

# **FILTERCOFFEEZINE**

[Filtercoffeezine](#) is a desi-run literary webzine. Filtercoffee aims to put out literary pieces written by authors from around the world. It is a platform aimed at giving a voice to all the unspoken words from around the world. It was launched in December 2021, and it currently has three different themed issues released.



“We had each been part of different youth-run blogs, so we had some experience in the field. But we desperately wanted to create a space of our own - a literary community by desi youth, open to the world,” Sanjana, one of the co-founders mentioned.

Shriya and Sanjana the two co-founders had come up with multiple name ideas and filtercoffeezine were surprisingly not what it may have been called - “It’s funny - Shriya and I had an entire Notion page of name ideas when we were earlier into the project. This was before we had any real idea of the direction of Filter Coffee, but as soon as we found the idea we knew it was perfect. Some notable runner-ups

include Daybreak Press, Jalebi Zine, and Kaju Kathli Mag”, they said.

Filtercoffeezine has grown progressively since it was started and the filtercoffee team is delighted with progress so far - “I’m truly stoked to see the progress we’ve made since November 2021. From a notable rise in readership to an exponential growth in submissions from all over the world, and not to mention a wonderful team expansion”, Sanjana ( Co-founder ) said.



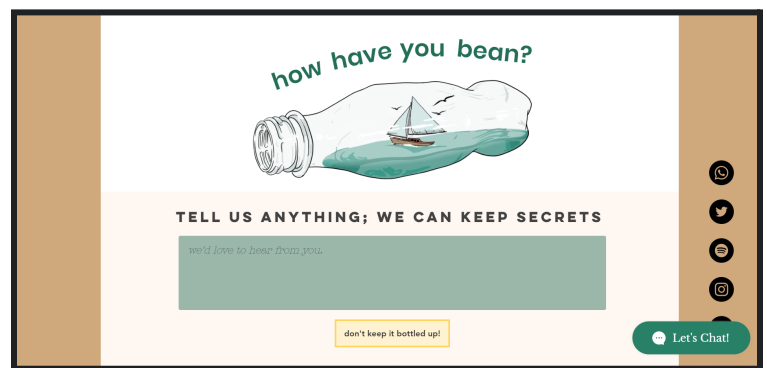
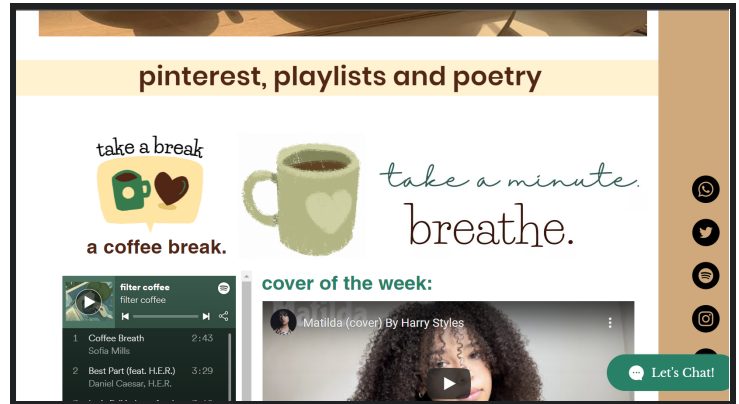
The filtercoffeezine team is beyond happy with the support they've received so far - "It's been a pleasure to see this labor of love grow and be recognized by thousands of strangers internationally. With over a thousand followers on [Twitter](#), 100+ submissions, and more than [500 unique readers](#) we're forever grateful. I'm honored to have partaken in our journey so far, and I'm looking forward to the future of FCZ !", Sanjana said.

"We created Filter Coffee Zine to be a youth-led literary magazine with a special focus on exploring desi culture and highlighting POC creators. We want FCZ to be a safe space, somewhere that says 'welcome home to everyone that visits. A home for words, no matter how raw or honeyed or eloquent or crumpled; And a home for you.'", co-founders said on what filtercoffee aims to do.

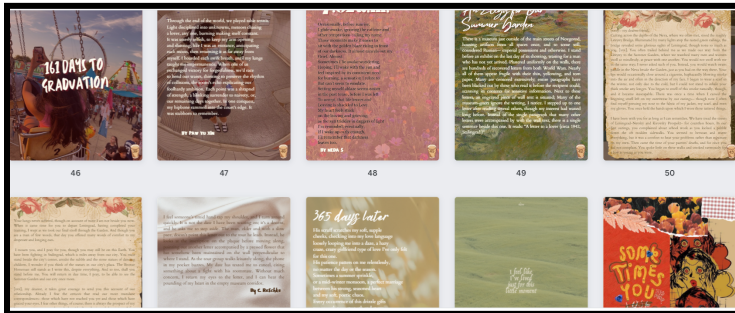
Balancing school life was not easy for any of the team members. Keeping up to date on school assignments and at the same time being active on filtercoffee may not be as easy as it sounds. - "Being able to split our work and collaborate means we work better, faster, and happier :) The team's also been very helpful in this aspect, and I genuinely feel like FCZ's grown into a little family! Though Filter Coffee is constantly on my mind (and in my open tabs and camera roll) I'm able to timeshare with a set schedule so I don't lose sight of my other commitments.", Sanjana commented

### **What does the magazine aim to do -**

The magazine aims to help share literary works of authors from around the world. It is a platform to share and express your feelings. Filter coffee is more than a drink to us : it is home and hopefully will be yours too. A home for all your unspoken words, unheard thoughts, and untamed dreams. It is meant to give a voice and a comfortable platform for people from every race, gender, religion, and sexuality to be able to share their thoughts and feelings openly.



Aiko Sankarshana, NPS, Bangalore, is a regular reader and viewer of filtercoffeazine, she found out about the magazine through mutual connections with one of the co-founders and one of the team members. She says she was truly inspired to read the issues and follow up regularly, by reading their work she was inspired to write more often.



Brennan Thomas is a writer from South Africa and regularly submits to filtercoffeazine. for their [second issue](#), he submitted a lovely piece called 'Enough'. He discovered the magazine through Twitter and truly found a home with filtercoffee. "It was homey. The editors are kind and

welcoming. It had that meeting-a-friend-at-a-coffee-shop vibe.", he said. He also mentioned how he appreciated how the magazine showcased other people's work, he commented on the aesthetic of the whole magazine is amazing. He was honored to have published his work through their magazine and would love to do so again.

## What's brewing behind the scenes

Besides publishing work, a lot happens behind the scenes. From designing to editing, the filtercoffee team does everything independently. they have designed the [website](#) themselves, and each issue is designed by the team. Social media is also a huge part of running an online literary magazine and the filtercoffee team needs to make sure the content put out on social media is relevant and consistent to maintain its following. To balance academics and run a literary magazine is not easy, they spend countless hours trying to filter through submissions, accept



and reject, and design and edit at the same time while juggling school work, academics, and projects on the other hand.

- Filtercoffeezine accepts all and any type of piece, it is a platform to share and express your thoughts, even though they have themed issues and accept most of what fits the theme best, unthemed pieces are more than welcome and will find a home at filtercoffeezine.
- Filtercoffeezine has open submissions, anyone can submit any time!
- The team reads and filters through all submissions, accordingly they are categorized and eventually published, artists are requested to send visuals related to their piece and if possible a playlist too!

Filtercoffeezine is a magazine that has inspired many young and budding writers to start their webzines and their following is growing more and more day by day, even starting to reach celebrities, Filtercoffee has been retweeted by [Ben Barnes](#), who is a celebrated English actor and singer; [Shashi Tharoor](#), who is an Indian former international diplomat, politician, writer, and public intellectual; as well as a relative of Indian Cricket coach, [Ravi Shastri](#). So far the magazine has made great progress ever since it started and continues to do so.

