

BALLI KAUR

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CURRENT POSITION

Lecturer in Creative Writing, Yale-NUS College, Singapore (August 2020 - Present)

YHU 4215: Advanced Fiction Writing

YHU 2202: Introduction to Creative Non Fiction

YHU2293: Introduction to Fiction Writing

YIR3316: Independent Reading and Research: Philosophy-Animation Scriptwriting

YHU4104: Arts and Humanities Capstone Project (Second Reader)

YHC1112: Literature and Humanities 2

EDUCATION

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (2017 – 2021)

Doctor of Philosophy

Creative Writing

Creative Project (Novel): *The Unlikely Adventures of the Shergill Sisters*

Critical Exegesis: “Rebellious Sisters, Wives and Mothers: Non-Conforming Women in South Asian Diaspora Fiction.”

University of Melbourne, Australia (Jan 2010-Dec 2010)

Postgraduate Diploma

Secondary Teaching (English and Drama)

Hollins University, USA

(August 2001 – June 2004)

Bachelor of Arts

English with a concentration in Creative Writing; Cum Laude

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Lecturer, Yale-NUS College (Jul-Dec 2018; Jul 2019-May 2020)

YHU 4215: Advanced Fiction Writing

YHU 2202: Introduction to Creative Non-Fiction

YHU2293: Introduction to Fiction Writing

YHU4104: Arts and Humanities Capstone Project (Second Reader)

Adjunct Lecturer, Nanyang Technological University (Jan-June 2014; Aug 2016 – June 2017)

HZ9202: Creative Writing: Fiction

HZ 9101: Introduction to Creative Writing

English Teacher, MEF International School, Istanbul, Turkey (Aug 2015 – Jun 2016)

International Baccalaureate English Literature

English Teacher, John Monash Science School, Melbourne, Australia (Jan 2011 – Jul 2015)

Victorian Certificate of Education English Literature

Victorian Certificate of Education English Language/Linguistics

RESIDENCIES, GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

WriICE Digital Fellowship, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (October 2020)

National Arts Council Creation Grant (November 2019)

National Arts Council Writer-in-Residence, Nanyang Technological University (Jan-Jul 2014)

David TK Wong Fellowship, University of East Anglia (2007-2008)

PUBLICATIONS

Novels

Now You See Us. (Under contract) New York: Harper Collins/William Morrow, 2022

The Unlikely Adventures of the Shergill Sisters. New York: Harper Collins/William Morrow, 2019.

Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows. New York: Harper Collins/William Morrow, 2017.

Sugarbread. Singapore: Epigram Books, 2016/Harper Collins India, 2020.

Inheritance. Melbourne: Sleepers Publishing, 2013/Harper Collins India, 2020.

Short Fiction

- “Limassol, Cyprus” (Reprint) *Best New Singaporean Short Stories 4*, Singapore: Epigram Books (2020)
- “Everest” (Reprint) *Best Singaporean Short Stories I*, Singapore: Epigram Books (2019)
- “Well-Dressed Gentlemen,” *Here Now There After*, Singapore: Marshall Cavendish (2017): 32-39
- “Limassol, Cyprus,” *UK Sunday Express* (23 April 2017)
- “Everest” *Balik Kampung 3A*, Singapore: Math Paper Press (2016)
- “Inventions of the Future” *One World Two*, Oxford, New Internationalist (2016)
- “Better Things” (Reprint) *Best Australian Stories 2015*: Melbourne: Black Inc., (2015)
- “Better Things,” *Meanjin Quarterly* Vol. 71 (2015)
- “Private Places” *Books Actually Gold Standard*, Singapore: Math Paper Press (2015): 165-181
- “Uncle Song,” *Drunken Boat* 11 (2010)
- “Painters,” *Rosebud* 39 (2008): 60-69

Non-Fiction and Journalism

- “Coronavirus Cases Bring to Light Racism in Singapore ...” *South China Morning Post*, 23 April 2020
- “What is the Future of Sex in the Age of Technology?” *Vogue India*, 25 September 2019
- “The Race Riots Remain Singapore’s Biggest Bogeyman.” *South China Morning Post*, 14 August 2019
- “Why Does Female Feticide Still Exist?” *Refinery29.com*, 1 July 2019
- “Finding Happiness Through Interfaith Marriage.” *Red Magazine*, 6 June 2019
- “How the ‘My Favorite Murder’ Podcast Solved My Writer’s Block.” *Salon.com*, 25 May 2019
- “Sarajevo Beyond the Scars.” *Conde Nast Traveller India*, 18 December 2018
- “On Roads Not Taken.” *Griffith Review 61: Who We Are*, Jun 2018
- “How a Full Body Wax Made Me Feel At Home in a Foreign Country.” *Cosmopolitan*, 22 June 2017
- “The Censors’ Disappearing Vibrator.” *New York Times*, 21 May 2017
- “The Awakening.” *Harpers Bazaar India*, March Issue 2017

AWARDS AND HONORS

Comedy Women in Print Prize Finalist (*Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows*, 2019)

Reese Witherspoon's Book Club Pick (*Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows*, 2018)

Girly Book Club Selection (*Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows*, 2018)

Singapore Literature Prize Finalist (*Sugarbread*, 2018)

Epigram Books Fiction Prize Finalist (*Sugarbread*, 2018)

Singapore Book Awards Finalist: Best Fiction Title (*Inheritance*, 2017)

Sydney Morning Herald's Best Young Australian Novelist Award (*Inheritance*, 2014)

Pushcart Prize Nomination ("Painters," 2008)

WORKSHOPS, PANELS AND FESTIVAL APPEARANCES

"In Conversation with Margaret Atwood," Singapore Writers Festival, Singapore, 3 Nov 2020

"Personalizing the Political," NTU Centre for Contemporary Art, Singapore, 5 September 2020

"Writing the City: Inheritance." National Library Board, Singapore, 25 July 2020

Sing Lit Station Novel Writing Workshop, Jan-March 2020

Singapore Literature Panel, Yale-NUS College, 21 January 2021

"How Well Do You Know a Character?" Tampines-Meridien Junior College, Singapore, 6 March 2020

National Library Board Author Series, Yishun Innova Junior College, Singapore, 4 March 2020

"Change and Conflict in Writing." Ang Mo Kio Secondary School, Singapore, 20 February 2020

"Identity and Prejudice in Literature." St. Anthony's Canossian School, Singapore, 6 February 2020

Keynote: "Preserving Punjabi Stories." Dhahan Prize Ceremony, Vancouver, 2 November 2019

Diaspora Literature Writing Workshop, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, 30 October 2019

"Feminist Themes and Writing." Association of Women for Action and Research, Singapore, 4 July 2019

"Write 'N Sip: Narrative Workshop for Working Mothers," Artistic Strategies, Singapore, 11 June 2019

Character Writing Workshop, Temasek Junior College, 1 and 22 April 2019

"Infinite Worlds, Infinite Words." Perth Writers Week, Perth, 24 February 2019

“Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows.” Perth Writers Week, Perth, 23 February 2019

“The World is Their Book.” Perth Writers Week, Perth, 23 February 2019

“Don’t Dream It, Do It!” Perth Writers Week Schools Day, Perth, 22 February 2019

“Represent! Reading Diverse Identities.” Perth Writers Week Schools Day, Perth, 22 February 2019

“Training to be a Writer.” Brahmaputra Literary Festival, Guwahati, 9 February 2019

“Forget the Footnotes.” Other Tongues Festival, Singapore, 8 December 2018

“Writing About Race.” Other Tongues Festival, Singapore, 8 December 2018

“Writing Across Genres.” Jaipur Literature Festival, Adelaide, 11 November 2018

“Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows.” Jaipur Literature Festival, Adelaide, 11 November 2018

“A Woman’s Work.” Singapore Writers Festival, 4 November 2018

“The Unspoken: Social Taboos in Writing.” Singapore Writers Festival, 4 November 2018

“What a Map Cuts Up.” Ubud Writers Festival, Bali, 28 October 2018

“Ladies to the Front: Women’s Writing.” Ubud Writers Festival, Bali, 27 October 2018

“Indigenous Women in Film: *Waru* Post-Screening Discussion.” Objectifs, Singapore, 11 October 2018

“Defiant Love: From Nigeria to Singapore.” National Black Theatre, New York, 6 October 2018

“Identity, Belonging and Asian Writing.” The Brearley School, New York, 5 October 2018

“Passion and the Art of Fiction.” Asia Society, New York, 4 October 2018

“Creative Writing Reading Series.” Yale-NUS College, Singapore, 21 August 2018

“Rebellious Indian Women in South Asian Diaspora Writing.” Hong Kong Book Fair, 23 July 2018

“In Search of ____: Creative Journeys.” National Library Singapore, 14 July 2018

“Difficult Women.” (Moderator) Books Actually, Singapore 24 March 2018

“Pitching Our Stories.” All In! Festival, Singapore, 18 March 2018

“Sugarbread.” Stamford American International School, Singapore, 5 March 2018

“Prejudice in Novels.” United World College, Singapore, 1 March 2018

“Indian Women’s Writing.” Asian Women Writers Festival, Singapore, 12 January 2018

“Who is the Writer? A Lecture for Young Writers,” Raffles Institution, Singapore, 29 July 2017

“Can We Write About Race?” Epigram Books/National Library Singapore, 27 July 2017

“Literary Treats: Food in Singapore Fiction.” National Library Singapore, 22 July 2017

“Writing About Youth Mental Health.” (Moderator) Singapore Writers Festival, 13 November 2016

“Dislocation and Cultural Identity.” (Moderator) Singapore Writers Festival, 12 November 2016

“What Makes a Story Singaporean?” Singapore Writers Festival, 5 November 2016

“Becoming a Writer.” TedX Youth Tevitol, Istanbul, 14 May 2016

“The Future of Work.” (Moderator) Singapore Writers Festival, 31 October 2015

“The Age of Post-Labeling.” (Moderator) Singapore Writers Festival, 31 October 2015

“Exploring Culture Through Writing.” Darebin Library, Melbourne, 24 July 2014

“Character Journeys: Writing Workshop for Singapore Schools,” Creative Arts Program, June 2014

“First Flight: Debut Novelists On Their Work.” Melbourne Writers Festival, 25 August 2013

“Where in the World Do You Write?” Emerging Writers Festival, Melbourne 25 May 2013

ADAPTATIONS AND COLLABORATIONS

Scriptwriter, *Being Sikh in Singapore: Faith, History and Culture*, National Heritage Centre (ongoing)

Consultant, screen adaptation of *The Unlikely Adventures of the Shergill Sisters*, Fox Network (ongoing)

Guest writer, “Saga,” a podcast about LGBTQ rights in Singapore, Twitter/AWARE SG (July 2019)

Consultant, screen adaptation of *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows*, Scott Free Productions (ongoing)

Consultant, screenplay for film adaptation of “Better Things,” Dir. Robert Linsley (ongoing)

“Everest” adapted for installation by artist Arjan Kruidhof, Singapore Int. Festival of the Arts 2019

Consultant, screen adaptation of *Inheritance* by Akanga Films, Singapore Int. Festival of the Arts 2017

Sugarbread adapted for a radio play by 93.8 FM and Epigram Books 2017

Extract from *Inheritance* featured in Arts House photography installation, Singapore Writers Festival 2016

SERVICE AND COMMUNITY WORK

Committee Member, Sexual Misconduct Committee, Yale-NUS College

Committee Member, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Yale-NUS College

Board Member, NTU Asia Creative Writing Programme Advisory Committee

Board Member, Singapore Unbound in New York Advisory Committee, New York

Judge, Epigram Books Fiction Prize, Singapore, 2019

Judge, National Arts Council Golden Point Award, Singapore, 2019

Judge, Yale-NUS Literary Awards, 2019-2020

Judge, Artistic Strategies Short Story Competition, Singapore, 2018

Assessor, Sing Lit Station Manuscript Boot Camp, Singapore, 2016

Fiction Writing Mentor, Ministry of Education, Creative Arts Program 2008-2010