



BARE BONES PUBLISHING

Our primary focus is on creating engaging and meaningful children's, young adult, and military literature. We are guided by a commitment to clarity, elegance, and thoughtful design. Our editorial vision is simple: to entertain, educate, and empower our readers through well-crafted books.

bare bones



The Bare Bones
Book of
Humour
Edited by Ankit Raj Ojha



ED. ANKIT RAJ OJHA

THE BARE BONES BOOK OF HUMOUR

IMPRINT	BARE BONES
GENRE	FICTION, CREATIVE NONFICTION
READERSHIP	18+ Years
FORMAT	PAPERBACK
TRIM SIZE	5.5 x 8.5 in
PAGE EXTENT	148
ISBN	978-81-986528-9-8
PRICE	INR 399
PUB MONTH	JANUARY 2026
TERRITORY	WORLD
LANGUAGE RIGHTS	
TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE	

*This enjoyable anthology is a timely
reminder to the Indian literary circuit that
humour needs to be taken very seriously.*

TABISH KHAIR

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SYNOPSIS

This anthology brings together twenty-four writers from eight countries in a beautifully designed, handy volume of humorous fiction and creative nonfiction.

Expect hip hauntings, haywire hijackings, flatulent funerals, wily godmen, real estate vultures, jilted lovers, wild chases, naughty nether parts, and more in these pages—all with literary hilarity!

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

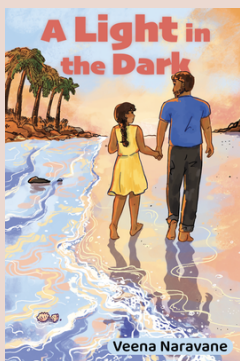
This book is something I have been looking for, as a reader, for a long time. A book of good humour stories—humour not at the expense of literariness, for humour is often sidelined as 'genre writing'—is something I believe the world needs. For the voracious reader, this book can serve as another window to savour the many colours of human follies and eccentricities. And for those discovering the love of reading for the first time, it might be 'the' book that makes them readers for life.

KEY FEATURES

- Contributors include award-winning authors, beloved podcasters and stand-up comics, and brilliant first-timers.
- Foreword by Mike Nagel, the author of 'Duplex' and 'Culdesac'.
- Cover art and design by award-winning artist Prakash Thombre.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Ankit Raj Ojha is a poet, writer, editor, and translator from Bihar, India. His poems, short stories, essays, reviews, and academic articles are published in twenty countries. A PhD from IIT Roorkee, Ankit is an assistant professor of English with DHE, Haryana. He edits 'The Hooghly Review', has two poetry collections, and is a consulting editor with Routledge and Springer Nature.



IMPRINT	BARE BONES
GENRE	CHILDREN'S FICTION
READERSHIP	11-13 Years
FORMAT	PAPERBACK
TRIM SIZE	6 x 9 in
PAGE EXTENT	52
ILLUSTRATIONS	4 B&W
ISBN	978-81-994137-7-1
PRICE	INR 349
PUB MONTH	JANUARY 2026
TERRITORY	WORLD
LANGUAGE RIGHTS	
TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE	

[T]he rarely discussed emotional cost of military loss.

INDIA TODAY

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VEENA NARAVANE A LIGHT IN THE DARK

BOOK 3
THE MEMORY TREE

SYNOPSIS

This is Book 3 of 'The Memory Tree', a series of short stories crafted to help children who have lost a parent in service to the nation. Through gentle tales and meaningful activities, this book offers comfort, hope, and strength—guiding young hearts, and the adults around them, toward healing, remembrance, and a love that endures forever.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

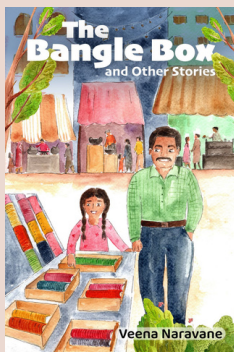
While these stories are written for children who have lost a military parent, their emotional content extends far beyond that specific experience. The military backdrop gives the context, but the courage and resilience they model are universal. Each story transforms loss into remembrance. It shows that love continues through memories, small rituals, and acts of courage. The focus on the surviving parent, grandparents, and siblings highlights the importance of family bonds in dealing with grief.

KEY FEATURES

- Book 1 in a first-of-its-kind boxed set (ISBN: 978-81-994137-2-6).
- Beautifully illustrated stories for children aged 5-13.
- A gentle resource to help children understand their loss and begin to heal.
- Each book also includes practical guidelines for parents, teachers, and caregivers on how to use it meaningfully with young readers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Veena Naravane is a teacher, teacher educator, and consultant to NGOs such as CEQUE and Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. She is a former President of Army Women's Welfare Association.



VEENA NARAVANE
THE BANGLE BOX
AND
OTHER STORIES

BOOK 2
THE MEMORY TREE

IMPRINT **BARE BONES**
GENRE **CHILDREN'S FICTION**
READERSHIP **8-10 Years**
FORMAT **PAPERBACK**
TRIM SIZE **6 x 9 in**
PAGE EXTENT **52**
ILLUSTRATIONS **12 FULL-COLOURED**
ISBN **978-81-994137-9-5**
PRICE **INR 349**
PUB MONTH **JANUARY 2026**
TERRITORY **WORLD**
LANGUAGE RIGHTS

TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

SYNOPSIS

This is Book 2 of 'The Memory Tree', a series of short stories crafted to help children who have lost a parent in service to the nation. Through gentle tales and meaningful activities, this book offers comfort, hope, and strength—guiding young hearts, and the adults around them, toward healing, remembrance, and a love that endures forever.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

Each story transforms loss into remembrance. It shows that love continues through memories, small rituals, and acts of courage. The focus on the surviving parent, grandparents, and siblings highlights the importance of family bonds in dealing with grief. The imagery and situations described in the stories transform grief into a journey and not an endpoint. The stories also subtly represent Indian families and intergenerational values while keeping emotions universally human.

KEY FEATURES

- Book 1 in a first-of-its-kind boxed set (ISBN: 978-81-994137-2-6).
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- A gentle resource to help children understand their loss and begin to heal.
- Each book also includes practical guidelines for parents, teachers, and caregivers on how to use it meaningfully with young readers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Veena Naravane is a teacher, teacher educator, and consultant to NGOs such as CEQUE and Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. She is a former President of Army Women's Welfare Association.

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VEENA NARAVANE DADDY'S LITTLE STAR

BOOK 1
THE MEMORY TREE

IMPRINT	BARE BONES
GENRE	CHILDREN'S FICTION
READERSHIP	5-7 Years
FORMAT	PAPERBACK
TRIM SIZE	6 x 9 in
PAGE EXTENT	56
ILLUSTRATIONS	11 FULL-COLOURED
ISBN	978-81-994137-5-7
PRICE	INR 349
PUB MONTH	JANUARY 2026
TERRITORY	WORLD
LANGUAGE RIGHTS	
TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE	

[A]ge-centric manuals on handling the unique grief of a killed soldier's child.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

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SYNOPSIS

This is Book 1 of 'The Memory Tree', a series of short stories crafted to help children who have lost a parent in service to the nation. Through gentle tales and meaningful activities, this book offers comfort, hope, and strength—guiding young hearts, and the adults around them, toward healing, remembrance, and a love that endures forever.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

Every child deserves to grow up in an emotionally and psychologically supportive environment especially if he or she has faced a trauma. How else will the child grow up to be a healthy and stable adult? This series matters because it is a small step towards helping a military child overcome the trauma of losing a parent, process his/her grief, and mourn his/her parent in a wholesome manner.

KEY FEATURES

- Book 1 in a first-of-its-kind boxed set (ISBN: 978-81-994137-2-6).
- Beautifully illustrated stories for children aged 5-13.
- A gentle resource to help children understand their loss and begin to heal.
- Each book also includes practical guidelines for parents, teachers, and caregivers on how to use it meaningfully with young readers.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Veena Naravane is a teacher, teacher educator, and consultant to NGOs such as CEQUE and Tony Blair Institute for Global Change. She is a former President of Army Women's Welfare Association.

KUHU LEARNS TO DEAL WITH LIFE



SONIA DOGRA

SONIA DOGRA

KUHU LEARNS TO DEAL WITH LIFE

ILLUSTRATED BY

ANISHA KOTIBHASKAR
& BAZMA AHMAD

Seven-year-old Kuhu Joshi's life in the hill town of Himatpur is a rollercoaster of challenges. From acing a school interview to getting paid in demanding PT class, from preparing for a play audition to getting mobbed for her debut success—Kuhu learns to overcome daily hurdles. But when Ma becomes ill, she finds a way to reconnect with her mother and overcome her struggles?

What causes Ma to change? Will Kuhu find a way to reconnect with her mother and overcome her struggles?

KUHU LEARNS TO DEAL WITH LIFE reassures children that their problems count while reminding grown-ups that getting through childhood is no child's play.

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Cover by Anisha Ahmad



ISBN 978-81-986528-6-7

IMPRINT	BARE BONES
GENRE	CHILDREN'S FICTION
READERSHIP	8–12 Years
FORMAT	PAPERBACK
TRIM SIZE	6 x 9 in
PAGE EXTENT	112
ILLUSTRATIONS	29 B&W
ISBN	978-81-986528-6-7
PRICE	INR 399
PUB MONTH	NOVEMBER 2025
TERRITORY	WORLD
LANGUAGE RIGHTS	TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

The easy narrative technique and the sympathetic depiction of the characters are pointers to the author's poetic talent and her understanding of children. This is an excellent debut.

KHYRUNNISA A.

SYNOPSIS

Seven-year-old Kuhu Joshi must take control of her life when she has to turn into an interview ninja, master surviving skills for a PT class, cope with a suffocating high-neck, an audition disaster and a new sibling, among several other challenges— whoever said childhood is easy was clearly mistaken!

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

I had two things on my mind: first, I wanted to address the concerns of children that are often, if not always, downplayed by adults. Children need attention. What may seem insignificant to adults can be a huge challenge for them. Second, as someone from a hill town, I wanted to depict the unique lives of children there, vastly different from city life, in all aspects like academics, holidays, winter, etc.

KEY FEATURES

- Debut children's book by well-known poet Sonia Dogra.
- 29 unique illustrations.
- Captures the essence of small hill towns.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sonia's poetry and short stories have appeared in numerous national and international magazines and anthologies. She is an editor and former educator. She has collaborated extensively with 'Keekli', a children's bilingual periodical, contributing to both its print and online editions. Under their guidance, she compiled and co-edited three children's anthologies. Sonia aims to dignify the commonplace through her writing, highlighting the ordinary and often overlooked aspects of our social world. She runs a poetry channel on YouTube called 'Poetry Padooza'.

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MIDDLE GRADE



MANI MAHESH AURORA IYA AND THE MAP OF GENTLE JOURNEYS

ILLUSTRATED BY
MARYAM AHMAD

IMPRINT	BARE BONES
GENRE	CHILDREN'S FICTION
READERSHIP	6-8 Years
FORMAT	HARDCOVER
TRIM SIZE	6 x 9 in
PAGE EXTENT	60
ILLUSTRATIONS	11 FULL-COLOURED
ISBN	978-81-986528-8-1
PRICE	INR 849
PUB MONTH	OCTOBER 2025
TERRITORY	WORLD
LANGUAGE RIGHTS	
TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE	

Mani brings to the book a rare blend of instinct, insight, and involvement that makes him a compelling storyteller. His work at the intersection of culture, ecology, and education gives this story its unique authenticity.

DILIP CHERIAN

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SYNOPSIS

This book introduces children to the values of responsible tourism through the adventures of Iya, a curious young traveller. With vibrant illustrations and simple storytelling, it makes sustainability fun and relatable for ages 6 to 8. The narrative inspires children to connect with nature, respect local culture, and understand their role in protecting the planet.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

This book introduces the concept of living a life of minimalism with joy, showing that true happiness lies in experiences and connections rather than materialistic excess. It lays the foundation for cultivating empathy, environmental stewardship, and cultural respect: values that will shape the future of travel and our world.

KEY FEATURES

- 11 full-coloured and two B&W illustrations.
- Downloadable Activity/Fun Sheets.
- 10 knowledge-based chapters woven into the storyline.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mani Mahesh Aurora is a life design coach, award-winning social entrepreneur, former journalist, and lecturer. His projects in responsible tourism in the Indian Himalayas have gained global recognition, including the Gold Award at the World Responsible Tourism Awards in London. Mani Mahesh also bagged the 'Grassroots Champion—Sustainability Hero' award at the Outlook Responsible Tourism Awards and was featured as a brand ambassador for Facebook (now Meta) in recognition of his leadership in social impact.



LATHA MADHUSUDHAN

IMPRINT	BARE BONES
GENRE	NONFICTION
READERSHIP	18+ Years
FORMAT	PAPERBACK
TRIM SIZE	5.5 x 8.5 in
PAGE EXTENT	104
ILLUSTRATIONS	-
ISBN	978-81-986528-2-9
PRICE	INR 299
PUB MONTH	AUGUST 2025
TERRITORY	WORLD
LANGUAGE RIGHTS	

TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

The Song of Time—Festive Spirit of India offers an inspiring gateway for educators and families to cosmic wisdom that lies dormant within the rich cultural heritage of festivals in India.

CLARA AERTS

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LATHA MADHUSUDHAN THE SONG OF TIME: FESTIVE SPIRIT OF INDIA

SYNOPSIS

This book is a practical guide for parents, teachers, or any individual eager to contribute meaningfully to community life through festivals. The insights offered here are an attempt to share how we might prepare the next generation to awaken spiritual wisdom and foster a genuine human connection through festivals that are simple, attractive, and deeply resonant.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

Festivals and celebrations in my school bring the community together. The children live the soulful experience of the festivals whilst holistically learning about the culture of the land, the essence of the festival, the food, the stories, the seasons ... and build a human connect for a lifetime.

KEY FEATURES

- An exploration of the profound connections between festivals, nature, ancient wisdom, and human spirituality through Rudolf Steiner's philosophy—Anthroposophy.
- A natural, planned experience—firstly at home, then at school, and finally within the community at large.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Latha Madhusudhan is a pioneering educator with over 30 years of experience in teaching, school leadership, and teacher training. A passionate advocate of Waldorf education since 2006, she founded Prakriti, a Waldorf Kindergarten (2008), and co-founded Bangalore Steiner School (2011) and Advaya Shaale—a Waldorf grade school (2015). Recognising the systemic need, she has also co-founded Sadhana, the Indian Waldorf Kindergarten Association, unifying and supporting the movement nationwide.

PARENTING & FAMILIES



SAHANA AHMED COMBAT SKIRTS

ILLUSTRATED BY
RIYA SINGH

SYNOPSIS

Enrolled in an Army hostel to study law, Saba is torn between her duty towards her parents and her newfound freedom. To complicate matters, she has more suitors than she can handle. Whom will she choose? The old crush? The college hotshot? Or the mysterious Lieutenant?

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

I had the time of my life creating Saba's world—I broke every writing rule I knew. And with the new edition, we have designed a cover that matches the spirit of the story. The book was first published on Army Day 2018. Perhaps the best compliment I have received for it: "Her military grooming is omnipresent throughout."

KEY FEATURES

- A coming-of-age story set in an Army girls' hostel in Calcutta; the narrative unfolds over a year between Pokhran II and the Kargil War.
- Since its publication in January 2018, the book has featured on multiple 'Best-of' lists.
- The artist and cover designer, Riya Singh, holds a master's degree in Illustration from Falmouth University.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sahana Ahmed is the founder and CEO of Bare Bones Publishing. Her short stories, poems, and essays have appeared widely in prestigious publications. She is the editor of 'Amity: peace poems' (2022) and 'My India, My Gods Vols. 1 & 2' (2025). For her work as a writer and social leader, she received the Woman of the Decade award at the 2022 Women Economic Forum.

IMPRINT	BARE BONES
GENRE	NEW ADULT FICTION
READERSHIP	16+ Years
FORMAT	PAPERBACK
TRIM SIZE	5.5 x 8.5 in
PAGE EXTENT	172
ILLUSTRATIONS	8 COLOURED/B&W
ISBN	978-81-986528-5-0
PRICE	INR 545
PUB MONTH	JUNE 2025
TERRITORY	WORLD
LANGUAGE RIGHTS	TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

A novel on Army daughters that has caught bibliophiles' attention.

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Powerfully engaging and brilliantly penned.

KITAAB

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MILITARY
ROMANCE/HUMOUR

MY INDIA, MY GODS

Vol. 2

Edited by Sahana Ahmed & Capt Shakil Ahmed



IMPRINT **BARE BONES**
GENRE **CREATIVE NONFICTION**
READERSHIP **18+ Years**
FORMAT **PAPERBACK**
TRIM SIZE **5.5 x 8.5 in**
PAGE EXTENT **112**
ILLUSTRATIONS **20 B&W**
ISBN **978-81-986528-1-2**
PRICE **INR 599**
PUB MONTH **JUNE 2025**
TERRITORY **WORLD**
LANGUAGE RIGHTS
TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

Capt Shakil Ahmed is an exceptional leader and a role model for the youth of India.

POLICY TIMES CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

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EDS. SAHANA AHMED
& CAPT SHAKIL AHMED

MY INDIA, MY GODS VOL. 2

ILLUSTRATED BY
AKSHAYA ZACHARIAH

SYNOPSIS

What does faith mean in a country as diverse as India? How does spirituality shape identity?

In this book, twenty Indians—from different walks of life, religions, and philosophies—share deeply personal essays on their beliefs, doubts, and journeys of self-discovery.

A NOTE FROM CAPT SHAKIL AHMED

India is breathtaking in its diversity. Everything—language, customs, food, rituals—changes every few kilometres. And yet, beneath it all is a spiritual thread that unites. These essays surprised even me, someone who studied in Kendriya Vidyalayas and served in the Indian Army. I thought I was inclusive. But the stories in this book taught me how much more there is to learn, to feel, and to honour.

KEY FEATURES

- Contributors include award-winning authors, distinguished academicians, accomplished corporate leaders, and decorated military veterans.
- Each essay is accompanied by a handmade portrait of the author.



ABOUT THE EDITORS

- Sahana Ahmed is the founder and CEO of Bare Bones Publishing. For her work as a poet and social leader, she received the Woman of the Decade award at the 2022 Women Economic Forum.
- Capt Shakil Ahmed is a C-suite leader with three decades of prolific experience. A notable Indian Army veteran, he is the recipient of the coveted Sword of Honour from Officers Training Academy.

ESSAYS

MY INDIA, MY GODS

Vol. 1

Edited by Sahana Ahmed



IMPRINT	BARE BONES
GENRE	CREATIVE NONFICTION
READERSHIP	13+ Years
FORMAT	PAPERBACK
TRIM SIZE	5.5 x 8.5 in
PAGE EXTENT	108
ILLUSTRATIONS	20 B&W
ISBN	978-81-972261-1-3
PRICE	INR 645
PUB MONTH	APRIL 2025
TERRITORY	WORLD
LANGUAGE RIGHTS	
TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE	

Ahmed's insights come from her multiple roles as a novelist, a poet, a social leader and a peacebuilder among other things.

THE WIRE

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ED. SAHANA AHMED

MY INDIA, MY GODS VOL. 1

ILLUSTRATED BY
AKSHAYA ZACHARIAH

SYNOPSIS

What does faith mean in a country as diverse as India? How does spirituality shape identity?

In this book, twenty Indians—from different walks of life, religions, and philosophies—share deeply personal essays on their beliefs, doubts, and journeys of self-discovery.

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The title, 'My India, My Gods', comes from a poster in my kitchen. It is an alphabet chart with the A to Z of gods in India. A is for Allah, B is for Buddha, C is for Christ, and so on: twenty-five gods across seven religions.

'Twenty-five?' you might ask. The answer is simple. X is for the god in you—and in me.

KEY FEATURES

- Contributors include award-winning authors, distinguished academicians, accomplished corporate leaders, and decorated military veterans.
- Each essay features an illustration designed to include the name of the author.



ABOUT THE EDITOR

Sahana Ahmed, poet and novelist, is the founder and CEO of Bare Bones Publishing. For her work as the National President of the Rural Tourism Council of WICCI (Women's Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry) and the India Country Chair of World Peace at G100, she received the Woman of the Decade award at the 2022 Women Economic Forum.

ESSAYS



VINITA AGRAWAL JADE AND THE HARMONY FLYERS

ILLUSTRATED BY
ANVITA TEKRIWAL

IMPRINT	BARE BONES
GENRE	CHILDREN'S FICTION
READERSHIP	7-9 Years
FORMAT	HARDCOVER
TRIM SIZE	5.5 x 8.5 in
PAGE EXTENT	52
ILLUSTRATIONS	5 FULL-COLOURED
ISBN	978-81-972261-6-8
PRICE	INR 499
PUB MONTH	APRIL 2025
TERRITORY	WORLD
LANGUAGE RIGHTS	TRANSLATION RIGHTS AVAILABLE

Vinita Agrawal now brings her affection for the natural world to this delightful story for children—I hope this is the first of a series about the Harmony Flyers.

SUMANA ROY

SYNOPSIS

Through simple tales of family ties and friendship, this book explores five elements of Emotional Intelligence. Grandpa Shuka helps Jade the Parrot appreciate his true self. The wise and graceful Leela gently nudges her son to be more independent, resilient, and empathetic. Finally, Jade and his friends—Tenzin, Luna, and Chimi—teach us the value of unity and teamwork.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR

I've been a writer for over two decades and have collected many awards and accolades in my journey. I have a special affinity to children and thought that it was the right time to write a children's book with a deep but simple message that would benefit children of the target age group and help them become better human beings.

KEY FEATURES

- 12 pages of fun learning resources.
- Debut children's book by award-winning poet Vinita Agrawal.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Vinita Agrawal is the recipient of the Jayanta Mahapatra National Award for Literature 2025, the Proverse Prize Hong Kong 2021, the Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2018, and the Gayatri GaMarsh Memorial Award for Literary Excellence, USA, 2015. Vinita is on the Advisory Board of the Tagore Literary Prize. She is featured in a documentary, 'Deepest Uprising', made in Taiwan.

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