

The Many Lives Of Pauloma Chattopadhyay

Devangi Bhatt

Translated by Mudra Joshi

A fantastic exploration of speculative history and women's significant contributions.

Explores the unique interiority of women's psyche and perseverance.

A psychological tale traversing the rules of time and geopolitical constraints.

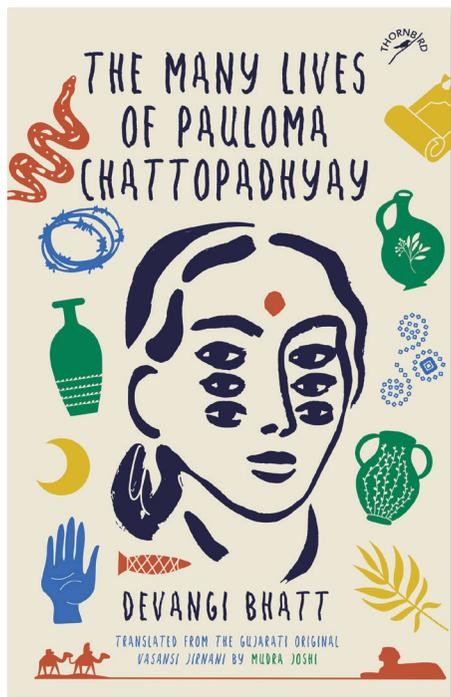
A story that captures the beauty of the impossible

This is the story of Pauloma Chattopadhyay, a middle-aged housewife living in Kolkata. When an old earthen vessel in the storeroom of her house transports Pauloma to different worlds, the rules of time and space are suspended, puncturing the mundanity of routine.

She is whisked to Germany where she becomes Aurora Miller, Egypt where she lives as Princess Rabiya Abdi, and Gujarat where she transforms into the fiery Monghi.

The bizarre ensues in full force when Pauloma travels across the eras of Germany under Nazi occupation, Egypt in the throes of a cultural revolution, and post-Independence rural India steeped in superstition.

The stories of the three women become increasingly entwined with Pauloma's who loses her grip over reality.



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WOMEN'S FICTION

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Devangi Bhatt is an eminent Gujarati novelist, poet, and columnist. In 2019, she was felicitated by the Sahitya Akademi for her acclaimed novel *Vasansi Jirvani*, which has been translated into *The Many Lives of Pauloma Chattopadhyay*. The book is now a part of Bhavnagar

University's syllabus.

Devangi's *Ashesh* and *Tvamev Bharta* were recipients of the Darshak Award for two consecutive years. Beside authoring nine novels, she has translated Ram Swarup's celebrated book *On Hinduism: Reviews and Reflections* to Gujarati.



Mudra Joshi is a writer and translator based in Mumbai. She completed her MSc in Gender, Media and Culture from the London School of Economics and Political Science in 2023. Currently, Mudra works for a branding agency in the capacity of a creative copywriter.

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“There is nothing more timeless than pain. Whether my love is requited or not is of little consequence. With both outcomes... I remain tethered to you.’

With these words, an extraordinary author rises in Gujarati literature.”

RAGHUVVEER CHAUDHARI

Jnanpith Award winning Gujarati writer

“Devangi’s novel captivates readers with lucidity and unique connectedness of different geographies. She navigates uncharted waters of ‘deep feel’ psychological paradoxes with creative comfort. Her signature-like diction provides readers with cultural variety and linguistic charm.”

BHAGYESH JHA

Chairman, Gujarat Sahitya Akademi, and well-known Gujarati author and poet