



The challenge was developed by US cartoonist and illustrator Jake Parker in 2009 to improve his cartoon inking skills.

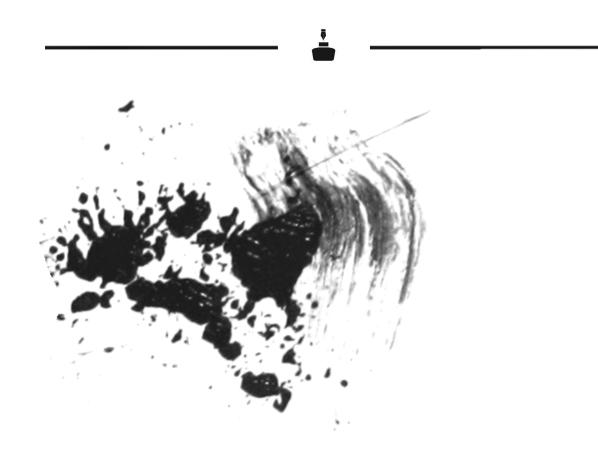
"It was October when I challenged myself to draw in ink for every day of the month.

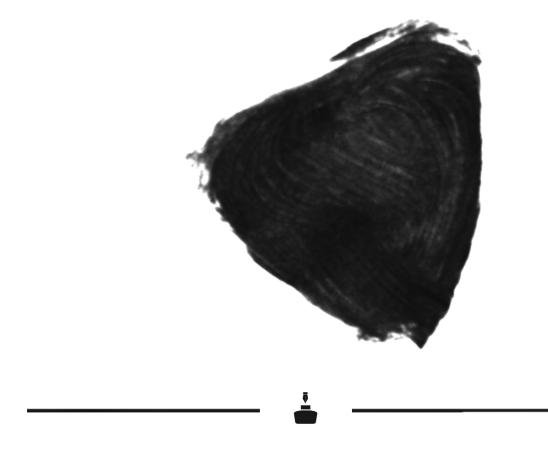
The word ink just ended up fitting with it,"Parker told CNN.

As he shared his mission online, other artists decided to join in and make it an annual event. But it was only in 2012 that Inktober became a worldwide art celebration as hashtags -- labels used on social media websites to join messages on a specific topic -- helped people spread the word and encourage others to join.

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There are more than 1,000,000 Inktober posts on Instagram. "Hashtags have been a tremendous help. The challenge's popularity definitely opened my mind to the possibilities of challenges that help creative communities," said Parker.





Inktober has helped him discover new artists and inking techniques.

