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NON FICTION LIST

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THE DEOLIWALLAHS

By Joy Ma and Dilip D'souza



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SYNOPSIS

Deoliwallahs

Starting in 1962, India imprisoned 3000 Chinese-Indians in a camp in Rajasthan, some for up to five years. This happened purely because at a time of war with China, these people “looked Chinese”. This is a page of Indian history that comes wrapped in prejudice and fear and is today totally forgotten. But five decades on, survivors of that experience are finally starting to speak.

The war was short lasting from October to November in 1962 but its influence has lasted more than five decades. The McMahon Line drawn as a boundary between India and China during the 1914 Simla Accord had not been ratified by the Chinese. Following patrols into disputed territory in China, the Chinese army launched a massive attack and more or less reached the McMahon Line in Arunachal Pradesh.

In India, the war and its aftermath is still remembered as an international humiliation and a betrayal. From China's perspective, the patrols were transgressing on Chinese territory.

Following the withdrawal of the Chinese army, on November 26, 1962, thousands of Chinese nationals were collected and sent to an internment camp in Deoli, Rajasthan. The internees still recall the shock, bewilderment, and humiliation of their experience in Deoli. All remember it, few speak about it.

We believe this is the right time for a book about this episode, about the profound silence around it. This will be that book.

The Deoliwallah stories

The book we propose to write is a direct assault on this amnesia. We believe this episode speaks to some familiar Indian faultlines: easy suspicion and prejudice, a certain xenophobia, a reluctance to admit mistakes, pretence that “water under the bridge” will heal all wounds. For those reasons, it is important that we all know this history, that we see it for the egregious violation of the rights of fellow-Indians that it was. An apology to India’s Chinese community is necessary not just because we owe it to them, but because it will open our eyes to the danger of letting other wounds fester. It will make us a wiser, stronger, more compassionate country. This is why we want to write this untold history. The Deoliwallahs 5

The backbone of the book will be the stories of four Chinese-Indians: how they came to be in India, what they did and how the war and internment affected their lives. We uncover these stories by answering these questions (among others): When did their family come to India? Which part of China did they come from? What business were they in? How did they go to Deoli? What did they do after Deoli? The four people we will choose will be from Assam, Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Calcutta. These areas were where the Chinese first settled and became a part of the economy. These were also the areas that saw a huge exodus of people of Chinese origin in the 1960s and the 1970s. The story of the Chinese diaspora into India is unique and fascinating. What is most visible today about the Chinese-Indians who left India is how they still enjoy and have a deep affiliation to the lives they had in India. All of which makes the whole Deoli incarceration that much more tragic, and heightens the urgency of telling the story.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

JOY MA

Joy Ma lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and two sons, her mom and Willie, the family's Shetland Sheepdog. She was born in Deoli Camp where more than 3,000 people of Chinese origin were interned in Rajasthan. She attended school in Calcutta, Naini Tal, and Delhi University. She moved to the States for postgraduate studies in New York City. When her husband got a job in California they moved and have lived there since the early 1990s. Joy can read and write Hindi, understands Cantonese, Mandarin and Hakka, and can understand every other word in Nepali and Bengali. She writes about what happens at the confluence of cultures in our lives. Joy grew up with stories about her family who migrated from southern China to work in India, and gets how people can mix several languages in a single sentence. Her favorite foods are Chinese, Indian and Californian fusion

DILIP D'SOUZA

Dilip D'Souza was trained in electronics engineering (BITS Pilani) and computer science (Brown University). After several years in software, he tried writing and quickly realized that was his passion. He has written for several publications in India (Mint, Hindustan Times, Caravan) and abroad (Newsweek, Daily Beast, NYT) and has published seven books. He has won several awards for his writing, including the Statesman Rural Writing prize, the Outlook/Picador Nonfiction prize and the Newsweek/Daily Beast South Asia Commentary award. He lives in Bombay with his wife, son and daughter. Cat Aziz rules.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JACARANDA LIT.

www.jacarandalit.com jay@jacarandalit.com. helen@jacarandalit.com

**DEEP HUMAN:**

Practical Superskills for a Future of Success by Crystal Lim-Lane & Dr Gregor Lim-Lange



Published in SEA by Epigram Books, all other rights available

**** Currently on the Kinokuniya Bookshop Singapore bestseller list ****

SYNOPSIS

What separates you from the robots?

How can you thrive in tomorrow's workplace? Experts predict that within the next few years, you will need an extra 101 days of learning to remain relevant at work, but what skills should you hone?

Authors Crystal and Dr Gregor Lim-Lange combine their expertise in leadership and psychology to share five timeless superskills that will help you unlock your fullest potential.

- Focus & mindfulness
- Self-awareness
- Empathy
- Complex communication
- Adaptive resilience

Deep Human offers practical tools, unexpected insights and inspiring real-life stories so you can build a successful and meaningful life no matter what lies ahead.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Crystal Lim-Lange is an expert on future-readiness, an education pioneer and a public speaker on the global stage. She is the CEO of Forest Wolf, a future-readiness consultancy, and Strategic Advisor to Minvera Project, one of the most innovative universities globally. Prior to Forest Wolf, Crystal was the founding Director of the National University of Singapore's Centre for Future-ready Graduates, where she implemented large-scale future-ready skills programmes which have prepared over 15,000 youths for a rapidly changing world. Today, Crystal travels around the world advising corporate and government bodies on how best to prepare for the future and is passionate about shifting consciousness. Crystal also writes for Channel NewsAsia on careers, talent development and life skills.

Dr Gregor Lim-Lange: is an expert in the fields of clinical and positive psychology, social emotional intelligence and mindfulness, and the Co-Founder and Chief Psychologist of Forest Wolf. He was previously the Head of Learning & Development at the National University of Singapore's Centre for Future-ready Graduates and a Senior Lecturer in the psychology department. He is also a highly-sought-after educator, psychotherapist and mindfulness teacher. Greg is also the co-editor of *Clinical Psychology in Singapore*, published in 2015.

Praise for Deep Human:

"The five Deep Human superskills are beautifully detailed, with real-life examples so that the reader is able to easily relate to them and can immediately start to adopt these in their daily lives ... Leaders who want to create a high-performance culture will not want to miss *Deep Human*."

—**Chng Sok Hui, chief financial officer of DBS Bank**

"Crystal and Greg blend the latest research, and their unique and diverse experience with pragmatic advice on how each of us can lead a more meaningful and successful life, even as the world around us becomes increasingly demanding."

—**Loren I. Shuster, chief people officer at The LEGO Group**

"Crystal and Greg's book describes what lies ahead for future generations and the skill set required to thrive facing the unknown. Inspirational."

—**Volker Krohn, director of Hoffman Centre Australia/Singapore**

"Crystal and Greg's engaging book makes the case for 'doubling down on human skills' in a very enjoyable read. The examples and exercises bring concepts to life and cover the 'so what' aspect that many books miss."

—**Elaine Yew, senior partner and global co-head of Leadership Advisory Practice, Egon Zehnder**

“Crystal and Greg, through their years of experience in helping people future-proof themselves, illustrate how each of us can grow habits today to make us better Deep Humans right now.”

—**Michelle Cheo, chief executive of Mewah Group**

“Greg and Crystal ... not only select five essential ‘Deep Human super skills’ through years of professional experience but also explain how to learn them, in what order and for what purpose. The book delivers the simple, but often forgotten, recipe to thrive in the world of the Fourth Industrial Revolution: be more human not less.”

—**Francesco Mancini, associate dean and co-director (Executive Education) of Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore**

“Crystal and Greg are the rare combination of Eastern and Western cultures, corporate leadership and psychology academic experience, masculine and feminine perspectives. I loved how they combined their talents to produce this powerful and fascinating take on living successfully in the modern world.”

—**James Tutton, co-founder and director of Smiling Mind, director of Neometro**

“Crystal and Greg have a talent for making extremely complicated subjects come across as easy to understand. An entertaining, thoughtful and practical book, this is the missing manual we all need for the Fourth Industrial Revolution.”

—**Patrick Grove, Group CEO of Catcha Group, chairman and co-founder of iflix**

“In the age of robots, AI and exponential technologies, we cannot afford to merely become like robots; we need to reconnect to our humanity and become Deep Humans. This book adds much to this important conversation and is a must read in this newly emerging world.”

—**Benjamin Butler, futurist and founder of Emerging Future Institute**

“Crystal and Greg have the gift of making the complex simple, understandable and relatable ... *Deep Human* is a refreshing way to navigating the workplace and life more skilfully, while also integrating scientific data and facts that support the whole person approach that the world has been waiting for.”

—**Michelle L. Maldonado, president and CEO of Lucenscia**

“I love the idea of advancing our Deep Human superskills to keep pace with the Deep Technology that humanity is developing. Crystal and Greg do a great job articulating the need for more social emotional intelligence in the future of work. Read this like your life depends on it — because it does.”

—**Chade-Meng Tan, Google pioneer, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Search Inside Yourself*, co-founder of Search Inside Yourself Leadership Institute**

“*Deep Human* is a game changer for anyone who is serious about personal growth, development and positive change.”

—**Dr Tasha Eurich, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Insight* and *Bankable Leadership***

“Crystal and Gregor are pioneers of innovative, effective methods in social-emotional learning, leadership and positive neuroplasticity. With great personal integrity, they have a deep commitment to the lasting welfare of others.”

—Rick Hanson, PhD, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Hardwiring Happiness*, *Buddha's Brain* and *Resilient*

“Crystal and Greg are perhaps one of the most powerful proponents of what it takes to make our students and hence universities produce Future Ready Graduates. They bring to us cutting-edge research and practice which make you want to disrupt what you have today and change before we become obsolete.”

—Dr Pradeep Nair, deputy vice-chancellor at Taylor’s University

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JACARANDA LIT.

www.jacarandalit.com jay@jacarandalit.com. helen@jacarandalit.com



BEING GANDHI:

My Year Long Attempt to Follow the Mahatma's Moral Principles in These Immoral Times

By

Perry Garfinkel.



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SYNOPSIS

At a time when many feel that society as a whole has lost its moral compass. People increasingly seem to be searching for role models to inspire them and give them hope for the future. At the same time there seems to be a widespread desire for a return to the values of simplicity and integrity. The question more and more people seem to be asking is:

Is it possible to live a moral life in these immoral times?

Perry Garfinkel, author of the bestselling **BUDDHA OR BUST** and a regular *New York Times* contributor, believes that it is, and that we can look to the example of Mahatma Gandhi's life to give us hope and direction. He believes that today more than ever, Gandhi's guiding principles are relevant for today's fractured world, allowing us all to in effect "be the change" - a phrase Barack Obama adopted almost as a mantra, but which Gandhi said first.

Is it possible to truly change and invoke the rigorous self-discipline required to alter one's behaviour, and perhaps more profoundly, one's pattern of thought? Over the course of the next year Garfinkel intends to conduct a personal "experiment with the truth" by following literally six of Gandhi's main principles: truth, non-violence, simplicity, faith, vegetarianism and celibacy.

To help him, he will draw on the body of writing Gandhi left behind: *"a virtual how-to instructional on living a virtuous life, one man's guide to moral integrity followed by many people around the world - but not enough."* In **BEING GANDHI** Garfinkel intends to document his attempt to literally live as Gandhi did. As part of the process he will examine his own beliefs and intentions and work on cleaning up his own habits, both in practice and in thought, in the hope of becoming a better version of himself. He hopes that his highly personal account of this journey will inspire others to look deeper within themselves.

For example, take '**Truth**,' put simply it means telling the truth, but more deeply to Gandhi, it meant learning from your mistakes and conducting experiments on yourself to deal with your own truths. Garfinkel will try to look for the truth in his own thoughts, words and actions. Although not the originator of the idea of '**Non-violence**,' Gandhi was the first to apply it in the political field on a large scale. Garfinkel will look at how he and all of us act out psychological violence - in passive aggressive behaviour, road rage and in many other ways that sabotage our best interests. '**Simplicity**' meant to Gandhi giving up unnecessary spending, an ideal that we can see mirrored today in the Voluntary Simplicity Movement - Garfinkel will closely monitor his own spending and budget aggressively in an attempt to achieve Gandhi's goal of 'reducing himself to zero'. Garfinkel will carry out the same rigorous personal self-examination with each of Gandhi's six main principles, in a bid to see what he can learn about himself.

During this potentially life-changing year, Garfinkel will set out on a global journey to meet and interview people Gandhi inspired and assess the success of the Gandhian Movement, especially in the places that changed him. From Porbandar, where he was born in 1869, and where his philosophy took root, he will travel to Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, where Gandhi was thrown off a train, motivating him to enact his first protests and giving rise to the the birth of his philosophy of non-violent resistance; and finally to London, where Gandhi became intensely involved with the London Vegetarian Society. His 'experiment' will culminate with him walking Gandhi's famous 240 mile Salt March, (or Dandi March as it is sometimes known), which was intended to give momentum to the push for Indian independence. Here Garfinkel will examine both the historical and metaphorical meaning of the march.

Whilst there have been innumerable books about Gandhi, **BEING GANDHI** will stand out for its unique and accessible approach. Never before has there been a book that has attempted to follow Gandhi's code of ethics and morals in the modern world and synthesize his lessons for a general readership. Garfinkel's style of experiential, immersion journalism will be an entertaining, compelling and enlightening narrative in the vein of AJ Jacobs' bestselling **THE YEAR OF LIVING BIBLICALLY** and Bruce Feiler's **WALKING THE BIBLE**.

At a time when books relating to the simplicity movement are increasingly striking a chord with readers everywhere, from Marie Kondo's **THE LIFE CHANGING MAGIC OF TIDYING UP**, to the recent worldwide auctions of **THE ART OF SIMPLE LIVING** by Shunmyo Masuno, we believe **BEING GANDHI** will have a likewise appeal.

Blurbs:

"If Perry Garfinkel is going to try to 'be' Gandhi, you can bet it will be insightful, soul-searching and a great and entertaining read. If it's anything like 'Buddha or Bust,' I can't wait to read the finished manuscript." - Daniel Goleman, Ph.D., author of the international bestselling 'Emotional Intelligency.'

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Perry is the author of the bestselling **BUDDHA OR BUST: In Search of Truth, Meaning, Happiness and the Man Who Found Them All**(Crown/Harmony, 2006). He has been a regular contributor to the New York Times since 1986. He has written for numerous publications including National Geographic, Wall Street Journal Asia, Time Magazine Asia and the Huffington Post.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JACARANDA LIT.

www.jacarandalit.com jay@jacarandalit.com. helen@jacarandalit.com



VULTURES

By Jamie Rhodes



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SYNOPSIS

In the face of an uncertain future for humanity and the natural world Jamie Rhodes is undertaking a detailed study of vultures across the world. In particular, he will study the interface of the relationship between humans and vultures. His research will focus on the cultural context and significance of these enigmatic birds in different communities worldwide and throughout history.

He hopes that this will form a microscope to examine the fracture between our species and the natural world more broadly. Intriguingly, he will be embarking on this mammoth quest as he himself becomes a parent for the first time – “bringing new life into this world our species is killing.”

Throughout this research and the writing of this book Jamie will be informed by experts from: the RSPB, BirdLife International, Bombay Natural History Society and other ethno-ornithology groups from Asia, Africa, South America, Central America and North America. He will work with historians, archaeologists, anthropologists, and use his experience of working with primary source archives at some of the largest libraries in the world.

Jamie will meticulously document and describe every step of his unique and emotional journey, every poisoned carcass, every majestic wing beat, every Victorian hunting diary, mediaeval bestiary and Neolithic cave painting. He hopes that by shedding light on the mysterious world of the vulture he will be able to go some way towards trying to solve the catastrophic problem of the disconnect between the human species and the rest of the natural world. Trying to use his skills as a writer and an archive researcher, combined with the power and mystery of the vulture, to nudge our species towards a more harmonious existence with nature.

WHY THE BOOK

Addressing the relationship between the human species and the natural world has never been so pressing. It is vital that there is a collective re-orientation of attitudes concerning nature and our place as but one part of a very complex network of systems on this earth.

Nowhere is this more exemplified than in our relationship with vultures. Human-vulture interactions can be used to paint a picture of human attitudes towards the natural world more generally, and the current situation for vultures is extreme.

Vulture populations worldwide are in rapid decline. Many species are now critically endangered as a direct result of human actions. They are often seen in a negative light, associated with death and bad omens and suffer poisoning, and persecution as a result. They are often disregarded, as many plants and animals are, in the human quest for greater profit and growth. One example of this on the Indian sub-continent is the use of diclofenac painkiller in cattle which is leading to a catastrophic decline in vulture numbers.

Tens of millions of vultures used to be present across the Indian sub-continent. As a by-product of the large numbers of livestock which were reared across South Asia there was an abundance of animal carcasses which became the principal food source for the resident species. Vultures were so abundant that the Parsi religion in India and Buddhist communities on the Tibetan plateau utilized these birds for sky burials in order to cleanly and efficiently dispose of human bodies.

However, a survey in 2007 indicated that the numbers of oriental white-backed vultures had declined by a staggering 99.9% over the preceding 15 years. Long-billed and slender-billed vultures had decreased by 97% over the same period. Surveys across Nepal and Pakistan indicate that vultures have declined at similar rates across the whole of south Asia, and within Pakistan both resident species are on the edge of extinction.

For several years researchers battled to understand what might be the cause of these deaths. The breakthrough came when it was recognized that the class of painkiller known as non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs had been linked to kidney failures and cases of visceral gout when some of these drugs were given to birds. Extensive research established the same correlation between gout and diclofenac in birds from India and Nepal. It was determined that diclofenac was responsible for the vulture population crash.

About the Author

Jamie Rhodes is a London-based writer working in screen, prose and comics. He studied Philosophy at Manchester School of Art, where he focused in Heideggerian Studies and Phenomenology. He trained as a script reader and co-founded the filmmaking collective, Donkey Stone Films, writing short films under commission and teaching screenwriting in schools, community groups and homeless shelters.

In 2011 he won funding to launch The Homeless Film Festival and registered this project as a charity. He was chair of the charity until 2013, stepping down to focus on his writing career, though he continues to work with marginalized people through St. Mungo's Recovery College as a tutor in creative writing and screenwriting.

Jamie has been supported by many funding organisations, his largest grant to date came from Arts Council England, to work with the British Library writing a collection of stories inspired by unusual documents in the library archives. The collection *Dead Men's Teeth* was launched at the British Library in 2014.

His second successful Arts Council England application was for a graphic fiction collaboration with the National Trust entitled *A Castle in England*. He is Scotney Castle's first Writer-in-Residence, writing a graphic novel inspired by the castle's archive collection which was published by Nobrow Press in February 2017.

Folkloric themes recur throughout Jamie's work and in his research he has taken the role of Assistant Editor of Northern Earth Magazine with a view to becoming Editor-in-Chief in 2017. Northern Earth is the world's longest running Folklore & 'Earth Mysteries' magazine.

As a full member of the writers' trade union, Writers' Guild of Great Britain, Jamie is now Chair of the London region of the union, organizing and speaking at writing events throughout the capital.

Experts who will collaborate with Jamie on his research:

Chris Bowden -Chris works for the RSPB in Bangaluru and Programme Manager for SAVE (Saving Asia's Vultures from Extinction) campaign on the ground. He is my link between experts in the UK and those in India and can facilitate introductions with the necessary parties along the route as I research and write the book.

John Fanshawe- John is the arts, science and conservation adviser for the Cambridge Conservation Initiative, which includes the RSPB and BirdLife (and thus SAVE), and also leads on cultural values of birds for BirdLife. He is also a founder member of New Networks for Nature, a broad alliance of creators (including poets, authors, scientists, film makers, visual artists, environmentalists, musicians and composers) whose work draws strongly on the natural environment.

Vibhu Prakash- Vibhu runs the breeding centre and huge aviaries in Pinjore. He is one of the leading experts in vulture conservation in India and works for the BNHS (Bombay Natural History Society).

Nikita Prakash-Nikita also works at the breeding centre and aviaries in Pinjore. She focuses on incubation there and can give me access to understanding relationships between parent and offspring of different vulture species.

Margaret Makepeace- Margaret is the British Library Curator of the India Archive Records. She originally facilitated my access to the background research into the story on this subject, which grew from a post on the British Library Untold Lives blog about towers of silence. Margaret is my link to the British Library archives for research into the historical aspect of my research into vultures in India.



Inside-Out Leadership

By

Rajiv Vij



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SYNOPSIS

Leaders have a huge positive role to play in our society – in business, public service and the social sector. However, way too many leaders don't reach their full potential. Among other factors, one of the most significant reasons for this is that as a society, and especially in our capacity as leaders, we are overly focused on visible outcomes and progressively disconnected with our inner selves. Driven by a fast-paced life, most leaders do not create time for structured reflection. As a result, they fail to look within and deepen their level of self-awareness. This holds them back from evolving with the needs of their expanding role. With disproportionately high focus on short-term results, they fail to be clear of a higher purpose, both at a personal and at an organizational level. In the process, leaders often fall prey to the temptations of choosing convenience over righteousness, personal gratification over longer-term organisational interests, and chasing external results over inner growth.

Founded in the belief that every good leader can become great, *Inside-Out Leadership* describes a clear pathway for leaders to discover and fulfil their potential. The author, a leading executive coach who has spent thousands of hours coaching leaders on a one-on-one basis, has distilled sixteen key Insights that successful leaders have found most helpful in their journey of positive change. The first three Insights elaborate on the *Inside-Out* approach and the remaining Insights describe how the approach can be applied in a practical way to overcome the challenges leaders face in breaking through from becoming great.

Inside-Out approach emphasises how the change is within us. How instead of externalising our challenges, when we begin to work on reforming ourselves, irrespective of the people and the circumstances around us, we start to experience a different reality. The journey of superior leadership is as much about leading others as it is about leading yourself. Only when we work on our inner self, learn to regulate our emotional triggers and conditioned beliefs, get clear on our life's purpose, and take responsibility of our thoughts and actions, do we transform as individuals and as leaders. Essentially, it requires us to gain greater personal mastery. With enhanced personal mastery, you become such a role model that others simply want to follow you. The *Inside-Out* approach not only raises your leadership effectiveness, but also enhances your happiness, fulfilment and personal well-being.

The book opens with a brief description of the key challenges that leaders face in their professional pursuits. The following three chapters introduce the *Inside-Out* approach relevant for any leadership transformation. The book is then divided into five sections, where with the use of case studies, we get to apply this approach to respond to the key leadership challenges. The five sections loosely correspond to the distinct opportunities leaders have for inner transformation, specifically in relation to their *impact* (strategy and effectiveness), *heart* (managing emotions, deepening relationships and inspiring others), *mind* (building the right mental attitude, managing stress, learning to let go and overcoming limiting and conditioned beliefs), *soul* (connecting with a higher purpose, discovering their calling and cultivating mindfulness) and *wisdom and balance* (creating balance and sustaining the journey of change). Some short exercises at the end of each are aimed at supporting the reader to reflect and create actionable personal plans.

If you are a leader or aspire to be one, reading this book will make you pause and reflect, and assist you in deepening your self-awareness and discovering your greater self. It will provide you tools and practical ideas to support you in your ongoing journey of leadership growth. The underlying approach to these mindset shifts has the capacity to empower you to deal with any current or future leadership challenges in an effective way. The opportunity to embark on a journey towards personal mastery described in the book will not only help you connect, and work, with your core personality, but also support you in leading from a place of character, vision, purpose and inspiration. The Insights contained in this book, in the form of these key shifts, have the power to alter not only your leadership style and how others experience you, but most importantly, also how you experience your own inner emotional journey of work and life. I hope it inspires you to become the person and the leader you are capable of becoming.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rajiv Vij has been one of the pioneers of executive coaching in this region. He have been coaching senior leaders for the past twelve years and has worked with leaders at several Fortune-500 companies like American Express, BASF, BlackRock, Credit Suisse, Facebook, Prudential, SAP, Shell and Vodafone and some of the largest Indian organisations like Aditya Birla group, Mahindra's, Marico and TCS. He have also been a coach to leaders

like Harsh Mariwala (Chairman, Marico), Raman Ramachandran (Chairman, BASF), Arun Nanda (Director, M&M) and Sanjay Gupta (former India Business Head, American Express). (Please see attached testimonials)

Further, He has had personal experience of being in leadership positions for many years as well as served as the Managing Director (Asia, Africa, Middle East and Eastern Europe) for Franklin Templeton and prior to that worked as the CEO for the firm's India business.

Lastly, Rajiv's personal journey has been guided by a pursuit of personal growth as a pathway to experiencing greater effectiveness, happiness and fulfilment at work and in life. The principles of *Inside-Out Leadership* are not only what he coaches people on, but also what he live by.

Potential endorsers

Here is a representative list of some of the potential endorsers.

- Anand Mahindra, Chairman, Mahindra group
- Harish Manwani, ex-Chief Operating Officer, Unilever
- Harsh Mariwala, Chairman, Marico
- Raman Ramachandran, Chairman, BASF
- Vinod Nambiar, Chairman, Colgate-Palmolive India
- Sudhanshu Vats, CEO, Viacom India
- Nitin Paranjpe, President-Foods, Unilever
- Mukul Deoras, Global Chief Marketing Officer, Colgate-Palmolive
- Benjamin Cavalli, Co-head, Asia Pacific Private Bank, Credit Suisse
- Santrupt Mishra, Global Director, Human Resources, Aditya Birla Group
- Mark Gainsborough, Executive Vice President, Shell
- Satish Shankar, Managing Partner, Bain and Company, South East Asia
- Vishpala Reddy, Head, Human Resources, Uber, Asia-Pacific

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JACARANDA LIT.

www.jacarandalit.com jay@jacarandalit.com helen@jacarandalit.com

**Trust Me, I Have No Idea****By****Vivek Nityananda***All Rights Available***SYNOPSIS**

How do we choose who our leaders are – at work, in politics? When we trust other people’s decisions, are we trusting the right people? As the world gets more uncertain, we increasingly seem to rely on people who appear unshakably confident and have strong convictions, one way or the other.

Trusting in confidence is useful. When we rely on confident people, it helps us make decisions faster, more accurately and with less effort. We see evidence that animals as diverse as fish, birds and humans rely on other individuals who make their decisions rapidly and confidently. This bias towards confidence appears to have been a successful evolutionary strategy. We are biased towards learning socially from successful strategies and modify our decisions based on how confident others are about their own strategies.

Yet these very biases that help us make better decisions faster could also lead us astray. Overconfidence hacks into this bias and leads to us making errors in judgement. People who are self-deceived about their capabilities can therefore have a disproportionate social influence. The results of this influence can be seen in the disasters we see in financial markets, war and politics. Even worse, the evidence suggests that the self-deception leading to overconfidence could provide an evolutionary advantage precisely because it helps people deceive us better.

This book makes the case that we are surrounded by overconfidence- with diverse examples from boxing, Tamil poetry, investment banking, PhD students, parliamentary votes, mansplaining and war. By laying out the

evolutionary and psychological basis of our biases, this book aims to engage with everyone who wants to be more aware of their biases and wants to learn how to prevent others from exploiting them. The book deconstructs how we build up our own overconfidence and unjustified convictions and argues that we are best placed to see through the self-deception of others when we remove our own biases.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Vivek Nityananda grew up in Bangalore where he trained as a biologist. He is a published author and illustrator as well as an experienced science communicator. He is currently a scientist at Newcastle University, UK and has published several publications in the fields of evolutionary biology, animal behaviour and psychology.

He lives and works in Newcastle upon Tyne in the UK, where he designs 3D glasses for praying mantises.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JACARANDA LIT.

www.jacarandalit.com jay@jacarandalit.com. helen@jacarandalit.com



LIFE WITH MOORLAND BEASTS

By

Jamie Rhodes



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SYNOPSIS

In England's rural North during WW2, a young evacuee flees his host family and disappears onto the Moors. He is found a week later, barely alive, in the family's burned-down farmhouse. This is his account. Based on a true story.

The narrator of the story is Eric is a teenage evacuee. He is from a traveller family camping on urban wasteland, who is evacuated to live with a farming family on the edge of a remote moor. Bertha, the mother of his host family is strict and uses Eric as free labour, making him sleep in a cupboard under the stairs. Bertha's son Jack, is almost old enough to be at war. He bullies Eric. The daughter, Julie, is of a similar age to Eric and the two form a close bond. Isolated and missing his family, Eric begins to talk to the Hobs (descended from moss farmers, they are the first generation to leave the moors and start a new life in the nooks and crannies of humankind) in his cupboard.

When news arrives that the father of the host family has been killed in the war, grief drives Bertha into depression and the farm falls apart. Eric reveals his traveller heritage to Julie and when word reaches Bertha and Jack, they blame him for bringing a curse on the family. Their bullying turns violent and after being attacked by Jack, Eric's unconscious body is dumped behind a drystone wall. He comes round to find a Boggart

(a mythical creature from folklore that purportedly lives on the moors) leaning over him, telling him the story of Eric's revenge. Eric goes to live with the Boggard in a cave on the moors.

Eric and the Boggart want Julie to join them. They sneak into the farmhouse and free her from her locked bedroom. Eric and Julie spend the night in the cave but the Boggart hides, not revealing itself. In the morning Julie has gone. Eric and the Boggart decide she must have been captured by Bertha and Jack and taken back to the farmhouse. They summon other mythical creatures and gather on the moor, plotting around a large campfire. Eric asks the creatures to help him stop Bertha and Jack and free Julie once and for all. The creatures conjure a fireball to fall from the sky. It sets the farmhouse alight, but Eric is aghast. His creatures have gone too far. He runs into the fire to try and save Julie.

Following this, we learn that Eric is telling us his story from the burns ward of a local children's hospital.

The story includes replicas of genuine historical documents including:

- 1940s hospital records from Bradford Royal Infirmary children's ward which reveal Eric's admission date and critical condition.
- A 1940s bomb census report which reveals that an incendiary device was dropped on a farm with the German bomber guided to drop its load by the light of a large campfire.
- A sketch map from an Air Raid Warden revealing bomb damage
- Press cuttings from local newspaper which reveal details of the fire – Bertha and Jack died, but Julie's body was never found.
- Notes from Eric's doctor which reveal delusional psychosis brought on by trauma. Eric blames his 'mythical creatures' for the fire.
- A 'Missing Person' appeal which reveals that Eric has gone missing from the hospital.
- A transcript of a police interview with Eric's nurse which states that he fled in the night
- A copy of an old train ticket from Bradford to Norland
- Sheet music with lyrics to a fictional macabre nursery rhyme entitled: 'The Feasting Hall of the Fair Folk'
- 1960s archaeological field notes from excavation of Neolithic cave dwelling on the Yorkshire Moors. Bones of a juvenile male and female are found.
- A screenshot of a modern-day news website which says that DNA testing throws new mystery on the bones found in the cave
- A photograph of the real cave on the moors, with OS grid reference number.

Jamie's fictional reimagining is based around real life facts which allows him to explore a number of themes based on the history of the time. In Eric's case the narrative is told through psychotic hallucinations. One of

the themes explored in the story is that of the experiences of evacuees arriving in the countryside from the city – stories of which have been well documented and were often as tragic as it they were endearing.

Jamie has woven folkloric tropes into the story – folk tales are an ever-evolving oral history which offer a window in the desires and fears of our ancestors. Given that the setting of this story is on the myth-shrouded moorland, framing this work with folkloric references and rhythms gives it a poetic dimension.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jamie Rhodes is an Eisner nominated writer with a background in philosophy, working in comics, prose and screen. His first book, *Dead Men's Teeth* (2014) drew upon original historical documents in the British Library Archives to inspire a collection of macabre historical fiction and horror stories. His graphic novel, *A Castle in England* (2017), saw Jamie live and work at a mediaeval castle. It was illustrated by five top UK comics' artists. The work was nominated for a 2018 Eisner Award.

Jamie also teaches creative writing, mentors new writers and gives academic lectures on the philosophy of stories. His paper, *Alternate Realities: The Phenomenological Experience of Stories* (2016) was chosen as part of Royal Holloway University's PhD Conference. He was Chair of the Writer's Guild of Great Britain, London region, from 2014-2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JACARANDA LIT.

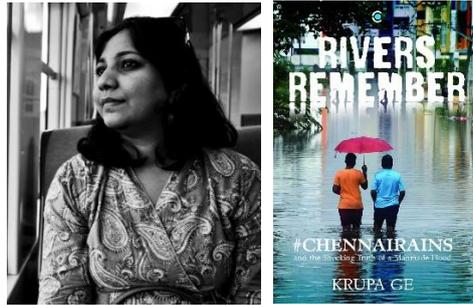
www.jacarandalit.com . helen@jacarandalit.com



Rivers Remember

By

Krupa Ge



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SYNOPSIS

Narrative non-fiction on the floods that ravaged Chennai city in December 2015. With interviews of victims and rescuers

Floodwaters, sewage and the remains of humankind's greed swallowed a city whole in December 2015. In the face of gross mismanagement by those in power, Chennai lost lives, homes and livelihoods.

Waters from the city's many lakes, canals and rivers, which humans had usurped and eaten into with tar roads and concrete jungles, retraced their old routes and ate anything that came in their way. Like they did in Mumbai in 2005, Surat in 2006, Srinagar in 2014 and Kerala in 2018. As they might in Bangalore someday, or in Kolkata.

To make sense of the horror of those days, Krupa Ge spent over three years filing RTIs, reading government documents and archival material, and interviewing stakeholders, journalists and the people of Chennai. What she arrives at is the shocking truth of how masterly inactivity drowned the city, and how it could happen again. And again.

But the heart of the book is in the stories of the people, including Krupa's own parents, who were caught up in the nightmare of the floods—of their resilience and kindness, and the fault lines of caste and class that the crisis exposed.

'Chennai's history, tradition, culture and people are vital to the idea of a rich, diverse India. The floods that ravaged this great city should never be forgotten, to continually remind us of the stakes and hence our

responsibilities. Combining historical documents, first-person accounts, interviews and government reports, this painstakingly researched book makes an important contribution to keeping such memories alive.’-**Arvind Subramanian**, former chief economic advisor and besotted Chennaiite

‘In December 2015, a city drowned when forgotten rivers and built-over lakes came back to reclaim what was rightfully theirs. Weaving together Krupa’s own harrowing experience of the floods with that of others whose lives were forever changed, Rivers Remember also meticulously traces the why and how of what happened. Taut and incisive, this is a cautionary tale that serves to remind us we can only abuse nature so much, while telling the larger story of how urban planning works across India.’-**Anita Nair**

‘The Cooum, Adyar and Kosasthalaiyar Rivers carry within their dark waters the future, present and the past of their city—Chennai. In December 2015, that city drowned. From deep within those unforgiving waters, Krupa Ge recovers stories, memories and truths of despair, nostalgia, neglect, discrimination, hope, tragedy, corruption, death and life. Through this telling, she warns us of a dystopian future where 2015 comes to stay, even as the death knell gets louder.’-**T.M. Krishna**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Krupa Ge is a writer, editor and columnist from Madras. Her reportage and cultural writings have appeared in publications such as The Hindu, The New Indian Express, Ladies Finger, Firstpost, etc, over the last ten years. Her short fiction has appeared in Voices from the Attic, Papercuts, Scroll, Sahitya Akademi’s Indian Literature, Muse India, Blink Ink, among other Indian and international publications. Her column on women in cinema, titled Ms. Representation, appears in The New Indian Express, every Wednesday.

She was awarded a Jayanti Residency for the year 2017 and was in the longlist of The 2017 DNA Out of Print Short Fiction competition. She was awarded the Toto-Sangam Residency Fellowship 2016 and shortlisted for a Toto Prize in Creative Writing, the same year. She is the Founding Editor of The Madras Mag.

In 2015, she attended the 12-week creative writing course at Anita’s Attic, under the mentor-ship of author Anita Nair.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: JACARANDA LIT.

www.jacandalit.com jay@jacandalit.com helen@jacandalit.com