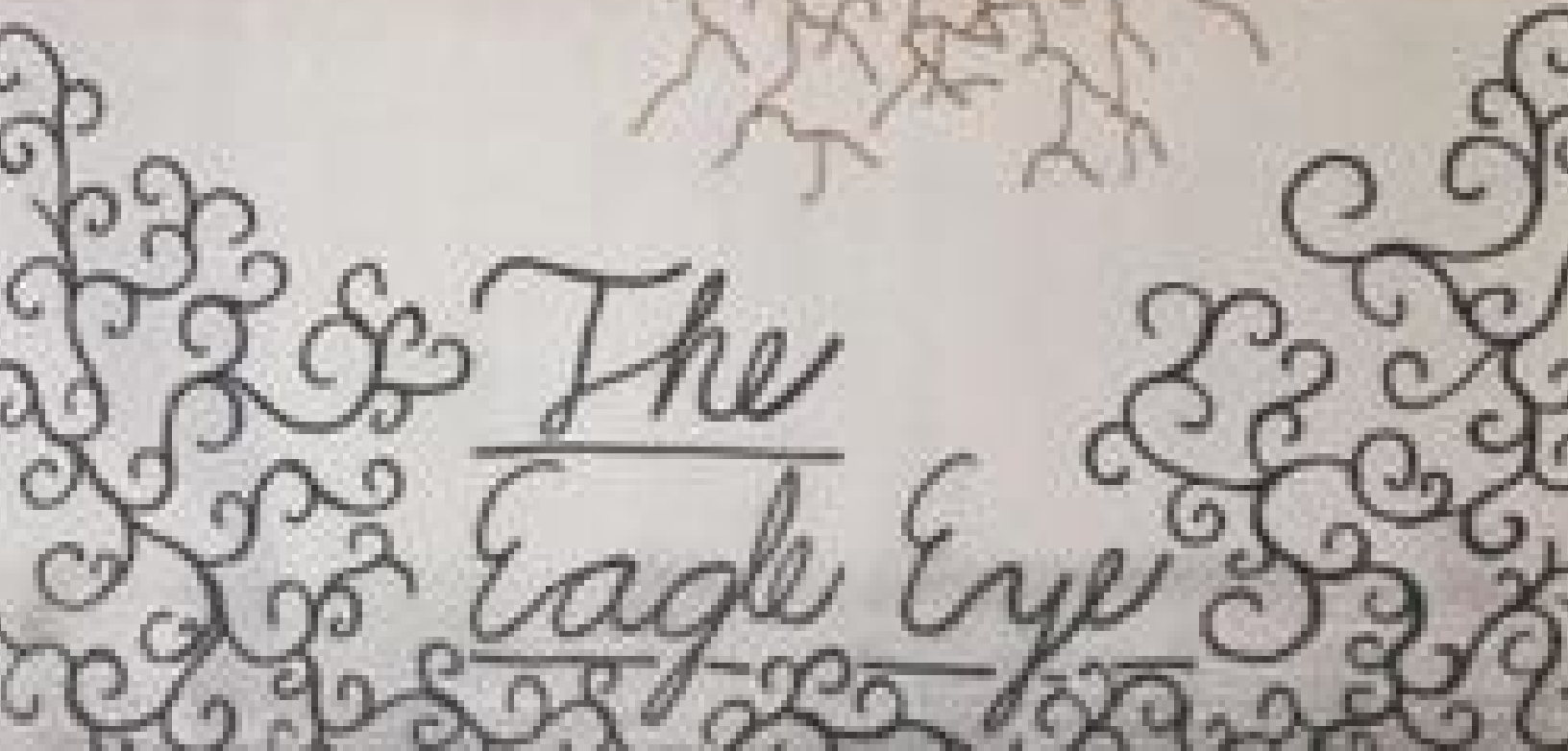


through
clouds



The
Eagle Eye



“

April hath put a
spirit of **youth**
in everything.

✕

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

”




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AN APRIL DISASTER: THE SINKING OF THE RMS TITANIC

BY: ROCCO TROPEA

In the early morning of April 15, 1912, the RMS *Titanic*, a ship of legendary size, sank to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean after scraping the side of an iceberg. Most of us are familiar with this story, but perhaps not *as* familiar with its origins and specifics.

At the time of its construction in Belfast, Ireland, the *Titanic* was the largest movable, man-made object in the world. It measured about 883 feet in length (roughly two and a half football fields) and weighed over 50,000 tons. Under the ownership of the White Star Line company, the *Titanic* served as a luxury passenger line with many commodities on board that were unheard of on other liners, such as a swimming pool and squash court. The ship was so luxurious, in fact, that the second class accommodations were comparable to first class accommodations on other ships. Nonetheless, the *Titanic* had passengers from all walks of life, from wealthy celebrities to working-class emigrants.

The *Titanic* was considered by many to be “unsinkable” not just because of its size, but because of its design. The hull was divided into sixteen compartments such that if a breach occurred, the areas with water could be closed up to contain the flood. It was said that a quarter of these compartments could flood with the ship still staying afloat. Additionally, many now point to the fact that there were too few lifeboats available as sleazy and idiotic, but at the time it was completely legal. The *Titanic* only carried twenty out of a possible sixty-four lifeboats to avoid crowding on the deck. This was enough for half of the ship’s passengers, but it was legally allowed since ships were not meant to keep *every* passenger afloat, just to transport them to a rescue ship.

It was the *Titanic*’s maiden voyage from Southampton, England to New York City which would result in its demise. Nearly 2,500 passengers were on board under
4 Captain Edward J. Smith when an iceberg was spotted on the cold, dark night of

April 14, 1912, by lookout Frederick Fleet. He was forced to observe with his own eyes, as the ship's binoculars were locked away. The key was accidentally kept by David Blair, an officer who was removed from the *Titanic* crew at the last minute.

The iceberg scraped the side of the *Titanic* as it narrowly passed by. However, passengers below-deck were not even aware of the collision until news of it came to them. Six of the hull's compartments were breached, and Captain Smith knew that the ship would begin to sink. Panic ensued as passengers were rushed on to lifeboats, following the convention of "women and children first." However, due to the confusion, the first lifeboat released carried far less passengers than it could have potentially held, and some officers organizing the boardings misinterpreted the "women and children first" rule to mean "women and children *only*."

By 1:00 A.M. on April 15, the bow (or front) of the boat began to sink. At this point, there were actually many passengers who accepted their fate and gave up their spots on lifeboats. Others stayed behind to avoid being seen as cowards back at home. Captain Smith stayed with his ship as it went down and eventually split in two, but it is unknown whether he waited it out in the wheelhouse or committed suicide with a gun. Some passengers who fell into the icy waters died due to drowning, but a majority died of hypothermia, which occurred within minutes. In total, there were about 705 survivors picked up by the nearby RMS *Carpathia*, while over 1,500 people died.

To this day, the *Titanic* disaster is one of the worst maritime disasters in history. In the wake of the disaster, many safety reforms were instituted, such as the recommendation that enough lifeboats were on board to accommodate *all* passengers. The remains of the *Titanic* still sit at the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. They are a constant reminder of the tragedy which cost so many innocent lives.



Too late

By: Pranjay Kumar

Earth suffers countless sicknesses
Withholding the deadliest killer
Killing love far quicker
Than any fatal illness

A Silence
An Affection
An Essence
An Affliction

First glance
Friend
First trance
Pretend

My withholding heart
My growing pain
My mind denying
My mind insane

Courage amassed
Fears cast
Four words said
My heart sped
Her smile warm
We were born

However I feared
Alas dreams remained dreams

Cowardice persevered
Courage an extreme
Dissappointment appeared
An Opportunity veered

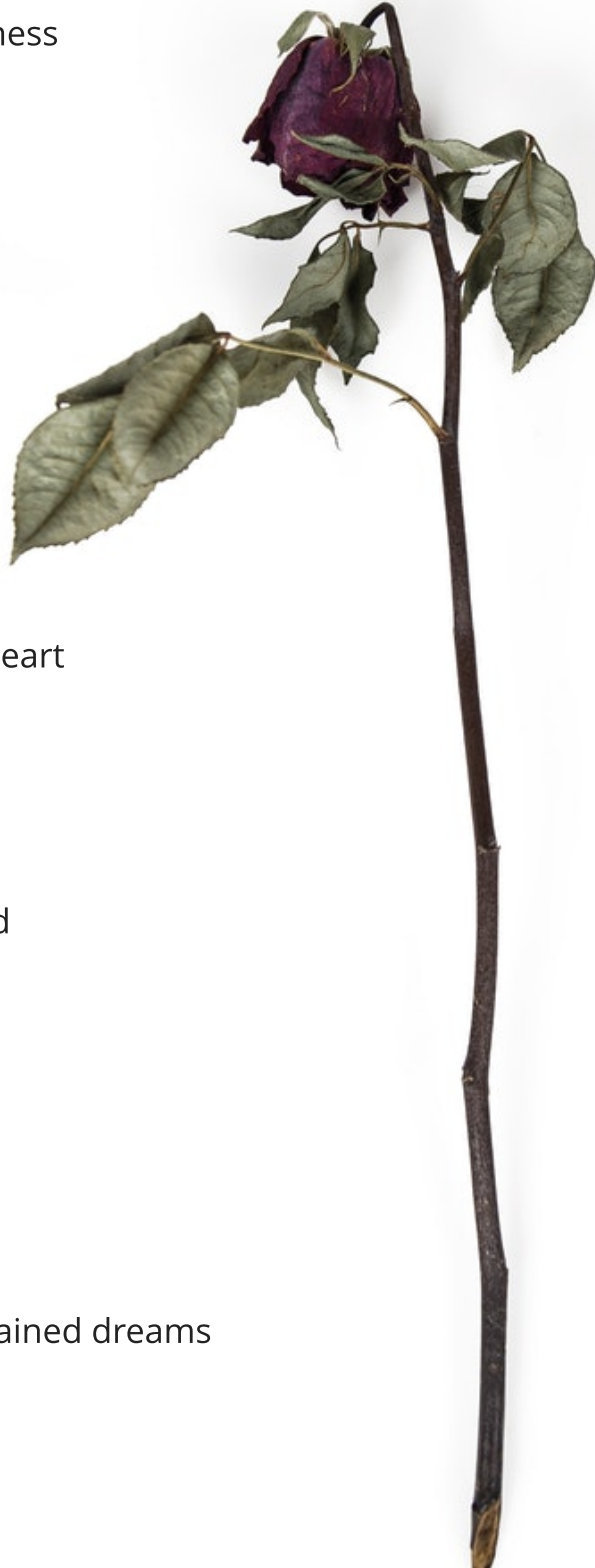
Her smile enchanting
My mind contemplating
Her intelligence striking
My mouth never moving

Life took its course
Thought feelings disappeared
But fate was course
Slowly reappeared

Months later unexpected
She appears undetected
Confessions follow
As does sorrow

My feelings never one-sided
My heart never alone
Her feelings never one-sided
Her heart never alone

Now my soul contemplating
Now my mind speculating
Love is much too vital
For you to stand idle



Unfolding Lives

By: Anuraag Sarkar

He met him while walking home from school. Aarav was sitting near a fire, his hands folding a piece of a newspaper. The boy's hands moved gracefully, carefully folding the paper. You may have thought that the dirty piece of paper was an important personal belonging.

Vivaan walked up to the boy, curious. "Why are you folding that old newspaper? Does it serve any purpose?" He asked.

Aarav looked up. "No, I'm making a swan. It was something my mother taught me when I was younger," he replied. He then looked down again, continuing his work.

"How can you make a swan with that dirty piece of paper! Everyone knows that a swan can only be borne from other swans!" Vivaan exclaimed. The boy looked up again and then looked back down, continuing to fold the piece of paper.

"Not a real swan, silly. I'm making a model of one, something that can represent the elegance of one," Aarav responded quietly.

"But how can you make a swan using one

piece of paper? Whenever I make something, I always use many! The more you use, the better it comes out!" Vivaan blurted. The boy looked at Vivaan again, except this time he held Vivaan's stare.

"Well then, that is an awfully stupid way to waste some good paper!" Aarav exclaimed. As he continued to fold the piece of paper, Vivaan noticed a head poke out from the many folds. After a few more folds, two wings magically appeared on the sides of the figure, and soon the piece of paper looked like an intricate model swan.

"Wow, that's beautiful! How did you do that?" Vivaan asked, amazed.

"You can constantly add many pieces of paper, but if you don't handle the paper well, it all falls apart. However, one piece of paper can be folded infinitely, and if you are patient, you will produce something amazing," the boy responded. He suddenly stood up and held out his hand. "My name is Aarav. What is your name?"

Vivaan took the hand and shook it,

grateful for finally knowing the strange boy's name. "It's Vivaan. I live in that building over there." Vivaan exclaimed, pointing to a massive building in one of the most upscale neighborhoods bordering the slum right next to it. "Where do you live?"

Aarav spread his arms out. "I live here!"

Aarav responded stupidly.

Vivaan looked around. There was a small, ragged shack surrounded by many other similar makeshift shelters behind Aarav, and besides these shelters was the campfire. He had a small clothes line set up with two shirts and pants on it and they were as dirty as the one he was wearing.

"I don't believe you. This place is awful!"

Vivaan exclaimed. "People live in houses,

everyone knows that!"

Aarav smiled faintly. "This place may not be as fancy as your house, but at least I can still call this place home," Aarav murmured.

Vivaan then noticed two fishes cooking on sticks by the campfire. The *chaara pona* smelled absolutely delicious! Aarav noticed Vivaan eyeing the fishes and chuckled. He grabbed the fishes and slowly removed them from the stick. The fishes came out with a "pop!" and Aarav held one of them out for him.

"I caught these by the *khaal* the other day. You want one?" Aarav asked.

"Yes please!" Vivaan exclaimed, grabbing the fish from Aarav's hands. He slowly took a bite of the fish, savoring the flavor. "This



is amazing! It tastes so much better than the ones my mom makes!"

"That's because it's fresh from the canal. The stupid stores that you guys probably get your fish from probably lather them with chemicals before selling them," Aarav responded.

"Oh," Vivaan said simply.

Aarav took out another piece of paper and held it out to Vivaan. "I see you are impressed by my origami," Aarav began.

"Here, I will teach you how to do it. In exchange, can you get me some food?"

Vivaan was perplexed. This kid was willing to teach him something so amazing? None of his friends ever taught him anything so amazing, let alone a complete stranger. "Of course! Thank you so much!" Vivaan chirped.

"Ok, so origami is basically folding the paper to make a shape of some sort. If you fold it like this..." Aarav started saying. For the entire day, the two boys worked together on origami. When the sun was beginning to set, Vivaan ran to his house and stormed into his kitchen. He quickly took out a bag of tomatoes from his refrigerator and ran back to give it to Aarav.

When his mom asked why he took so many tomatoes, he said that he had a school project.

"Wow, these are great! I haven't had such great food in a long time!" Aarav exclaimed, devouring the tomatoes.

"They are just tomatoes. I thought you would be disappointed." Vivaan responded.

"When you don't know when you are going to eat next, everything tastes amazing to you, even bugs!" Vivaan hummed.

Ever since that day, the two boys met every single day. Each day, Aarav taught Vivaan how to do origami, and in return, Vivaan gave Aarav food.

One day the boys were talking about their parents. "I hate my mom and dad!" Vivaan exclaimed. "I can't do anything; they always fuss over everything! They make me study and go to school, and whenever we go on vacation, we always go someplace stupid, like a lake or something!"

Aarav stopped eating the carrots that Vivaan had brought for him. "You know, you're very lucky to have parents. Ever since I was little, I had to worry about what I was going to do each day. Every day, people looked at me with disgust. Your

parents pack your lunch, they look out for you, and they are there for your birthdays. Do you know how many times I have had to sing happy birthday to myself? Heck, I don't even know when my birthday is anymore!" Aarav fumed. He threw the paper that he was folding, and it landed on a puddle, completely ruining it. Aarav finally came to his senses and quickly scrambled for it.

When he returned, however, Vivaan became angry at him for yelling so much. "Hey, you don't have to do anything someone else tells you to do. You're completely free, with no bounds! You don't even have to go to school, you spoiled brat!"

Aarav looked at him, a tear going down one eye. "Me? Spoiled? Look at a mirror, and then come back to me."

At this Vivaan stood up abruptly. "I don't want to see you ever again! You and your stupid origami can stay here forever for all I care!" Vivaan spat. He threw the paper he was working on at Aarav and stormed away.

"Wait! I didn't mean that!" Aarav called back. This was useless, however, as Vivaan was already long gone.

A week passed without the boys meeting again. Vivaan, however, felt bad for saying what he had said to Aarav. He now realized that *he* was the spoiled one, not Aarav. Vivaan bought a pizza pie and headed back to Aarav's *home*. After he reached it, however, Aarav was not there. He could tell that Aarav had not started a fire in a while, as the wood was damp because of the heavy rain from two *days* back.

"Aarav! Where are you!" Vivaan called. He searched everyone- the tea shop, the place where Aarav worked, and even the shops. However, Vivaan could not find Aarav.

Vivaan went back to Aarav's home and started crying. Why had he said those awful things? It was all his fault.

Suddenly, someone tapped him on the shoulder. Vivaan looked up and was surprised to see the tea shop owner, Aarav's boss.

"Are you looking for Aarav?" He asked. Vivaan nodded.

The man with the mournful look took a deep breath. Vivaan could sense his sadness, but he couldn't pinpoint where it was from. Finally, he looked at Vivaan and said slowly, "He died in a car accident

yesterday. A car swerved too far right and hit him while he was working on something. I identified the body myself, so I know it was him."

Vivaan froze. He looked around. There were people talking, laughing, shouting. He then looked at Aarav's home. He looked at the many newspapers piled in Aarav's tent. He really looked and noticed the headlines...

A FATAL JUMP, one of them was labeled. CAR CRASH, POISONING, DISEASE, many more were labeled. He noticed, for the first time in his life, all the things he had been folding without really looking at exactly *what* he was folding. Finally, the truth hit home, and Vivaan finally processed the fact the Aarav was dead.

Dead. The last thing they did was squabble over something silly. Dead. He won't see his smile anymore, or learn from him anymore. Dead. Dead. Dead. Dead!

"Hey, are you Vivaan by any chance?" Aarav's boss asked, breaking Vivaan's trail of thought.

"Yes, why?" Vivaan sniffled.

Aarav's boss went into the tea shop where Aarav used to work and came back with an origami swan. This swan was different,

however, because it was one of the most intricate origami swans he had ever seen in his life. Vivaan could see Aarav working gingerly on the wonderful masterpiece, folding the paper with care. Not only that, but this swan was not made out of newspaper. Instead, it was the paper people bought from art stores, the silky and colorful ones.

"This is for you. It's even labeled. I managed to take it from Aarav's body before the cops could confiscate it."

Vivaan took the swan carefully and took a good look at it. He broke into tears again, for on the swan, was written in deep blue ink "I'm sorry Vivaan."



A LOOK INTO ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ'S CAREER

BY: ROSHAN PATEL

Chances are, if you have been following the news lately, you have heard a lot of buzz about Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, or AOC, as she is more commonly known. Born into a Puerto Rican family on October 13, 1989, AOC was no stranger to struggle. In fact, her family struggled to pay off its debts and AOC took up many jobs as a child. Despite her situation, however, AOC was able to achieve great feats, including coming in second in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair and even having a small asteroid named after her: 23238 Ocasio-Cortez, during her high school career. Years later, AOC was able to rise up out of poverty and become a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. In the end, while she may not be old enough to run for President in 2020, many feel that she holds the potential to become the first female President of the United States.

1. The Green New Deal

AOC's first piece of legislation, the Green New Deal, was submitted to the Senate on February 7, 2019. The central goal of the legislation is to address climate change and transition the entire U.S. economy to renewable, zero-emission energy sources over a course of twelve years. While many agree that the deal itself is optimistic, many ask where the funding for such a plan will come from. When asked this question, AOC has often dodged the question and has not outlined an exact plan. One of the most stunning aspects of the Green New Deal is the part which states that all gas vehicles will be replaced by electric vehicles. This certainly alarmed many people, who contest that the idea will never come to fruition and is economically impossible.

2. Proposed Tax Policy

12 AOC also made headlines for her opinions on taxes. In fact, AOC proposed introducing a

marginal tax as high as 70% on income above \$10 million in order to fund the Green New Deal. This tax would bring in \$720 billion more dollars per decade for the government. Many Republicans have lashed out against, this, such as Grover Norquist, head of the Americans for Tax Reform, who tweeted, “Slavery is when your owner takes 100% of your production. Democrat congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez wants 70% (according to CNN).” As to whether or not such a tax policy will be put in place, only time will tell.

3. Immigration

AOC has also demonstrated great support for abolishing the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE agency. In fact, she was the only Democrat to vote against H.R. 648, a bill to fund and reopen the government because it funded ICE. Furthermore, AOC has voiced her anger about Trump’s Wall, saying, “No matter how you feel about the wall, I think it’s a moral abomination. I think it’s like any other wall designed to separate human beings and block out people who are running away from the humanitarian disasters.” She went on to compare Trump’s Wall to the Berlin Wall, one of the most infamous symbols the last century. This shows her conflicting views with the current president and before you mentioned how shes a strong candidate as a female president, so maybe you could state



YOUR opinions as to why, here.

Conclusion

In the end, regardless of whether or not you agree with her views, AOC is notable because she is not afraid to voice her opinions and work to introduce change. Her story and rise to fame are notable as well, and her devotion to her work is praiseworthy. In the end, AOC is best characterized by her quote, “Change takes courage.”

FOLDABLE SMARTPHONES: TECH FUTURE OR EXPENSIVE GIMMICK?

BY: AVINASH KUMAR

Smartphone makers have been teasing foldable phones for years, but they became more real than ever this year with Samsung's February 20th announcement of the Galaxy Fold, just days before MWC began in earnest. As the name suggests, the Galaxy Fold is a smartphone that unfolds, opening to reveal a 7.3-inch display inside. On the front of the device is a 4.6-inch screen you can use when the Galaxy Fold is closed. It's thicker than your

average smartphone, features six cameras, and will cost you a whopping \$1,980 when it arrives later this year.

Chinese smartphone maker Huawei also introduced its own foldable smartphone earlier this month. Instead of Samsung's book-like design, the Mate X takes its 8-inch flexible OLED screen and goes in a different direction, wrapping it around one side of the asymmetrical device and giving users

three



different screen sizes to choose from depending on their preference. When folded, the Mate X has a 6.6-inch bezel-free display on the front, and a smaller 6.4-inch rear display next to the trio of cameras on the device's non-folding side.



When unfolded, the Mate X lets users take advantage of its 8-inch display, run apps side-by-side, and watch video uninterrupted by any camera notches. The Mate X also supports 5G connectivity, a major feature the Galaxy Fold lacks. That said, the Mate X's expected \$2,600 selling price might be a bit much for all but the most die-hard of early adopters.

Both the Galaxy Fold and the Mate X carry shocking prices for a smartphone. But breakthrough tech often starts out costlier before coming back down into the realm of reasonability. "People getting all caught up in pricing, or the fact that it's not perfect, are totally missing the point," says Stephen Baker, Vice President and Industry Advisor for technology and mobile at research firm

NPD Group. He argues that, in a world where most smartphones have become riffs on boringly familiar designs, it's nice to see smartphone makers taking bigger gambles. "I think it's great that different companies are taking different approaches to what a foldable phone will look like."

Will consumers actually want foldable phones? After all, other more out-there designs, like Motorola's customizable "Moto Mods" lineup, haven't made much of a dent. Baker's point aside, the most glaring issue will no doubt be cost. At \$1,980, the Galaxy Fold will be Samsung's most expensive smartphone, blowing past the controversial \$1,000 mark set by Apple's iPhone X when it came out in November 2017. And \$2,600 for the Huawei

Mate X is even more outlandish by comparison. But, as a rule, tech tends to get cheaper over time — 4K televisions that once cost thousands of dollars can now be had for a far more reasonable three figures, for instance.

Then there's the matter of how useful foldable phones will actually be. That, in turn, will depend on whether software designers create apps that truly take advantage of their novel form factor. "Whether foldable phones are a gimmick that will go away over time or whether they are a truly disruptive device category will largely depend on software and OS integration," says Gartner Senior Director and Analyst Werner Goertz. "If the apps fully support the dual mode, then the entire product will produce good use value, especially for professional and prosumer users."

Samsung made sure to point out that companies like Google are updating their apps to make sure of the Galaxy Fold's screen, and others are likely to follow

suit. But with other companies announcing or considering still more radical form factors, developers may struggle to create apps that work well on all of them.

Neither Samsung nor Huawei have offered reviewers access to their foldable phones, so it's hard to get a feel for how useful they'll actually be. Still, foldable smartphones have plenty of promise, and mark one of the most exciting gadget developments from both a technical and cultural perspective in ages. "Long term, everybody does want a bigger screen with them," says NPD's Baker. "And the ability to get a really big screen at the same time ... makes a lot of sense, as opposed to carrying around multiple devices." Like the glimpse of the future seen when Apple first debuted the iPhone, a proliferation in foldable screens could forever change how we interact with our technology and create and consume our favorite content.



APRIL
SHOWERS
BRING
MAY
FLOWERS



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Editors

Varsini Dhinakaran
Shefali Awasthi

Cover Art

Shreya Ghosh

Contributors

Roshan Patel
Pranjay Kumar
Anuraag Sarkar
Avinash Kumar
Rocco Tropea

Advisor

Mrs. DaSilva-Caton

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