



Up and coming authors

Young Prodigies of Amity Showcase Their Authorial Prowess

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Age is no barrier when it comes to authoring a book, but it certainly makes the feat momentous, especially when you are just a ten-year-old like **Samarth Tyagi**, a sixth grader from **Amity International School, Vas 1**. With his debut novel, *Loyle Cupcott and the Dragon's Myth*, not only has Samarth ushered into the world of words, but he has also *drumrolls* proven his mettle as an author who's here to stay. When wordsmanship is so immanent in an individual, to the level where it's hard to differentiate the artist from his art, one cannot help but stop, stare and appreciate in awe. That's exactly what we did. Here take a look!

Title: *Loyle Cupcott and the Dragon's Myth*
Author: Samarth Tyagi
Price: 139 INR
Available on: Notion Press and Amazon

A writer's saga

when asked about his parents' initial thoughts. Despite the pandemic, "I was in constant touch with my class teacher, Mitali Saxena, as she guided my creative instincts and provided me a clear picture of things related to the art of fiction writing," he adds, appreciating the role Amity played in transforming his interest in fiction into a full-fledged career prospect. He also took the opportunity to thank his dad's colleague for proof reading and editing his work, to make it worth publishing.



The outcome

"It took me around four to five months to complete the book," says Samarth, whose first fictional venture has now sold over hundred copies globally. Published under the Notion Press Publication, his book revolves around three friends and their adventures on an island as they solve several mysteries and defeat their enemies together. The book also includes illustrations designed by Samarth himself. On being asked about the interesting title next, Samarth responds, "It is a play on words. I jumbled the word 'loyal' into 'loyle'; Cupcott is my friend's surname, I just changed its spelling a bit; and Dragon is basically the main villain." To understand what the name collectively implies, go grab your

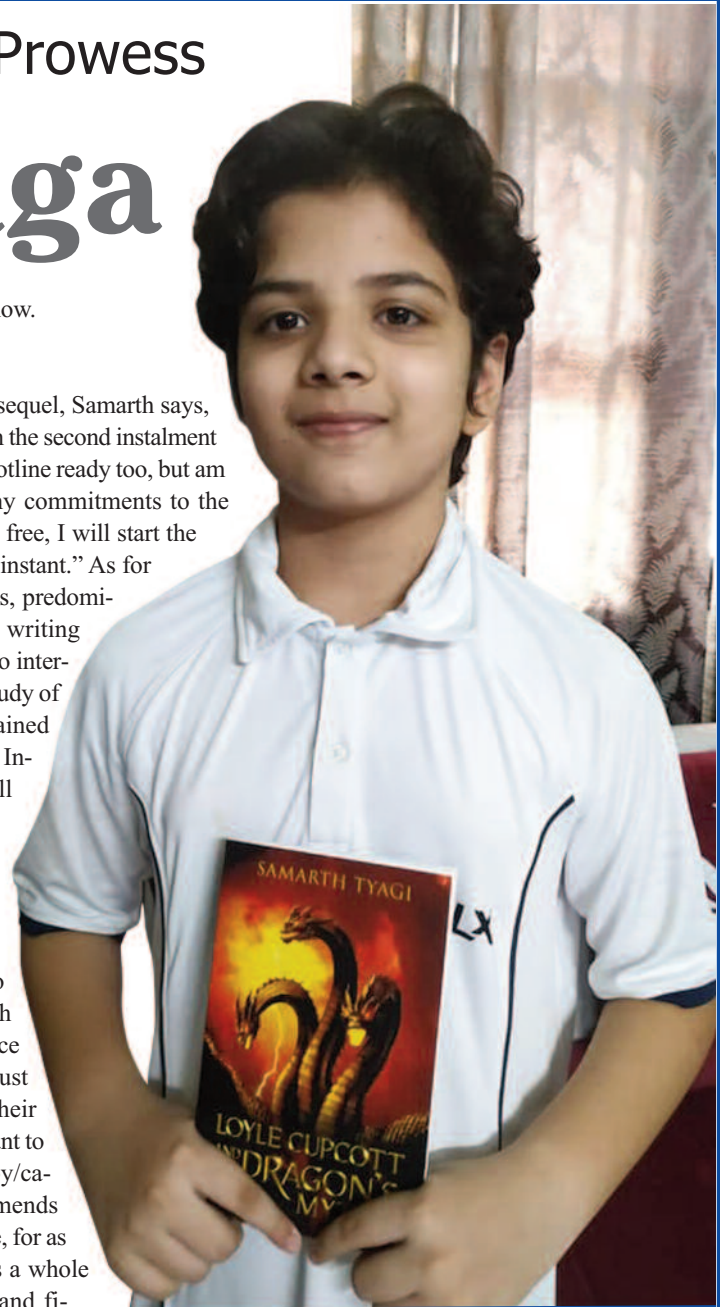
copies of the book right now.

The way forward

Already up for writing a sequel, Samarth says, "I eagerly want to work on the second instalment in the series and have a plotline ready too, but am currently restricted by my commitments to the school. Once I get a little free, I will start the writing process that very instant." As for his long-term career goals, predominantly divided between writing and sports, Samarth is also interested in cosmology, the study of space, an interest he gained after watching the movie *Interstellar*. Guess we will have to wait and watch what lies in store for our talented writing prodigy!

The final words

For all those who desire to be successful, Samarth shares his own experience to suggest that "one must never give up on their dreams"; to those who want to pursue writing as a hobby/career option, he recommends reading as a daily exercise, for as he puts it, "every book is a whole new world to explore"; and finally, for those dealing with writer's block, he proposes taking it all one day at a time. **GT**



GT Author's Desk

The inception

During the lockdown, when the lives of students everywhere turned upside down, Samarth continued his habit of reading. With the likes of JK Rowling, Ruskin Bond, etc., being his absolute favourites, he couldn't help but be captivated by the fantastical world of words, and that's where his inspiration to write comes from. "Time played a huge hindrance though. It was difficult to manage the whole writing process along with the homework and other school work," says Samarth, highlighting how being a child author isn't a piece of cake for it not only requires dedication and sincerity towards the art, but also commands great time managing skills and an effective plan of action.

The development

"When I told my parents about my wish to write a book of my own, they were amazed. They were very supportive throughout the process, waiting eagerly to see the finished project," explains the young writer

An author's epic tale

The prologue

Ananya Agarwal got into literature so early on that she does not even remember the first book she ever read. Simultaneously began her penchant for writing which serves as a medium of recreation for the brilliant writer. Her favourite genre is fantasy, as it allows her to visit and experience fantastical realms. Apart from this, she loves the works of Rick Riordan, attributing to his graceful accommodation of diversity. Heavily inspired by a quote from one of Riordan's protagonists, Annabeth Chase, "Even strength has to bow to wisdom sometimes..." Ananya understood how words, when woven with wisdom, can be powerful enough to change the world. "I wanted something to look back to, something which I had made and which I can be proud of," she says. For her, the hardest part about writing is the forethought it requires. She has to deliberate for weeks in advance, however, it is a challenge that she loves to take on!

Act I: The commencement

The young author conceived the idea for her book when a teacher introduced to her the 'Write Now' programme launched by Scholastic India. An initiative that helps budding writers to explore their creative flair by empowering them to write short stories of their own, Ananya instantly signed up owing to her love for writing. During the programme, she learnt a lot about the subtleties that go into writing. Hence, this process provided a great platform for Ananya to execute her imagination. "The writing process and discipline was monitored constantly throughout the entire course," recounts the author.

Act II: The conflict

"Writing is a tremendous challenge in itself," is what Ananya believes. During her Write Now stint, she composed an author profile and this was followed by a plotline that she wrote with great detail,

somewhat inspired by the Harry Potter books. The little girl has always wanted to write a book which delves into real world topics and issues, to be precise- betrayal. However certain she was about the theme of her book, Ananya was faced with the dilemma of coming up with an idea that will highly resonate with the masses, which, she feels, was the trickiest part of the process. She remembers the point where she became conscious that weaving a story was not a piece of cake. "Before the programme, I made stuff up as I went along, but I realised that wouldn't work here. My work had to be well-thought of and different," sums up Ananya.

Act III: The confrontation

After overcoming the challenges that came her way while realising her story idea, Ananya proceeded to write an entire book in record time under her instructors' supervision. She deliberated even the smallest details of her book and a plot that would entice the readers. Subsequently, she went on to complete her first ever story which was then published by Scholastic in *Pastel Sky*, an anthology of brilliant stories penned by story-tellers like Ananya, entailing all the hard work and ingenuity that she had channelised towards her work.

However, she owes this chance to her teachers who always encouraged her writing and nudged her to participate in the platform.

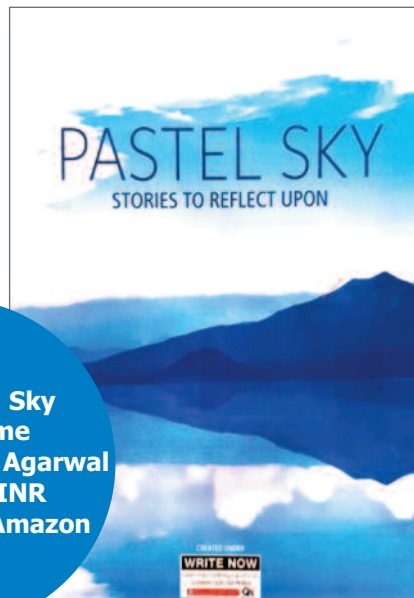
The epilogue

That said, the young accomplished author also believes, "This feat wouldn't have been attainable if it weren't for my parents and teachers who always fostered my flair for writing and encouraged me to overstep the boundaries and publicise the work." Ananya's remarkable achievement, thus, stands true to the saying that unhindered willpower and determination are bound to lead you to your accomplishment! **GT**



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In a world dominated by a great deal of conundrums, we all strive to find that one passion that helps us elude to a space of our own, one that lets us be ourselves, that we love to do more than anything. While we all are fervent about something or the other, for **Ananya Agarwal, AIS Gur 46, VI D**, this passion is writing, which enables her to not only transcend to another realm, but indeed create one of her own. As an ardent architect of wonderful stories, this young author has got her first story 'Fame' published at the tender age of nine. Without further ado, let's hear the epic story of the amazing story-writer that Ananya is!



Title: *Pastel Sky*
Story: Fame
Author: Ananya Agarwal
Price: 399 INR
Available on: Amazon