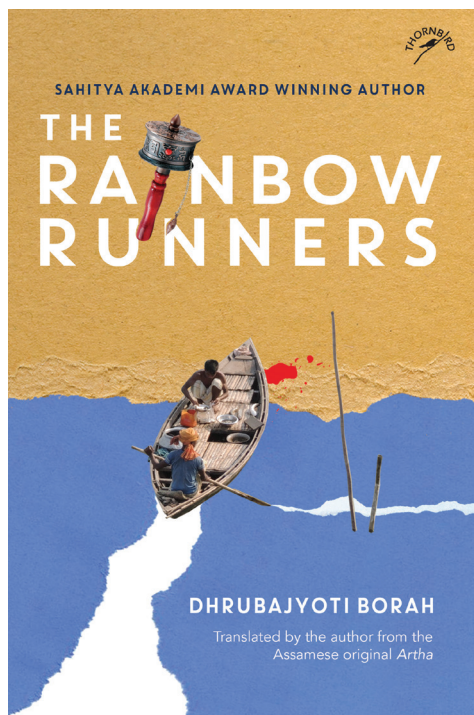




A novel reflecting on the insurgency and counter insurgency in Assam through the eyes of an ordinary young man who happens to be at the wrong place at the wrong time.

A poignant love story with an unusual ending that makes its readers rethink about the meaning of life.



JUNE-JULY 2024

IMPRINT: THORNBIRD
TRANSLATION

POLITICAL FICTION | ROMANCE

₹695

ISBN: 978-93-91125-99-8

Size: 197mm x 127mm; 424pp

Book Print Paper

Black and white

Format: Hardback with dust jacket

The Rainbow Runners

Dhrubajyoti Borah

Artha: In Search of Meaning

Sriman is a young man living in insurgency hit Assam whose life turns upside down when he happens to be at the wrong place at the wrong time. The raw terror which fills Sriman after witnessing the incident leaves him paranoid. Existing as a terrified zombie, unable to share his secret with anyone, Sriman drifts through the murky world of journalism into the world of the dadas—the erstwhile underground leaders who surrendered to the state and then started working for it. And it is at such a time that he again faces a terrifying encounter that unhinges him.

In the Himalayas, Sriman learns to look at the world and himself in a new way, discovers the teachings of Tathagata Buddha and gains an insight into the tragedy of the Tibetan refugees and their improbable dream of restoration of their homeland someday. And it is here that he also discovers love in all its splendour and sorrow, with its promise of redemption of his sheltered and fragmented life.

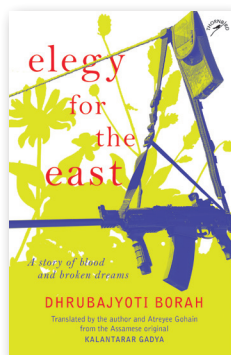
Amidst the decay that has set in the society and the ruins of his personal life, Sriman's search for new meaning and hope in this life becomes a universal quest that tugs at one's heartstrings.



Dhrubajyoti Borah is one of the most original and daring voices in contemporary Assamese literature. Writing in Assamese and English, Borah has published more than twenty-five novels and novellas. His enquiry into the trouble-torn tragic reality of present-day Assam raked by insurgency and counter-insurgency reflected in his *Kalantar* trilogy is hailed as a major literary creation of the present times. He has translated his Assamese novel

Kalantar Gadya into *Elegy for the East* (2020; Niyogi Books).

Borah's major non-fiction works include a widely acclaimed monograph on the Moamoria revolt of medieval Assam. His works have been translated into English, Bengali, Hindi, Bodo, Nepali and Malayalam. He received the Sahitya Akademi award in 2009.



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‘Stories around insurgency and Assam assume great significance these days because many of the younger generation either do not know this deeply troubled past or are not interested. In addition, those with memories of those tumultuous days are forgetting or slowly fading away. With elegance, felicity and poignancy, Dhrubajyoti Borah paints the challenges of the times with clear strokes, reminding us that the past is our shadow and not just the moment behind us.’

—**SANJOY HAZARIKA**, author of *Strangers of the Mist: Tales of War and Peace from India’s Northeast*, and Director of the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI)

’A brilliant, brooding, meditative novel with a narrative as vast as the Brahmaputra.’

—**NAMITA GOKHALE**, author, activist and Co-Director of Jaipur Literature Festival