

THE LITERATURE TODAY

THE PREMIERE ISSUE

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AUTHOR STORIES
INSPIRING SUCCESS
STORIES

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INTERVIEWS
CONVERSATION
WITH AUTHORS

PLUS FEATURING
VIHANG A NAIK

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THE
Literature
TODAY

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FEATURING

VIHANG A. NAIK

Acknowledged and Recognized by almost all the top Journals and Critics that too with the most delightful praises for his works, Author Vihang Ashokbhai Naik is someone with his name in the prestigious LIMCA BOOK OF RECORDS. Mr. Vihang A. Naik is undisputedly a promising author who always succeeds in bringing something intriguing for his readers and fans!

As mentioned by "The US Review of Books" Author Vihang A. Naik is truly a master of his craft and just to have an idea of his brilliance and excellence, we must know that till now 2 Books had been written upon Author Vihang A. Naik! Well, he had authored 4 Books till now and had translated 5 Books till date and there is no doubt that in the coming days his fans and readers will witness a much longer list to his credits. The Book Viral had described his works as "Recommended Without Reservation" while Readers' Favourite had labelled his works to be "Most Highly Recommended" simply giving us the glimpse of his prowess.

Author Vihang Ashokbhai Naik, who is also known as Vihang A. Naik was born in Surat, in the state of Gujarat, India on 2nd of September 1969. If we look at his background then we get to know that he moved from Surat to Baroda, Ahmadabad and then to a few other cities outside the state of Gujarat. Author Vihang A. Naik had his primary schooling from Navrachana, then he changed his schools as he changed the cities where he lived in the coming days. Whereas his higher education took place from The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda with English Literature, Philosophy and Indian Literature in English Translations. Clearly his travel experiences gave him unique insight to life and humanity, as we have witnessed in his exceptionally astounding writings!

One of the most celebrated book, "City Times and Other Poems" by the Author had made its mark by entering into the LIMCA BOOK OF RECORDS in the year 2016 and also in MICHEL MADHUSUDAN PRIZE: 1998 among the other significant awards. The book, "City Times and Other Poems" throws light on the life of a city in all its shades, glory and misery. The book is an anthology of his intuitive and philosophical poems. In addition, the book has been celebrated with some High Ratings and Positive Reviews by top Journals and Critics around the globe like Midwest Book Reviews (USA), Limca Book of Records (India), Indie Readers (USA), Manhattan Book Reviews (USA), Kirkus Reviews (USA), Readers' Favorite (USA), Book Viral (UK), The US Review of Books (USA), Reader Views (USA), San Francisco Book Review (USA), Best Seller World (USA), North Eastern Review (India), Indian Book Chronicle (India) and many others.



Along with "City Times and Other Poems (1993)" Author Vihang A. Naik's other poetry collection books are "Making A Poem (2004)" and "Poetry Manifesto – New & Selected Poems (2010)" while his other poetry collection book, "Jeevangeet (2001)" which is in Gujarati Language and is dedicated to the victims of the Gujarat Earthquake that occurred in January 2001. He also translates poetry written in Gujarati Language into English, including his very own Gujarati Poems too. Author's poems had also appeared in some of the noted Literary Journals and Anthologies like Indian Literature: A Sahitya Akademi Bi-Monthly Journal, Kavya Bharati, POESIS: A Journal of Poetry Circle (Mumbai), The Journal of The Poetry Society (India), The Journal of Indian Writing In English, The Journal of Literature and Aesthetics, The Brown Critique, The Poetry Chain among other significant journals and e publications. Interestingly his poetry has been translated into Japanese, Spanish, Italian, German & Portuguese making the fact much evident that the Author's poems are read by the readers worldwide.

Beside all these momentous achievements of the Author, till now 2 books have been edited upon the author too, adding another feather to his incredible glory! "Vihang A. Naik: A Study of his Mind and Art" edited by Dr Sanjay P. Pandey and "Poetry of Vihang A. Naik: New Literary Dimensions" edited by Goutam Karmakar are the 2 book along with many other significant literary critical essays by literary critics which are written and edited upon the author. During his professional life, he had also taught English at various colleges in North Gujarat and retired from his job as an Associate Professor in the English Language in March, 2019. Now, after his retirement, he is currently living and working in Baroda, Gujarat. India.

Exclusive Interview With Vihang A. Naik

Interview: Vihang, I would like to begin by telling you that your book is one of those rare ones which is very difficult to find these days! How could you think of a theme which is so different in poetry?

Vihang A Naik: Well, as you have pointed out about the theme of my Making A Poem ... I mean, I just was on my way to develop a theory of poetry making or writing you can say creative writing. After much meditation it flashed upon me ...I thought, rather than theorizing I should put it in poetry. Ah, it was than Making A Poem..

Interview: Being a poet yourself, dear Vihang, anyone might ask you this, was it easy for you to write poems on 'Poet' and 'Poetry' or it was bit difficult than random poetries?

Vihang A Naik: on 'Poet' and 'Poetry' are right but I believe that to write poems on 'Poet' and 'Poetry' needs a bent of creative tendency which comes on creative literary pursuit. I don't remember that I have ever forced on any title or theme or thought or emotion , initially it comes naturally than perhaps one can work on it or rework in ones private literary workshop .

Interview: How did you prepare yourself for such an important book? How much time it took to write the complete collection? Please let us know about it.

Vihang A Naik: Making A Poem is creative, intuitive and my personal aesthetics and of course , I often experiment with form and content along with vision of metaphysics (seeing beyond the physical) . I tried to compose Making A Poem on the art of making a poem. My personal poetic response to the act of making a poem

Interview: Do you think that your book can be of help for poets? Or it's just for a pleasant read.

Vihang A Naik: I have not written to help poets neither it , as I consider , a pleasant read. But I cannot help it if turns out to be both.

Interview: What is the difference between poem and novel? Both come from inside; both are the translation of imagination; both are creative!

Vihang A Naik: A good novel can be considered a poem and a bad novel can be considered just a common prose thought both are creative.

Interview: As we all know, you are a well-known poet, but why do you write poetry? For people to read them or for some kind of solace, or poetic relief? Please tell us about it.

Vihang A Naik: I do not know why do I write and poetry in particular. It is some kind of creative urge or poetic relief or solace. One thing is that I like what I do and more than that I do not force myself to be poet.

Interview: I ask this question to most of the poets, do you think poetry has lost the readership and is now limited to a certain group of readers who are all in fact poets themselves? Are you agreeing with this point?

Vihang A Naik: I would like to see it the other way. In our age of internet and electronic devices available world wide and locally there seems to gaining more awareness of literary pursuits. Never was poets did enjoy this freedom where one thinks poem or even one can compose directly on net. Thanks to internet and advance technology that we can access to all most every literary work on net available at our time and most of it is digitalized day by day. Be it poets poetry or literary work .

Interview: What message do you want to give to the poets who have recently taken up their pens to render their feelings into words?

Vihang A Naik: I usually do not give out messages to young poets who may have recently taken up their pens to go their feelings into works to create their literary oeuvre. Only one thing I would like to stress, as I do not consider myself not other then them, that literary work comes with hard work. I myself have worked and reworked on a single poem. I should of course , thank my editors as well. At times a good editor can turn a scrap into master work or oeuvre . It is good to readout our work in private or public literary workshops where one gets constructive feedback. Rest keep on writing on and on.

AUTHOR INTERVIEW

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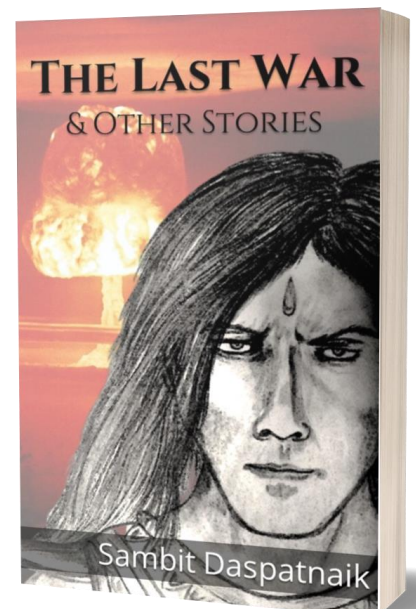
THE AUTHOR

Sambit Daspatnaik loves writing science fictions. His interests are in ancient aliens, historical fantasy and space travel. His writing interest started from a young age. He also loves to paint and sketch. He started painting since childhood and won many prizes in painting competitions. He never loses an opportunity to capture moments in his daily life with a camera. Sambit completed his Engineering studies in Electronics from Nagpur university and completed his Post Graduate in Business Management from Symbiosis, Pune. Sambit is an IT software professional residing in Hyderabad, India.

SAMBIT DASPATNAIK

THE BOOK

“The year was 2080 BCE... The epic Mahabharata war that was fought thousands of years ago between the Pandavas and the Kauravas was thought to be the last. But generations later, everyone was mistaken. The descendants of the Pandavas and the Kauravas (Pauravas) faced a mammoth invasion by the Gandharvas. The Pauravas had to face new challenges to save the land of Bharata (Ancient India). New lessons were learned, old secrets were unveiled and new allies were made. Would the Pauravas be able to save the city of Moenjo and Hariapa? Would the Ancient Aliens (the sky Gods) really come to their rescue? Read on to know more in the story "The Last War". Can we really rely on an extra-terrestrial object as the source of unlimited power? What would be the repercussion? Read on to know more in the story "Genesis". A team of researchers went to an alien planet that was inhabited by humanoid species. However, they were faced by an imminent danger. Would Captain Hari get an answer to the imminent threat that lies ahead for his crew? Read on to know more in the story "The Holy Temple of Eula".”



INTERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS WITH SAMBIT DASPATNAIK

The Literature Today: Hi Sambit, first of all, congratulations on the publication of your book. How has the audience responded to the book so far?

Sambit: Thank you so much for providing me with this forum to reach out to my readers. This is my debut mythological science fiction book. I am receiving a splendid response from the readers and pleased with the feedback I have received so far.

The Literature Today: The book is perfect for those short story readers who are more interested in thrillers and war stories. How did the idea of writing this book come to you?

Sambit: The book has the main story (It's more of a Novella) "The Last War" which is a science fiction war thriller in a mythological context. The rest of the stories are short science fiction stories dealing with different concepts such as spirituality, psychological impact on an individual due to advanced medical science, infinite energy and resurrection of a dying star.

The Literature Today: How far did your own experiences inspire the stories you wrote?

Sambit: I always have had a spiritual environment in my family. I grew up listening to mythological stories from my grandmother Bishnupriya, my mother Alaka and my father Santanu. At the same time, my inclination has always been towards science and future technologies. So, my main story "The Last War" reflects on a scientific touch to the mythological background that my story has. For that matter, the story "The Holy Temple of Eula" has a deep spiritual message. The story "Blink" was influenced by my wondering "what if" humans had feline eyes.

The Literature Today: How did the idea of experimenting in mythological writing come to you?

Sambit: Infact, I would call it a mythological science fiction that very few authors have ventured into. As I said, I grew up listening to mythological stories. So, my main story "The Last War" reflects on a scientific touch to the mythological background that my story has. Today there is a lot of emphasis and research on the fact that we are not alone in this universe and we have been guided by the Sky Gods through time immemorial. There is a belief that in remote past we were scientifically and spiritually more advanced.

The Literature Today: How did you manage to keep the stories short and yet you wrote at length?

Sambit: My idea was to experiment with writing in various genres within the science fiction realm. So I thought of coming up with multiple short stories lead by a main themed short novel. At the same time, I attempted to keep the readers on their toes and glued to the book which I could successfully achieve based on the reviews that I have been receiving.

The Literature Today: Any other mythological stories you enjoy reading?

Sambit: I have been reading a lot on the Hindu Mythologies such as the Puranas, Ramayana, Mahabharata and our Indian history. I have also enjoyed reading the Greek mythology "The Illiad", and was mesmerized by the story of "Helen of Troy". Ancient spiritual and war stories excite me.

The Literature Today: How far does science-fiction appeal to you as a genre?

Sambit: I love science fictions. Many inventions have happened due to the ideas or technologies put across in science fictions. The concept of mobile calling was evident in the 1980's Star Trek series and is a possibility today, while the picturization of a mini-computer in a handheld device portrayed in the 1970's is a reality in our time. What I like best about science fiction is that one gets an opportunity to explore the unexplored in terms of ideas and writing. Science fiction can be challenging at times because the writer puts across unimaginable possibilities in front of the reader in a way that the readers can comprehend from a different perspective altogether.

The Literature Today: Are there any particular authors or books you enjoy reading?

Sambit: As I have been telling many of my readers, I read more of nonfictions than fictions. This complements with my mythological science fiction writing that needs research work. I enjoy reading a variety of books which are mostly nonfiction. In reading fictions, I am a bit choosy and selective.

Paulo Coelho (Alchemist is my all-time favorite), Rhonda Byrne (The Secret), Dr. Brian Weiss (his series of books on past life regression therapies), Devdutt Pattanaik (mythology) are some of my favorites.

The Literature Today: Many authors and readers will come across this interview. Would you like to give any advice to budding writers?

Sambit: The message I want to put across to the readers and authors is to read a lot of books early in their lives and then explore more in the area of their interest. Writing is a beautiful medium to let your ideas and inner voice take shape. Another thing to avoid is procrastinating. Keep writing and you never realize when you are ready to publish your book. If you are keen on mythological or historical fantasies, you need to research a lot. As far as writing science fiction thrillers is concerned, explore the unexplored and continuously question "what if?"

The Literature Today: Please tell us about your future projects in writing. Your readers might be waiting for your upcoming novels.

Sambit: Many of my readers reached out to me asking about my next project. I would like to explore more in terms of going further back in our ancient historical times and explore the possibilities of mythological science fiction. Until then, stay tuned.

The Literature Today: What would you like to say about contemporary writing?

Sambit: I see a vast scope in contemporary writing. There is a lot of experimentation in the writings of today's authors and the readers love it. Also, I see a lot of boldness emerging from contemporary authors in terms of expressing their views openly through their writings.

The Literature Today: Thank you so much for sparing your time and answering the questions. All the best to you.

Sambit: Thank you so much. The pleasure is all mine.

AUTHOR
INTERVIEW

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DEVIKA DAS

THE AUTHOR

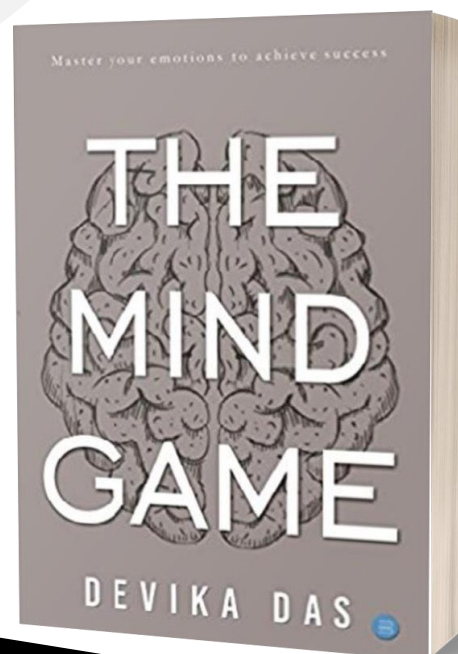
An eloquent writer whose words pour out naturally. That's Devika Das. Her first encounter with writing happened at the age of 13 when she explored various paths of poetry. Later, she started blogging in 2008 and stepped into novel writing in 2016.

The poem that has received great acclaim is "For Those At Kargil", a tribute to all those martyrs who have laid down their lives while serving the nation. Creative writing liberates her and is a medium to express her real Self. It's often noted that a person is not expressing himself/herself clearly when he/she talks to someone; however, writing is a medium that gives a person the liberty since there is less fear of being judged by people.

Her recent publication, an anthology contribution, talks about breaking stereotypes. Her hobbies include reading, listening to music, and theatre.

THE BOOK

"Happiness, stress, ecstasy or depression, it's all a mind game. As long as our mind is under our control, everything else is. That's what The Mind Game is all about. It is not an average self-help book that preaches life-enhancing methodologies based on complex science or long philosophical verses. The book's genius lies in its simplicity. It offers quick, actionable and instantly applicable tips that will help readers lead better lives, instantly."



INTERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS WITH **DEVIKA DAS**

The Literature Today: Happiness, stress, ecstasy or depression, it's all a mind game. As long as our mind is under our control, everything else is. Still, some people feel everything lost and they do not go ahead in their life. Do you have some text for them?

Devika Das: Obviously, there are situations where you feel hopeless and take a backseat. 90% of people are actually running aimlessly. Do you know how you have improved from yesterday or what will you do today to progress in life? A shift in attitude will help you stay motivated.

The Literature Today: What, in your opinion, are the most important elements of good writing?

Devika Das: Knowledge about the topic, imagination, creativity and language skills.

The Literature Today: What was your favorite part, and your least favorite part, of the publishing journey?

Devika Das: Favourite part - when I received the first copy of the paperback Least favourite - Initial stages of publishing where I had to follow up with the publisher :)

The Literature Today: Are there any secrets from the book (that aren't in the blurb), you can share with your readers?

Devika Das: A lot of tips are mentioned in the book which are actually the lessons I have learned in my life. A few tips have been implemented by my readers that have guided them.

The Literature Today: We've just started a new year and I've seen lots of posts about new years' resolutions. Do you have anything special that you'll be focusing on this year?

Devika Das: Not specifically for New Year but yes on a daily basis I want to improve as a person. This year I will focus on finishing my new manuscript and get it published :)

The Literature Today: If you could ask one successful author three questions about their writing, writing process, or books, what would they be?

Devika Das:

- What was their first piece of writing?
- How long does it take for you to unwind from the characters in your story?
- Any book or quote that you live by?

The Literature Today: One more important question, Devika. There are lot of other books on Mind, Self-Development etc., how "The Mind Game" is different from them?

Devika Das: The Mind Game is not preachy - that is what readers have said. They have felt the language is simple to understand and it seems like I am talking to them in person.

The Literature Today: What is the role of criticism in an author's life? How do you face criticism in your life especially in a literature career?

Devika Das: I would call it feedback - it is very important for a writer to improve his/her skill. I take feedback seriously. Constructive criticism is always welcome as it improves my writing skills. I don't pay heed to brash comments.

AUTHOR INTERVIEW

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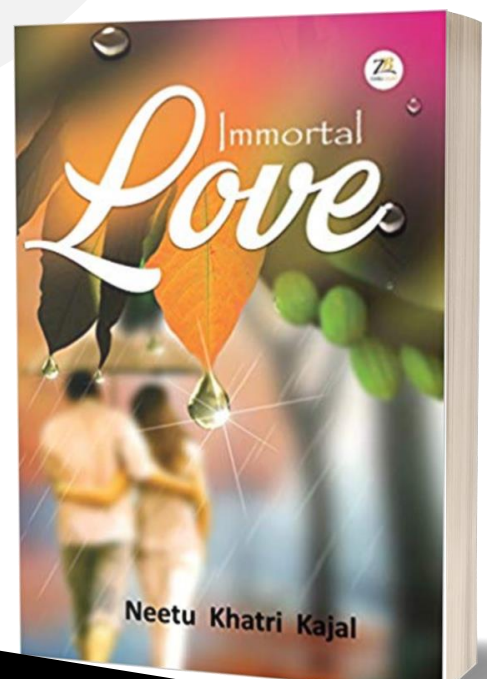
THE AUTHOR

Neetu Khatri Kajal is an author of two published novels so far. She is a passionate reader and writer who gathers experiences through traveling. She believes that poetry emerges out as a reflection of thoughts and emotions. Her ink bleeds through her moods which is devoured by millions. She writes in blogs on boloji.com and momspresso.com. Her write-ups often find space in leading magazines and anthologies. She takes poetry as the best tool for the expression of thoughts and emotions.

NEETU KHATRI KAJAL

THE BOOK

Vanshika longs for true love and romance in her married life as her husband, Manav is a workaholic and doesn't show any interest in his married life. Vanshika meets a friend from her college time and gets infatuated towards him. She finds hopes for love and romance after meeting Rishi. Her best friend Manushi accompanies her in her journey. Vanshika decides to get divorced from Manav. Does she get aparted from Manav? Does she find her true love and romance? *Immortal Love* is a story of love, romance, passion, friendship, dedication, obsession and devotion.



INTERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS WITH NEETU KHATRI KAJAL

The Literature Today: Welcome to The Literature Today's Premiere Edition Mrs. Neetu. First of all, a big congratulation on your published book "Immortal Love". How do you feel about being a published author? Share your experience with your readers.

Neetu: Thank you so much. It's an amazing feeling seeing your own paperback in your hands. More over, when people read your piece of hard work and appreciate your kind efforts, it's beyond thoughts how I discern such situations. Every time, I cherish such valuable moments. Being a published author, I relish the fruits of my hard efforts which are reflected through readers' reviews. Here, I would love to convey my heart felt gratitude to my readers and admirers who bestowed so much love to my works.

The Literature Today: I've read your book and I genuinely feel that it's a story of "love, romance, passion, friendship, dedication, obsession, and devotion." so my next question to you is that what inspired you to write this book? What was the impetus behind this work of yours?

Neetu: Every author yearns to present the real and contemporary situations before readers which might be correlated with their own life. The story sprinkles the shades of love, romance, dedication and passion that today's woman often possesses. Readers will find the story very close to their hearts and having reflections of their own lives especially the scenario that today's woman finds herself to be tangled in. The true empetus behind creating this piece is making people aware of their true love which always exists quite close to them.

The Literature Today: The story revolves around a fictional character "Vanshika". I have a general question which any reader may ask, is this inspired by any real character or true event?

Neetu: Yes, surely. It's quite inspired by real people and events. It's just a blend of reality and fiction. The book presents the dilemma of today's young women who get infatuated at some points of time having engrossed in adverse situations created by their own state of mind.

The Literature Today: Writing a novel is a bit difficult task. How much time did you take to complete this book? When you actually started writing it?

Neetu: Of course, it was a big challenge to me before beginning with the plot and storyline but it seemed quite easy while progressing with the characters. They themselves helped me move further with great enthusiasm. It took me almost half a year to complete manuscript and making the book available for the readers having published it.

The Literature Today: Coming to the story again, Neetu, do you support "Vanshika" in this story. Being a reader sometimes I felt her to be selfish if I am not wrong. How do you really define her character?

Neetu: I never support such character as she always thinks of herself. Though she feels upset with her husband, Manav's attitude towards her but he is not a scoundrel in any way. He is loyal and dedicated towards her but still she gets infatuated towards another guy which is not acceptable in any way. The purpose of presenting Vanshika's character is just to show how selfish a person becomes to satisfy his/her longings that he/she doesn't understand the true meaning of love.

The Literature Today: As a reader, which type of book do you like? Are you more into novel readings or there are other genres also you give preference to?

Neetu: As a reader, I love to read novels and collection of short stories and poems. But, sometimes I yearn to read non-fiction and technical works also.

The Literature Today: Neetu your writing seemed to be really impeccable and you were bold with your writings in your book, which I really appreciate. The main characters are Vanshika Manav, Rishi and Manushi. How you managed to justify the characters' end of the plot.

Neetu: Every story needs numerous characters to justify with the plot. Every character has his/her own story which needs to be justified at times. The protagonist Vanshika remains uncertain and confused in her demands and needs but she comes to realize her immortal and true love in the end. Manav is workaholic whose solo aim is to fulfill his beloved's dreams and desires. Rishi too gets infatuated towards his college love and Manushi falls for him from the very first sight.

The Literature Today: I picked up a beautiful line, "A person who truly loves you will never let you go, no matter how hard the state is." Please elaborate this line, it will be really great.

Neetu: This is my one of my favorite quotes from the book. Yeah, Truly a person who loves you will never let you go as it's his/her love that would really bring you back. Love really has hidden powers which are beyond thoughts. Love remains firm in every state which wins in the end.

The Literature Today: Any message you want to give to your readers and budding authors?

Neetu: I would love to share my feelings as a reader too. Read and read a lot whenever you get an opportunity as books takes us to the another realm where everyone find solace. It's an amazing feeling which stays intact while reading good books. I would love to convey my heartfelt thanks to my readers who showered so much love to my works.

For budding writers, I would like to suggest that more and more reading would fetch perfection in their writings. So, read a lot before writing. As far as writing is concerned, pour in your thoughts boldly into your work.

AUTHOR INTERVIEW

4



THE AUTHOR

Avik Gangopadhyay, Indian author of repute already has 30 published books in English and Bengali to his credits. His uncommon treatment and interdisciplinary approach to Aesthetics and Theories of Literature, Language and Criticism, Death of Languages, not-so-discussed historical issues, Philosophical and religious 'ISMS', Indological studies, Editorial endeavour in 6 books of poems and short stories – received wide and unique critical attention in India and abroad.

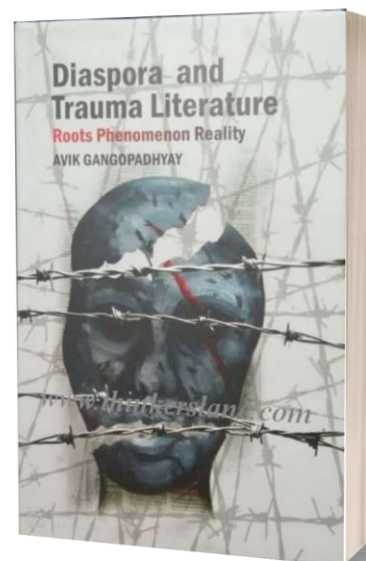
He started showing early signs of a potential author from the age of just 8 years. Innumerable poems were written in late teens. His works started seeing esteemed publications since 1996. First book was published in the year 2000.

AVIK GANGOPADHYAY

THE BOOK

Diasporic literature prominently deals with the concepts of home, identity and memory. There is an endless cycle of remembering the past and creating the present. The term 'trauma' is often associated with diasporic literature because of the crisis of identity and memory faced by the diasporic subject. Reading diasporic literature using contemporary literary "trauma theory"

would prove to be an engaging exercise. "Trauma theory" is constantly evolving to accommodate various viewpoints and possibilities. Among the various theories put forward by trauma theorists, the theory of cultural trauma engages with trauma as a social theory.



The Literature Today: Welcome, Avik. First thing first, we would love to know how writing “Diaspora and Trauma Literature” came into your mind. This has been a unique, controversial and important topic the world faced.

Avik Gangopadhyay: Well, from my childhood, fortunately or unfortunately, I have seen people around me, mostly having a history of getting uprooted from their land. Be it the tragic partition, or displacement in and out for survival. Later, I ingressed into their psyche and found a variation in a common pattern: levels of trauma and in multitude. My study and research continued for 18 years and I came out with this title. The book is also translated in Bengali. My work brings home the reality of the refugees, asylum-seekers, returnees, internally displaced and stateless persons across the globe, the impact of the very sense of moving on out, capturing the psyche of the unwelcome migrant and refugee, focusing on the related perceptions on hybridity and postcolonial elements, linguistic imperialism, psycho-social identity and cultural ideology, diaspora as transnationalism or exile, as an apology for internationalism, cultural hybridity through the narratives of immigrant literature.

Finally, the loosely used word “Diaspora” becomes and gets a new perspective. My book endeavours to approach the yet-to-be definitive genre Diaspora, Diasporic Theory and Literature too. I did not go by the sober and colourful aspect of the expression Diaspora, that apparently the word is supposed to bear.

The Literature Today: How did you begin writing? Did you intend to become an author, or do you have a specific reason or reasons for writing each book?

Avik Gangopadhyay: I started writing a suspense crime drama when I was around 8 years of age but it was primarily with imitating my father, a novelist of repute, who used to sit and write at regular hours that initiated me into everything. While writing scripts for Calcutta All India Radio Talks for 2 years I breathed an air of confidence and gradual appreciation led me through.

Yes, that was very much there from my childhood. My first venture has been “Quest for Uncertainty”- a collection of critical essays on world literature. The theme of ‘Uncertainty’ as an attitude towards life expressed in art and literature tempted me to work on some texts, theories and authors. My father and some of my close ones encouraged me that it would become an interesting book...it was a difficult topic to encompass texts and authors across the globe of my choice and reading and finally I could win over an unwilling publisher. The title “Quest for Uncertainty” was not a spontaneous one too...a thought-out title as it reveals the quintessence of both the search for the theme and my approach for the same. After its publication there was no looking back.

When an idea starts teasing me I let it ripe. A research follows. And everytime they are different. That is my motivation. Seldom I repeat.

The Literature Today: Many regular readers may not easily understand the meaning and concept of *Diaspora and Trauma* without going through the whole book. How do you explain it in simple words to your readers?

Avik Gangopadhyay: Well, the literal meaning for the word ‘Diaspora’ is ‘Dispersal’. But theorists find the subtle differences in meaning. Here, ‘Dispersal’ may also result from a combination of compulsion and choice, and diasporas emerge as a result of cumulative processes and crises. Theories are developed on the basis of the reason for migration. They probe into the problems that are faced by the immigrants and they analyze the reasons behind their migration. As a result of their analysis, theories are born.

Diasporic literature prominently deals with the concepts of home, identity and memory. There is an endless cycle of remembering the past and creating the present. The term ‘trauma’ is often associated with diasporic literature because of the crisis of identity and memory faced by the diasporic subject. Reading diasporic literature using contemporary literary “trauma theory” would prove to be an engaging exercise. “Trauma theory” is constantly evolving to accommodate various viewpoints and possibilities. Among the various theories put forward by trauma theorists, the theory of cultural trauma engages with trauma as a social theory.

The Literature Today: As I feel, writing “Diaspora and Trauma Literature” may have taken so much research/ analysis and time of yours. What kind of research do you do, and how long do you spend researching before beginning a book?

Avik Gangopadhyay: Yes, long 18 years I have been associated to findings and development of the latest theories in the world of art and literature.

Well it takes quite a time to settle down. I have my own process to tale a sojourn. I have been a published author for two decades. The “critic, columnist and academic” label has been there as a known tag with me both at home and abroad. My work revolves keeping a very close proximity to History and reality.

With a perseverance of an archaeologist and subtle sensitivity of a poet – my laborious effort of coherent recording gives birth to my creations.

I am a voyager at heart, my thirst of being wonder-dipped takes me to places less visited, be it through travelling or be it to newer dimensions in my spheres of ideas, thoughts and knowledge.

The Literature Today: The book has got many awards and recognitions as “Most Original Collection of Articles”, “2018 Author of the Year” and so on. How to you enjoy this success and to whom you dedicate this achievement.

Avik Gangopadhyay: Apart from my seminal work on the “Death of Language,” this is the most academically acclaimed book of mine. I received the first recognition for this book from The Asia-Europe Foundation, Singapore, 2014; then from the Heinrich Heine Universitat, Dusseldorf, Centre of the Faculty of Arts & Humanities, 2015, “Most Original Collection of Articles”; University of Edinburgh, 2017, Special Mention, for *Scholarly Coinage of the Concept*, “TRUMA LITERATURE and subsequent *Interpretation of A New genre in Critical Literature*”; Kashmiri Pandits' Network of Art & Literature, “MahaBhash Award for the Year 2017, *A demystifying work of Scholarship, Diaspora & Trauma Literature*”; Indo-Canadian Literary & Cultural Confederation, Toronto, “2018 Author of the Year, for *Diaspora and Trauma Literature*.”

I accept all with humility. It is more than enjoyment.

The Literature Today: Are you going to keep writing and doing only part-time work, or do you see yourself eventually going back to a full-time, corporate-type job?

Avik Gangopadhyay: As I have already mentioned that I am a published author for two decades. The “critic, columnist and academic” label has been there as a known tag with me both at home and abroad. But there is no compulsion to my writer-self. I write only what I feel to pursue. Not Corporate type, it's a passion that merged with my profession. I am indeed a full-timer.

The Literature Today: Do you want each book to stand on its own, or are you trying to build a body of work with connections between each book?

Avik Gangopadhyay: At the kernel, my craft encompasses the spectrum of mysterious human mind and suffering. Aspects and behaviour of Time through human history add hues to it. My focus is on the time-specific cultural endowment. Such treatments often factor my works as ‘One of its kind’. I intend to remain to this category.

The Literature Today: What was an early experience where you learned that language had power?

Avik Gangopadhyay: To me Language is indeed a power, life and the instrument of culture, the instrument of domination and liberation. Words do have energy and power with the ability to help, to heal, to hinder, to hurt, to harm, to humiliate, and to humble. Words are seeds that do more than blow around. They land in our hearts and not the ground. Speech has power. Words do not fade. What starts out as a sound, ends in a deed. This I understood before I started to write.

The Literature Today: Thank you so much, Avik. Wish you all luck for upcoming literary works. Any message for your readers and authors?

Avik Gangopadhyay: Thank you so much.

For upcoming writers, I would like to say that please don't stop reading...an informed writer is a phenomenon by himself/herself. And to the readers, I have a plea: readers have to grow, be mature...they too have a duty to elevate their tastes...that too has a process...one has to undergo this journey.

Thank you again.

AUTHOR INTERVIEW

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THE AUTHOR

Twenty years ago, life looked progressive with a Masters, acquired from the IIT's, the most acclaimed engineering institutions in India. I walked on the streets of Mumbai with ambitions reaching the sky. As I stood on the beach with the roaring waves, my eyes gazed the horizon. I found myself in the ocean of opportunities that could have taken me across the 7 seas. Life could have offered me anything I desired.

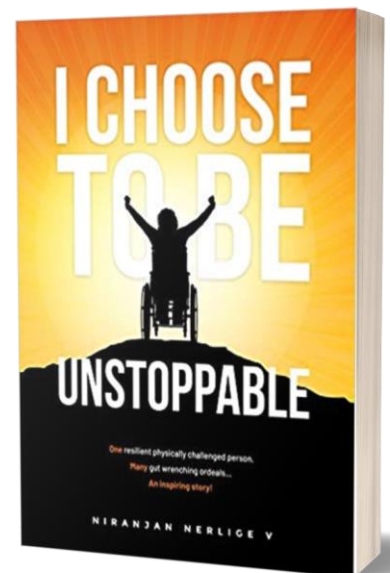
But destiny had its say. On a fateful day, I fell from a great height. It left me with multiple fractures in the upper limbs, leaving me completely paralyzed below the waist. Ever since, life has been a roller coaster ride on a wheel chair. In addition, life had many more surprises to offer, some traumatizing and few challenging. Two decades of bumpy track destined by life has not limited me from living a limitless life.



NIRANJANA NERLIGE V

THE BOOK

"I CHOOSE TO BE UNSTOPPABLE" is an inspiring story of how a physically challenged person overcame all odds to live a life of incredible achievement, success, and fulfillment. Packed with many unexpected twists and turns, it tells us how Niranjana successfully faced the challenges and ordeals of his life. Confined to the Wheelchair he chose to be unstoppable.



INTERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS WITH NIRANJAN NERLIGE V

The Literature Today: Welcome to The Literature Today, Niranjan. Congratulations for the release of your book and readers are loving it. How do you feel to see this success of yours?

Niranjan Nerlige V: It is an exciting feeling. I never had any clue that readers would like the book so much. After hearing the feedback, I am highly satisfied that whatever effort I have put has given fruits. I was awarded Top 100 debut authors by Criticspace and Author of the year by Lit fest.

The Literature Today: What circumstances asked to write a book and share your thoughts? Please share your thoughts in this regard.

Niranjan Nerlige V: After the All India radio aired a program on my life in 2016, I was invited to give a motivational seminar in Malnad College of Engineering, Hassan. After hearing me out, the college students were highly inspired and came to me and told me to write a book on my life. At that time, I started to realize there is a value in writing a book if it makes a difference to others' lives. That thought was still lingering in my mind but I made the serious effort to write only in the end of 2018.

The Literature Today: Sometimes, people fail to understand one with certain disabilities are as normal as themselves. How do you want to make a difference in such mindsets through your book?

Niranjan Nerlige V: If I look back at the events that have unfolded in my life, I never would have found out how my future life would turn out if I continued living in a state of fear and uncertainty. I resisted accepting my situation in the hospital, I was so much in denial, there was hardly any self-acceptance. We keep questioning God or blame someone without taking responsibility for our situation and taking action. Instead of taking action, we blame outside factors such as fate, curse our luck, call it the devil's doing or something else. Everyone has the potential to bounce back in life.

I never realised my life would become one of the inspirational stories or that people would see me as a role model for overcoming obstacles and facing tough situations. Similarly, even your story may make a difference to others, one day, in its own way. It need not be like my story.

You may not be able to see a bright light at the end of your own dark tunnel right now but there is one if you will believe there is one. During the days I spent in the hospital, I could not envision my present life since I was worried about how I would live my life because I was then resisting myself from accepting my life in a wheelchair. You may be accusing your fate by failing to see beyond the situation where you might be at present and you may not even know what future awaits you. Instead of blaming your present situation, stay focused on your dreams and do not stop believing in your dreams. Everyone has the power to bring change in his or her life. At no point should one stop and not go after what one wants to achieve.

The Literature Today: To whom you dedicate this success to, Niranjan?

Niranjan Nerlige V: To my parents who are in heaven and my son Pranav.

The Literature Today: How was your journey from a regular writer to a published author? There are lot of difficulties and circumstances the author face today? How was this in your case?

Niranjan Nerlige V: When I started writing my book, I didn't even have idea about, how to write the book. I started with searching google. As I started writing it, I got the grip of the process, with constant feedback from my friends about the contents. Once the book was completed, getting it published through a publisher wasn't easy. Hence, I took the route of self-publishing. Even this route wasn't as easy as I had thought. It is the only experience that teaches everything. One has to undergo these experiences in the beginning. Now I am in a much better position to decide whether to go through a publisher or self-publishing. Both have its pros and cons.

The Literature Today: How powerful do you think the book 'I choose to be unstoppable' is that can bring a positive change in the people's minds who are less motivated?

Niranjan Nerlige V: My whole objective in writing this book was not to showcase my achievements but to enable others to discover their potential to be unstoppable.

I want others to realize their potential for greatness, to become unfazed by problems, difficulties, and to recognize and turn off their own internal negative dialogues about themselves despite any circumstances they are in today. I want them to learn to swim in this ocean of hurdles. I want everyone to go beyond all these mundane things to create a meaningful and beautiful life for him/her and also for the people around them. I strongly believe everyone has the potential to become unstoppable. When someone like me has been able to stand up in life despite being unable to stand up, anyone can accomplish many things in their life by changing their views. Perhaps, the lessons I learnt in life would be of help in their journey to overcome obstacles, difficulties they might encounter.

The Literature Today: I think these types of the book should be made a part in the reading curriculum of young Indians in school or colleges. What is your call on this?

Niranjan Nerlige V: Yes, these kinds of books would certainly help in young minds if they are part of the curriculum. Youngsters need to learn how to handle failures better than always thinking about success.

INTERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS WITH NIRANJAN NERLIGE V

The Literature Today: The title seems impressive. How did you decided the title, "I choose to be unstoppable"? Please define it.

Niranjan Nerlige V: I was sharing my life experiences with a group of people from South Dakota in Boston, May 2016. It was a conference and I was the co-facilitator.

There was a gentleman from US who was very inspired after listening to my life story which I shared on the first day of the workshop. His name was Joe Bartmann. At the end of the third day as part of the "check-out" session everyone was sharing the learning they got from this workshop and thanking me and my co-facilitator.

When it was Joe's turn to say something about his experience in the workshop, he talked about the things he learnt from the workshop and at the conclusion of his speech, he said, "Niranjan, I want to say something more specific about you now." Then Joe said, "You have inspired me a lot. After hearing your story and about your love for your son, I also realise how important family is for me".

Then he picked up a yellow sticky note, out of his dairy on which he had written something in his room, the previous day. All of us were quite curious to see what he had written in the sticky note. He showed the sticky note to all of us. On it was written, **"I choose to be Unstoppable."**

Then Joe Bart said, "After hearing your life experiences, difficulties you have managed and still maintaining excellent relationship with your son, I have written these words for myself." as a reminder to see it every day. his is how the title of the book was decided. I want my life to be always unstoppable despite any situation. I have chosen to make life unstoppable until I leave this world.

The Literature Today: The next books in your series will be coming next year and then ahead. Do you have any hints for the readers about those books?

Niranjan Nerlige V: The next book I am planning is about how one can overcome his/ her limitations of the mind. Many times, limitations of the mind is a major obstacle for anyone's progress than physical limitations.

AUTHOR INTERVIEW

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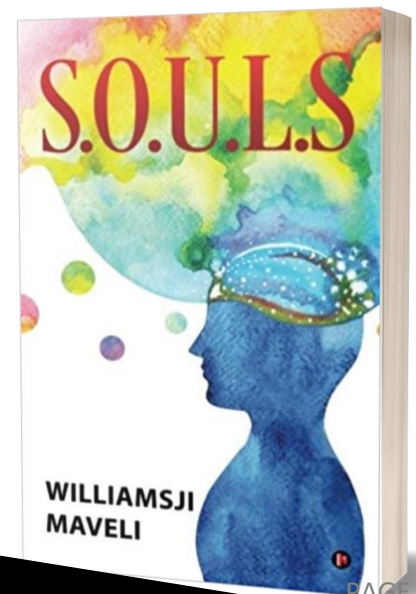
THE AUTHOR

Williamsji Maveli is a member of WORLD NATIONS WRITERS UNION as well as an honorary member of one of its World Higher Literary Academic Council (WHLAC). Also, he is the Regional Chairman of Union Hispanomundial De Escritores (UHE, PERU) for Middle East and the founder of WHORLED WIDE WRITERS and INDIA POETRY FORUMS. He had won the prestigious honorary awards for his literary excellence in literature, both in English as well as Malayalam, his Mother-tongue.

WILLIAMSJI MAVELI

THE BOOK

S.O.U.L.S (Spirituality of Unknown Luminaries Symphony) consists of 3 parts, Salvation of Souls, Soliloquy of Souls and Songs of Souls. These were justified as a reason (or Cause), a spirit (or Power) and as appetite (or Hunger). All parts of the soul have desires, but desire in appetitive and spirited parts is not a matter of belief about what is good or what is bad. This book of poetry is the blossom and the fragrance of all human knowledge, thoughts, passions and emotions.



INTERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS WITH WILLIAMSJI MAVELI

The Literature Today: How did you come up with the title, S.O.U.L.S, which mixes up Salvation of Souls, Soliloquy of Souls and Songs of Souls emotions? S.O.U.L.S is a quite interesting title and it strikes very quickly!

Williamsji Maveli: Of all the themes based on Human Souls, we encounter in this world, a spiritual awakening to self which is perhaps the most misunderstood and confusing concept or inner truth. I was thinking for the title for almost a month's period; almost all the poems included are based on human souls, both living and dead. Hence initially, I was planning to assign a title G.O.D, which means the (God Of Dead). Later, many of my fellow poets advised me not to go for that negative thought of death-God of dead. Then, I came to know that there are many similar names like SOULS; finally, I came with a decision of putting it as S.O.U.L.S, which means Spirituality of Unknown Luminaries Symphony

One of the reasons to give this title for my book is that there are so much misunderstanding around the topic of spirituality and its awakening as we often fail to define and understand, It is not based on religious or any ethics background. This is one of the reasons for me to assign this title for my book S.O.U.L.S. Moreover, we often link "spirituality" to the context of religion, but in my experience, this is problematical and controversial. Luminaries or enlightenment to a person or to a concept, can mean many different things, but it is most often associated with cognition. You can have an "enlightened mind" through disciplined study of higher spiritual principles.

The Literature Today: As a reader, who are your favorite authors – in International and in your own country 'India' and then in the English nation?

Williamsji Maveli: In poetry genre, my favorite's poets are William Shakespeare, William Wordsworth, and Shelly. For Novel, I would love to read Arundhati Roy's GOD OF SMALL THINGS, the Booker –prize winning novel again and again. God of small things is one of her best novels. The God of Small Things is the first novel of Indian writer Arundhati Roy. It is a story about the childhood experiences of fraternal twins whose lives were badly destroyed by the "Love Laws" that lay down "who should be loved, and how. And how much. The book explores how the small things affect people's behavior and their lives. It won the Booker Prize during year 1997.

Also, I am much delighted to read again and again ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF SOLITUDE, One of the 20th century's enduring works, This is one of beloved and novel, the Nobel prize winning book. The novel tells the story of the rise and fall of the mythical town of Macondo through the history of the Buendía family. It is a rich and brilliant chronicle of life and death, and the tragicomedy of humankind. Love and lust, war and revolution, riches and poverty, youth and senility — the variety of life, the endlessness of death, the search for peace and truth — these universal themes dominate the novel.

The Literature Today: What was the inspiration or motivation to write the book, S.O.U.L.S?

Williamsji Maveli: I have written 13 books over my 30-year writing career, and I can tell you that as much as I would like them to, books never ever write themselves. Motivation is the measurement of the vigor that is put into any endeavor. When I write a book, I am bound to confront many struggles with many life experiences and situations, but where I lack the motivation to write or experience a writer's block. To combat this, I always need an arsenal of tools and techniques that I should use to help myself to overcome motivational issues. The hardest part of writing a book is always the first few pages. No matter how strong the motivation or how compelling the topic, motivating self to start is the main inspiration in the beginning. Even when I do not want to type a single word, I just perform it in anyways... just write as I write. It triggers something in my own brain so that the pathway between my daily routine and creative side is easier to find. I create and make small writing goals which I can achieve every day. We can set goals like, committing to writing 100 words or one page a day. The inspiration is my own life. This is the life of the soul and it has its own ways. Our soul would rather speak the truth, no matter what the cost, than hide in falsehood. Our soul would rather love everyone, no matter what they do, than judge them, punish them or get angry.

Our immortal soul is always seeks and finds its own best ways to express the truth in every moment. When I never bother to align with it, my own experience resistance, suffering and pain. When I align with the power of my own spirit expressing, my life, this often reflects truth and joy; then I do realize who am I and why I am here. This is how life works and why the pure love blossoms.

The Literature Today: Poetry gives lot of freedom to write. Is writing poetry easy than writing other genres?

Williamsji Maveli: No. Poetry is the most difficult genre. Poetry writing requires no license, no education, and no experience. All you need to get started is a pen and some paper. In fact, many writers discovered their calling because they were compelled to write poetry at a young age.

But there's a big difference between writing poetry and writing good poetry.

Opinions about the art and craft of good poetry are many and varied. Some hold poetry to a high academic or literary standard. Others appreciate the fact that poetry writing provides a creative and healthy form of self-expression.

I believe that all poetry is good in the sense that anything that comes from the heart or anything that speaks truth is good. The poem itself might not win any awards, but the act of writing it can be mood-altering, healing, and maybe even life-changing.

Many poets pursue the craft with a clear goal: they want to get published. Others write poetry because they find solace in the work. They don't care about readers, publication, or awards. And plenty of writers fall in between: they write for the joy of it but also with a desire to continually develop their poetry skills with hopes of getting published one day. There's nothing wrong with writing poetry for self. Poetry writing has tremendous therapeutic and creative value

The Literature Today: Tell us about your writing method? As you have written so many books till now, how has been your journey as a writer so far?

Williamsji Maveli: Build up the concept initially, and then develop it. Poetry teaches us how to access rich language and produce vivid images in our writing. It is one of the best ways to develop comprehensive and creative writing skills. Poetry writing will take you on an exciting adventure through language, and the very act of working to improve poetry is a journey that many writers find exhilarating. When we first start writing poetry, our work is amateurish and awkward. We might make poems that are cute or silly, poems that don't make much sense, or poems that are murky, excessive, or verbose. We express ourselves but fail to generate poems that compel readers. But with practice and by putting a little effort into our poetry writing, our poems can blossom and become riveting — for us and for our readers. Poets have their own language. It's true that there are no rules in poetry, but there are a few best practices, like eliminate any unnecessary words, don't arrange words awkwardly to fit a rhyme scheme, and use imagery.

The Literature Today: Your professional journey has been quite an inspirational one. How difficult it has been to balance an illustrious career such as yours along with writing?

Williamsji Maveli: Life is a game of happenings. Life teaches many lessons. Each lesson has interesting and inspirational stories. Life is very easy for some people. Such people are born with luck. But for the rest, life is real struggle. To them, life poses very difficult challenges for their own survival. I am not what happened to me, I am what I choose to become. A little talent is a good thing to have if anyone wants to be a writer. But the only real requirement is the ability to remember every scars and wounds in our own life.

Everyone has a soul. Every soul has a destiny. God explains that every soul will be judged. God warns mankind that during judgment we will receive a one-way ticket to eternity. The Religion also teaches us that during this life we have two choices. We are granted free will to serve and honor God who is in paradise, or we are free moral agents to choose Satan who will reside in agony.

The Literature Today: Tell us little about your book title In Depth& Insight? What do you want to convey your readers from this?

Williamsji Maveli: ABOUT IN DEPTH: The book IN DEPTH is the first book in the trilogy series of my world poetic analysis. 60 poems were selected globally and I myself compiled its deep analysis. This is done in a view of bringing a reader and author connectivity between the authors and readers for a better understanding of poetic aspects in creativity perspective, this book of poetic analysis will highlight on each and every poetic essence and pulse with an appreciation and analytical outlook. Poetry is the handling of words, lyrical lines, self made phrases, thoughtful expressions and language to call human minds and their heartfelt deep emotions filled with feelings and thoughts, while a verse is the understanding of these words.

ABOUT INSIGHT: INSIGHT is the 2nd book in the trilogy series of my world poetic analysis. This trilogy is first of its kind in the history of literary world

Poetry is the process of creating a literary creation as well as recreation. The rationale of poetry review and interpretation is just to keep the aesthetic media of poetry deeply alert and alive. It is highly vital for our culture that we not only read precious poetry, but also continue to sort out for ourselves what exactly high-quality poetry is. The most valuable thing about a review of a book of poetry is its potential to deepen the reader's experience of the work under consideration. The thoughts and insights of a perceptive, educated, interested writer who has spent a significant amount of time with the poetry can be of great help to someone who is new to the poetry.

ABOUT INSPIRE: The 3rd book in the trilogy series has been titled as INSPIRE and its manuscript has already been started by me. All the above three books are mainly intended to inspire budding poets and to motivate them to write good poetry.

The Literature Today: The book has been receiving positive responses from the book lovers and well-known critics. Did you ever receive negative criticism for your strong opinions in your book "S.O.U.L.S"? How do you face criticism in your life?

Williamsji Maveli: Yes. This is my best poetic bliss so much attached to my own life experiences. In the charisma of being in my life's ecstasy, the universal father and the eternal son unite to distinguish themselves. Nothing in this infinity situation foreshadows that the human actor as an individual would personalize as an infinite holiness co-ordinate with absolute mind and gifted with unique prerogatives of energy manipulation. Jesus visits into my own life, being completes the father's freedom from the bonds of centralized excellence and from the chains of behavior dictatorship. And this liberation is disclosed in the amazing power of the combined designers to create beings well adapted to serve as ministering spirits even to the material creatures of the afterwards sprouting universe.

Yes, Negative Criticism often hurts. It can come from a superior at work or from a perfect stranger. It's easy to be defensive when on the receiving end of such criticism. When we fear the judgment of others, both hurtful words and helpful critiques alike can seem like bitter condemnation. I spent the better part of my life wholly concerned with the opinions of others. The fear of judgment and disapproval was crippling. What was I so afraid of? Words can be hurtful, yes, but they are just words. I look back now at the time spent fretting over what others thought of me and see it as time wasted. It's impossible to control what a person will say, but it is possible to be in control of the way you internalize, process, and react to criticism.

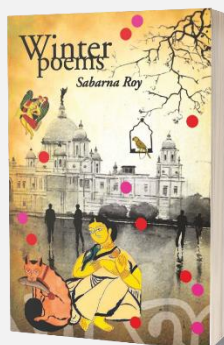
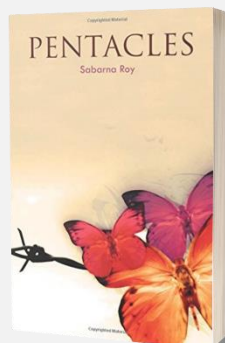
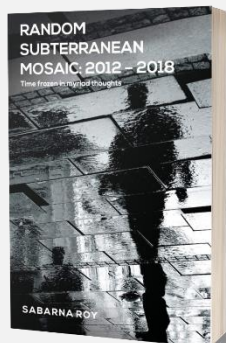
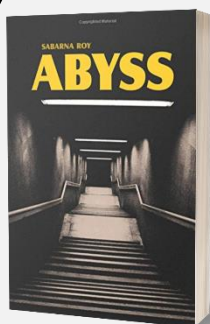
Sabarna Roy was born in Calcutta on December 15, 1967. By training he is a first class honors Civil Engineering graduate passed out from Jadavpur University in the year 1988.

He is presently working as a Senior Vice President [Business Development] at Electrosteel Castings Limited. He looks after Applications Technology and Strategy apart from Business Development.

AUTHOR STORY

1

AUTHOR SABARNA ROY



He took to creative writing in the year 2007. Thereafter, between 2010 and 2019 he has published 5 literary books: *Pentacles*; *Frosted Glass*; *Abyss*; *Winter Poems*, and *Random Subterranean Mosaic: 2012 – 2018 Time Frozen in Myriad Thoughts*. The 5 books have been published by Leadstart Publishing. All his books have received critical and commercial success. His books cover all genre: prose, poetry and plays. Presently, he is working on his sixth project: a novel where the characters are ideas that center on the idea of certainty of uncertainty in life. This book is likely to be published in the winter of 2021.

Sabarna Roy has also published a technical book: *Articles on Ductile Iron Pipelines and Framework Agreement Contracting Methodology*, with his co-authors Rajat Chowdhury and Basanta Bera. This book has been published by Scholar's Press and is a collection of 9 articles published in peer-reviewed National and International journals.

Personal Life:

Sabarna Roy was born to Sankar Kumar Roy and Late Basanti Roy at the Eden Maternity Ward of Calcutta Medical College. Sankar Kumar Roy, M Com and LLB, retired from SAIL as Chief (Marketing) and Late Basanti Roy, a graduate from Government Edward College, Pabna, was a homemaker. Sabarna passed out his CBSE Public Examination from Sacred Heart Convent School, Ludhiana in 1982 and Higher Secondary Public Examination from Narendrapur Ramakrishna Mission, Kolkata in 1984.

Sabarna who has a sister, Bijoya Roy, 9 years junior to him, did her MSW from TISS, Mumbai and MPhil and PhD from JNU and is presently the Assistant Professor at Center for Women's Development Studies.

Sabarna's wife, Debjani Nandy, did her MA in Comparative Literature from Jadavpur University. Presently, she is the head of a start-up primary school for the underprivileged minorities in Rajarhat, Kolkata.

Sabarna's son, Sudur, completed his MSc and DIC from Imperial College, London in Geomechanics and Engineering Seismology and presently employed as Geotechnical Assistant at Atkins, London.

Sabarna's daughter, Meghna, completed her MA in Media and Culture Studies from TISS, Mumbai and is presently employed as an Assistant Director in a corporate-media start-up at Bangalore.

Career:

Sabarna is in the 25th year of his work at Electrosteel Castings Limited. Prior to that he worked in DCL; SPML Infra, and Humphrey's and Glasgow.

For the last 28 years, he has been working in sectors covering Municipal Water, Municipal and Industrial Waste Water, Industrial Water and Irrigation Water.

He was awarded the Literoma Laureate Award for fiction in 2019.

He was an invited speaker on the opening day at the Noida International Literature Festival 2019 and an invited speaker on the opening day in a Panel discussion on the Dark Side of the Mind at Tata Steel Literary Meet 2020 in Kolkata.

AUTHOR

SABARNA ROY

He has been recently invited to the Aligarh Muslim University Literature Festival, Lady Hardinge Medical College Literature Festival and Shimla International Literature Festival.

He has been an invited speaker at various National and International Conferences to read out his technical expositions on irrigation water, wastewater, industrial water and various other strategic matters related to policy in the environment sector. He is a believer in the Paris Climate Accord and does everything in the industry to bring down the Carbon Footprint.

He is interested in delving into the multi-disciplinary mysteries of life in a unified manner.

Writing Career: Literary Publications

Pentacles: Pentacles comprises one long story and four short poems by Sabarna Roy. The work delightfully bridges the gap between the mundane and arcane writings of today and provides an interesting, yet intellectually stimulating, treat for the discerning reader.

Frosted Glass: Frosted Glass comprises one story cycle consisting of 14 stories and one poem cycle consisting of 21 poems.

Abyss: Abyss is a full length play in two acts with an interval in between. It is essentially a racy crime thriller full of gritty suspense.

Winter Poems: The poems contained in this collection, Winter Poems, by Sabarna Roy were inspired by the relatively mild season that prevails in Kolkata following the season of festivities, the Durga and Kali Puja, and portray myriad shades of human life.

Random Subterranean Mosaic 2012 – 2018: Random Subterranean Mosaic: 2012–2018 is a kaleidoscope of random, yet mysteriously structured to a pattern, fiction, semi-autobiographical, and autobiographical pieces, covering poems, short-shorts, opinions, observations, and conversations.

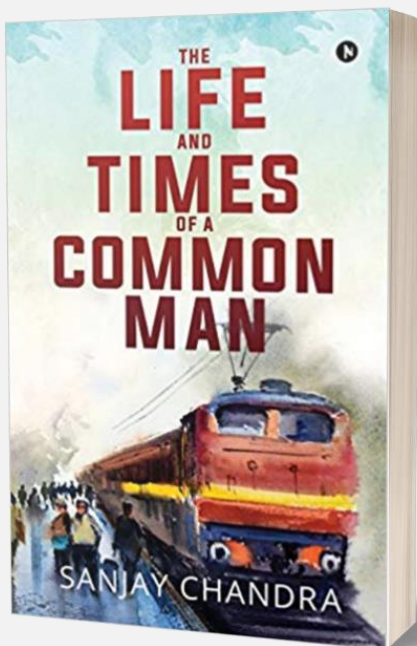
Technical Publication

The book attempts to elaborate the use of Ductile Iron Pipelines in Irrigation application, Gravity Sewer application, Wet Ash Slurry application, Restrained Joint application and use in Steep incline and Hilly terrain, Life Cycle Cost Analysis between various kinds of pipe materials, Feasibility of Recycled Waste Water for Irrigation, a deliberation on Framework Agreement Procurement Methodology and Emerging Challenges in Pipe Distribution Network based Irrigation Projects.

Sanjay Chandra was born the eldest in his generation, a male child, in a middle-class family of small-town post-independent India. India society has been a patriarchal society. He was pampered but not spoiled, and took many things as due to him. He did not know the challenges faced by the other half of population – women. He would start developing a respect for them as he grew up, got married and then had two children of his own – both daughters, very much with minds of their own.

AUTHOR STORY 2

AUTHOR SANJAY CHANDRA



Sanjay Chandra was born the eldest in his generation, a male child, in a middle-class family of small-town post-independent India. India society has been a patriarchal society. He was pampered but not spoilt, and took many things as due to him. He did not know the challenges faced by the other half of population – women. He would start developing a respect for them as he grew up, got married and then had two children of his own – both daughters, very much with minds of their own.

He studied engineering like his father, then considered a 'safe' career option, and joined railway services. Sanjay wanted to be an entrepreneur, but his family could not support his ambitions due to financial constraints. A few years of his 'secure' job – Sanjay wondered if this was what he wanted. He quit, first to join a government company; then a private company. He was not meant to tread the routine path – Sanjay quit working for others altogether to start his own two ventures – a preschool for toddlers started by his wife and daughter where they could help little ones to explore their own capabilities; and a consultancy run by him to mentor companies – an attempt at helping entrepreneurs to attain their true potential.

Sanjay was so passionately involved with his professional pursuits that somewhere in the pleasure of working to deadlines he forgot to maintain correct work-life balance. He did not lead a healthy lifestyle resulting in his gaining weight and also developing lifestyle diseases – high blood pressure and diabetes. He saw around him many professionals succumbing to the same maladies.

During his professional journey, Sanjay also met people – from middle-class of small-town India. They continued to aspire for so-called safe options of engineering or medical for education and government jobs for their children, while other education streams and better paying career options were available – unknowingly perpetuating the myth of safe career options.

The country needed younger people to come out of the mindset of 'safe' options and contribute more proactively in nation building. He also realised that one could be passionately involved in professional pursuits while maintaining work-life balance. His life story of moving away from the stereotypes and achieve success could encourage them to do just that. With this idea Sanjay started writing. This resulted in the first book 'The Life and Times of a Common Man'. The book attracted good reviews. He now had a new passion – writing.

His day starts with a morning walk almost religiously. This has helped him loose weight and also to manage his high blood pressure and diabetes – he has become more health conscious. Also, many of his ideas for stories or articles germinate during these morning walks. Sanjay also develops the chapter of his novel on which he may be working during his walk. He has also learnt to appreciate the beauty in nature during the walk – flowers, birds, sun, sky, clouds and so much more.

AUTHOR

Sanjay Chandra

Writing, like any other profession, also requires patience and discipline. Sanjay continues to pursue his other professional commitments; he also contributes to the well-being of the complex where he lives; hence he is not able to devote time to writing every day. But on days when he is not involved in one of these pursuits, he spends three hours in the morning in writing. He also faces writer's block many days, when he is just sitting in front of the computer, and is unable to write anything – he is not getting the inspiration required. Then there are days when the flow comes naturally, and he is furiously punching away his computer keys trying to keep pace with the story flowing through his mind – writing is as much what is in your heart as it is in your brain.

Sanjay also goes for a walk in the evening, and this is with his wife. They don't discuss the work that he is working on with his family. It is only after he has completed his manuscript that he gives it to his wife and his eldest daughter. His wife then reads the work for editing it and suggesting changes appropriately. His daughter also corrects for grammar. Otherwise, both of them are happily engaged bringing up toddlers in the preschool that they own. His younger daughter is a lawyer and is happily engaged in her profession. The three of them become the sounding board and the first critics for his work.

Sanjay feels that there are so many incidents happening around every day, that each of these incidents has the potential to be developed into a complete story. He is going to complete the manuscript of a work of fiction 'The Street Performers' in another two months. The idea of this story came to him when he noticed impoverished children trying to earn a little extra money for their parents by performing on traffic junctions – doing cartwheels, playing a musical instrument, or just singing and acting. Sanjay has always wondered what extraordinary heights these children can attain if their talents are nurtured.

He has also written one chapter each for two more novels, the ideas for which came to him when reading two news articles recently. Sanjay also wants to write modern adaptations of two of his favourite epics – **Ramcharitmanas** and **Mahabharat**. He has also written a few short stories and he also writes short articles on socially relevant subjects. Sanjay has published his short articles on his website www.authorsanjaychandra.com.

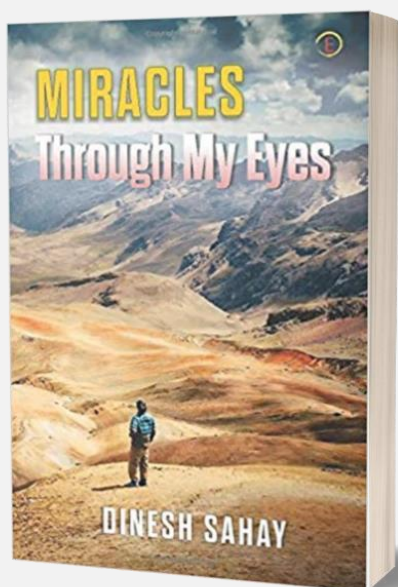
Sanjay is also a voracious reader. He reads extensively. There is always a book by his bedside. He reads before sleeping and also when in toilet. He mostly reads fiction, but he has also read many absorbing non-fiction works. One of his favorite authors is Charles Dickens, who has created some of the most loved characters.

Sanjay says with humility and also with pride – he writes with his heart – like his other pursuits, which are equally dear to his heart.

Author's Background: The Author, Dinesh Sahay (BSc, CBIM), has worked in many companies as ex. GM, Techno link Engineering Co Pvt Ltd, Techno Trade; Senior Manager Marketing & Sales Kumar Oxygen Ltd, Kumaun Gases Ltd; DM, Modi Rubber Ltd and so on. During this period, he has educated many of his members online and clients, distributors, dealers and employees of the company about his programme and guided them towards positive creation in life – with great success which includes businesses, finances etc.

AUTHOR STORY 3

AUTHOR DINESH SAHAY



Author's Background: The Author, Dinesh Sahay (BSc, CBIM), has worked in many companies as ex. GM, Techno link Engineering Co Pvt Ltd, Techno Trade; Senior Manager Marketing & Sales Kumar Oxygen Ltd, Kumaun Gases Ltd; DM, Modi Rubber Ltd and so on. During this period, he has educated many of his members online and clients, distributors, dealers and employees of the company about his programme and guided them towards positive creation in life – with great success which includes businesses, finances etc.

With the vast practical experience in the art of creation, he started his program Make Your Dreams Come True and “Enlighten the Lamp of your Fortune” in 2003, through blogs and social media. He interacted with members online. He distributed his programme as a digital book through email to all his members. Finally, he is now publishing two books – one relates to art of creation and consists of Wish-Fulfilment programme, “Enlighten the Lamp of Your Fortune”, and the other book is about his practical life experiences with miracles, “Can I Create What Stars Can't Foretell?” and Hindi version of Enlighten the lamp of your Fortune.

As an author, I wanted to choose subjects which nobody had written as of now and which is why I invented firstly a programme for mind power. I made many members for this programme all over India who successfully achieved their dreams or reached near it. The name of the programme was, "Enlighten the Lamp of your Fortune" "MakeMyDreams" etc. After successfully guiding my members I choose to write books on this subject.

I am happy to inform you that my latest book, "MIRACLES THROUGH MY EYES" which was published by EVENCE PUBLISHING Chhatishgarh, that won me Best Author for LITROMA 75 RISING AWARD TROPHY in New Town Book Fair 2020 in Kolkata on 1st January 2020. I am really happy and satisfied that my book become famous and now I am getting invites from various Book Fairs. This book got over 4.5 Stars on Amazon and wonderful reviews accross Instagram, Facebook, Goodread and online magazines like Literaturetoday, Bibliography, My Secret BookSelf etc.

AUTHOR

DINESH SAHAY

In this book, there is analysis of my life's experiences which relate to my thoughts, notions, spoken words and actions. All that was created in my life whether good or bad, were mainly due to my thoughts and actions in life accordingly. At times I saw Miracles through My Eyes which surprised me, and it was beyond my imagination. I experimented this on myself and others, and observed miracles happening in other's life as well. The book is published in both formats and available worldwide. <http://dineshsahaybooks.com/>

I wrote five books Three in English and Two in Hindi. My other famous book ENLIGHTEN THE LAMP OF YOUR FORTUNE had a outstanding reponse globally. This book contains actual programme for wish/dream/goal fulfilment and solutions to the problems in day to day life. There is third book in Hindi which also contain this programme. The book name is, "MASTISHK AUR VICHARO SE JEEVAN KI RACHNA KAISE KARE?".

My other books are;

4. ART OF STAYING YOUNG WHILE GROWING OLD.
5. VRADH HONE PAR YUVA RAHNE KI KALA.

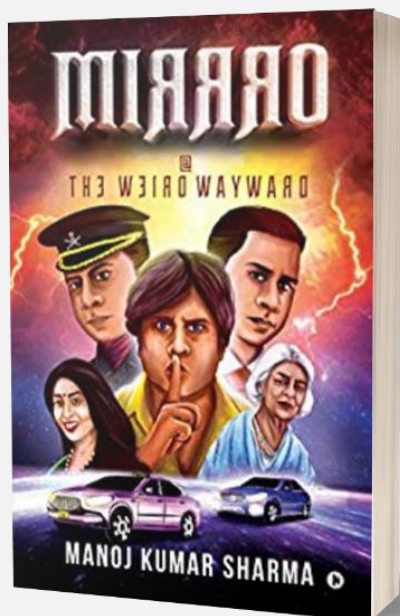
I am exploring a new subject to write book in due course of time.

Website: <http://dineshsahaybooks.com/>

About The Author: Manoj Kumar Sharma is a self-styled author, whom those stories attract much, which fearlessly break the laws to give birth to better laws. Having spent long 31 Years while working with MNCs and Corporates as Civil Engineer, enabled his journey riding through Snakes & Ladders and experiencing various shades of Life. He belongs to Thane, Maharashtra. The Author has a natural taste for Fiction Stories, searching for out-of-the-box solutions for perennial social problems.

AUTHOR STORY 4

AUTHOR MANOJ KUMAR SHARMA



Manoj Kumar Sharma is a self-styled author, whom those stories attract much, which fearlessly break the laws to give birth to better laws. Having spent long 31 Years while working with MNCs and Corporates as Civil Engineer, enabled his journey riding through Snakes & Ladders and experiencing various shades of Life. He belongs to Thane, Maharashtra. The Author has a natural taste for Fiction Stories, searching for out-of-the-box solutions for perennial social problems.

As an Author, Manoj Kumar Sharma, is a product of insatiable aspirations seeking blessings from Goddess of Knowledge Maa Sarasvatiji & inspirations from motivating Muse.

Born & brought up in Bhilai, did schooling there. During school days, used to join libraries and out of natural interest used to read lot of books from different genres. Meanwhile participated in various school & inter-school competitions (Story, Poetry, Essay, Debates, etc). And those literary experiences shadowed the Author many years till MIRRRO happened.

Graduation from Engineering College, Raipur. During college days Author was not so active in terms of Literature Activities. Just read many books / novels of various genres. And finally graduated as B.E. Civil.

Later on pursued active professional carrier as Civil Engineer while working in various MNC's and Corporate companies based in Mumbai.

But, while all those years in professional life, the childhood aspirations for creativity shadowed the Author like hell.

Meanwhile in year 2000, out of craving for literary creativity, started writing something or other thing, which was not so structured and directionless. Then again started writing in year 2012, but, was never ever consistent.

Then after retirement aggregated everything hibernating in subconscious mind & few hapazardly lying written-pieces.....finally MIRRRO alighted...

MIRRRO @ THE WEIRD WAYWARD is a Social Fiction / Urban Fiction...where India's perennial social problems are targeted from absolute cleansing perspectives in unimaginable, unthoughtful weird ways....which never ever happened in any part of the world.

AUTHOR

MANOJ KUMAR SHARMA

Its pleasure to share that within few days after publishing (24 October 2019), the debut novel "MIRRRO @ THE WEIRD WAYWARD" attained into the Amazon Bestseller Category.

Till date more than 200 reviews are received on Amazon, Goodreads and other social platforms each, and, the counts are increasing day by day.

Now, its immense pleasure to share that the Author has been awarded by ICMDR as Best Debut Author on 04th Feb 2020, which was quite inspiring and motivating milestone in the journey of the novel "MIRRRO:.

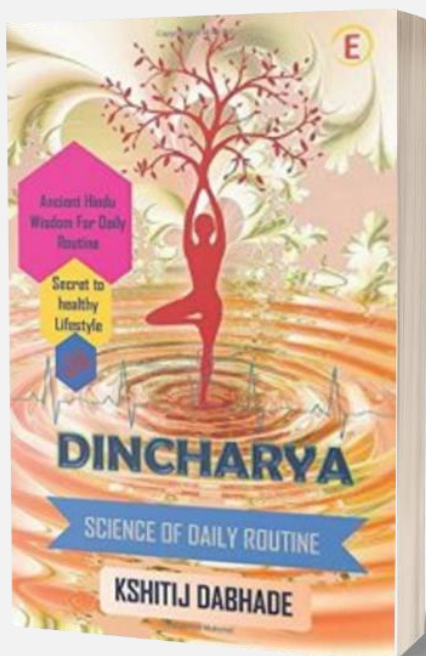
Author has future plans for Books on various known issues of our day-to-day lives... but, in ways beyond innovativeness...

As an overview the Author belives that Writing is a Soulful Act, blessed by Maa Sarasvatiji & Muse... not by the Author.

Kshitij Dabhade has completed his B.E in Computer Science and MBA (Finance) from Mumbai University. At 22 years of age he started a Mumbai based consultancy firm Eclat Infotainment Pvt Ltd. Today he is the Founder and Director the company. Kshitij Dabhade very firmly believes that Hindu Scriptures are doorway to profound wisdom and knowledge. Young Indian writers have to take the initiative to study this scriptures and bring this knowledge to the younger generation of not just India but world, explaining the younger generation the scientific meaning behind Hindu culture and tradition so that they are widely accepted and used and not brushed off as blind faith or superstition.

AUTHOR STORY 5

AUTHOR KSHITIJ DABHADE



AUTHOR

KSHITIJ

DABHADE

Kshitij Dabhade is the author of *Dincharya: science of daily routine*. He is computer science engineer and MBA in finance. At 22 years of age he started a Mumbai based consultancy firm Eclat Infotainment Pvt Ltd. Today he is the Founder and Director the company. Kshitij Dabhade very firmly believes that Hindu Scriptures are doorway to profound wisdom and knowledge. Young Indian writers have to take the initiative to study this scriptures and bring this knowledge to the people of not just India but world, explaining them the scientific meaning behind Hindu culture and traditions so that they are widely accepted, used and not brushed off as blind faith or superstition. *Dincharya: science of daily routine* is one such attempt where author wants to show the world the profoundness of Indian Scriptures and the science behind it.

On asking Kshitij how did his writing journey started, Kshitij said when I was a student I used to write notes every night introspecting how I have spent my day. I started writing with one page. One page became two and two pages became many and I fell in love with writing. But all this writing was only for introspection.

I understood the real power of writing when I got opportunity to write for a YouTube channel. The viewers of the channel would leave comment or write back saying we like the content of the channel.

When you get reviews like this you realise that you are striking the right chord with the audience and you as writer realise the power of pen and the words that flow through the pen.

Kshitij Dabhade has also written a film script which is under consideration by a production house.

On asking why did you write a book on *Dincharya*, Kshitij said I thought of writing a book on *Dincharya* because,

You may be a housewife, a student, a retired person or a working person, a day is all we have to live and work. We have no choice over that. A day is the smallest unit of your life. How you spend your day will determine how you spend your life. Once this fact is understood how you spend your day is important and significant question. You can either waste a day or use it to increase your productivity and health. *Dincharya: science of daily* will teach readers the secrets to master daily routine and live a healthy and fruitful day. *Dincharya* is the first step towards taking charge of your life and mastering it.

My message for budding writers is read a lot before you start your debut book. Reading a book is first step towards writing a book. When you are done with reading, be honest to your idea and start writing and enjoy the journey. A good Publisher will help you in the journey of your debut book. All the best!

LOVE In Siesta

BOOK REVIEW

1



About the book

Eight entries into consciousness, eight spots of Time. Blood whispers. Before head and heart, the instinct replies. Lust is the issue of the blood. The human collective unconscious consists of the primeval instinct, the archetypes. Love in Siesta captures the mysterious human mind, aspects and behaviour of Time through human history.

“Reviewed by Aaloy Gangopadhyay

Aaloy Gangopadhyay is a writer of travelogues, contributes articles for United Nations, Times NIE, Observer, Le Visage, Ankur Art and Cultural Magazine, The Mag. A Spell Bee Wiz, his travellogues are labelled as “feast of mind’s eyes”. Twice awarded for his contribution of articles from United Nations; Awarded with “Verbal mention” and “Special mention” in MUNs; Participates in various MUNs and musical Fests.



Love In Siesta

Into the Twilights of Time

The dark mystery of human psyche can only be felt in Siesta. Hercule Poirot once remarked, "Even Poirot cannot solve one mystery, the mystery of love." It's like a Siesta. But how many of us ever imagined about how emotions could have been expressed to each other, say, ten thousand years ago? There are so many factors through which a conscious material blooms like a flower in an unconscious mind.

Avik has been a published author for two decades. The "critic, columnist and academic" label has been there as a known tag with him both at home and abroad. But this is his first collection of stories. The sacred and enigmatic space of learning played cynosure all through his life. His literature revolves keeping very close proximity to History and evolution. With a perseverance of an archaeologist and subtle sensitivity of a poet his laborious effort of coherent recording gives birth to his unique creations. As a critic has mentioned of him- "...he is a Historian of Literature and Literati of the Minds."

There are titles that lure the readers initially for a different reason and then shifts the point of interest to a sphere totally into an unexpected realm. Love in Siesta by Avik Gangopadhyay, is such a collection of short stories with no set types, no single line of commonality that are in the vogue. All the eight stories belong to different time-scale: beginning from 8000 B.C. to late 1990s, through 6000, B.C., 4000 B.C. 1100 A.D, 1960s and 1980s. The stories capture Time "framed by the evolution of human instinct with shades of changing socio-psyche rationale where man-woman relation remains in the pivot". The stories are entries into consciousness, into spots of Time, where blood whispers and before head and heart, the instinct replies. The monosyllabic and di-syllabic names of the characters, a characteristic of a primitive sound system, keep the much-needed air of mystery of their gender, that help the readers to enter into the dark recesses of human instinct.

The 115-page book, with an exquisite cover and blurb by noted artiste Sujit Das, published by Xpress Publications.com, Kerala, India, tempts an entrance into the mental being rather than into the world of action. In the first three stories, Time is the first-person narrator, who sails through four thousand years, countering Ruba, Suta, Bhami by the river Mati in The Lost Yearn from the Charnel House, Juna, Kanta and Ruda at the foothills of Kusha in On the Heels of Fortune, Dima and Ula beside worshipping stones in The Primeval Lust. Even in the following two stories, Time teases with morality-immorality questions in settling societies practicing incest in The Amoral Incests and also awakens patriotic humanism within a sensualist in The Conscientious Epicurean.

The stories set in contemporaneity- In Calm Waters, Fire in the Lighthouse and Drizzle from the Brooding Cloud are psychological glimpses of shades of instinct, lust and love in men and women of various age group flavoured by modern sensibilities.

It is a unique aesthetic experience to read eight types of narrative styles destined for eight stories. Without any six-pack ornamentation and addition of artificial hues for embellishment, the author has enabled to invest the stories with original thematics, supported by compatible stylistics.

Already an established writer and columnist, Avik Gangopadhyay has created an array of shimmering images, specially in his depiction of Time, aptly epitomised as Neo-Avikism in the Postface of the book. The book will remain a Five-star publication to me on the beckons of love from Time Immemorial.

At the kernel, Avik's craft encompasses the spectrum of mysterious human mind. Aspects and behaviour of Time through human history add hues to it. The author's focus is on the human instinct, with and without inhibition and time-specific cultural endowment.

True, it is different, because the eight stories of this collection are eight entries into consciousness, eight spots of Time, where Blood whispers. Before head and heart, the instinct replies. Lust is the issue of the blood. The human collective unconscious consists of the primeval instinct, the archetypes. Love in Siesta captures that mysterious human consciousness, aspects and behaviour of Time. Such treatments often label one's stories as 'One of its kind'.

To me what is most praiseworthy is his handling of Time and characters and exploration into the pre-civilization dystopia. The sheer beauty of the world unseen will be a temptation for adaptation to short films. The book is a combination of success marked by respect, not only as a literary writer, but also having elements to teach would-be writers, specially in dealing with so little available elements

Knowledge of psychology and narrative techniques helped the author to weave situations. Study of cultural anthropology, archaeology and gerontology made the situations realistic when themes are set in distant past. The sense of language and characterization comes from conscious reading and creative imagination, using mono and di-syllabic names, a supposed trend in the primitive ages, helped to create the mystery of gender or asexual identity. As science fiction or future-centric writings are ample at hands but not so many with Time past, it was a challenge that he consciously undertook. Visualization was vital and the author has passed in that section, at least the aesthetic appeal assure the same.

DINCHARYA

Science Of Daily Routine

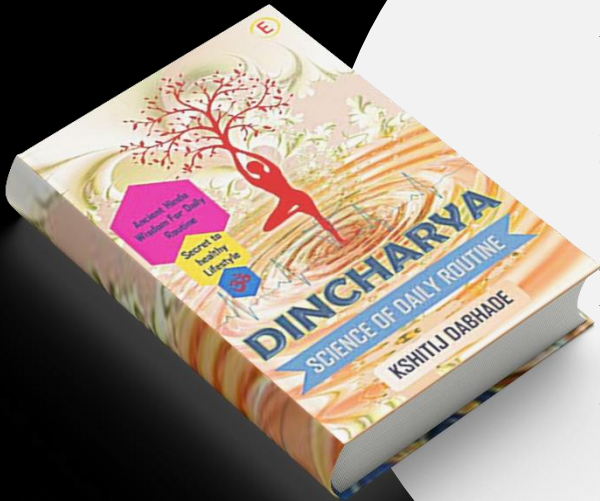
BOOK REVIEW

2

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About the book

Why I wrote a book on **Dincharya: Science of daily routine**? You may be a housewife, a student, retired person or a working person, a day is all we have and a day we have to live. We have no choice over that. A day is the smallest unit of your life. How you spend your day will determine how you spend your life. When this fact is understood how you spend your day is important and significant question. You can either waste a day or use it to increase your productivity and health. Dincharya: Science of daily routine will teach readers the secrets to master daily routine and live a healthy and fruitful day. Dincharya is the first step towards taking charge of your life and mastering it.



“

About the author

Kshitij Dabhadhe has completed his B.E in Computer Science and MBA (Finance) from Mumbai University. At 22 years of age he started a Mumbai based consultancy firm Eclat Infotainment Pvt Ltd. Today he is the Founder and Director the company. Kshitij Dabhadhe very firmly believes that Hindu Scriptures are doorway to profound wisdom and knowledge. Young Indian writers have to take the initiative to study this scriptures and bring this knowledge to the younger generation of not just India but world, explaining the younger generation the scientific meaning behind Hindu culture and tradition so that they are widely accepted and used and not brushed off as blind faith or superstition.

DINCHARYA

Science Of Daily Routine

In his “Elegy Written in a country churchyard”, Thomas Gray wrote the famous line, “Far Far from the madding crowd’s ignoble strife, Their sober wishes never learned to stray..” which talks about the simple life of the village people which is free of stress and worries and is more peaceful and healthy due to the life conditions they have. This later became the title of one of Thomas Hardy’s novels where he showed the wrong effects of industrialization on humanity which were the result of the shifting of people from the simple village to complex and demanding city life which eventually affects their health. In modern contemporary writing, Kshitij Dabhade’s “Dincharya, science of daily routine” is one such attempt to remind the reader of Gray’s line.

In his short but beautifully written book, Dabhade has attempted to take an Indian to his/her roots and strongly and appropriately attempts to remind every person of the forgotten rich culture and heritage of his country in general and Hindu religion in particular. Without politicizing the religious aspects, he takes up the task of explaining religion in terms of science or as he states it himself, the religion which evolved from science.

Through his writing, the author has attempted to raise concerns over the unhealthy life style of human beings due to the demanding nature of their respective fields and also their own lethargy and negligence. He keeps the narrator unnamed in order to make any person identify with him and relate himself/herself to him and trace his or her unhealthy habits through him. The habits and lifestyle he follows are more or less the same which an average city individual follows. The narrator lives in the busy city and follows a mundane routine. He has achieved success in terms of running a successful business and earning good money. But he lacks the peace of mind which actually is the key to happiness which anyone feels from inside. Thereafter, on visiting his village the actual turn of events happens.

The author attempts to practically explain the effects and importance of following the “Dincharya” which was followed by ancient people but has been discarded and ignored by most of the people owing to the powerful effect of western culture and also years of colonization. He explains it through the words of a guru who is an emblem of knowledge and has answers to every possible question the narrator could ask.

The reader is reminded of the irony of the situation that the same western society people who have casted their effect and marginalized the original Indian culture are adopting and practicing ancient Indian ways of living by studying Indian culture and scriptures.

Undoubtedly, the author himself has done commendable research work before writing the book and has written it almost flawlessly and effortlessly. He artistically uses the guru-shishya (teacher- disciple) narrative to convey his thought. He achieves two targets by using this narrative style. On the one hand he takes the reader to the roots of Indian culture and heritage and on the other hand he reminds the reader about the forgotten relationship which was most regarded and respectable at one point of time.

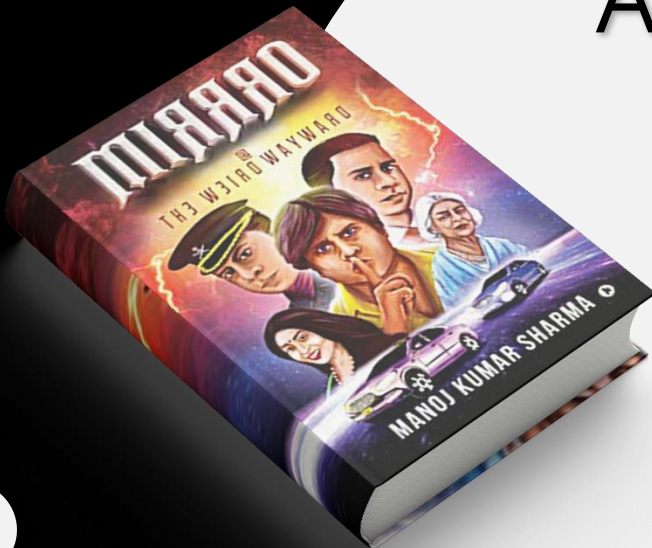
The book contains some very important secrets to a healthy and peaceful life which every person irrespective of religion should follow. Dabhade does begin with the idea of a Hindu learning about his tradition but explains how Hinduism is less of a religion and more of a science as every act done has a scientific explanation. Other than that, later the guru takes his shishya beyond the realms of religion to understand how a few practices will only promote a healthy lifestyle for him, peace to his mind and a better, smoother life ahead.

For all the people who do not know the cultural values of Indian culture, this book is more like a guide to a better life. For those who have some idea, perhaps this book can add on to their knowledge further. This book is not a conventional story but a practical book with systems that can be followed and scientific explanations of why things are done the way they are. One simple example in this regard is waking up in the morning. The language that the author has used is keeping in mind all age groups and their ability to understand things. Since the present generation is scientific in thought, he takes the task of relating everything with science and the universe to make the meanings more clear and convincing. The author has given appropriate and good explanation to even a minute thing like this by putting words into the mouth of the guru. Keeping this idea in mind, this book serves to guide and enlighten people of all age groups from young to adult to even the older generations.

MIRIAM At THE WEIRD WAYWARD

BOOK REVIEW

3



About the book

INDIA, as a developing Nation, grown up manifolds and on the verge of being World's Super Power with Richest Economy. But at the same time many perennial social problems also grew manifolds, remained inattentive and giving birth to exponential intensification to grievances. The volcanoes of grievances led to Genesis of MIRIAM...

About the author

Manoj Kumar Sharma is a self-styled author, whom those stories attract much, which fearlessly break the laws to give birth to better laws. Having spent long 31 Years while working with MNCs and Corporates as Civil Engineer, enabled his journey riding through Snakes & Ladders and experiencing various shades of Life. He belongs to Thane, Maharashtra. The Author has a natural taste for Fiction Stories, searching for out-of-the-box solutions for perennial social problems.

Mirrro

at THE WEIRD WAYWARD

Manoj Kumar Sharma's "Mirrro" is a thrilling tale filled with twists and turns to hold on to the reader's interest and imagination. He artistically targets the problems faced by maximum number of people which are smoking and drinking. He brings these problems and their after effects to the forefront by the character of Indo. He also talks about the circumstances due to which the result is such. Since the text is set in the future, the imagination of the author regarding the usage of artificial intelligence and the predictions of what a developed India would be like etc is interesting. At one level, the author seems to suggest that even if India progresses and moves on the road to becoming a developed country, the problems that are apparent today will remain tomorrow if not solved in the present. The plotline is linear and simple but the issues the author raises are serious and important. The manner in which the author narrates the story is what holds the attention of the reader. Time and again, the author also uses pictures in between the text to predict the events which further ignites the imagination of the reader by adding vividness.

Set in Dehradun and Mumbai, a major portion of the narrative is set in the past to narrate the events of Indo's life. Through the novel, the author has made a brilliant attempt to raise multiple issues that affect humans psychologically and socially. The issues he raises are not just the ones that affect adults, but also the ones that affect children and youngsters. The brutality against Maasma is an attempt by the author to draw attention to the affects the victim and all the near and dear have to suffer. He suggests that the position of women cannot change even if our country is developed and has progressed. Indo on the other hand seems to be a weak person even though he belonged to a family of freedom fighters as his character and health go on deteriorating till the end, thus shattering the stereotype image of a hero. This only makes his character more realistic and human. His character becomes a representative of many youths who face crisis and tough situations away from home and family and take decisions that impact the rest of their lives. Placing him against a person opposite to his character, his grandmother only shows the strength of a female where age is only a number. Indo appears miserably and insanely immature in handling the crisis he faces at different junctures in his life while his grandmother is strong, resilient and an "iron lady" (as the narrator puts it). Indo is also a victim of his circumstances and sometimes the readers become sympathetic towards his plight. Through his grandmother the reader can also see the difference of the thought process, approaches and strength of the two generations. The themes the author talks about are the status of women, education, society, system (social and political), the importance of family ties, experience, wisdom and love.

Mirrro, the creation of both the author and Indo is more like the need of the hour, taking immediate action and doing whatever it takes to make things right. Here too, the wisdom of the earlier generation comes into play. Mirrro can signify the more practical and insensitive side of a person. The presence of Mirrro is not for a very long time but it is because of Mirrro that the events are kicked off at the beginning of the novel. The content of the novel is deep, tragic, disturbing and serious. Since it deals with issues that confront the present-day society, the novel becomes more of a practical read and a reality check at the same time. The readership is more likely to be among the adult age group who are aware of the surroundings and routine events.

The writing style is very easy to comprehend and maintains the flow of the story. Sometimes, scenes felt a bit stretchy but no negative views on them as well. The characters are very well etched such that you will correlate them with your family members very easily. Many-a-times, I felt that as if I am listening to some actual conversation within a family. His grandmother was his pillar all-along! Every single word speaks this aloud. I could sense the warmth of the love and care exchanged between them. The author keeps switching from novel form to drama form throughout. This interesting mixture of genres makes his work stand out from the rest of the contemporary writings. His unique writing style and the frequent switching of narratives defines his craft, skill and his flair to write. His skill at writing is remarkably exceptional. For those who are interested in reading something more practical, socially sensitive and serious content which shows both humans and their relationships balanced with their facing the society and the encounters and issues they face, Sharma's book is a perfect read. Truest me, you will wish to meet your elders if you read it. Book cover is just one parameter where I am not happy with

As a custom, I usually highlight who the best target audience would be for any given title recommendation. For this one, I recommend this title especially for college students for two reasons. First, they will get an alternate view for the thoughts they might be encountering at this phase of their lives. Secondly, for picking up the script for the drama enacting or some festival presentation. Infact, this makes a perfect pick for class discussion for literature students as well.

THE LIFE And Times of a Common Man

BOOK REVIEW

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About the book

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A COMMON MAN is a Memoir by Sanjay Chandra, who has penned down his JOURNEY OF LIFE in this beautiful read. Born in a middle class family, in a small town of India, he talks about the 'TIMES' in the year 1959, when he was born and continues the describing the 'LIFE' of a Common Man till 2010 and concludes it with an open ending, stating it's a "conclusion, but not the end".



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About the author

Sanjay Chandra was born in a middle-class family in small-town India in 1959. He completed his professional degree in electrical engineering and joined the railway services. He first quit his railway job to join a government company, and then quit working for the government altogether to join the private sector. Eventually, he quit the private sector also and became an entrepreneur.

THE LIFE

And Times Of A Common Man

As children everyone enjoys listening about the life and happenings of elder people. Everyone listens, learns and tries to use their acquired wisdom to make their lives a bit better. This is where the quote, “old is gold” seems appropriate and applicable. The reader gets a similar feeling when he/she reads “The Life and times of a common man” written by Sanjay Chandra. Chandra’s book, is an easy to read in one go kind of book which, to a certain extent seems autobiographical, but at the same time has its own elements of fantasy and comedy. It is like a sequence of events being narrated by the author as he recalls his past time.

He began his professional career with Indian Railways, after completing his professional degree in electrical engineering. He first quit his railway job to join a government company and then quit to join the private sector. Later he quit the private sector to become an entrepreneur and a writer. Therefore, a person, a common man, who has had his share of ups and downs, has experienced the government and private sector both in addition to the challenging field of entrepreneurship, must have not greyed his hair under the sun. A Memoir from such a person would obviously be full of wisdom and experience.

If one has to get an idea about the life of common man during British times and after their leaving the country, “The life and times of a common man” is a promising read for sure. He recalls not only his earlier generations but also his own childhood and the mischievous nature he had back then. He reminds the reader that how with the passage of every decade he had new prospects and targets in mind to achieve and every person should also keep some targets which he/she can talk about in the later stages of their lives.

We have heard and read, many times, never underestimate the power of a common man. This book gave me a very calming vibe, an excursion I am glad, I took. Books help us go places when we have to stay where we are and this book did just that. I don’t choose to be a common man... it is my right to be uncommon if I can... I seek opportunity- not security... I want to take the calculated risk, to dream and to build, to fail and to succeed... to refuse to barter incentive for a file... I prefer the challenges of life to the guaranteed existence, the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of utopias. By PETER O'TOOLE. A Memoir is a historical account or biography written from personal knowledge. It is more or less a subset of an autobiography. All memoirs are – at their heart – autobiographies, not all autobiographies are memoirs. An autobiography is the story of the author’s life, while a memoir is a sliver of that. It’s the same difference as between a whole cake and a slice of cake.

Sanjay Chandra, writes he was fascinated by the story; of a child in Oliver Twist, of a child till he’s an adult in Pip and of a child till his old age in David Copperfield. The book begins with the year 1982 and is titled “Journey”. It starts with a train journey, from old Delhi railway station till Bombay (now Mumbai). He was 23 years old at that time and had joined the elite Railway Services. It describes in detail, the first day of the author, the train journey experience, the difficulties he faced, the initial rush of being a class-1 railway officer... He also talks about how he used to catch glimpses of TV, movie stars, singers and authors, off and on on his travels.

The story moves backwards to the year 1959, titled as “Landmark” when the author was born to a middle class family. It talks about history of India, pre and post-independence era, the life in those times. He talks in detail about his ancestors and about few things which have not changed till date. Each and every detail that the author shares has a story to tell and an experience which enriches and a lesson to learn. In the next chapter, titled “Steps”, he talks about the time between 1959-1970, the incidents during the formative years, true raw accounts of his innocent, carefree childhood. He mentions little small anecdotes, snippets from his childhood and what did he learn and gain from those experiences.. Chronologically, the story moves on with precious lessons to learn and experiences to enrich. The author, Sanjay Chandra, concludes with an ending note saying “no child is born common, but its life can be common or special as it chooses.” I chose not to remain common. He has started writing with the hope that his voice touches lives and others are encouraged to lead a life less common. He says, parents still consider engineering and medical, the traditional safe career options, to be the best choice for their kids despite numerous other better-paying career options. The pure intention behind this book is to inspire the common man, from the middle-class background, to do something different.

A must read especially for teenagers who are deciding their career paths and are still confused, for parents who force their dreams on their kids and for the common man who is struggling, juggling his job and personal responsibilities. Priced at a nominal price point of INR 195/- @amazon.in for paperback and for INR 120/- @amazonkindle for the ebook version, it’s a must read. Published by Notion Press in Sep.2019, it is a quick and enlightening read with 9 chapters covering 153 pages.

Abyss: 1

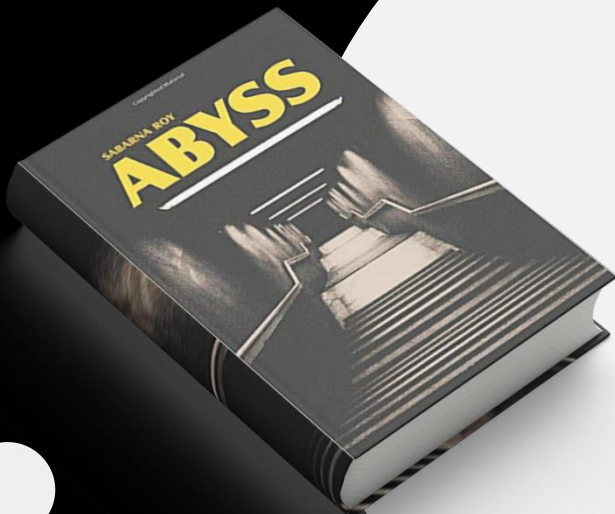
BOOK REVIEW

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About the book

Abyss is a full length play in two acts with an interval in between. It is essentially a racy crime thriller full of gritty suspense. Act one builds up slowly to result in a crescendo of conflicts between personalities and ideas finally to end with an unnatural death before the interval. Is it a suicide or a murder? Act two evolves through a series of incisive interrogations to unravel the truth, which is deeply disturbing and affecting. As the play unfolds into a very well crafted situational thriller, underneath is the debate about using land for agriculture or for industry, the ethics of a working author and the nexus of a modern state all wonderfully enmeshed into its storyline and the personal lives of its subtly etched out characters. The highpoints of the play are its central conflict between a mother and her daughter and its female sleuth? Renuka.



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About the author

Sabarna Roy was born in Calcutta on December 15, 1967. By training he is a first class honors Civil Engineering graduate passed out from Jadavpur University in the year 1988. He is presently working as a Senior Vice President [Business Development] at Electrosteel Castings Limited. He looks after Applications Technology and Strategy apart from Business Development.

Abyss: 1

Most of the present day writers prefer to write in prose form and some try their hand at poetry. In this time when drama seems to have lost favor owing to the revolution of entertainment industry in filmmaking and online streaming, Sabarna Roy's drama, "Abyss" serves the purpose of reminding the readers about the importance of the literary form of drama which can never be challenged by any form of entertainment. The playwright has definitely taken a risk in writing the serious and critical drama where the subject he explores may seem unacceptable to some people, yet that can be overlooked when the reader/audience tries to closely observe and understand the issues that the characters face.

An interesting, dramatic, mysterious and tragic two-act full length play with an interval in between, Roy has artistically juxtaposed the study and analysis of love, lust, jealousy, psychological complexities of humans, relationships, ambition and fight for survival. The playwright explores all these ideas with the help of strongly developed and life-like characters. The story of two generations is explored in detail in the drama through a few members of the families. With this the playwright also skillfully manages to shock the audience and create the element of suspense and mystery. Set in Kolkata in an undefined period of time, the play has very lively and realistic characters who appear to be closer to life and very humanly due to their behavior, their instincts and their acts.

The play is undisputedly a tragedy but this fact fades away because of the other ideas that the playwright goes on to explore. To pinpoint and decide on only one particular theme would not be absolute justice to the playwright's craft. Roy explores different themes about the different forms of love: of a mother for her child, between a lover and beloved, between other immediate relatives. Other than that, the position of women in the society, the institution of marriage, the problems with writers, the levels to which a person's selfishness can push him or her to.

Majorly 3 characters take up the prominent center stage. Debasree comes across as a strong, powerful woman with an iron will and headstrong ambition. At the same time, she also shows her motherly instinct through her love for her daughter, Oindrila. Her daughter appears to be a victim of circumstances and unfortunately unaware of the reason of things happening to her. In her desire to protect her daughter, Debasree at times appears to be a control freak who literally wants to make her daughter live on her terms. Perhaps the most complex of all the characters is Mriganka. In the opening scene he seems to be the ideal lover but as the play progresses, his character undergoes changes that are totally unexpected.

How from a lover he becomes responsible for his beloved's misery and also the person who led to her death is far from believable when the reader first meets him in the first scene. He is blunt, unsentimental and hard (at the emotional front). His past relationships are also not ordinary kind, nor are his characters which he builds in his novels.

Other characters do not have such prominent roles and more or less make their respective contributions as time calls for it. The main narrative of the play is built up in the first four scenes of the play and only after that, the other characters appear on stage and perform their parts.

From the opening scene to the end of the play, the play has the ability to hold the audience and leave them guessing on the true story till the climax scene. More than surprising the reader, he is able to give jolts trying to suggest how dark people's realities can be.

Since the playwright is an avid reader, the influence is clearly visible in his style of writing and the craft with which he creates scene after scene with each character. The air of mystery and something unusual is built up from the beginning and it goes on till the very end part. The title of the play, "Abyss" is a bit difficult to understand and interpret in the first place. But by inserting Renuka's speech in the climax scene, the playwright ensures to justify the title and it seems appropriate and justified. Somewhere, Renuka becomes Roy's mouthpiece and actually speaking what the playwright would say to the audience directly.

Due to the nature of content of the play, it is more worth watching for the elder grown up, mature people. For kids and teenagers, it would perhaps be a bit challenging to absorb the serious nature of the plotline. Since it is a drama, it would be more enjoyable when it is performed but reading it also manages to keep the flavor intact.

TLT SPECIALS | Article by Dr Roopleen

How To Ignite Motivation And Find Your Drive To Write

If you are an aspiring writer, know what you're getting yourself into.

Books they say, don't write themselves. You have to begin, follow through and complete your manuscript. And for all of that—besides the writing skills—you need motivation.

Many writers start passionately but soon find that they've gotten out of groove—the ideas won't come and the words won't flow.

Motivation for doing anything worthwhile is hard to come by and sustaining it is even more challenging. What's more, your motivation levels do not remain the same throughout. Some days you'll be highly driven and experience bursts of inspiration. Other days you'll feel the dip. If you want to be a great writer, you need to learn to cope with phases when you're at your lowest ebb and learn to re-ignite the fire.

Here are 12 effective ways you can master motivation and get your mojo back—

1. Establish winning habits

If you're a serious writer, don't take your writing lightly. No matter how good you are, you cannot write all day. You need to set a writing pattern. Depending on whether you're an early bird or a night owl, figure out a time when you're at your creative best. This will help you beat distractions and keep yourself seated. Haruki Murakami rightly said, "The repetition itself becomes the important thing."

2. Inculcate discipline

Many writers start writing with good intentions but soon run out of steam. Good writing calls for dedication, hard work and most of all self-discipline. Ernest Hemingway emphatically advised 'one must have discipline.' He himself practiced rigorous discipline and wrote every single day while working on a book.

3. Take regular breaks

Write as much as you want to—within your writing time—but make sure you take regular breaks. This is important to rejuvenate yourself and come back to writing with a clear mind. Some writers take multiple, micro-breaks while others prefer 2-3 bigger breaks. Do what works for you. Don't feel guilty for taking time away. In writing, what matters is you remain productive and have your juices flowing.

4. Don't force yourself

Remove yourself from the writing space when you don't feel like writing; forcing yourself rarely works. If you feel drained out, the rule is: don't flog yourself. Get your mind off from writing and engage in something else for a while till you feel motivated and can get started again.

5. Never stop believing in yourself

Feeling de-motivated is a passing phase; don't let self-doubt creep in. No matter how many times you face the block, never stop believing in yourself. Always remember: 'Once a writer, always a writer; no one can take away the skill from you.' Develop unshakable belief in yourself; believe in the deepest core.

6. Create a stimulating workspace

A cluttered writing desk is not only a potential source of distraction but can also sap your energy. To keep yourself motivated, there's nothing better than a clear, organized, clutter-free minimalist desk where you can feel relaxed and enjoy the writing process.

7. Give yourself goals

Without goals, you cannot make any progress. So set clearly defined writing goals for yourself at the outset. Some prolific writers can finish a chapter or two a day, while others manage only a scene or so. Depending on your stamina, give yourself a daily target. Whatever you wish to accomplish, commit to your goal and start writing. Don't worry about the quality of work that comes out, just focus on your goal and do everything possible to get there.

8. Measure your progress

One of the easiest ways to stay inspired is by tracking your progress. Some do it by scenes and chapters, others do it by word count. Use whatever suits you. It doesn't matter if you're penning down 100 words or writing for only 20 minutes per day. What matters is that you write consistently.

9. Write random pieces

When you're stuck, the immediate goal is to get the flow back, what you write doesn't matter. As the saying goes—action comes before motivation. Write randomly, anything that comes to your mind—pour down your feelings, expand a thought, describe an idea or have an opinion on anything going around you.

10. Don't get into perfection

Many a times, writers get stuck looking for that perfect word or sentence and are unable to make any headway. When that happens, nudge yourself to string the words together, put the thoughts across and write. Just write. The inappropriate words can be changed later; the grammatical errors can be fixed in another sitting. Like Jodi Picoult explained, "You can always edit a bad page. You can't edit a blank page."

11. Keep fit

Work your body to work your mind. When nothing else does, exercise can do the magic. Get physical, go out for a walk, jog, run or hit the gym. Not only will it unblock your mind but also boost your energy. An important part of keeping fit is eating healthy. Many writers use chocolates or some favourite food item and pour in gallons of caffeine to keep themselves 'in the mood for writing.' The rule of thumb is—practice moderation and avoid going overboard.

12. Read profusely

Lisa See said: "Read a thousand books, and your words will flow like a river." Reading habit is a simple thing that has a big pay off. Books not only give you a plethora of information but also teach you a lot about different writing styles and help you differentiate between good and great writing. Reading also keeps your mind active and enriches your vocabulary. Stephen King called reading "the creative centre of a writer's life."

Motivation they say, is fickle; it comes and goes. Thus you have to fire yourself up regularly. If you're a writer and love writing, your mojo will come back. Keep the faith. Keep flexing your motivation muscle and nothing can stop you from getting your best work out to the world.

About the Author

Dr. Roopleen is a motivational writer, life coach, blogger, super-specialist eye surgeon and author of 6 books. She is a productivity ninja and is passionate about helping people reach their full potential.

Roopleen can be reached out at:
drroopleen@rediffmail.com
www.drroopleen.com
www.yournextlevelsucccess.com

**BOOKS BY DR ROOPLEEN**