

# The Saddle



Hello everybody! Welcome to the first edition of the Saddle. We are so glad to be publishing this newsletter this year!

## Quote of the Month

**By Alyssa Lau**

Let's start with a little quote. This month's quote is from a book and movie series that we all love; Harry Potter!

**“It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities.”**

- *Albus Percival Wulfric Brian Dumbledore (Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets)*

## Jokes

**By Charlie Boehm**

Get ready to laugh everyone, 'cause it's time to delve into the deepness of comedy.

**What's the best thing about Switzerland? I don't know, but the flag is a big plus!**



# Columns

By Hannah Ryou and Samita Kalavagunta

Our column for this time is about World Records! Read em all!

- ❖ **World Record # 1** The tallest living man in the world is Sultan Kösen. He is now about 8 feet and 3 inches tall! In 2009, he was the first man to be over 8 feet in 20 years!
- ❖ **World Record # 2** Xie Qiuping has the longest hair in the world. It measures 18 feet and 5.54 inches. She has been growing her hair since 1973 when she was 13 years old.
- ❖ **World Record # 3** Rodriguez Hernandez has the biggest foot in the world. His feet are 16 inches long with a shoe size of 26.
- ❖ **World Record # 4** The biggest hand that ever belonged to a person is Robert Pershing Wadlow. His hands were 12.75 inches long.

# Stories

Storytime! Now let's jump into our story...

## Amee's Journey

By Vishnu Athreya

### Chapter 1

Grandor, the leader of the Grand Council sat down. "Mullo the Evil has taken over the forests of Sundo," he said.

"What has happened to King Sun-Kal of Sundo?" said another member of the Council.

"He has been killed by the evil man," said Grandor. "We cannot ensure the safety of the house anymore. The fairies must protect themselves."

"Where is Mullo now!" said another member, banging his fist on the table.

Just then, the door exploded. Outside it was standing Mullo, wearing a dark cloak. He took out his sword and jumped at Grandor. But Grandor took out his own sword. A terrible battle followed. Neither succumbed to the other's blows. But then, Grandor missed a blow and his sword went flying. Seeing his chance, Mullo stabbed Grandor in the heart. Grandor slumped to the ground. Then, leaving the others, Mullo went out again. Grandor, the protector of them all, was dead.

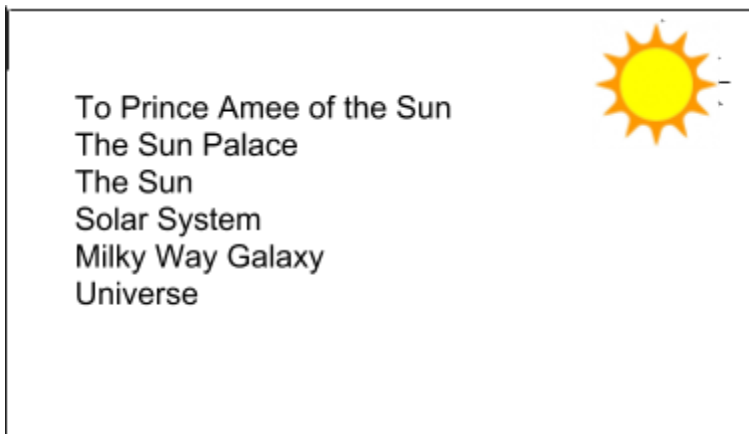
## **Chapter 2**

A great number of people on Earth were fighting Mullo. But, outside of Earth, within the Solar System, each planet was a kingdom. Unlike Earth, the kings of these planets ruled over the whole planet. The kingdoms were the Sun, the Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto, Haumea, Make-Make, and Ceres. Out of these, the Sun kingdom ruled by King Sando was the most powerful and protected. Only Kuls can enter and exit the extreme heat.

Prince Amee of the Sun was at the moment passing his time building swords. As Amee made each sword, he felt more and more protected from the evil of Mullo on Earth. “ *What could go wrong?*” he thought. As he made the swords, he sat happily, not knowing anything about the death of Grandor.

## **Chapter 3**

One day, a letter came to Amee. It on the envelope said the following:



He ripped it open and it said the following:

Thursday, Sept. 14, 1098

Dear Prince Amee,

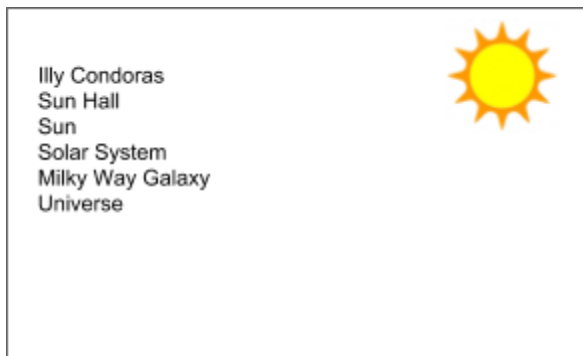
We are pleased to inform you that you have been invited to the Grand Feast at Sun Hall today. Please come with as many friends as you wish and enjoy yourself as much as you would wish. Please contact the following name.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Illy Condoras', with a horizontal line underneath it.

Illy Condoras  
Director of Sun Hall

Amee loved parties, and he loved to eat and drink. So he sent a message right back.  
The envelope read:



Inside, the message read:

Thursday, Sept. 14, 1098

Dear Lord Condoras,

I am pleased to accept your invitation. I would like to make a request of four chairs made in solid gold, with each of these names engraved on each of them; Ameer, Xavier, Cando, and Kalku. These are the chairs me and my friends will sit in.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read 'Ameer' with a flourish below it.

Prince Ameer Sando

Prince of the Sun

Then, Ameer sent three letters to three of his friends. They read:

Thursday, Sept. 14, 1098

Dear (Xavier, Cando, Kalku),

You are coming with me to the Sun Hall for the Grand Feast tonight! We will sit in chairs of solid gold and feast together! We will eat and drink and eat and drink until we cannot eat and drink anymore!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive, appearing to read 'Ameer' with a flourish below it.

Prince Ameer Sando

Prince of the Sun

A few hours later, Ameer was all dressed and ready to go to the party. He set out in his chariot. A few minutes later, he was at his friend Xavier's house. Xavier was all ready and got into the chariot. Next, the chariot stopped at Cando's house. Cando got in. Next, the chariot stopped at Sun Hall (Kalku's house was a walkable distance). Kalku was already there.

They walked in and stopped at the chairs with their names engraved on them. Such a wonderful job could only have been done by the greatest sculptors. But Amee recognized the chairs right away. They could only have been made by Kandutromian, the great Sun sculptor.

They sat down and a bunch of food appeared before them. Their mouths watered. They immediately grabbed a plate and starting eating mannerlessly (Sun people ate this way before the Great Change in 1324). Amee ate 14 peanuts, 9 roasted Kandies, 9 Bultuses, 4 servings of rice, and three servings of vegetables. He also had a great deal of ale and beer.

They ate and drank until they couldn't eat and drink anymore. They laughed and played games and watched shows and plays. Amee particularly liked *The Sun Story* by Log Wintelhsmen.

Right then, King Sando entered the room and all went quiet. He looked directly at Amee.

"I need to talk to you in private," he said.

Amee walked with the king to the end of the hall and down the steps. He walked to the janitor's closet. The janitor wasn't there.

"I ordered the janitor away," said Sando, "I need to talk to you."

## **Chapter 4**

"What is it?" Amee hissed impatiently and angrily, for he had been drawn away from his party.

"You are destined to kill Mullo the Evil on Earth. Grandor told me before he," he stopped.

"Before he what?" asked Amee more impatient than ever.

"Before he died," said Sando

Amee was terrified. He took a broomstick from the cabinet and broke it over his knee. He took a magic heat reducing device and cracked it into a thousand pieces. King Sando watched this all patiently.

Then, finally, Amee regained his consciousness and whispered, "How?"

"Would it pain you to say that Mullo killed him?" asked King Sando.

"Yes," said Amee, "it pains me very much."

"He told me to make an arrow out of the Sun's heat and shoot it towards Earth. The spot that it lands is where you should go," said Sando

"Why haven't you told me this all along!" said Amee

"I told Illy to do this party so you have a happy memory of the Sun before you go." said Sando, "and apparently that did not work. As I can clearly see, you are angry with me."

"Is the arrow ready?" Amee asked.

"Yes," said Sando

So Amee bid his friends farewell and went to the palace. He picked up the best sword that he had. Then, he went to where his father was. The arrow was fitted on the Great Bow. It was shot by the king and landed in what is now the Ural Mountains and what was then the kingdom of Sundo. Immediately, a white mist started growing around Amee. The prince disappeared in the mist and appeared on the spot where the arrow had landed; in the kingdom of Sundo.

He started walking around in circles. He knew that in the end he had to kill Mullo, but he had no idea where to start. He decided to set up a tent to sleep for the night. He set it up and went to sleep.

## **Chapter 5**

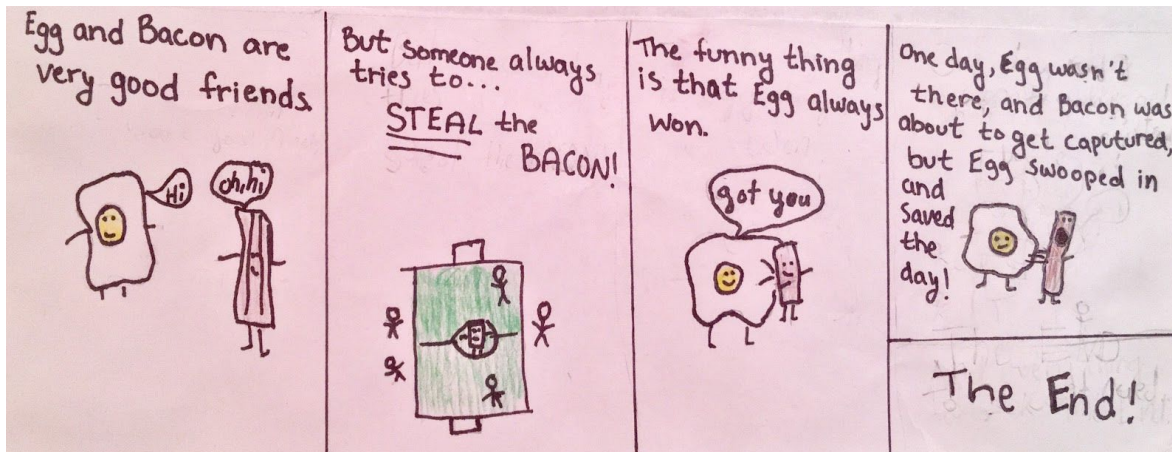
He woke up in the middle of the night to the sound of chittering. He looked through the tent flaps and saw a tiny shadow of a little, flying creature. It was too big to be a bug and yet too small to be a normal sized flying human. The moment he woke up, the creature flew away. He opened the tent and disassembled it. He packed it up and set out. He went and went and stopped and stopped. Finally, he came to a small table made of mushrooms. It was just big enough for those shadows that came in the night. He looked a little farther and saw a little door engraved in the tree. He opened the door and peeked inside. Just then, a fairy slapped his face.

*To be continued...*

## **Comics**

**By Gavin Bowyer**

Well, we've had stories, quotes, and laughs. But what about pictures? Let's head into the comics now, and let's have fun with it!

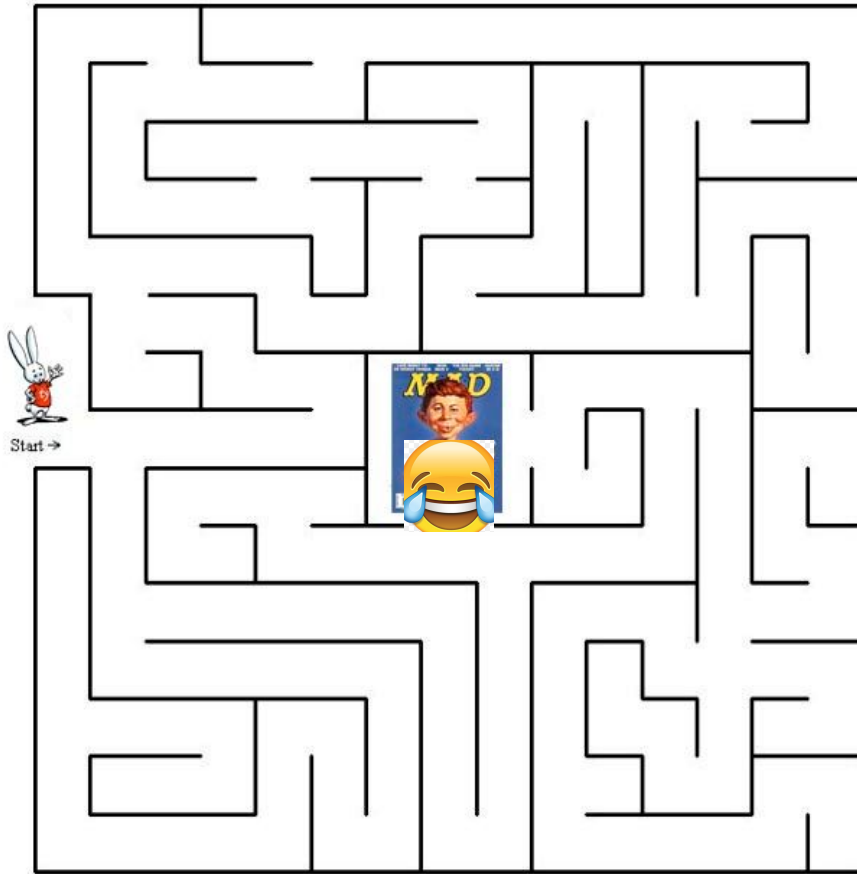


# Games and Puzzles

By Vishnu Athreya(Taken from the Internet)

It's never too late to have fun! Here are a couple fun of games and puzzles.

This is a maze. Find the way from the start to the middle!



This is called a Doublet. You can only change one letter per square and get to the word in the last square. When you change the letter, however, the word must change into another meaningful word.

Ape
Man

Thank you for reading this month's edition of the Saddle. Remember, keep having fun!

**The edition of The Saddle is brought to you**

**by**

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Quote of the Month : Alyssa Lau

Jokes: Charlie Boehm

Column: Hannah Ryou, Samita Kalavagunta

Story: Vishnu Athreya

