

*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, Mahika and Brielle. We will see you in now.*

*Luxury Literature Magazine (LLM): What was the spark that led to the creation of your literary magazine? How did the idea come to life?*

*Mahika (M):* The Third Eye was born on February 24, 2025, ironically, just before my Social Studies board exam. It all started around 9:30–10 AM during a conversation with Brielle about another magazine we were both working on. We were venting, frustrated, and then kind of looked at each other (virtually) and went, “Screw it. Let’s make our own.” We poured four intense days into building it from scratch, and honestly? I was SOOOO excited. From the very beginning, I wanted The Third Eye to be a space where every voice is heard, no censorship, no pressure to conform, just raw, honest art. We launched officially four days later, on March 1, and haven’t looked back since.

*LLM: As co-founders, how do you divide the roles and responsibilities? Is one of you more editorial, the other more design, or is it a blend?*

*M:* It’s a blend, for sure. I usually handle posts and manage internal communications with the team, while Brielle is our reel wizard and the one who connects with other magazines and external folks. We talk a lot—about submissions, what to post next, deadlines, everything. I love how we respect each other’s time zones and still manage to stay flexible. It’s like this unspoken rhythm we’ve got going on.

*Brielle (B):* We definitely work hand in hand with everything at the magazine in a way. I would say we are very understanding of one another as we are both students so sometimes life can get busy. Mahika takes the lead with our team members to let them know what we need done and I’m there to back her up (if I’m not asleep). I tend to take the lead with our socials, but we both work on them. You’ll see me posting them and writing the captions. Our magazine is a lot of give and take and we try to help each other where we can. I can proudly say I don’t think I could’ve done this without Mahika.

*LLM: What do you look for in submissions? Any advice for writers hoping to get published in your next issue?*

*M:* I look for a spark. Something real, something that makes you pause and feel. I want to read a piece and sit with it for a moment before moving on. As for advice? Submit. Seriously. Don't overthink it. And please don't use AI. We want your voice, we want something authentic.

*B:* SUBMIT! I will confess on more than one occasion jumping up and down when I see submissions. I just love that people have passion to write and create art. When it comes to submissions as long as they fit the theme and do not use AI it can be said I will love it. So anyone looking to be published in our magazine I love you please submit it will make my day.

*LLM:* *What's one piece of advice you've given each other during this journey that stuck with you?*

*M:* I think the one thing I keep telling Bri, the team, and even myself, is: go crazy, and go all out. Don't hold back. Whatever idea you've been sitting on, run with it.

*B:* I keep reminding myself and Mahika that we are a team. Time and time again we've had stuff just come up and we couldn't do this or that, but we have each other's backs. We have around 15 staff members right now and I love those people. We've all got each others back and the environment is good.

*LLM:* *You're each stranded on an island, but you can only bring one poem, one snack, and one fictional character for company. Go!*

*M:* Poem: Untitled (one of mine!). Snack: dominos Garlic bread with cheese dip. No hesitation. Fictional character: Honestly? Kurogiri from BNHA. He can teleport, and I'm trying to get off that island fast. Or maybe someone famous so that they'd come looking for that person and then I can get off that island too.

*B:* Poem: the cannibals cancion by Gloria Anzaldúa. This one has a special place in my heart don't question it. Snack: Jackie Taylor (someone will get this joke). Fictional Character: Perry the Platypus.

*LLM:* *What's your mag's official playlist vibe? Give us three song titles that capture your current creative energy.*

*M:* We've got a full playlist linked in our bio! Our upcoming issue is called "Yours, Always" and it's all about love—the soft, the messy, the unspoken kind.

Here's a taste of the vibe: "Come Back to Me" – RM, "City of Stars" – La La Land, "Could u love me while I hate myself" — Zeph, and "Caroline" — sombr.

*B:* Mystery of Love by Sufjan Stevens, Lilac Wine by Jeff Buckley, Ladyfingers by Herb Alpert & The Tijuana Brass.