

THE BOUND WRITERS' RETREAT 2025



EMBARK ON A JOURNEY OF
SERENITY AND CREATIVE EXPLORATION

 **Divar Island, Goa**

26th - 30th March, 2025

Spend 5 days on a serene island, taking in gorgeous sunsets, writing while nestled amongst palm trees, and forging lifelong connections with writers from all over India.

RETREAT HIGHLIGHTS

Every aspect of the retreat is carefully planned to help you recharge your social, physical, mental, and creative batteries.

Stay in a century-old Portuguese heritage villa

Learn from advanced workshops that decode the craft of writing

Get personalized and real-time feedback from experts

Build life-long relationships with fellow writers

Ignite your imagination with curated experiences to spark your creativity

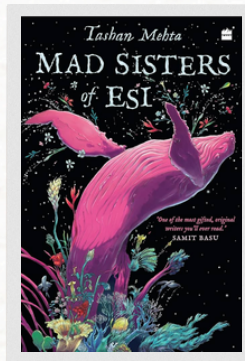
Enjoy authentic Goan life and food

Open to writers of all levels and formats!

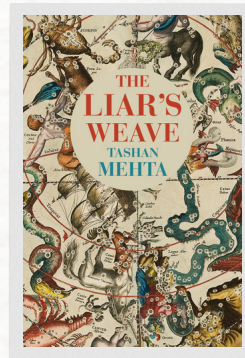


MEET THE MENTORS

Tashan Mehta is the author of *Mad Sisters of Esi*, which won the [2024 AutHer Awards for Best Novel](#) and the [Subjective Chaos Kind of Award for Best Fantasy](#). Her debut novel, *The Liar's Weave* was shortlisted for the [Prabha Khaitan Woman's Voice Award](#). Her short stories have been anthologised in *Magical Women* and the *Gollancz Book of South Asian Science Fiction: Volume II*.



She was a fellow at the 2015 and 2021 Sangam House International Writers' Residency (India) and writer-in-residence at Anglia Ruskin University (UK). She works with Scribe Media and Amazon Crossing Publishing (US) to help writers develop their manuscripts.



TASHAN MEHTA

Critically Acclaimed Novelist and Editor



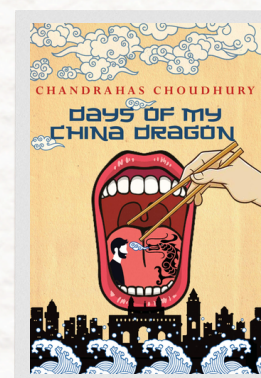
CHANDRAHAS CHOUDHURY

Renowned Novelist and Travel Writer

In his [20-year writing career](#), Chandrahas Choudhury has [produced five books](#) published by Simon & Schuster and HarperCollins, including the novel *Arzee the Dwarf*, which was shortlisted for the [Commonwealth First Book Award](#). He is also the author of *Clouds*, *Days of My China Dragon*, *My Country Is Literature*, and the anthology *India: A Traveller's Literary Companion* (2010).



His writing has been published in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Conde Nast Traveller*, *Granta*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and *Bloomberg Opinion*. His fiction and essays have been translated into Hindi, German, Spanish, Italian, Korean, Tamil and Odia.



MEET THE MENTORS

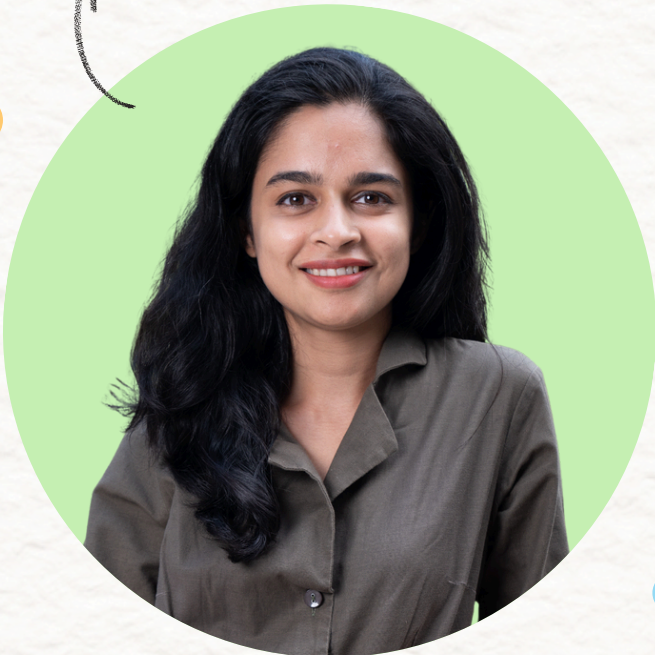
Tara has been **one of the leading book editors in India for the last 12 years**. She has worked with multinational publishers like Penguin, Bloomsbury, HarperCollins and with Writer's Side on bestselling and impactful books.

As the **founder of Bound**, she helps companies and individuals with **strategic long-form storytelling** and building creative teams. She interviews India's finest authors like Amitav Ghosh, Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni and Hussain Zaidi in her podcast, **Books and Beyond With Bound**. Her writing has appeared in CondeNast Traveller, Scroll, Midday, and Outlook, among others.



TARA KHANDELWAL

Celebrated Book Editor and Founder of Bound and Moments



AISHWARYA JAVALGEKAR

Book Editor and VP at Bound

With **over 10 years of experience** in media, gender and culture, Aishwarya works with creators to develop their stories in written, audio and video formats. She is the driving force behind Bound's offerings and works with select authors to finalize their manuscripts and guide them through their publishing journey.

She has conducted workshops and moderated panels for ET Now, Teach For India, Trent University, and NABARD. She has worked with Zubaan Books, Feminism in India, and Simon and Schuster Canada and is an alumna of FLAME University and the Humber Publishing Course.

Her writing has been **published in over 20 publications**. She decodes India's publishing industry with her podcast and newsletter, **The Book People**.



THE PROGRAMMING

16 talented and promising writers are handpicked for the retreat through an application process.

FILL THE APPLICATION FORM HERE

- Selected participants share drafts of what they will be working on during the retreat.

- Each participant is assigned a mentor who reads their work and gives them one-on-one feedback and mentoring.

- Our mentors will conduct workshops and masterclasses specifically designed to develop your writing style and niche, hone your craft and techniques, help you experiment with new creative tools, and decode the publishing process in India.

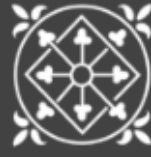
- Writers can revise their work in real time based on the mentors' advice and feedback received from peers.



THE OUTCOME

You leave the retreat with a fresh perspective, lots of new ideas, a well-developed WIP, new-found knowledge on writing and publishing, lots of cherished memories, and a life-long creative support system!

THE VENUE



Island House

Island house is set on the island of Divar and embodies Goa's *'slow-living'* and *'susegaad'* philosophy.

Island House is a century old Portuguese villa that captures the history and character of this island.



Located along the Mandovi River only 10.6 km from Panjim, it is one of six major islands within the Mandovi.

Get transported to a different world with serene villages, tree-lined streets, lush greenery, old Portuguese architecture, and the chirps of birds.



Spend your evenings

- Relaxing in the pool or curling with a book in their cozy library.
- Walking through heritage sites and learning about the history of colonial Goa
- Cycling through the nearby village and admiring the Portuguese architecture

WHAT'S INCLUDED



5 days and 4 nights stay at Island House, Goa

10 hours of workshops and masterclasses with expert instructors

4 hours of peer feedback and editing sessions

3 wholesome meals with locally sourced ingredients
(breakfast, lunch, and dinner)

An endless supply of tea and coffee

Collaborative activities to boost creativity and quiet time
to develop your WIPs

Access to Bound's writing community of 162 past retreat participants,
curated by us over the last 5 years

Curated goodie bag & a Bound Certificate for every writer

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Flight tickets
- Airport Transfers
- Extra food orders or drinks including alcoholic beverages
- Costs of any excursions planned by the participants

Cost to attend: Rs. 65,000/- + GST





HOW TO GET TO ISLAND HOUSE?

OPTION 1:

1 hour 11 minutes from Dabolim Airport
(Vasco, South Goa)

Take a taxi to Ribandar ferry and then take the
ferry to Divar island

One-way costs: Taxi - Rs. 650 - 800 |
Ferry - Free for Pedestrians

OPTION 2:

1 hour 12 minutes from Mopa Airport
(North Goa)

Take a taxi directly to Island House
One-way costs: Taxi - Rs. 1000-1400

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

- For more details including a day-by-day curriculum, reach out to us at: academy@boundindia.com.
- This is an [application-based retreat](#). Fill out the application form [here](#). Selected applicants will be contacted via email on a rolling basis.

[FILL THE APPLICATION FORM HERE](#)

- If your application is selected, a deposit of Rs. 20,000 will be needed to reserve your seat.
- The balance payment needs to be made by 5th March 2025.
- A 100% deposit is retained if the booking is cancelled after 6th March 2025.

HEAR FROM SOME OF OUR 162 PARTICIPANTS

Hema Subramanian

Co-founder, Mumbai Storytellers Society



"I loved the warmth of the group and the safe space it provided. I came back confident about my writing skills and a renewed passion for writing! Thank you, Bound team and the lovely writing tribe at the retreat for that! The feedback with my mentor was fantastic as it gave more insights into my own writing and also charted a way forward."

Aparna Sanyal

Author, Circus Folk & Village Freaks

"Bound, as a retreat, is something I want to come back to year after year. A holistic experience that nourished minds, bodies, and souls. We, the participants, came away with lifelong bonds, new perspectives, and incredible memories. The mentors shared freely and taught us so much - not just about the craft of writing, but as much about the rigour and empathy required to be a good writer."



Usha Venkatraman

Co-founder, Mumbai Storytellers Society



"I have attended two retreats by Bound so far. The line-up of authors and mentors have been fantastic. There is a deep sense of commitment from the Bound team and the mentors, which is heart-warming, and encourages us to learn. The island here is magical and truly a writer's retreat."

Supriya Rakesh

Writer, Researcher, and Creative Practitioner

"The Bound Writers' retreat was my first experience of formally engaging with craft, 'workshopping' my pieces and building connections with writers and mentors. These ongoing conversations have been critical in developing my book ideas and I look forward to working with the amazing Bound team again as these take shape."



Lavanya Lakshminarayan

Award-winning author



"I feel far more confident about my writing now that it's been vetted by a group of most excellent writers. Most importantly, I no longer feel like I'm in a silo, with no opportunities to put myself out there. I'm really privileged to have experienced this positivity so early in my writing career."

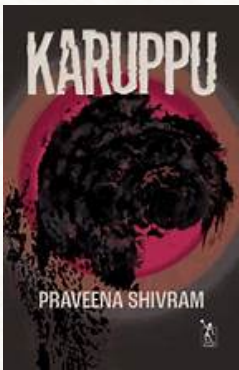
ABOUT BOUND

Bound helps brands and individuals grow through long-form storytelling across formats: books, podcasts, newsletters, reports, training, etc. through our original content IPs, services, and strategic collaborations. Our 60+ partners include brands like Tata Trust, Blue Tokai Coffee, Unacademy, Teach for India, and media and publishing organizations like Penguin, Bloomsbury, Newslandry, and Notion Press.

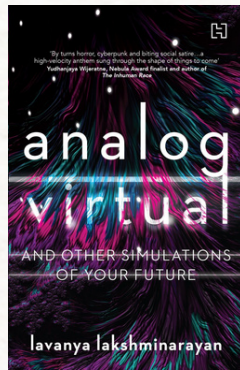
Since 2018, we have trained over 5,000 creators, conducted over 500 live classes, edited over 700 books, and built a community of over 50,000 creators and innovators.



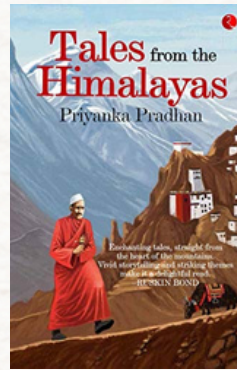
SOME BOOKS BY OUR RETREAT ALUMNI



Karuppu
Praveena Shivram



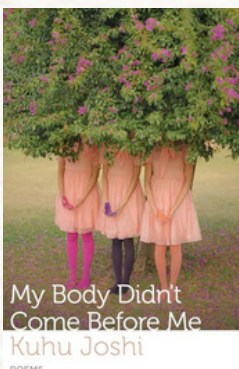
Analog/Virtual
Lavanya Lakshminarayan



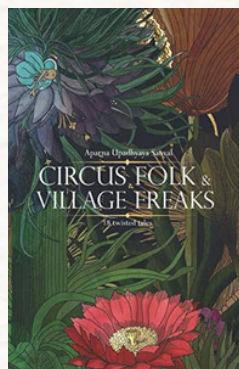
Tales from the Himalayas
Priyanka Pradhan



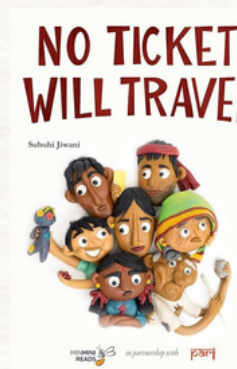
Versova Vortex
Subuhi Jiwani



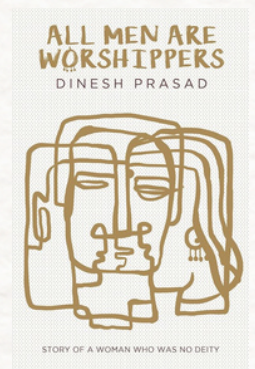
**My Body Didn't
Come Before Me**
Kuhu Joshi



**Circus Folk & Village
Freaks**
Aparna Upadhyaya
Sanyal



No Ticket, Will Travel
Subuhi Jiwani



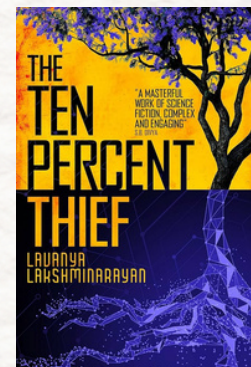
**All Men Are
Worshippers**
Dinesh Prasad



Spark Your Creativity
Niddhish Puuzhakkal



Dare To Create
Niddhish Puuzhakkal



The Ten Percent Thief
Lavanya
Lakshminarayan

Don't miss your chance to embark on a journey of lifelong growth, community and belonging.

[FILL THE APPLICATION FORM HERE](#)