

oh!!!

wo-(man-ia)

[woo-m-uh-nia] noun, abstract most of the times, raw, unadulterated, ridiculously suave

volume 2 - april' 2014

"Mirror mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all",

~ Hum Kaale hai toh kya hua Dilwale hai!

~ Dhoop me nikla na karo roop ki Rani...

Gora rang Kaala na pad jaaye!

why me so dark
why so many marks
who will marry me
who will love me
will i be successful
how many creams
shattered dreams
i want peaches
i want pinks
i want spotless beauty
i want speckless skin
beauty is just skin deep
the heart is what matters
will some look beyond
beyond my color
no no no, its a sham
mirror mirror make me fair
why me so dark
why so many marks
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I WISH TO CHANGE

BUT

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HOW

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FOR

WHEN

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FEMINISM

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Kareena or Bipasha.

Whom would you marry and

whom would you have an affair with?

You are a woman. Skin and bones. Veins and nerves. Hair and sweat.

You are not made of metaphors. Not apologies. Not excuses.

- rebecca west

editorial

DIBA
YAMINI

Being loved is not the same thing as loving. When you fall in love, it is discovering the ocean



This time, Oh! Womana is anything but Fair and Lovely!

"Mirror mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all",

asked Snow White. Don't we wish we were Snow Whites too, to whom the mirror would answer "you are the fairest of all, dear Indian woman"

Only if there was a mirror who could tell other colors a girl possesses apart from the color of her skin. Aren't we made of different colors? Red for passion, yellow for intellect, pink for love, orange for sacrifice, green for productivity, grey for dilemmas, and black for protest?

There are many beautiful colors that define women, which are present in

every single one of us. But we need assurance for the color that only defines the exterior. The color - white. White skin, fair skin is beautiful skin. Well, yeah! That's the fad, lately. I don't care how many cigarettes I smoke, or what color is my gut, all I want to be is fair and pretty!

Slowly it's turning into a mockery for the women and making huge business for people who touch that teeny weeny emotional - (beauty and fairness) string within us.

We criticize the people in the west for their racist attitude, for differentiating between the black and the white. Well, I am ashamed to accept that we Indian women are the racist of all. Because we don't accept ourselves the

way we are. We want our skin to change. How racist are we?

I have had hard time thinking on this topic! It's just too much! I am no hypocrite! I seriously need a break!

unfolding volume 2

- story of evolution
- debate- the fairer sex.... color of your identity - racist paradigms
- happiness has no color
- facts we choose to ignore
- who is to be blamed?
- bebo vs bips
- into the minds of fair and dark
- fairness craze in men
- from the doctor's desk
- behind the pages.....

I think I'll splash some cool water on my tired face, wash it with a fairness face wash, apply some fairness cream, look in to the mirror and applaud at the wonderful bleaching effect it has instantly caused and click a selfie and post it on Facebook and wait for a dozen likes! You know, that really makes my day!

~Editors

color or your
IDENTITY

RACIST PARADIGMS

Meanwhile, hope you have a happy read!

it's the male who needs to woo the female for attention. It's their need.



The story of Evolution

Have you ever thought about the place of the "females" in the other species? Whom do you find more attractive? Who puts on a show? A peahen or a peacock? A lioness or a lion? A hen or a rooster?

Ever given a thought as to why it is different in other forms of existence than humans! Let me tell you!

In animals, the female is the uglier one and the male is beautiful..... Ever wondered why? **Because it's the male who needs to woo the female for attention. It's their need.**

The males need to show off and look good so that they can impress and attract the females to mate with them.

In the ancient cultures and civilizations, the male decked up, and dressed up in all senses to impress their ladies, because again, men need women, it was never the other way round.

But today unfortunately, the tables have turned and we are going against what was actually meant to be.

Women today want to be desirable for their men. They actually needn't be, per se, because by human instincts the men will seek women, anyway. But it's more a matter of putting on a show, these days.

So they wear jewelry and make-up to woo men. Why?

Today women undergo various surgeries for whitening of their skin.... skin which is visible to all, skin which is hidden and private. **They go about making everything fair. Everything just needs to be white and glowing.**

Why? Is it really necessary? Isn't "healthy" more important than shiny, fair and glowing skin?

In India we blindly follow the Bollywood divas, but these national and international icons too, instead of rebuffing such traditions endorse various creams, surgeries and brands, to get away with our naturally dusky and sensuous skin tone. They push us to "dream" for the unreasonable shades of skin, which essentially is not required at all.

who is wooing WHO?

Woman. If you grow up the type men want to love, You can let them love you.



You are a woman. Skin and bones. Veins and nerves. Hair and sweat.

You are not made of metaphors. Not apologies. Not excuses.



What a shame!

What a fake society are we living in? But we ourselves are at fault as we have tagged and created slangs for the fair and the dark. We differentiate. We are the ones who yearn for a sparkling white, porcelain doll for our sons, brothers, and friends. In the process, we forget, what is natural is beautiful. That is how things were meant to be! Not otherwise!

Debate - "The fairer sex.... the color of your identity.... racist paradigms"

Chaudhavi ka Chaand ho...

The color fad! "Get a new fair complexion in 14 days! "
"Improve your skin tones within 7 days".

"Become 4 shades lighter in 15 days". "So fair! So pretty!"

"Wanted a bride for my son, educated, beautiful... and who can be seen even after putting off the lights!"

Sad!

The "fairer sex" that we are, not in color of our skin but the rationality we have within us, isn't it? So many products to get away those patches, blemishes, that awfully dark tone of our very (sensuously) Indian skin!! Sigh!

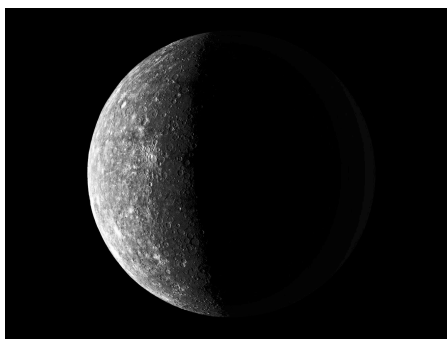
Why? What do we want? What are we trying to achieve?

Yes, we want Oscars, Levis, Starbucks, McDonalds, and we also want the blond locks and the stark white skin from the west. The world is fighting Racism. But in our country, we have a different and altogether out of the world approach towards racists. We are prejudiced with our own people, our own nationals, at times ourselves too... Duh! That's so awfully bad. We hate our own skin. We want it to be fairer!

In our country Color Matters.... oh hell it does! Yes! And that's nothing to be proud of.

Color, like they show in advertisements can take you places, it gets you jobs (like your credentials are nothing) it gets you suitable grooms (color brings compatibility, some say) it gets you a good friend circle too (no comments)! I mean, really, color will do so much for you? So every fair girl must be filthy rich, well placed and have an amazing husband, ideally speaking! Is that the trend? Is that what is expected?

Nothing can be so superficial..... And nothing that's superficial can be permanent!



"Kaali Kalooti" Rings a bell? We have amazing (totally insensitive) slangs and quotes for girls with darker skin tones. We have all adulations for the fairer ones! All famous poetries and songs are written on the beauty and color of the skin.

Sagar Jaisi Aankho Waali...

People don't compliment on skin for some girls. They have weird compliments for eyes, or hair! But some want to hear compliments about their color.

Yes that's right.. The matrimonial websites are demanding fair girls for the bridegrooms. The Mothers-in-law demand fair DILs. So what's wrong if the girls chose to lighten their skins? They have the right to look beautiful. They may idolize the fairer girls around - the stars who promote fairness products. There is nothing wrong in it... Many of them are not born with great complexion.

The haldis, uptans, besans and what not! Pregnant ladies gulp down milk with Kesar(saffron) too, so that the baby turns out to be fair!

Most of them turn out awfully dark, or sometimes on the verge of dusky and dark and there is nothing wrong if they want to do things to go seventeen and a half shades lighter.

What is wrong if girls want to look like albino girls stung by a bee? That way they wouldn't have to apply blush over the artificially-fair skin! You cannot call these girls racist, just because they are transforming how they look. They sure love black people, even if they hate their own dark complexion! After all they deserve to get good guys for marriage.

What appeals in the first go? The looks! People notice the looks and that is the very first impression which stays. So if there are girls who want fair skins and blond locks and they want to concentrate more on the outer beauty than the inner beauty there is nothing wrong in that! At all!

Nothing can be dark always. Anything that sees light, and makes first good impression is permanent! Superficiality is the next 'in-thing'.

The parent's sometimes do not think this over while getting married that they end up having a girl child and she may turn out to be dark totally against her wishes. And if she turns out to be dark, the mothers do all sorts of things to enhance the color since childhood, as if there is nothing called as genetics and melanin

SKIN

Skin derives its color from the cells contained by the dermis and epidermis.

This is mainly genetic, depending on how your parent's skin color was. A set of dark parents, will seldom have a baby with very fair skin. Obvious! Isn't it? Blood vessels are also responsible for providing skin a red or blue tint depending on the oxygen level.

Level of melanin inside the layer of skin also determines the color of skin.

Higher the level of melanin darker is the complexion.

types of melanin present on human body.

1

Eumelanin is a black or brown pigment, and is mainly concerned with the protection of the skin by absorbing incoming UV radiation. This protective ability warrants melanin to be termed a photo protectant (a substance capable of providing protection against radiation from the sun).

2

Pheomelanin is a reddish pigment, a very weak absorptive of UV radiation, further it also acts as a photosensitizer (makes your skin sensitive to light), where it increases sun sensitivity and skin aging.

skin lightening creams

The skin lightening creams basically consist of a lot of dangerous steroids and compounds like hydroquinone, mercury, tretinoin and kojic acid. It varies from product to product. A prolonged use of these compounds can lead to health conditions like skin cancer, liver damage, poisoning due to mercury content and permanent pigmentation on the skin. They cause irremediable damage to skin and health.

Some facts, that we choose to ignore!

Fairness creams have become a craze for many women and even men. The lighter the skin, the more beautiful it is, they say, but have we ever thought about the risks they come with?

Skin lightening products are sold by major celebrities and they endorse it without understanding the damage they are causing. If we take a look at the vanity case of any of the top actors or models who promote the products we surely wouldn't find any one of these products. They would rather be doing a different routine to maintain healthy skin. They are born fair, that's why they are chosen to promote a fairness product and they shamelessly endorse the fact that a particular product

The fact is we are born in a certain way, with certain set of features and skin tone. We can maintain what is already bestowed upon us, but we cannot do the unreasonable and "change" it. Getting lighter skin tones is just an example of something that is against the natural course of life. The sooner we accept, the happier we will be.

made them fair which is nothing but plain deception. I appreciate and respect Kangana Ranaut because she

turned down crores of rupees and refused to promote a Fairness brand, just because it endorses 'fairer skin is beautiful skin'.

~Gore rang pe na itna gumaan kar, gora rang do din me dhal jayega!

These skin lightening creams hinder the production of melanin, which as mentioned above is nothing but a protective layer against the UV rays of the sun. In the initial stages, usage of these creams results in fairer looking skin, however due to the toxic nature of its contents, it causes premature aging and patchy skin. Hydroquinone acts as a solidifier and solidifies the collagen fibers. This damages the skin tissues in turn. Mercury is responsible for the damage to the nervous system and causes kidney problems, organ failure and many other health problems because of its toxic nature. Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) issued a warning that mercury has the potential to cause serious damage to health.

If we read more about the side effects, we come across some startling yet, gory details, but somehow we chose to ignore them. Ignorance is bliss, many would say, and continue their pursuit of trying to look like one of the models of the fairness advertisements.

who is
to be
blamed
???

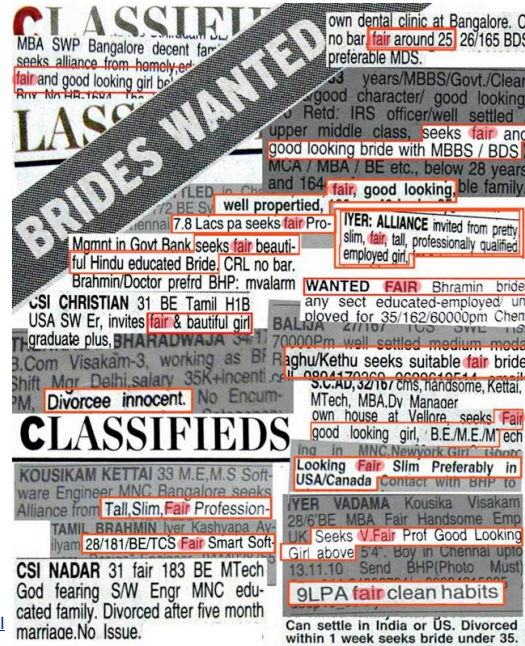


Photo Courtesy: <http://lounge.kadzilla.com/2011/01/indian-obsession-with-fair-skin.html>

Wanted a beautiful, very fair, educated girl for a smart handsome Punjabi boy

Seeking a beautiful, fair, good-looking, girl for a business man Jatt boy

Wanted a fair, beautiful girl, education no bar, for a well-qualified doctor settled in Delhi.

Doesn't it sound familiar? The matrimonial advertisements?

Since the time we have zeroed down upon "fairness fad" as the topic for our next issue, I have been trying to strike conversations with women about this. Mostly girls I know do use fairness cream, which are proven and used widely. They have no complaints with the product quality and they are very satisfied customers.

It's not really about who is right and who is wrong. It's just that, there are a lot of wrong notions doing rounds. The notions about fairness being the trend, is totally misleading. Where some people promote that using fairness creams are really harmful, most of the times, they just feel secured in their own fair skin. It's good in a way. But then the dusky lasses will probably question "You are fair, what do you know about being dark".

The debate probably is unending. Women will end up doing what they fancy, at the end of the day. But being non-judgmental about oneself is the best thing one can ever do. Hadn't there been societal pressure for marriage, or looks being the supreme criteria, it would have been peaceful for the women to live. We create these fads. And we suffer, ultimately. Who is to be blamed? Really?



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cv9w75yz4M>

So the other day I get a call from a friend's mother, who said that she is looking for a girl for her son, and here is the conversation we had.

"Beta, you are staying in Bangalore, could you help find me a nice girl for my son."

"Sure, Aunt, I'll try. I am not sure what kind of a girl you are looking for"

"I really have no problems with girls from any caste, or educational qualifications. We are very open-minded that way, beta."

"That's great, aunty"

"But since it is Bangalore, it will be very difficult to find fair girls. All south Indians are dark-skinned no! So please see, if you can find someone who has a fair complexion. She will be staying in Delhi, after all, after marriage, you see"

"Yeah! Right!" , I said!

So two women, break into this conversation

"I don't know why girls are crazy behind fairness creams", said the fair one.

"You don't have a dark skin, da, how would you know?" said the other aspiring girl.

"I don't use fairness cream at all. Only moisturizing my skin is enough. That keeps my skin healthy", said the fair one.

"So the skin cream that we use, it makes the skin fair and also moisturizes it. We keep it healthy too", the other defended.

"Yes, but why do want to make it fair. You are dark and you are beautiful", complimented the fair girl.

"But I don't want to be dark. I want to be fair. May be two shades darker than you, but definitely fair", she said.

"Fairness is something that is by birth, you cannot alter it", that was an interesting comment, I thought.

"Ok, so tell me would you go and get a tan, to look dusky?" the fair one was asked.

"Why should I? I am so happy I was born the way I was. I love my skin", concluded the fair girl.

"So you don't want to be dark?" the other asked.

"I would hate it had I been dark. Fair is good!", she sounded hypocritical. I just wondered, "Yeah Right!"

bebo
vs
bips



*Kareena or Bipasha.
Whom would you
marry and whom
would you have an
affair with?*

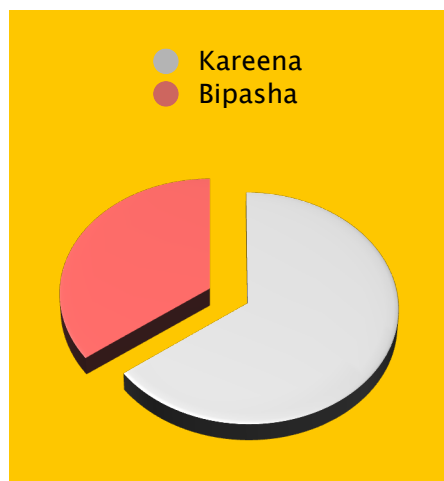
Apart from the fairness fad, there is also a “dusky skin-tone fad” that’s been going on. It’s a pre-conceived notion that dark is sexy and sultry. That’s how Bipasha is looked at. There was a craze of tanned, sleek look that followed after movies like Dhoom and Tashan came up. So there are girls who crave for golden, dusky skin tone because that adds the oomph factor to their sex-appeal.

These same girls could be seen aiming for lighter skin tones as soon as they decide on getting married. So it keeps changing, depending on what you want the skin to sell - a bride, or a sex-bomb. Is that the real purpose of women? To end up as an idea of sex-dolls for men or homely Daughters-in-law for the mothers of these men?

So much so, all for attention, from whom? The showbiz industry is all about exterior representation of beauty. A school girl is portrayed in a

certain way, a teenager in a different way. A college going girl, the bride to be, a girl in love, a married lady, a mother, an old woman, all have a stereotypical portrayal on the celluloid. And we follow them. The society’s mindset is a replica of what happens on the television. Don’t we realize, reality is so much different from it? A fair Daughter-in-law is wishful thinking, but for what? Prettier grandkids? Somewhere this needs to end.

A fair girl for marriage and a dusky girl for a girlfriend? Is that the deal? Really?



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mo3ZJymnsRw>

the survey

bebo, Shaadi ke liye n affair bips ke sath, coz Bips is hot....

bebo is better.... Marry bebo and have affair with bips

Will consider bebo for marriage..

bebo for marriage and affair with Bips, after marrying bebo

Bips, hands down, coz she is earthy n raw. bebo has no warmth.

bebo, definitely, because I feel bebo is more wife-type material... honest, sincere, and dedicated!

Affair with bebo. And no marriage dude!

bips is affair type - peppy, fun loving, adventurous!

bips for marriage. Hands down!

Bips is better. I'll marry none.

Kareena obviously. Bipasha ka figure acha hai!

Kareena khandani shakal se hi lagti hai, just talking about the looks. So definitely Kareena.

One of the gentlemen had a problem with the question itself, because apparently the question wasn't exhaustive enough! He preferred Chitranganda. Another gentleman agreed. So overall, we realized, skin tone had a lot to do with important things like "marriage" and "affair".

Into the minds of "The fair and The dark"

Have you ever been told 'chai mat pi kaali hojayegi' or 'dhoop me mat khel kaali hojayegi'

Has the pain of being fair or not letting your skin darken more, snatched away your childhood field-game fun, or changed your taste buds to suit the color of the skin you want to flaunt?

A kid wouldn't know how important fair skin is. Or what the sun will really do? Or how a beverage will influence the skin color? Why can't they let us be, with whatever color we have, the pink and whites and peaches n plums or the earthy, the almond, the tan, the gold..... Why fret over color so much.

Why we are so unsatisfied? Until we were told that the color mattered, we did not even think twice before baring it all in the sun, getting into that swimming pool without sunscreen, or having tea unapologetically in the mornings. And more cups during the day. Milk is white, so the skin will be white? Tea is brown so will I turn brown?

I haven't! Then why did they tell me I would? I was constantly lied to!

I wish God played this game with the parents before deciding the color of their baby, 'inky pinky ponky which color do u want?' Black. Yellow. Red. Pink. So much fuss over color, so many products for lightening and whitening.

Education hasn't really helped, has it? Educating the society with what? Degrees? And leaving all people inhumane? No compassion, so many prejudices, so many baseless attacks? Fairness fad, tan fad, blah fad. Fads don't stop. One stops, the other erupts. When will "natural" be in vogue, or rather "Be yourself fad?"



Entertainment industry is to an extent a major culprit; they launch fairness creams promoting fairness as the sole reason for success in work and personal life. As if that is not enough, they advertise the importance of the hidden and private areas and insist that it's important to make them white and glowing too. Did we have this trend 25 years ago? Why now?

The media stars have not only promoted creams but also have given a sensuous, sex-appealing meaning to the dusky skin tone. Now when I think of tan or dusky skin tones, I imagine models in bikini, messed up hair and sexy dance moves. Will we ever get this imagery out of my mind?

Will a guy want a dusky girl not in bikini but in Salwar Kameez? I am sure he will. Some day! I am sure parents won't worry about the color of their kids, am sure each girl and guy would be happy with what they have.

Yes one day, amidst our daily rants and small talks, color for one, won't be a topic of debate or worry or discussion. This craze has to go.

Parents want a white kid, 'humaara bachcha foreigner dikhta'. Do they even know "foreigners" are of so many different colors? Why is there a craze of looking like an American or a European or a Middle Eastern or an African? We are Indian, Asians, we have an identity. That earthy, raw appeal of our skin is enviable. But do we care?

I mean when a certain actress is talking about the need for a woman to have the freedom of growing armpit -hair so long that if she wishes she could braid them, there is another actress of the same league featuring in a commercial that promotes fair underarms. One of them of this generation is talking about one kind of freedom, and the other is defining vanity as the utmost medium of expression and confidence for a woman.

~Dhoop me nikla na
karo roop ki Rani...
Gora rang Kaala na
pad jaaye!

Into the minds of "The fair and The dark"

"So did you score a 90 this time too?"
"Your daughter looks intelligent"
"Black beauty!!"

My family and I have gotten these a lot. I am dark, and I am supposed to be intellectual and intelligent. Talk about, Nandita Das, Shabana Azmi or Smita Patil, they are considered to be cult actors. They are not included in the regular league of actors. Their skin tone is related to "intelligence" and that's how they have chosen their films too.

You cannot expect them to give a commercial hit? Why? Because they are not beautiful? They are Intelligent! Why am I talking only about media and Film industry people here? Because, those are the people we follow. Do we really care to be like Kiran Bedi, in terms of looks? No! We want to be dark like Nandita Das, or fair like Kareena Kapoor.

Well, I refuse to believe that. I am beautiful, and I am intelligent, and I don't take the fad that fair is beautiful. I may have messed up features, uneven skin tones, blemishes here and there, and I may be anything else but "fair, but I AM BEAUTIFUL. And I know that! I don't need any one to give me an assurance or certificate for that. No Mother-in-law, no wonder boy, no one!

I know a dozen more girls who are fair – fair and very intellectual. So, are they goddesses? Or supreme reincarnations? No. They are people. Just normal people. Humans. Like I am one!

I wonder if it is some kind of a compensation or consolation. If you are not educated, be thankful that you are so fair. Kaam chal jaayega! Or, if you are not fair, be thankful for



your education. Toh bhi kaam chal jaayega?

I have a problem with people going behind this fairness deal, more so, with the people who Photoshop their pictures to appear fair. If you are not so in reality, why create something fake. I have a problem with dark girls wanting to stay dark and in turn editing their pictures with lighter tones. I have a problem with my relatives thinking that I may not get prospects because of my skin tone. I have problems with people asking me to eat/drink/do certain things to become prettier.

I have problems with a lot of things. Being dark is definitely NOT one of them! My worth will not be measured by how I look. I am beyond all this!

I wonder why my skin tone isn't "beautiful", in societal terms. I wanna know? If I don't have a fair skin tone, should I consider myself lucky enough to be intelligent? And if I did not have degrees, or the sense to exist in today's society, would I be of no worth? Useless?

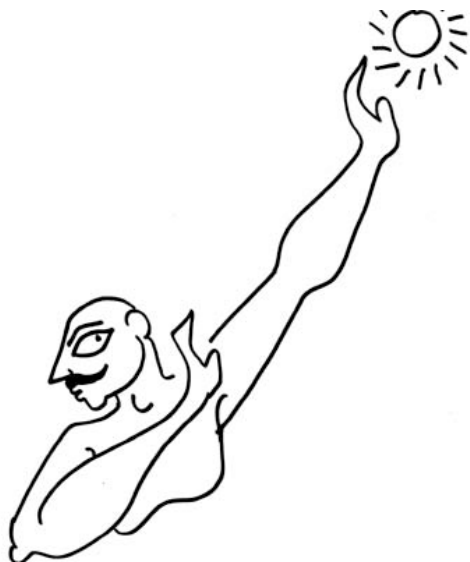
Kaam kaha chalana hai? Whom am I trying to impress? With my skin tone, or my degrees? Unless I want to participate in "Who is the fairest girl on Earth" pageant. I don't even want to do that.

Isn't Beauty all about being comfortable in your own skin? I thought its about knowing and accepting who you are...

Wonder why Miss America Nina Davuluri wouldn't ever win pageant in South Asia? Isn't she too dark to be considered BEAUTIFUL???

~Hum Kaale hai toh
kya hua Dilwale hai!

Fairness craze in Men



Gore gore, o baake chore,
kabhi meri gali aaya karo
Fairness cream lagake aaya
karo, tan nikal ke aaya karo

As if we want that.

Oh god, now this fairness fad is catching up with the darker sex, despite there being parallel campaigns of men, who think that they don't need color to woo women. Yes I agree to this approach though it seems more chauvinist than rational. But then they say we are never satisfied.

We don't need fair guys, yes, but we don't need guys who think they need not take any effort to woo us. We need true guys. Color is not even the last thing that bothers us.

We want Chivalry not Chauvinism. Brains not the color of your skin. So its high time you set similar parameters. Lets chuck this fairness crap concept. Lets remove it from the face of the earth oops....India.... Forever.

Yes while the darker looking heroes are advertising fairness creams, there are intelligent people coming up with rotfl spoofs on the net. These spoofs get millions views and likes, proving

that our generation is slowly repelling this age old non-sense of color.

Women have seen it a lot, now guys, I know you follow us like that Pug.... But please, use your mind.... and don't start this new campaign for men's fairness. Yes, we want you to be fair aka rational..... Not a gora chora.... We need intellectual conversations not a tubelight face. We need love and not a powder puff to play with.

Boys, grow up, we don't want you in 50 shades of white.... We love the greys. And we want you to want us as we are.... And not 50 shades brighter....

P.S. Do watch this hilarious spoof

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S745IK1G23k>

*only people who can vote can watch ;)



From the Doctor's Desk.

1. Is it medically possible to alter the skin tone and make it certain shades darker or lighter permanently without side effects?

It is possible to alter skin tone. Lot of therapies are available now. Skin polishing, peeling helps. Naturally you can just get a "clearer" skin and a "healthy" skin with household face packs. For permanent lightening there are certain creams and procedures which claim to give certain shades lighter tones. They definitely shouldn't be used, because as such, these products are not good or reliable in a long term perspective.

2. Is it correct that the skin lightening creams contain toxic ingredients?

Yes. Lightening creams contain toxic ingredients like mercury which are not good for skin and overall health.

3. How can we protect our skin from the harmful UV rays?

UV rays protection is possible by using sunscreens mostly having spf 30 or above. Apply it 20 mins before going out in the sun.

5. How is Indian skin different from those of people in other continents. How does climate influence the skin?

Indian skin is different. Climates affect the skin. As you know the heat in the central and northern parts of India can cause harm to the skin. Generally speaking, Japanese have good and flawless skin because of the climatic conditions and genetics. It's all about genetics and we can't do much about it.

6. As an aspiring dermatologist, what is your take on the "fairness fad"?

Fairness fad is fast catching up. Among men too. Fairness creams don't help. They may harm your skin in a long term use. The best way to get a glowing and healthy skin is to drink lots of water and follow a good and healthy diet. It is important to keep your inner system clean, basically, and it will reflect on the face.

~Dr. Nida Raza

Behind the pages...

Credits:

There goes a lot of effort in making the magazine, designing it and putting the content together. We have many inspirations, and we can't begin to thank them. So we just mention the credits of the magazine here. For all those who continue to inspire us, they already know it! :)

Medical advice on this issue:
Dr. Nida Raza
Design (cover & magazine):
Diba
Content: Diba and Yamini
Editing: Yamini
Proofreading: Yamini
Facts and Quotes : Wikipedia
Grammar Teacher: MS office/
Mac Pages

~Choli ke peechhe kya hai...

*Dope! Well, senseless dope!
Yeah! Totally. Dope of enthu, that we don't know comes from where.
When we have zeroed down on a topic, we go crazy. There goes a lot into making a magazine. A lot of late night gossips, BBM pings, fights, differences on ideas and agreements! We go about discussing these, and we could actually come up with a PhD research and not just these 11 pages, what you read.*

So there is a lot that's behind the scenes. Wanna peek?

Y: I want a girl-survey too.. Start with you...
Y: If I give u "get dusky skin in 14 days" cream, would you buy it?
D: No
Y: ?? :D
D: I never used fairness cream nor I would use darkening cream
Y: Hmm.. :) Just needed a perspective to start afresh! Got that!

Y: So that day won't be far when dusky becomes a fad and girls go abt dusky-creams n tanning methods to artificially chng skin tone..
D: Jo ho, waise raho.. Bas
Y: Exactly.. That shud be the point..
D: there were
Look @ dhoom girls
Al r dusky
Kareena in tashan
Bt dey made dusky sexy

Y: Husn ke laakhon rang.. Konsa rang de...kho...ge ;)
My playlist plays this song! :D
D: Likh de
Y: Hao.. ;)

D: Hum kaalee hai toh kya hua dilwale hai
Y: Yep.. One article I mentioned this song - gore rang pe na itna gumaan kar
D: Dhoop me nikla na karo roop ki raani, gora rang kala na padh jaaye
Y: Boy.. Yep.. This one I'll put with ur article.. Ye wala
D: Roop ki rani can oonly b gori?

Y: Waha comment hota. Else this time we'll make an FB page so that ppl comment n discuss
And apne ko survey lene ko bhi easy ho jata fb pe
D: FB is more interactive
Y: So this time we'll make it..

Y: Ruk ek naya section banati.. "Behind the scenes", usme apne ye chats :D
D: Choli k peechhe? X_X
Y: Yep.. Perfeccttt

Reflecting back and. Contemplating the cover!

Cover!! The first thing you view... The first impression is the last impression. The face of the e-mag!!

So much to speak yet so less space to express.. Graphics that shout out, Words that say it all. The agglomeration of ideas, specs and art - I had a lot in mind, but doing justice to all was difficult.

We, at Oh! Womana, are but of course '50 shades....of Grey'. Sometimes darker, sometimes lighter, a mix of white and black.

And in our second volume, we speak of the blacks and whites of something that is as superficial as it can be.... Skin! The color of our identity decided by the melanin percentage.

How fair.... Is wanting to be fair? Does black crave for white? Does white want to be black?

Do we see our own reflection when we look in the mirror, or do we see who we want to be? Is there more to look into, beyond the reflection of flesh and blood?

Two wolves are fighting within us. Who we are, and who we wish we could be.

So which wolf wins? The one we feed!!

Post Script

Note: All the typos in the posts are intentional. If you haven't found any, Congratulations!

Note 2: (Not Samsung! :P) We welcome contributions from interested writers. The next topic is highlighted in the "Sneak Peek" section. For more details on the coming issue, please write to us at ohwomana@gmail.com.

Note 3: (Not Samsung again, either! :P) Tell us what you liked, what you didn't and let us know what you want to read. We love emails. Write to us at ohwomana@gmail.com

Note4: Follow us on our new FB page : <http://facebook.com/ohwomana>.

And that's how we roll...More light and more power to you, Womana..

Help spread the love with Diba and Yamini :)

Sneak peek

Our next volume will unfold.....

Beh****d.... kaisa hai be tu?
Chu***a samajh ke rakha hai kya?
Why are you so late, motherf****r?

Why us?
what the cuss!!!
Are you game?