# **South Asian Fiction**

\* Denotes first book in a series

Title Author Call #

Nadia's Hands English, Karen E ENG



Nadia is excited to be asked to be flower girl in her aunt's wedding, but she is concerned about what her friends will say when they see her hands which have been decorated for the ceremony with traditional Pakistani henna designs.

The Mountains of Tibet Gerstein, Mordicai E GER

After dying, a Tibetan woodcutter is given the choice of going to heaven or living another life anywhere in the universe.

Broken Moon Antieau, Kim FIC ANT



When her little brother is kidnapped and taken from Pakistan to race camels in the desert, eighteen-year-old Nadira overcomes her own past abuse and, dressed as a boy and armed with knowledge of the powerful storytelling of the legendary Scheherazade, is determined to find and rescue him.

Outside In Bradbury, Jennifer FIC BRA



In the jungle outside the growing city of Chandigarh, twelve-year-old street child Ram discovers a hidden rock garden, befriends its creator--a factory worked named Nek--and tries to save Nek's garden when it is threatened with destruction.

Ask Me No Questions Budhos, Marina Tamar FIC BUD



Fourteen-year-old Nadira, her sister, and their parents leave Bangladesh for New York City, but the expiration of their visas and the events of September 11, 2001, bring frustration, sorrow, and terror for the whole family.

Running on the Roof of the Butterworth, Jess FIC BUT



World

After her parents are arrested by Chinese soldiers because of their religious beliefs, twelve-year-old Tash and her best friend Sam travel from their home in Tibet across the Himalayas to India in order to seek the help of the Dalai Lama.

The Savage Fortress Chadda, Sarwat FIC CHA



When British schoolboy Ash Mistry goes to India for a vacation, he quickly falls into a world of rakshasas, or demons, overseen by the evil Lord Alexander Savage.

Game of Stars DasGupta, Sayantani FIC DAS



Months after Kiranmala's adventure in the Kingdom Beyond, a vision of the Demon Queen starts showing up in her bedroom, trying to tell Kiran something, but getting cutoff before she can finish; then she starts seeing an advertisement for an archery contest on her family's interdimensional television and Kiran realizes that she must return to her place of birth--where society is falling apart, a reality show is taking over, her friends are in danger, and she, once again, becomes the warrior princess she was meant to be

South Asian Fic 1 |

**Lovetorn** Daswani, Kavita FIC DAS



Having just moved from India to Los Angeles for two years, sixteen-year-old Shalini struggles to fit in at school and to keep house for her clinically-depressed mother, but the real challenge comes when she begins falling in love with an American boy despite being engaged since the age of three. Includes glossary.

## The Serpent's Secret (#1) DasGupta, Sayantani FIC DAS



Up until her twelfth birthday, Kiranmala considered herself an ordinary sixth-grader in Parsippany, New Jersey, but then her parents disappear and a drooling rakkhosh demon shows up in her kitchen, and soon she is swept into another dimension, full of magic, winged horses, talking birds (very annoying), and cute princes--and somehow Kiranmala needs to sort it all out, find her parents, and basically save the world.

#### A Circle of Elephants Dinerstein, Eric FIC DIN



Thirteen-year-old Nanda Singh, the youngest elephant driver in Nepal, enjoys a very special relationship with his tusker, Hira Prashad, through which he grows in understanding and compassion with all animals, including humans

#### The Breadwinner #1 Ellis, Deborah FIC ELL



Because the Taliban rulers of Kabul, Afghanistan, impose strict limitations on women's freedom and behavior, eleven-year-old Parvana must disguise herself as a boy so that her family can survive after her father's arrest.

#### Parvana's Journey #2 Ellis, Deborah FIC ELL



A war is raging in Afghanistan as a coalition of Western forces tries to oust the Taliban by bombing the country. Parvana's father has died, and her mother, sister, and brother have gone to a faraway wedding, not knowing what has happened to her father. Parvana doesn't know where they are, but sets out alone to find them — masquerading as a boy.

## Mud City #3 Ellis, Deborah FIC ELL



Parvana's best friend, Shauzia, has escaped the misery of her life in Kabul, only to end up in a refugee camp in Pakistan. But she still dreams of seeing the ocean and eventually making a new life in France. This is the dream that has sustained her through the terrible years in Kabul. It is the dream for which she has forsaken family and friends.

# My Name is Parvana #4 Ellis, Deborah FIC ELL



In this stunning sequel, Parvana, now fifteen, is found in a bombed-out school and held as a suspected terrorist by American troops in Afghanistan.

## A Group of One Gilmore, Rachna FIC GIL



Learning from her grandmother that her family was active in the Quit India movement of 1942--a rebellion against nearly two centuries of British occupation--gives fifteen-year-old Tara new pride in her heritage, but she still objects when her teacher implies that she is not a "regular Canadian"

## The Night Dairy Hiranandani, Veera FIC HIR



Shy twelve-year-old Nisha, forced to flee her home with her Hindu family during the 1947 partition of India, tries to find her voice and make sense of the world falling apart around her by writing to her deceased Muslim mother in the pages of her diary.

## The Whole Story of a Half Girl Hiranandani, Veera FIC HIR



When Sonia's father loses his job and she must move from her small, supportive private school to a public middle school, where the half-Jewish, half-Indian sixth-grader experiences culture shock as she tries to navigate the school's unfamiliar social scene, and after her father is diagnosed with clinical depression, she finds herself becoming even more confused about herself and her family.

South Asian Fic 2 |

**Amina's Voice** Khan, Hena FIC KHA



A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community

Khan, Hena **FIC KHA** More to the Story



As features editor of her school newspaper, thirteen-year-old Jameela Mirza wants to impress her father by writing a spectacular story about the new student, but a misunderstanding and family illness complicate matters.

The Second Jungle Book Kipling, Rudyard FIC KIP



Presents the further adventures of Mowgli, a boy reared by a pack of wolves, and the wild animals of the jungle. Also includes other short stories set in India

Master, Irfan FIC MAS A Beautiful Lie



In the days leading up to the partition of India in 1947, thirteen-year-old Bilal devises an elaborate scheme to keep his dying father from hearing the news about the country's division dying father from hearing the news about the country's division.

FIC SAE Saeed. Aisha Amal Unbound



In Pakistan, Amal holds onto her dream of being a teacher even after becoming an indentured servant to pay off her family's debt to the wealthy and corrupt Khan family.

Senzai, N. H. FIC SEN Shooting Kabul



Escaping from Taliban-controlled Afghanistan in the summer of 2001, eleven-year-old Fadi and his family immigrate to the San Francisco Bay Area, where Fadi schemes to return to the Pakistani refugee camp where his little sister was accidentally left behind.

Sheth. Kashmira FIC SHE **Boys Without Names** 



Eleven-year-old Gopal and his family leave their rural Indian village for life with his uncle in Mumbai, but when they arrive his father goes missing and Gopal ends up locked in a sweatshop from which there is no escape.

Stine, Catherine FIC STI Refugees



Following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, Dawn, a sixteen-year-old runaway from San Francisco, connects by phone and email with Johar, a gentle, fifteen-year-old Afghani who assists Dawn's foster mother, a doctor, at a Red Cross refugee camp in Peshawar.

Venkatraman, Padma FIC VEN The Bridge Home



Four determined homeless children make a life for themselves in Chennai, India.

Venkatraman, Padma FIC VEN Climbing the Stairs



In India, in 1941, when her father becomes brain-damaged in a non-violent protest march, fifteen-year-old Vidya and her family are forced to move in with her father's extended family and become accustomed to a totally different way of

FIC WEE Weeks, Sarah Save Me A Seat



Ravi has just moved to the United States from India and has always been at the top of his class; Joe has lived in the same town his whole life and has learning problems--but when their lives intersect in the first week of fifth grade they are brought together by a common enemy (the biggest bully in their class) and the need to take control of their lives.

South Asian Fic 3 I

Homeless Bird	Whelan, Gloria	FIC WHE
Thirteen-year-old Koly enters into an ill-fated arranged marriage and must either suffer a destiny dictated by India's customs or find the courage to oppose tradition.		
Pashmina	Chanani, Nidhi	GN 741.5 CHA
Priyanka Das has so many unanswered questions: Why did her mother abandon her home in India years ago? What was it like there? And most importantly, who is her father, and why did her mom leave him behind? But Pri's mom avoids these questionsthe topic of India is permanently closed. For Pri, her mother's homeland can only exist in her imagination. That is, until she find a mysterious pashmina tucked away in a forgotten suitcase. When she wraps herself in it, she is transported to a place more vivid and colorful than any guidebook or Bollywood film. But is this the real India? And what is that shadow lurking in the background? To learn the truth Pri must travel farther than she's ever dared and find the family she never knew		

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