

*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, Reet. We will see you in now.*

*Luxury Literature Magazine (LLM):* The name of your magazine itself so evocative. What does “Beyond the Quill” mean to you personally and creatively?

*Reet (R):* Making Beyond the Quill was an impromptu decision but with a very clear aim - a safe space for all creatives to present their work. I believe going above and beyond in any creative piece is a necessity because writing, art, photography, and other mediums are all subjective. However well one may write, readers don't feel the essence of it until there is a meaning behind the words. While that is what the name means creatively, personally it is a promise to myself to make this magazine's journey beautiful, and not let the efforts of our team and contributors go to waste.

*LLM:* How do you define the editorial voice of your magazine? Has it evolved since your conception?

*R:* As a magazine that caters to all types and ages of people, we try to be as inclusive as possible. We want to build a fun escape for creatives where they can both get published as well as raise their voice. Since the beginning, we have tried our best to be welcoming to our audience, and I believe that is a key element of our magazine that has remained the same throughout.

*LLM:* What's your submission inbox red flag; and your green flag?

*R:* There are some of the obvious red flags - spam, not following submission guidelines, and known offenders. However, some other red flags for our team include plain “poetic” language with no meaning or flow to the words, AI-generated art, and photography with no relation to the theme. In contrast, we love submissions that make us feel. We want to hear your voice, in the most unfiltered way.

*LLM:* If Beyond the Quill were a mythical creature, what would it be - and what would it hoard?

*R:* If Beyond the Quill were a mythical creature, it would likely be a Griffin. They symbolise protection & an emotional balance. It would probably hoard harps considering they show harmony. As a multi-media magazine, harmony is exactly what we aim to achieve in our ventures.

*LLM:* What advice would future you give to present you as an editor?

*R:* I think the biggest piece of advice any editor can get is to look at a piece from 3 perspectives. Firstly, the writer's perspective and how they think the piece relates to a given theme. Secondly, from a critical editor's viewpoint. Here is where all the grammar corrections and rhyme & flow debates come in. And lastly, from the perspective of a first-time reader. It is important to realise that ultimately, you are choosing pieces for an edition that people will read and the quality of the work displayed should be immaculate. So the major advice here - quality over quantity and the 3-POV rule.

*LLM:* You get to publish an exclusive piece from any fictional character or author - who is it, and what's the title of their piece?

*R:* We'd love to publish something written by Annabeth Chase from Percy Jackson & The Olympians! The title of the piece would be "I Knew Better" and it would be about growing up extremely smart in a world that doesn't value it and thus learning to balance strength, vulnerability, intelligence, and fear.