

*The drinks are cold, the spotlight is hot, and Luxury Literature sits with the minds behind the magazines. Don't flinch when they kill your darlings. Welcome to Gold Leaf Lounge, Mee. We will see you in now.*

*Luxury Literature Magazine (LLM): What inspired you to start Serendipity Archives, and what does the name mean to you?*

*Mee (M):* i've always wanted to do something big–, something that sticks with people. i like making people happy. i like building things, organizing, creating fun where there wasn't any. and honestly? i've been part of the lit community for a while, and i kind of just started it on a whim for funsies <3 the name itself has been with me for years– i read the word serendipity in a lemony snicket book when i was eight or nine and instantly loved it. i've used it for random things– usernames, handwriting practice– ever since, and now it finally fits somewhere completely.

*LLM: How do you define the voice or vision of your magazine? What sets it apart from others?*

*M:* the voice is honest. warm. curious. we're not trying to sound smart or intimidating or anything– we just want to talk to people. it's a litmag, sure, but also it's kind of a cozy group chat that turned into a magazine. we care about the work, but we also care about the people behind it. i think what makes us different is how much, and how genuinely, we actually interact. we're small and personal, and we want to stay that way. it feels more like a shared space than a publication.

*LLM: What's been the most challenging part of running a literary magazine as a young editor-in-chief?*

*M:* probably trying to be taken seriously. when you're young, people kind of assume you're just playing around or it's a short-term project– but for me, it's real. i've had to learn so much on the fly. What i can and can't do, what i can do but won't be looked at well for... i've never had an online presence like this before. and despite all the other mags freely sharing advice and stuff, there's no rulebook, really– you just figure it out as you go. still, i wouldn't trade it for anything.

*LLM: If Serendipity Archives were a physical place, what would it look like? Smell like? Sound like?*

*M:* a quiet nook in a forest, maybe a treehouse. fairy lights over the bookshelves lining the walls. it'll smell like petrichor and flowers and libraries, cookies in the oven. pages turning audibly, someone

typing, someone else humming a song in the background. people surrounding you but just enough of them, not too many. it'll feel like home.

*LLM: You get to bake a cake that represents your litmag. What flavor and decoration are we talking?*

*M:* matcha flavored, definitely. green whipped cream on top with little silver candy balls. looks quiet and elegant on the outside, but then you cut it open and there's pop rocks in the center— like, surprise! very demure, very mindful on the inside— you look a little deeper, and utter chaos. feels very us.

*LLM: You describe yourself as an “argumentative, antithetical dream girl” in your Instagram bio, a nod to a Taylor Swift lyric. What artists frequent your music sessions, and do they influence your writing?*

*M:* absolutely taylor swift! gracie abrams. mitski, green day. i actually listen to a LOTTTTT of artists— my best friends have a running joke that there isn't a song i haven't heard because everytime someone brings a song up, i start talking about it. they absolutely influence my writing— case in point: i once proudly walked out of an exam having referenced the lyrics to marjorie by taylor swift in a long answer. (i got full marks!) i do also listen to a variety of music in random languages (mostly english, hindi, bengali, korean, japanese!)

*LLM: Where do you see Serendipity Archives in a year? Five years? Any dream collaborations?*

*M:* in a year? hopefully still here lol. still doing fun issues, more open submissions, maybe a little collab or two. kind of hope we'll still be a small corner of the internet— just with a bigger heart. i'd love to start doing real-life events or book clubs or something like that at some point. five years is wild to think about— i'll be eighteen by then, and there'll be a lot more i can do then, which is super exciting. i really want to do merch, especially of our mascot froggle (who's gonna be properly introduced soon!)— imagine little froggle plushies. as for collabs: jardin zine, juniper zine, vellichor lit, evanescent magazine— and you guys! seriously. but not the ultra-professional ones. just the ones that feel like home.

also, hear me out... froggle plushies in MINISO.