

Taslima Nasreen Lajja English

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EATON KENDRICK

Going Global books catalog

Set in the backdrop of the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971, this book recollects Taslima Nasrin's early years. From her birth on a holy day to the dawn of womanhood at fourteen to her earliest memories that alternate between scenes of violence, memories of her pious mother, the rise of religious fundamentalism, the trauma of molestation and the beginning of a journey that redefined her world, *My Girlhood* is a tour de force.

Shodh Ramakanta Rath

From the exiled Bangladeshi poet and internationally acclaimed author of *Shame* comes a delicious tale about getting even. In modern Bangladesh, Jhumur marries for love and imagines life with her husband, Haroon, will continue just as it did when they were dating. But once she crosses the threshold of Haroon's lavish family home, Jhumur is expected to play the role of a traditional Muslim wife: head covered, eyes averted, and unable to leave the house without an escort. When she becomes pregnant, Jhumur is shocked to discover that Haroon does not believe the baby is his, demanding an immediate termination of the pregnancy.

Overwhelmed by his distrust, Jhumur plots her payback in the arms of a handsome and artistic neighbor. Readers the world over will eat up this cautionary tale of love, lust, and blood ties, delivered by the award-winning "voice of humanism everywhere" (Wole Soyinka).

The Story of Felanee Notion Press

Story in the form of a novel of the assassination of India's saintly leader, Mahatma Gandhi, in January, 1948.

100 Poems of Taslima Nasreen Global Collective Publishers

A savage indictment of religious extremism and man's inhumanity to man, Lajja was banned in Bangladesh, but became a bestseller in the rest of the world. The Duttas—Sudhamoy and Kironmoyee, and their children, Suranjan and Maya— have lived in Bangladesh all their lives. Despite being members of a

small, vulnerable Hindu community, they refuse to leave their country, unlike most of their friends and relatives. Sudhamoy believes with a naive mix of optimism and idealism that his motherland will not let him down. And then, on 6 December 1992, the Babri Masjid is demolished. The world condemns the incident, but its immediate fallout is felt most acutely in Bangladesh, where Muslim mobs begin to seek out and attack Hindus. The nightmare inevitably arrives at the Duttas' doorstep, and their world begins to fall apart.

Homecoming Open Road + Grove/Atlantic

A "painfully beautiful" (Booklist), heartwarming, and charmingly funny debut novel about how a discovered box in the attic leads one Bengali American family down a path toward understanding the importance of family, even when splintered. Shantanu Das is living in the shadows of his past. In his fifties, he finds himself isolated from his traditional Bengali community after a devastating divorce from his wife, Chaitali; he hasn't spoken to his older daughter, Mitali, in months. Years before, when his younger daughter, Keya, came out as gay, no one in the Das family could find the words they needed. As each worked up the courage to say sorry, fate intervened: Keya was killed in a car crash. So, when Shantanu finds an unfinished play Keya and her girlfriend had been writing, Mitali approaches the family with a wild idea: What if they were to put it on? It would be a way to honor Keya and finally apologize. Here, it seems, are the words that have escaped them over and over again. Set in the vibrant world of Bengalis in the New Jersey suburbs, this "delightful" (Diksha Basu, author of *The Windfall*) debut novel is both poignant and, at times, a surprisingly hilarious testament to the unexpected ways we build family and find love, old and new.

Inscrutable Americans Penguin UK
Scarlett McKennon's life in the big city is a big flop. Her cupcake bakery went under, her roommate at her expensive apartment left her high and dry, and her girlfriend just reacted to "I love you" with "No thanks." Her sophisticated metropolitan dream has crumbled all around her, and

the only thing left to do is pull up stakes and return to the small town where she grew up. What could be worse than limping home in defeat? The minute she steps off the train, Scarlett finds out: her first love, Joan, is waiting there to drive her into town, looking like the picture of sexy confidence. Joan was once a scared, self-conscious girl; now she's come into her own as a mechanic and soccer coach, and Scarlett can't help but wonder what might have been. Carrying on a secret high-school romance in a conservative town was brutal, and Joan hadn't been able to take the pressure. She broke Scarlett's heart in exchange for a "normal" life that was doomed from the beginning. Now that Joan's divorced, fate keeps putting Scarlett in her path. They may have tried to forget each other, but their chemistry is still undeniable. Both women start to wonder if they might be right for each other after all... But is the spark they both feel enough, or will their shared past prove too painful to overcome? Find out in this new lesbian romance by wife-and-wife authors Marian Snowe and Ruby Grandin!
Meatless Days University of Chicago Press

'The textual tension between the real and the imaginary nourishes and complicates the narrative ... *Shameless* exposes the hypocrisies of Kolkata, the distrust and hatred that exists between the [Hindu and Muslim] communities.' -- Ashutosh Bhardwaj, award-winning writer and journalist 'Shameless is a far more marinated novel than its predecessor ... The emotional seesaw between the creator and her creations gives the plot a cerebral intensity ... Nasreen distills hard-hitting truth through her lived experiences, transforming her individual predicament to strike a universal chord through her deft storytelling.' -- Somak Ghoshal, *Livemint* 'My name is Suranjan. You don't recognize me? You wrote a novel about me. It was called Lajja.' One day in Calcutta, Taslima suddenly finds herself face to face with Suranjan, the principal character from her controversial novel *Lajja*. Persecuted in their native Bangladesh, Suranjan and his family have, like Taslima, moved to the city across the

border. But is life for a Hindu family from an Islamic nation any better in a country where a majority of the population happens to be Hindu? Leading poor, unmoored lives, exploited and frustrated at every step of the way, and always carrying with them the memories of a scarred communal history, Suranjan and so many others like him seem to lead incomplete lives in their so-called 'safe haven'. Shameless, the explosive sequel to *Lajja*, is an uncompromising, heart-breaking look at ordinary people's lives in our troubled times.

When Devil Married God Simon and Schuster

"A beautiful, daring, challenging novel" of a young Muslim immigrant—from the author of the New York Times Notable Book, *The Translator* (The Guardian). Leila Aboulela's American debut is a provocative, timely, and engaging novel about a young Muslim woman—once privileged and secular in her native land and now impoverished in London—gradually embracing her orthodox faith. With her Muslim hijab and down-turned gaze, Najwa is invisible to most eyes, especially to the rich families whose houses she cleans in London. Twenty years ago, Najwa, then at university in Khartoum, would never have imagined that one day she would be a maid. An upperclass Westernized Sudanese, her dreams were to marry well and raise a family. But a coup forces the young woman and her family into political exile in London. Soon orphaned, she finds solace and companionship within the Muslim community. Then Najwa meets Tamer, the intense, lonely younger brother of her employer. They find a common bond in faith and slowly, silently, begin to fall in love. Written with directness and force, *Minaret* is a lyric and insightful novel about Islam and an alluring glimpse into a culture Westerners are only just beginning to understand. "Lit up by a highly unusual sensibility and world view, so rarefied and uncompromising that it is likely to throw the reader out of kilter . . . Her delicacy of touch is to be complimented."

—Chandras Choudhury, San Francisco Chronicle

Keya Das's Second Act India Viking

A New York Times Notable Book:

"Aboulela's lovely, brief story encompasses worlds of melancholy and gulfs between cultures" (Kirkus Reviews, starred review). American readers were introduced to the award-winning Sudanese author Leila Aboulela with *Minaret*, a delicate tale of a privileged young African Muslim woman adjusting to her new life as a maid in London. Now, for the first time in

North America, we step back to her extraordinarily assured debut about a widowed Muslim mother living in Aberdeen who falls in love with a Scottish secular academic. Sammar is a Sudanese widow working as an Arabic translator at a Scottish university. Since the sudden death of her husband, her young son has gone to live with family in Khartoum, leaving Sammar alone in cold, gray Aberdeen, grieving and isolated. But when she begins to translate for Rae, a Scottish Islamic scholar, the two develop a deep friendship that awakens in Sammar all the longing for life she has repressed. As Rae and Sammar fall in love, she knows they will have to address his lack of faith in all that Sammar holds sacred. An exquisitely crafted meditation on love, both human and divine, *The Translator* is ultimately the story of one woman's courage to stay true to her beliefs, herself, and her newfound love. "A story of love and faith all the more moving for the restraint with which it is written." —J. M. Coetzee

Strangers Of The Mist Routledge

Indian English Literature Has Established Its Credentials All Over The World. Still Some Pointed Posers Concerning The Impact Of Multiculturalism And The Choice Of English As A Medium On The Warp And Woof Of Indian English Literature Have To Be Confronted And Analysed Threadbare Not Merely In Theory But Also Through The Elucidation Of Some Key Texts From This Perspective. The Present Volume Is Devoted To This Critical Endeavour. The Volume Comprises Scholarly Studies Of The Works Of Kamala Das, Mulk Raj Anand, Raja Rao, Arun Joshi, Amitav Ghosh, Rohinton Mistry, Shobha De, Anita Desai And Arundhati Roy. The Theoretical Framework Pertains To The Multiculturalism And The Critical Implications Of The Choice Of Medium In Indian English Literature. An Indispensable Source Of Fresh And Innovative Insight Into Indian English Literature. A Useful Supplement To The Existing Studies Of Indian Literature. A Fresh Perspective For Students, Teachers, Researchers Working In Literary Theory, Fiction Studies, Stylistics And Sociology Of Literature.

Women and Islam in Bangladesh

Steerforth Italia

French Lover is the story of Nilanjana, a young Bengali woman from Kolkata who moves to Paris after getting married to Kishanlal, a restaurant owner. Kishanlal's luxurious apartment seems to be a gilded cage for Nilanjana, and she feels stifled within its friendless confines. Her marriage, where she functions as little more than a housekeeper and sex object, is far from fulfilling and Nilanjana

desperately looks for a way out of the boredom and depression that threaten to engulf her. It is at this point that she meets Benoit Dupont, a blond, blue-eyed handsome Frenchman, and is swept off her feet. Benoit introduces Nilanjana to the streets, cafes and art galleries of Paris. In her passionate, sexually liberating relationship with Benoit, she finally begins to have an inkling of her own desires. The relationship ends when Nilanjana realises that Benoit's first priority is himself and not the woman he loves, and that her need for him has ended. But her road to self-discovery has only just begun. Bold in concept and powerful in execution, *French Lover* is a fascinating glimpse into the workings of a woman's mind as she struggles to come to terms with her identity in a hostile world.

A Life in Diplomacy Sarup & Sons

The blind matriarch, Matangi-Ma, lives on the topmost floor of an old house with many stories. From her eyrie, she hovers unseeingly over the lives of her family. Her long-time companion Lali is her emissary to the world. Her three children are by turn overprotective and dismissive of her. Her grandchildren are coming to terms with old secrets and growing pains. Life goes on this way until one day the world comes to a standstill—and they all begin to look inward. This assured novel records the different registers in the complex inner life of an extended family. Like the nation itself, the strict hierarchy of the joint-family home can be dysfunctional, and yet it is this home that often provides unexpected relief and succour to the vulnerable within its walls. As certainties dissolve, endings lead to new beginnings. Structured with the warp of memory and the weft of conjoined lives, the narrative follows middle India, even as it records the struggles for individual growth, with successive generations trying to break out of the stranglehold of the all-encompassing Indian family. Ebbing and flowing like the waves of a pandemic, the novel is a clear-eyed chronicle of the tragedies of India's encounter with the Coronavirus, the cynicism and despair that accompanied it, and the resilience and strength of the human spirit.

Meyebela Penguin UK

When the Barbri Mosque at Ayodhya, India, was destroyed by Hindu fundamentalists on December 6, 1992, fierce mob reprisals took place against the Hindu minority in Muslim Bangladesh. These incidents form the backdrop for Dr. Taslima Nasrin's explosive and courageous book, "Shame", describing the nightmarish fate of one family within her country's small Hindu community.

Lajja Penguin UK

Internationally acclaimed Bangladeshi writer Taslima Nasrin brings together for the first time in English a compelling collection of her work written over a period of thirty years. In this powerful selection of essays, Taslima confronts issues of women's oppression and gender inequality, freedom of speech, and religious violence. In bold, pragmatic style, her language of protest challenges the androcentric paradigms that have dictated the female experience for millennia. Taslima unflinchingly questions long held views on marriage, effects of religious rituals on women, prostitution, genital mutilation, divorce, and sexual assault, among many other crucial issues. Forced into exile after being expelled from Bangladesh for her frank and brave writing, Nasrin has been a heroic and courageous voice throughout the world, with many of her works topping the bestseller lists. *Taslima Unbound* captures the essence of her life's work and is key for those seeking to gain a deeper understanding of this celebrated feminist writer. Taslima Nasrin has been the recipient of the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, the UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the promotion of tolerance and non-violence, the Simone de Beauvoir Prize, an honorary doctorate from the American University of Paris, among many other important recognitions.

Sriradha Zubaan

Translated by Taslima Nasreen herself, the poems in *All About Women* reflect the passion which makes her a feminist, a staunch fighter for women's rights and against religious fundamentalism and oppression against women. They speak for a broad and secular outlook. As she says in one of her poems, 'From now on let religion's other name be humanity'. *No Country for Women* HarperCollins
Life is a balancing act and opposites do

attract: Life and Death; God and Devil; Weak and Strong; Man and Woman; Wrong and Right; Black and White; and Day and Night. The conflict continue... A just and placid world will be a boring one. So, we have the unjust and perturbed one... just to restore balance and make everything equal. However, equality is a cruel word. Ask the pans of a balancing scale; put Adam in one and Eve in the other, and you have a story to tell.

Revenge Routledge

An insider's account of the personalities and policies that shaped Indian diplomacy. Former foreign secretary, Maharajakrishna Rasgotra joined India's external affairs ministry when Jawaharlal Nehru, Girija Shankar Bajpai, Sardar Patel were—with a mix of pragmatism and hope—creating the foreign policy of the newly independent nation. This was taking place as the Cold War slid into the subcontinent and complex relationships with India's neighbours—China, Pakistan and Nepal—were taking shape. Looking back on those crucial years with a discerning eye for the interplay of personalities—Nehru, Krishna Menon, or S. Radhakrishnan, for instance—Rasgotra assesses their influence on events and their impact on the evolution of Indian diplomacy. For over three decades Rasgotra's assignments took him to Nepal, Britain and France, among other countries, as well as twice to the United States. His account of Nixon and Kissinger, and the mix of truculence and persuasion in their dealings with Mrs Gandhi in the run up to the 1971 Bangladesh war, sheds new light on the events of that time. His tenure as foreign secretary covered a period of great change and *A Life in Diplomacy* provides a ringside view of the beginnings of ethnic violence in Sri Lanka, the last years of the Cold War, the negotiations on the formation of SAARC, Mrs Gandhi's

assassination and the Bhopal gas disaster. This is a compelling, authoritative account of a personal and professional journey; a reflective look at the leaders, events and forces that formed relations between India and the world over fifty years.

Exile The Feminist Press at CUNY

This work of research by Taj Hashmi puts the issue of women's position in society in historical as well as Islamic perspectives to relate it to the objective conditions in Bangladesh. In eight illuminating chapters, he narrates how Quranic edicts about women have through the ages been misinterpreted by the power elites and the mullahs to suppress women. Even NGOs are not immune from exploiting them. Hope, according to the author, lies in the literacy and economic self-reliance of the Bangladeshi women.

Lyrics Alley Rupa Publications India Pvt Limited

Articles with reference chiefly to Bangladesh and India.

The Blind Matriarch Bantam Books

On 22 November 2007, the city of Kolkata came to a rude, screeching halt as a virulent mob of religious fanatics took to the streets. Armed with a fatwa from their ideologues, the mob demanded Taslima Nasrin leave the city immediately. While the Kolkata Police allegedly stood watching, mere dumb witnesses to such hooliganism, a morally, intellectually and politically bankrupt Left Front government, tottering under the strain of their thirty-year-old backward-looking rule, decided to ban her book and drive her out of Kolkata, a city she has always considered her second home. Dark, provocative and, at times, surreal, *Exile* is a moving and shocking chronicle of Taslima Nasrin's struggles in India over a period of five months, set against a rising tide of fundamentalism and intolerance that will resonate powerfully with the present sociopolitical scenario.