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Class-XII

English

Flamingo

Chapter-7



Christopher Silvester

The Interview

Part - 1

Neha Rajvanshi

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Invention : आविष्कार
journalism: पत्रकारिता
celebrities : प्रसिद्ध व्यक्ति

Since its invention a little over 130 years ago, the interview has become a commonplace of journalism. Today, almost everybody who is literate will have read an interview at some point in their lives, while from the other point of view, several thousand celebrities have been interviewed over the years, some of them repeatedly.

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merits : लाभ
vary : अलग - अलग
extravagant : बढ़ा चढ़ाकर

So it is hardly surprising that opinions of the interview — of its functions, methods and merits — vary considerably. Some might make quite extravagant claims for it as being, in its highest form, a source of truth, and, in its practice, an art.

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victims: शिकार
despise : नापसंद करना
unwarranted : अवैध / अनुचित
intrusion : हस्तक्षेप
diminishes : प्रसिद्धि कम करना

Others, usually celebrities who see themselves as its victims, might despise the interview as an unwarranted intrusion into their lives, or feel that it somehow diminishes them, just as in some primitive cultures it is believed that if one takes a photographic portrait of somebody then one is stealing that person's soul.

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consented : अनुमति देना



V. S. Naipaul 'feels that some people are wounded by interviews and lose a part of themselves,' Lewis Carroll, the creator of Alice in Wonderland, was said to have had 'a just horror of the interviewer' and he never consented to be interviewed —

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lionized : लोगों में प्रसिद्ध होना
repel : दूर करना
petitioners : याचिकाकर्त्ता

It was his horror of being lionized which made him thus repel would be acquaintances, interviewers, and the persistent petitioners for his autograph and he would afterwards relate the stories of his success in silencing all such people with much satisfaction and amusement.

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condemnatory : निंदा करना
wrecked : बर्बाद करना

Rudyard Kipling expressed an even more condemnatory attitude towards the interviewer. His wife, Caroline, writes in her diary for 14 October 1892 that their day was 'wrecked by two reporters from Boston'. She reports her husband as saying to the reporters, "Why do I refuse to be interviewed?

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assault: शारीरिक हमला
vile: अत्यधिक दुखदायी
perpetrated : अपराध करना

Because it is immoral! It is a crime, just as much of a crime as an offence against my person, as an assault, and just as much merits punishment. It is cowardly and vile. No respectable man would ask it, much less give it." Yet Kipling had himself perpetrated such an 'assault' on Mark Twain only a few years before.

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ordeal: अत्यन्त अप्रिय

thumbprints : हाथ से दबाने के निशान

H. G. Wells in an interview in 1894 referred to 'the interviewing ordeal', but was a fairly frequent interviewee and forty years later found himself interviewing Joseph Stalin. Saul Bellow, who has consented to be interviewed on several occasions, nevertheless once described interviews as being like thumbprints on his windpipe.

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drawbacks : हानियाँ
impressions : धारणा / प्रभाव
contemporaries: समकालीन

Yet despite the drawbacks of the interview, it is a supremely serviceable medium of communication. "These days, more than at any other time, our most vivid impressions of our contemporaries are through interviews," Denis Brian has written.