

Publisher's Note



Dear Readers,

As we embark on the second half of 2024, Penguin continues its voyage of discovery and celebration of the vibrant literary landscape of Southeast Asia. This year's catalogue is a testament to our unwavering commitment to amplifying diverse voices and perspectives from this culturally rich region. We are thrilled to present a carefully curated selection of books, both fiction and non-fiction, that promise to enlighten, entertain, and engage readers globally.

Our non-fiction collection features compelling memoirs and autobiographies, such as the insightful journey of Mr. Toilet in *The Gumption of Mr. Toilet* and the poignant reflections in *And For The Record*. These narratives offer intimate glimpses into extraordinary lives, inspiring readers with their resilience and vision. In the realm of leadership, we bring you transformative guides like *Rewrite The Rules* by a bestselling author and leading executive coach, *B.E.S.T Marketing*, and *The Future Fit Asian Organization*, each providing invaluable insights for navigating the modern business landscape.

In fiction, we are proud to present translations of seminal works such as *Worship The Body* and *An Ordinary Tale About Women and Other Stories*, which open windows to the profound cultural and philosophical viewpoints of the region. Our commercial popular titles, including the quirky *Cheese Donuts Are Most Definitely Not Subpar* and the gripping *Hue City*, promise to captivate with their unique narratives and dynamic storytelling.

For our younger readers and young adults, we have enchanting tales like *The Summer of Letting Go* and the adventurous *Elven and the Puzzle Box*, designed to spark imagination and curiosity.

Each book in our catalogue is a milestone in our ongoing journey to explore and share the rich literary heritage of Southeast Asia. It is our absolute pleasure to invite you to join us on this ever-exciting literary expedition. Together, let's traverse this remarkable region through the pages of our books, celebrating the diverse stories and voices that make Southeast Asia a truly unique and vibrant part of the world.

Nora Nazerene Abu Bakar

CONTENTS

Fiction	1
Non-Fiction	19
Children's and Young Adult	37
Backlist	45





FICTION

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Ascension

First, you need to give it something precious to you. Then, a shelter, a doorway...

Something lives in a rotting house in the town of Santa Clara.

Emilia has not thought of this house for years, until a chance meeting with Alma, an old friend from her hometown.

When Alma suddenly dies, Emilia finds her way back to Santa Clara, to her circle of friends who rekindle memories of a bizarre ritual left unfinished.

Of a dark visitor who sits by their bed at night, of a being who won't let them sleep.

Must they once again awaken whoever dwells in that lonely house?



Eliza Victoria

Eliza Victoria is an award-winning Filipino author. Her books include *Dwellers* (winner of the Philippine National Book Award for Best Novel), *Wounded Little Gods*, the graphic novel *After Lambana* (a collaboration with artist Mervin Malonzo), the science fiction novelin-stories *Nightfall*, the short story collection *Seventeen Prayers to the Many–Eyed Mother*, and the poetry collection *What Comes After*. She has had stories and poetry published in various venues since 2007, most recently in *The Best Asian Speculative Fiction*, *The Apex Book of World SF*, *Future SF*, *Multispecies Cities*, and *Asian Literature Project*. Visit her at elizavictoria.com.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815162004 Page extent: 228 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Steady Sarah

A journey to self-discovery and new-found love, set against the backdrop of the Philippines' most captivating waterfalls

Sarah Silvestre has always been the dependable one. That's why everyone calls her 'Steady Sarah'. She's responsible, mature, organized, and has her life all planned out. Until one day, everything turns upside down: first, her longtime boyfriend, Pete, breaks up with her; then, she loses her job in a corporate downsize. What's a girl to do? Pack her bags, of course.

Sarah is on a quest for seven waterfalls all over the country, from Tanay, Rizal, all the way to Lake Sebu, South Cotabato. Her family and her best friends, Anya and Benito, all think she's crazy. But for once in her life, she's excited to be the one running away. Benito, in particular, insists on going with her. Will this be the adventure of her life? Or is she just chasing a disaster waiting to happen?



Justine Camacho-Tajonera

Justine Camacho-Tajonera was born and raised in Cebu City, Philippines. Despite starting a corporate career in telecommunications, she pursued her master's degree in Literature and Cultural Studies to keep her close to her first love of writing (and reading). She has had her poetry published in several anthologies and local publications, and has self-published several books in various genres. She maintains a personal blog, *Claiming Alexandria*. She is a marketing professional in the Philippines, is married, and has two children.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204728 Page extent: 288 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

How We Came to Be

'Do you ever feel that way sometimes? Like everyone's expecting so much from you that they gave you everything, so you feel like making them happy is the least you can do?'

University radio DJ Ellice Sanchez has always been good with words. But she can't seem to find the right ones to explain to her friends how and why she never felt any romantic feelings for her now ex-boyfriend (or anyone else, to be exact).

Engineering major Alex Yu is good at math (as all Chinese kids are ... supposedly). But for the longest time, he's been struggling to figure out how to go after the Literature degree he's always wanted while fulfilling his family's expectations.

When they accidentally meet again after being sort-of-strangers in high school, Ellice and Alex fall into an unlikely yet shockingly easy friendship strengthened by fairly unproductive study sessions and Ellice's chaotic semi-weekly university radio show.

With Alex's unquestioning acceptance of Ellice's newly discovered aromantic-asexuality and Ellice's persistence in pushing Alex to chase after what he wants, they are unexpectedly what each other needs.



Andrea Dee

Andrea Dee was born and raised in Manila, Philippines. She graduated with a degree in Communication Arts and a minor in Creative Writing from De La Salle University. She writes a lot about little queer experiences and is notorious for not replying to texts (sorry!). She's probably watching movies, rereading a book, or stuck in an endless void (read: social media).

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204742 Page extent: 296 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

River of Dolls and Other Stories

Suzanne Kamata's precise and evocative prose stirs something within, something ancient. It's something you've forgotten but has always been brimming under the surface. What does it mean to be human?

A troubled Japanese farmer becomes besotted with a kingfisher. A descendant of the mountainous Heike clan reveals a dark family secret to persuade her daughter to stay. An American expat struggles to teach English to a classroom of grandmothers. A college student in South Carolina takes a female prisoner for a day out.

Drawing from traditional Japanese folktales and lore, *River of Dolls and Other Stories* brings to life an imperfect world where individuals are constantly caught—in between duty and desire, power and fragility. And yet, they persevere.

Mostly set in Japan, ranging from magical to straight realism, these eclectic stories cross cultures, bend reality, and interrogate gender, unsettling the reader in big and small ways.



Suzanne Kamata

American Suzanne Kamata has lived in Japan for over thirty years. Her writing has appeared in The Best Asian Short Stories, The Best Asian Travel Writing 2020, The APWT Drunken Boat Anthology of New Writing, Telltale Food: Writings from the Fay Khoo Award 2017–2019, and numerous other anthologies. She is the author of the short story collection The Beautiful One Has Come (2011), which won a Nautilus Silver Award and a Next Generation Indie Best Award; and the young adult novels Gadget Girl: The Art of Being Invisible (2013) and Indigo Girl (2019), a Freeman Honor Book. Her most recent novel is The Baseball Widow (2021). She is an associate professor at Naruto University of Education.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204964 Page extent: 194 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

The Hantu House

A ghost vigil is held in a haunted house and a supernatural web of intrigue unfolds . . .

Real estate agent Eric Foo is tricked into spending a night in a haunted house he's trying to sell. There, he discovers an eerie ability—he can sense ghosts. Finding himself drawn into a murder mystery and a web of supernatural intrigue, Eric races against time to uncover the truth behind a series of untimely deaths.

As he navigates the intersection of the worlds of the living and the dead, the line between reality and the supernatural blurs. Will Eric solve the mystery or be the next victim of the sinister haunted house?



Frederick Lim

Frederick Lim is a retired journalist and an author of two novels. He is also a travel blogger. He was formerly a senior editor with Singapore's leading TV and digital network CNA, and had a career in journalism spanning twenty years. While at CNA, he produced numerous news and current affairs feature stories, reality shows, and documentaries and won multiple journalism awards. Before that, he was in stockbroking and business.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204698 Page extent: 252 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Huế City

A story about the treacherous yet rewarding path to starting over set in the enigmatic streets of Huế, Singapore, and Manila

Twenty-five-year-old Carmen Maranan is the newest member of the notorious Ativan Gang, a group of scammers in Manila who befriend solo tourists. A college dropout, Carmen is desperate to see her mother, Nicole, who now lives with her new family in Huế City, Vietnam. When Carmen flees Manila for Huế, she meets Hai, a receptionist, tout, and part-time pimp. Ambitious and driven, Hai's goal is to be rich and run his own hotel. This dream feels closer when Hai crosses paths with Marina, a wealthy Singaporean yearning for a new life and love.

Told from the points of view of Carmen, Hai, and Marina, *Huế City* brings you deep into the soul of Southeast Asia—from the faded, enigmatic streets of Vietnam's former capital Huế to the fraught, gritty drags of Manila and the gleaming, cosmopolitan environs of Singapore—as it reveals their intertwined journeys along the treacherous and sometimes heartbreaking path to starting over.



Claire Betita de Guzman

Claire Betita de Guzman is a Filipina writer based in Singapore and is the author of five novels: *Sudden Superstar, Miss Makeover, Budget is the New Black, Girl Meets World*, and *No Boyfriend Since Birth*, which was adapted into a TV series.

A former journalist, she started as a reporter for the broadsheet *Today* before becoming a lifestyle editor for international and local magazines including *Cosmopolitan Philippines* and *Harper's Bazaar Singapore*.

She works closely with the Migrant Writers of Singapore and has led talks and panels at literary events, including the Singapore Writers Festival and Poetry Festival Singapore. Find her online at www. clairebetita.com.

Size/Format: Royal/Paperback ISBN: 9789815144277 Page extent: 372 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

The Power Above Us All

Enter the Dreamland of corruption, crime, and cockroaches . . .

Dodong's life as a low-level criminal takes a violent turn when his girlfriend Che, a beautiful bar girl, dies and he is identified as the primary suspect. He must survive this charge, made by the villainous and all-powerful Elmer, with the help of his best friend Buldan.

Simultaneously, a manhunt for the serial killer of gay men proceeds with startling incompetence. How is it connected to the part-time mortician Butsok?

As the cordon tightens around them, Dodong and Buldan move towards a furious denouement, encountering unlikely allies and enemies. Discovering paths unforgiving, the friends wish they had never uncovered the power above that rules all and spares none.

In *The Power Above Us All*, Ronaldo Soledad Vivo Jr weaves together seemingly disparate stories to reveal foul truths about a world drenched in perpetual violence and poverty.



Ronaldo Soledad Vivo Jr

Ronaldo Soledad Vivo Jr is a Filipino novelist, film-maker, musician, and graphic artist. He is the author of the novels *Ang Kapangyarihang Higit sa Ating Lahat (The Power Above Us All)* and *Ang Bangin sa Ilalim ng Ating mga Paa (The Abyss Beneath Our Feet)*. He has been recognized for his contributions to Philippine literature as the finalist for the Madrigal Gonzalez Best First Book Award and the National Book Awards. He is a recipient of both the Gawad Bienvenido Lumbera and the Premyong LIRA. He is the founder of Ungaz Press, a collective of writers from the town of Pateros.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204711 Page extent: 218 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Worship the Body

Four individuals try to conceive an extraordinary family in urban Manila and rediscover that secrets can also be joyous

Jaime drops by a restaurant to cool off with a glass of beer. Jun waits on him during that random visit. Something happens between them when their eyes meet over the glass of beer—Jaime considers it an accident and Jun considers it luck. Years later, their paths cross again when Jamie's wife, Ria, innocently hires Jun as their family driver and is introduced to Jun's wife, Maya.

Ria and Maya establish a unique connection as women confronted with questions about power and emotions even as they uncover the bond between their husbands. Jaime and Jun are confronted with questions about history and myth.

Told from different but interlocking points of view, the story of Jamie, Jun, Ria, and Maya becomes a song, complete with recurring refrains and a coda, intimating that there are silences to the body that are essential to our understanding of happiness.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204841 Page extent: 232 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books



Alvin Yapan

Alvin Yapan is an author and a film-maker. He is a fellow at the 2022 Writers Immersion and Cultural Exchange of Sing Lit Station and Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University. His works, both in fiction and film, delve into the uncanny aspects of contemporary encounters with the non- and post-human. His first novel in the vernacular, *Ang Sandali ng mga Mata (This Moment of Eyes*, 2006), and his collection of short stories, *Sangkatauhan Sangkahayupan (Humanity Bestiary*, 2017), both received the Philippine National Book Award.

His filmography includes *Ang Sayaw ng Dalawang Kaliwang Paa (The Dance of Two Left Feet*, 2011), and *Ang Panggagahasa kay Fe (The Rapture of Fe*, 2009), recognized as best digital feature films of the year in the Philippines and at the Cairo International Film Festival, respectively.

Me in Your Melody

It won't take long to bring our hearts back to where we started

Once a promising legal eagle, heartbroken and unemployed Emily Chung is sent to live with her no-nonsense Uncle Raymond, strange but passionate retired actress Aunt Bridget, talkative oddball cousin Daniel, and cunning, feng-shui-believing grandmother in Penang Island, Malaysia after a devastating incident almost costs her her life. In a bid to help Emily move forward and pick herself back up, Emily's uncle offers her an internship at Serendipity Sanctuary—a non-profit community food centre for the underprivileged.

Everything is fine as Emily works under Uncle Sean, a rambunctious pastry chef—or as fine as things can be for the Lau family—when she meets Michael Kim, a solo traveller volunteering as a pay-it-forward. The encounter forces her to confront the devastation left in the wake of her past clandestine romance with former renowned K-Pop-idol-turned-soloist Edward Ahn and her unwitting desire to love again.

Will Emily allow herself to experience all that love and life have to offer?



Deborah Wong

Deborah Wong is a Rhysling Award and Pushcart Prize nominated Malaysian poet. She holds a LLB (Hons) from the University of London and the Associateship of the Malaysian Insurance Institute (AMII). A devoted fan fiction writer, she finally answered the call to be a storyteller by attending the summer intensive creative writing programme at the University of British Columbia, Canada. Her writing can be found in Ricepaper Magazine, Thought Catalog, Blood Bath Literary Zine, Strange Horizons, Dark Matter Magazine Halloween Edition, and many other local as well as international online literary journals and anthologies. She writes fulltime and lives with her dancing-queen mom, melodrama-enthusiast mama, and a feminist calico cat. Me In Your Melody is her debut novel.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815202021 Page extent: 360 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Cheese Donuts Are Most Definitely Not Subpar

Emily Henry's *Beach Read* meets Jen DeLuca's *Well Met* in this slow-burn romcom between two strangers—think black cat meets golden retriever—who must play nice with one another to avoid a workplace catastrophe

When her sister is away for a business trip, twenty-three-year-old Ellie Maharani agrees to look after her nieces and discovers on the first day of school that her sister's PTA leadership is under attack. Ellie might not know much about PTA, but nobody steals her sister's presidency from under her nose. She volunteers to sit in as an acting chairperson, unaware that the job comes with a condescending yet attractive PTA co-captain who criticizes everything she does, including her choice of donut.

The last thing Dion Saputra needs is more work outside his ER job, but refusing his old school's request would reflect badly on Dion's uncle, the principal. Dion would do anything for the man who has raised him since his father died, even if it means playing nice to the clueless cocaptain who thinks cheese donuts are better than Mochaccino.

Between meetings and rehearsals, stolen kisses and an orchestrated PTA coup, they begin to realize that maybe, just maybe, they don't despise each other's guts?



Melly Sutjitro

Melly Sutjitro is a Chinese Indonesian author who lives in Jakarta with her husband and two teenage kids. She spent a few years living in San Francisco while completing her master's degree. After spending a decade in corporate offices, she decides to pursue her love of storytelling through writing. She has nine Picture Books and three romance novels published under the pen name mellyberry. When she's not stressing over the plot in her manuscripts, she enjoys reading all sorts of books (as long as they're not horror) and documenting her thoughts on her Instagram page. Occasionally, she would spend her time cooking, doing Pilates, and watching the re-runs of *Friends* and *The Big Bang Theory*.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 978981520498 Page extent: 288 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

The Balikbayan Artist

A tale of the artist's role in troubled times set amid a dictatorship

Farm-laborer-turned-artist Vance Igorta returns to the Philippines as a balikbayan after nearly fifty years in the United States. He is a member of the Manong Generation, the largest diaspora of Filipinos who worked physically demanding jobs, mostly in California's agricultural fields.

The Balikbayan Artist—inspired by and dedicated to Venancio C. Igarta (1912–2000), the real-life leading artist of the Manong Generation—takes readers from the early twentieth century to the present day when Vance Igorta's art is being discovered anew.

Igorta's legacy is validated for allowing his art to address the tensions of his time instead of keeping it solely entrenched in aesthetic concerns. The artist's choice reflects what he learned as a voraciously self-educated person: that in circumstances where power corrupts, what makes anyone and everyone dangerous is love.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815233049 Page extent: 280 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books



Eileen R. Tabios

Eileen R. Tabios has released over seventy collections of poetry, fiction, art, essays, and experimental writings from publishers around the world. Translated into thirteen languages, she has also edited, co-edited, or conceptualized fifteen anthologies, which has involved hundreds of other poets and writers.

Recent releases include an autobiography, *The Inventor*, a poetry collection, *Because I Love You, I Become War*, an art monograph, *Drawing the Six Directions*; a novel, *DoveLion: A Fairy Tale for Our Times* (with a Filipino translation, *KalapatingLeon*, by Danton Remoto).

Her body of work further includes a first poetry book, *Beyond Life Sentences*, which received the Philippines' National Book Award for Poetry, as well as invention of the hay(na)ku, a twenty-first century diasporic poetic form and the monobon poetry form based on the monostich. More information is at http://eileenrtabios.com.

One Night Stand

A story of a famous girl who kept everyone's darkest secrets inside, and one of them might be the reason that got her killed

Gale, Papang, and Queen have it all—looks, fame, and boys. The three popular, college-going girls are inseparable best friends.

Then, on April Fools' Night, everything changes—someone murders Queen, leaving the other two grief-stricken, their memories of Queen's last night wiped out.

As Queen's darkest secrets are revealed, it becomes clear that almost everyone has a reason to kill her—including her best friends. Gale and Papang drown in their lies while trying to protect themselves and accuse each other.

In the end, nothing is as it seems. No matter how shocking the truth may be, it finally reveals who exactly Queen is. And why she had to die.



Kantarin Leelahuta

Kantarin Leelahuta is a Thai novelist who made her writing debut in 2005 at the age of twelve. Since then, she has published over seventy titles under her pen name Pretty Princess, including *One Night Stand*, which was adapted into a TV Series in 2023. Several other of her books have been adapted into TV shows, including *Oh My Boss* (2021), *Girl Next Room* (2020), and *Boy for Rent* (2019).

Kantarin graduated from Thammasat University with a Bachelor of Arts, Journalism major. She's always known writing was her calling and never hesitated to answer.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204735 Page extent: 448 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

A Rei of Sunshine

A story of love finding its way to forgiveness, even in the most peculiar circumstances

A Rei of Sunshine is a coming-of-age tale that weaves together the threads of two former lovers separated by circumstance over many years. When Ari, a doctor recently divorced, receives an invitation from Fyra to attend her wedding, he jumps on the chance. But as Ari arrives at the wedding, all is not as it seems, and he is catapulted into what he already knew would be a difficult and complicated situation. With the addition of a mysterious dream world and strange occurrences happening around Fyra's out-of-wedlock daughter Rei, it seems that where Ari's found himself is even more supernaturally complex than he can comprehend.



Larry Nyanti

Larry Nyanti hails from Borneo, grew up in Baton Rouge, and briefly studied creative writing in Dublin. He lives in sunny Kota Kinabalu, where he practices and teaches medicine. *A Rei* of Sunshine is his debut novel.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204995 Page extent: 208 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Until Even the Angels

Imagination supressed. Secrets divulged. A lost child found. Personal demons overcome. Heaven imagined. Friendship betrayed.

When an unlikely friendship develops between Mei Mei Goh, the domestic servant to the wealthy Hamilton family in 1950's Singapore, her young mistress, Honour Hamilton, and teenage gardener, Pashunath Roy, the three friends are exposed to violent race riots that end with the disappearance of Honour's baby sister, Rosie.

Fifty years later, Mei Mei, now known as the successful London estate agent Isabelle Goh, is shot in what looks like an attempted gang assassination. Secrets old and new are uncovered by Detective Ayesha Nur, who is on a mission to discover who tried to kill Isabelle Goh and what happened to baby Rosie.

Using a dual timeline and intertwining stories from the 1950s Singapore and 2000s London, this literary crime fiction novel is a gripping story of the joy of childhood friendships, the loss of innocence, and the sweetness of reunion with loved ones all the while questioning the meaning of belonging and family.



Suzanne Scott Tomita

Suzanne Scott Tomita was born in Tunisia and raised in Venezuela, Germany, Indonesia, Canada, and Australia. Her writing includes personal essays on the topic of motherhood, midlife, and marriage published in Canada's national newspaper *The Globe* and *Mail*. She has published on the topic of home and belonging in *Expat Living* Singapore.

Suzanne has a PhD in Education from the University of British Columbia. In 2014, Suzanne completed The Writer's Studio (TWS) Creative Writing Certificate at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, Canada where she studied with writers Kevin Chong and Wayde Compton.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204803 Page extent: 240 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

An Ordinary Tale About Women and Other Stories

Evocative portrayals of the everyday struggles, joys, and tragedies of rural malay society by a master of the short story form

This collection offers a selection of short stories by Fatimah Busu, one of the foremost Malay women writers of the past century. A master of the short story form, Fatimah Busu's writing is known for her bold subject matter, fresh approach to language, and idiosyncratic style. Her short stories offer an acute portrayal of the inner contradictions of Malay society, particularly the realities of women in rural Malaysia grappling with the forces of tradition and modernity. Many of Fatimah Busu's stories are set in her hometown of Kampung Pasir Pekan, Kelantan and are imbued with the colourful peculiarities of Kelantanese dialect, sensibility, and everyday life.

Fatimah Busu's evocative fiction blurs the boundaries of social realism, dreamscapes, reimagined mythology, and magic realism. Most of the stories gathered here have been translated into English for the first time.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204667 Page extent: 224 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books



Fatimah Busu

Fatimah Busu is an award-winning Malaysian novelist, short-story writer, and academic. Born in 1943 in Kampung Pasir Pekan, Kelantan, she is considered one of the most formidable Malay women writers of her generation. She has authored several award-winning short stories and novels. Fatimah is the recipient of several literary awards including the Kelantan State Laureate in 2015. She rejected the prestigious SEA Write Award as a protest against the violence against Muslim communities in South Thailand.

Pauline Fan

Pauline Fan is a writer, literary translator and cultural researcher. Pauline's literary translations from German to Malay include works by Immanuel Kant, Rainer Maria Rilke, and Paul Celan. Her prolific writings on culture and literature have been published in various international and local publication.

Non-Fiction

0

No More Bosses The Journey to Sustainable Self-Employment

Have you ever dreamed of quitting your job and becoming your own boss? Do you want to pursue your passion and create a meaningful and profitable business? If so, this book is for you.

Tired of the corporate grind? Looking to tap out from the incessant corporate hamster wheel but not sure how?

Solopreneur Adrian Tan shares a practical roadmap for making a fulfilling mid-career pivot to self-employment. Through his own journey of challenges, failures, and ultimate success, Tan offers essential guidance on: Overcoming fears to escape the comfort zone; discovering your niche and marketing your skills; managing time, money, and stress as an entrepreneur; persevering through setbacks and competition; growing your business and achieving your goals.

This isn't a get-rich-quick scheme, but an honest, experience-based plan for leveraging your talents to build a profitable, rewarding enterprise outside the traditional career path.

Whether seeking a full-time venture or a flexible side hustle, this book will inspire you to take the leap and pursue your entrepreneurial dreams with confidence.



Adrian Tan

Adrian Tan is a self-employed Fractional Chief Marketing Officer (CMO), Future of Work influencer, HR tech consultant, and content creator based in Singapore. He helps HR companies in Southeast Asia to drive awareness, leads, and sales. He is the host of *The Adrian Tan Show*, where he interviews HR leaders and influencers on the future of work, and was the co-host of *Work It*, a work-related podcast by CNA. He has been featured as one of the top HR influencers in Asia and globally by various publications and platforms. Adrian writes regularly on CNA and his website: adriantan.com.sg.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815233131 Page extent: 292 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

The Gumption of Mr Toilet Mobilizing the World to Effect Change

Amazing stories of gumption through the enterprising journeys of Mr Toilet

Prior to 2001, the words 'shit', 'pee', and 'poo' were considered rude and unspeakable. Polite society avoided them. Academics used technical terms like 'faecal sludge management'; politicians would never touch it. The cost? 2.6 billion people lived without access to proper sanitation and 2 million diarrhoea deaths occurred every year.

Enter Mr Toilet (aka Jack Sim), founder of the World Toilet Organization.

With his disarming blend of humour and facts, Jack single-handedly made sanitation sexy, commanding the attention of billions of people worldwide. He helped build toilets in India and championed UN World Toilet Day.

An unconventional book of salient strategies and life lessons, it takes you through Jack's personal journey and inspires you to break free, change the world, and not be afraid of making yourself look dumb along the way.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815144802 Page extent: 430 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books



Jack Sim

Widely known as Mr Toilet, Jack Sim broke the global taboo around toilets and sanitation. He founded the World Toilet Organization (WTO), a global non-profit working towards a world with clean, safe toilets and sanitation for everyone, everywhere, at all times. Born in a slum in Singapore in 1957, he learned entrepreneurship and gumption from his uneducated mother who started a series of small businesses, and was also inspired by the gumption of Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. From school failure, he became a serial commercial businessman and then a serial social entrepreneur. He has won numerous awards, including the Schwab Fellow of the World Economic Forum, and received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK, in 2022 for his contribution to humanity.

The Siege Within

A remarkable thriller crafted out of politics and high finance, delivering a knockout exposé all the more shocking for the ring of truth behind every act

When Malaysia's sixth prime minister Najib Razak was sentenced to twelve years in prison and fined RM 210 million for stealing billions from the 1MDB state investment fund he had himself set up, it exposed a chain of events that began decades ago, and which continues to reverberate economically, financially, and politically, bleeding the treasury and inflicting immeasurable pain on taxpayers for generations to come.

The Siege Within delves into the writer's own archives of previously unpublished material to go back in time and show exactly how it was possible for a Malaysian prime minister to envisage his treacherous crime, and then to execute the dastardly deed. From its most 'innocent' beginning in a north Malaysian state, Lopez charts how Najib and his warlords set up the investment fund for the sole purpose of stealing from it.

This book is the untold story behind the political crime that continues to make world headlines, and why a nation so full of promise has been brought to its knees.



Leslie Lopez

Leslie Lopez, a Malaysian citizen, has reported extensively on political and economic affairs in the region since the mid-1980s. Over the years, he has worked with several renowned newspapers and political and business publications including *The Business Times* of Singapore, *The Asian Wall Street Journal* in Kuala Lumpur, *The Straits Times* and The Edge media group.

Leslie, who lives in Kuala Lumpur and travels regularly on reporting assignments, is currently writing for Singapore's CNA Digital.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815266313 Page extent: 192 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

B.E.S.T. Marking A Powerful New Leadership Excellence Paradigm in the Post-Pandemic World

A new doctrine that empowers current and aspiring leaders like you with bold new tools and insights to navigate, master, and benefit greatly from the unique, valuable opportunities that this new transformative world offers—well beyond the limitations of the existing benchmarks

The massive global pandemic disruption has forced businesses and individuals to revamp their leadership approaches as traditional benchmarks are shattered. The old way of doing things is no longer useful, and a new kind of robust leadership model is necessary to face these new uncertainties.

B.E.S.T Marking presents a powerful new Leadership Paradigm to navigate the complexities of this new normal environment—and win it big. It provides readers with access to critical new tools, knowledge, and insights to effectively lead their life and organizations towards great success in the turbulent landscapes of tomorrow.

B.E.S.T Marking's fluidity could support and collaborate with Benchmarking, Agile Leadership, Six Sigma, and other existing models to reimagine leadership in the new normal. It is more than a framework; it's a revolution in leadership. A call to action for leaders to conquer emerging challenges.

Develop your own unique leadership advantage.

It's time for a paradigm shift.

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JEROME MANGADAP

Jerome Mangadap

Jerome Mangadap is a seasoned executive and leadership coach with over eleven years of experience in leadership, politics, communication, and mindset coaching. Known to his clients as 'Coach Jerry', he has cultivated a reputation as a deep thinker and thought leader, imparting valuable wisdom to thousands of followers on LinkedIn. His pragmatic expertise has provided tremendous value to private international clients.

Committed to helping humanity succeed, Jerome's multifaceted expertise and unwavering dedication ensure a positive impact on everyone he meets.

Startup Mindsets A Blueprint to Thrive in an Innovation-Driven and Globally Connected World

In today's rapidly evolving digital world, every global leader must employ a Startup Mindset to thrive and get ahead

Born in the Philippines, Earl Valencia is an award-winning tech leader and venture-backed startup founder. Dan Gonzales lived through the grind of Silicon Valley as an investor, writer, and the host of the popular *Startup Mindsets* podcast. Together, they have distilled lessons from hundreds of conversations with founders, venture capitalists, and ecosystem builders. How do you balance a changing landscape while staying true to your core values? How do you stay relentless in the face of adversity? In other words, how can you think like a startup?

This book unveils the secrets of the Silicon Valley ecosystem and guides readers on the mindsets that differentiate the leaders who were trained from the industrial economy of the past from those who have grown and transcended into a digital-first world.

Through compelling stories and actionable strategies, get inspired to apply the Startup Mindset to your own life and lead the new innovation-driven and digital economy today.



Earl Valencia, Dan Gonzales

Earl Valencia is a venture-backed startup founder, investor, and corporate innovation executive who has worked in Silicon Valley, New York, and Southeast Asia. He co-founded IdeaSpace, the leading incubator and accelerator based in Manila, and QBO, the public-private innovation centre of the Philippines.

Dan Gonzales is a writer by nature with venture capital and startup experience. Fascinated by how entrepreneurs think and what gets them to perform, Dan developed close ties with the Silicon Valley founders and venture capitalists at VU Venture Partners. He hosts the *Startup Mindsets* podcast, a platform that dives deep into how entrepreneurs make decisions and can run successful businesses.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204872 Page extent: 208 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Business

Self-Improved Me An Illustrated Guide to Self-Discovery and Continuous Improvement

A guide to goal setting and embracing the journey

Being a woman in this modern society is getting more challenging each day. There are a lot of expectations from our closest ones and even pressures from strangers on the internet.

When will you get married? Why does your child behave that way? You must be too busy working. You haven't joined any Pilates class yet? Like, ever?? Beyoncé also has twenty-four hours in a day, you know?!

These questions seep into our minds without us realizing it, creating guilt and making it difficult to be aware of ourselves and what we truly aim for.

Self-awareness and mindfulness about our purpose are the first steps to gaining clarity in life. They are part of the self-discovery journey, where we honour our growth process and embrace our imperfections.

This illustrated book offers a toolkit that doesn't promise a one-size-fits-all method. It's about the discovery process itself. With bite-sized writings and illustrations, it aims to help get us to know ourselves better and appreciate our unique way of progressing in life.



Puty Puar

Puty Puar is a mother currently living in Bekasi, Indonesia. She works as a freelance illustrator, content creator, and book author. She integrates her blog and social media to deliver heartwarming and relatable visual content that aligns with her purpose, empowering women from within and her belief in the collective power of women to create massive and longlasting impacts.

Puty is the founder and executive director of Buibu Baca Buku, a community that aims to empower women, especially mothers, through literacy and reading habits.

In 2018, she won The JCS International Young Creative Award, a part of The International Emmy Award 2018.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815266153 Page extent: 208 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Tethered

Frolics from a stroke

Tracy was at the start of her law career and at the cusp of life when she got a debilitating brainstem stroke that affected her breathing, swallowing, speech, eyesight, and severely weakened her left and paralysed her right. She found herself effectively a thinking statue at the age of thirty-five.

This is an account of her journey to recovery. As her brain is reset, she finds, so is her life. Like a growing child, she learns the most basic things anew, and more insightfully, the second time around. She sees the world in a different dimension this time—as someone wheelchairbound. She discovers what faith means when it is all that is left.

In amusing and heart-wrenching anecdotes, she finds that there is a life to be had, even in the cracks.



Tracy Anne Ong

Tracy was at the start of her law career and at the cusp of life when she got a debilitating brainstem stroke that affected her speech, eyesight, and ability to breathe and swallow. It also severely weakened her left side and completely paralysed her right. She found herself, effectively, a thinking statue at the age of thirty-five.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815127904 Page extent: 256 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

And For the Record Memoir of a Filipino Writer-Musician

Musings and happenings in the life of a Filipino rocker-journalist amidst the glitz and challenges of Philippine music scene

Author Yugel Losorata extracted salient points from his many years making music, being in a band, writing news and features, and keeping up with the euphoria and struggles of being a writer-musician in the Philippines. By way of narrative essays that jump from personal struggles to the privileges of hobnobbing or being friends with celebrities, he crafted his true-to-life tale that only a Filipino recording artist and performing musician who happens to be a rock journo, too, could go through.

On one hand, Losorata stumbled in his attempts to crack mainstream success. But in his own right, he tasted a bountiful of small wins amid the backdrop of Philippine showbiz that is rich in culture and artistry, yet heavy on politics and bitter twists.

Losorata—songwriter, performer, rock journo, reflectionist—has gone through it all. He felt compelled to genuinely tell his story and share his version of pop rock reality, especially that his life mirrors that of a dreamer facing difficulties and surviving the whole shebang with dignity intact and without regrets.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204933 Page extent: 256 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin



Yugel Losorata

Yugel Losorata is a journalist-musician, born and raised in the Philippines. Since the year 2000 he has written articles touching various subjects in the fields of entertainment, arts, lifestyle, business, and sports. He has also been composing and recording songs released in the form of physical and digital albums, EPs, and singles. He co-founded two bands, Syato and The Pub Forties, where he served as chief songwriter, co-singer, and bass player for twenty years combined.

He has worked as staff writer at *Manila Bulletin* and as a senior copy editor at *CNN Philippines*. As an author he wrote four books in the height of the pandemic. In 2020 he penned *How to Survive the New Normal*, and *30 Midnights of Flash Fiction*. In 2021, his novel *The Lust Regime*, and a collection of short stories, *Rhythm & Bruise*, were published.

The Global Citizen Building Bridges from East to West in Business

The Global Citizen by international investor and philanthropist Patrick Tsang is a timely and relevant exploration of the cultural nuances that define the increasingly interconnected business world of the 21st century. By combining his unique perspective as a global citizen with personal experiences and lessons learned, Tsang offers readers valuable insights into the crosscultural environment that governs feelings, beliefs, and actions in a globalized era. This book, intended for sophisticated international business professionals and aspiring leaders, is not merely a financial endeavour for the author, but a mission to set the stage for peaceful and prosperous cross-cultural collaboration in business and beyond.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204766 Page extent: 238 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books



Patrick Tsang

Patrick Tsang is the Chairman of Tsangs Group and the Hong Kong Ambassadors Club ('HKAC').

Patrick is a graduate of the College of Law in England, and a qualified solicitor in Hong Kong, England, and Wales. As a philanthropic advocate, he is the past President of the Rotary E-Club of Hong Kong and has supported charities across Asia and the UK. Notable acknowledgments include being awarded the China Economic Person of the Year during the China Economic Development Forum in 2014.

Patrick's life motto is 'anything is possible', the same title as his podcast series featuring some of the most influential people worldwide, who generously share their insights on their road to success. The mission is to share positivity, overcome challenges, and create One World together.

The Female Digital Revolution

A unique insight into how the digital economy is transforming women's lives and the need to create innovative technologies 'For' Women 'By' Women

Smartphones, digital payments and health apps are examples of how technology is empowering women to upskill, lead or start tech companies and live healthier and greener lives. The digital revolution is dramatically transforming the role of women in the economy delivering new opportunities to work, play and learn. But women are missing out. Not enough innovative technologies are being developed 'by women' or 'for women' leading to untapped benefits for the female population and missed opportunities for businesses and government to cater to half of the world's population.

The Female Digital Revolution provides a unique insight into the changing role of women in the digital economy which is growing at an unprecedented rate. Through a collection of powerful real-life stories and research, it brings to life current and future digital changes that are reshaping the role of women. It urges government and businesses to start consciously thinking about women as powerful digital economic agents, highlights the need to increase female participation in all aspects of our digital economy, and implores all relevant actors investors, entrepreneurs, CEOs, public leaders, and the like—to be part of the female digital revolution.



Nimisha Tailor

Nimisha Tailor is a competition and regulation specialist with international experience.

Nimisha is passionate about developing the next generation of leaders and mentors, young female professionals and university students, globally and regionally. As a mentor for the NexGen Keynote Women Speakers programme, she has supported talented women to make impactful speeches on stage by drawing on her public and private sector work experience.

Nimisha served in the UK Government Economic Service and has a MSc degree in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204995 Page extent: 206 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Rewrite the Rules How Women Leaders in Asia Are Changing the Leadership Paradigm

A practical guide to inspiration and application

In *Rewrite the Rules*, Ritu G Mehrish and Rajita Saxena empower Asian women leaders to challenge the status quo and redefine success on their own terms. *Rewrite the Rules* is a call to action that invites you to embrace your power, break free from limiting beliefs, and forge your own path to success.

Drawing from the diverse experiences of over 200 women leaders across Asia, this groundbreaking book focuses on the five core areas essential for thriving as a female leader: Being Confident, Creating Visibility, Building Networks, Finding Balance, and Defining Success.

Whether you're an emerging or senior leader, this book will equip you with the tools and inspiration to make your mark and reach your full potential.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204674 Page extent: 208 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books



Ritu G Mehrish and Rajita Saxena

Ritu G. Mehrish has spent twenty years in the corporate world, working for P&G, GE Capital and GE Spin off Genpact across the globe. In her last role she managed a multi-million-dollar business vertical with 1000 people across the five continents.

For the last decade, she's been running her own consulting and coaching firm The Leadership Troubleshooter, which specializes in helping leaders and teams build sustainable leadership.

Rajita, a seasoned leader with 25+ years of experience (nineteen at Google leading global learning & development), brings a diverse background in advertising, sales, and people development.

Rajita facilitates programs in people management, leadership, and DE&I. As a certified coach, she empowers managers, individuals, and entrepreneurs. A doctor by training, Rajita's passions for Indian music and yoga influence her coaching, guiding clients to reach their full potential. She believes every aspect of life is interconnected, and everyone has the ability to excel.

Together they host a highly popular podcast—*Rewrite the Rules*—where they interview seasoned women leaders across Asia. 31

Non-Fiction
Fearless A Guide to Freedom and Fulfilling your Fullest Potential

A raw, nostalgic, tell-all motivational memoir for women, drawing on unconventional and adventurous work, life, and relationships in China, Hong Kong, and Southeast Asia

For two decades, Sylvia Yu Friedman's investigations into the underworld of sex trafficking and modern-day slavery have shattered barriers and charted a course for a new generation of changemakers.

Through stories of close calls and triumphant breakthroughs, Sylvia reflects on her struggles and her ultimate realization that true freedom comes from serving others. Along the way, she offers a wellspring of hope and insights on identity, overcoming heartbreak and toxic environments.

Whatever your age, *Fearless* will inspire you to embrace your journey, confront adversity, and seize your destiny.



Sylvia Yu Friedman

Sylvia Yu Friedman is an award-winning author, philanthropy adviser, TV host, film-maker, and inspirational speaker. She has pioneered philanthropic initiatives, transforming countless lives while exposing some of the most egregious human rights abuses of our time.

Sylvia's life story and bestselling memoir, *A Long Road to Justice: Stories from the Frontlines in Asia*, have inspired a TV series that is currently in development.

She is the author of four books and the editor of the highly acclaimed book *Rethink the Couch* by Allison Heiliczer. Her LinkedIn interview show, Inspiring YOU with Sylvia Yu, reflects her passion for highlighting remarkable individuals.

Size/Format: Royal/Paperback ISBN: 9789815233100 Page extent: 264 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Saving the Planet Climate and Environmental Lessons from Malaysia and Beyond

A young Southeast Asian cabinet minister outlines the challenges and solutions for climate change and energy transition facing his country

In December 2022, Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad was appointed as Malaysia's Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change (NRECC). A career politician, his first ministerial appointment was a baptism of fire as he was thrust into the complex world of environmental policy.

While 'green issues' had previously only been an occasional part of his work and activism, executing the Malaysian government's ambitious sustainability plans brought home how crucial solving climate change is to the country's survival.

Saving the Planet relates Nik Nazmi's experiences as NRECC minister and his thoughts on connected issues ranging from water management to climate financing. A must-read for anyone seeking to understand the intersections between politics and climate change, as well as for an authentic voice at the frontlines of climate action in the Global South.



Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad

Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad has been the Malaysian Minister for Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability since December 2023. From 2022 to 2023, he was the Minister for Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change. He is one of the youngest ministers in the Anwar Ibrahim Cabinet. He is also the member of Parliament for Setiawangsa and Vice President of the People's Justice Party (KEADILAN).

Nik Nazmi has written several books including Malaysian Son: A Progressive's Political Journey in the Heart of Southeast Asia and Moving Forward: Malays for the Twenty-first Century.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204865 Page extent: 352 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Misgovernance Grand Corruption in Malaysia

How a misgoverned public ecosystem remains legitimate while undermining the economy and destabilizing the political system

This book unveils covert and deeply disturbing political-economic trends in Malaysia, necessitating an urgent rethinking of the meaning of 'corruption'. On offer are insights into the extensive abuse of power by governing elites who control government-linked companies (GLCs), contributing to grand corruption in numerous forms, including cronyism, collusion, selective patronage, embezzlement, and nepotism.

An analysis of a lengthy list of controversial government–business controversies between 1980 and 2023 indicates the presence of a covert and extremely powerful 'political-GLC complex' controlled ultimately by the Cabinet.

This long list of controversies, along with three case studies, provides insights into the intimate and illicit connections between governing elites and the businesses under their control.



Edmund Terence Gomez

Edmund Terence Gomez is former professor of Political Economy at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, Universiti Malaya, Malaysia.

His publications include Malaysia's Political Economy: Politics, Patronage and Profits, Chinese Business in Malaysia: Accumulation, Ascendance, Accommodation, Political Business in East Asia, The State of Malaysia: Ethnicity, Equity and Reform, The State, Development and Identity in Multiethnic Countries: Ethnicity, Equity and the Nation, The Politics of Resource Extraction: Indigenous Peoples, Multinational Corporations and the State, Affirmative Action, Ethnicity and Conflict, and Government-Linked Companies and Sustainable, Equitable Development, among others.

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815233919 Page extent: 224 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

The Future Fit Asian Organization

A leader's guide to integrating tradition with transformation in Asia

The first edition of *The Future Fit Organisation: A Leader's Guide to Transformation* was a best seller across multiple continents. This suggests the leaders of today are still searching for answers. Searching for the way forward during times of uncertainty, disruption, rising societal expectations, consumer pressure and rapid technological advancements. Searching for insights which work with, not against, multigenerational workforces, the informal bamboo networks, powerful governments and the collectivist nature of Asia.

Change and transformation literature and strategies are traditionally set against a Western backdrop. All too often, the words 'that won't work in Asia' are uttered, yet no effort is expended trying to define a way that will work in the continent. The second edition of *The Future Fit Organization* series dives deep into research and grass-roots case studies from Southeast Asia and outlines how to localize change management strategies which to harmonize with the distinct cultures within Asia.



Friska Wirya

Friska Wirya is the powerhouse behind Fresh by Friska, a sought-after change management and transformation advisor partnering with leaders of global organisations to safeguard and accelerate their transformations.

A multi-hyphenate, Friska is a multiple awardwinning Top 50 Global Change Management Thought Leader, Top 50 Asia Pacific Business Influencer, TEDx speaker and in-demand leadership facilitator who has spoken for the likes of Salesforce, Culture Amp, F5, Worley, UN Women and Microsoft. The first edition of her book, *The Future Fit Organisation*, achieved 3 best seller categories in 3 days, reaching #1 in Business Organisational Change and is stocked in bookstores across Australia, Indonesia, and Singapore

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204902 Page extent: 208 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books



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CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG ADULT

Elven and the Puzzle Box

A fantasy brainteaser set in a fictitious Southeast Asian country, with echoes of both western and eastern fairy tales

Twelve-year-old Elven has eleven fingers, no parents, and a skin tone that hints at murky origins. One day, she receives a wooden Puzzle Box belonging to her late mother, and an intriguing letter promising her love—if she solves it.

Thus begins Elven's long journey, in which she runs away to the town of Armora to find the Puzzle Box maker. There she encounters its quirky residents and makes a new friend—the mysterious Madam Green who may not be what she seems. Ignoring signs of danger, Elven moves into Madam Green's cottage on Mount Armora where she helps rehabilitate the town's abandoned pets. Soon, their idyllic life is shattered with the arrival of miners intent on extracting gold from the mountain at all costs. Elven teams up with Madam Green to stop them, drawing both of them into a sinister scheme with tentacles deeper than anyone can imagine.

When the townsfolk accuse Madam Green of being a witch, it will take all of Elven's ingenuity to not just to unravel the shocking truth, but ultimately reveal the secret of the Puzzle Box.



Gwen Lee

Gwen Lee is a Singapore-born, US-based author of eight children's books. Her awardwinning work Little Cloud Wants Snow! was a recommended selection at the Read! Singapore Festival and is used by schools in the United States to educate children about weather science. Her other publications such as There Was a Peranakan Woman Who Lived in a Shoe; Elizabeth Meets the Queen: A War Heroine's Journey; and the Greco and Beco series have been featured by institutions such as the National Library Board, Building and Construction Authority, and Singapore Global Network in their outreach campaigns. Gwen is a graduate of University College London and lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her family and pet chickens.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815204810 Page extent: 274 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

The Fraught Lives of Nathan Kwan and Lapsang Souchong

When you're always second best, how far would you go to be number one?

Welcome to Noble Hall School, home of cousins Nathan and Junie Kwan and their friend Sachin Sundara.

'Home' might be taking it too far. They're guests at best.

Well, okay, true. The three best friends are relegated to the sidelines, dismissed as nerds, and looked down on by the popular students for whom Noble Hall is actually home—they belong here, and they make sure everybody knows it.

Yawn, when are we talking about me?

Yes, yes, we're getting there. Enter Aida Anargul, a diplomat's daughter, who befriends the nerdherd and turns the school's social hierarchy on its head, and exit Lapsang Souchong. Nathan's precious Siamese cat goes missing. Join the group of friends in their search for Souchong, a search that leads them to some dark alleyways in their neighborhood in Malaysia, and to some dark places in their relationships. Are you ready Souchong?

Meow!

Size/Format: Demy/Paperback ISBN: 9789815202007 Page extent: 230 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books



Tutu Dutta

Tutu Dutta is a writer of Children's and YA literature. She was born in India but grew up in Malaysia. As she started life as a STEM student, she has a B.Sc and an M.Phil in Environmental Science. Her publishing journey started with *Timeless Tales of Malaysia* (2009) by Marshall Cavendish (republished as *The Magic Urn and Other Timeless Tales of Malaysia* in 2017). This was followed by *The Jugra Chronicles* published by MPH Group Publishing. A picture book, *Phoenix Song*, illustrated by Martina Peluso, was published by Lantana Publishing (UK) in 2015.

Her fascination with dark folklore resulted in *Nights of the Dark Moon*, published by Marshall Cavendish Asia in 2017. The culmination of her foray into dark folklore was *The Blood Prince of Langkasuka*, published in 2021 by Penguin Random House SEA.

The Summer of Letting Go

'Death blinked into existence when Uncle Drew left. It's never going to leave me now, and I'm never going to let it.'

When eighteen-year-old Kali applies for a parttime job at Tea for Two to spend every waking hour with the ghost of her recently deceased, Cheeto-loving, carefree Uncle Drew, she doesn't expect Luca—the hot but aloof owner behind the counter—to offer her the job. She also doesn't expect to find him irresistibly cute.

But she can't afford to have Luca's college-boy charm distract her when the landlord decides to demolish Tea for Two. Losing Uncle Drew's haunt might just erase him from her life completely. And she can't lose him—not again.

Amid Uncle Drew facing his own demons, messy LEGO bricks, Kali's best friends going to separate colleges, and her counting down the final days until her uncle slips from her fingers forever, can Kali truly learn what it means to move on, find love, and let go?

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815127799 Page extent: 216 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books



Catherine Dellosa

Catherine Dellosa plays video games for a living, reads comics for inspiration, and writes fiction because she's in love with words. She lives in Manila, Philippines, with her husband, whose ideas fuel the fire in her writing.

Her YA fantasy novel Of Myths and Men has been published by Penguin Random House SEA. The second book in the trilogy, Of Life and Lies, is out now. Her contemporary YA novel For the Win: The Not-So-Epic Quest of a Non-Playable Character is a tribute to gaming that's all about the heartbreak of unrequited love. She has also penned The Choices We Made (And Those We Didn't), published by BRUMultiverse, as well as Raya and Grayson's Guide to Saving the World and The Bookshop Back Home. Check out her books at bit.ly/catherinedellosabooks or follow her on FB/IG/X @thenoobwife.

Veins of Power

The burden of blood, the weight of duty, and a boy running from his gods-given birthright to the throne

Return to Kayumalon, a land inspired by Philippine mythology, as we follow the story of the earth mage Kalem, a reluctant successor to a throne.

Enemies are coming for Kayumalon from within and without.

Kalem, once an awkward scholar, has lived in the shadow of his father, the Obsidian Datu. Now, with the power of the Earth God flowing through his veins, he intends to help his father change his country for the better. But politics is a battlefield and, despite the problems his country faces, all the bureaucrats seem to care about is jostling for more power and impressing the King.

The country needs a king who forsakes his passions for the good of his people.

In *Veins of Power*—the thrilling sequel to Winds of War, the first book of the Seedmage Cycle it will take more than a legend, more than a good king, more than a mage, to navigate the treacherous twists and turns of Kayumalon court.

Will Kalem choose to serve his country and forsake everything he has ever worked for in his life to save his people? Or will he turn his back on them, choosing instead to follow the whims of his heart?



Mica De Leon

Mica De Leon is the author of two novels published by Penguin Random House SEA. Her first novel, *Love on the Second Read*, is a rom-com set in the Philippines about two Filipino book editors. Her second was *Winds of War*, the first novel of the Seedmage Cycle—an epic, high fantasy trilogy.

She is a Filipino author, and she has won the Don Carlos Palanca Awards for Literature in 2019 and 2022.

Connect with her on Instagram and TikTok: @micadeleonwrites.

Size/Format: B/Paperback ISBN: 9789815144291 Page extent: 304 Territory: World Imprint: Penguin Books

Little Lovely Lily

A tale of forbidden love between a human girl and a charming ghost—a romance defying logic

Lily, an Indonesian teenager, goes through a profound change in life due to her mother's diplomatic duties. Amid the classroom cruelty and shattered teenage dreams, affairs with a supernatural twist add to Lily's troubles as a local legend featuring an attractive ghost, known as the Heartbreaker, plagues the town.

BEWARE! Don't let your heart fall for his mystical charm! Ghostlore has it, he spellbinds girls into becoming his eternal lover in the underworld.

A forbidden game to summon him twists into a cruel prank by her bullies, resulting in supernatural chaos. Lily ends up being haunted by the ghost, who alternates between terrorizing her and defending her against her enemies, forging a paranormal romantic bond. But when this bond is threatened by sceptics and forces outside their control, will their love triumph in blurring the boundary of reality and fantasy? Or will the grip of logic force them to part?



Ahmad Rizaq

Ahmad Rizaq lives in the skyscraper-fenced compact community of Jakarta. His journey as a wordsmith started as a digital storyteller with a focus on crafting marketing pitches, and he has bent all multimedia elements, from blogging and social media to e-commerce and visual copywriting. His childhood dream was to become a fiction writer, and on one reflective night, he rediscovered that dream. He is now making his debut with *Little Lovely Lily*. Connect with him on Instagram: @ahmadwrizaq.

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