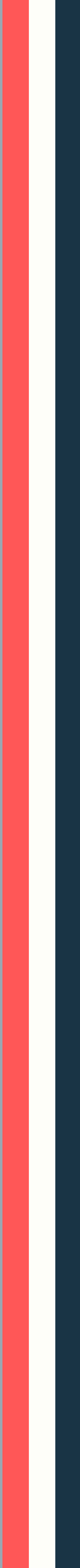
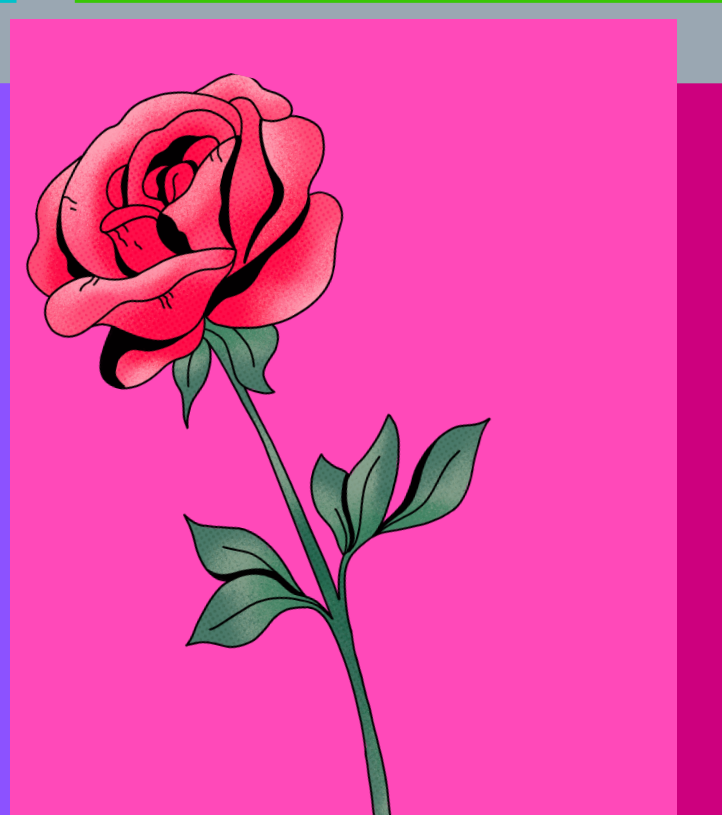
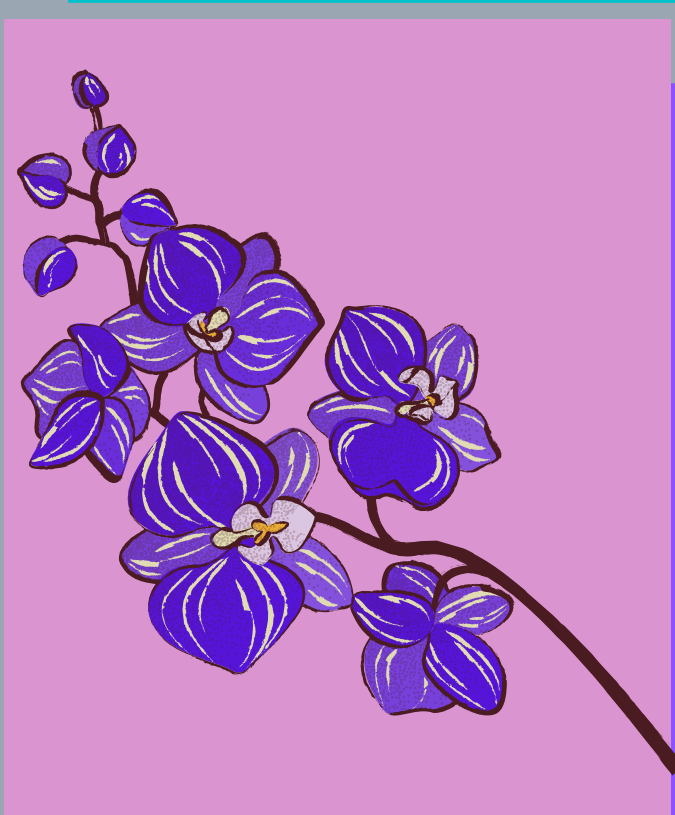
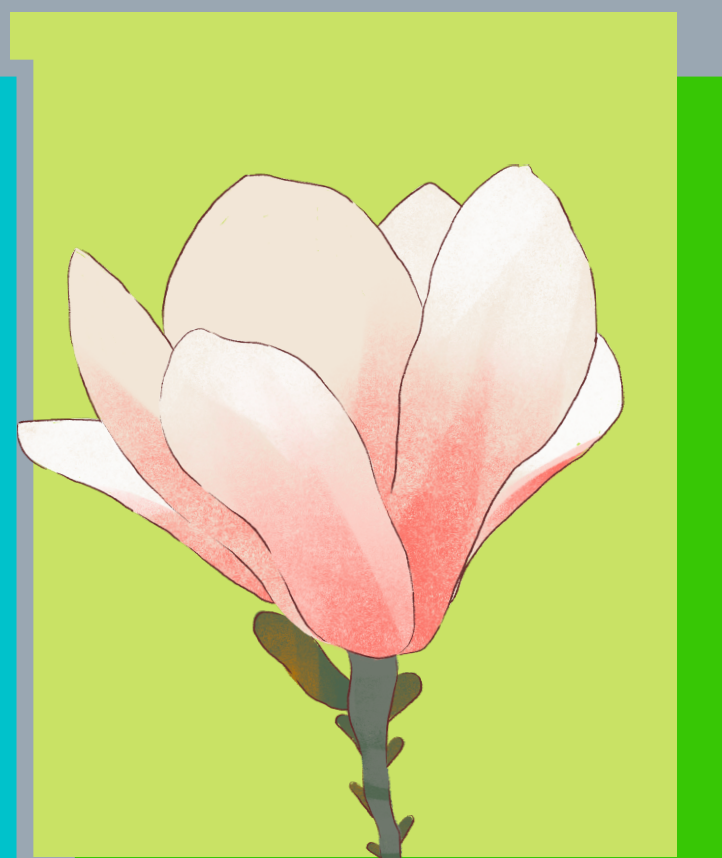
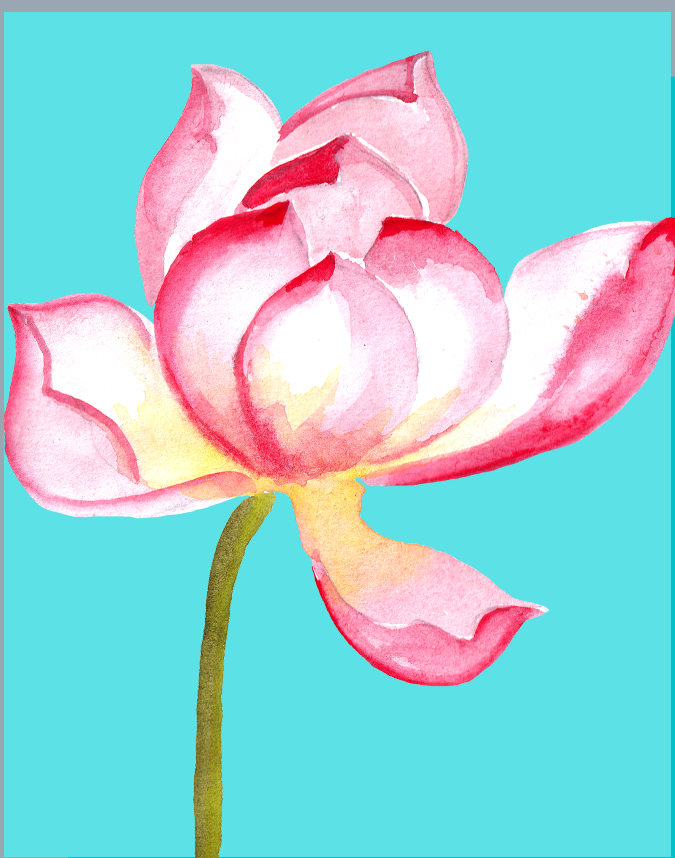
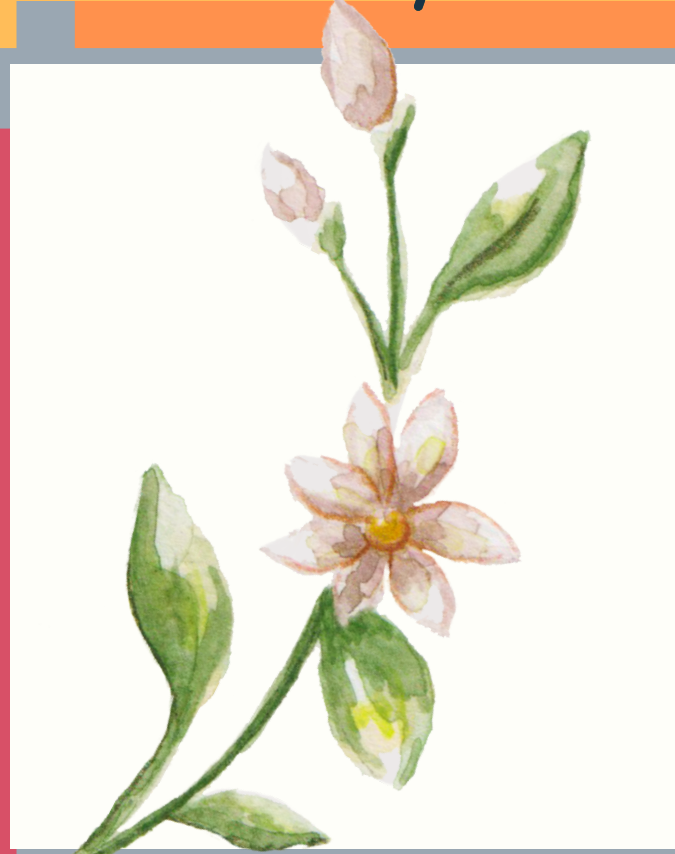
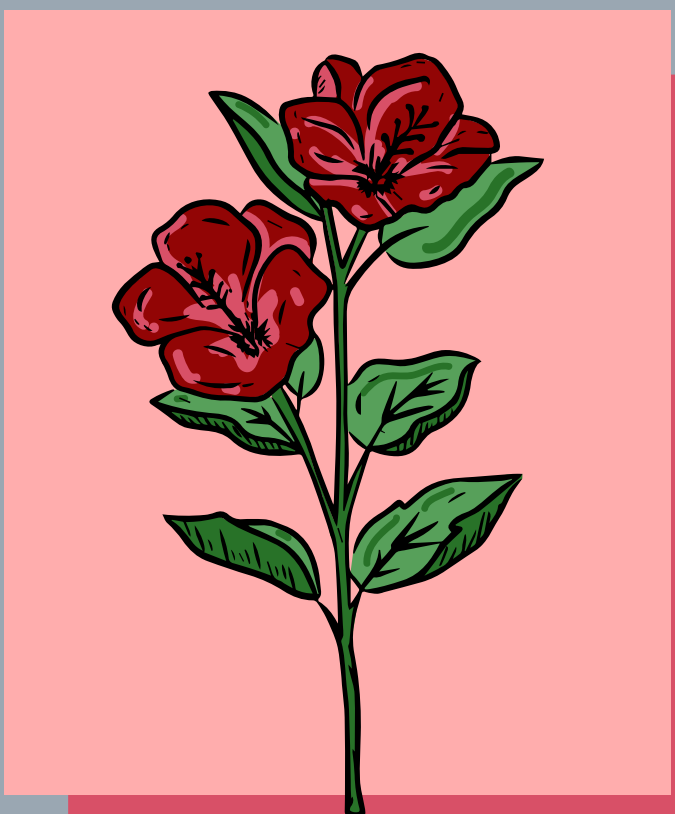
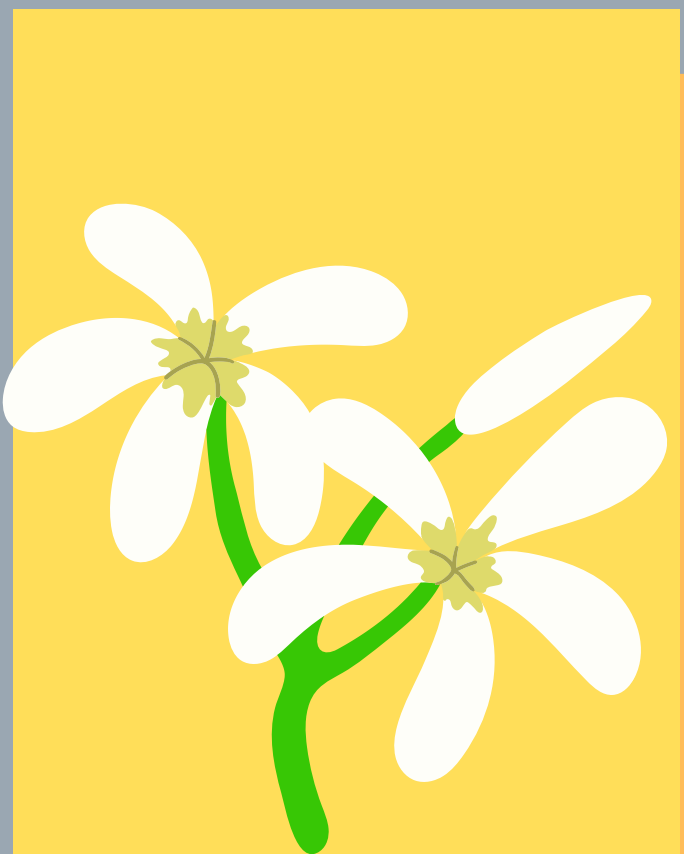
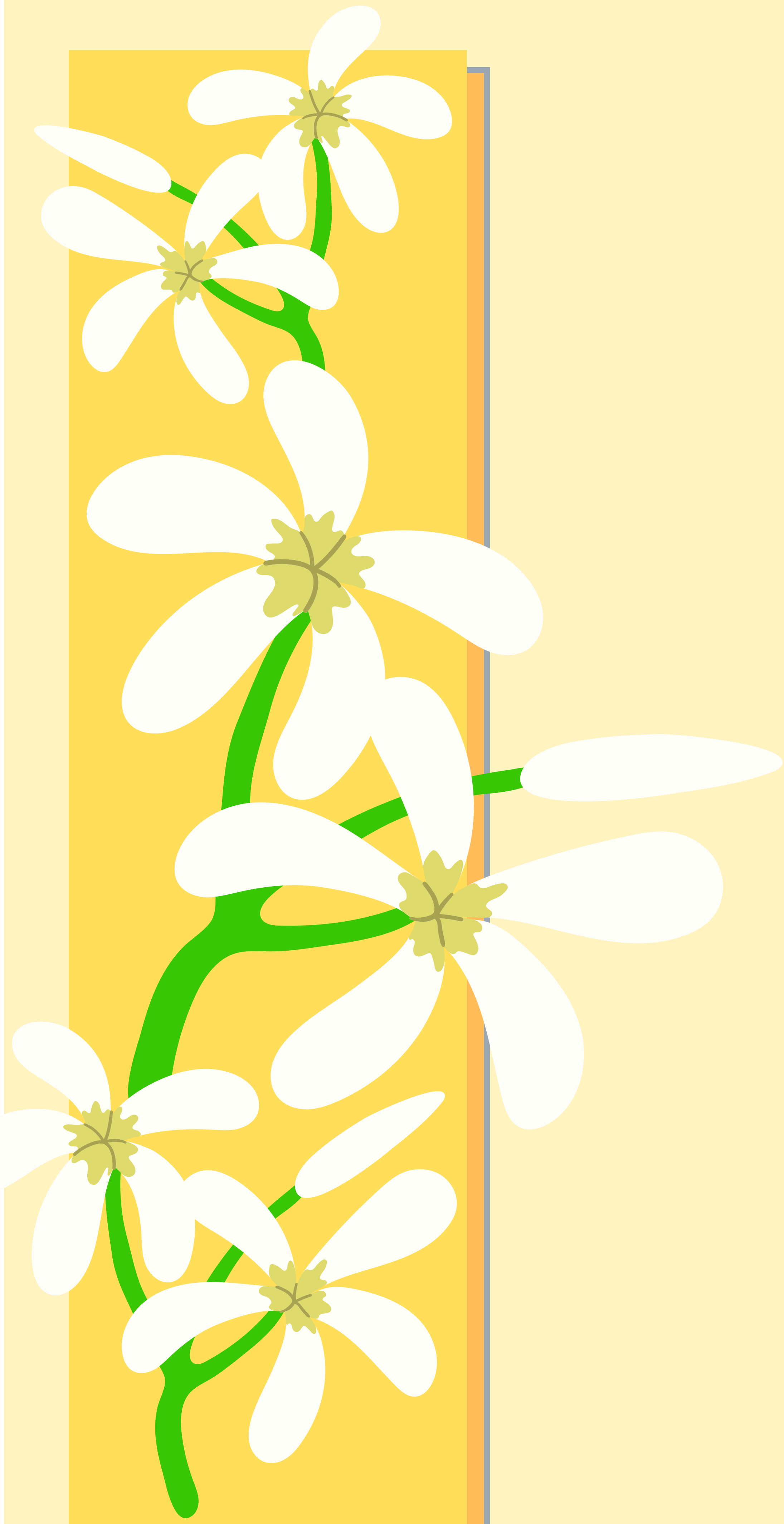


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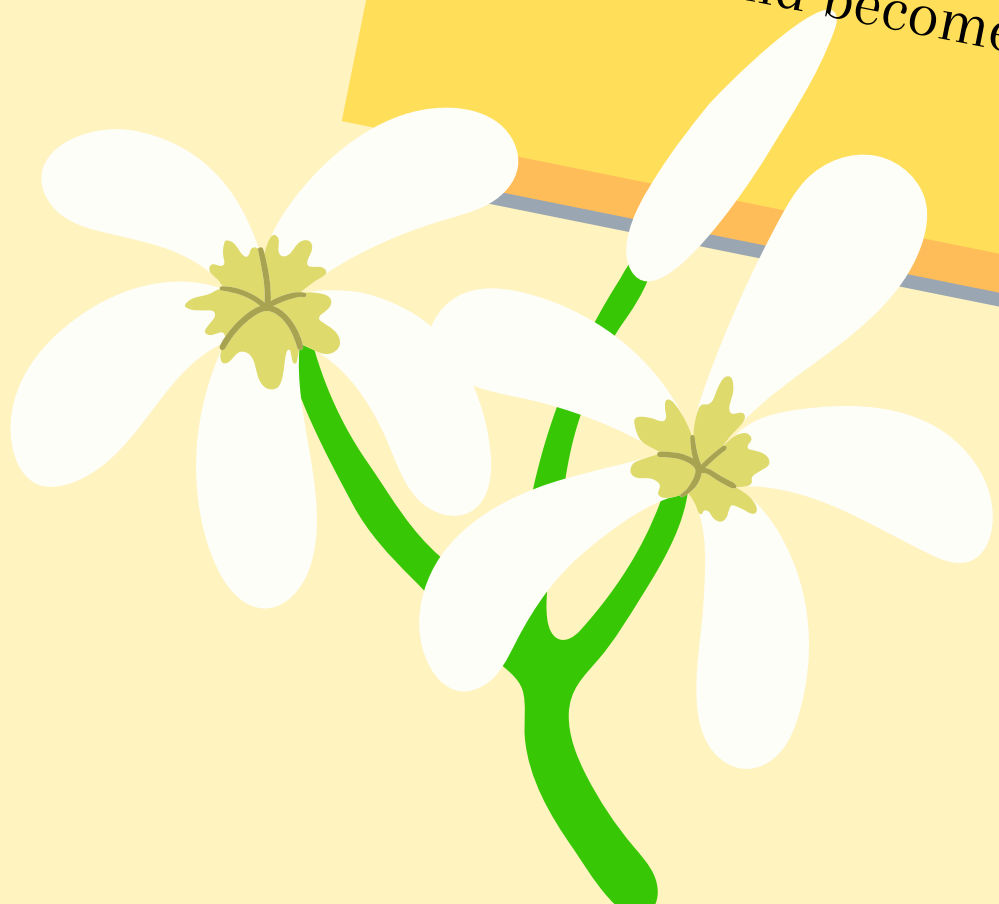
*What makes your house unique?*

What truly makes Champak unique is the drive and enthusiasm that the members possess. The passion, the willingness, the effort to go an extra mile. The "I will come for practice during the breaks. Don't worry about my tiffin, I will eat it later", after every audition or event. What helped me come to this conclusion was that the auditions and trials that we were sure would wrap up in one lunch break would usually end up taking twice the time. Even with little knowledge about an event, the members would practice something, come up and audition in front of everyone. One of my house members was even willing to learn Synthesizer only because the house did not have an instrument player to back the singer. Members of Champak have proved time and again that whatever they do for the house, they will do it putting their best foot forward, always. The fire and spark that burns so deeply within each member has truly radiated outwards and given us the perfect color to describe our tribe - Yellow.

*What was the moment you realized that your house was where you belonged?*

Having been a very stage shy and competition conscious person, I would always prefer doing the work behind the scenes and not actually coming up front. I would try time and again to gather the confidence to do something that the mass could actually see but each time I failed. Except one winter morning when my then captain called me at 7am and asked me to fill in for a badminton player who wasn't answering. I had just entered middle school and was unaware of how these things worked but without second thoughts or any hesitation, I rushed to school and made it in time for my match, where I not only placed first but also saw the faith that every member of Champak had in me. The immense rush of satisfaction and joy I felt became something that I spoke about every time I was asked what I was truly proud of.

The fact that one phone call, or one representation made me do something that I couldn't get myself to do after various attempts and brought out the best in me made me realize that Champak is where I belong, that no other would be a fit for me as perfect as Champak. I knew Champak was where I belonged because I could be my strange, quirky self and still be accepted by my house members with open arms. And finally, I knew Champak was where I belonged because I realized that no matter where I went or who I would become, it would always be the most integral part of my identity.



*What are everyday objects that remind you of your house?*

One thing that reminds me of Champak every time I look at it is the Sun. The vibrant yellow ball of warmth is all you need on a day where you feel like nothing is going right. That's what Champak is to me, the reassurance that things could be going so wrong yet there will always be that one hope for a better coming.

Maggi, the one thing that is settled on our taste buds like it was always meant to be there. It's been constant because the taste never changes. Be it poor results or a hectic day, eating a bowl of piping hot Maggi cheers you up like anything. And so does Champak. It's my constant and members of Champak have the ability to put a smile on my face through all the turmoils that life puts us through.

And now, if someone asks me what I'll do if life gives me lemons, I finally have an answer where I'll make a bright yellow lemonade and share it with all my Champak members.

*What are three qualities that define your house?*

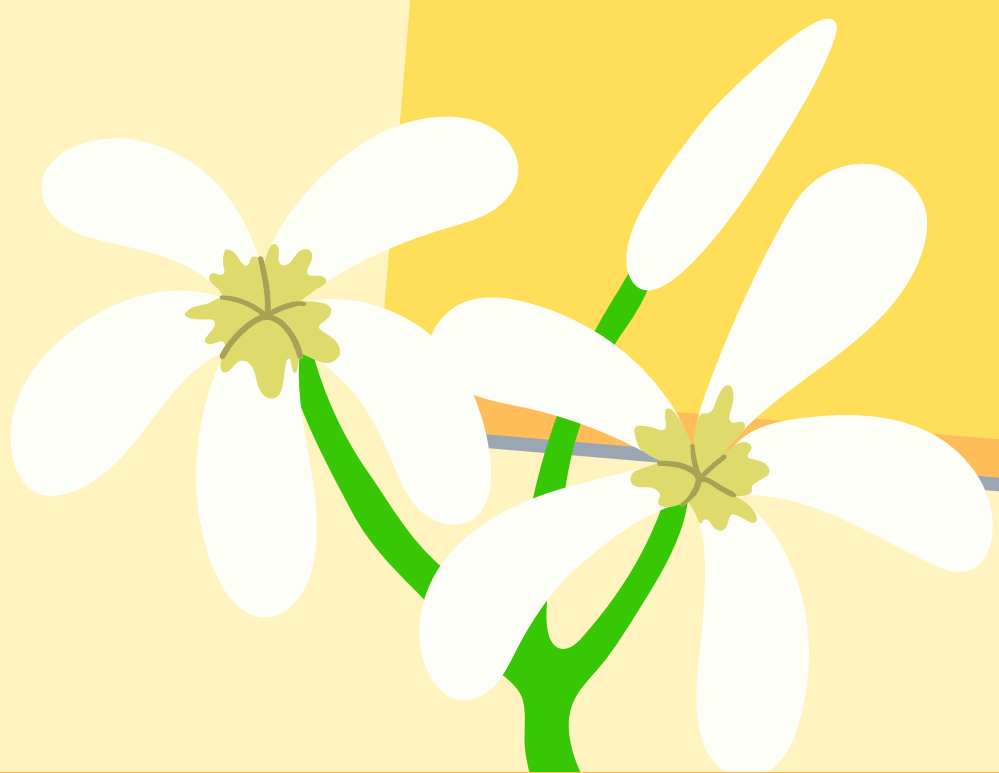
The three qualities that define Champak are that of Unity, Perseverance and Loyalty.

Every member of this house is bound by a thin thread that can easily break if strained and pulled in different directions. Yet, the thread of Champak grows longer with each member laying emphasis on the importance of unity. To be able to grow, accomplish and win together requires cooperation and a sense of integration from all. Members of Champak are unified to such a degree that they would gladly sit by the sidelines and cheer the other on the stage or field, even if it meant giving up their chance to represent the house. "Unity makes us unstoppable, unbreakable and unbeatable", became the motto of every Champak house member.

One of the first things I realized among the members of Champak was how they would keep going despite the innumerable challenges they were faced with. That all the times they felt like they couldn't do a particular thing or they felt stuck, they'd tell themselves that they were stronger than their strongest excuse. Quitting never made it to the contents of our rule book.

Standing by the house and together as a family was the core of each member. Members of Champak not only fought for their traditional spot for march past practices but also defended each member who was unable to do that for themselves. I think the very reason why every member is so loyal to the house and each other is because none questioned the loyalty of another. They knew loyalty was the glue that held the house together so they turned that into their lifestyle. No circumstance or opportunity made them shift their allegiance from the house.

Signing off,  
Priyanshi Agarwal  
Captain, 2021-22





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*Does your house hold a symbolic meaning in your life? If yes, then what is it?*

Gulmohar, rightly known as the flame tree, has been an inspiration to me. The bright flaming orange represents the passion, warmth and creativity amongst the members of this house. It is with teamwork and synergy that we blossom and bloom. The Covid 19 pandemic has had a distressing impact on everyone. The lockdown had taken a toll on me leaving me drained. However, seeing the unwavering enthusiasm of the members to do their best had me back on my feet, pumped for a new set of memories to be created despite the darkness shadowing us. This house stands for vigor and endurance. It has taught me to be both disciplined and affectionate. It has gifted me with an identity that shall remain with me forever. We have blossomed in the past year with utmost elegance. Hence be it any grueling circumstance, it fails to diminish the incandescent fire lying in the hearts of each member which takes the orange flag to new heights everyday.

*What are some tiny ways in which you show support to your house?*

Being blessed enough to experience the last year of school as the captain of my house, I have been through an emotional rollercoaster with the house beside me during my ups and downs. As a captain, my first priority was to create a safe space for my members and an atmosphere of love, respect and optimism. I wanted my juniors to learn and grow from their mistakes and most importantly believe in themselves. I trust each of my housemates to be gems, each shining for different reasons and this year I have tried my level best to encourage all of them to audition for every event. Lastly I have tried to be a friend to my housemates and lend a shoulder to cry on when things went south. Gulmohar has helped me evolve into a better person and I shall be forever grateful for this priceless bond.

*What is your house's greatest strength?*

Every single member of the house represents a petal of the vibrant Gulmohar flower. While one might make up the outer and the others constitute the inner petals, every petal depends on one another and the absence of even a single petal is felt by all. If I have to filter down to Gulmohar's greatest caliber, it has to be unity. Gulmohar house isn't just a gifted team with cooperative and talented members, it's home. We find inspiration and encouragement in each other. As a Captain, I have to absolutely thank each and every member of the house for helping out with whatever tiniest ways they can. Turning the dream of Gulmohar placing first in Mitali for three consecutive years into reality would not have been possible without the senior school members who were next to me throughout like a rock. From endless dance and march past practices, adamant to perfect every detail to cracking jokes to lighten the mood when we don't place, having the loudest cheers and spamming the chat box with orange hearts, it's an established fact that we shall always overcome every obstacle together. During this pandemic, we stayed knitted together stronger than ever before and this is exactly what gulmohar always stands for- eternal belongingness.

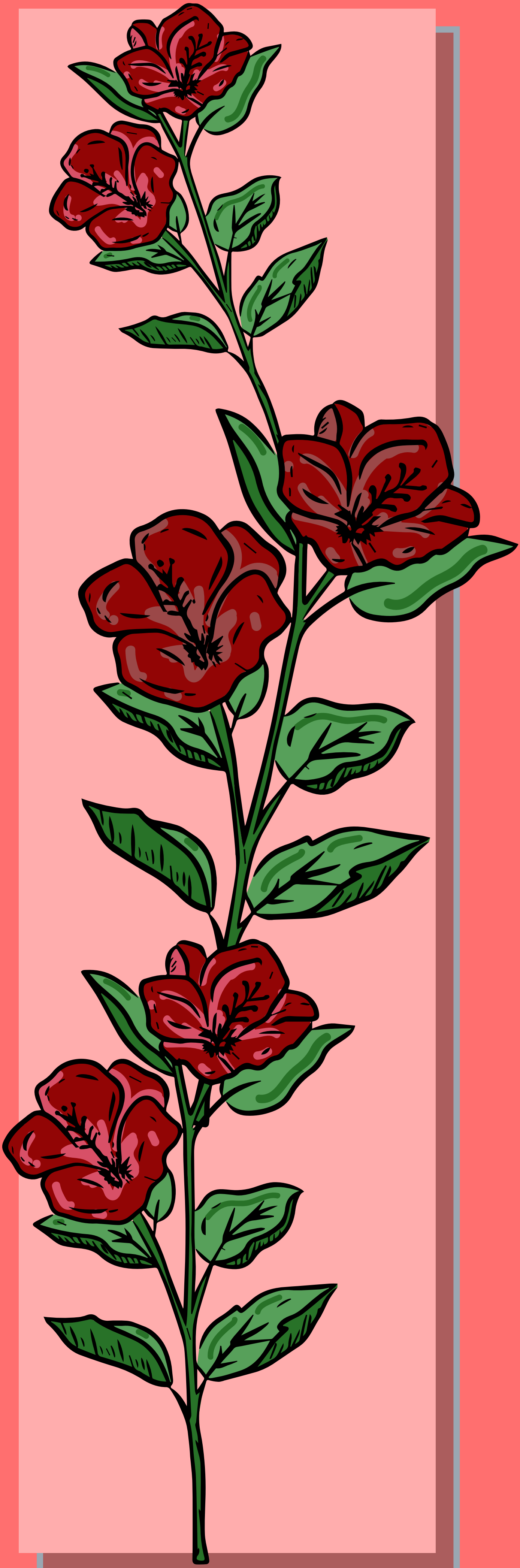


What is one moment that made you think that your house is worth fighting for?

Over the course of my school years, there have been countless instances which have invoked my deep rooted love for the house. Out of the never ending list of cherished memories, there is one such which tops the list. Rewinding back by a few years, when our feet found themselves moving to enthralling rhythms and adrenaline rushing through our veins. The religious house chants still buzz around here as I sit back recollecting my memories of Mitali. The first place award seemed just a few steps away when all of sudden one of our dance mates followed by the rest fell on the floor, crushing that very hope. As we sat there, ready to accept defeat and silence in the big shed, "Go Gulmohar!" came the loudest cheer from our captain, Vanshika Banthia. A very simple phrase consisting of just two words yet was enough for us to get up, determined to finish our performance as the shed once again was filled with cheers. At the end, holding the certificates and smiling as wide as our lips could stretch, I realized how special this house was as there would always be someone behind us ready to push us back up. This is the moment where I wanted to give everything to this house which has been my support system for the longest time. I really hope from the core of my heart that we have been able to create a safe space for everyone to rely on just like my seniors did.

Signing off,  
Yasmeen Ahmed  
Captain, 2021-22





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*What are two things that your house has taught you?*

Being part of the house for over a decade now, Hibiscus house has played an essential role in molding me into who I am today. It has taught me to laugh and cry, fail and try, but keep going, always.

Class 12, came as a jolt for me - I no longer had seniors in the school to guide me. I was scared to start the year as Captain. The badge has its own weight and it is a tough one to pull around.

There were times when I did not understand certain events in fests and my Vice Captain, Vanshikha Agarwal would explain them to me. There were times when I had to be away for examinations and the house core team under the guidance of their Vice Captain pulled off entire events by themselves and times they consoled me when I was overwhelmed about having to leave school at the end of the year! Every time I needed help, someone or the other would help out. I learnt that being open to learning and asking for help just makes one more human.

People will always have your back.

Another thing I learnt was that giving members a certain bit of working space and freedom can have wonderful results. They are little stars with superb capabilities and do not need to be handheld every step of the way! They need to be guided, but only with what they need to do - they are more than capable of figuring the rest out themselves!

*Do you think that the colors of each of the houses signify something important?*  
Definitely.

The colors of every house represent a part of what MHS stands for as an institution.

The yellow in champak stands for the warmth that students in the institution exude and the comfort that we have in calling MHS our second home!

The orange in gulmohar stands for the fire each of us have within, to bring a positive change in the world.

The red in hibiscus stands for love, it is the color of the heart and will stay that way forever!

The white in Jasmine stands for peace and tranquility - that we need to have within ourselves and around to be able to contribute to anything constructively.

The blue in lotus represents wisdom that we gain as we age.  
- the growth that we need to have from every new experience and the new beginnings challenges and new opportunities.

The purple in Orchid stands for royalty - a silent reminder that we all have the capability to lead in life. (albeit the crown is invisible!)

Finally, the pink in Rose signifies compassion, which is an urgent need in the world today.



*What would be one thing you would want to develop about your house?*

The two years spent as Vice-Captain and Captain of the house, have been nothing short of sheer privilege. I had the opportunity to work with people who are brilliant, have a lot of potential. However, one thing that I would like to develop in my house is participation. We have wonderful talent. They just need to be made to feel more comfortable to be able to come up and express themselves.

*What is the best memory you have created with/in your house?*

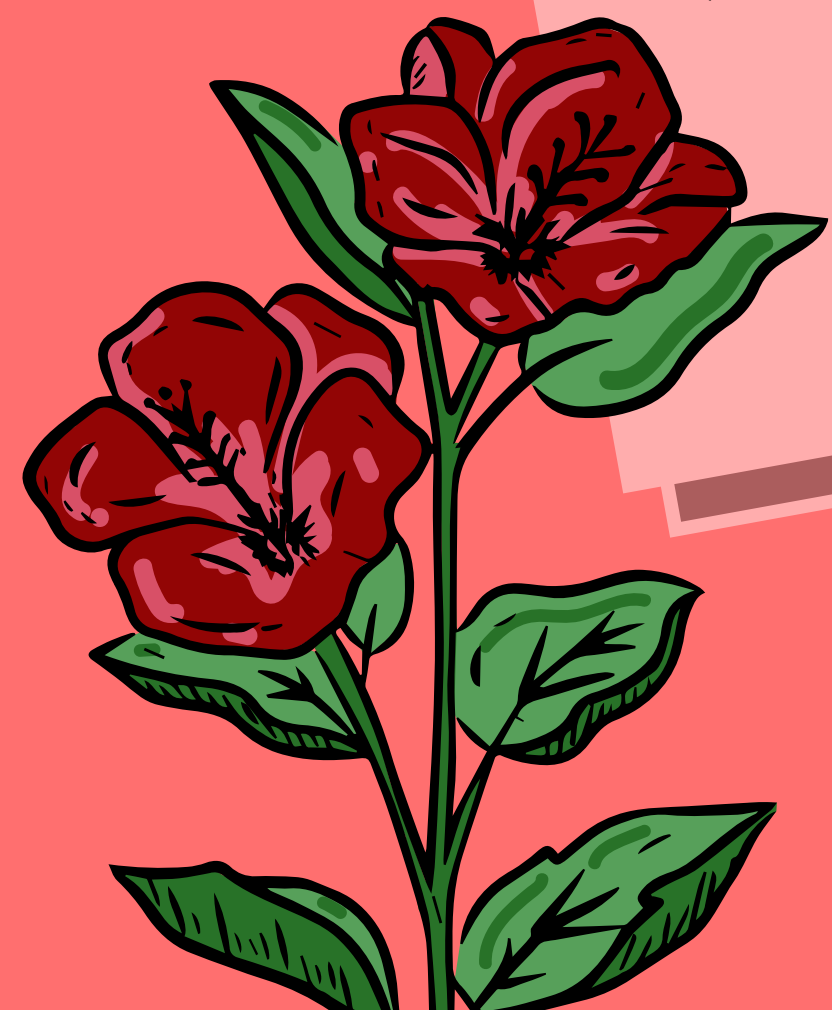
If I was to pick my favorite from a list of having gossip sessions in the middle of march past practices two days before Sports Day, racking our brains to come up with good farewell ideas, supervising dance practice sessions before Maitree and Mitali, running around the school corridors in the lunch break looking for a stapler to put up the house board, preparing an entire assembly two minutes before we have to present it, going around classrooms putting up audition notices and seeing people shriek with joy when they are selected for an event or seeing people try harder the next time when they are not, I would not have been able to do it!

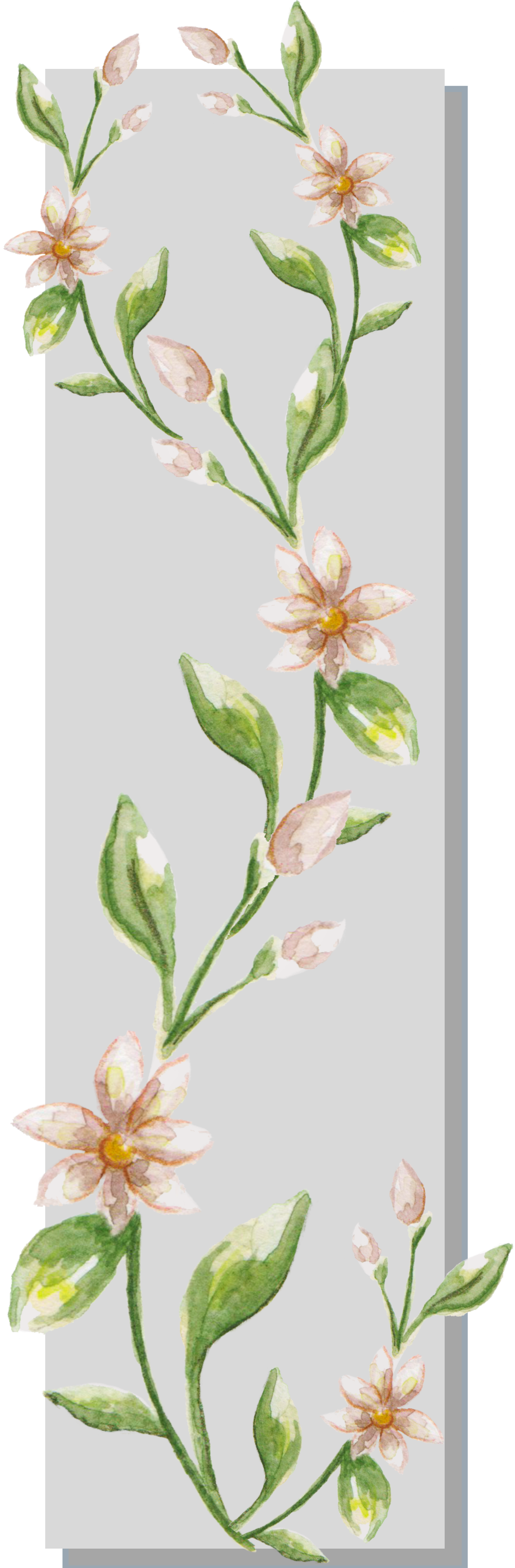
In the past two years, when the world was grappling with the pandemic and all house-bonding happened over zoom calls, it was 'virtual' sports last year that created the best set of memories for me.

Even before we started selections for specific events, we started practices! We used to be up at 6:30 a.m. to catch a session of about 45 minutes before school to get into good shape. On many occasions, we served as each other's alarm - calling till the other person finally gave in, corrected each other while doing the exercises and collectively pushed ourselves beyond our limit.

In the end, we placed in many events, but did not place in some. However, as they say, the journey is more important than the destination - and this journey was unparalleled.

Signing off,  
Devanshee Kedia  
Captain, 2021-22





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*What are 3 qualities that define your house?*

The members of Jasmine House are very competitive and have an amazing team spirit when it comes to inter house events. They are extremely hardworking, passionate and give their best efforts to make the white flag fly high. The enthusiasm and optimism that we see in our house is also worth appreciation. Online or offline, we always see the chatbox or comments section filled with white hearts or the atmosphere echoing with the words "Go Jasmine." However, Jasmine House never brings down other houses because of their competitiveness. Honesty and sportsmanship is very important in our house and we believe in giving our best efforts, being supportive and appreciative of the other houses and wishing for the best house to win. Winning can be great but never at the cost of honesty or by hurting someone else.

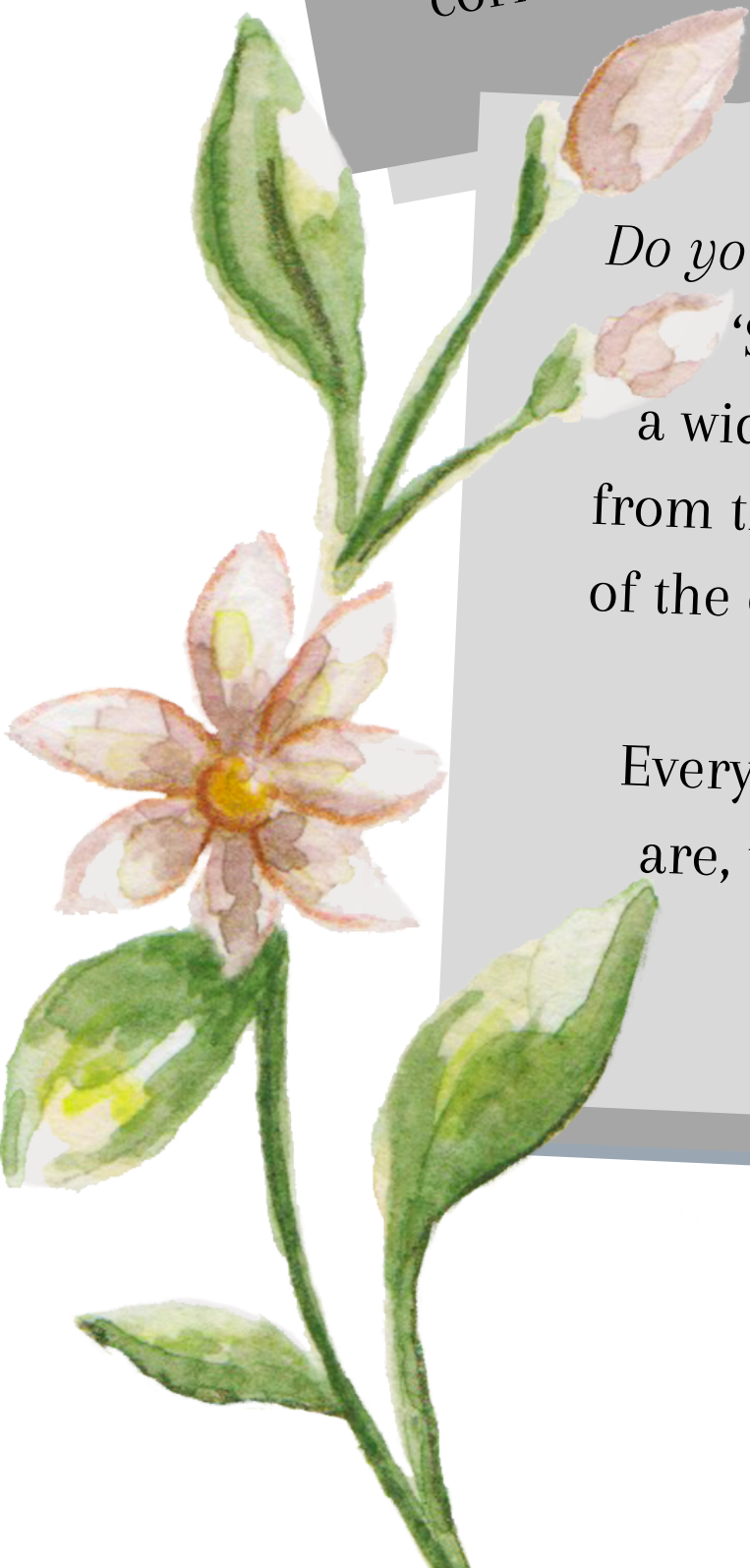
*What is one moment that made you think that your house is fighting for?*

Like every year we had both Mitali for the middle school and Maitree for the senior school where my very dear housemates went ahead to win in creative writing, quiz, music, drama, art, talent, photography, public speaking and even editing. Every participant, reserve, and even the ones who did not participate contributed directly or indirectly during the month-long practices. The behind the scenes is a huge part of any fest and enjoying that makes the fest a success. Cheering in the comments section on Instagram, chat box on zoom and on WhatsApp groups, once again we saw how the spirit of Jasmine house has been unaffected by a pandemic. My Vice-Captain Yana and I were overwhelmed by the responses we received especially when it came to middle school and the level of enthusiasm shown by my juniors was exemplary. Through the ups and down, this year has been a roller coaster ride and we have dealt with everything together by standing by each other. With the annual sports round the corner, I am sure that we will once again see that enthusiasm, team spirit and sportsmanship along with the competitiveness.

*Do you think that the colours and flowers of each house signify something important?*

'Spectrum' is a band of colours as seen in a rainbow. A rainbow contains a wide range of colours but what is common about them is that they all originate from the colour white. Quite similar to a rainbow is the Jasmine House which is also of the colour white but consists of so many different people who all work together to make the house stand out as one.

Every flower, every colour plays a very important role in MHS and unique as they are, they also stand together as a whole. We believe that a flower does not think about competing with the flower next to it, it just blooms.



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*What are the aspects of your housemates that have impressed you?*

Jasmine House members have always made the house proud by performing exceptionally be it on the field or on the stage, thus the bar has always been high. However, this year has been very different from other years as we witnessed the second year into the pandemic. Despite all difficulties, the members of our house have come out strong and kept winning laurels for the house.

A house is what its members make it and I cannot thank each and every house member enough for making it what it is. Everyones contribution to the house deserves appreciation as they have all made their house proud, and me proud yet again. I would like to express my gratitude to the people without whom I would not have been able to make Mitali and Maitree 2021 a success ( Yana and my entire Core Committee consisting of Adya, Tanvi, Brishti, Flora, Naishha and Shreeya ).

Signing off,  
Hrishita Bhattacharya  
Captain, 2021-2022





# LOTUS

*Do you think the colors of your house signify something important?*

Lotus House cannot be singularly defined in terms of a badge pinned to our collar or a blue t-shirt worn every month. To me, it has always been an embodiment of unity and strength, and a place where every member is given a strong sense of belonging. When I look back to retrace this journey that we all have undertaken, it surprises me to see how far we've moved, from the last minute rehearsals before Mitali, the nervous glances before the Prize Ceremonies and cheering our lungs out on Sports Day.

The Blue Flag doesn't solely represent the achievements of our house in terms of awards and accolades, but is also a reflection of the unwavering spirit of every member. It combines the fervor of the ocean and the serenity of the sky, and the values of loyalty, hard work and resilience- steadfastly met by all our members.

*What makes your house worth fighting for?*

It's been two years since the world has been hit by a pandemic, yet hopes of it ending in the near future remain feeble. Most of us have been directly or indirectly affected by the virus, have witnessed medical crises during the two waves, and been forced to remain confined to our homes. During such difficult times, staying connected and united seemed more important than ever, but students were left with nothing more than a virtual platform to ensure it, but was the efforts of our members, which made online events and virtual fests a resounding success. The year witnessed mesmerizing performances in dance, music, public speaking and drama during Mitali and Maitree. Be it middle schoolers dressing their pets up for the "Pet Fashion Show", to thematic dance performances and heated debates on the flooding of the Hooghly River- every moment was memorable. This strength to tide over every difficulty and the zeal of every member to convert challenges into miracles is what makes Lotus House worth fighting for every moment.

*What do you appreciate the most about your house members?*

When I am asked what makes me so proud of my house, and what I appreciate about every member, I don't highlight how many medals we have won in Sports or the prizes we received during fests. I point out how every member can respect a difference in opinion, and learn from each other during any group activity. I highlight their capability to humbly accept victory and gracefully face failure. It is their tireless efforts and years of hard work and perseverance which has kept the blue flag soaring high through the years.



*What are the tiny ways in which you show support to your house?*

Probably because of the amazing example set by my seniors and my love for the house - contributing to house activities and showing support during events has always been very spontaneous for me. When I went to audition for the first time in class six for a music event in Mitali, I felt nervous and hesitant to perform in front of a group of strangers. When I walked into the audition room, I was greeted by reassuring smiles, seniors offering me a packet of crisps and it didn't feel so strange anymore. It was their words of encouragement which gave me the courage to express myself and experience the joy of collaboration. Years later, when I started taking auditions for middle schoolers, I recalled how my seniors changed my life, and extended the same form of warmth and encouragement to make sure that everyone gets a chance. Reminding juniors that it's alright to lose before a live event, helping seniors with housework, or simply staying back to discuss each other's problems have always been characteristic of the Lotus family. I am proud to say that this support is extended by every member, be it my juniors through their positivity and enthusiasm, my seniors for their constant encouragement and motivation, and my batch mates to fall back on.

My journey would have been incomplete without the relentless support of my committee members-

Yashvi Kedia,

Navya Jalan, Suhani Agarwal, Saanvi Fatehpuria

Vanishri Bajaj, Saanvi Fatehpuria, Divya Ladia

and Anvi Kedia. A special mention goes to my

Vice Captain Hrishita Baheti, for her patience, dedication and resilience

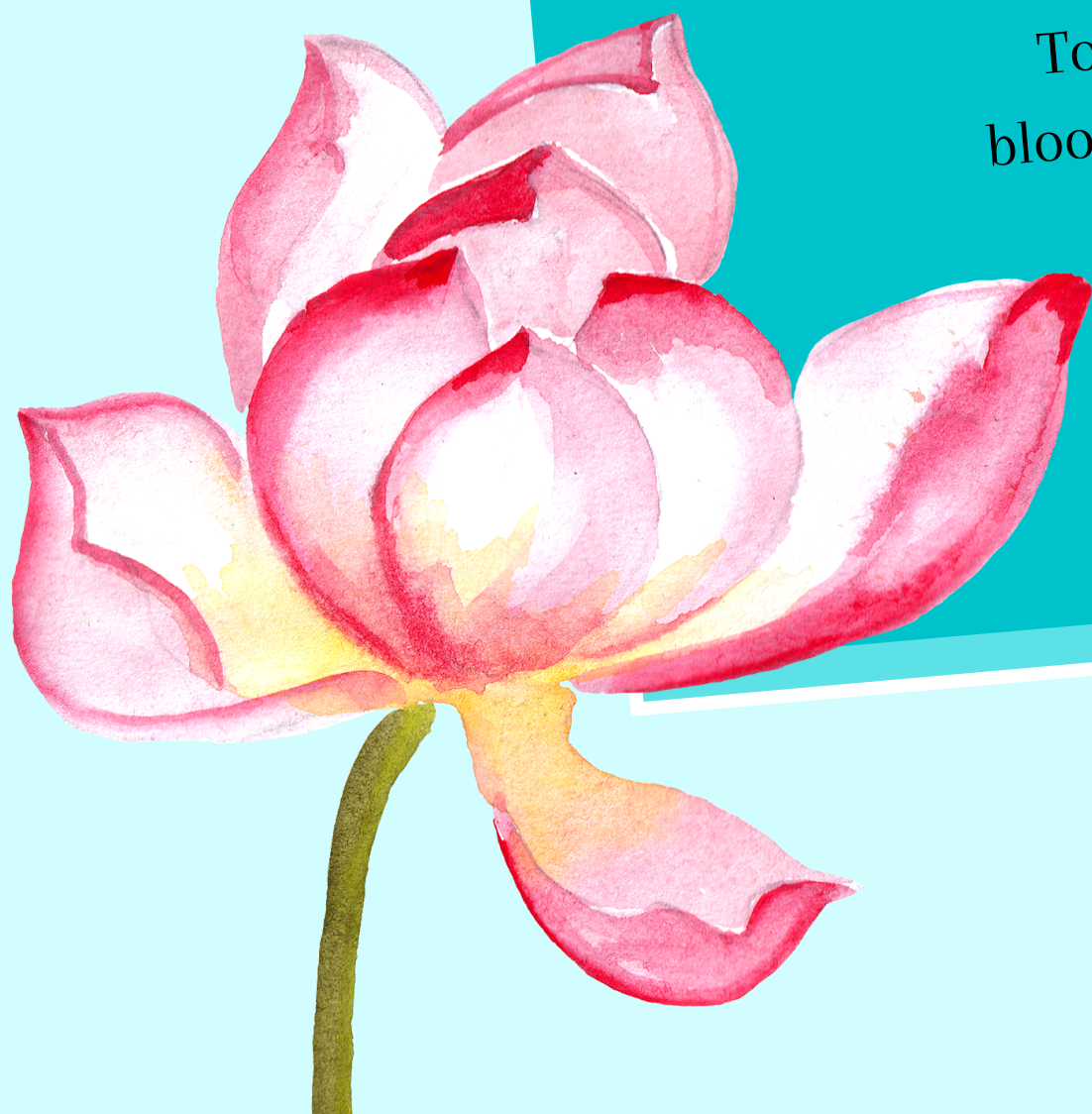
despite all the obstacles that came our way.

I have complete faith that the following batches will lead the house to newer heights in the years to come.

To all Lotus House Members- may the passion blooming in your hearts never subside. It has been

an honor to serve as your captain.

Signing off,  
Ishani Ghosh,  
Captain, 2021-2022





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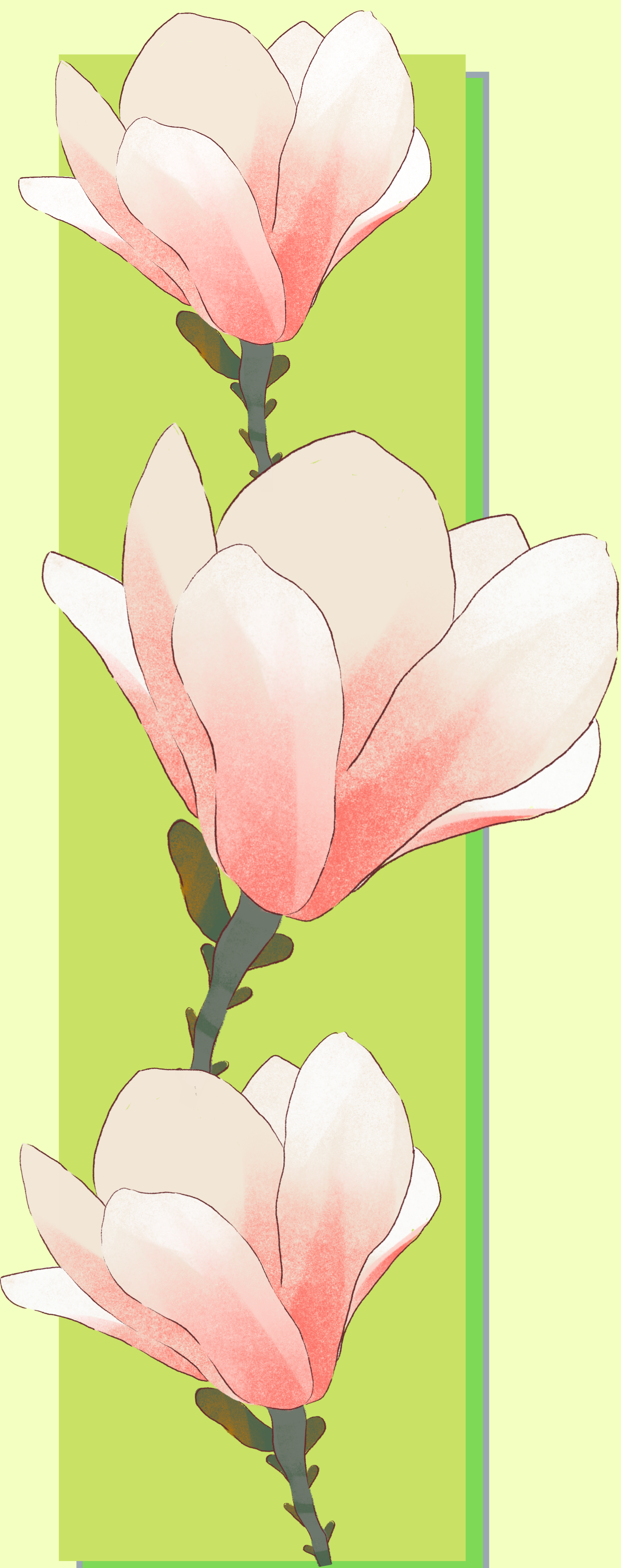
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*Does your house hold a symbolic meaning in your life? If yes, then what is it?*

Cyclones result in chaos, destruction and uncertainty. Although it circles the same path with varying intensities, the center, or the eye of the storm, is a spot of peace and calm. It's the point where things simmer down, albeit momentarily. In the last two years of the pandemic, the storm, Magnolia house has been the spot of serenity for me. With such unpredictable times, my house, my family, has brought me a sense of familiarity and calmness.

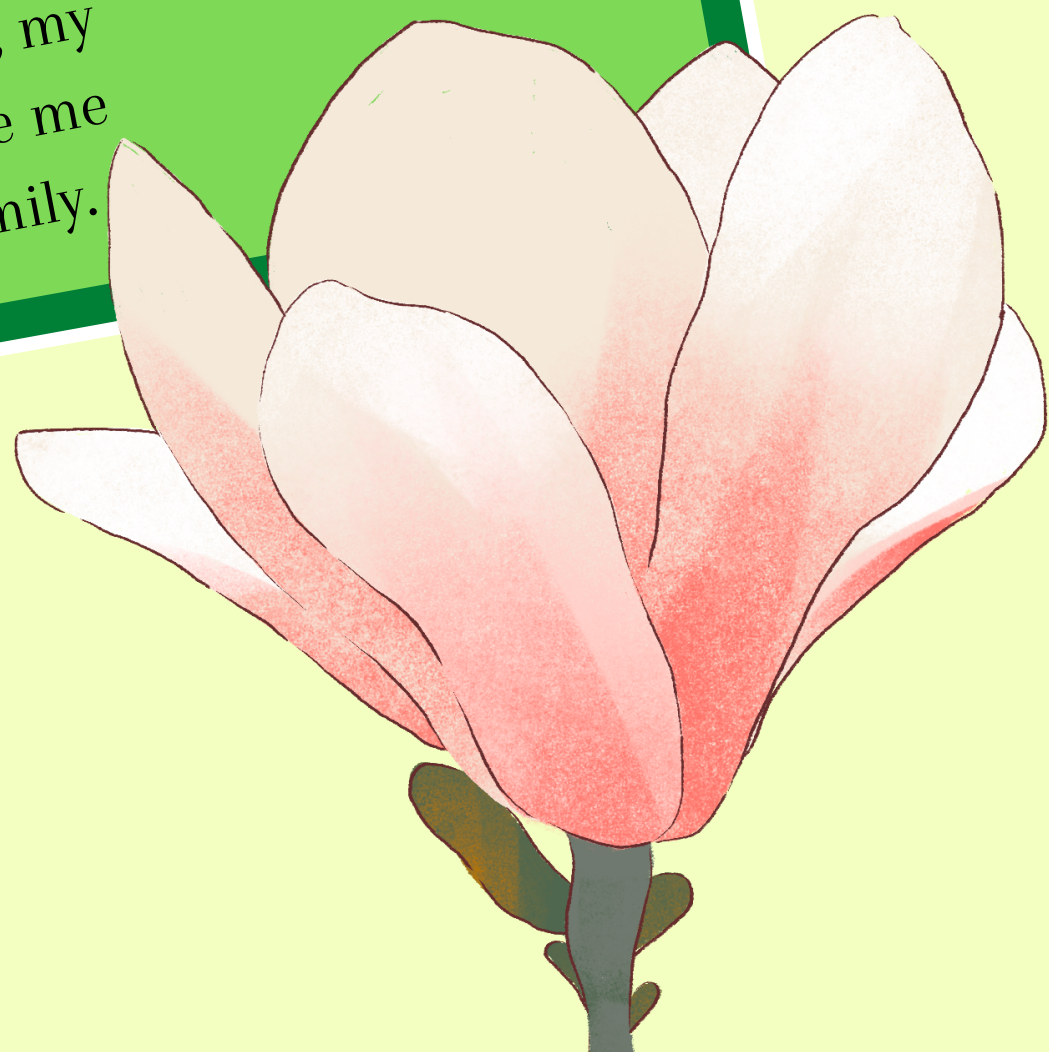
No matter how many unconventional events we had to familiarize ourselves with this year, my vice captain, Yashvi Bagri, has always been there to work our way through it and emerge victorious. Even though we had to get through yet another year of virtual school, we ensured our house spirit was still as high as ever through interactive meetings once a month with all our members. This was clear through the enthusiastic participation of members in the middle and senior school fest. Class 12s had exams during the middle school fest but my juniors stepped up and ran the entire audition process and conducted practices. They ensured that no matter what I can rely on them. My committee members' - Sumiran Hora, Saranya Mondol, Yashvi Sarada, Jahnvi Poddar and Anisha Mohta- efforts during this period have been beyond commendable.

Our house would not have prospered without Sanskriti Agarwal, Tanisha Malhotra, Debadrita Basu and Gina Doshi's never ending support as well. They have been my backbone throughout the year and I cannot thank them enough.

All of my juniors and seniors have made sure that the house maintained this spot of serenity not just for me but for everyone in the house. It has been a true honor to be the captain of Magnolia house.

*What was the moment you realized that your house was where you belonged?*

I still remember I was in class 6 when I saw captains marching with our flag soaring high. It was a time brimming with sheer house pride. We were all sitting together in the field after our march past practice, seniors and juniors together, and everyone was just laughing and talking. In that moment I realized, this was so much more than a house - it was a part of my identity, my family. I have been reminded of my place in this house in every practice, be it for sports day or any fest. No matter what, my seniors and juniors have always made me feel like a part of this big happy family.

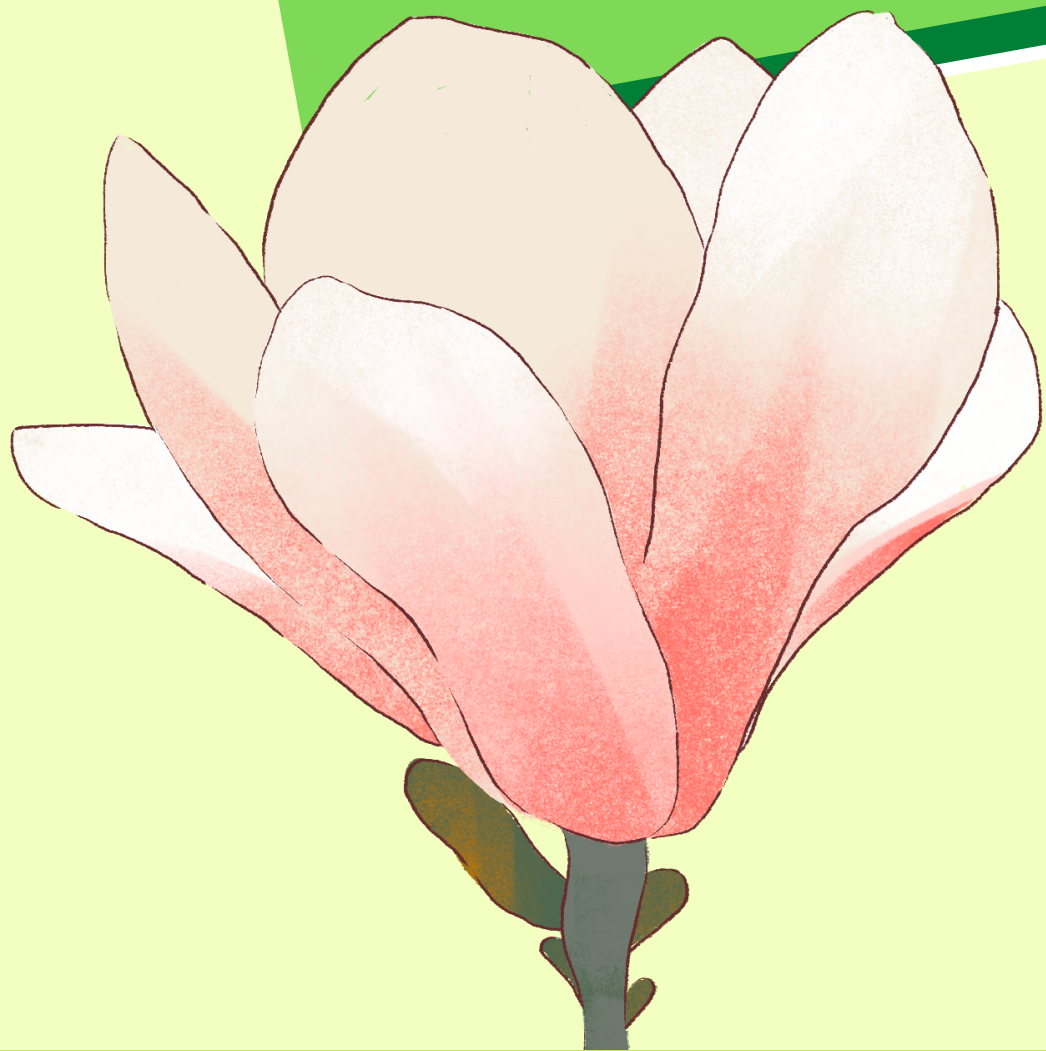


*What are two things that your house has taught you ?*

Throughout my school life, Magnolia house has taught me so much that it is impossible to mention just two things but broadly categorizing them, it has taught me to believe in myself and to grow as a person. My captains have always encouraged me to come up and try different things no matter how bad I was at them. They helped me discover my passions and strengths in basketball and dance. This house has been my source of courage and pride. It has taught me the true meaning of team spirit and inculcated in me leadership skills. I would like to thank all the house members for giving me an opportunity to lead the house. Magnolia house has taught me so much that I can only hope I have been able to be the leader it deserves.

*If you could use three words to describe your house, what would they be?*  
If I could use three words to describe Magnolia house, they would be happiness, camaraderie and progress. It has always been a source of my happiness and is rich with team spirit. It helps all its members grow and evolve to be the best version of themselves. I hope Magnolia house always remains like this and its flag always soars high.

Signing off,  
Vandita Tulsian,  
Captain, 2021-2022





# O R C H I D

*What makes your house unique?*

What makes Orchid House unique is the kind of personal bond each member shares with the other despite their uniqueness. Over the years, all the members have been made to feel comfortable to open up and not feel judged in the house.

*If you could use three words to describe your house, what would they be?*

Creative because each one is different and is given the space to discover their creativity and contribute, respectful because each one respects the other for who they are and what they believe in despite having difference of opinion sometimes and unity because we are a close-knit group.

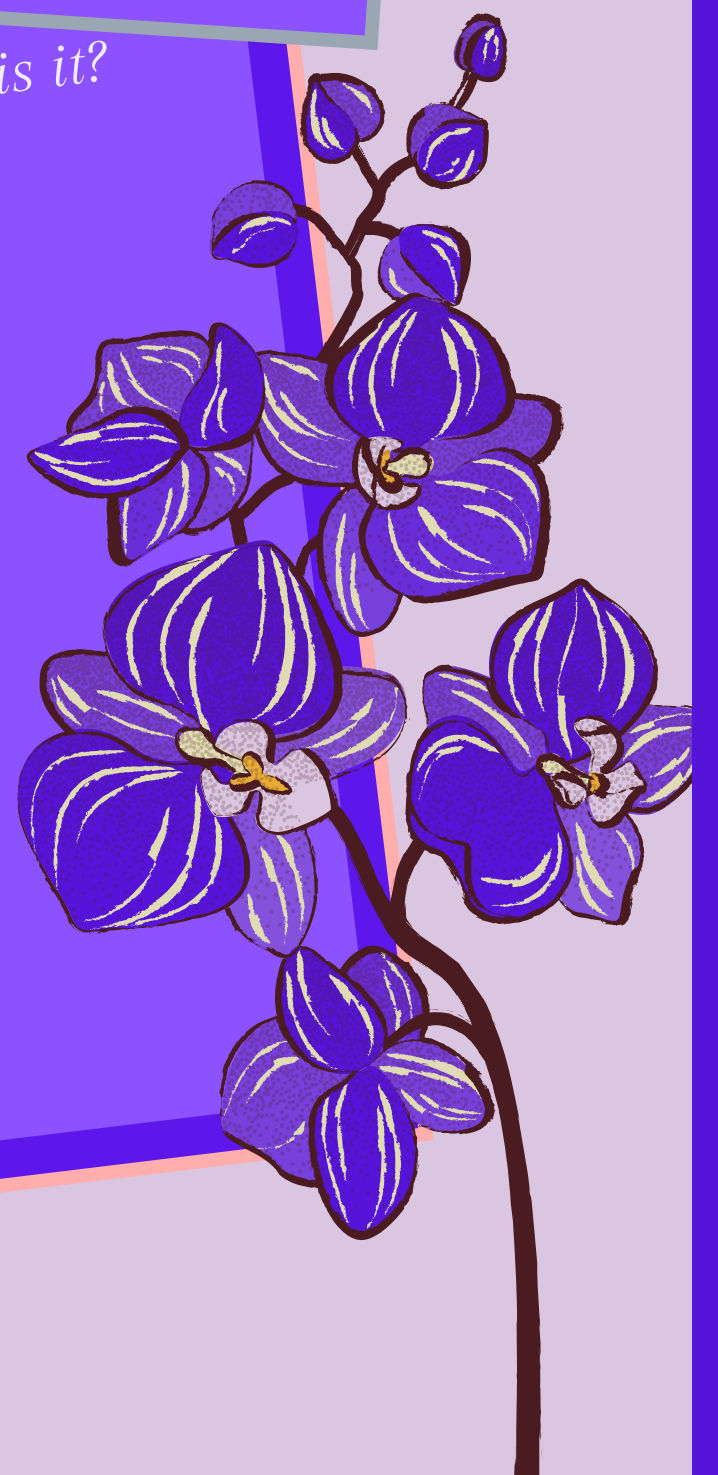
*What is one moment that made you think that your house is worth fighting for?*

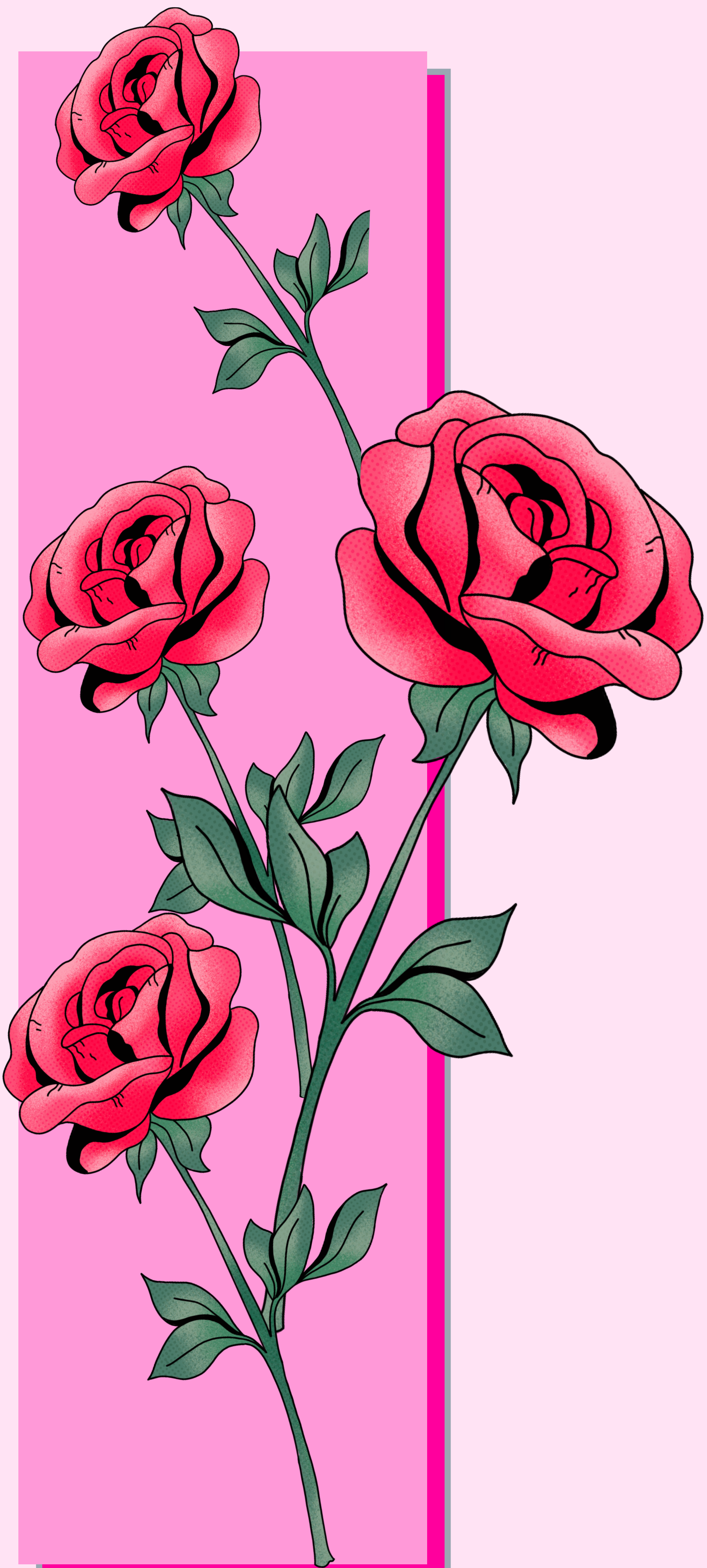
I cannot say that there is one moment but if you ask me, in the first house meeting with middle school this year, almost all of the juniors spoke about how good leadership in the house has impacted them as a person and how they have aspired to be like their 'didis'. The smile on every members' face motivates me everyday.

*Does your house hold a symbolic meaning in your life? If yes, then what is it?*

Yes, my house does hold a very symbolic meaning because the purple has always taught me to keep flying higher and to make dreams come true. Whether that meant winning sports day in 2020 or being runners up for Maitree in 2021, these were aspirations and only hard work and team work have made them possible

Signing off,  
Anjali Laddha  
Captain, 2021-2022





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*Does your house hold a symbolic meaning in your life? If yes, then what is it?*

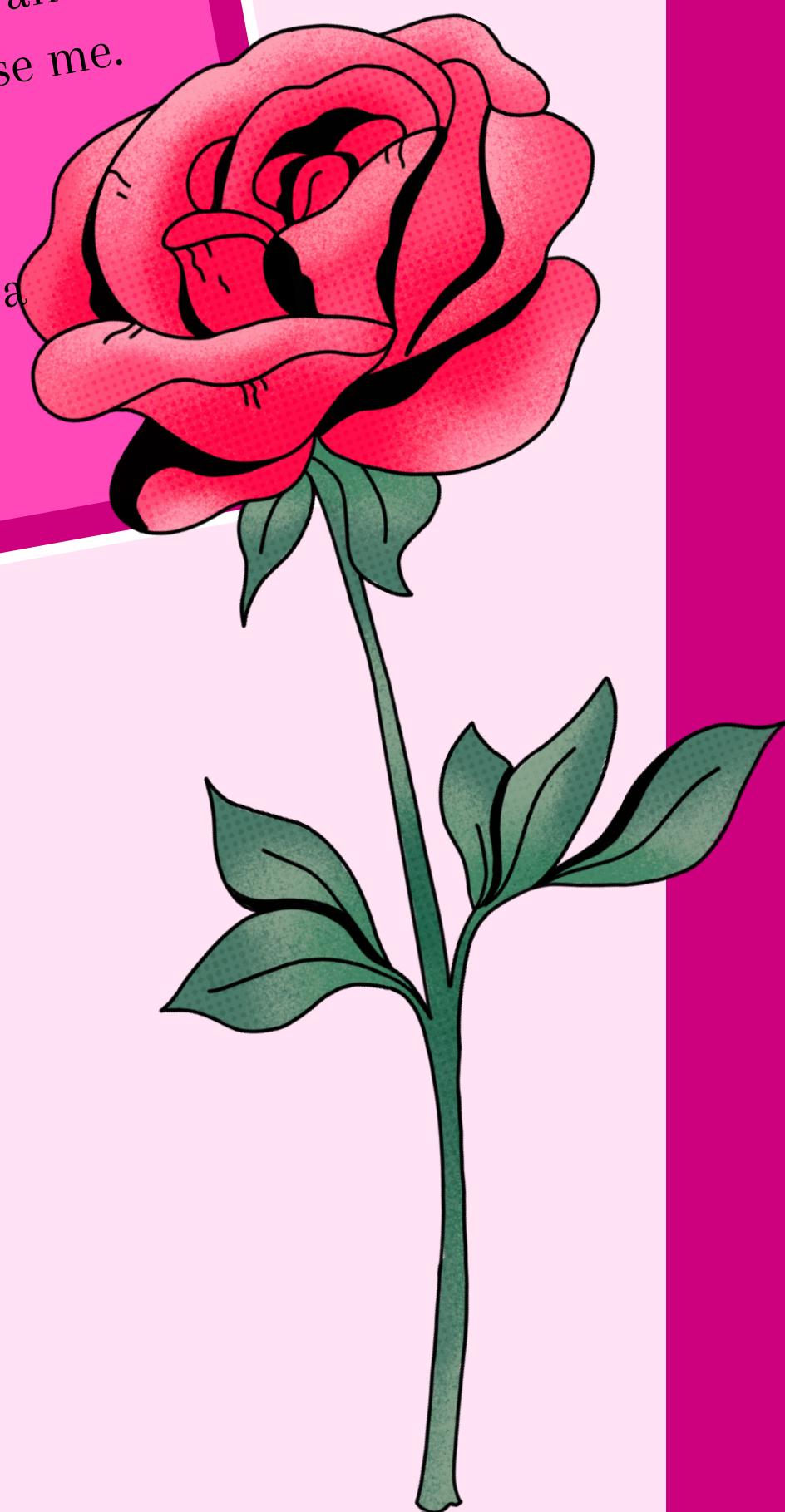
I've always found the rose to be intriguing. They bloom bright and beautiful and are synonymous with love. But a rose has many layers and their thorns teach us that all things worth having require work, and that there may often be obstacles in our way.

The year 2021 was a hard hit for all of us. Another virtual year brought with it its fair share of hardships. Yet, the members of Rose house bloomed beautifully, never failing to keep up their cheery attitude and enthusiasm but also showing their grit, drive and diversity. The house spirit stayed strong with the members' creativity and spunk. We managed to look past this year's thorns with monthly house meetings on Zoom, full of witty banter and exciting discussions. In fest practices, the house members gave their all to make the online event as special as the physical one. 'Mitali' and 'Maitree' were where they shone the brightest, and their determination paid off when Rose won 'Maitree'.

*Do you think that the colors and flowers of each of the houses signify something important?*

Flowers are a very fitting theme for the houses of our school. Just like the flowers, we grow and change too.

Pink is a color that stands for love, compassion and even trust in some cultures. This completely encompasses what a house stands for. The unity, trust and compassion shown by this house is incredible and never fails to surprise me. They are always there to help other members who reach out. The members keep the pink flag flying high even when school isn't offline. Just like the pink rose, the members of this house have a quick wit and creativity are as sharp as the rose's thorns.



*What are some tiny ways in which you show support to your house?*

Throughout my journey as a member of the house, one constant has been the guidance of my seniors. Even now, as the senior-most batch, I know the Rose house alumnus will always have my back. I try to show support to my house members in the same way that I was: by always being ready to hear them out and listen to their ideas, boosting their work and making sure they know that they can reach out to me anytime.

Something that we made sure to do was to give our house members a platform to share their art, music and blogs through the group chats, to give them space to express their talents. In an online year, communication becomes both easier and also a lot harder because the people you are interacting with are not there with you. We used Zoom meetings as a way to keep in touch and uplift spirits and tried to give them updates about the house whenever possible.

*What are the aspects of your housemates that have impressed you?*

I have always been in awe of my housemates. They are some of the most talented and determined people I have had the pleasure of knowing. I learn something new from them every time we interact. They are bold and innovative, always up for a challenge and with new ideas to try out and a fresh perspective on things.

The class 10 house core, Keara Bardhan and Anisha Agarwal are some of the most dedicated people I have met, along with Mannat Nandwani, all of whom spent countless hours brainstorming ideas and offering support. Our Class 11s and 12s have been the best support system this house could ask for. Shreya Datta and Ishita Sharaf have been the heart and soul of the house and a source of encouragement for many.

My Vice Captain, Arya Pugalia has been the best partner I could ask for. She is perhaps the most dependable member of our House. and has shouldered responsibility brilliantly. This year would have been impossible without her.

Signing off,  
Shagun Kothari,  
Captain, 2021-2022

