

# BOUNDED

# Annual Writers' Retreat



25th Feb - 1st March, 2026  
Island House, Divar Island,  
Goa

12 handpicked writers will spend 5 days on a serene island, taking in  
gorgeous sunsets, writing under the guidance of acclaimed authors:  
Deepanjana Pal and Chandras Choudhury.



**12** talented and promising writers are handpicked for the retreat through our application process on a rolling basis.

**[FILL THE APPLICATION FORM HERE](#)**



Selected participants are contacted via email. They 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 mentorship.

Our mentors will conduct workshops designed to develop the participants' writing approach and techniques.

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

**Open to writers of all levels and formats!**

# Artistic Explorations in the Safety of Nature

Every aspect of the retreat is carefully designed to help you recharge your social, physical, mental and creative batteries and to reignite your love for writing.

**Craft workshops designed and facilitated by professional writers.**

**Personalised one-on-one mentorship sessions with bestselling authors.**

**Find inspiration in a century-old Portuguese Villa**

**Ignite your imagination with curated experiences to spark your creativity.**

**Share strengths with fellow participants in feedback and editing sessions.**

**Build life-long relationships with fellow writers.**

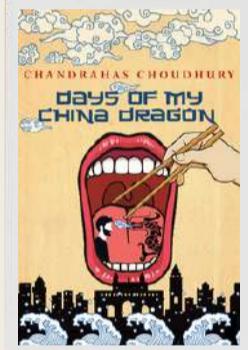
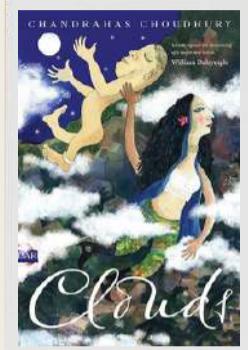
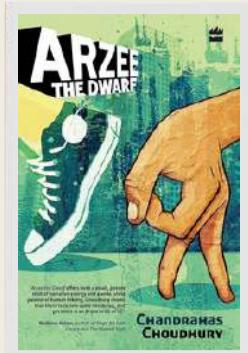


# Meet the Mentors

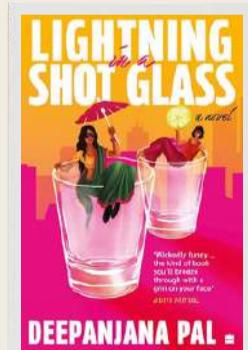
Over a 20-year writing career, Chandras Choudhury has authored five books **published by Simon & Schuster and HarperCollins**, including Arzee the Dwarf, shortlisted for the **Commonwealth First Book Award**, as well as Clouds, Days of My China Dragon, My Country Is Literature, and the anthology India: A Traveller's Literary Companion (2010).

His work has appeared in the Wall Street Journal, Condé Nast Traveller, Granta, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and Bloomberg Opinion, and has been translated into Hindi, German, Spanish, Italian, Korean, Tamil, and Odia.

## CHANDRAHAS CHOUDHURY



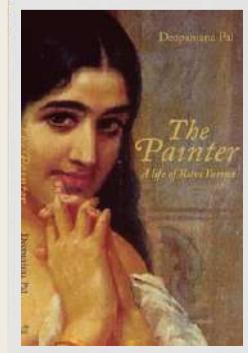
## DEEPANJANA PAL



With two decades of experience as a journalist, Deepanjana Pal is the author of **Lightning In A Shot Glass**, 3 books from the **Puchku series** of children's books, the feminist thriller **Hush A Bye Baby**, and the acclaimed biography **The Painter** on Raja Ravi Varma.

She has written for major publications including TimeOut Mumbai, NewsLaundry, Film Companion and currently working as a columnist with Hindustan Times.

She engages deeply with the reading community through her popular books newsletter, Dear Reader, and literary podcast, The Lit Pickers.



# THE VENUE

Island house is set on the island of Divar and embodies Goa's '*slow-living*' and '*gusegaad*' 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 is Included

- 5 days and 4 nights stay at Island House
- 3 wholesome meals with locally sourced ingredients (breakfast, lunch, and dinner)
- Tea and coffee for literary sustenance



- 12 hours of teaching time and masterclasses with expert instructors
- One-on-one personalised feedback session with a mentor
- 4 hours of peer feedback sessions
- Quiet time to write and edit your WIPs

- Immersive experiences to relax, rejuvenate and inspire you
- Access to Bound's writing community of 200 retreat participants over the last 7 years
- Curated goodie bag and a Bound Certificate for every writer

## What is Not Included

- Flight tickets and airport transfers
- Extra food orders or drinks including alcoholic beverages
- Costs for additional activities planned by the participants

### Cost to attend:

Single occupancy: Rs. 82,000 + GST

Double occupancy: Rs. 70,000 + GST

[FILL THE APPLICATION FORM HERE](#)





## 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](mailto:academy@boundindia.com).
- This is an **application-based retreat**. Selected applicants will be contacted via email on a rolling basis.

[FILL THE APPLICATION FORM HERE](#)



- If your application is selected, a non-refundable deposit of Rs. 20,000 will be needed to reserve your seat.
- The balance payment needs to be made by 20th February, 2026.

# About BOUND retreats

At Bound Retreats, we design immersive, one-of-a-kind literary journeys that help writers find inspiration and develop their craft in India's most breathtaking landscapes. Our retreats have a holistic approach, ensuring that our participants learn everything they need to become better writers.

8

13

200

40+

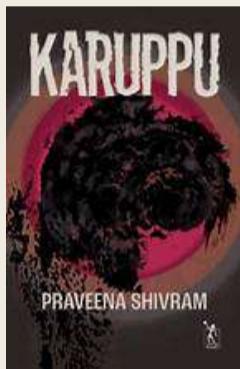
Years of Expertise  
in Designing Retreats

Retreats  
Conducted

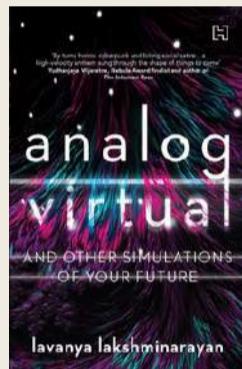
Participants

Books Published  
by Our Alumni

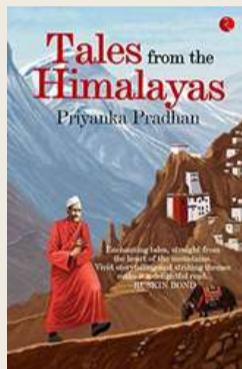
## SOME BOOKS BY OUR RETREAT ALUMNI



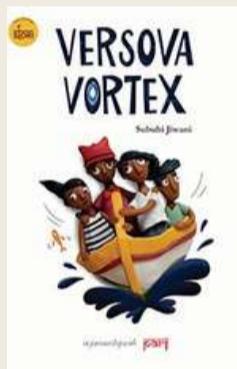
**Karuppu**  
Praveena Shivram



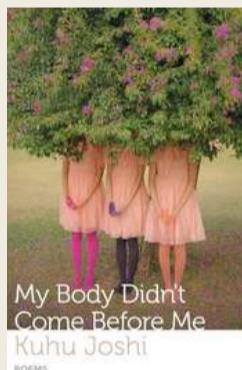
**Analog/Virtual**  
Lavanya Lakshminarayanan



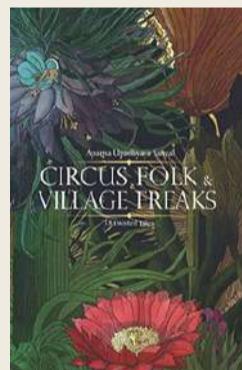
**Tales from the Himalayas**  
Priyanka Pradhan



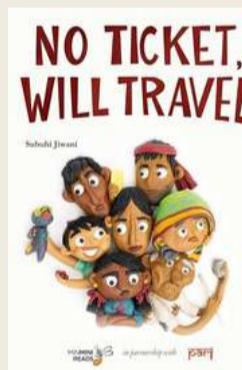
**Versova Vortex**  
Subuhi Jiwani



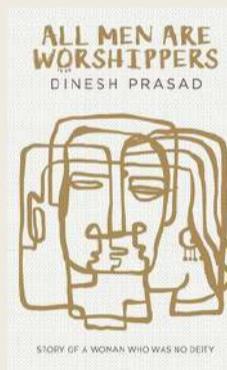
**My Body Didn't  
Come Before Me**  
Kuhu Joshi



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



**No Ticket, Will Travel**  
Subuhi Jiwani



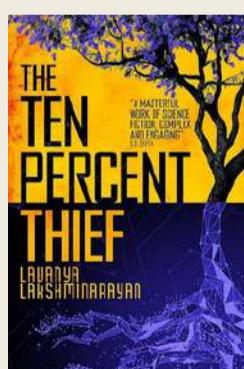
**All Men Are  
Worshippers**  
Dinesh Prasad



**Spark Your Creativity**  
Niddhish Puuzhakkal



**Dare To Create**  
Niddhish Puuzhakkal



**The Ten Percent Thief**  
Lavanya  
Lakshminarayanan



**Instruments of  
Torture**  
Aparna Sanyal

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

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