ABOUT US

Subtext Literary Agency is a Delhi and London-based agency that has been founded on the grounds that sharing and adapting content is key to bridging gaps between cultures and societies, increasing understanding and awareness, while fighting prejudice and ignorance. This philosophy also informs the relationship of the two co-founders, Ben and Ishita, who met during their studies and bonded over their differences and mutual curiosity, sharing their passion for books (obviously), languages, psychology, feminism, masculinity, popular culture, gender studies, sexuality, history, and social inequalities, to name a few, and how these aspects of humanity interact with and affect our current world. It’s been said ‘words are powerful’, but we’d like to add ‘in every form’. Subtext Literary Agency has been created to allow as many people as possible to access that power and use it to help them constantly rethink the world we live in and to enjoy the beauty and opportunities words have to offer, in whatever shape they take.

OUR TEAM

BENJAMIN EHALT
Rights Pundit
Loves Kapuscinski, coffee shops and bagels

ISHITA GUPTA
Word Maestro
Lives on coffee, words and sitcoms
REPRESENTING FOREIGN RIGHTS
Tsewang Yishey Pemba was the first Tibetan to become a doctor in western medicine, and to become a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons and founded the first hospital in Bhutan. He is also known to have written the first Tibetan work of fiction in English and has been seen since as the founding father of Tibetan-English literature.

WHITE CRANE, LEND ME YOUR WINGS: A TIBETAN TALE OF LOVE AND WAR

BY TSEWANG YISHEY PEMBA

A posthumous novel from the founding father of Tibetan-English Literature.

When Reverend John Stevens and his wife Mary arrived in Shanghai in 1924, fully prepared and dedicated to serve the Spirit of the Bethelem Lutheran Mission they did not know that China would only be a stopover on their way to a much further out land - Tibet!

They arrive in the heart of the Nyarong valley in East Tibet inhabited by the famous Tibetan warriors: the Khampas. They quickly discover the open-mindedness of its inhabitants and the beauty of Buddhism and the richness of the local culture via the numerous exchanges they have with the rinpoche - one of the highest figures in Buddhism - and by befriending the local ponpo (chief) and his family.

Even though their mission is failing as Tibetans are not interested in converting to a different religion their integration is a proper success. Fully part of the local community, now fluent in Tibetan and raising their son Paul along side the ponpo’s son Tenga, the Stevens have become key figures of the valley and made a home away from home in the most unexpected place and in the most unexpected way - an inner peace they thought unflappable...

However the Khampa valley is a place run by tribes, ruled by tribal laws and paced with wars and conflicts... An epidemic of measles and the death of the Rithangstang clan’s children have a terrible domino effect.... Accusations and demands made by the clan for the Americans to leave - as deemed responsible for the clan’s recent misfortune - usher in a series of murders and vendettas shaking up the peaceful balance of the valley, costing people’s lives and planting seeds of hatred that will blossom into terror in a near future...

1959, Paul and Tenga who have become young men and blood brothers see their world shaken up again when the invading Chinese communist army of Mao Tse-tung forces the Stevens to flee the country leaving Paul behind who decides to stay as a proper Khampa to defend his valley and his traditions, a place they all want to keep calling home - a military and political conflict that once again changes their destiny and impacts History forever.

A coming-of-age narrative that is a riveting tale of vengeance, warfare and love, which unfolds through the life story of two young boys and their family and friends.

“A gift from the past” - Hindustan Times

“Riveting tale of vengeance, warfare & love” - Cosmopolitan

“The book tells the fate of Tibet, long isolated & friendless, when it was confronted by the modern world in the form of communist China” - Central Tibetan Administration

English | Rights sold in English (South Asia) and Japanese

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PHANTOM LOVERS: TWO NOVELLAS

BY ACHALA MOULIK

Two gripping tales of lovers who are swept up and away by a fantastical combination of history, magic and fate.

Phantom Lovers comprises two lyrical novellas- With Fate Conspire and Wait!

With Fate Conspire narrates how, despite the antagonism between the imperial British and the subjugated Indians, a young British magistrate is entranced by a zamindar’s daughter in Bengal. On a stormy night they elope to their planned paradise—until the Mutiny of 1857 intrudes on their lives. A century later in London their predicament is mysteriously reflected in the turbulent fate of another Englishman and an Indian girl.

With haunting beauty the award-winning author describes the destinies of the lovers against the dramatic background of the British Raj in Bengal as well as the conflicts of our times across Kabul, Rome and London.

Wait! is about two lovers in Rome—an Afghan academic and an Indian woman who plan an idyllic life together. Then the violent coup of April 1978 in Afghanistan forever changes their destinies and of that nation.

Caught in these tempests the separated lovers in both stories defy danger and despair as they travel across strange frontiers of time and space to find their lost beloveds.

Two novellas brimming with magical realism and romance, in which the characters are both spectators and participants in world events ranging from the beginning of India’s freedom struggle in 1857, to the tumultuous post-war decades of the 50s and 60s. Events such as the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Indo-Pak war of 1965, the Indo-Chinese war before it, and the violent changes wrought by the 1978 coup in Afghanistan, are all woven seamlessly into the journeys of the characters as they are separated and reunited by fate and human forces alike.

“Moulik makes liberal use of Indian and western poetry and mysticism, with her young lovers quoting Tagore, Dante, Petrarca, Kalidasa and Banabhatta....While violence and war simmer around them, the lovers hold steadfast, their love the only anchor in the quicksand of history.” - The Week

“Two love stories where history plays a character” - The Sunday Guardian

Achala Moulik (born 1 July 1941) is an Indian writer and former bureaucrat who served as Education Secretary to the Government of India, Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India from 1993 to 1994 and Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka from May 2000 – June 2001. Achala Moulik received the prestigious Pushkin Medal in 2011 from the Russian president in Moscow. In 2013, Moulik won the Sergey Yessenin Prize for promoting Russian literature.
RAJASTHANI STORIES RETOLD

BY RIMA HOOJA

Rajasthan continues to fascinate the world for many reasons. Some of the more obvious ones include its colours, music and dance, venerable history, forts, fortifications, palaces, stepwells and old towns and rich textile tradition. Rajasthan also brings to mind the vast tracts of golden desert to its north-west and west, juxtaposed by the scattered green and dust-mantle clad valleys, plains and hills of its south-east and east, with their rivers and rivulets and lakes.

Rajasthan is also famed for its rich oral and written traditions, drawn from mythology and religious tales as much as from the history of the area.

The oral and written traditions are sometimes coloured by the blood of battles, sometimes romantic with the folk-remembered tales of Moomal, Dhola and Maru, Nihal-de and often based on real-life tales of sacrifice and duty of valourous men and women and countless ordinary citizens.

Dipping into this rich heritage, this book brings to its readers a collection of short stories from Rajasthan. The nine Rajasthani tales in this book are but a fraction of the amazing legacy of Rajasthan.

Archaeologist, historian and writer Rima Hooja has a PhD from Cambridge University. She is a Consultant Director (Library and Archives) at the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum, in Jaipur and manages Trustee Jaipur Virasat Foundation. She has been a Member of India’s National Monuments Authority (2011-2014), Director Minnesota University’s MSID India Program (2003-2014) and Faculty Director New York State Independent College Consortium for Study in India Program (November 2014-February 2016).
NOTES ON A MARRIAGE
BY SELMA CARVALHO

In his younger days, Alfred Hughes had been quite the Nineties revolutionary at his university in England, clad in faded army fatigues and smoking Cuban cigars. They called him Che Freddo.

His comrades-in-arms were Nido—Nitin—son of divorced Indian immigrants, and Eugenia—ardent admirer of Sylvia Plath, who believed that one had to sacrifice everything for a cause, be fearless in death.

Into this mix came Anju Kale, of British-Asian heritage, the only child of a disheartened Indian Marxist father and a submissive, but wealthy, English mother, and her entry into this tightly-knit group caused all equations to shift and change.

As time goes by, Freddo gives up revolution for the security of a college professorship, Nido for a job at Goldman Sachs. Anju marries Freddo and tries to come to terms with his serial philandering, in a marriage precariously held together by middle-class sensibilities. And the devastating secret about what happened to Eugenia.

Until Anju too finds herself caught in an extra-marital relationship. Trapped between the need for fulfilment and a love of stability, Anju must redefine what it means to be a family.

In prose that is lyrical and beguiling, Selma Carvalho weaves a story about a marriage that is tender, startling and wise in turn.

‘(...) a heartfelt narrative, sharing an account of the complexities of human relationships. It recounts how social positions and personal politics play a pivotal role in love and friendship. (...) The lyrical prose is undercut by the frightening fragility of interpersonal connections and the absurdity of love, friendship and what it means to be “happily married” after all.’ – Feminism India

“An insightful portrayal of the ebb and flow in close relationships, and the comfort and understanding that exists within a marriage, in spite of other liaisons, and a long ago tragedy that shadows it... An engaging, thoughtfully written book that will resonate with readers.” – Mitra Phukan

Selma Carvalho is a British-Asian writer whose work explores themes of migration, memory and belonging. Her work has been shortlisted for several literary prizes, notably the London Short Story Prize, the Dinesh Allirajah Prize and the New Asian Writing Prize. She is the winner of the Leicester Writes Prize 2018 and her collection of short stories was a finalist for the prestigious SI Leeds Literary Prize 2018. Sisterhood of Swans is her debut novel and was shortlisted for the Mslexia Novella Prize 2018 in the UK. She lives in London.
SISTERHOOD OF SWANS
BY SELMA CARVALHO

Anna-Marie Souza lives in Horton, a suburb on the hem of London, a far cry from the city of Bombay from which her parents had arrived one cold December day in 1989, two Goans in search of a new life. Born in this land of their dreams, raised in a broken home, Anna-Marie has grown up into a state of constant and indefinable yearning. She belongs to the sisterhood of swans seeking to pair for life, curving their necks to entwine with the perfect mate. Only, she has realized, her species is fated to disappointment. Her disastrous choice in men is fuelled not just by a chaotic childhood but by a loss of sexual agency as she embarks on a series of doomed relationships.

A coming-of-age novel so poetically written that it transforms the burning feelings of pain, love and desire into sparkles of hope.

Shortlisted for the Mslexia Novella Prize


“A blistering feminist text...(that) reads like a little poem.’ – The Telegraph

‘Literature we won’t forget in a hurry.’ – The Telegraph

English | Rights sold in English (South Asia)

Selma Carvalho is a British-Asian writer whose work explores themes of migration, memory and belonging. Her work has been shortlisted for several literary prizes, notably the London Short Story Prize, the Dinesh Allirajah Prize and the New Asian Writing Prize. She is the winner of the Leicester Writes Prize 2018 and her collection of short stories was a finalist for the prestigious SI Leeds Literary Prize 2018. Sisterhood of Swans is her debut novel and was shortlisted for the Mslexia Novella Prize 2018 in the UK. She lives in London.
When she lands in Calcutta’s Sealdah railway station on a humid day in 1949, Amala Manna has managed to flee from the communal violence in her village, but not from all her trials. Within moments of crossing over to India as a refugee from East Pakistan, she loses Kartik, her younger brother. Thanks to a group of young volunteers, Amala finds her way to a refugee camp in Gariahata where she meets Manas Dutta, who is the leader of the volunteer group. Despite the sordid camp life, Amala finds sustenance in her quest to find Kartik and the new familial bonds the camp allows her to forge with complete strangers. With dwindling official support, the situation in the camp deteriorates, and the refugees take things into their own hands.

They establish Bijoy Nagar literally meaning Victory Colony by occupying a zamindar’s vacant plot of land. This dramatic event is a harbinger of radical shifts in Amala’s personal life. In the face of government apathy and public disdain, the refugees built their lives from the bottom up with sheer hard work and persistence, changing, in the process, the socio-cultural landscape of Calcutta the city they claimed as home forever.

The struggles and victories of this novel’s endearing characters reminds us that refugees’ situation is universal, that when some people are forced to leave the place they call home the world’s salvation resides in people’s open-mindedness, full heartedness and humility.

"...the narrative of the novel seeps into the labyrinth of emotions and trauma that continues to haunt and exhaust its victims long after the assault. We see instances of trauma response that are triggered by banal activities and can immediately gauge the intensity of the violence that led to the reaction. Ghosh uses the subtlety of writing to expose the scars of emotional onslaught, often not visible to the naked eye though ever-present." The Book Review India

‘There is much scope to turn the novel into a harrowing and haunting tale, but Ghosh subverts it to a heartwarming story of resilience, hope and courage, all the while remaining true to what she intended to portray.’ The Bangalore Review

Bhaswati Gosh is a writer and translator. She has a background in journalism and writes for The Wire. She has also written for Daily News and Analysis, The Times of India, The Statesman and The Pioneer. She lives in Ontario, Canada.
Calcutta is the central character in each of the three stories in this book. As all Bengalis will tell you, even when the city stands quietly in the corner, not saying a word, her presence may be deeply felt by those close to her. The House and Other Stories is also about the many persons we encounter in the everyday. These are the people we pass by without a second thought. Who are these people? What stories lie locked up in each of them? Will they ever be told? Like magic, one question leads to another and soon, they no longer appear anonymous; they come alive. It is as if an entirely new world has been conjured before our eyes. And we are enchanted by the stories that have lain hidden from us for so long. Even if the stories emerge at times from the realm of the dead.

These spooky stories set in Calcutta remind one of the old days, and take the reader on a voyage into the realm of the unknown.

‘...the book is not just about the city, but goes beyond it—and will appeal even to readers who haven’t stayed in Calcutta or are not closely associated with.... The book’s an absolute page turner’ The Statesman

Amit Dasgupta is a former member of the diplomatic services. An avid amateur photographer, he enjoys cooking and recently joined painting classes.
OPEN COUPLETS
BY TORSA GHOSHAL

Somewhere in the dingy lanes of north Kolkata, a young girl born to a family of idol-makers learns to carve goddesses with her own hands, a right that her artisan father had reserved for her brother. But, years later, when Ira Chatterjee—a breezy, jet-setting ethnographer born in the same neighbourhood—comes looking for the girl, no one knows where to find her. Elsewhere, in the middle of America, Ira lives with her friend, Fasahat Zaidi, a poet, translator, but mostly, a raconteur extraordinaire from Lucknow. One day Fasahat is reciting ghazals at a bar in a saree, another day he is emailing Ira outlandish tales starring the likes of Mir and Insha. Until one day he goes mysteriously missing and no one can tell what became of him. Determined to find those who nobody remembers, Ira embarks on a labyrinthine journey, a chimera-chasing adventure, only to confront her own state of oblivion.

166 pages | ALL RIGHTS AVAILABLE

BABY LOOKING OUT AND OTHER STORIES
BY PADMINI MONGIA

A baby visits Philadelphia and looks out on his family having breakfast, on people walking down the streets. The more he looks the more he sees. A monkey finds a top hat, a bat a kite, and a kachhua a skateboard amongst the houses, trees, and parks of Defence Colony in New Delhi. A boy gets run away by a shoe, a scooter driver by a sound, and Joey by his mood. Twin girls and their brother get new clothes. Miss Hadd tells young children a frightening story—a story that could come true because all her stories are true.

Look, and see.

159 pages | ALL RIGHTS AVAILABLE

THE OTHER IN THE MIRROR: STORIES FROM INDIA AND PAKISTAN
EDITED BY SEHYR MIRZA

The Other in the Mirror: Stories from India and Pakistan is an anthology of Indian and Pakistani short stories, edited by Sehyr Mirza, with illustrations by Priya Kuriyan.

As described by the editor herself, it is a collection of “twenty stories from India and Pakistan that gave a more significant meaning to the notions of compassion, kindness, tolerance, co-existence and non-violence.” Described as Manto-esque, this unique collection features originally written pieces by a diverse range of celebrated contemporary authors from both countries, including Gulzar, Anushka Ravishankar, Shazaf Fatima Haider, Farrukh Nadeem and Ranjit Lal, that deal with themes such as the partition, loss, boundaries, divides, and discrimination through warm, inspirational, heart-rending and enthralling storytelling

234 pages | ALL RIGHTS AVAILABLE
REVOLUTION STREET
BY AMIR HASSAN CHEHELTAN

Fattah is a backstreet doctor specializing in 'honour surgery' for unmarried young women for whom he has nothing but contempt.

He is a product of the Iranian revolution of 1979 - from being a simple janitor in a hospital with no qualifications he upgraded his social status fighting for conservative moral values while making a fortune secretly operating on women’s hymen to give them a second virginity - the same women he publicly despises and condemns for their sexual freedom - one of the numerous ironies of the revolution!

But one of his patients is different, she has those eyes he cannot detach his gaze from. Shahrazad troubles him, and he has to admit that her beauty in that case is more important than the reason for which she ended up on his operating table.

What Fattah does not know is that Shahrazad is promised to another, she is to marry the younger and less affluent Mostafa, one of Evin’s prison guards.

Undeterred that she is promised to - and in love with - another man, Fattah sets out to win Shahrazad by any means. A quest that will wake up numerous demons from the past and that will push the young Mostafa to a desperate stage where he will try everything in his power to move Shahrazad beyond his rival’s reach.

Mustafa loses control of the situation when as a last recourse he falsely reports her as an opponent of the regime, a decision that takes him deep into Tehran’s underworld of criminals and provocateurs and that has consequences nobody could have foreseen.

A compelling story that takes the reader into a modern post-revolutionary Tehran where lies, deception, and political plots are the norm - revealing the complexity of a society that cannot survive on truth alone.

‘A classic of world literature.’ - Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
‘A vivid, exciting and nuanced portrait of post-revolutionary Tehran.’- LiteraturNachrichten

Farsi / English
Rights sold in Farsi, English (UK), French (North America), Italian, German, Norwegian, Hebrew and Arabic

Amir Hassan Cheheltan was born and raised in Tehran, studied Electrical Engineering in the UK before doing his military service during the Iran-Iraq war. His engaging work has been censored in Iran but published internationally by prestigious publishers such as C.H Beck in Germany. He was a board member of the Iran Writers Association until 2004. In 2020 he has been awarded the Internationaler Literaturpreis and numerous of his essays were published in international papers such as The Spiegel (Germany) and The Reportagen (Switzerland).
TEHRAN, CITY WITHOUT SKY
BY AMIR HASSAN CHEHELTAN

Keramat is good-looking, brave, brutal and powerful – perfectly embodying the image of the post revolution Iranian man.

Standing in his apartment, the smoke from his cigarette evaporating in the air, his life flashbacks in front of him mirroring Iranian’s history and its key political events...

A key figure of the current regime, director of the notorious Evin prison in Tehran, Keramat has come a long way since he left home when he was ten years old.

While living on the streets he was raped by a British soldier when he was only a teenager. Since then he has built anger over the years and his thirst for power and revenge never ceased to poison his soul.

From various political turmoils to the 1979 Revolution, Keramat is going to encounter key figures of the current regime as well as the idealist souls that were betrayed by its promises.

From his wife to his mistress via the members of the street gang he used to be part of, Keramat’s life is a tapestry of contradictions, regrets, fears and desires that fascinates as much as it questions.

A novel that crystallizes the contradictions of today’s Iran, which the author describes in poetic and touching language.

Amir Hassan Cheheltan was born and raised in Tehran, studied Electrical Engineering in the UK before doing his military service during the Iran-Iraq war. His engaging work has been censored in Iran but published internationally by prestigious publishers such as C.H Beck in Germany. He was a board member of the Iran Writers Association until 2004. In 2020 he has been awarded the Internationaler Literaturpreis and numerous of his essays were published in international papers such as the Spiegel (Germany) and the Reportagen (Switzerland).
LIFE IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT
BY PREETI SHENOY

What would you do if destiny twisted the road you took? What if it threw you to a place you did not want to go? Would you fight, would you run or would you accept?

Freshly graduated from high school Ankita is about to start college in one of the top colleges of Kerala. An experience that promises to be rich in encounters, emotions and adventures. Coming from a conservative family, Ankita’s college years are years of freedom, risk taking and life changing decisions. She meets Abhi an artist from another college that is about to change her life more than she can imagine. A dreamy and passionate relationship until Ankita’s ambition takes over and she gets into one of the top MBA programs of the country…. in Mumbai!

What she does not know when telling Abhi is that it would devastate him... to the point of no return.

Abhi’s death has triggered something in her she is not yet aware of. She is working hard to accept, move on from the pain and rebuild her ambitious future. The shining start of her MBA program Ankita starts experiencing episodes of mania and depression. It is the beginning of a journey she never thought she would be on - a challenging journey with herself that despite all the obstacles she has to face takes her home and allows her to be her real self.

In a world where mental health is still a taboo and a challenge we are all unprepared for Ankita’s story is an inspiring coming of age tale - giving agency to women and people struggling with mental health highlighting that being different does not need to be a negative experience and could to the contrary be your biggest strength when facing adversity.

One of the highest selling authors in India
Longlisted on the most influential celebrities in India Forbes list

English | Rights sold in English (South Asia), Turkish, Simplified Chinese, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Gujarati and Odia.

Preeti Shenoy is among the highest selling authors in India and on the Forbes long list of the most influential celebrities in India. She is the recipient of several awards including Indian of the Year Award in 2017 by Brands Academy and the Academia Award for Business Excellence by the New Delhi Institute of Management. She has been interviewed on BBC world which was telecast 14 times reaching over 200 countries.
Deftly exploring the metaphysical quest for meaning in a postmodern world, Carlos Tamilavan captures the essence of a modern psyche grappling with the incomplete, leaving readers pondering the man’s evolution in his journey from Tamil Nadu to Warsaw and back home.

Set against the backdrop of early 21st-century Europe, this novel unfolds narratives of migration, death, sexuality and spirituality.

Winner of the Karnataka Sahitya Academy Translation Award

Tamil / English | Rights sold in Tamil and English (South Asia)
Three young medical college students find a poor rickshaw puller with a raw wound in the middle of the road. Little did they know, they were on the verge of unearthing one of the world’s biggest kidney scams.

In a bid to help the poor victims, Kirti, Rahul and Gurkirat reach out to their college authorities, leading doctors, and even politicians. When there is no hope of support from any of them, they finally get help from a daring lawyer.

With threats to their life, evidences vanishing and danger looming large on their families, will they have the courage to fight till the end?

The Kidney Scam brings out gruesome, chilling details of cold-blooded crimes that rocked Punjab and spread over to the entire world. Witness the nail-biting chase that led to the busting of one of the world’s biggest human organ trade scams.
As a witness to evil, Hans is haunted by what he has seen, and is unsure about his chances for love and redemption. But in this somnolent yet simmering Indian town, circumstances link his life closely to young Lipsa’s, who is as lonely and lost as he is.

When a body is discovered unexpectedly in the forest, Hans finds himself shielding Lipsa and her family from the predatory instincts of an ambitious police officer. As the present tumbles out of his grip, will he finally find the answers to his past?

A man with a unique legacy connected to the second world war, finds himself navigating the complicated paths of a small town in a recently independent India.

‘Blending facts and fiction, mesmerising scenes of love, abandonment, and mystery make the book an imaginative and compassionate read. Kumar manages to creatively flit through history wherein she props on the landscape, people, forests, forest dwellers, animals, Adivasis, seas, the voyage, the call of the wild at night, the train and the railways.’

Borderless Journal

Anuradha Kumar has lived in India, Singapore and now the US. She studied history at Delhi University and management at XLRI Jamshedpur. She has an MFA in Writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Anu’s stories have won awards from the Commonwealth Foundation, UK, and The Little Magazine, India. She has written for Scroll.in, Fiftytwo.in, the India Forum, The Missouri Review, Catamaran Literary Reader, The Common, Maine Literary Review, and others. As Adity Kay, she wrote three bestselling works of historical fiction for younger readers, published by Hachette India.
Patrick Lyons grew up in a house full of crime. Almost every room had a crime novel lying around, spread-eagled, face down, his mother’s ways of bookmarking. Writing about his experience as an Anglo-Indian growing up in Australia during the 1970s and 1980s is a good way for Patrick to explore broader concepts of exclusiveness, racism, identity and duality. These notions subtly pepper his work, bringing grit to his characters. The often-hilarious cultural clashes he witnessed provide plenty of scope for humour, and an opportunity to reflect on the universal desire to belong.

MASALA AND MURDER

BY PARTRICK LYONS

Times are tough for Samson Ryder, a Melbourne-based, Anglo-Indian private investigator who likes his facts cold and his curries hot. A secret guilt over the death of his sister has left him guarded and closed, costing him his relationship with his girlfriend, his parents and his faith.

When a wealthy Indian industrialist engages him to investigate how his daughter, a rising Bollywood starlet, died on a location shooting in Australia, Samson treats it as easy money. After all, the police had ruled out foul play.

He soon comes to realise that this is also his opportunity for redemption, to help a family find the answers to their grief, the answers he couldn’t give to his own parents.

To uncover the truth, Samson goes back to the city of his birth, Mumbai and teams up with Mabel, his interpreter, Godmother and second-best cook in the world. Together, they prise off the glittering mask of Bollywood and unveil an industry where friendships are fickle, affairs are currency, black magic and curses are rampant and hidden dangers lurk all around. Will Sam uncover the truth or will he be the next victim?

A compelling debut crime fiction novel that takes the reader on a journey into the mystique of Bollywood and its characters.

“This is good writing, keen observation, a nice storyline that never gets boring...clever, witty, wry, poignant, interesting and current.” - Writers Victoria

English | Rights sold in Marathi and English (South Asia)
Kalpana Swaminathan is a Mumbai based writer whose character Lalli – a female retired investigator – is often described as a mix of Sherlock Holmes and Agatha Raison with an Indian twist!

I NEVER KNEW IT WAS YOU
BY KALPANA SWAMINATHAN

While returning from New Delhi, Sita, detective Lalli’s niece and trusted sidekick, runs into former classmate Anais at the Mumbai airport. They catch up and Anais, before disappearing into the Mumbai crowd, hands over a shoe box she is carrying to a waiting woman, informing the lady that it contains her son’s ashes. A few days later, Anais is found dead, floating in the slimy Mithi River, a pink nylon cord wrapped ritually around her neck.

What does the box full of ashes and bones have to do with Anais’s murder? What is the significance of the peculiar knots round her neck? Lalli must find answers, fast, if she is to prevent more deaths.

THE MONOCHROME MADONNA
BY KALPANA SWAMINATHAN

While answering a distraught call from her friend Sitara, Sita, detective Lalli’s niece, discovers a body in an empty flat—a hulking salesman with his head bashed in. However, more than the crime, Sita finds herself distracted by a print of Raphael’s Sistine Madonna, which hangs in the living room. Why is the iconic Renaissance painting in a single colour? And what is its connection with the corpse on the living room floor? The Madonna seems hardly relevant to the police in their hunt for the murderer. But Lalli, the last resort for unsolvable crimes, thinks otherwise.

‘Memorable for its characters, dark comic undertones and liberal extension of the traditionally male detective horizons, I Never Knew It Was You is a breath of fresh air’—Asian Age

‘A page turner’—Deccan Herald
THE ONLY WAY OUT IS DEATH
BY VARUN GWALANI

A huis clos that reminds us of SAW and Squid Game - a cocktail that will get you drunk on suspense!

In a time post pandemics 12 key figures get kidnapped and put in a hotel with no access to the outside world - they only have three options to get out of there:

- If one of them commits suicide the rest of them will go free
- If one of them commits murder, that person will go free but all the others will be killed
- They can all step out of the hotel but then the virus attached to their legs will leak and a new pandemics will start.

Out of fear and with the aim to survive they all get to learn a bit more about each other, quickly realising that the reason they are here is because all of them did horrible things and used the COVID pandemics at their own advantage - there is the corrupted politician, the bribed doctor, the soul less insurance company owner ...

Then everything changes as the first murder occurs but no one is set free.... and it happens that the mastermind is closer than they think and that the only way out of there is indeed death!

Shotlisted for Book Bloggers’ Novel of the Year Awards

English | Rights sold in English (Saga Fiction)

Varun Gwalani is the author of three novels and multiple short story series. His work spans multiple genres and styles, sometimes in the same work itself and focuses on mental health activism and awareness, particularly for Obsessive Compulsive Disorders. He currently works as a teacher, enjoys reading fiction and gaming, and hates talking about himself in third person.
ON THE ROAD TO TARASCON
BY ARNAB NANDY

Magdeburg, Germany, 2011 A lover’s note among a senile woman’s possessions sets off a chain of events that could lead to the discovery of a Van Gogh masterpiece—one of the most important paintings to have been lost in World War II.

Kolkata, India, 2012 When travel writer Neil Bose falls for Eva Schicktanz, he does not know he is getting involved with much more than a dimpled girl in nerd glasses.

Neil and Eva must stay ahead of unknown pursuers after a common goal, and follow an unusual trail charted in 1945. But after so many years, does the trail even exist?

A quest spanning continents and seven decades, this edge-of-the-seat thriller keeps you hooked till the last page.

“(...) a novel where fact meets fiction to create an interesting plot around van Gogh’s self-portrait The Painter on the Road to Tarascon” - Hindustan Times

English | Rights sold in English (South Asia)

Arnab Nandy has written for Hindustan Times and several other publications including the Bengali women's magazine Sananda. Arnab is now a journalist with The Telegraph, where he primarily edits news stories and sometimes writes on travel.
Aditi is a young girl and an upcoming journalist. She decides to do a story on a haunted house. Little does she know that her life is about to change – forever!

The financially struggling photographer duo – Ratan and Ravi – are her team-mates for the project. Fascinated by the girl’s bewitching charms, they cannot however understand the mystery shrouding her persona, her sudden behavioral changes and the sharp personality differences in her.

Are these just mixed signals or is there someone else making her behave this way? Is Aditi hiding something?

As the mysteries of the house start tumbling out, Ratan and Ravi decide to dig out the truth, and what they are about to discover is more than anyone could cope with...

*The Girl in the House* is a hair-raising psychological thriller, that will take you deep into the world of parapsychology, occult practices and spirits.

“A gripping tale of unwavering passion, conviction and faith, it will leave you spellbound” - Times of India

Harshvardhan Rao works in the anti-financial crime and fraud space. He loves to write fiction books that explore reality in an interesting manner. When Harsh is not writing, he likes to go on road trips on his motorbike and play guitar.
ETERNALLY SINGLE, ROSA ÁLVAREZ
BY NEERJA PAWAR

Rosa Álvarez leads two lives.

One is deceptively normal. A respectable physiotherapist living in Los Angeles: the city of fish tacos and famous bigwigs. She works hard at her job, loves living the single life, and has a trip home to Mexico at the very top of her priority list. The other is her mother’s worst nightmare.

For one, the first is a lie. She does love her job, but its uniqueness would put any good chick flick to shame. She hasn’t been on a date in five years, at least, not any good ones. And she will do anything to avoid a trip to her sleepy hometown.

But when a notorious man from her past shows up in LA, Rosa’s secret life starts unravelling. There’s also the matter of the really annoying actor (who just so happens to be annoyingly good-looking) she keeps bumping into whom she cannot seem to shake off.

As her lies pile up, will Rosa be able to keep her two worlds separate? Or will her mother’s flying chancla find her first?

The sweetest romance you’ll read this year, with a lovable, diverse cast of characters and a unique twist on the mistaken identity trope. People who enjoyed The Spanish Love Deception and It Happened One Summer will love this book!
Sonja and Jonas spent three hundred hours, ninety days, three months, talking on an app—and now they’re finally ready to meet in person.

A first date at their local favorite café Out of This World sounds perfect—but when Sonja shows up at the decided time and day, she finds Jonas missing from the café. Little does she know, Jonas is experiencing a similar fate at his local Laurelville café.

The two assume they’ve been stood up. However, a quick video call turns their despair into confusion. As Jonas shows he is indeed in the café, so does Sonja...so who’s in the wrong? If it’s the same time, date and place...what’s different?

As one does they jumped on the internet and start googling - what pops up is hundreds of articles and links on physics, parallel universes and wormholes. Quickly both of them turn into their respective geeky bestfriend for help.

Follows a swarm of adventures, discoveries and encounters—including one with a zany fashion designer, a young and bold psychology professor. It seems they are not the only ones affected and they soon realize that one of them will have to cross what separates them and change their life forever. But bridging universes comes at a certain cost and the fight for the one they love won’t be as easy as they think!

A modern, fun and heartwarming romance bringing technology, dating apps and friendship at the forefront - a lovely novel that will speak to a new generation of readers for whom technology and love are intrinsically linked!

Hope Bolinger is a Managing & Acquisitions Editor at End Game Press and the Founder of Generation Hope Books. She has worked for various publishing companies, magazines, newspapers, and literary agencies and has edited the work of authors such as Jerry B. Jenkins and Michelle Medlock Adams. She is a prolific writer and has published more than 20 books so far!
THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT
BY RAJAT CHAUDHURI

A self-obsessed Calcutta detective who goes by his last name ‘Kar’, an enigmatic internet cafe hostess in Seoul, and a hotshot geneticist labouring away on a topsecret corporate project. These are just a few pieces in the puzzle that need to be put together to explain a world sucked into the whirlpool of the ‘butterfly effect’.

In the decaying capital city of a near-future Darkland, which covers large swaths of Asia, Captain Old – an off-duty policeman – receives news that might help to unravel the roots of a scourge that has ravaged the continent.

As stories coalesce into stories - welding past, present and future together - will a macabre death in a small English town or the disappearance of Indian tourists in Korea, help to blow away the dusts of time?

From utopian communities of Asia to the prison camps of Pyongyang and from the gene labs of Europe to the violent streets of Darkland – riven by civil war, infested by genetically engineered fighters – this time-travelling novel crosses continents, weaving mystery, adventure and romance, gradually fixing its gaze on the sway of the unpredictable over our lives.

“Explores a Ballardian near-future” - Words Without Borders

“Genre-bending” Houston Chronicle, USA

“A magic box ... brings Allan Poe to mind” - Scroll

Rajat Chaudhuri has won a Charles Wallace Creative Writing Fellowship, UK, a Hawthornden Castle Fellowship, Scotland, a Korean Arts Council-InKo Residency in South Korea, and a Sangam House residency, for his writing. His reviews and other writing have appeared in various publications including American Book Review, Asian Review of Books, Scroll and The Telegraph. Chaudhuri has been a climate change advocate at the United Nations (New York) and a contributor to the United Nations Human Development Report.
THE AWAKENERS - VOLUME 1

BY PAULINE ALPHEN

It is difficult to believe that we are in the 23rd century.

In the secluded valley of Salicande modern technologies from the 21st and 22nd centuries have been forbidden and not used in decades. The inhabitants are self-sufficient and deeply connected to the surrounding nature.

The twins—Claris and Jad—grew up in Salicande, completely unaware of past technologies. Under their father’s and preceptor’s watch they developed skills from another time, such as handling the sword, telepathy...

They have limited knowledge of the Past Time, the great catastrophe—subjects that are barely talked about by the adults, especially the elders who were the witnesses of the many tragedies and cataclysms.

However, everything is about to change as we are getting closer to the Twins’ 13th birthday, which is also the 10th anniversary of their mother’s mysterious disappearance...

The recent discovery of objects from the Past Time seems to enhance the Twin’s hidden empathic gifts. These puzzling items connect Claris and Jad to a history they know too little about but that will threaten the harmony of the valley and impact their relationship forever. Without being aware of it, their awakening has started and the safety of the only world they have ever known is under threat.

Pauline’s prose takes us on a coming-of-age journey in a fantastic universe full of magical realism and zany characters and makes us question our dependence on modern technologies, our lack of respect for nature and the consequences of humanity’s endless race to progress!

Winner of several awards including Prix Imaginaire des Collegiens, Prix Plume Libre and nominated twice for the Grand Prix de l’Imaginaire

The Awakeners is not really a novel. It is an incredible journey in a far away land. It is enchanting poetry (...). She holds a key to a mysterious universe. After reading the Awakeners I felt blown away by the fantastic realism of it! The Awakeners is one of those journeys you do not want to miss out on! - Maxime Chattam

French / English Samples | Rights sold in France, Brazil and Vietnam

Pauline Alphen is a Brazilian/French writer and translator. She has won many awards for her writing over the years and has been published in both Brazil and France by prestigious publishers such as Gallimard, Hachette and Companhia das Letras.
THE ODALISQUE AND THE ELEPHANT

BY PAULINE ALPHEN and illustrated BY CHARLOTTE GASTAUT.

In a palace somewhere there is an odalisque called Leila who walks around carefree - she is a dreamer, she is a thinker, she often forgets about all the lessons she is supposed to take, all the things she should be learning to be a good odalisque. What she wants is to listen endlessly to the old, wise and beautiful Sheherazade telling her 1001 tales about the world and its mysteries.

In that palace there is also a spoiled and selfish Sultan who is drowned by all the gifts he receives - from his allies and former enemies - praised by all his subalterns, including a very poetic and terrified vizier! A life of luxuries, domination and power that does not fulfil him at all. What he likes is to listen to stories, as they help him sleep and escape his misery.

And then there is Hati - a beautiful white elephant - that arrives at the palace as a gift to the Sultan. He does not want to be here, he wants to go back to the wild, to his family, but the dreams he has been having are telling him differently.

In that golden prison, love is awaiting our lovely characters and a tale that none of them has heard of yet is about to be told - a tale where a Sultan can fall for an odalisque's beautiful ears, where an odalisque can fall for the enchanting singing of an elephant, a tale where impossible love becomes possible!

In this incredible modern tale Pauline Alphen does what she does best, she tells a beautiful and unexpected love story with a spark of magic and a pinch of nostalgia. Full of marvelous and endearing characters this story could be described as a modern version of The Little Prince flirting with Tales From One Thousand and One Nights.

Winner of several awards including Prix White Ravens, Prix for The Best Book for Teenagers (by the Brazilian Federation of Writers), Prix Revelation (by The Brazilian National Foundation for Children Books).

French | Rights sold in France and Brazil

Pauline Alphen is a Brazilian/French writer and translator. She has won many awards for her writing over the years and has been published in both Brazil and France by prestigious publishers such as Gallimard, Hachette and Companhia das Letras.
LAUNCH YOUR LIFE TO THE NEXT LEVEL
BY KRISHNA DHAN DAS

Improving one’s self and be the best possible version of ourselves sounds like a drastic and gigantic task, it is actually not! Launch Your Life To The Next Level gives to readers the key tools to reach the best version of themselves via simple and small changes.

Based on the 5 principles of Kaizen (Sort, Set In Order, Shine, Standardize, Sustain), this book will help you reset yourself and start afresh to reach success in no time!

Full of memorable inspiring stories, revealing statistics and personal examples as well as practical advice, exercises and tips – this is the go to guide to success and inner peace.

Based on the key principles of Kaizen, this book is a beacon of light for those who are keen to make a steady, sure and successful rise in life. It blends practicality and spirituality to deliver a successful cocktail for self-improvement.

“Simple yet effective practical tips on developing an improvement mindset that help you get into the zone where miracles can happen. If you want to excel and reach your highest potential with ease, this book is for you. It breaks this arduous process down into simple, doable steps and lays it bare in a structured way.”
– Anand Pherwani Vice President at America Sterling, Inc., Bloomfield Hills, MI, USA

“Krishna Dhan Das, with his deep practical experience, unlocks the door to success by urging us to work on ourselves effectively, efficiently and enthusiastically.” - Manish Advani TEDx Speaker, Founder & CEO MIMO Potentio, Award Winning Storyteller and a Business Leader.

Winner of PVLF Author Excellence awards 2024

English | Rights sold in English (South Asia)

Krishna Dan Dhas studied Mechanical Engineering and worked at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in the Aircraft Manufacturing Division, Nashik for over 5 years before becoming a monk and a motivational speaker. He is also actively studying Sanskrit.
Yaari centres friendship in the politics of everyday life and well-being. Drawing on narratives of women and queer folx from South Asia, it reflects on friendship in all its avatars—as wondrous and full of excitement; as joyous and embedded in an ethics of care, as evoking jealousy, anger, and disappointment; and as strained and fractured. Just as friendship itself resists definition, the pieces in this collection come in various shapes and forms: comic strips and poems, essays and fiction, as paeans, reflections and rants. These ninety-five contributions examine the world not only through the lens of what is but what we might aspire to. At the heart of this anthology is the recognition that friendship not just matters but is also deeply political.

A unique, lovingly-produced anthology that celebrates that ignored but vital relationship, friendship, especially among queer and unconventional individuals who often find family outside the ties of blood.

‘Yaari: An Anthology on Friendship by Women and Queer Folx is a heartwarming read that traverses the joy of friendship, the complexity of ethics of care within these bonds, and also the changing nature of friendship embedded in the politics of everyday life.’ Feminism in India

‘The book dives into a number of important topics pertaining to friendship such as intimacy, motherhood, navigating grief, post-pandemic resilience, acknowledging privilege, and more.’ Feminist Giant

Shilpa Phadke is a Professor at the School of Media and Cultural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. She is co-author of the critically acclaimed book Why Loiter? Women and Risk on Mumbai Streets (2011), co-director of the documentary film Under the Open Sky (2016), and co-editor of Intimacy and Injury: In the Wake of #MeToo in India and South Africa (2022).

Nithila Kanagasabai is an Assistant Professor at the School of Media and Cultural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, where she teaches research methods and documentary filmmaking courses. She researches and writes in the areas of feminist media studies, feminist pedagogies, journalism studies, academic mobilities, research cultures, digital media, and friendship.
THE BOATMAN: A MEMOIR OF SAME-SEX LOVE
BY JOHN BURBIDGE

John Burbidge’s time in India as a community development worker changed him in many ways. It led him to confront a deeply personal secret—his attraction to his own sex. After taking the plunge with masseurs on a Bombay beach, he found himself on a rollercoaster ride of sexual adventuring. A complicating factor in his journey of self-discovery was the tightly knit heteronormative community in which he lived and worked, with its highly regimented schedule and minimal privacy that forced him to live a double life.

It is well known for LGBTQ+ individuals to go West in order to fully explore their sexuality but here Burbidge reversed a well known pattern to go East and shows us how, when we dare to immerse ourselves in a culture radically different from our own, we may discover parts of ourselves we never knew existed.

’Burbidge’s book is immensely educative and should be compulsory reading on how a foreigner discovers his true nature but returns home a very strong and confident man in charge of his life. The Boatman will surely take you across the Ganga.’ Ashok Row Kavi, Hindustan Times

‘Unexpectedly contemporaneous, while still managing to evoke the ethos of a country in flux—the early profusion of exotica giving way to a more observed understanding of India.’ Vikram Phukan, TimeOut Mumbai

John Burbidge was born and educated in Perth, Western Australia. He has lived and worked in India, Belgium, Canada and the United States. His homes have included an inner-city ghetto of Chicago, a remote aboriginal community in northwestern Australia, and numerous Indian villages. He was the co-founder of the Seattle chapter of the Lesbian and Gay Immigration Rights Task Force and served as secretary of the Decatur Shbres Community Association. He currently lives in the U.S.
HOMELESS: GROWING UP LESBIAN AND DYSLEXIC IN INDIA
BY K VAISHALI

After discovering she’s lesbian and dyslexic at 20, Vaishali begins to untangle her anxieties around reading and writing. She comes out to her mother at 22 and leaves her Bombay home to make her own way. In a dingy, insect-ridden yet rent-free hostel room in Hyderabad with a door that doesn’t quite close, she tries to make the best of the situation by writing a book about her experiences. As she writes, she finds the past has a way of catching up with her, even as she explores her dyslexia, homosexuality, and the clitoris; falling in love and recovering from a harrowing breakup; academic failure, loneliness, and homophobia; living with sickness, anxiety, depression, and her caste, gender, and body. This is the story of Vaishali’s relationship with her many truths and the truths of many young people in India.

A one of its kind memoir that speaks to the everyday loneliness of Gen-Z in the South Asian community.

‘On the face of it, Homeless: Growing Up Lesbian And Dyslexic In India is a memoir. At its heart, though, the book is a nod to all queer and neurodivergent people who have struggled to articulate the effects of their identity on their lives.’ Mint Lounge

‘The vision that Vaishali articulates is entirely different from how a writer pandering to the heterosexual gaze might depict sapphic intimacy. The author dreams of a space that is anti-patriarchal and prioritizes nourishment; where women grow herbs, draw portraits, make furniture, write poetry, play the veena, do yoga, soak and bathe together.’ Hindustan Times

K Vaishali’s short fiction made the Leicester Writes Short Story Prize 2021 shortlist and the 2021 Disquiet International Literary prize longlist. With a Master’s degree in communication, she writes developer documentation for a tech company. When she is not writing, Vaishali watches classic films and enjoys world cinema.
LOVING WOMEN: BEING LESBIAN IN UNDERPRIVILEGED INDIA
BY MAYA SHARMA

Located within a personal journey of emergence from a space fraught with silences and half-truths, the book dispels the myth that lesbians in India are all urban, westernized and come from upper and middle classes. These real-life narratives create a space for voices with little or no privilege, providing these women with an opportunity to share their lived realities and effectively challenge the notion of women as sexual beings without agency.

FOOTPRINTS OF A QUEER HISTORY: LIFE STORIES FROM GUJARAT
BY MAYA SHARMA

"Footprints of a Queer History is a simple narrative of queer stories marked by personal journeys, political consciousness, socio-legal struggles, friendships, and love; it puts on record, within the larger historical backdrop, our humdrum and unexceptional acts of everyday-living that are pierced with the pain of stigma and silence. Stories capture the voices of the marginalized, the rarely heard, and only stories can truly and fully capture their day-to-day reality. They transcend the limitations of defining human experiences and show the impossibility of telling the whole truth, arousing the imagination for that untellable tale and leaving room for the inarticulate to attempt those spillages of reality that can only be sensed. As you turn the pages in this book, you can hear the untold and the unstated in the stories—both unique and universal, you may find footprints that echo some parts of your journey in the everydayness of our human lives.

By bringing in the lenses of both class and sexuality to capture the life stories of same-sex love among underprivileged women, Sharma makes significant contributions to queer studies in India. She successfully challenges the dominant imagery of the homosexual subject in India — as urbane, westernised, college-educated and English-speaking middle class, that a sole focus on pride parades, gay queer collectives and gay bars seem to project. *Feminism in India*
A LITTLE BOOK ON MEN
BY RAHUL ROY; FULLY ILLUSTRATED BY ANUPAMA CHATTERJEE & SHERNA DASTUR

As the varied discourses within gender studies grow increasingly complex, the study of masculinities continues to remain an area of darkness within the South Asian reality. An unprecedented and timely effort, *A Little Book on Men*, a graphic book, attempts to address many of the issues and questions that surround masculinity in a creative and reader-friendly manner through drawings, text and video frames.

72 pages | ALL RIGHTS AVAILABLE

WISH YOU WERE HERE: MEMORIES OF A GAY LIFE
BY SUNIL GUPTA

Part of the first rank of a creative ‘migrant’ generation which became increasingly visible on the global visual art scene in the 1980s, Sunil Gupta welds together a new language of aesthetics, art, and politics in his work. *Wish You Were Here* is a journey through the creation of a new visual vocabulary that transformed words like diaspora, sexuality, sex, migration, home, AIDS, and disease into images that revealed and provoked other ways of seeing and understanding. It is a fiercely contemporary work which will define new directions in visual art as well as in ongoing debates about difference and sexuality.

120 pages | ALL RIGHTS AVAILABLE

LAW LIKE LOVE: QUEER PERSPECTIVE ON LAW
EDITED BY ARVIND NARRAIN AND ALOK GUPTA

With the landmark Delhi High Court victory in July 2009, sexuality and the law entered mainstream, legal and public discourse in India inviting both celebration and resistance. How do we understand this conversation? The July judgement stands on the shoulders of a much longer history, argue the writers in this contemporary and critical volume on queering the law. A longer history that shapes, unsettles and challenges both legal and queer histories and begins new conversations on the intersections between bodies, politics, activism, sexuality, identity and law.

590 pages | ALL RIGHTS AVAILABLE
On his journey he witnesses key political events and develops a strong leftist political mind. At the heart of the insurrection of June 1848, Auguste gives us an intimate and rare testimony to a key French political event that has scarcely been documented.

Forced to flee the country to avoid imprisonment Auguste makes his way to the United States to be part of the gold rush. However, gold is not the only thing that motivates Auguste to reach those dangerous and unexplored territories, his real agenda is to meet with the native Americans and try to achieve the birth of a new civilization.

This epistolary memoir revives the concept of narrative non-fiction—taking the reader on a compelling adventure that is also a unique humanist testimony on life, its conditions, its instability and its diversity—revealing through its philosophical beauty the hidden secrets of a fascinating century and a fascinating man!

Auguste Lacoste, could be described as a French Kapuscinski from the 19th century—a humanist philosophers who forged his mind not through books but through his travels and experiencing the hardships of life, bringing to the world his cutting edge way of thinking via the intimate letters he left behind.
Chai is a journey into the heartlands of tea, across the length and breadth of India, offering a glimpse into the making of the cup that cheers—the locales, the people, the process—a visual treat for the tea connoisseur, the casual tea-lover, the tea industry enthusiast from all over the world.

The repertoire of teas offered by India is vast and varied. The geographical spread and climatic variations impart distinct characteristics to the tea. Tea from a region depicts characteristics unique to the region—Assam, Darjeeling, Nilgiris, Kangra valley, etc.

The book portrays this remarkable feature tracing the journey of the tea leaf from the bushes to the brew covering the entire spectrum of the tea industry through well-knit text and eye-catching photographs.

An impassioned endeavour to draw the reader into the true magic of tea, a drink that has traversed the passages of time, giving rise to several significant international historic events, and that reflects the marvel of nature, human perseverance and intelligence.

**Winner of Gourmand World Cookbook Award**

**English | Rights sold in English (South Asia)**

**Rajan Kapoor** is a photographer who has received numerous national and international awards for his work, including the Commonwealth Photographic Award for environmental photography, the National Wildlife Photographer Award, and the National Award on the theme of literacy.

**Rekha Sarin** is a graduate of the University of Delhi, and she achieved academic excellence by earning a gold medal from the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan School of Journalism. She is also the recipient of the *Times of India* gold medal.
Anuradha Kumar plays armchair detective as she courses through books, newspapers, pamphlets and films to uncover the trajectories of these two lives and the times they inhabited.

As much as it is about Bhagwan and Bhogwan Singh, this book tells the larger and more remarkable story of how the first South Asians adapted, adjusted and remade themselves for a life in the New World.

Two men, near-identical names, and their intertwined lives. On one side is Bhagwan Singh, an itinerant religious preacher, a rebel on the run, poet, writer, and even a self-help guru. On the other is Bhogwan Singh, turban-wraper, occasional actor, and one of the first Indians in Hollywood. When one appears on historical records, the other goes off the radar. This is a story of their journeys, intersecting, meshed, and melded mysteriously with each other.

‘Kumar does a good job of laying out the terrain as well as extracting interesting historical nuggets. Her research is commendably thorough, and her enthusiasm for archival discoveries infectious. One Man is filled with sparkling and balanced insights. Kumar describes the symbiotic relationship of orientalism and a burgeoning entertainment industry without sugar-coating Indian immigrants’ ambivalent and canny participation in it. This extends into the emergence of a cohort of yogis and spiritual gurus, who profited off an American hunger for ‘Eastern wisdom’. She describes the evolution of immigration policies against ‘swarthy’ newcomers (both working class and elite), outlining both deep-seated enmities as well as surprising alliances.’

India Today

Anuradha Kumar has lived in India, Singapore and now the US. She studied history at Delhi University and management at XLRI Jamshedpur. She has an MFA in Writing from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Anu’s stories have won awards from the Commonwealth Foundation, UK, and The Little Magazine, India. She has written for Scroll.in, Fiftytwo.in, the India Forum, The Missouri Review, Catamaran Literary Reader, The Common, Maine Literary Review, and others. As Adity Kay, she wrote three bestselling works of historical fiction for younger readers, published by Hachette India.
ONCE THERE WAS A CITY NAMED DILLI
BY INTIZAR HUSSAIN; TRANSLATED BY GHAZALA JAMIL & FAIZ ULLAH

The history of Delhi has been told and retold many times. Often the intent is to use history as an ideological tool for staking a claim to the present of the city. In Intizar Husain’s retelling, it is the tale itself that becomes delectable. A popular recital that highlights the forgotten nuances of the story, Once There Was a City Named Dilli, is a celebration of the people and culture that made the city unforgettable. Forts, walled cities, bazaars, diwan khans, durbars, and the Yamuna itself come alive in this ode to a capital serenaded and ravaged by powerful kings and chieftains over time.

RIGHTS SOLD IN ENGLISH (SOUTH ASIA)

CHELLAMMAL’S JOURNAL
BY KANCHANA VISWANATHAN

Chellammal’s Journal records the journey of a woman in an upper-caste joint family in early twentieth-century Tamil Nadu. It excavates the complex familial relationships within the walls of the house, and the interplay of love, hurt, affection, disappointment, anger and control which thwart the aspirations of a young woman. In her memoir, Chellammal is especially sensitive to the treatment of young widows in Brahmanical society. She raises questions and concerns about a society that places its women under tremendous scrutiny, and the reader can feel her indignation at the oppressive social customs that suffocate a woman’s ability to have a more complete life.

Written at a time when dissent or disagreement by women in Chellammal’s circumstances would have been frowned upon, the book provides the reader with a rare, contemporary look at the interior of an upper-caste twentieth-century Tamil household, even as her daughter’s translation brings the narrative to life for non-Tamil speaking readers for the first time.

RIGHTS SOLD IN ENGLISH (SOUTH ASIA)

INQUILAB: BHAGAT SINGH ON RELIGION AND REVOLUTION
EDITED BY S IRFAN HABIB

Exalted for his extraordinary courage and sacrifice, Bhagat Singh is one of our most venerated freedom fighters. He is valourised for his martyrdom, and rightly so, but in the ensuing enthusiasm, most of us forget, or consciously ignore, his contributions as an intellectual and a thinker. He not only sacrificed his life, like many others did before and after him, but he also had a vision of an independent India. During the past few years it has become routine to appropriate Bhagat Singh as a nationalist icon, while not much is known or spoken about his nationalist vision. In doing so, it compels the reader to see that while continuing to celebrate the memory of Bhagat Singh as a martyr and a nationalist, we must also learn about his intellectual legacy. This important book also makes a majority of these writings, hitherto only available in Hindi, accessible for the first time to the English-language readership.

RIGHTS SOLD IN ENGLISH (SOUTH ASIA)
Caste, as it is experienced in everyday life, is the pièce de résistance of this book. Thirty-two voices narrate how from childhood to adulthood, caste intruded upon their lives—food, clothes, games, gait, love, marriage and every aspect of one’s existence including death. Like the editor Perumal Murugan says, caste is like god, it is omnipresent. The contributors write about the myriad ways in which they have experienced caste.

It may be in the form of forgoing certain kinds of food, or eating food at secluded corners of a household, or drinking tea out of a crushed plastic cup, or drinking black coffee in a coconut shell, or water poured from above into a cupped hand. Such experiences may also take the form of forbidden streets, friends disapproved of and love denied. And when one leaves behind the fear of caste while living one's life, there is still death to deal with.
BLOOD, CENSORED
BY DINESH MOHAN, HARSH MANDER, NAVSHARAN SINGH, PAMELA PHILIPOSE, AND TAPAN BOSE

This is a book about the Kashmir valley-lacerated, wrathful, aflame. It is a disturbing account of children blinded by pellet guns, of a government in a bitter state of undeclared war with its own civilian populations, of the rage of stone-throwing youth and the hubris of military generals. The book also attempts a concise history of the conflict in the valley and makes a strong plea for humanity, for fairness, and for justice. The authors argue, there should be no denying a just peace to the embattled people of the valley.

RIGHTS SOLD IN ENGLISH (SOUTH ASIA and ANZ)

BETWEEN MEMORY AND FORGETTING: MASSACRE AND THE MODI YEARS IN GUJARAT
BY HARSH MANDER

Harsh Mander recounts the history of one of the most gruesome communal massacres since India’s independence, in Gujarat in 2002. This occurred under the watch of Chief Minister Narendra Modi, who led the state until he went on become Prime Minister a dozen years later. Mander tells the story of the years that passed between the carnage and his elevation as Prime Minister, examining difficult questions of whether he carries guilt for the crimes, and whether acknowledgment, remorse, reparation and justice were accomplished in the years which followed. The book emerges as a powerfully reasoned indictment of Modi’s record in these years, for not just why the survivors of the carnage were denied both reconciliation and justice; but also for the rise of a series of spectacular extra-judicial killings, including of Ishrat Jahan and Sohrabuddin Sheikh.

RIGHTS SOLD IN ENGLISH (SOUTH ASIA)
SHAHEEN BAGH: A GRAPHIC RECOLLECTION
BY ITA MEHROTRA

A graphic account of the most famous political sit-in of recent times, which started on one side of a public thoroughfare in Delhi in December 2019 and continued till March 2020 when it was cleared by the police after the government declared a nationwide lockdown to contain the spread of COVID-19. The book tells the story of the Muslim women who started the protest that became the catalyst for a pan-India political movement against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC).

Based on conversations and interviews with the women who were part of the protest, Ita Mehrotra’s graphic narrative archives moments from a movement that spread like wildfire through the length and breadth of the country and continues to inspire voices of dissent.

Ita (Sunandita) Mehrotra is a visual artist, arts researcher and educator. She creates graphic narratives, non-fiction comics, illustrated text and animation, stemming most often from engagements within socio-political shifts around her, and in unravelling their particular histories. Her work has been published and exhibited by thewire.in, popula.org, Zubaan Books, Goethe Institute, Yoda Press, AdAstra Comix, among others.
Suit is set in a Mumbai of the near future, when Safai Karamcharis have been provided with safety equipment, including a full body safety suit which gives them the moniker of Suitwalas. The story explores stigma, social change and mobility through the eyes of Vikas, a young "Suitwala", or someone who wears the suit, as we follow him through a day in his life, flitting between incidents at work, moments he catches with his family and memories of his father.

The suit is hailed as a great leap in the right direction for the safety and dignity of Suitwalas; however, has anything changed in reality or is the suit just a cover? Can we really abolish the pressure of the cast system still so strongly rooted in our current society.

Samarth is a graphic novelist and researcher. His work borrows directly from the field work he happens to do intentionally or accidentally. Suit is his first graphic novel.
Far from the gun-toting, swaggering young man represented in pop culture, Bhagat Singh was a fearless student leader who spent his time reading, writing, debating, strategising and executing plans while working alongside his comrades. Detailing the life of a national icon, Inquilab Zindabad maps Bhagat Singh’s journey toward revolutionising the Indian freedom struggle and the people and events that influenced this quest.
For over three generations now, the most definitive formative moment in modern South Asian history, Partition has remained a phenomenon of constant engagement for scholars, artists, journalists and commentators manifesting their explorations through academic research, reportage and most importantly, creative encounters through art, literature and films. This volume brings together storytellers from diverse practices and professions and explores the possibilities on the drawing board from their perspectives.

This Side, That Side seeks to bring together graphic narratives on that epochal moment from comic book artists, writers, artists, illustrators, film makers, theatre artists and every other storyteller from across the subcontinent.

Vishwajyoti Ghosh is an Indian graphic novelist and cartoonist who has published numerous cartoons and comics on social and political topics.
FIRST HAND: GRAPHIC NON-FICTION FROM INDIA
EDITED BY ORIJIT SEN AND VIDYUN SHABANEY

First Hand Volume I, a collection of new non-fiction graphic narratives, features works by independent writers, artists, reporters, activists, researchers, designers, anthropologists, academicians, and film-makers based in India, who comment on and describe their world through comics in six genres: biography, autobiography, oral history, documentary, commentary, and reportage. By combining image and word to tell stories that range from urgent contemporary narratives to more exploratory historical perspectives to simply the extraordinary lives of ordinary people, the book offers new worlds through which we can re-enter our own.

Whether it be reporting the murder of an RTI applicant, or an account of the Gujarat riots, or a biography of Begum Akhtar, or a narrative about becoming familiar with one’s city through the use of its public transport system, each comic tells the story of an Indian reality, bringing alive what has only been encountered in word till now, visually.

Vidyun Sabhaney is a writer and illustrator who has worked on various comic book projects, including her own. Orijit Sen is a well-known graphic artist and designer.
WE MEAN BUSINESS: 20 WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS, 20 STORIES
BY VISHWAJYOTI GHOSH, SHRUTIKA MATHUR, NISHTHA VADEHRA

An anthology of graphic narratives by and of twenty inspiring businesswomen from across India. These visual retellings convey the diverse lifestories and lifeworlds of their protagonists as they chose to narrate them. These are stories of ambitious women defying expectations and claiming space. Here, you will meet steel traders, factory owners, potters, YouTubers, weavers and several others as their diverse trajectories unfold in non-metropolitan India. There’s no greater joy than to watch women entrepreneurs take a leap forward and be an important part of the startup ecosystem.

These are not just 20 stories of courage and hope but a revolution bringing women’s growth to the fore.

2023 Winner of the Comic Graphic Novel of the Year Award

English | Rights sold in Hindi and in English (South Asia)

Vishwajyoti Ghosh is an Indian graphic novelist and cartoonist who has published numerous cartoons and comics on social and political topics.
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