



Jungle Girl

Ginu Kamani

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Jungle stemmin from the Sanskrit root, "jungle" is used in India to label the wild, the uncivilized, the untamed. Used most commonly as condemnation or censure, it aims to break the spirit of women yearning for personal power. The female protagonists in these eleven stories recklessly pursue their sensual paths through a complex social world that seeks to shut them out. With wily irreverence and a willful rawness, Kamani pulls back the veil of convention, inch by inch, and draws the reader into the disquieting truth of women's lives, charting territory both intimate and bizarre.

"In these 11 short stories, characters span the gamut of women, the irony being that in India's sexually repressive traditional society, this pejorative term [jungle girl] could be applied to any self-aware woman. But Kamani, a gifted, savvy writer, combines such precarious, complex elements as class, caste, gender and eroticism into readable, imaginative and often hilarious tales."—*Publishers Weekly*

Jungle Girl Details

Date : Published April 1st 1995 by Aunt Lute Books

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Author : Ginu Kamani

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From Reader Review Junglee Girl for online ebook

Beverly says

These stories have been hard to forget.

Indranil Chatterjee says

I am extremely sorry to say that with my low level intelligence I did not understand what the writer was saying. Are the stories realistic or surrealistic or what? The starting is almost like reading Chetan Bhagat. Sorry but I cannot give it more than 1 star.

Kelly says

I read this book a long long time ago. Found another copy at a book sale and have picked it up to read a few short stories. Liked "waxing the thing" and "Between Indians". If you are interested in american-east indian culture, its worth read.

Marcy says

I've had this book for years, but never got around to reading it until now. The short stories are a bit uneven. Many of them seem to be a bit too fixated on girlhood sexuality in ways that seem gratuitous. The story that I enjoyed the most, "This Anju" was a bit predictable, but it's one of the best portrayals of an Indian mother-in-law that I've yet to read. It was almost painful to have to inhabit the mind of a mother-in-law for so many pages, to witness her obliviousness to her own jealousy and her self-centredness, but it was also extremely cathartic.

Valini says

This book has excellent short stories based on different perspective of young Indian women. There are various settings from India to New York. The stories are witty and take you directly into the experiences of the characters.

April says

Wonderful, strong stories

Hama says

Excellent read.

Alexis says

i know that this book is too one-dimensional, but i still really enjoyed it. i wish she would write more, but it was critically panned so maybe i'm alone.

Jennifer says

some pretty engaging stories of budding female sexuality in south asian women. some stories i thought were more impressive in their concept or idea than in their execution, but i can see how sexuality is always difficult to tackle without relying on sensationalism.

Sara says

Sarebbe questa l'India?!?!

Dove sarebbe la tanto sbandierata ribellione di certe "ragazze selvagge" indiane? La loro ribellione sarebbe quella di "scopare" ovunque, con chiunque e comunque?
Mah...l'ho trovato gratuitamente volgare e inutile...sesso ovunque anche dove non serviva assolutamente...Ginu Kamani: NON CI SIAMO! Forse ti servirebbe un pò più di attività fisica vera e propria così la smetti di scrivere libri del genere!

Amanda says

Both disturbing and enlightening. I found the writing style incredibly compelling, even if some of the stories were hard to understand. A bit triggery for potential rape situations.

dianne says

a disturbing series of stories about the internalization of misogyny (and the battle against it) in a culture where birth defines your limits and worth. still i fantasize about all of us (female types) holding hands and creating our own reality.

Janhavi says

The characters sketched out in the stories were kind of odd as per me. I felt like all women were portrayed as weird which is very hard to accept. Even if the attempt was to show how women lived or their plight, the book kind off put them in a bad light.

Kelli Oliver George says

I have mixed feelings on this. Some of it was really bizarre, graphic. But. I did appreciate seeing some more intimate portraits of Indian girls.

Kamala says

A mix of stories that range from "sigh, how many pages to go?" to quite good. Worth reading for "Waxing the Thing" and a few others.
