



The Missing Queen

By Samhita Arni

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Part political thriller and part reimagining of the *Ramayana*, Samhita Arni's debut novel is a brilliant critique of the political and media landscapes in modern India. Here, a young investigative journalist retraces Sita's steps in the years after she was banished from Ayodhya by her husband. But in the course of her search, she runs afoul of the sacred, ancient city's all-powerful secret police and its mysterious head, the Washerman. Forced to flee, the journalist makes her way through a war-devastated land in search of answers and the missing queen.

Arni's first book, *The Mahabharata: A Child's View*, written when she was just eight years old, was translated into seven languages and has sold more than fifty thousand copies. Her second, a graphic rendering of *Sita's Ramayana*, was a *New York Times* bestseller. A dark satire, *The Missing Queen* marks the triumphant return of a writer with fans around the world.

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Editorial Review

Review

Every epic, every utopia deserves an undercover exposé, a little light shining on its dirty secrets. *The Missing Queen* is pacy, gritty, and very clever, both as a story of present-day India and an examination of the *Ramayana*'s underbelly. --(Samit Basu *author of Turbulence*)

About the Author

Samhita Arni is the author of *The Mahabharata: A Child's View* and *Sita's Ramayana*. A freelance writer, she edits the literary e-zine *Out of Print* and lives in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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