, an anomaly to its vagaries.

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Bhagwan Valmiki Tirath Sthal.

Amritsar was Born in Lahore...

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#HISTORY

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Amritsar lived in Lahore till it was seven years old, till the time its parents, Hari Das and Mata Daya, were alive. They died in the same year, leaving their child orphaned. The child, initially named Jetha, was raised by his grandmother in a small village, where the child first interacted with Guru Amar Das, the third Sikh Guru, and became his lifelong devotee. Bhai Jetha eventually became a part of the Guru's family, marrying his daughter Bibi Bhani. Such was his devotion to the Guru that he was chosen as his successor. Bhai Jetha became Guru Ram Das, the founder of



Ruins of the Lava temple at Lahore.



Sita with her sons Lava and Kusha in Ashram.

Ramdaspur, the name by which Amritsar was once known. Inside the walled city of Lahore, in an area known as Chuna Mandi, close to Kashmiri Gate, there is a gurdwara that marks the spot where Guru Ram Das was born. It was lying in a shambles till a few years ago, much like several other gurdwaras across the country, before it was renovated, along with a number of gurdwaras, by the Pakistani state and opened for Sikh pilgrims.

Lahore was born in Amritsar. Actually, about 11 kilometres west of the city. It was one of a pair of twins, its fate permanently sealed with the city of Kasur that was born with it. It is not possible to pinpoint the exact day, the season or even the year of Lahore's birth. It first came to existence at a time when time did not exist. There was no history or chronology, only the circular trajectory of mythology. This wasn't the time of people, but rather of characters, caricatures and archetypes. This was the time of the perfect man, the just king, his perfectly devoted wife, and his perfectly loyal brother. This was the time of the

where the ashram was located and Lava and Kusha were born. The three cities at their birth were tied together in a triangle, a relation that is now testified by their cartography. In contemporary Lahore, at that highest point of the city, next to the river, where the first signs of civilisation developed, where lie the earliest traces of Lavapur, there is a small temple dedicated to the founder of the city. Inside the Lahore Fort, next to the Alamgiri Gate, are the remains of the temple of Lava.

A Lost Past

How is one to imagine the cities of Lahore and Amritsar, whose origins are so deeply intertwined, separated today by boundaries that doesn't just divide geographies and people, but also mythologies, legends, religions, cultures, heroes and villains? It is a border that lies in the middle of these two cities, fabling stories about itself, about its previous incarnations in different forms, telling tales about its inextinguishable naturalness. Chanting mysterious mantras, the border flows in the direction of these cities, transforming their appearances through its prayers.

Lahore today is the ultimate symbol of Pakistani nationalism - a

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Bhagwan Valmiki was composing the greatest book ever, when the cries of Lahore and Kasur first resonated in the ashram. It was the story of their father, of Lord Ram, that Bhagwan Valmiki, the Adi Kavi, the first poet, was composing when he heard these cries. Sita, their mother, had found refuge in this ashram.

It was at that time, when history was yet to be conceived, that Lahore was born in the ashram of Bhagwan Valmiki. The greatest sage of his time, for that was a time when nothing existed in ordinariness, Bhagwan Valmiki was composing the greatest book ever, when the cries of Lahore and Kasur first resonated in the ashram. It was the story of their father, of Lord Ram, that Bhagwan Valmiki, the Adi Kavi, the first poet, was composing when he heard these cries. Sita, their mother, had found refuge in this ashram.

Muslim majority city, the site of Lahore Resolution, where the Muslim League first demanded a separate homeland for Muslims, home to Minar-e-Pakistan and host to proud Mughal architecture, the Lahore Fort, Badshahi Masjid, a tradition that marks the zenith of Muslim civilisation in an undivided subcontinent. Besides a few, inconvenient remnants of traditions scattered around the city, all those traces of a pre-Pakistan Lahore have been suffocated and left to die. It is easy, in fact encouraged, to forget about that lost city, that lost geography which connected Lahore with Amritsar and Delhi, a Lahore that emerged as an important economic, political and cultural hub because of its strategic location on that ancient route that flowed from Bengal to Kabul, a river dammed up by the border.

To be continued...

write@arbit@rashtradoot.com



Gurdwara Janmasthan Guru Ramdas in Lahore.

World Blood Donor Day

The history of blood donation goes back further than you might expect, reaching as far back as the 17th century. The medical specialists of the time knew that blood was a vital element in the body, and losing too much of it was bound to have tragic consequences on the patient. So it was that experimentation began, and a whole new breed of heroes was born that contribute their blood so that others may live. Blood Donors save lives every day.

#TRENDS&GADGETS

Nothing Phone (2)

From Snapdragon 8+ Gen 1 SoC to 4,700 mAh battery, the Nothing Phone (2) is said to be a major upgrade from the Phone (1).



When Nothing launched its first smartphone, the Phone (1) last year, the device stood out with its transparent design and glyph lighting interface. Now, the brand is gearing up to launch the second-generation smartphone, the Phone (2), which is said to offer super performance.

Release Date

Nothing Phone (2) is slated to launch in July 2023. The company is yet to confirm the official launch date of the device.

Price

The base model of the Nothing Phone (1) with 8 GB RAM and 128 GB storage was priced at Rs 29,999, and the Phone (2) might see a price hike of around 30%.

Design

The Nothing Phone (2) will predominantly look similar to the Phone (1) with some minor tweaks, including a curved metal frame, and improved glyph lighting interface with more functions, and the device could also lose some weight, making it thinner and lighter than its predecessor. Besides, the Phone (2) is also expected to offer wireless charging and improved ingress protection for water and dust resistance.

The brand has confirmed that the Phone (2) will make use of recycled metal and plastic to reduce the overall carbon footprint of the device and the Phone (2) sold in India will be locally manufactured.

Camera

Phone (2) is likely to offer a dual-camera setup with a 50 MP ultra-wide angle and a 50 MP wide-angle lens.

Processor, RAM, and Storage

Nothing Phone (2) is confirmed to be powered by the Snapdragon 8+ Gen 1 SoC, indicating a major gear shifting in terms of performance when compared to the Phone (1) with Snapdragon 778+ SoC. Going by the previous-gen storage configuration, the top-tier model of the Nothing Phone (2) will offer 12 GB RAM and 256 GB of internal storage.



#BOOKWORM

Best Sci-Fi Books

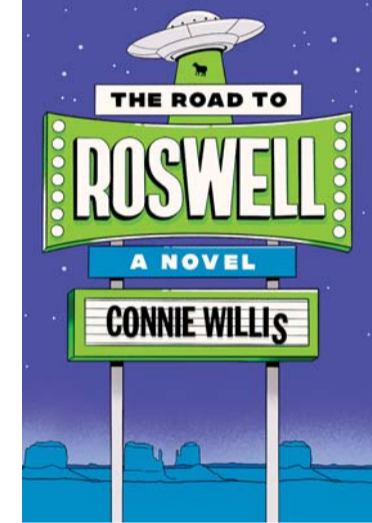
A heads up on some of the year's must-read new science fiction!

Spaceships and apocalypses and whales, oh my! 2023 is another great year for sci-fi new releases. This summer's selection is... wait for it... out of this world. (Sorry, not sorry!) The sky is the limit for the imaginations of these authors that will have you rushing to mark them down on your TBR. That's why we want to give you a heads up on some of the year's must-read new science fiction!

In this fabulous list of upcoming novels, you'll find books about contact with aliens, both friends and enemies; a close encounter of a third kind with an 80-foot whale; wearable tech; space exploration; and more! There is something on this list for everyone. Whether you believe in life on other planets or not, you will be delighted and entertained.

The Road to Roswell

By: Connie Willis



From one of the funniest and most delightful writers of sci-fi comes a new comedy about alien abduction. Francis's college roommate is getting married to a UFO chaser. So it is only fitting the wedding will be in the holy land of alien activity, Roswell, New Mexico, where a UFO allegedly crashed in 1947. Francis thinks it is all a bunch of nonsense. Which makes it much harder when she's abducted by an alien resembling a tumbleweed.

Translation State

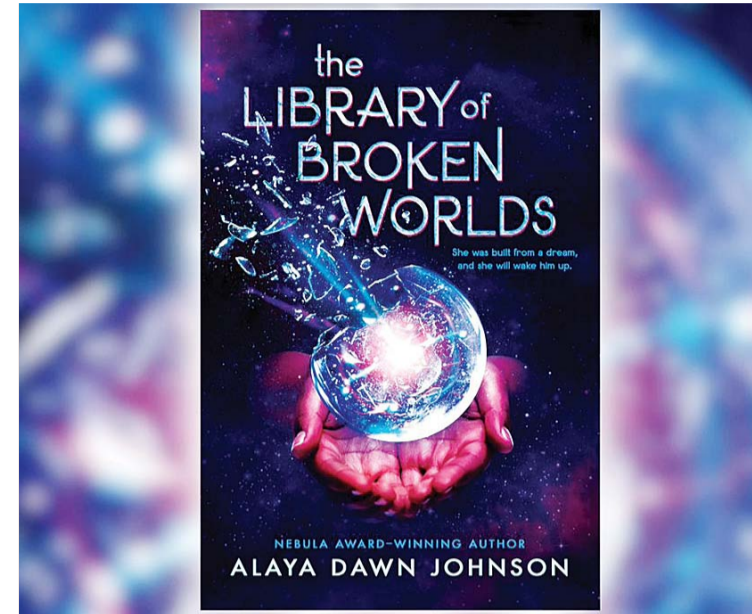
By: Ann Leckie

This is one of the most highly anticipated upcoming sci-fi books! It's from the author of the Imperial Radch series, which won a gazillion awards, give or take. It's about a translator, Qven, from an alien race who doesn't want to do what their job entails. Rebellious against their fate, Qven will meet a diplomat and a mechanic, and the choices these three make will affect the whole of the universe. Based on Leckie's previous novels, this is sure to be brilliant.

The Splinter in the Sky

By: Kemi Ashing-Giwa

This is a debut space opera being recommended for fans of N.K. Jemisin and Nnedi Okorafor! Who isn't excited about that?! It's about a tea expert who must spy on her government to help her



The Library of Broken Worlds

By: Alaya Dawn Johnson

Freya is the daughter of a Library god. Growing up, she spent her life exploring the many tunnels of the vast underground library. But now, to save a world ready for war, she will have to face the truth of the past hidden in the library in order to defeat a war god and secure humanity's future.

The Deep Sky

By: Yume Kitasei

This is an excellent space thriller about a mission to find a new habitable planet, and what happens when their ship is sabotaged. When an explosion knocks The Phoenix off course, the crew must figure out who is responsible - and how to get back on track. Books where humans look for a new planet because the Earth is falling should be a sci-fi sub-genre, if it isn't already.

More Perfect

By: Terri Oh

This is a story of augmented reality and an implant that lets people have a more complete online experience. Of course, direct access to people means the government can't resist taking a peek... More Perfect is set in a near-future London and is a reworking of the Greek myth of Eurycleia and Orpheus. But Paz is keeping secrets from Rumi, and as their journey continues, she will have to decide whether her loyalties lie.

Under This Forgetful Sky

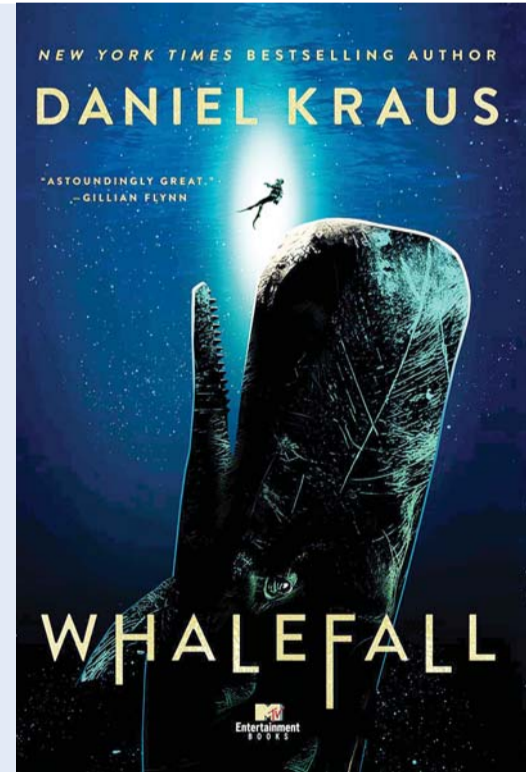
By: Lauren Yero

When his father is struck with an illness, Rumi must leave his safe shelter from behind the walls of the Upper City to seek a cure. In the ruins of Paradise, he meets a guide named Paz and sparks fly. But Paz is keeping secrets from Rumi, and as their journey continues, she will have to decide whether her loyalties lie.

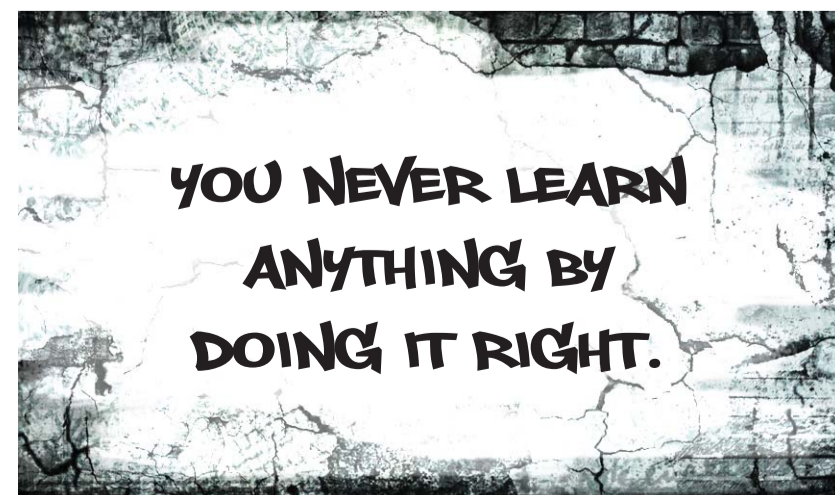
Whalefall

By: Daniel Kraus

This one sounds intense! It's a race to beat the underwater clock. A diver searching for his father's body is accidentally swallowed by an 80-foot sperm whale. He has one hour to escape the whale before his oxygen supply is depleted. Related: Did you know sperm whales have four stomachs?!? Now you do!

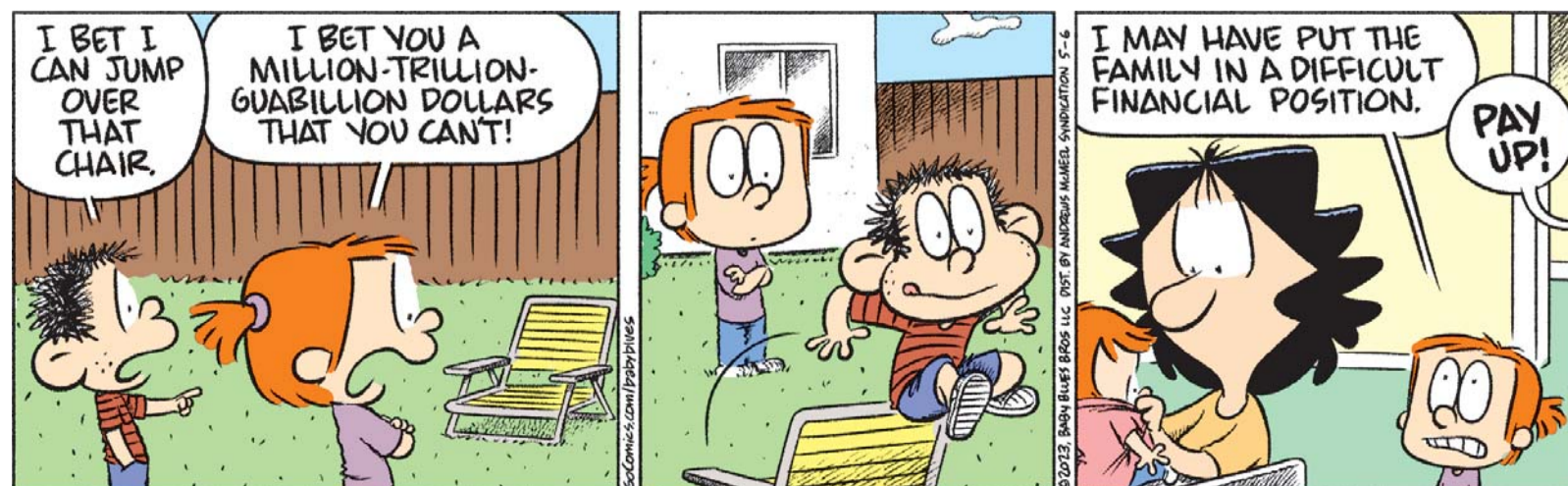


THE WALL



BABY BLUES

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



ZITS

By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

