

DEU ELT MAGAZINE




01 April 2025
Issue: 2




Thanks to...

As we welcome the warmth and renewal of spring, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to this edition of our journal.



A special thank you to our dedicated writers, who shared their insights, experiences, and creativity, making this issue a source of inspiration for all. We also appreciate our editors and reviewers for their hard work in ensuring the quality of each piece, to our professors and our readers for their continuous support and engagement.

May this season of growth inspire us all to keep learning, sharing, and shaping us.



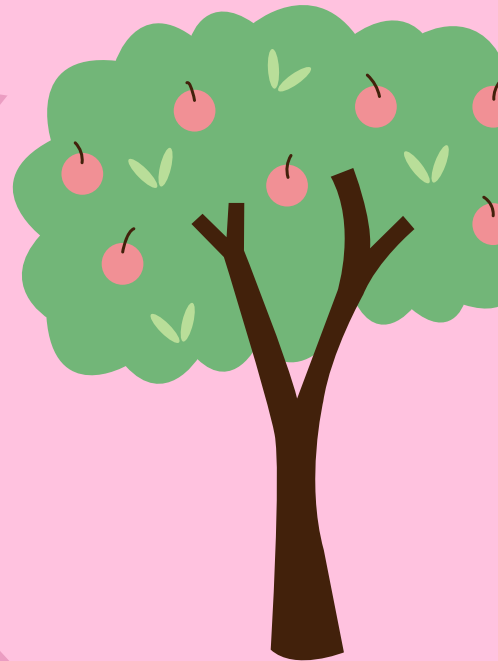
Happy reading and a wonderful spring to all! 🌸

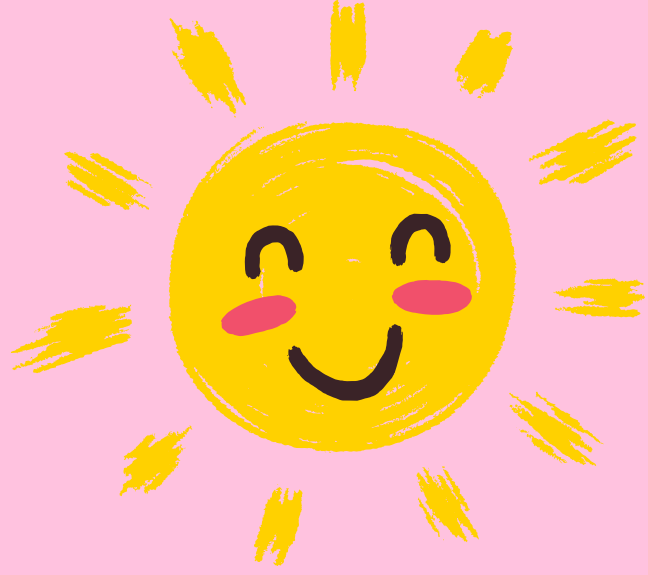
Table of Content



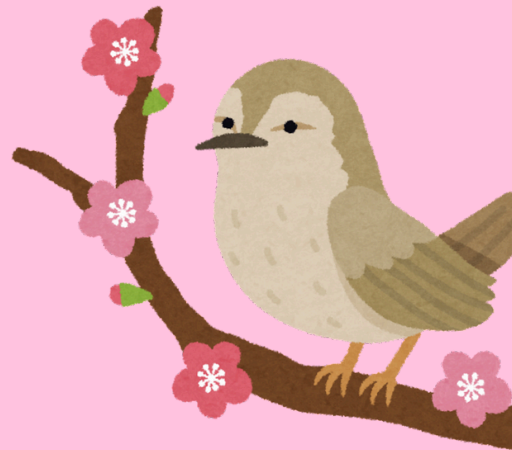
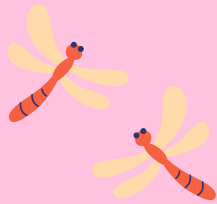
- P5. Conclave (Sıla Özateş)
P6. The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart (Mehmet Tür)
P7-8. Parks and Recreation (Erdem Kuskan)
P8. Vienna by Billy Joel (Mina Mercangil)
P8. Daffodil (Ayşe Kalkışım, Merve Koch)
P9. Green Goddess Salad Recipe (Merve Koch, Ayşe Kalkışım)
P10. The Nutcracker (Selin Özer)
P11. Comic and Art Strip (Beyzanur Murat)
P11. Cherry Blossom (Ayşe Kalkışım, Merve Koch)
P11-12. Beautiful Spring Vibes in Türkiye and South Korea (Melike Uslu)
P13. Izmir Culture Park (Ayşe Kalkışım)
P13. Forget me not (Ayşe Kalkışım, Merve Koch)
P14. Blooming Wonders - Japan or the Netherlands (Saliha Akgül)

- P16-17. The Secret Garden (Zeynep Yılmaz)
P18. Spring Brings Me Memories (Yeliz Nas)
P18. Has Spring Come To You (Yeliz Nas)
P18. Diary Entry #2 (Aybala Karagöz)
P19-20. Myths of Rebirth and Renewal (Zeynep Gülcan Şencan)
P20. Daisy By Wave to Earth (Aybala Karagöz)
P21-24. Game Corner (Merve Koch, Ayşe Nur Beşiktepe)





Culture



Conclave

“Our faith is a living thing precisely because it walks hand in hand with doubt. If there was only certainty and no doubt, there would be no mystery, and therefore no need for faith.”

This film, in truth, is not about women or feminism at all, despite incorporating elements that depict women in relation to the church, Christianity, and, above all, men. Instead, its core focus lies in the rivalry among the Cardinals during a high-stakes contest. A twisty, subversive thriller, the film’s enigmatic atmosphere grips you from start to finish.

However, its most striking element is its subtlety. Just as the Cardinals suppress the truth, the director deliberately conceals key details from the audience, using the camera to obscure crucial moments.

The film does not allow us to clearly distinguish the honest from the serpentine; instead, it forces us into a state of permanent doubt. Clues are simultaneously revealed and hidden, leaving viewers to make their own judgments. The responsibility of labeling, trusting, and choosing sides falls squarely on the audience. Until the final scene, uncertainty lingers beside you; you cannot fully trust anyone on screen. Yet, that is precisely the point. As Cardinal Lawrance articulates in his speech:

“If there was only certainty and no doubt, there would be no mystery, and therefore no need for faith.”

Conclave is a bold, unsettling production, a piercing critique of faith, religion, honesty, the church, and the communities it fosters.

It is a challenging film to digest. But for me, its most remarkable—and most subtly embedded—theme is its treatment of women. The film subtly suggests that advocating for women’s rights is not seen as virtuous within this world. Women cannot be equal; they cannot even be a subject of discussion for a “good” pope. Cardinal Bellini, who resists his selection, employs these very arguments to disqualify himself. His darkly humorous speech makes it clear: supporting women is a dangerous stance when speaking on behalf of the church.

From this moment onward, the film’s feminist undercurrents become undeniable. When the contest concludes and the new pope is chosen, the film delivers its most striking and overtly anti-feminist message. Throughout the story, the Cardinals are depicted as deeply flawed—liars, backstabbers, pedophiles, false accusers, and more. Yet, the church extends forgiveness to all, for in its doctrine, man is created to sin so that he may seek redemption. Except one thing.

Watch closely as the film reaches its climax. Observe Cardinal Lawrance’s physical and emotional reaction to a single revelation. No prior truth has ever brought him to his knees. No fact has ever shaken him, except for one. **Femininity.**

Sıla Özateş

The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart



The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart is a miniseries based on the same book. Although the series is normally the drama of a mysterious family, it contains messages on very important issues such as violence against women and abuse of women, which are one of the biggest problems of today's world.

The series tells the story of Alice Hart. In the first 3 episodes of the series, we follow Alice's childhood. Alice and her family live in a place that is isolated from the rest of the world. At the beginning of the series, a big fire breaks out, and Alice loses her parents, her brother and her ability to talk in this mysterious fire. Sally, the only person Alice knows outside of her family, wants to get custody of Alice. However, when Alice's grandmother, whom she has never known, arrives, Alice moves into her farmhouse.

The remaining 4 episodes tell about Alice's adulthood and what she goes through after leaving the farmhouse.

Mehmet Tür

Lots of secrets create a question mark in the viewer's mind throughout the series. These secrets are revealed through flashbacks and dialogues of the characters. Secrets about the people who live in the farmhouse, and the reasons why people don't like Alice's grandmother are revealed one by one until the end of the series. Then, the finale ends with many important messages.

In the series, each type of flower symbolizes something or someone different. The meanings of these flowers are mentioned in the episodes of the series. At the end of the episode, it becomes clear who is symbolized by this flower. For example, the name of the first episode is "Black Fire Orchid", which means "desire to possess". When we finish the episode, we figure out the person who has a desire to possess. These flowers turn the symbols into a puzzle for each episode.

To conclude, if you like series that touch on social problems, you should watch The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart. Since it consists of only 7 episodes, you can finish it in a really short time.

Parks and Recreation



There are many conversations to be had about the famous sitcom Parks and Recreation. One can certainly find countless texts, essays, YouTube videos appreciating the show's very unique characters, setting, themes, camera work, 4th wall breaks and so on. But the purpose of this text in particular is to have a conversation about the most underappreciated aspect of this brilliant show... Its near perfect representation of American society and institutions.

To start off, the setting of this show is incredibly unique. It's not a bar, not a workplace, not a college campus, not a booming metropolitan city like New York, The setting is a Parks and Recreation department of a government office in a fictional town called Pawnee. Pawnee is literally the worst, the most disappointing town America can offer. Despite its cartoonishly high obesity, illiteracy rates, our main protagonist Leslie, a government official in this department loves this town more than anything. Her love for and dedication to public service for the people of this town and the struggle she has to go through is the perfect mirror that will reflect American society.

Because of the high obesity rate, her efforts to introduce a sugar tax for fast food restaurants cause business owners and the wealthy to conduct smear campaigns against her because the tax would destroy their profits. To help the poor, unprivileged, regular townsfolk, she requests additional budget from the federal government for services such as public parks, utilities, education and employment programs. But those requests constantly get blocked by other wealthy city congressmen because they are also wealthy business and landowners who protect their interests. Even her free public school lunch program gets blocked because she refuses to share her bathroom with another congressman. While fighting against all of this and everything else Leslie's personal life could possibly throw at her, she also never gets the appreciation she deserves from the regular people because of all the lies, dirt and smear her enemies throw at her.



Leslie's love for her town, her townsfolk, public service and government affairs are hard to describe with words. It is impossible for someone to have all this passion for public service. But this is basically the entire point. The only way to help the regular people, the only way to "get things done" in the American local and federal government is to have thousands of Leslies but ironically it's impossible to have even one. She is designed to be cartoonishly enthusiastic and devoted.

The institutions in America are hardwired to protect the interests of the most wealthy at all times. The people who occupy these institutions and these positions of power are overwhelmingly the people who know nothing but to worship the profit motive of big businesses and even themselves. And even the regular American people are propagandized into protecting the interests of the wealthy rather than protecting the interests of themselves. They don't see having a good future education, healthcare, job opportunities or infrastructure as 'freedom'. Instead, they see freedom and "liberty" as the freedom for the wealthy to poison, harm, steal and do whatever they want with no regulations whatsoever.

The way Parks and Rec. depicts how things are run in American society in such a subtle but a humorous way, and needs to be heavily appreciated and talked about as it's one of the best examples of a social, cultural critique of America in the form of a sitcom.

Erdem
Kuskan

Vienna by Billy Joel

People say spring has its own timing, which is quite true. Spring waits until it is the right time to flourish. The moment you think the weather is getting better might fool you a little, it is just not the right time. It requires patience. You can not expect perfectness all of a sudden from anything, nor from anyone.

This is why you should allow yourself time just like spring does. Billy Joel also talks about how you should be nice to yourself and slow down a little in the song Vienna.

Vienna is magical in every way. It is every good thing waiting for you at the end of the tunnel. It is the warm feeling when you arrive home, a sense of accomplishment and pride after a long day of hard work.

It is a little biased, but spring is when everything gets a little better. It is when you breathe a little bit more relaxed, it is when you have hope, just like in the song Vienna. It is because Vienna is waiting for you.

Slow down, you're doing fine.

The *daffodil* symbolizes renewal, hope, and new beginnings, often representing the arrival of spring and the promise of positive change. It's one of the first flowers to bloom at the end of winter, announcing the beginning of spring and signifying the end of the cold, dark days.



D
A
F
F
O
D
I
L

Mina Mercangil

GREEN GODDESS SALAD

WITH CHICKPEAS



INGREDIENTS:

Dressing

- 1 avocado, peeled and pitted
- 1 ½ cups buttermilk
- ¼ cup chopped fresh herbs, such as tarragon, sorrel, mint, parsley and/or cilantro
- 2 tablespoons rice vinegar
- ½ teaspoon salt

Salad

- 3 cups chopped romaine lettuce
- 1 cup sliced cucumber
- 1 can chickpeas, rinsed
- ¼ cup diced cheese
- 6 cherry tomatoes, halved if desired

DIRECTIONS:

01. STEP 1

To prepare dressing: Place avocado, buttermilk, herbs, vinegar and salt in a blender. Puree until smooth.

02. STEP 2

To prepare salad: Toss lettuce and cucumber in a bowl with ¼ cup of the dressing. Top with chickpeas, cheese and tomatoes. Bon appetite 😊

TIPS:

Cover and refrigerate leftover dressing for up to 3 days.



Merve Koch,
Ayşe Kalkışım



The Nutcracker

Each year, the İzmir State Opera and Ballet brings Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker* to the stage, continuing a loved tradition that captivates audiences of all ages. This year's performance once again lived up to its reputation, offering a magical and heartwarming experience just in time for the holiday season. The show was full of color, music, and imagination.

The production was directed by Lale Balkan, who gave the classic tale a fresh and engaging touch.

The performance was clear and enjoyable, making it accessible to a wide audience. The music, performed live under the direction of Tolga Taviş, added great emotional depth to the entire show. Tchaikovsky's iconic music filled the theater, supporting both the action on stage and the magical atmosphere of Clara's world. The harmony between the orchestra and the performers helped the audience stay fully fascinated from start to finish.

The visual design of the show was rich and imaginative. The stage shifted smoothly between cozy interiors, snow-covered scenery, and the colorful, candy-like world of fantasy. The magic of the story was beautifully conveyed to the audience through the effective use of lighting and stage design.

Clara was portrayed with a sense of wonder and excitement, fitting the dreamlike and playful tone of the performance. The Nutcracker appeared as a noble and protective figure, who supported Clara throughout her journey. Their performances were genuine and emotional, and they showed the heart of the story.

The corps de ballet was full of energy, especially during the well-known snow and sweets sequences. The performance also included dances inspired by different world cultures, such as Spanish, Chinese, Russian, and Arabian dance styles scenes, which added a variety to the show. These moments made the audience entertained and curious about what would come next. The children in the performance were especially loved by the audience. Their scenes brought joy to the stage. They were warmly applauded after each appearance, clearly winning the hearts of audience.

In conclusion, the İzmir State Opera and Ballet's annual performance of *The Nutcracker* remains a must-see production. With its emotional music, striking visuals, and delightful performances from both adults and children, it continues to offer a magical experience that captures the joy of the holiday season.

HAYLAZCAN BAHAR HAKKINDA NE DÜŞÜNÜYOR?

Mart ayı ...



Beyzanur Murat

Melike Uslu



Cherry blossoms are seen as a symbol of renewal, representing the promise of new beginnings. The sakura bloom marks the end of chilly winters and the beginning of the spring season.

For many Japanese people, sakura also symbolizes human mortality. The brief blooming period of sakura is often likened to the fleeting nature of life. The flowers exhibit beauty and brilliance at their peak, but eventually wither and become fragile, mirroring the cycle of human life. This serves as a reminder that life is both short and precious.

CHERRY BLOSSOMS

Beautiful Spring Vibes in Türkiye and South Korea

Finally, spring is almost here! The weather is getting warmer and warmer so that our hearts are getting warmer. All over the world, every season brings its own beauty and spring is one of them. For some people, spring may be a romantic date season or for some people it may be a memorable season for the lost loved ones even for some, it may not have a huge meaning. No matter what is being called it is obvious that spring is a mesmerising season and nature gets along with spring well. So that in every country and nation, welcoming the spring is various.

In our country, Türkiye, we do celebrations such as 'Novruz' and it is also a common way of welcoming the spring in other central Asian countries. Novruz is a traditional celebration that is celebrated on the 21st of March. In Novruz, people jump over the fire. This symbolizes getting rid of negative energy and starting the new year fresh and purified.

In Novruz, forging iron also takes an important role connecting with Ergenekon legend, symbol of power and new year's renewal.



THEN LET'S JUMP A BIT FURTHER, TO SOUTH KOREA!

Spring in South Korea means beautiful flowers, fresh air, and delicious food. Spring festivals are very common. One of the famous festivals is the 'cherry blossom festival'. The cherry blossom season starts in early April and continues until the end of April. Those cherry blossom flowers are so beautiful that many foreign people schedule their trip to South Korea in April.

It looks like it is taken from a table, right?

Once in a lifetime this table-like season in South Korea should be experienced. If you have any plans going abroad in spring, I would highly recommend going to South Korea for memorable and unforgettable times to spend.

I wish spring comes with its beauty and our broken, miserable, lonely and wounded heart harmonies well to get rid of its huge burden.



Melike Uslu

Izmir Culture Park

Located in Konak, Culture Park offers a rich variety of activities, which makes it a perfect place to have a nice spring day with your partner, friends, family, and even yourself. You can have picnics, do some sports, watch theaters, visit museums and art galleries, chill, and even get married here.

Founded in 1936, Culture park was built on an area of 420.000 m2. It was established, in accordance with Atatürk's request, to construct economic bonds with other states. It contains 14 indoor exhibition halls; 4 conference halls; Atatürk Open Air Theater; İsmet İnönü Art Center; İzmir Art – Fair – Marriage Department, Celal Atik Sports Hall, Amusement Park, Zoo, Parachute Tower, Youth Theater, Painting and Sculpture Museum, Izmir History and Art museum. Besides this; 1850-meter jogging track, swimming pool, indoor sports hall, tennis courts, sports facilities, such as synthetic football pitches are available. Beside all of these cultural opportunities, Culture park also has a rich variety of trees and flowers. There are more than 8000 trees and 200 plants present.

Visiting days and hours: 24/7

Ticket price: free

Address: Mimar Sinan, Şair Eşref Blv. No.50, 35220 Konak/İzmir

Contact number and e-mail: kulturpark@izmir.bel.tr 0 232 293 94 89



FORGET-ME-NOT



The Forget-Me-Not carries with it a deep message of love, remembrance, and enduring connection. Also, across cultures, these flowers have symbolized a longing to be cherished and remembered, making them an enduring emblem of affection.

Ayşe Kalkışım

BLOOMING WONDERS



Japan or the Netherlands?



S A L I H A A K G U L

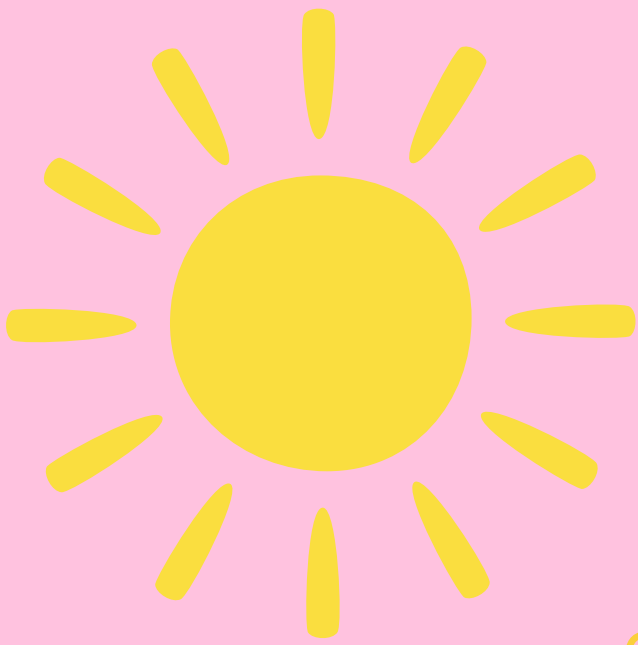
Spring is one of the most beautiful times of the year, and in some countries, this season turns into a breathtaking spectacle. Japan and the Netherlands stand out as two of the best destinations to experience spring at its finest. While one transforms into a pink and white paradise with cherry blossoms, the other bursts into a vibrant display of colorful tulips. If you're planning an unforgettable spring trip, here's what Japan and the Netherlands have to offer during this season.



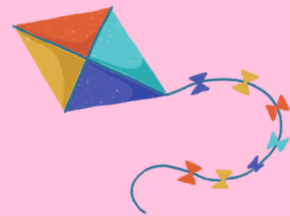
Japan is world-famous for its sakura season, which transforms cities into dreamy landscapes from late March to early April. In Kyoto, the historic temples and gardens, such as Maruyama Park and the Philosopher's Path, become breathtakingly beautiful under the soft pink petals. Meanwhile, Tokyo's parks, like Shinjuku Gyoen and Ueno Park, attract locals and visitors alike for hanami picnics under the blooming trees. Beyond its natural beauty, Japan's spring is also filled with cultural celebrations, where locals gather under the trees to enjoy food, drinks, and the fleeting beauty of sakura.

From late March to early May, the Netherlands transforms into a tulip paradise, with Keukenhof Gardens—known as the "Garden of Europe"—showcasing millions of colorful blooms. Just outside Amsterdam, visitors can explore these breathtaking floral displays or cycle through the surrounding tulip fields in Lisse. Meanwhile, Amsterdam itself bursts with spring charm, from flower-lined canals to vibrant parks like Vondelpark and the famous floating flower market, Bloemenmarkt. The season also brings lively celebrations, including King's Day on April 27, when the city turns into a sea of orange, and the Flower Parade, featuring spectacular flower-covered floats.





literature



The Secret Garden

Spring is the season of growth, and transformation. It is the time when nature awakens from its long winter sleep, filling the world with fresh colors, blossoms, and a sense of new beginnings. Few stories capture the essence of spring as beautifully as “The Secret Garden”. This novel was first published in 1911, it’s not just a children’s book; it is a timeless story of healing, hope, and the power of nature to restore both the body and the spirit.

When I first read it, I was struck by how deeply it resonated with the themes of spring. At its heart, this novel is a tale of transformation. Our protagonist Mary Lennox, begins her journey as a spoiled, lonely, and sickly girl. She grew up in India, neglected by her parents and accustomed to a life of servants tending to her every need. However, after being orphaned, she is sent to Misselthwaite Manor in England, where the bleak and cold environment reflects her own emotional state. The gloomy manor, with its locked rooms and hidden secrets, mirrors Mary’s personality.

As spring arrives, so does Mary’s change. She discovers a hidden garden, locked away and forgotten, much like herself. The garden, once abandoned, slowly comes back to life under her care. With the help of Dickon, a boy with an almost magical connection to nature, and Colin, her sickly cousin, Mary learns the joy of nurturing both plants and people. Just as the garden blooms with vibrant flowers; Mary and Colin experience emotional and physical growth, breaking free from their past and embracing a new beginning.





One of the most powerful themes in this book is the healing power of nature. I love how Burnett presents nature as a source of physical and emotional well being. The fresh air, sunlight, and physical activity in the garden play a significant role in transforming both Mary and Colin's health. Colin, who is bedridden and convinced that he is destined to be an invalid, gains strength and confidence as he spends time outdoors. Mary, once spoiled and irritable, becomes happier and more compassionate. This transformation reflects the way spring breathes new life into the world, showing that nature has the power to heal even the deepest wounds.

For me, the novel beautifully mirrors the themes of spring; rebirth, renewal, and the healing power of nature. The Secret Garden itself becomes a symbol of hope, showing that no matter how barren or forgotten something may seem, with care and patience, it can flourish. The way Mary, Colin, and the garden transform together emphasizes the deep connection between humans and the natural world.

This novel reminds us of the magic of spring, when the earth seems to whisper that anything is possible. Just as Mary discovers joy and purpose in the act of bringing the garden back to life, I find inspiration in the changing seasons. Whether it's through planting flowers, enjoying the fresh air, or simply taking a moment to appreciate the beauty around me, the novel encourages me to embrace the spirit of spring and allow myself to grow alongside it.

The novel also teaches us that growth is a process that requires time, patience, and care. Just as the garden does not bloom overnight, neither do Mary and Colin's transformations. Their journey of self-discovery and healing is gradual, reminding us that personal change is not immediate but requires effort and nurturing. This message is particularly relevant in our fast-paced world, where we often seek instant results.

In a world that often feels fast-paced and overwhelming, this novel is a gentle reminder of the healing power of nature. As the flowers bloom and the trees regain their leaves, so too can our hearts find renewal. The story invites me to reflect on our own life. Where have we locked away parts of ourselves that could flourish once more with care and attention?

So this spring, let the novel inspire you to seek out your own secret haven. Whether it's a real garden, a peaceful corner of your home, or a quiet moment of reflection. And let the season's magic work its wonders on you. Just as Mary and Colin discovered the joy of living through their connection to the garden, I hope we all find our own renewal and growth in the beauty of spring.



Zeynep
Yılmaz

Spring Brings Me Memories

Spring brings me memories,
Of laughter echoing in the streets till night,
A world untouched by sorrow's might,
The warmth of home, like a mother's
embrace,
The blue, the green, the breeze...

Spring brings me memories,
Of the faces kissed by the sun's light,
The hearts that knew no sorrow, no plight,
The air alive with flowers' scent,
The maroon, the lavender, heavens bent...

Diary Entry #2

I don't feel it anymore. I don't feel the sadness. I don't feel the happiness. I don't feel the joy of being in love, or falling in love. It brings me to nowhere, no one and nothing, spring, that comes to ones that feel the sadness, that feel happiness and ones who feel the joy of being in love, falling in love. I could feel the angst, I could feel the nonsense, I could feel the loneliness before. Not now, anymore.

I stopped caring. I stopped caring, if you arrived to class, I stopped caring if you ate enough, slept enough. I stopped caring if you are happy, or if you are sad. I stopped caring if you saw me the other day and I stopped caring if you care about me. Spring only comes to those who care about loved ones. Spring only comes to those who can feel. Those who can feel the sadness, those who can feel the happiness. Those who can feel the joy of being in love, or those who fell in love. Those who go to a destination. Spring only comes to those who go to a beloved one. Spring only comes to those who choose to go to something, and even one thing. I would feel the sadness if you rejected. I would feel the happiness if you said yes. I would fall for you even more day after day, night after night. And dusk till dawn. Spring. It even feels more less for me. The breeze of the spring that kisses my face. Chirps of the bird that wake me up every and each day. I won't lie. I never really stopped caring if you heard them too. I never stopped thinking, dreaming, daydreaming about spring. Days pass, I lose myself in moments like these and spring brings you closer to me. Not by distance but by mind. I know. I know this is our last spring.

So goodbye my love. Until spring brings us together. Until the breeze kisses on a sunny spring day. Until the bird chirps wakes us on a bright spring day.

Aybala Karagöz

Yeliz Nas

Has Spring Come To You?

My homeland -who sent me away into the cold
arms of exile!

A letter, a word – just a whisper,
Tell me has spring come to you?

Oh, tell me how was the spring?
Did it smell like orange blossoms?
Oh, tell me how was the spring?

Was it like the soft breeze brushing my skin?

Streets that keep my memories!
Smoke or birds – just speak to me,
Tell me has spring come to you?

Oh, tell me, how was spring?
Was it painted in the colors of heaven?
Oh, tell me, how was spring?
Was it the song of birds in the morning light?

Lands where my soul once grew!
Flowers, trees won't you speak to me?
Tell me, has spring come to you?

Oh, tell me, how was spring?
Was it like my homeland where the sun never
fades?

Oh, tell me, how was spring?
Was it like the bright smiles of blooming faces?

Oh and now, how is spring?
Is it still warm without me?

Yeliz Nas

18

Myths of Rebirth and Renewal

Throughout history—long before calendars and weather forecasts—people turned to stories, gods, and traditions to explain why winter faded and life returned.

From Persephone's return in Greek mythology to Osiris's resurrection in Egyptian legend, and the Turkic god Ulgen's influence on nature, cultures have found meaningful ways to welcome spring. Different mythologies celebrate the arrival of spring after months of cold and darkness, as the world slowly awakens—flowers bloom, trees turn green, the air becomes fresher, and the colors brighten. The warmth of the sun returns, bringing the same excitement people still feel today.



Greek

The Abduction of Persephone is a famous Greek myth that explains why we have seasons. One day while Persephone was picking flowers, Hades took her away to the Underworld. Her mother, Demeter, was heartbroken and, in her grief, caused the crops to stop growing. That's why winter arrived according to the myth. In order to fix the situation and prevent the world from starving, Zeus sends Hermes to bring Persephone back but before she left, Hades tricked her into eating pomegranate seeds, which meant she had to return to the Underworld for part of the year.

So, Persephone would spend half the year with Hades (fall and winter) and the other half with Demeter (spring and summer). Her return to the surface marked the blooming of flowers, warmer weather, and the renewal of life, symbolizing the arrival of spring.

Turkic

Ulgen is believed to bless the earth with warmth and life-giving energy, allowing the crops to grow, restoring fertility to the land after winter. His influence symbolizes nature's renewal, bringing growth to crops, animals, and the earth itself. This divine act of regeneration ties into spring's themes of rebirth and prosperity, celebrated in festivals like Nevruz, where Ulgen's role ensures abundance and balance for the coming season. His blessings are seen as essential for the successful passage of winter into spring, making him a central figure in Turkic myths surrounding the season.



Egypt

In Egyptian mythology, the story of Osiris, Isis, and Set represents the cycles of life and nature. Osiris, the god of fertility and vegetation, was killed by his brother Set, who tore his body apart.

His wife, Isis, carefully put his body back together and brought him back to life long enough to conceive their son, Horus. Osiris' resurrection symbolized the flooding of the glorious river Nile, which brought life and renewed Egypt's crops and lands, reflecting the cycle of death and rebirth just like the transition from winter to spring.

All in all, we see similar themes in different cultures such as renewal and rebirth in spring myths, reflecting humanity's universal bond with nature's cycles.

Zeynep Gülcan Şencan



Daisy by Wave to Earth

Oh sunny day, it's like burnin' my youth
Shade is my place but you live by the sun
If you want me to
Well, I'll be the rain you need

Babe, if you can dye me enough, would my life be different?
So, I'll just wait for you to bloom

Wait for you to bloom
I'll just wait for you to bloom

My planet is like an old black and white TV

Life always goes on and on
But, it's never fun at all, yeah
But daisy, it's my happiness to run into you
Life always goes on and on
But, I'll live with you forever
So, be my daisy

Oh sunny day, it's like burnin' my youth
Shade is my place but you live by the sun
If you want me to
Well, I'll be the rain you need

Babe, if you can dye me enough, would my life be different?
So, I'll just wait for you to bloom

Wait for you to bloom
I'll just wait for you to bloom

My planet is like an old black and white TV

Life always goes on and on
But, it's never fun at all, yeah
But daisy, it's my happiness to run into you
Life always goes on and on
But, I'll live with you forever
So, be my daisy

Aybala Karagöz


START Game Zone

What's Your Spring Aesthetic?

Answer the questions, keep track of your choices (A, B, C, or D), and check your result at the end!

1. What's your go-to spring outfit?
A) A flowy floral dress with comfy sandals 🌸
B) A pastel sweater and mom jeans 💜
C) Sporty leggings, a windbreaker, and sneakers 🌿
D) A trendy blazer with stylish accessories 😊
2. Your ideal spring break would be...
A) A cozy countryside retreat with a picnic in nature 🌲
B) Exploring cute coffee shops and bookstores in the city ☕📖
C) A hiking or adventure trip to the mountains 🏔️
D) A music festival with friends, dressed in the coolest outfits 🎵
3. Which spring drink are you ordering?
A) A fresh strawberry lemonade 🍓🍹
B) A lavender or honey latte 🍷🌿
C) A refreshing iced matcha or smoothie 🍵🥤
D) A chic pink mocktail or a trendy new Starbucks release ✨
4. Pick a spring activity!
A) Picking wildflowers and journaling in a sunny park 🌻📖
B) Shopping for spring fashion and taking aesthetic photos 📷
C) Biking, hiking, or anything outdoorsy 🚲🌲
D) Going to concerts, rooftop parties, or spontaneous road trips 🎵
5. What's your dream spring picnic like?
A) A cozy setup with a checkered blanket, fresh fruit, and a good book 🍷📖
B) A cute charcuterie board with iced coffee, all perfectly Instagrammable 🥗☕
C) A fun, casual picnic with snacks and great company 🍷👥
D) A fancy gourmet picnic with a bottle of sparkling lemonade and stylish decor ✨

Riddle me this!

 I stretch and grow up toward the sun,
My petals open, one by one.
In spring I'm seen, I'm tall and proud,
What am I, who wears a crown?

6. Which flower matches your vibe?
A) Daisy 🌼 – Simple, sweet, and full of good vibes
B) Lavender 💜 – Elegant, calming, and aesthetic
C) Sunflower 🌻 – Bright, adventurous, and full of energy
D) Rose 🌹 – Bold, romantic, and effortlessly stylish
7. What's your dream springtime playlist?
A) Chill indie folk songs for relaxing in nature 🎵🌲
B) Soft lo-fi beats or dreamy acoustic songs 🎧🎵
C) Upbeat, energetic tracks for road trips and adventures 🚗🎵
D) The latest pop hits and throwbacks for good vibes only 🎵🔥
8. If spring were a scent, yours would be...
A) Freshly bloomed flowers and morning dew 🌸🌿
B) Vanilla latte and lavender mist 🍷💜
C) Citrus zest and ocean breeze 🍊🌊
D) Expensive perfume and a hint of champagne ✨🥂
9. What's your dream spring getaway?
A) A peaceful countryside cottage surrounded by flowers 🌿🏡
B) A European city like Paris or Amsterdam for ultimate vibes 🗼🚲
C) A tropical beach or mountain retreat for adventure 🌴🏔️
D) A stylish luxury hotel with a rooftop view 🌟🏨

RESULTS: What's Your Spring Aesthetic?

💖 Count up your answers and see which letter you picked most!

- 🌿 **Mostly A's – Cottagecore Spring**
You're all about soft, romantic spring vibes! You love cozy picnics, fresh flowers, and quiet days in nature. Your ideal spring is slow, peaceful, and full of simple joys. 🌸
- ☁️ **Mostly B's – Soft Girl Spring**
Pastels, coffee dates, and city strolls—your aesthetic is dreamy and effortlessly chic. You love anything cozy, aesthetic, and Instagram-worthy! 🍷💜
- ☀️ **Mostly C's – Adventure Spring**
You're full of energy and excitement! Whether it's hiking, biking, or road-tripping with friends, you embrace spring as the perfect time for adventure. 🚲🌲
- 🔥 **Mostly D's – Trendsetter Spring**
You're bold, stylish, and always ahead of the trends! Spring is your time to shine with fashion-forward outfits, concerts, and spontaneous trips. ✨🔥

Merve Koch, Ayşe Nur Beşiktepe



Game Zone

Riddle me this!

🌹 I'm light as a feather, but
the strongest trees shake,
I make kites soar high and
waves on the lake.
What am I, with a breeze that
can swing?

🌻 I wear a green coat,
with a hat that's red,
I grow in the garden, a
sweet treat ahead.
Who am I, ripe for
spring delight?

🌻 I melt all the snow, and I
dance in the rain,
I coax out the buds, and end
winter's reign.
Who am I, with the joy that I
bring?

🌸 I'm small and I hop, in
the ponds I do sing,
My voice is quite loud, I
announce it's spring.
What am I, with a croak
and a spring?

Game Zone

Finish the Lyric Game

Merve Koch,
Ayşe Nur Beşiktepe

Let's test your music knowledge with spring-related songs!
There will be a part of the lyric and you have to complete it.

1. "Here comes
the sun, doo-
doo-doo-doo..."

2. "Bones,
sinking like
stones. All that
we fought for..."

3. "Oh, when you walk
by every night.
Talking sweet and
looking fine..."

4. "Release your
inhibitions. Feel
the rain on your
skin..."

5. "I belong with
you, you belong
with me. You're my
sweetheart..."

Answers

1. <https://youtu.be/a4iCLiGIsng?si=d604yvQXJcgBibFT>
2. <https://youtu.be/LQzTPRVfK5M?si=KBhxcZSgbPk4VMY>
3. <https://youtu.be/O8I2hPM85XI?si=DJQww4pIsQ93ObxH>
4. https://youtu.be/vRQb_-mRcAc?si=wHqAgTKpLb-rCD1u
5. <https://youtu.be/IL9nytkWg8U?si=Fz1JlXacyY4iNjRP>

Game Zone

Spring Bucket List Bingo!

Have a picnic in the park	Go on a bike ride	Go on a nature hike
Paint a spring-themed picture	Visit a botanical garden	Pick fresh berries
Watch the sunrise outdoors	Visit a farm or petting zoo	Make homemade lemonade
Take photos of spring flowers	Start a small herb or veggie garden	Fly a kite on a windy day

Last Issue's Answers

Answers:

Movies 🎬:

1. Twilight
2. Lady and the Tramp
3. Titanic
4. 10 Things I Hate About You
5. The Notebook

Songs 🎵:

1. Love Story by Taylor Swift
2. Perfect by Ed Sheeran
3. I Will Always Love You by Whitney Houston
4. My Heart Will Go On by Celine Dion
5. All Of Me by John Legend

Merve Koch,
Ayşe Nur Beşiktepe

CREDITS

Prof.Dr. Fatma Feryal Çubukçu (ELT Head of Department)

Sıla Özateş (Writer)

Mehmet Tür (Writer)

Erdem Kuskan (Writer)

Mina Mercangil (Writer)

Selin Özer (Writer)

Beyzanur Murat (Writer, Comic)

Melike Uslu (Writer)

Ayşe Kalkışım (Writer)

Saliha Akgül (Writer)

Zeynep Yılmaz (Writer)

Yeliz Nas (Writer)

Aybala Karagöz (Writer)

Zeynep Gülcan Şencan (Writer)

Merve Koch (Writer, Editor)

Ayşe Nur Beşiktepe (Writer, Editor)

Sevgi Küçükaltay (Design)

Rıdvan Eroğlu (Website)

Esat Kuzu (Editor)

Umut Ceylan (Editor)

