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It’s October, and that means a new academic year is about to start! A big welcome goes out to all students! We hope that your experience here at Junior College will be a memorable one, one where you will not only make new friends but also learn to broaden your horizons.

At this point in your academic life, you will start to expand your world view. Your world view is how you perceive the world around you. A great way to do this is by reading! Reading gives you the opportunity to read material which may or may not agree with your opinion. That’s OK! By learning about how other author’s think about a certain subject, you’ll be able to form your own educated opinion.

Here at JC Library you’ll not only find textbooks, but also additional reading material. If you fancy some weekend reading, head on over to the Fiction section where we are sure you’ll find something you’ll love! Moreover, together with the various language departments, JC Library also organises Book Clubs where you can discuss books, literature and at the same time meet other students. Watch this space for more information!

This year is also a new beginning for our newsletter BOOKMARK. We hope you enjoy the new set up! In this edition of BOOKMARK you’ll not only find the usual Tips and Tricks to help you with your studies but also new features. These include a Literary Calendar and On the Job where we shall be interviewing professionals from different spheres to give you an idea of the different jobs one can study for. We have also two brilliant feature articles about the public gardens in Floriana and also about the history of the paperback.

We also discover, through Molière’s character Argan, that maybe the 17th century France, is not that different from us after all. People will always be people and that will never change. Dr. Josette Attard gives us another perspective about Malta’s National Poet, Dun Karm Psaila.

Here at the library we are big Harry Potter fans, so we decided to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first book by including a very interesting article about the use of Latin and Greek in Harry Potter, together with a short biography of J.K. Rowling in the Getting to Know section.

To all of the students we would like to say that the secret of getting ahead, is getting started in the first place! And what better place to start than at the Library!

JC Library Team

JC Library Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday 8am to 4pm

Contact us: juniorcollege.lib@um.edu.mt
Follow us on: www.facebook.com/uom.jclibrary/
Recent Acessions

Western
by
Alfred Sant

Six Novels
by
H.G. Wells

Finding Moonshine
by
Marcus du Sautoy

In-Nemmies
By
Charlotte Link
Translated by Alfred Scalpello

Malta Hanina
By
Daniel Rondeau

Heretics! The wonderful (and dangerous) beginnings of modern philosophy
By
Steve Nadler and Ben Nadler
In this first feature of ‘On the Job’ our editor Katja Zahra Camilleri discusses her role as Assistant Librarian at Junior College Library.

**How did you become a librarian?**

As my old Professor used to say, serendipity! I happened to notice a vacancy for an Assistant Librarian with University of Malta, applied and became an Assistant Librarian.

**What do you actually do?**

My role as a librarian is not just checking out books. Far from it! My colleagues and myself do a lot of work behind the scenes, including the cataloguing of books so patrons can search our collections. We are also continuously adding entries and information on our Institutional Repository—OAR@UoM. Additionally, we also do a lot of collection development. This means, keeping our book collection up to date by ordering new titles and weeding out (removing) the old books which are not relevant anymore. Here at the Junior College Library, I also help organise seasonal book displays, such as Blind Date with a Book, edit and compile our newsletter BOOKMARK and also do general outreach such as taking care of our Facebook page. Apart from that, together with the JC Library team, we also give information literacy sessions both in group form and as one-to-one sessions.

**Why do you think your job is important?**

I believe that as a librarian, my role is to help students become better researchers. Nowadays, students are overloaded with information and it can become difficult for students to recognise what information is correct and what we now term as ‘fake news’. By providing students with some suggestions, I hope that I will make their research less frustrating and more fun. Because let’s face it, research is just a puzzle!

**What did you study to become a librarian?**

My first degree is in Archaeology and my Masters in Museum Studies. I learned through experience. Having experience in these two other disciplines, helps me to become a better librarian, especially when patrons are conducting specific research. However following a Diploma or Bachelors in Library and Information Science is very important. The department is found within the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences. If you are interested to know more about following a course in Librarianship, follow this link: [http://www.um.edu.mt/maks/las](http://www.um.edu.mt/maks/las)

**What is your favourite book?**

Hands down, “Pride and Prejudice” by Jane Austen. The only books that you’ll ever need to read! But just in case you don’t fancy a regency novel, head on down to the JC Library Fiction section. Plenty of titles to choose from there!
**Boolean Operators**

Utilizing **Boolean Operators** when searching will provide better, and more accurate, results.

**AND**
- Retrieves articles that contain **ALL** the terms
- **NARROWS** down the search

**OR**
- Retrieves articles with **ANY** of the terms
- **BROADENS** the search

**NOT**
- Eliminates articles containing the **SECOND** term
- **NARROWS** the search

- *depression AND teens NOT adults*
- "video games" AND teenagers **NOT** children
- obesity **OR** overweight children **OR** juveniles
Pick up a Penguin!

a short history of the paperback as we know it

It is easy to assume that books nowadays have a cult following - a lot of web space is dedicated to bibliophiles and reading in general. Many people assume that the humble paperback is a 20th century invention but this cannot be further from the truth!

Paperbacks have been around since the 17th century in France and Germany. Their popularity rose in the 19th century due to mass production using cheap materials and an emerging railway system, enabling a faster and far reaching distribution. The ‘Dime Novel’ is the precursor of the modern paperback. The success of ‘Malaeska’ a short novel by Mrs. A.S. Stephens, encouraged pioneer publishers Erastus and Irwin Beadle to publish a dime novel first every two weeks and later, every week. In 1862, Beadle & Adam set up office in London, where the popularity of their product became known as the ‘Penny Dreadful’.

In the U.S., dime novels were popular with the soldiers during the Civil War. By the 1880s writers like Prentiss Ingraham were churning out weekly stories about Buffalo Bill—a genre which continued its popularity until later in the century.

By the start of the 20th century, paperbacks had the reputation of being ‘trashy’ by respectable readers and this is where Sir Allen Lane (1902-1970) comes in.

Allen Lane Williams was brought up in the publishing business. At his cousin’s John Lane’s request, in 1919, at just 16 years old, Allen Lane joined the publishing house Bodley Head. As an apprentice he learned everything about the publishing business. He changed his surname to Lane and at the death of John Lane in 1925 he became a director. In 1930 he was appointed chairman whilst still in his twenties.
In 1934, whilst waiting for his train to go home after a weekend with Agatha Christie, herself a Bodley Head author, Lane was irritated that he couldn’t find substantial reading material to read during his train journey back to London. This got him thinking about publishing good quality fiction and non-fiction titles at the very low price of six pence. The other Bodley Head directors were not enthusiastic about the idea, but gave him the go-ahead to proceed with this pet-project.

With the back up and support of his younger brothers Dick and John, they settled for Penguin books for the name of their new venture. Edward Young, a Bodley Head artist was dispatched to London Zoo to sketch out a logo. It was decided that cover was to be simple, straightforward and with no picture. Colour was used to indicate the genre, with orange for fiction, green for crime stories and blue for non-fiction.

Ten titles, including Agatha Christies “A Mysterious Affair at Styles” and Ernest Hemingway’s “A Farewell to Arms” were picked for the launch. These new paperbacks were a great success and Lane continued to publish further titles including the controversial “Lady Chatterly’s Lover” by D.H. Lawrence in 1960.

In 1936, together with his brothers, he set up Penguin Books as a separate publishing house and a few months later resigned from Bodley Head. In 1937 he expanded his series to Pelican books which were non-fiction and King Penguin which included illustrations, together with Penguin Classics after World War Two.

Allen Lane was knighted in 1952 and died at the age of 67 in 1970. It is thanks to his idea, that paperbacks as we know them are as popular as they are today. By making quality fiction affordable, everyone was able to read and enjoy the great classics of English literature.

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https://www.ioba.org/standard/2001/12/a-short-history-of-paperbacks/
http://www.historytoday.com/richard-cavendish/first-penguin-paperbacks
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-10806660
It ends with us by Colleen Hoover

Sometimes it is the one who loves you who hurts you the most. Lily hasn't always had it easy, but that's never stopped her from working hard for the life she wants. She's come a long way from the small town in Maine where she grew up. She graduated from college, moved to Boston, and started her own business. So when she feels a spark with a gorgeous neurosurgeon named Ryle Kincaid, everything in Lily's life suddenly seems almost too good to be true. Ryle is assertive, stubborn, maybe even a little arrogant. He's also sensitive, brilliant, and has a total soft spot for Lily. And the way he looks in scrubs certainly doesn't hurt. Lily can't get him out of her head. But Ryle's complete aversion to relationships is disturbing. Even as Lily finds herself becoming the exception to his "no dating" rule, she can't help but wonder what made him that way in the first place. As questions about her new relationship overwhelm her, so do thoughts of Atlas Corrigan--her first love and a link to the past she left behind. He was her kindred spirit, her protector. When Atlas suddenly reappears, everything Lily has built with Ryle is threatened. With this bold and deeply personal novel, Colleen Hoover delivers a heart-wrenching story that breaks exciting new ground for her as a writer. Combining a captivating romance with a cast of all-too-human characters, It Ends With Us is an unforgettable tale of love that comes at the ultimate price.

Everybody sees the ants: a novel by A.S. King

Lucky Linderman didn't ask for his life. He didn't ask his grandfather not to come home from the Vietnam War. He didn't ask for a father who never got over it. He didn't ask for a mother who keeps pretending their family is fine. And he certainly didn't ask to be the recipient of Nader McMillan's relentless bullying, which has finally gone too far. Lucky has a secret, one that helps him wade through the daily dysfunction of his life. Grandad Harry, trapped in the jungles of Laos, has been visiting Lucky in his dreams, and the dreams just might be real: an alternate reality where he can be whoever he wants to be and his life might still be worth living. But how long can Lucky remain in hiding there before reality forces its way inside? Printz Honor recipient A. S. King's distinctive, smart, and accessible writing shines in this powerful novel about learning to cope with the shrapnel life throws at you and then taking a stand against it. In her own words, this book comes from 'an idea that we are all prisoners. An idea that bullying is a widely ignored form of torture. An idea that only we can choose to escape our own prisons. An idea that no one can take something from you if you don't give it. These are the ingredients.

Delitti li jibqghu jissemmew : sensiela ta omicidji li twettqu barra minn Malta. Vol. 7 minn Eddie Attard

Crime historian Eddie Attard lists 14 of the United Kingdom's worst murders such as the mysterious death of Charlest Walton and the case of Chung Yi Mao's death whilst on his honeymoon in Scotland. Together with these cases, the author also provides a short history of Scotland Yard.
Ġonna ta' fuq il-Port il-Kbir


Ġonna tal-Argotti u ta’ San Filippu

Il-Mall – twieled biex jaqta’ l-vizzji tal-Kavallieri tal-Ordni ta’ Malta


Fl-1805 il-Maglio bidel l-aspett tiegħu u gie kkonvertit fi ġnien pubbliku wara l-ordini ta’ Sir Alexander Ball u sar magħruft bhala Maglio Gardens.


Msida Bastion Historic Garden - minn ċimiterju għal ġnien


Ġnien Sa Maison ... il-ġnien storiku fit-tarf tal-Floriana


Nigel Holland is Senior Librarian at the Valletta Campus Library


Komplu segwu din il-paġna għal aktar tagħrif dwar dawn il-laqqħat li se jibdew minn Ottubru. Sadanittant, aqraw tikka oħra, u oħra ... u oħra!

Dawn il-laqqħat qed jiġu organizzati mid-Dipartiment tal-Malti, JC bħala parti mill-programm ko-kurrikulari tal-Junior College bi shab mal-Ghaqda tal-Malti u bl-appoġġ shiħ ta’ Junior College Library - University of Malta u Buzzer Stationery Malta.
Joanne Rowling was born in Yate, Gloucestershire on the 31st of July 1965. She is a British novelist best known for writing the Harry Potter fantasy series.

Ever since she was a child, Jo wanted to become a writer and grew up surrounded by books. As a teenager, she was given a copy of "Hons and Rebels" an autobiography of Jessica Mitford by her great-aunt. After reading the book, Mitford became her heroine and Rowling ended up reading all of her books. Later on, Rowling stated that the character of Hermione is based on her 11 year old self. An inspiration from her teenage years is the turquoise Ford Anglia, which belonged to her best friend, Sean Harris, during Sixth Form.

In 1982, having tried to, but failed to enter Oxford University, Jo Rowling read for a B.A. in French and Classics at the University of Exeter. Her knowledge of classics would one day come in very handy for creating a magical world. After her final year of study in Paris, she graduated from Exeter in 1986.

After she graduated, she moved to London where she worked a series of jobs, one of which was as a researcher at Amnesty International—a charity which she still supports to this day.

The idea of Harry Potter was conceived in 1990 during a four hour train delay between Manchester and London. Over the course of the next five years, she mapped out all of the story line in a sever book series. That same year, Jo’s mother Anne died of multiple sclerosis, and Rowling was able to channel her grief into her writing.

Moving to Portugal with her notes in tow, Rowling taught English during the night, and wrote Harry Potter during the day. In Portugal she met and married her first husband Jorge Arantes in 1992 and had a daughter Jessica in 1993. Three years later, the marriage ended and Rowling moved back to the UK to live in Edinburgh, close to her sister, taking her daughter with her together with a suitcase containing the first three chapters of Harry Potter and the Philosophers Stone. In Edinburgh, Rowling felt that she had failed in life and it was during this period of being diagnosed with clinical depression, that inspiration for the Dementors, soul-sucking creatures where created.

In 1995, Rowling trained and started working as a teacher. During this period, she wrote in every spare moment she could find. Preferring mostly to write in places such as Nicolson’s Café and the Elephant House. After sending the first three chapters to different publishing houses, in 1997 her lucky break came when Bloomsbury offered her a publishing deal. Harry Potter and J.K. Rowling were born. The middle initial ‘K’ stands for Kathleen, her paternal grandmother and was added at the publisher’s request. This is because they thought that books written by a female author would not appeal to an audience of younger boys.

Following the success of Philosophers Stone, the rest of the series was published Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (2 July 1998), Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (8 July 1999), Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (8 July 2000), Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (21 June 2003), Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (16 July 2005) and, Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows (21 July 2007)

In 2012, J.K. Rowling published her first adult novel The Casual Vacancy which has been adapted for TV by the BBC and translated into 44 languages. Under the pseudonym Robert Galbraith, Rowling has so far wrote three crime novels featuring Cormoran Strike as a private detective. These include The Cuckoo’s Calling (2013), The Silkworm (2014), and The Career of Evil (2015). In 2016, in collaboration with Jack Thorne and John Tiffany, Rowling wrote an original story set for the stage Harry Potter and the Curse Child. Moreover, in 2016, Rowling made her screenwriting debut with the film Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them - a prequel to Harry Potter’s world set in the 1920s and featuring Magizoologist Newt Scamander.

J.K. Rowling has been married to Neil Murray since 2001. They live in Edinburgh with son David and daughter Mackenzie.

References :
https://www.jkrowling.com/about/
Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the first publication of Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone

Classics in Harry Potter by Steve DeMarco

Harry Potter is undoubtedly one of the best-selling books in the world and, like many people my age, I grew up reading these books. Till today, whenever I look at my shelf and see those seven books I feel myself filling with warm nostalgia and it is not uncommon for me to re-read the series especially when I’m stressed. It is safe to say that Harry Potter has a magic surrounding it that makes the novels timeless. But what is it that makes the books timeless? When I first read the books, I didn’t read past the words on the page. In my mind, the only intention of J.K Rowling was to tell a wonderful story of wizards and witches, dark lords and chosen ones. Yet the reality of it soon became apparent, Rowling had included all sorts of undertones throughout the books and it is these undertones which gave the novels this element of timelessness. It might be difficult to conceive that a children’s book would have deep and meaningful undertones, but it wouldn’t be the first time and Harry Potter is packed full of them. But one specific undertone interests me the most, and that is J.K Rowling’s use of classical references. Her use of classical culture and language is extensive yet incredibly interesting, and the more deeply one looks into the novels, the more one finds just how extensive these references are, and just how brilliantly she used them.

Mythology. Ancient Greek and Roman mythology is an incredibly interesting subject, therefore it is not difficult to see why Rowling would have borrowed from it. The first example which I would like to give to you comes from the first book (‘Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone). In this book, Harry Potter and his two companions must face a ferocious, three headed dog named Fluffy. Rowling has lifted this beast straight out of Ancient Greek mythology, although the Greeks gave it a different name, Cerberus. Cerberus was a three headed dog which guarded the Underworld and we come across this beast in several episodes in mythology, but most notably in the myth of Orpheus. This man is a lesser known hero of Ancient Greek mythology, known as one of the greatest musicians in the ancient world. Having lost his wife, Orpheus found his way into the Underworld in the hopes that he might save his wife but his path was blocked by Cerberus. Therefore Orpheus pulled out his lyre (a musical instrument) and began to play and Cerberus was so moved by the beauty of his music that he let Orpheus pass. Therefore, not only has Rowling lifted Cerberus from mythology but also the story of Orpheus. We are told that in order to get past Fluffy music must be played to put him to sleep therefore allowing Harry and his companions to get past the beast safely just as Orpheus plays music to get past Cerberus.
Character Names. Many characters in the Harry Potter novels bear a name either from mythology or from the later classical period, but in either case, we find that their name reflects the personality of the character. Take, for example, Professor Minerva Mcgonagall. Professor Mcgonagall is a very prominent character throughout the series who always leaves a lasting impact. Despite the fact that she can be quite strict with Harry, it was always clear that she was protecting him, even when he was only a baby. But, why am I mentioning this? Professor Mcgonagall’s first name is Minerva, the name of the Roman goddess of wisdom who is identifiable with the Greek goddess Athena. In mythology, Athena/Minerva is known to have taken a liking to certain heroes and go out of her way to help them. One such example can be found in ‘The Odyssey’ by Homer. In this epic, the hero, Odysseus, is constantly watched over and protected by the goddess Athena who admires him for his wits and cunning. Therefore Rowling re-enforces Mcgonagall’s role as Harry’s protector by giving her the first name Minerva.

Latin. This may be the most obvious classical reference included in the Harry Potter novels. J.K Rowling got her B.A in French and Classics, therefore she would have definitely known Latin and made extensive use of the classical language in her books. The most common inclusion of Latin comes in the form of the spells used in the wizarding world of Harry Potter. For example, a very common spell used is the Accio charm, used to summon near by objects. This word, Accio, comes directly from the Latin verb Accio, which means ‘to summon’. Another example would be the spell Expecto Patronum, another very popular spell. This incantation summons a personal defender for the witch or wizard using the spell. In Latin, the verb ‘exspecto’ means ‘I await’ or ‘I have need of’ while the second word is a Latin noun meaning ‘defender’. Therefore as you see, Rowling uses Latin to not only give a name to all the spells but also a meaning. However, spells are not the only inclusion of Latin in the Harry Potter novels. The motto of Hogwarts, the wizarding school, for example, is ‘Draco dormiens nunquam titilanus’, which can be translated from Latin as ‘Never tickle a sleeping dragon’.

So what? What difference does it make if Rowling borrowed ideas, names and language from ancient civilisations? I would argue that it makes a big difference. As already mentioned, the Harry Potter books have a timelessness that few other novels have achieved. On top of the nostalgic feelings that the books might incur, these references to Ancient Greece and Rome, these allusions to the classics, instantly takes our minds back in time and make us believe that the story of Harry Potter must belong to the classical period. This is the magic of the Harry Potter novels.

This, of course, is not to say that the reader must be aware of the classical references to truly enjoy the books. Yet the classical references not only bolster the underlying story of the book but also offer something to the reader as well. Knowledge of the classics is not readily available, or at least it is not approachable, but Rowling has managed to make classical content available to all in her novels, in the guise of a children’s story.

Steve DeMarco is General Secretary of the Malta Classics Association
We cannot time-travel into the future yet...
But we can time-travel into the past!

A literature book, *Le Malade imaginaire*, will be our space ship and will take us straight to 17th century France, the time of kings, wigs and lace, Versailles castle and its “jardins à la française”, and more particularly to a dark bourgeois house with an obsessive father, Argan, who unwillingly turns into a family dictator...

Do these 17th century “aliens” resemble us socially?
Lots of them feel that some human beings are superior to others: the nobles...
Lots of them feel that women should obey their father and later on their husband...
How do we react to this?

Do these 17th century “aliens” resemble us emotionally?
Poor Argan is not necessarily a bad man... As we plunge into the play, we discover that he seems caught in his obsession. He fears germs, he fears death, he wants the world to revolve around him...

Little by little, we realize that these 17th century “aliens” are in some ways... just like us, after all...
Observing them through the eyes of Moliere - the Charlie Chaplin, the Steven Spielberg or the Quentin Tarantino of his time - a keen observer of mankind, tells us a lot about ourselves...
Maybe you will recognize a family member, may be you will recognize yourself in the hero of the play?

Is a book from the past something obsolete?
I do not think so.
I find it is essential for at least three reasons:
we learn about these “aliens” from another civilization, by discovering the authentic literary documents they created and passed on to us. Their time is so different from ours...
We can also learn about ourselves...
And we get this sense of achievement because the task was tough, the language was tough... and we managed!

Time passes.
Do you think human beings change?
Did you ever wonder if the prehistoric people of the temples, and those before the temples, had the same feelings of joy, entrapment, excitement, anxiety, fulfilment as us?

Nous sommes un maillon dans la chaîne de l’humanité. Derrière nous, il y a eu de nombreux maillons...
Devant nous, d’autres maillons... qui eux aussi, peut-être, voyageront dans le temps pour rendre visite à Molière, où pour nous rendre visite à nous, habitants de la Méditerranée du 21e siècle, à travers les livres que nous créons, à travers les livres que vous créerez dans votre vie.
Ne méprisons pas cette chaîne qui nous lie, ne cassons pas cette chaîne en les oubliant...

[ For those who wish to place themselves in 17th century French “mood”, here is a fictional Hollywoodian film with Leonardo di Caprio, which will do the trick: “The iron mask.” ]
October

1st October 1856 : The first instalment of Madame Bovary is published
2nd October 1950 : Peanuts debut
7th October 1849 - Edgar Allan Poe dies, author of The Tell Tale
13th October 1961 : Dun Karm Psaila’s dies. Malta’s National Poet
14th October 1926 : Winnie-the-Pooh is published
16th October 1854 - Oscar Wilde is born, author of The Happy Prince and Other Tales
18th October 1851 : The first, expurgated three volume edition of Moby Dick is published in London as The Whale
18th October 1871 : Dun Karm Psaila, Malta’s National Poet, is born in Zebug
22nd October 1964 : Jean-Paul Sartre explains his refusal of the Nobel Prize in Le Figaro
27th October 1932 : Sylvia Plath is born, author of The Bell Jar
28th October 1903 : Evelyn Waugh is born, author if Brideshead Revisited
30th October 1811 - Sense & Sensibility by Jane Austen was published
31st October 1892 : The first collection of The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes is published

November

8th November 1847 - Bram Stoker is born, author of Dracula
9th November 1953 - Dylan Thomas dies, author of Under Milk Wood
10th November 1960 : Lady Chatterley’s lover sells 200,000 copies in one day, the first it’s been available since being banned in 1928
11th November 1821 - Fyodor Dostoyevsky is born, author of Crime and Punishment
13th November 1850 - Robert Louis Stevenson is born, author of Treasure Island
17th November 1919 : American expat Sylvia Beach opens the Shakespeare and Company bookstore in Paris
19th November 2007 : First Kindle e-reader released
20th November 1910 - Leo Tolstoy dies, author of War & Peace
22nd November 1963 - C. S. Lewis dies, creator of Narnia
23rd November 1990 - Roald Dahl dies, favourite children’s author
24th November 1859 : Charles Darwin publishes the Origin of Species
28th November 1582 : William Shakespeare marries Anne Hathaway
29th November 1898 - C. S. Lewis is born, creator of Narnia
30th November 1835 - Mark Twain is born, author of The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
30th November 1900 - Oscar Wilde dies, author of The Importance of Being Earnest

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http://flavorwire.com/400900/flavorwires-ultimate-literary-calendar-a-bookish-event-for-every-day-of-the-year/view-all


**Għaqda tal-Kittieba tal-Malti**, 1924. Dun Karm jinsab fil-ewwel filliera, it-tieni wieħed mix-xellug


**SĀN GWANN BGOSCO**

**GĦELUQ IL-MAMSA U GHOXRIN SENA MILLISEM TA’ L-ORATORJU TAS-SALESJANI FTAS-SLIEMA**

San Gnanni, meta qatt rieda qawwiżi
Ħakmet lid-dinja daqs ir-neda tiegħek?
Kont ghadek fuq il-għatba taż-żgubija
meta inti, mbikki rajo li t-taltil ittiegħek,
minnbeit ma jaħtu xejn fit-tajj tal-ħitna,
ul ġietek hminna, xattu li igħannax tiegħek
lid dawk l-imsejxna, u b’fehma qalbenija
ħdimtu b’qalbek u b’tiegħek u b’driegħek.
“Ewrieh agħtini; Lliija hinde” b’tiegħa
ta’ liha maqadda li ma tahmel rażna
ghajjatti lil Alla, u Alla sama’ talbek.

Marstej ġriet fuq id-dinja ehel minn viegga;
uliedek grew; saret, kit ridt, il-ħażna;
il-qalb taż-ţlil il-lum tħabbat ma’ qalbek.

Dun Karm

5 ta’ Mejru, 1935.

Poeżija meħuda minn Lehen il-Malti, Għadd 51-52

[https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/21756](https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/21756)

Dr. Josette Attard hi Senior Lecturer fi Ħdan id-Dipartiment tal-Malti tal-Junior College