



SPEAKING TIGER

CATALOGUE
JANUARY-JUNE 2016

Speaking Tiger is an independent publishing company based in New Delhi. Founded in September 2014, the company released its first titles in February 2015. In its second year of publishing, Speaking Tiger continues to build a diverse list of quality fiction and non-fiction from South Asia and the rest of the world, with a strong emphasis on new voices.

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FLECTION

**RIVER OF FLESH AND OTHER
STORIES:
THE PROSTITUTED WOMAN IN
INDIAN SHORT FICTION**
Ruchira Gupta (Ed.)

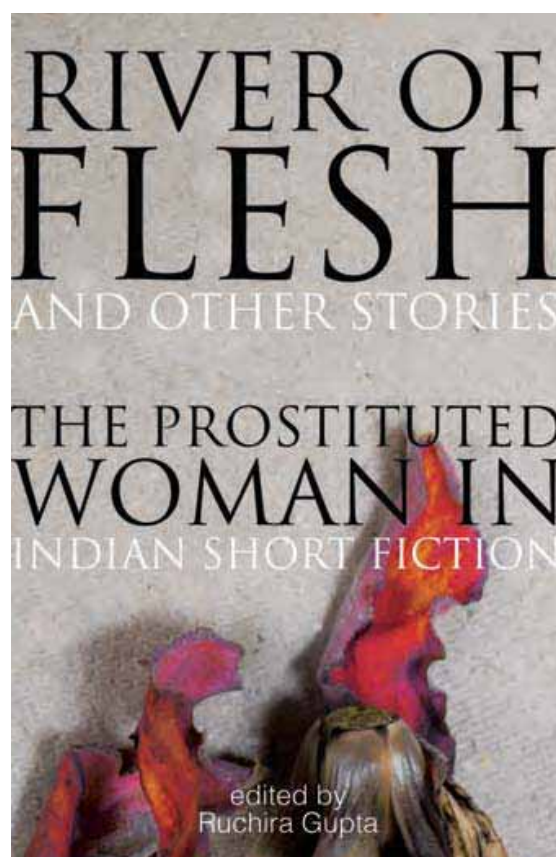
'Across regions, religions, and twelve languages, these stories uniformly reveal the entrenched inequalities that force women into prostitution, their desire to liberate themselves, the demoralizing conditions that they are forced to endure and the remarkable strength with which they transcend their exploitation—sometimes through death and murder and sometimes through hope and fortitude.'

—Gloria Steinem

River of Flesh and Other Stories brings together twenty-one stories about trafficked and prostituted women by some of India's most celebrated writers—Amrita Pritam, Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay, Indira Goswami, Ismat Chughtai, J. P. Das, Kamala Das, Kamleshwar, Krishan Chander, Munshi Premchand, Nabendu Ghosh, Qurratulain Hyder, Saadat Hasan Manto and Siddique Alam, among others.

Jugnu, in Kamleshwar's 'River of Flesh' ('Maas ka Darya') stares at a lifetime of servitude as age and disease take hold; Ismat Chughtai creates the unforgettable character of Lajo in 'The Housewife', a carefree young woman who must conform to society's idea of decency, or risk being branded a whore; in 'Heeng-Kochuri' by Bibhutibhushan Bandyopadhyay, a boy growing up near a red-light area discovers the adult world of patrons, connoisseurs and customers; and in Manisha Kulshrestha's 'Kalindi', a son looks in through a window and his life falls to pieces around him.

An unprecedented anthology—for its subject, as well as for the range of authors and translators who are part of it—*River of Flesh and Other Stories* offers a harsh indictment of this practice of human slavery, too often justified—and occasionally glorified—as the 'world's oldest profession'.



Ruchira Gupta is a writer, feminist campaigner, professor at New York University and founder of the anti-sex trafficking organization Apne Aap Women Worldwide in India. She won the Clinton Global Citizen Award in 2009, the Sera Bangali Award in 2012 and an Emmy for outstanding investigative journalism in 1996. She has helped more than twenty thousand girls and women in India exit prostitution systems. She has also edited As If Women Matter, an anthology of Gloria Steinem's essays, and written manuals on human trafficking for the UN Office for Drugs and Crime.

Demy PB with flaps; 272 pp
Price: Rs 350
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85755-58-3

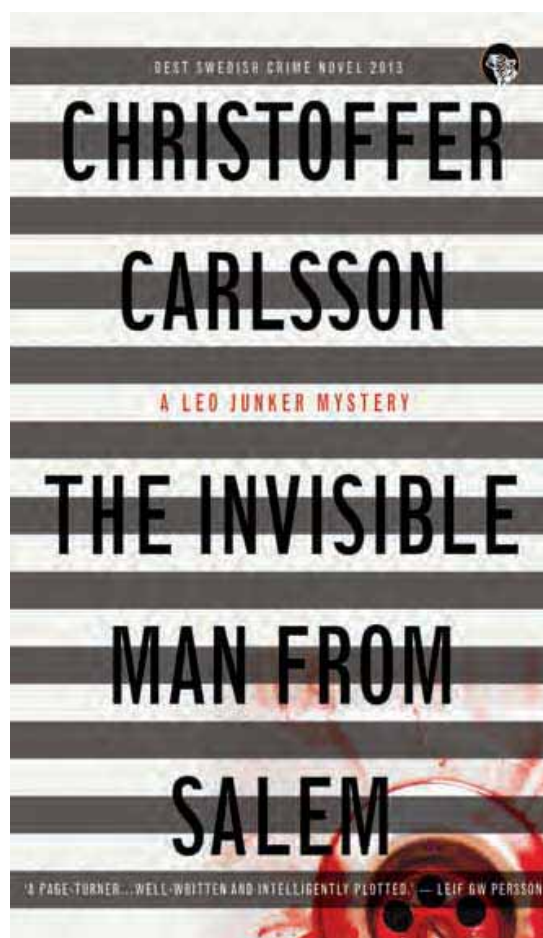
THE INVISIBLE MAN FROM SALEM Christopher Carlsson

'Among Swedish crime writers, Christopher Carlsson is entirely in a league of his own. And The Invisible Man from Salem is maybe his best yet.'—Ostgota Correspondenten

In the final days of summer, a young woman is shot dead in her apartment. Three floors above, the blue lights of the police cars awaken disgraced ex-officer Leo Junker. Though suspended from the force, he can't stay away for long. Bluffing his way onto the crime scene, he examines the dead woman and sees that she is clasping a cheap necklace—a necklace he instantly recognizes.

As Leo sets out on a rogue investigation to catch the killer, a series of frightening connections emerge, linking the murder to his own troubled youth in Salem—a suburb of Stockholm where social and racial tensions run high—and forcing him to confront a long-ago incident that changed his life forever.

Now, in backstreets, shadowed alleyways, and decaying suburbs ruled by Stockholm's criminal underground, the search for the young woman's killer—and the truth about Leo's past—begins.



Christoffer Carlsson was born in 1986. The author of two previous novels, he has a PhD in criminology, and is a university lecturer in the subject. The Invisible Man from Salem has been a bestseller in Sweden, and won the Swedish Crime Academy's 2013 Best Crime Novel of the Year award. It is the first in a series starring a young police officer called Leo Junker, and will shortly be developed into a three-season TV drama by Stella Nova Film.

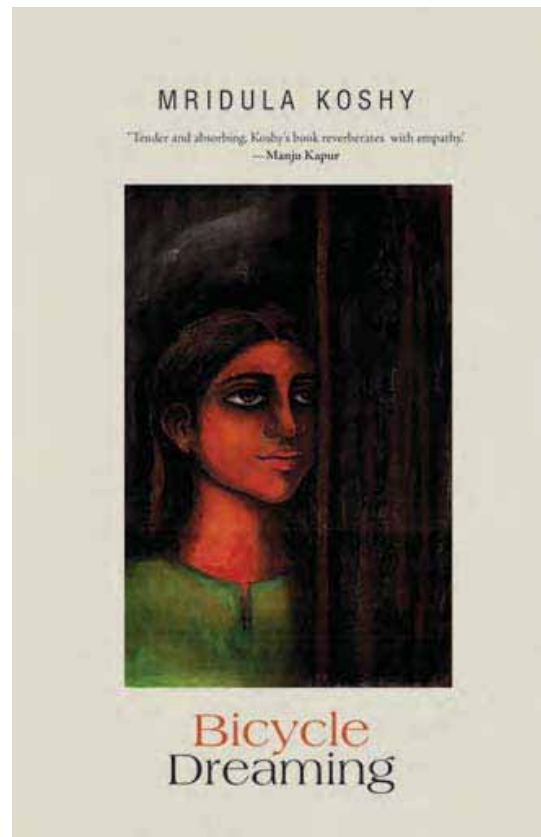
Royal PB; 304 pp
Price: Rs 499
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85775-57-6

BICYCLE DREAMING

Mridula Koshy

'Tender and absorbing, this is a book that reverberates with empathy.'—Manju Kapur, author of *Difficult Daughters* and *A Married Woman*

From one birthday to the next, thirteen-year-old Noor watches as her family comes apart. Her father, Mohammad Saidullah, a kabadiwala, loses his job pedalling his bicycle door-to-door to collect household discards; he is forced to join the ranks of those who scavenge in New Delhi's landfills. Noor's brother, Talib, works in a call centre; his aspirations for a better life are a constant source of friction. When Talib leaves the family after his father's further downslide into poverty, and their mother, Ameena, follows him, Noor sees it as further evidence of her mother's preference for the son over the daughter. Noor dreams of riding a bicycle but won't allow herself to learn. Not until Noor falls for Ajith, a Dalit boy, is she forced from her place on the sidelines to enter into the fray of her own story.



Mridula Koshy is the author of If It Is Sweet, a collection of short stories. The book won the Shakti Bhatt First Book Prize for 2009 and was shortlisted for the 2009 Vodafone Crossword Book Prize. Her next book, Not Only the Things That Have Happened, a novel, was published in December 2012. The international title for the book is Lost Boy.

Demy PB with jacket; 240 pp
Price: Rs 350
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85755-16-3

BEAUTY IS A WOUND

Eka Kurniawan

This epic novel, described as ‘*One Hundred Years of Solitude* kicked into another gear’, combines history, satire, family tragedy, legend, humour, and romance in a sweeping polyphony. The beautiful Indonesian prostitute Dewi Ayu and her four daughters are beset by incest, murder, bestiality, rape, insanity, monstrosity, and the often vengeful undead. Kurniawan’s gleefully grotesque hyperbole functions as a scathing critique of Indonesia’s troubled past: the rapacious offhand greed of colonialism; the chaotic struggle for independence; the 1965 mass murders of perhaps a million ‘Communists’, followed by three decades of Suharto’s despotic rule.

Beauty Is a Wound astonishes from its opening line: ‘One afternoon on a weekend in May, Dewi Ayu rose from her grave after being dead for twenty-one years...’ Drawing on local sources—folk tales and the all-night shadow puppet plays, with their bawdy wit and epic scope—and inspired by Melville and Gogol, Kurniawan’s distinctive voice brings something luscious yet astringent to contemporary literature.

An international bestseller, *Beauty Is a Wound* has just been highlighted in Oprah’s Best Novels of the Fall selection. It was picked as on one of the 33 Must-Read-Books for Fall 2015 by Flavorwire, and as one of the ‘15 Best Books of Fall 2015’ by *Harper’s Bazaar*.



Eka Kurniawan was born in Tasikmalaya, Indonesia, in 1975, and graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta. He writes novels and short stories, as well as non-fiction pieces.

Demy PB with flaps; 480 pp
Price: Rs 499
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85755-68-2

TALES OF THE METRIC SYSTEM

Imraan Coovadia

'An engrossing portrayal...as good a book as you are likely to read on South Africa's transition.'—The Sunday Times

Tales of the Metric System is a sweeping, political, intellectual and sentimental painting of South Africa's recent history in ten chapters, one day at a time (each chapter takes place in one day, from the height of the apartheid in 1973 to the staging of the World Cup in 2010). Playwrights, politicians, philosophers and thieves, all caught in their individual stories, burst from the pages of the novel as it measures modern South Africa's story in its own remarkable units of imagination. The characters are black, white, Indian, ranging from the privileged and disaffected to working-class people, and individuals and communities at the margins of society.

Part political thriller, part family drama, part historical and human rights drama, and with a cast of unforgettable characters *Tales of the Metric System* is a rich and immensely rewarding read.



Imraan Coovadia is the recent winner of the 2013 M-Net Literary Award for English language category, one of South Africa's most prestigious literary honours (the shortlist included Nadine Gordimer). He is Director of the Creative Writing Programme at the University of Cape Town. Winner of the Sunday Times Fiction Prize and the Johannesburg for High Low In-Between (2010), his previous novels have been translated into French, German, Hebrew and Italian.

Demy PB with flaps; 392 pp
Price: Rs 450
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85755-66-8

**ONE THOUSAND DAYS IN A
REFRIGERATOR:
STORIES**

Manoj Kumar Panda

Translated from the Odia

by Snehaprava Dash

A man sits before his lover lying comatose in a refrigerated chamber, expressing the thoughts he had never dared to when she was conscious; Rajula Dip, a carrion-picker, going about his business day after day, himself becomes carrion; a woman, victim of rape, takes a bus to her rapist's house to talk to him.

Fifteen stories of great power and beauty, startling in their variety, *One Thousand Days in a Refrigerator* showcases a writer at the very peak of his extraordinary abilities.



Manoj Kumar Panda writes stories and translates between English and Odia. He has three short-story collections to his credit—Hada Bagicha (The Bone Garden), Varna Bagicha (The Alphabet Garden) and Maya Bagicha (A Garden of Illusions). He received the prestigious Sarala Award in 2015 for Maya Bagicha.

Snehaprava Dash retired in 2013 as principal of the BA Government College, Bebrampur. Her work includes translations of the novel Padmamali, the first psychological novel in Odia, and a collection of poems by Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das, a great social activist, freedom fighter and educationist of pre-independent India.

B PB; 208 pp
Price: Rs 299
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85755-70-5

THE HANGMAN'S JOURNAL

Shashi Warriar

'Inspired by the real hangman of Travancore, this fictionalized version has such depth of character, emotional authenticity and convincing technical detail that it could pass for a real autobiography.'—Herald

'A fascinating and ... unsettling account of a complex life written with an assurance and a delicacy that is unusual for such an uncomfortable theme.'—The National

In 1941, Janardhanan Pillai became the aratchar, the hangman, for the king of Travancore. Over the next three decades he was on call by the prison authorities in Travancore and Tamil Nadu, charged with putting condemned men to death, swiftly and cleanly. Each time he returned from the gallows, he told himself that it would be the last time. But he went back, a hundred and seventeen times. He did what he was ordered to do and shut out difficult memories, till an encounter with a writer almost a quarter century after his last hanging forced him to confront his past—his conscience, his dharma and his shame.

A spare, dark novel based on Janardhanan Pillai's life, *The Hangman's Journal* was first published in 2000, shortly after Pillai's death. It remains one of the most widely acclaimed works of contemporary Indian fiction.



Shashi Warriar was born in 1959, and acquired a Master's degree in Economics from BITS, Pilani. He has written fairy tales, thrillers, and a satire, besides literary fiction. His published work includes Night of the Krait, The Homecoming and The Girl Who Didn't Give Up.

B PB with flaps; 256 pp
 Price: Rs 299
 Territory: Indian subcontinent
 ISBN: 978-93-85755-80-4

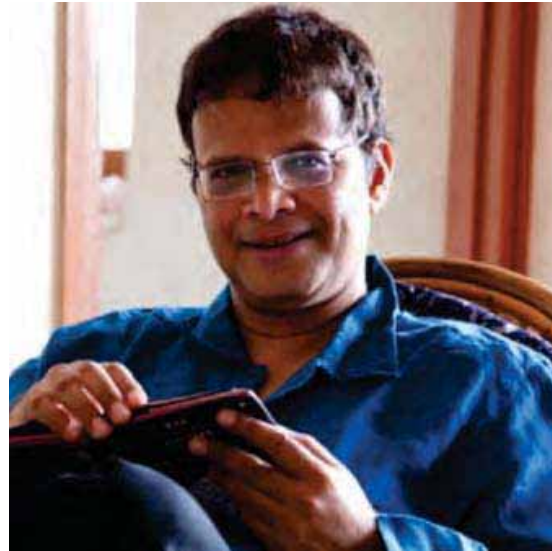
MURDER IN MAHIM

Jerry Pinto

'Millie looked up from the dining table and the paper and her face was filled with a terrible rage. "So this is why you sent him to do social work?" She tossed the evening paper—which always came before the morning papers—on the table in front of Peter. He picked it up. There was his son, arm in arm with a hijra on one side and an obese man on the other. The obese man's t-shirt said "Gay and proud of it". Sunil was wearing a rainbow-striped bandanna. The hijra was in a sari that revealed hints of blue under clouds of silver zari.'

When retired journalist Peter D'Souza sees a picture of his son, Sunil, at a gay rights parade, he begins to wonder whether the boy has been telling him everything. Then a young man is found dead in a railway station toilet, his stomach ripped open, and one of the last numbers he has dialled is Sunil's, and things get murky...

Jerry Pinto's new novel—set in Bombay, the city he writes about like no other—is a gripping detective story and a compelling exploration of desire, loneliness and greed in the great metropolis.



Jerry Pinto is the author of Em and the Big Hoom (winner of the Hindu Literary Prize and the Crossword Book Award for Fiction) and Helen: The Life and Times of an H-Bomb (winner of the National Award for the Best Book on Cinema). His other works include translations (from Marathi) of Daya Pawar's autobiography, Baluta, and Sachin Kundalkar's novel, Cobalt Blue. He has also edited several anthologies, including Bombay, Meri Jaan: Writings on Mumbai (with Nareesh Fernandes).

B PB with flaps; 232 pp
Price: Rs 299
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: TBC

THE YARD

Aliyyah Eniath

The Yard is a family saga that exposes the fault-lines in Indo-Muslim culture, straddling that sweet spot between literary and commercial fiction.

Behrooz is brought to The Yard, a familial housing complex in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, where he struggles to belong. His adoptive father is kind-hearted, but other family members are guarded about the new addition. They contend that Behrooz will betray his family by defiling his adoptive sister, Maya, a wilful and rebellious girl who is not romantically forbidden to him under Islamic law.

Two loners, Behrooz and Maya, form a childish alliance and later struggle with romantic attraction. After they share a night of adolescent tenderness, Maya, fearing retribution, flees to London where she pursues her artistic talent in defiance of her culture. Behrooz painstakingly rebuilds his life and marries another. When tragedy strikes, Maya returns to her childhood home. There, she and Behrooz must face up to old demons. Can their love endure? Even after Maya is dealt the most 'righteous' blow of all?



Aliyyah Eniath is a director at Safari Publications, a magazine publishing house based in Trinidad and Tobago. She writes from the perspective of East Indians whose forefathers were brought to Trinidad from India through the British colonial indentureship scheme in 1845.

B PB; 256 pp
Price: TBC
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

**KINGPIN:
MADE IN SINGAPORE, DESTROYED
IN DUBAI**
Kavita Daswani

By the time Anil's life actually spirals out of control, he is forty-six years old. Behind him lies a devastated business empire, a pulverized marriage, a daughter from whom he is estranged and embittered parents who blame him for their failing health.

Anil was once the kind of man you might see in the pages of your favourite society magazine—the hotshot, high-flying industrialist with the handsome face and the hidden peccadillos, the Ferrari, the clubs, the cigars, the rich father... The new Indian diaspora is full of men like Anil. But when his life radically unspools he goes from being the most celebrated tycoon in three emirates to a broken man with an empire on the verge of collapse, a wife who wishes him dead and talk swirling around him of imminent incarceration.

Kingpin is the illuminating story of a man who pushed himself to amass great wealth—only to realize that it was more important to delve into himself and lay bare his inmost inadequacies in order to be loved, understood and fulfilled.



Kavita Daswani is a bestselling author and an international journalist. A former fashion editor for the South China Morning Post in Hong Kong and Asian correspondent for Women's Wear Daily, both of which she still contributes to, she also currently writes for the Los Angeles Times, Tatler, Crave and the international editions of Vogue, Conde Nast Traveller and Grazia Italia. She is also a former lifestyle and fashion correspondent for CNN International and CNBC Asia. Her previous books include Lovetorn, Bombay Girl and Salaam, Paris.

B PB; 304 pp
Price: Rs 299
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: TBC

THE MISTRESS OF PHOOLPUR AND OTHER EROTIC STORIES

Pratyaksha

A nine-year-old finds confusion—and new knowledge—when his eldest cousin brings his bride home; a wife wants more physical intimacy from her distant husband but finds herself compelled to pose question after question to her mother instead; Giacinta Robustelli—in a flowered skirt, a red hibiscus in her hair—saunters into Hesarghatta Bar in rural Karnataka for a beer, and sets blood boiling and tongues wagging.

Delicate, well-wrought stories of mischief and lust, of love found and lost, and of coming-of-age by one of the most exciting voices in contemporary Indian fiction, *The Mistress of Phoolpur and Other Erotic Stories* is a must-read.



Pratyaksha, chief manager, finance, with Power Grid Corporation, is an award-winning writer who has previously published two collections of short stories in Hindi, Jungle ka Jadoo Til Til and Pahar Dopahar Thumri. She received the Krishna Baldev Vaid Fellowship in 2013.

B HB without jacket; 200 pp
Price: Rs 350
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

A BOOK OF MISCHIEF Ruskin Bond

'Running away from school! It is not to be recommended to everyone. Parents and teachers would disapprove. Or would they, deep down in their hearts? Everyone has wanted to run away, at some time in his life. Running away seems to be in the best of traditions. Huck Finn did it. So did Master Copperfield and Oliver Twist. So did Kim. Most great men have run away from school at some stage in their lives; and if they haven't, then perhaps it is something they should have done.'

In this book of anti-advice, one of India's most beloved authors brings together episodes from his stories and essays in an invitation to every young-at-heart reader to laughter, playfulness, tomfoolery, and a little rascality. In these pages, make friends with mischievous schoolboys and wicked little schoolgirls, dim uncles and accident-prone aunts, stubborn parrots, rude monkeys, ghosts with a sense of humour—and many more characters with a genius for mischief.



Ruskin Bond is the author of numerous novellas, short-story collections and non-fiction books, many of them classics. Among them are The Room on the Roof, A Flight of Pigeons, Rain in the Mountains and A Book of Simple Living. He received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1993, the Padma Shri in 1999 and the Padma Bhushan in 2014. He lives in Landour, Mussoorie with his extended family.

B PB; 160pp
Price: Rs 199
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

INDIAN DUST: STORIES

Jon and Rumer Godden

Long out of print, this is an acclaimed collection of stories about India by sisters Jon and Rumer Godden who, between them, wrote classics like *Black Narcissus* and *The House by the Sea*. Through these stories, both fictional and autobiographical, we see the India of the mid-twentieth century that the sisters knew. Subhana, a Kashmiri trader and a master of soft sell lures the sisters into buying an expensive carpet; Rahmin, a poverty-stricken embroiderer, leaves a gift for Rumer before vanishing from her life; Miss Pasano, a middle-aged Eurasian woman, is full of compassion for her pets but has none for her orphaned niece; and Ganesh, a young university student, attempts to write a thesis on the nature of human love, but fails to practice or recognize it in real life.

True to life, poignant and compelling, this collection of stories moves between the timeless India of fable and an India in transition immediately after Independence.



Rumer Godden, was a celebrated English author who wrote more than sixty books. She is best remembered for her bestselling novels, Black Narcissus and The River and her memoirs, A Time to Dance, No Time to Weep and A House with Four Rooms. Her elder sister, Jon Godden, also an author, wrote, among other novels, The Bird Escaped, The House by the Sea and A Winter's Tale. The two collaborated on several widely acclaimed works, including Two under the Indian Sun, Shiva's Pigeon and Indian Dust.

B HB without jacket; 176 pp
Price: Rs 350
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: TBC

**IMMODERATE MEN:
STORIES****Rumjhum K. Biswas**

An old man sits on a park bench, ruminating upon the beauty of his daughter-in-law and the perfidy of the son who has cast him out. A woman in the twilight of her life discovers a former classmate's lifelong obsession with her, and the distinctive way in which he marked it annually. Shasti Babu worries day and night about the upcoming Jamai Shosti—when he must lay out a feast for his son-in-law—and is paranoid about the blooming banana flower in his front yard which everyone covets, and his temperamental cow, Sundari. A man joins five friends at a table in a teashop, tears open a packet of roasted, salted pinkies of the Grand Canyon pygmy ape, and turns their world upside down.

Eighteen stories about men, and their drives, *Immoderate Men* is a wise, witty, immensely readable collection.



Rumjhum K. Biswas is the author of a novel, Culling Mynahs and Crows, and a short-story collection Breasts and Other Afflictions of Women.

B PB; 240 pp
Price: Rs 299
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

SWAMI
Shashi Warriar

Bala Kamath is a burnt-out alcoholic investigative journalist on the verge of losing his job when he is asked to confirm allegations that a godman, one Swami Sarvananda, has stolen money, sheltered criminals, and tried to rape a devotee.

He visits the godman's ashram the next day and finds a bond building between the Swami and himself. By the time the Swami is arrested on charges of attempted rape, Bala is sure that there's more to the case than meets the eye, a feeling confirmed by the murder of the Swami's second-in-command, and by a series of jailhouse chats with the Swami. When the Swami refuses to meet him any more, he returns to Bangalore to face his own failing marriage, resurrect his relationship with his teenaged daughter, and retrieve his career. Meanwhile, the Swami is released on bail, and disappears.

In tracing the Swami and discovering the murderer, Bala discovers more about himself than he had bargained for...



Shashi Warriar was born in 1959, and acquired a Master's degree in Economics from BITS, Pilani. He has written fairy tales, thrillers, and a satire, besides literary fiction. His published work includes Night of the Krait, The Homecoming and The Girl Who Didn't Give Up.

B PB; 256 pp
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 Territory: Indian subcontinent
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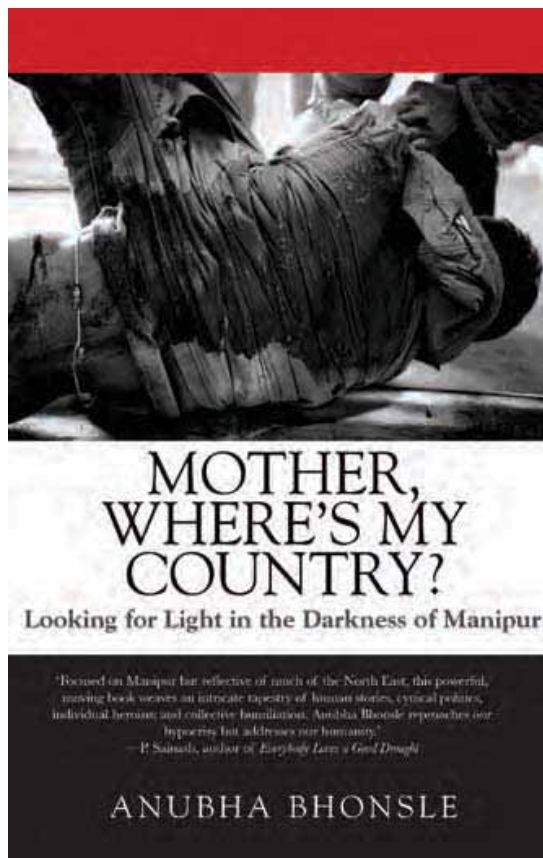
MOTHER, WHERE'S MY COUNTRY?: LOOKING FOR LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS OF MANIPUR

Anubha Bhonsle

In 2006, Anubha Bhonsle went undercover to meet Irom Sharmila, the iconic non-violent rebel who was into the sixth year of her protest fast against the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), which had for long compounded the tragedy of her homeland. It was the beginning of a deep engagement with Manipur and the rest of India's North East. Over the next decade it would take Anubha to the state many times, to investigate life in that conflict zone.

This unprecedented book draws upon over two hundred interviews and numerous documents, reports and court testimonies to show us an entire society ravaged by the violence of the armed forces, the police and a faction-ridden insurgency. There are voices of survivors of rape and torture, families of victims of extra-judicial killings, soldiers and leaders on both sides, and ordinary men, women and children coping with fear, political apathy, curfews and economic blockades. And through it all shines the extraordinary story of Sharmila, the Iron Lady of Manipur, and her lonely battle.

Combining powerful and poignant story-telling with brilliant reportage, *Mother, Where's My Country?* is one of the most distinctive works of non-fiction from India in recent years.



Anubha Bhonsle is an award-winning journalist. She reports extensively on politics, gender, human rights and the impact of long-standing conflict. She has won prestigious recognition for her work, including the Fulbright Humphrey Fellowship 2015, the Rammath Goenka Award 2012, the Chameli Devi Award 2014 and the Jefferson Fellowship 2008. The jury at the New York Film Festival has commended her work on Irom Sharmila and AFSPA. Anubha is currently Executive Editor at CNN-IBN.

Demy HB; 264 pp
Price: Rs 499
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85288-35-7

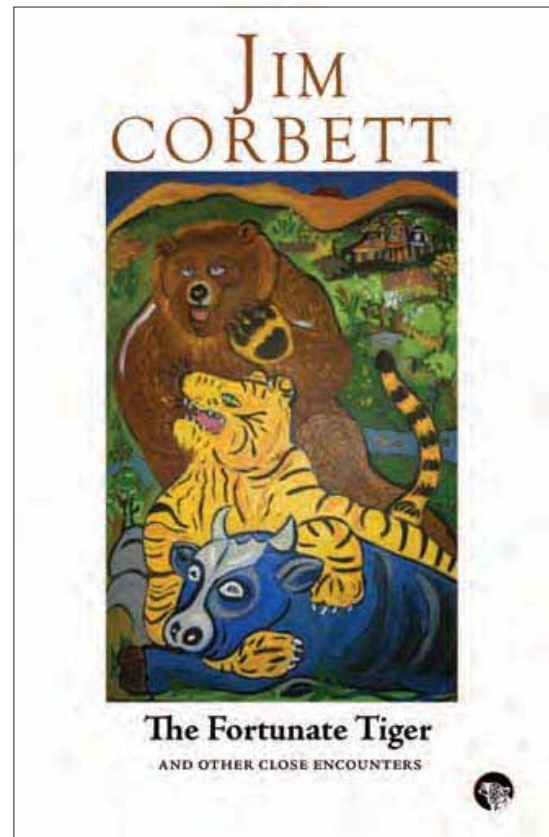
THE FORTUNATE TIGER AND OTHER CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

Jim Corbett

'The distance between the muzzle of my rifle and the tiger's head was about five feet, and the thought flashed through my mind that the cordite would probably singe his hair. The ivory foresight of my rifle was on the exact spot of the tiger's heart—where I knew my bullet would kill him instantaneously—when I gently pressed the trigger. The trigger gave under the pressure, and nothing happened.'

The Fortunate Tiger and Other Close Encounters selects the most thrilling adventures of Jim Corbett of Kumaon, legendary hunter and author. Corbett, who bagged his first leopard at ten, with a rifle won in a marksmanship competition, ranged far and wide across Kumaon and Garhwal for much of his life, rescuing villages terrorized by man-eating felines. And, in the stories of his exploits—'The Fortunate Tiger', which seemed to enjoy divine protection from his bullets; 'The Man-Eating Tigress of Chowgarh', who stalked Corbett even as he went looking for her; 'The Talla Des Killer', which he was forced to track while nursing a burst eardrum; and 'The Final Man-Eater' of Corbett's career, a tigress which he lured and shot using himself as bait—Corbett gives us some of the greatest shikar tales ever told.

Nature and adventure writing at its very best, *The Fortunate Tiger and Other Close Encounters* is a classic for all time.



Edward James 'Jim' Corbett (1875-1955) was an Anglo-Indian hunter and tracker-turned-conservationist, author and naturalist. After giving up hunting, Corbett played a key role in protecting India's wildlife, especially the endangered Bengal tiger. After his retirement Corbett wrote several books recounting his hunts and experiences. Some of his works that have enjoyed critical and commercial acclaim are Man-Eaters of Kumaon (1944), The Man-Eating Leopard of Rudraprayag (1947), Jungle Lore (1953) and The Temple Tiger and More Man-Eaters of Kumaon (1954).

B PB; 320 pp
 Price: Rs 299
 Territory: World
 ISBN: 978-93-85755-45-3

THE HUNTER'S FRIENDS: SELECTED WRITINGS

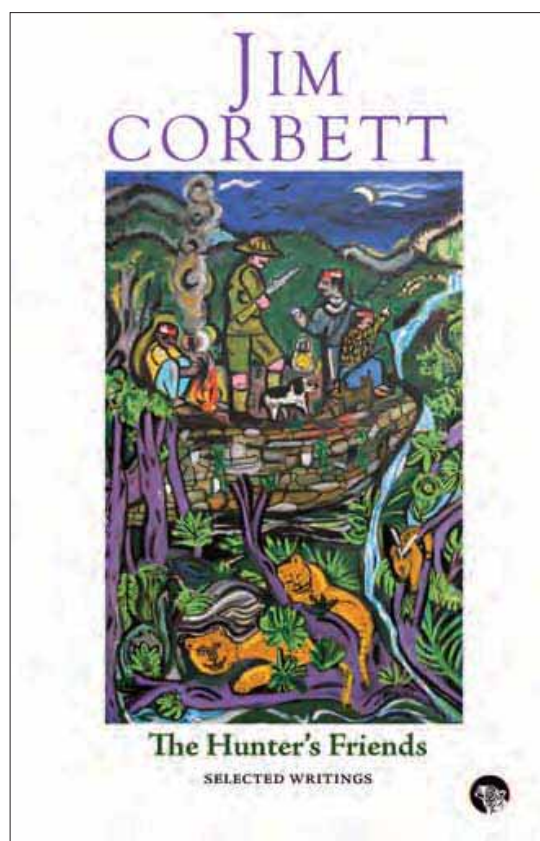
Jim Corbett

'I can picture the tiger now ... sitting down on his haunches ... and laughing, a tiger's laugh, at the sight of a big dog and a small boy running for what they thought was dear life, while all that he was doing was to shoo away a dog that had disturbed his slumbers.'

Jim Corbett, ace hunter and inimitable raconteur, was also a gifted observer, not just of the jungle but also of the people around him. In the eighteen sketches included in *The Hunter's Friends*, readers will meet the men and women Corbett lived, hunted and worked with, both in Kumaon—Corbett's stomping grounds for most of his life—and in Mokameh Ghat, where he was employed by the Railways.

'Kunwar Singh', intrepid poacher of the Kaladhungi jungles, tells young Corbett the cautionary tale of his friend, who was taught a harsh lesson by a tiger because he couldn't climb trees; in 'Putli and Kalwa', Corbett befriends a brave young girl leading a bullock to her uncle's house alone even as the man-eater of Muktesar prowls about in search of a victim. And, in 'Adventures with Magog', Corbett's delightful and touching profile of his hunting dog, he describes the terrifying yet funny consequences of disturbing a sleeping tiger.

Compassionate, insightful and witty, *The Hunter's Friends* is a book to read and to keep dipping into.



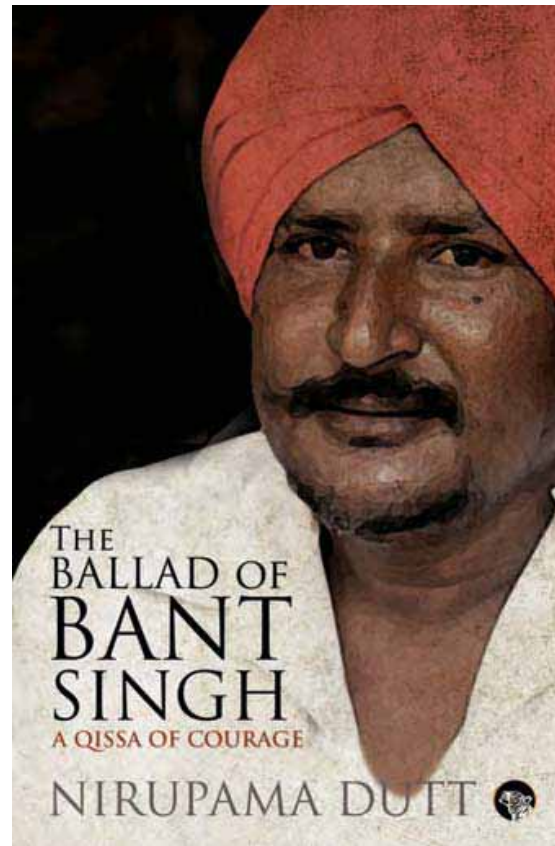
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B PB; 208 pp
Price: Rs 199
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85755-49-1

**THE BALLAD OF BANT SINGH:
A QISSA OF COURAGE**
Nirupama Dutt

One evening in January 2006, Bant Singh, a Dalit agrarian labourer and activist in Punjab's Burj Jhabbar village, was ambushed and brutally beaten by upper-caste Jat men armed with iron rods. He lost both his arms and a leg in the attack. It was punishment for having fought for justice for his minor daughter who had been gang-raped. But his spirit was not broken, and he continues to fight for equality and dignity for millions like him, inspiring them with his songs and his courage.

Drawing upon Punjab's Dalit and revolutionary history and literature, journalist and writer Nirupama Dutt tells Bant Singh's story in this powerful book which is both a biography and a celebration of his extraordinary spirit. It is also a rare and revealing analysis of the deep fault-lines in Punjabi and Indian society.



Nirupama Dutt is a poet, journalist and translator based in Chandigarh. She writes in Punjabi and English. Her published work includes Ik Nadi Sanwali Jahi (A Stream Somewhat Dark), a book of poems, for which she received the Punjabi Akademi Award; Lal Singh Dil: Poet of the Revolution, a translation of Dil's memoirs and poetry; Stories of the Soil, an anthology of Punjabi fiction; and Half the Sky, an anthology of fiction by Pakistani women writers. She has also translated Pluto, a book of Gulzar's short poems.

B PB with flaps; 224 pp
Price: Rs 250
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85288-30-2

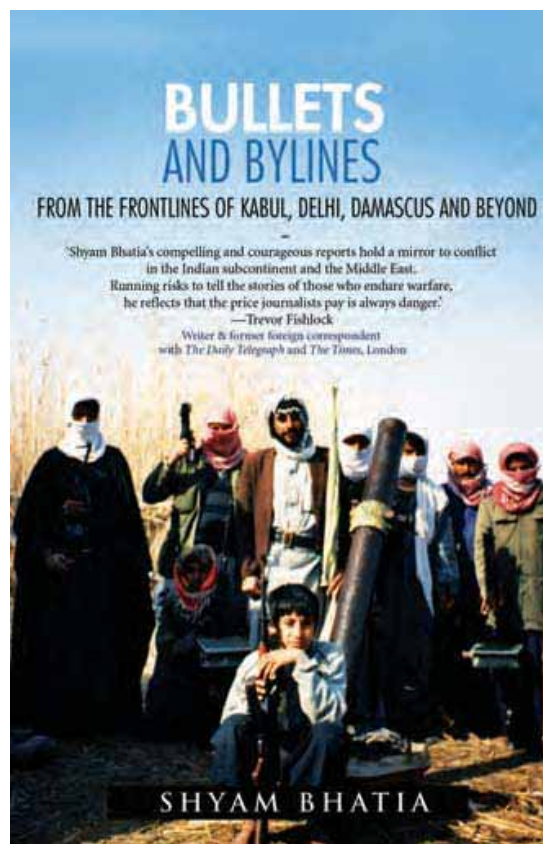
**BULLETS AND BYLINES:
FROM THE FRONTLINES OF
KABUL, DELHI, DAMASCUS AND
BEYOND**

Shyam Bhatia

'Shyam Bhatia leads us straight to the horror. His compelling and courageous reports hold a mirror to conflict in the Indian subcontinent and the Middle East. Running risks to tell the stories of those who endure warfare, he reflects that the price journalists pay is always danger.'—Trevor Fishlock, writer and former foreign correspondent with The Daily Telegraph and The Times, London

War reporters tend to have shorter lives than many others in the same profession of journalism, simply because they are exposed to more day-to-day risks in remote parts of the world where timely help is a prized commodity. Shyam Bhatia is one of the lucky few. He has lived to recall and recount unique survival stories, including being a witness to a mini massacre on the Kabul-to-Kandahar highway by the mujahidin, followed by an equally chilling episode in southern Sudan where Bhatia's media convoy drove over a carefully concealed landmine, resulting in one colleague's death and injuries to several others. Just as gripping is his account of uncovering mass murders in Delhi, breaking the story of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, as well as his encounter with the besieged Marsh Arabs of Iraq that won him the Foreign Journalist of the Year award in 1993.

Funny, moving, revealing and heartwarming, *Bullets and Bylines* reads like a thriller that takes the reader behind the scenes to understand the stories behind the headlines.



Shyam Bhatia is a foreign correspondent currently living in London and previously operating out of Cairo, Beirut, Jerusalem and Washington DC. He has been Middle East correspondent and diplomatic editor of The Observer, foreign editor of the Deccan Herald and editor of Asian Affairs magazine. In 1993 he was selected as Foreign Journalist of the Year in the annual British Press Awards. His published books include the bestselling Goodbye Shahzadi: A Political Biography of Benazir Bhutto.

Demy HB; 264 pp

Price: Rs 599

Territory: World

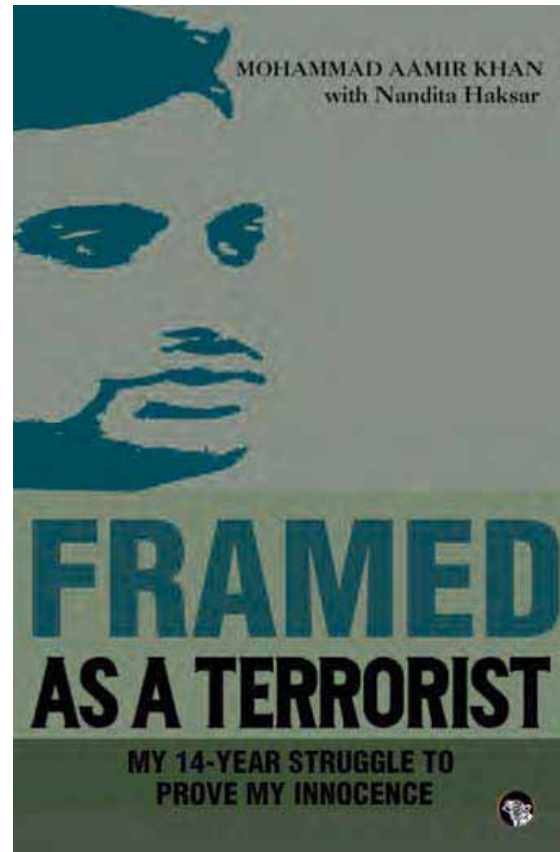
ISBN: 978-93-85755-53-8

**FRAMED AS A TERRORIST:
MY 14-YEAR STRUGGLE TO PROVE
MY INNOCENCE**

Mohammad Aamir Khan (with Nandita Haksar)

Framed as a Terrorist is the harrowing and heart-rending narrative of an ordinary young Indian man, from the by-lanes of Old Delhi, who was kidnapped by the police in 1998, falsely accused of being a terrorist, framed and kept in jail for almost fourteen years.

Released after a long and incredibly difficult legal battle, after surviving torture and solitary confinement, Mohammad Aamir Khan remains committed to the secular and democratic values that he grew up with. He refuses to be defeated, or to give up any of the dreams he has for himself, his family and the country that nearly destroyed him.



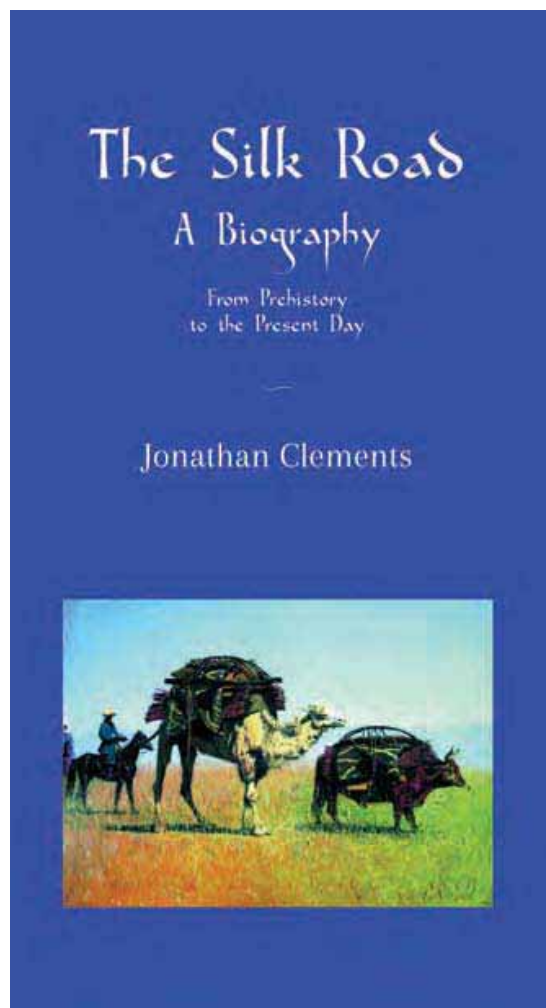
Mohammad Aamir Khan was born in 1977. In 1998 he was kidnapped, tortured and framed in eighteen bomb blast cases. It took him fourteen years to prove his innocence and now he is a free man. He has been widely interviewed by national and international media and has used the opportunity to speak eloquently on issues relating to human rights and democracy.

B PB; 248 pp
Price: Rs 250
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85755-22-4

**THE SILK ROAD:
A BIOGRAPHY**
Jonathan Clements

The Silk Road is not a place, but a journey, a route from the edges of the Mediterranean to the central plains of China, through high mountains and inhospitable deserts. For thousands of years its history has been a traveller's history, of brief encounters in desert towns, snowbound passes and nameless forts. It was the conduit that first brought Buddhism, Christianity and Islam into China, and the site of much of the 'Great Game' between nineteenth-century empires. Today, its central section encompasses several former Soviet republics, and the Chinese Autonomous Region of Xinjiang. The ancient trade route controversially crosses the sites of several forgotten kingdoms, buried in sand and only now revealing their secrets.

The Silk Road: A Biography not only offers the reader a chronological outline of the region's development, but also provides an invaluable introduction to its languages, literature and arts. It takes a comprehensive and illuminating look at the rich history of this dynamic and little-known region, and provides an easy-to-use reference source. Clements pays particular attention to the fascinating historical sites which feature on any visitor's itinerary and special emphasis is also given to the writings and reactions of travellers through the centuries.



Jonathan Clements is the author of many books on East Asian history, including biographies of emperors and empresses, statesmen and warriors, foreign visitors and outcast rebels. His works have been translated into over a dozen languages, including French, Spanish, Korean and Dutch.

8.25 x 4.5 inches PB; 256 pp
Price: Rs 399
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85755-04-0

**EMPIRE OF TEA:
THE ASIAN LEAF THAT
CONQUERED THE WORLD**

Markman Ellis, Richard Coulton, Matthew Mauger

Tea has a rich and well-documented past. The beverage originated in Asia long before making its way to seventeenth-century London, where it became an exotic, highly sought after commodity. Over the subsequent two centuries, tea's powerful psychoactive properties seduced British society, becoming popular across the nation from castle to cottage. Now the world's most popular drink, tea was one of the first truly global products to find a mass market, with tea drinking now stereotypically associated with British identity.

Imported by the East India Company in increasing quantities across the eighteenth century, tea inaugurated the first regular exchange between China and Britain, both commercial and cultural. While European scientists struggled to make sense of its natural history and medicinal properties, the delicate flavour profile and hot preparation of tea inspired poets, artists and satirists. Becoming central to everyday life, tea was embroiled in controversy, from the gossip of the domestic tea table to the civil disorder occasioned by smuggling, and the political scandal of the Boston Tea Party to the violent conflict of the Anglo–Chinese Opium War. Such stories shaped the contexts for the imperial tea industry that later developed across India and Sri Lanka. *Empire of Tea* is based on extensive original research, providing a rich cultural history that explores how the British 'way of tea' became the norm across the Anglophone world.



Markman Ellis is Professor of Eighteenth-century Studies at Queen Mary, University of London.

Richard Coulton is a lecturer in the Department of English, Queen Mary, University of London.

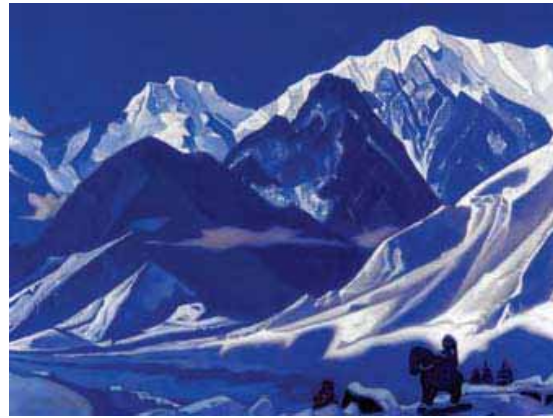
Matthew Mauger is a lecturer at Queen Mary, University of London.

Royal PB with flaps; 328 pp
Price: Rs 350
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85755-69-9

**THE HIMALAYA:
ADVENTURES, MEDITATIONS, LIFE**
Ruskin Bond and Namita Gokhale (Eds)

'In a hundred ages of the Gods, I could not tell you of all the glories of the Himalaya.'—The Skanda Purana

Comprising accounts by invaders, naturalists, climbers, residents and devotees, *The Himalaya: Adventures, Meditations, Life* brings together the very best writing on and inspired by the mountains. Compiled and edited with care, *The Himalaya* spans almost 1,000 years and covers the entire range, from its easternmost to its westernmost extremities. Including writings by Bill Aitken, Aleister Crowley, Jamling Tenzing Norgay, Paul Brunton, Sarat Chandra Das and Francis Younghusband, among others, as well as stunning pictures and photographic reproductions of paintings, this anthology has something for everyone in love with the 'abode of the snows'.



Ruskin Bond is the author of numerous novellas, short-story collections and non-fiction books, many of them classics. Among them are The Room on the Roof, A Flight of Pigeons, Rain in the Mountains and A Book of Simple Living. He received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1993, the Padma Shri in 1999 and the Padma Bhushan in 2014. He lives in Landour, Mussoorie with his extended family.

Namita Gokhale is the author of several bestselling works of fiction and non-fiction. Her books include Paro: Dreams of Passion, The Habit of Love, Priya: In Incredible Indyya, The Book of Shiva, Travelling in, Travelling Out: A Book of Unexpected Journeys and In Search of Sita: Revisiting Mythology. Namita is also co-director of the Jaipur Literature Festival and of Mountain Echoes: the Bhutan Literary Festival.

Royal HB; 400 pp
Price: Rs 799
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85288-92-0

TWO UNDER THE INDIAN SUN Jon and Rumer Godden

'Then, everything was clear; each thing was only itself: joy was joy, hope was hope, fear and sorrow were fear and sorrow; pain was simply pain; they had not yet trespassed into one another, not merged. Afterwards life inevitably thickened, became hazed and alloyed, but then it was clear.'

Jon and Rumer Godden were aged seven and six when, at the outbreak of war in 1914, they escaped from the austere discipline of five maiden aunts in Maida Vale to join their parents in Bengal. Mr Godden was no duke, but in the India of those days being British was in itself a form of social distinction and his way of life was in keeping with his class position.

But this remarkable book is more than a childhood chronicle; it is a work of great significance, brilliantly evoking as it does a vibrant picture of India under British rule; the beauty, the grandeur, the squalor and poverty. It is almost possible to smell the sun-scorched, dew-damp dust. In the enchantment of their daily lives tragedy and suffering were never far away, and though their elders tried to shield them from harsh realities, the perceptive pair missed nothing. And when, after five memorable years they returned to England, it was as exiles they went, for they never ceased to regard India as their real home.

In this memoir of their childhood, the Godden sisters have given us a fascinating flashback to the India of the 1920s under the British Raj.



Rumer Godden was a famous English author with more than sixty books, fiction and non-fiction, to her credit. She is still known for her bestselling novels, Black Narcissus, The River, A Time to Dance, No Time to Weep and A House with Four Rooms. Her elder sister, Jon Godden was also a writer. Her works include The Bird Escaped, The House by the Sea and A Winter's Tale. The two collaborated on several widely acclaimed works, including Two under the Indian Sun, Shiva's Pigeon and Indian Dust.

B PB; 264 pp
Price: Rs 299
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85755-74-3

I, THE SALT DOLL

Vandana Mishra

Translated from the Marathi by Jerry Pinto

I still live in Borivali. Last January I turned eighty-seven. I have the usual health problems but I ignore them. My nature is still strong and resolute.'

On 24 October 1947, a young woman named Sushila Lotlikar married Pandit Jaidev Mishra and became Vandana Mishra. As Sushila Lotlikar she had been trained at Altekar's Little Theatre and acted in the Shree Deshi Natak Samaj's hit production *Samay Sathe*. Vandana gave up the stage after her marriage and lived a culturally stimulating life with her actor-writer husband, their three children and their circle of friends. This is the story of an exceptional woman—talented, courageous, resilient and possessed of a terrific sense of humour. It is also a vivid slice of Mumbai history, capturing the very spirit of middle-class Maharashtrian Girgaum where she lived for thirty-odd years as a schoolgirl, actor, wife and mother.

Vandana Mishra was a witness to many of the most turbulent events in India's history during the early forties—including Gandhiji's call to the British to quit India, the naval mutiny and the Bombay dock explosion. In a singular twist of fate, she returned to the stage twenty-two years after giving it up and then lost her husband to cancer. Distinguished by a keen eye for detail and a pithy turn of phrase *I, the Salt Doll* is not merely an account of an individual life, it is a chronicle of an entire era.



Vandana Mishra was once a well-known actor and theatre personality of Mumbai's Gujarati and Marwadi stage. Her memoir Mee Mithaachi Baahuli, published in Marathi, received excellent reviews for its lively portrayal of a bygone era and its vivid depiction of Mumbai as a city that provided a healthy cultural climate for artistes and creative people.

Jerry Pinto is an acclaimed poet, novelist and translator. His published work includes the award-winning novel Em and the Big Hoom and translations, from the Marathi, of Daya Pawar's Baluta and Sachin Kundalkar's Cobalt Blue.

B PB; 232 pp
Price: Rs 299
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85755-76-7

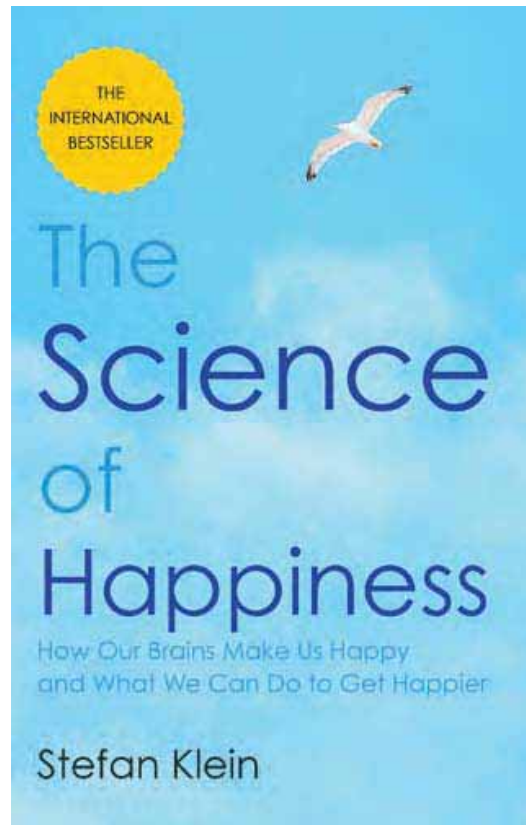
**THE SCIENCE OF HAPPINESS:
HOW OUR BRAINS MAKE US
HAPPY—AND WHAT WE CAN DO TO
GET HAPPIER**

Stefan Klein

'Mr Klein has thoroughly researched his subject, and he writes with clarity, ease and humor about the complexities of psychology and neuroscience. I do not know of any other authors who take such a well-grounded scientific approach to the universal—but seemingly elusive—question of what makes us happy.'—Science

We all know what it feels like to be happy, but what mechanisms inside our brains trigger such a positive emotion? What does it really mean to be happy, and why can't we feel that way all of the time? Psychologists and neuroscientists have been studying negative emotions for decades, but until recently few have focused on the subject of happiness.

Now, in *The Science of Happiness*, leading science journalist Stefan Klein ranges widely across the latest frontiers of neuroscience and psychology to explain how happiness is generated in our brains, what biological purpose it serves, and the conditions required to foster the 'pursuit of happiness'. A remarkable synthesis of a growing body of research that has not been brought together before, *The Science of Happiness* is, ultimately, a book that helps us understand our own quest for happiness—and is certain to help make you happier.



Stefan Klein, PhD, has studied physics and analytical philosophy, and holds a doctorate in biophysics. After several years as an academic researcher, he turned to writing about science for a general audience. From 1996 to 1999, he was an editor at Der Spiegel, Germany's leading news magazine, and in 1998 he won the prestigious Georg von Holtzbrinck Prize for Science Journalism. Today, Klein is recognized as one of Europe's most influential science writers and journalists. His interviews with the world's leading scientists are a regular feature in Germany's Zeitmagazine. His books, which have been translated into more than twenty-five languages, include The Secret Pulse of Time, We Are All Stardust and Leonardo's Legacy. A frequent speaker and university guest lecturer, he lives with his family in Berlin.

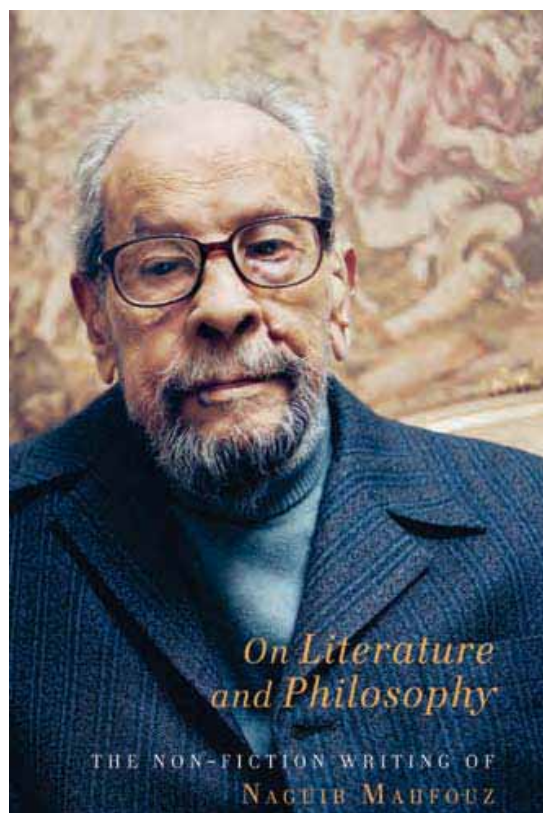
Royal PB; 320 pp
Price: Rs 450
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85755-82-8

ON LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY Naguib Mahfouz

Naguib Mahfouz, winner of the Nobel Prize in 1988 (the only Arab writer to win the prize thus far) helped bring Arabic literature onto the international stage with his acclaimed novels. Not many people, however, know his non-fiction works—a gap that this book fills. Bringing together Mahfouz's early non-fiction writings (most written during the 1930s) which have not previously been available in English, this volume offers a rare glimpse into the development of the renowned author.

In these essays, Mahfouz engages with the origins of philosophy, its development and its place in the history of thought, and he discusses a wide range of authors, from Anton Chekov to his own Arab contemporaries like Taha Hussein. He also ventures into a host of important contemporary issues, including science and modernity, the growing movement for women's rights in the Arab world, and political ideologies like socialism—all of which outline the growing challenges to traditional modes of living that he saw all around him.

Together, these essays offer a fascinating window not just into the mind of Mahfouz himself but the changing landscape of the Arab world during that time, from the development of Islam to the struggles between tradition, modernity, and the influences of the West.



Naguib Mahfouz (1911–2006) was the most important Arabic writer of his generation. He wrote over thirty novels, including The Cairo Trilogy, Thief and the Dog, Miramar and Children of the Alley. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1988.

Royal HB; 224 pp
Price: Rs 499
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: TBC

TIBETAN CARAVANS**Abdul Wahid Radhu****Foreword by His Holiness The Dalai Lama**

Born into an eminent merchant family in Ladakh in 1918, Khwaja Abdul Wahid Radhu, often described as ‘the last caravaner of Tibet and Central Asia’, led an unusual life of adventure, inspiration and enlightenment. His ancestors and elders, and later he, had the honour of leading the biannual caravan between Ladakh and Tibet, which carried the Ladakhi kings’ tribute and homage to the Dalai Lama and the Tibetan government. His memoir is an unparalleled narrative about trans-Himalayan trade—the riches, the politics and protocol, the challenging yet ‘magnificent natural landscape’, altitude sickness, snow storms, bandits and raiders, monks and soldiers. The book also contains rare and fascinating details about the close connection between Ladakh, Tibet and Kashmir, the centuries-old interplay between Buddhism and Islam in the region, the Chinese occupation of Tibet, and life in Lhasa before and after its takeover by China.



Abdul Wahid Radhu (1918- 2011) was born into a prominent Muslim merchant family in Ladakh that subscribed to the Chishti order of Sufism. He studied in Srinagar and then at the Aligarh Muslim University. He later joined the family business and spent many years travelling between Srinagar, Kalimpong and Lhasa.

Demy PB with flaps; 336 pp
 Price: Rs 499
 Territory: World
 ISBN: TBC

**FEASTS AND FASTS:
A HISTORY OF FOOD IN INDIA**
Colleen Taylor Sen

The second most populous country in the world after China and the seventh largest in area, India is unique among nations in its diversity of climates, languages, religions, tribes, customs and cuisines. Today, Indian food in its many incarnations has become a world cuisine. This reflects an increased awareness of the virtues of a traditional Indian diet, especially the centrality of fruits, vegetables and grains and the extensive use of spices, the benefits of which have been confirmed by modern science.

India has always been part of the global economy. For thousands of years, the subcontinent was the centre of a vast network of land and sea trade routes—conduits for plants, ingredients, dishes and cooking techniques to and from the rest of the world. Foreign visitors have long marvelled at India's agricultural bounty, including its ancient indigenous plants, such as lentils, mangoes, turmeric and pepper, all of which have been central to the Indian diet for thousands of years.

Yet what is it that makes Indian food so recognizably Indian, and how did it get that way? *Feasts and Fasts: A History of Food in India* is an exploration of Indian cuisine in the context of the country's religious, moral, social and philosophical development. It addresses topics such as dietary prescriptions and proscriptions, the origins of vegetarianism, culinary borrowings and innovations, the use of spices and the inseparable links between diet, health and medicine. It also looks at special foods for festivals, street foods and the splendour of Mughal feasts. This lavishly illustrated book gives a mouth-watering tour of India's regional cuisines, containing numerous recipes to interest and excite readers.



Colleen Taylor Sen is an independent food historian and writer based in Chicago, specializing in the cuisine of the Indian subcontinent. Her previous publications include Curry: A Global History and, as co-editor, Street Food around the World: An Encyclopedia of Food and Culture.

Royal PB with flaps; 352 pp
Price: Rs 599
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: TBC

**DISSENT:
THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM**
Ashok Vajpeyi (Ed.)

The close of 2015 saw one of the biggest cultural revolutions take birth in the country. In the wake of the lynching of Mohammad Akhlaq Saifi in the village of Dadri, on the suspicion of eating beef, the murder of eminent Kannada writer M. M. Kalburgi, the protest against Pakistani artists being invited to Mumbai, and even the blackening of the face of BJP stalwart Sudheendra Kulkarni at the launch of a book by Pakistan's foreign minister, Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri, what began as an 'award-wapsi' movement by writers like Nayantara Sahgal, turned into a storm of protest by writers, theatre artists, actors, scientists and even those from the bureaucratic world like Raghuram Rajan, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. Is India becoming an intolerant nation? Are we in danger of losing our great tradition of freedom of speech and thought?

In this insightful collection of essays, Nayantara Sahgal, physicist Naresh Dadhich and artist Krishen Khanna, who has contributed an illustration to the book, amongst others, explore the question.



Ashok Vajpeyi is a poet, essayist and literary critic, apart from being a noted cultural and arts administrator, and a former civil servant. He was chairman, Lalit Kala Akademi, India's National Academy of Arts, Ministry of Culture, from 2008–2011. He has published over twenty-three books of poetry, criticism and art, and was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award given by Sahitya Akademi, India's National Academy of Letters, in 1994 for his poetry collection, Kahin Nahin Wahin. His notable poetry collections include, Shaher Ab Bhi Sambhavana Hai (1966), Tatpurush (1986), Bahuri Akela (1992), Ibarat Se Giri Matrayen, Ummeed Ka Doosra Naam (2004) and Vivaksha (2006). He is amongst those who returned his award to mark his protest against the Sahitya Akademi's silence on Kalburgi's murder.

B HB; 152 pp
Price: Rs 299
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

DRINKERS' TALES FROM HERE AND THERE

Palash Krishna Mehrotra (Ed.)

A rollercoaster ride through the pleasures—and perils—of drinking in India. In this one-of-a-kind anthology, Indrajit Hazra introduces you to booze jabberwocky in an essay brimming over with linguistic playfulness; Sidharth Bhatia writes about drinking in Hindi cinema—from ‘permit rooms’ and Prem Chopra’s close relationship with Vat 69, to Honey Singh and Deepika Padukone’s ‘Cocktail’, while Sandip Roy mulls over India’s enduring obsession with whisky—has anything changed? Gautam Bhatia’s haunting story about a father’s hidden alcoholism and Vijay Nambisan’s painfully honest account about being in rehab take one to the darker sides of drinking; while in a lighter vein, Jairaj Singh talks about drinking in 4S, the legendary bar in Delhi’s ‘Def Col’, Kanika Gahlaut is in confessional mode about her drinking days, and Manohar Shetty writes about quitting feni. Palash Mehrotra says ‘eff off, single malt snobs’ as he takes you on a tour of cheap whisky brands, and Soumya Bhattacharya tells you all about drinking in prohibition Gujarat. All this and more in a collection of twenty-five essays and poems that you will savour to the last drop!



*Palash Krishna Mehrotra was born in Bombay in 1975. He was educated at St Stephen's College, Delhi, the Delhi School of Economics, and Balliol College, Oxford, where he read for a PPE. He is the editor of *Recess: The Penguin Book of Schooldays* and the author of *Eunuch Park: 15 Stories of Love and Destruction*. He writes a fortnightly column for *Mail Today*, and is Contributing Editor, *Rolling Stone India*.*

B PB; 250 pp
Price: TBC
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

**THE PRISONER OF KATHMANDU:
BRIAN HODGSON IN NEPAL 1820-43**
Charles Allen

Posted to Kathmandu in 1820 as a junior political officer, Brian Hodgson found himself isolated and trapped in a fiercely xenophobic mountain kingdom that seemed bent on making war on the all-powerful British East India Company. For twenty-three years Hodgson struggled to keep the two sides apart. His legacy survives in the lasting peace and friendship between Britain and Nepal.

At the heart of this biography is the Orientalist movement driven by the European Enlightenment, which inspired Hodgson and others to devote themselves to the exploration of Asian culture, leading Hodgson to study Tibetan and Nepalese Buddhism, and much else besides. Hodgson became a forgotten man in his own lifetime but this biography re-establishes his importance as a pioneering natural historian and ethnologist, revealing a tortured individual who turned adversity to his advantage as the prisoner who learned to love his jail.



Charles Allen began his professional career as an oral historian with the BBC, making his name with radio series and related books such as Plain Tales from the Raj. He is the author of many acclaimed works of non-fiction, including The Buddha and Dr Führer.

B PB; 320 pp
Price: Rs 399
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: TBC

INTIMACY UNDONE: LOVE, MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE IN INDIA

Malavika Rajkotia

'Fair and equal sharing is a difficult exercise; the dynamics of most marriages are unequal and deeply complex even when seemingly equal. Divorce litigation is difficult and exhausting because the effort is to achieve in divorce that which does not exist in many intact marriages: equality in matters of finance, parenting and freedom...'

A leading expert in Indian family law and one of the country's most successful and respected divorce lawyers, Malavika Rajkotia has seen the drama of marriages coming undone at close quarters. She has seen the effects of infidelity, jealousy, domestic violence, property disputes and the messy end of love and compatibility. She has drawn upon her experiences in court and with her clients, and upon a large number of case studies, to produce an important and revealing book that examines the institution of marriage in India, gender equations (within a marriage and inside our courts), property and family laws and the legal profession.



Malavika Rajkotia is a leading divorce lawyer in Delhi. She has worked with various NGOs on civil liberties and human rights issues. She has also been active in theatre and has done about thirty Hindi and English productions. She also anchored Shakti, the first television talk show in India which focused on women's rights.

B PB; 256 pp
Price: Rs 299
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

**NO TIME TO CRY:
STORIES OF SUFFERING AND
RESISTANCE**
Harsh Mander

Twenty-six members of Naseebbahen Mohammedbhai Sheikh's extended family were slaughtered during the carnage in Godhra in 2002. Widowed and orphaned in a flash, she rebuilt her life—facing incredible hardship—and now works as a peace-worker for the Aman Biradari in Godhra. Dhanam was born Dandapani—a man—into a middle-class family. At twenty-eight, Dandapani defied his family and the mores of society, left home, underwent sex change and became part of a community of eunuchs. She now makes a living doing sex work, singing and dancing at marriages and births, and lives with her extended family of eunuchs in a shanty in Chennai. Saroja Devi and Rampyari—destitute, ageing friends—live together and take care of each other as they spend their days begging for a living in the precincts of the Hanuman Mandir in Connaught Place in New Delhi.

Chronicles of marginalized and forgotten people across India, *No Time to Cry* is as much a celebration of the spirit with which they make their respective ways through the world as it is an indictment of the eyes which refuse to see them.



Harsh Mander, writer, human rights worker, columnist, researcher and teacher, works with homeless persons, street children, and survivors of mass violence and hunger. His books include Unheard Voices: Stories of Forgotten Lives, Fear and Forgiveness: The Aftermath of Massacre, Fractured Freedom: Chronicles from India's Margins, Living with Hunger and Ash in the Belly: India's Unfinished Battle against Hunger. Harsh's latest book, Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India, was published in 2015 to wide acclaim.

B PB; 208 pp
Price: Rs 250
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

I WANT TO DESTROY MYSELF**Mallika Amar Shaikh**

Translated from the Marathi by Jerry Pinto

I read Mala Uddhvastha Vhaychay many years ago [and] I could not put it down...It would often leave me feeling somewhat in danger of collapse. There is a section in which Mallika, not yet twenty, finds herself with a baby in a rented room...Her only companion is a male chauvinist who, as an Ambedkarite, has probably followed Dr Ambedkar into Buddhism, but cannot help quoting Hindu scripture at Mallika. Her husband vanishes for days at a time, leaving her alone. She must wash and clean and tend to her baby and fight with the scripture-quoting Mahar. And then she discovers that her husband has infected her with a venereal disease.

She has no money for treatment and so she bears with it until she is falling over from the weakness and the fevers. There are boils all over her groin.

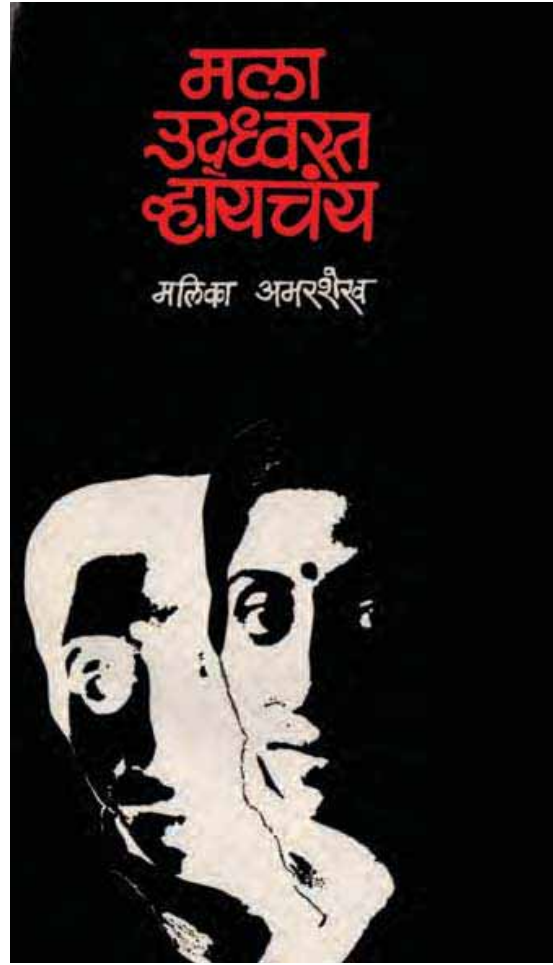
Finally, she borrows some money. From a comrade, a woman who worked as a railway station sweeper.

I read this section and I wept for the young woman with the endless meals and floors and nappies, for the boils and also for the kindness of strangers.

It's that kind of book.'

—From the translator's introduction

Barely out of school, Mallika Amar Shaikh married the mercurial Dalit leader and rebel poet Namdeo Dhasal. Her autobiography is an unforgettable portrait of this tempestuous marriage. There isn't, perhaps, another memoir in Indian writing as searing and honest as this one. Jerry Pinto's superb translation makes it available for the first time in any language other than Marathi.



Mallika Amar Shaikh is a reputed writer in Marathi. Apart from her celebrated autobiography, she has published short stories and several collections of poetry, including Valucha Priyakar, Mahanagar and Deharitu.

Jerry Pinto is an acclaimed poet, novelist and translator. His published work includes the award-winning novel Em and the Big Hoom and translations, from the Marathi, of Daya Pawar's Baluta and Sachin Kundalkar's Cobalt Blue.

B HB; 176 pp
Price: Rs 399
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

CHANDNI CHOWK AND THE IMPERIAL CITY OF DELHI

Swapna Liddle

What we know today as Old Delhi and the bustling Chandni Chowk area is the imperial city established by the Mughal emperor Shahjahan, and named after him—Shahjahanabad. This is the story of how the city came to be established, its grandeur as the capital of an empire at its peak, and its important role in shaping the language and culture of North India, long after that empire came to an end. It is also the story of the many tribulations the city has seen—the invasion of Nadir Shah, the Revolt of 1857, Partition. A wide variety of sources, such as the accounts of Mughal court chroniclers, travellers' memoirs, poetry, newspapers, and government documents, are drawn upon to create a vivid and dynamic panorama of the city from its inception to recent times.



Swapna Liddle's love for the city of Delhi, and in particular Shahjahanabad, led her to write a PhD thesis on its cultural and intellectual life in the nineteenth century. Today she seeks to raise awareness about the city's historic precincts, mainly through her work for the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH). She has authored the book Delhi: 14 Historic Walks.

A HB; 144 pp
Price: Rs 350
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: TBC

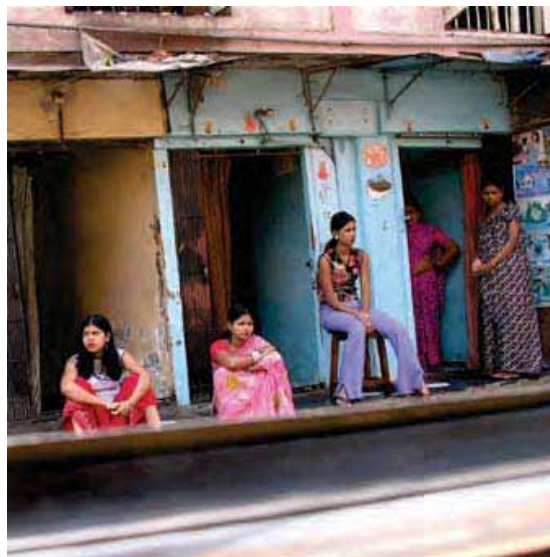
RED-LIGHT DISPATCHES: SURVIVOR STORIES FROM INDIAN BROTHELS

Anuradha Joshi and Tinku Khanna

Every Indian city, small and large, has designated areas where trafficked women are bought and sold, where men flock to buy sex, and where self-perpetuating, exploitative systems of commerce have run for ages. Most of the women—as well as other victims of the flesh trade—do not survive. A few do.

The stories of survivors from many locations in India—in their own voices—form the core of *Red-Light Dispatches*. Through them emerge the various aspects of the trade: the procurement, breaking-in, consumption, and the eventual discarding of women once they reach the end of their usefulness. There are also tales of hope, of the women who broke free and are now helping others, and of the men and women who are working—both at the grassroots and the policy levels—to bring about change.

A vital and timely book, *Red-Light Dispatches* is essential reading for everyone.

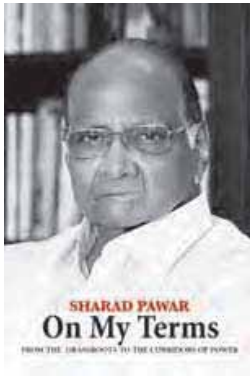


Anuradha Joshi has been actively engaged in women's issues for the last four decades. She is the co-founder of SIDH, an educational institute that is committed to providing meaningful and relevant education in the villages of Central Himalayas since 1989. She has been a member of the National Resource Group of Mahila Samakhya and has conducted several studies related to education, women and community traditions. Anuradha stays in Landour, Mussoorie, and writes for journals, newspapers, magazines and has several publications to her credit.

Tinku Khanna, who has worked with Apne Aap Women Worldwide for fourteen years, works at the grassroots level to organize trafficked women.

B HB; 224 pp
Price: Rs 499
Territory: World
ISBN: TBC

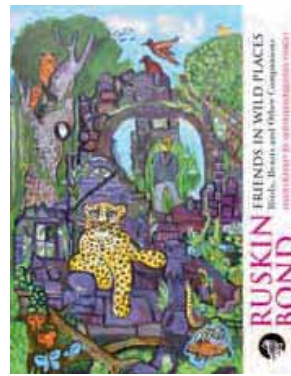
Recent



**ON MY TERMS:
FROM THE GRASSROOTS TO THE
CORRIDORS OF POWER**
Sharad Pawar

Sharad Pawar is one of India's key public figures. Through his five-decade-long career, during which he has never lost an election, he has served as chief minister of Maharashtra four times and as India's defence minister and minister for agriculture. On two occasions he came close to becoming the country's prime minister. He has often bucked the trend, preferring policy and pragmatism over populism, and won admiration for his administrative acumen and consensual politics. Eyewitness—at the highest levels—to India's and Maharashtra's history since the 1960s, he shares in this memoir his reflections on coalition politics, the loss of democracy in the Congress Party (with which he began his political life), the state of agriculture and industry in the country, and the absolute necessity of social harmony and a liberal, inclusive ethos for India's future. *On My Terms* is a rich, insightful and remarkably frank memoir by one of India's most experienced and influential political leaders, and a valuable document of the country's recent political history.

Royal HB; 280 pp + 32 page photo insert
Price: Rs 699
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85755-39-2

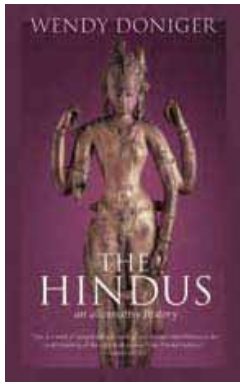


**FRIENDS IN WILD PLACES:
BIRDS, BEASTS AND OTHER
COMPANIONS**
Ruskin Bond

Since he was a young boy, Ruskin Bond has made friends easily. And some of the most rewarding and lasting friendships he has known have been with animals, birds and plants—big and small; outgoing and shy. This collection focuses on these companions and brings together his finest essays and stories, both classic and new. There are leopards and tigers, wise old forest oaks and geraniums on sunny balconies, a talking parrot and a tomcat called Suzie, bears in the mountains and kingfishers in Delhi, a family of langurs and a lonely bat—and many more 'wild' friends, some of an instant, others of several years. Beautifully illustrated by Shubhadarshini Singh, this is a gift for nature- and book-lovers of all ages.

'Taking you to the breathtaking environs of Mussoorie and Dehradun of yore, Bond through his brilliant narrative style paints a beautiful picture of the green valley, the vibrant forest and his grandfather's house where he spent his boyhood... Shubhadarshini Singh's colourful, eye-catching illustrations, both in colour and black and white, add a greater dimension to the chronicles.'—Sakaal Times

7.1 x 8.9 inches HB; 160 pp
Price: Rs 499
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85755-00-2



**THE HINDUS:
AN ALTERNATIVE HISTORY**
Wendy Doniger

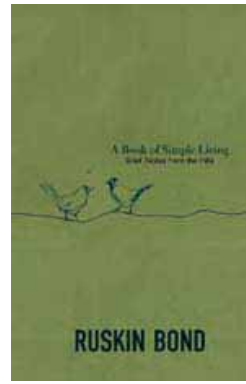
'Doniger's is an amazingly breathtaking book in its sweep. Indeed, before this, one would have thought such a book could never be written...[The Hindus] is a great book.'—Bibek Debroy, The Indian Express

'With her vast erudition, insight, and graceful writing laced with gentle wit, there is no one better than Wendy Doniger to convey the richness, depth and diversity of Hindu texts and traditions to international audiences. The Hindus is destined to become a classic that will be discussed and debated for many years to come.'—Sudhir Kakar

'This is history as great entertainment...Wendy Doniger's double vision of Hinduism is about women, merchants, lower castes, animals, spirits and, of course, Dead Male Brahmins. This lively, earthy account explains why ancient India is the world's richest storytelling culture.'—Gurcharan Das

'[Doniger's] book is no ordinary trek through inscriptions and chronicles. It is more like a psychedelic pilgrimage to sites, ritual moments, and beloved texts scattered over three millennia.'—David Shulman, The New York Review of Books

Royal PB with flaps; 779 pp
Price: Rs 799
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85288-66-1



A BOOK OF SIMPLE LIVING
Ruskin Bond

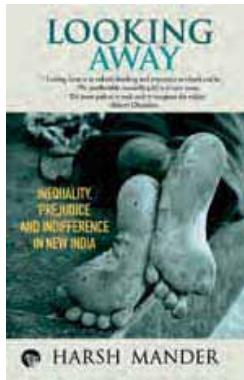
This personal diary records the many small moments that constitute a life of harmony—with the self, the natural world, and friends, family and passersby. In these pages, we watch a wild plum blossom and the moon come up between two deodar trees; we hear a redstart whistle and the rain drum on a tin roof; we recognize the aftermath of loss and the consolation of old companions.

A Book of Simple Living is a gift of beauty and wisdom from India's most loved, and most understated, writer.

'A simple recipe for happiness.'—Deccan Herald

'[In] brief notes, that begin and end in medias res ... reminiscent of the short and evocative poems of old Buddhist Chinese poets like Wang Wei, Bond muses about nature, about the nature of creativity, change, of the life of the mind and the pleasures of the flesh... This beautifully produced slim volume is perfect for random dippings.'—Outlook Traveller

B HB; 160 pp
Price: Rs 399
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-81-930710-0-7



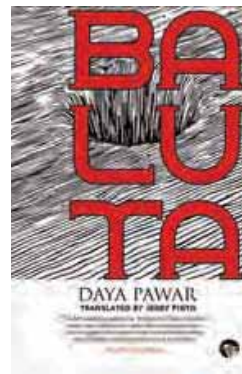
**LOOKING AWAY:
INEQUALITY, PREJUDICE AND
INDIFFERENCE IN NEW INDIA**
Harsh Mander

In the two decades since the early 1990s, when India confirmed its allegiance to the Free Market, more of its citizens have become marginalized than ever before, and society has become more sharply riven than ever. In *Looking Away*, Harsh Mander ranges wide to record and analyse the many different fault lines which crisscross Indian society today. Exhaustive in its scope, impassioned in its arguments, and rigorous in its scholarship, *Looking Away* is a sobering checklist of all the things we must collectively get right if India is to become the country that was promised, in equal measure, to all its citizens.

'Replete with sensitivity, sarcasm, corrosive guilt and ring-fenced with molten anger that is visually textured and lyrically expressed, Looking Away offers a panoramic view of the violence of the rich and powerful against the poor and minorities.'—The Financial Express

'If nationalism can have a good meaning, Looking Away offers it: this is a book every thinking Indian needs to read.'—Urvashi Butalia

Demy PB with flaps; 464 pp
Price: Rs 495
Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85288-00-5



BALUTA
Daya Pawar
Translated from the Marathi by Jerry Pinto

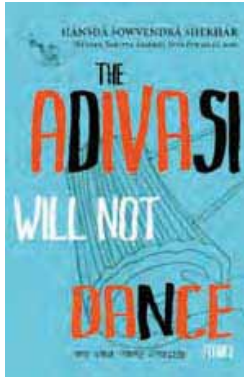
The first Dalit autobiography to be published, *Baluta* caused a sensation when it first appeared, in Marathi, in 1978. It quickly acquired the status of a classic of modern Indian literature and was also a bestseller in Hindi and other major languages. This is the first time that it has been translated into English.

Set in Mumbai and rural Maharashtra of the 1940s and '50s, it describes in shocking detail the practice of untouchability and caste violence. But it also speaks of the pride and courage of the Dalit community that often fought back for dignity.

'[It has taken] three-and-a-half decades for Baluta, the first Dalit autobiography in Marathi, to be made available in English... Jerry Pinto's translation makes the wait worthwhile. The gut-wrenching, candid personal narrative is sensitively interpreted for the contemporary English reader.'—The Hindu

'Daya Pawar's Baluta has enjoyed an iconic status in Marathi literature. It signified a literary revolt against the Hindu Brahmanical caste system ... Translating a Dalit text into English is not an easy exercise as the English language does not reflect the hierarchies of "caste", but Pinto carries out the task admirably well.'—The Indian Express

B PB with flaps; 336 pp
Price: Rs 350
Territory: World (English language)
ISBN: 978-93-85288-20-3



THE ADIVASI WILL NOT DANCE: STORIES

Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar

Troupe-master Mangal Murmu refuses to perform for the President of India and is beaten down. Panmuni and Biram Soren move to Vadodara in the autumn of their lives, only to find that they must stop eating meat to be accepted as citizens. Talamai Kisku of the Santhal Pargana, migrating to West Bengal in search of work, must sleep with a policeman for fifty rupees and two cold bread pakoras ... *The Adivasi Will Not Dance* is a mature, passionate, intensely political book of stories, made up of the very stuff of life. It establishes Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar as one of our most important contemporary writers.

'The Adivasi Will Not Dance [is] ... written from the margin, against the grain, and told with great skill and humanity. Hansda Sowvendra Shekhar is a writer to be sought out and discovered.' —The Indian Express

'Shekhar's tone is calm, even low-key, but he shakes us out of our stupor with his political, ear-to-the-ground stories.' —The Financial Express

'Shekhar's stories open to us a world we have deliberately dismissed. Now they demand our attention.' —Scroll.in

'Hansda is India's answer to Chimamanda Adichie.' —Sunday Guardian

B HB; 200 pp

Price: Rs 399

Territory: Indian subcontinent

ISBN: 978-93-85288-64-7



THE LIGHT OF HIS CLAN

Chetan Raj Shrestha

Kuldeep Chandanth, ex-Minister of the Government of Sikkim, leading light of his community, and foul-mouthed, caste-obsessed, ageing patriarch, is in the final siege of his illustrious life.

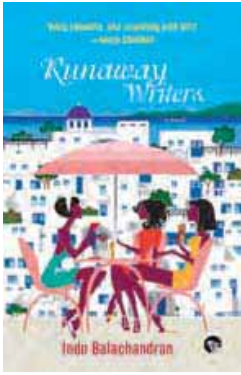
His clanspeople are helping him in his lifelong efforts to uplift them by opposing his every suggestion, and his three children have refused the responsibility of carrying forward his life's work. Pradeep, his eldest son—from his second wife—is a feckless engineer with the Department of Village Roads. Pradeep is determined to protect the honour of his department's lady clerks from the attentions of his half-brother Yograj, a ladies' man committed to his pleasures. Yogita, the ex-Minister's only daughter, works in Delhi, and is eternally on the verge of returning to Sikkim to look after him. His servant Pemba is dedicated in his attempts to feel up Ai Doma, the momo-seller who lives next door. And just as the ex-Minister gives up hope from the living, the ghost of his third wife, Sumitra, dead for twenty years, returns to point an accusing finger at him. Set in Gangtok, *The Light of His Clan* follows—over days of hail, rain, mist and sun—the ex-Minister as he navigates the treachery of those once close to him, schemes for and against his children, and battles the final stiffening of his bones. Funny, compassionate, wise, and full of memorable characters, *The Light of His Clan* is a triumph.

B HB; 280 pp

Price: Rs 399

Territory: Indian subcontinent

ISBN: 978-93-85755-02-6

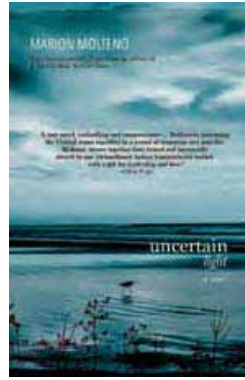


RUNAWAY WRITERS
Indu Balachandran

'Dear Boss, I quit!' Amby resigns her cushy corporate job on a reckless whim—to be the ghost Tweet-Writer for the hot-looking superstar KayKay. Making him India's Wittiest Tweeter was a heady feeling, until... Amby is suddenly running away again—to Greece, to a Writers' Workshop. She meets Mini and Bobby, soul-sisters like her who have also come to follow a passion. But then something totally unexpected happens in Santorini! *Runaway Writers* is a witty, wise, fast-paced novel with an inspiring message: stay restless, never settle, till you find the life you love. And the love of your life.

'Racy, romantic and crackling with wit!'—Anuja Chauhan

B PB; 296 pp
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Territory: World
ISBN: 978-93-85288-28-9



UNCERTAIN LIGHT
Marion Molteno

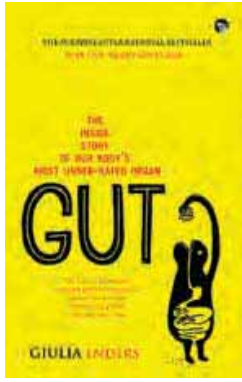
High in the mountains of war-torn Tajikistan, rebels abduct inspirational UN peace negotiator, Rahul Khan. The lives of his closest friends begin to unravel. Tessa, now married with two children, has never stopped loving Rahul. Lance, a dedicated aid worker, has used Rahul's friendship to avoid facing up to the gaps in his own life. Hugo, his UN supervisor, feels responsible for the abduction and is driven to uncover the truth. Tajik translator Nargis owes Rahul a personal debt but has secrets she cannot share. As hopes for Rahul's survival fade, each must find a way to begin again.

Marion Molteno deftly weaves the strands of these interlocking worlds into a story of intimacy, hard choices, heartache and courage.

'Terrifically absorbing, topical and quietly affecting'—The Bookseller

'New terrain, an adventurous plot, and characters who will remain with me for a very long time. A moving and necessary book.' —Alastair Niven, Judge, 2014 Man Booker Prize

Demy PB; 410 pp
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ISBN: 978-93-85288-43-2



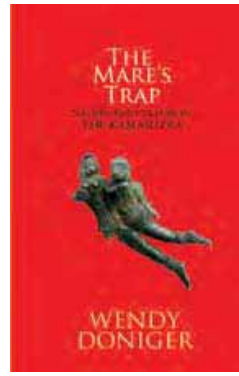
**GUT:
THE INSIDE OF OUR BODY'S MOST
UNDERATED ORGAN**
Giulia Enders

Our gut is almost as important to us as our brain or our heart, yet we know very little about how it works. In this international bestseller, young scientist Giulia Enders takes us on a fascinating tour of our insides. Her message is simple—if we treat our gut well, it will treat us well in return. But how do we do that? And why do we need to? Find out in this surprising, and surprisingly funny, exploration of the least understood of our organs.

Ms. Enders [translates] abstruse gastroenterological research into breezy, entertaining prose.—The New York Times

'A publishing sensation that ... sets out to free toilet talk from its taboo.'—The Times

B PB; 272 pp
Price: Rs 350
Territory: Indian subcontinent
ISBN: 978-93-85288-61-6



**THE MARE'S TRAP:
NATURE AND CULTURE IN THE
KAMASUTRA**
Wendy Doniger

The *Kamasutra*, composed in the third century CE, is the world's most famous textbook of erotic love. There is nothing remotely like it even today, and for its time it was astonishingly sophisticated. Yet, it is all but ignored as a serious work in its country of origin—sometimes taken as a matter of national shame rather than pride. In this scholarly and superbly readable book, one of the world's foremost authorities on ancient Indian texts seeks to restore the *Kamasutra* to its proper place in the Sanskrit canon, as a landmark of India's secular literature.

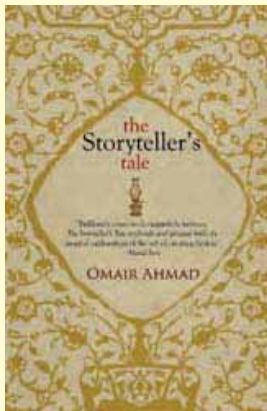
'Wendy Doniger's new book restores the Kamasutra to what it was intended as—a treatise on the pursuit of desire—from what it is perceived as—a compendium of impossible sexual positions... [It is] one of the definitive guides to making sense of the ancient encyclopaedia of sexual behaviour.'—The Financial Express

'This wonderful collection of essays by the Sanskrit scholar Wendy Doniger...prodded me to go back and read the Kamasutra, and [discover] to my delight that it is not a sex manual but a charming, surprisingly modern guide to the art of living.'—Gurcharan Das, Outlook

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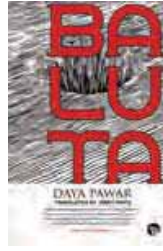
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SYED MUJTABA ALI
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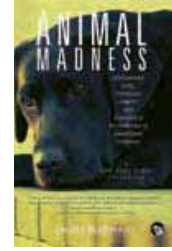
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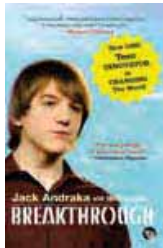
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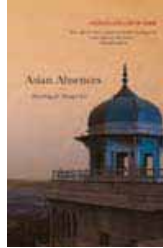
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DAYA PAWAR
 TRANSLATED BY JERRY PINTO
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 Pages: 256 pp
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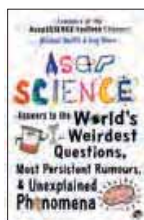
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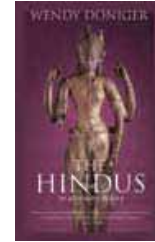
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IAN BEDFORD
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 Format: B
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 Pages: 280 pp
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**FRIENDS IN WILD PLACES:
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COMPANIONS**
RUSKIN BOND
Category: Non-fiction/Fiction
Format: 7.1 X 8.9 Inches
Price: Rs 499
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Pages: 160 pp
Territory: World



**GUT: THE INSIDE STORY OF
OUR BODY'S MOST
UNDER-RATED ORGAN**
GIULIA ENDERS
Category: Non-fiction/Popular Science
Format: B
Price: Rs 350
Binding: Paperback
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Pages: 272 pp
Territory: Indian subcontinent



**THE HINDUS:
AN ALTERNATIVE HISTORY**
WENDY DONIGER
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Pages: 779 pp
Territory: Indian subcontinent



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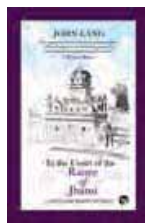
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Pages: 208 pp
Territory: World



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Pages: 410 pp
Territory: Indian subcontinent



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THE RANEE OF JHANSI**
JOHN LANG
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Format: B
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Pages: 276 pp
Territory: World



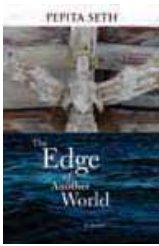
**THE SCENES WE MADE:
AN ORAL HISTORY
OF EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE
IN MUMBAI**
EDITED BY SHANTA GOKHALE
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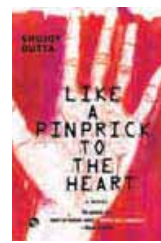
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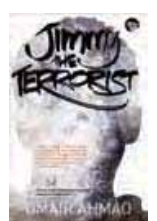
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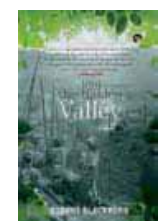
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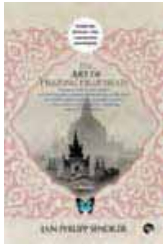
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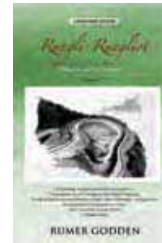
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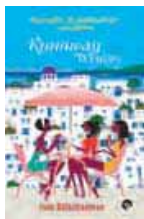
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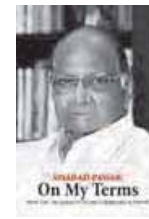
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