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# Tamil Tigress Niromi De Soyza

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## Tamils in Sri Lanka

CreateSpace  
Nila wasn't born beautiful and is destined to go through

life unnoticed... until she becomes a saree maker. As she works, Nila weaves into the silk a pattern of love, hope and devotion, which will prove to be invaluable to more lives than her own. From the lush beauty of Sri Lanka, ravaged by bloody civil war, to India and its eventual resting place in Australia, this is the story of a precious saree and the lives it changes forever. Nila must find peace, Mahinda yearns for his

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true calling, Pilar is haunted by a terrible choice, Sarojini doubts her ability to love, Madhav is a holy fraud and Marion ' s understanding of the very meaning of love is challenged and transformed. Each teeters between joy and pain, and each is touched by the power and beauty of the saree. A breathtaking story of beauty, oppression and freedom... and of an enduring love that can never be broken.

**Mahanayak**

House of  
Anansi

Study of Tamil militancy in Sri Lanka. *The Moon in the Water* Allen & Unwin "The Cage is a tightly written and clear-eyed narrative about one of the most disturbing human dramas of recent years. . . . A riveting, cautionary tale about the consequences of unchecked political power in a country at war. A must-read." —Jon Lee Anderson, New Yorker staff writer and author of *The Fall of Baghdad* In the closing days of the thirty-year Sri Lankan civil war, tens of thousands of civilians were killed, according to United Nations estimates, as

government forces hemmed in the last remaining Tamil Tiger rebels on a tiny sand spit, dubbed "The Cage." Gordon Weiss, a journalist and UN spokesperson in Sri Lanka during the final years of the war, pulls back the curtain of government misinformation to tell the full story for the first time. Tracing the role of foreign influence as it converged with a history of radical Buddhism and ethnic conflict, *The Cage* is a harrowing portrait of an island paradise torn apart by war and the root causes and catastrophic consequences of a revolutionary uprising caught in the crossfire of

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international power jockeying. Gordon Weiss has lived in New York and worked in numerous conflict and natural disaster zones including the Congo, Uganda, Darfur, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Syria, and Haiti. Employed by the United Nations for over two decades, he continues to consult on war, extremism, peace building, and human rights.

**Vanni SAGE**

Publications India

The harrowing journey of a teenage refugee who never gave up on his dream of seeing his family again. Born to a wealthy family in northern Sri Lanka, Logathasan Tharmathurai and

his family lost everything during the long and brutal Sri Lankan Civil War. In January 1985, at the age of eighteen, he left his home in a desperate bid to build a new life for himself and his family abroad after a deeply traumatic encounter with a group of Sinhalese soldiers. As his terrifying and often astonishing journey unfolds, he finds himself in a refugee camp, being smuggled across international borders, living with drug dealers, and imprisoned. The Sadness of Geography is a moving story of innocence lost, the persecution of an

entire people, and the universal quest for a better life. Sachin Boydell & Brewer Ltd  
Two days before Christmas in 1987, at the age of 17, Niromi de Soyza found herself in an ambush as part of a small platoon of militant Tamil Tigers fighting government forces in the bloody civil war that was to engulf Sri Lanka for decades. With her was her lifelong friend, Ajanthi, also aged 17. Leaving behind them their shocked middle-class families, the teenagers had become part of the Tamil Tigers' first female contingent. Equipped with little more than a rifle and a cyanide capsule, Niromi's group managed to survive

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on their wits in the jungle, facing not only the perils of war but starvation, illness, and growing internal tensions among the militant Tigers. And then events erupted in ways that she could no longer bear. How was it that this well-educated, mixed-race, middle-class girl from a respectable family came to be fighting with the Tamil Tigers? Today she lives in Sydney with her husband and children; but Niromi de Soya is not your ordinary woman and this is her compelling story.

### Tamil Tigress

Springer

A study of the lives of popular theater artists, *Stigmas of the Tamil Stage* is the first in-depth analysis of Special

Drama, a genre of performance unique to the southernmost Indian state of Tamilnadu. Held in towns and villages throughout the region, Special Drama performances last from 10 p.m. until dawn. There are no theatrical troupes in Special Drama; individual artists are contracted “specially” for each event. The first two hours of each performance are filled with the kind of bawdy, improvisational comedy that is the primary focus of this study; the remaining hours present more markedly staid dramatic treatments of myth and history.

Special Drama artists themselves are of all ages, castes, and ethnic and religious affiliations; the one common denominator in their lives is their lower-class status. Artists regularly speak of how poverty compelled their entrance into the field. Special Drama is looked down upon by the middle- and upper-classes as too popular, too vulgar, and too “mixed.” The artists are stigmatized: people and landlords refuse to rent to them. Stigma falls most heavily, however, on actresses, who are marked as “public women” by their

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participation in Special Drama. As Susan Seizer's sensitive study shows, one of the primary ways the performers deal with such stigma is through humor and linguistic play. Their comedic performances in particular directly address questions of class, culture, and gender deviations—the very issues that so stigmatize them. Seizer draws on extensive interviews with performers, sponsors, audience members, and drama agents as well as on careful readings of live Special Drama performances in considering the

complexities of performers' lives both on stage and off. Writing in the *Sand ReadHowYouWant.com* In Buddhist myth, the dead may be reborn as "hungry ghosts"—spirits with stomach so large they can never be full—if they have desired too much during their lives. It is the duty of the living relatives to free those doomed to this fate by doing kind deeds and creating good karma. In Shyam Selvadurai's sweeping new novel, his first in more than a decade, he creates an unforgettable ghost, a powerful Sri Lankan matriarch whose wily ways, insatiable longing for land, houses, money

and control, and tragic blindness to the human needs of those around her parallels the volatile political situation of her war-torn country. The novel centres around Shivan Rassiah, the beloved grandson, who is of mixed Tamil and Sinhalese lineage, and who also—to his grandmother's dismay—grows from beautiful boy to striking gay man. As the novel opens in the present day, Shivan, now living in Canada, is preparing to travel back to Colombo, Sri Lanka, to rescue his elderly and ailing grandmother, to remove her from the home—now fallen into disrepair—that is her pride, and bring her to Toronto to live out her final days. But throughout the night and into the early

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morning hours of his departure, Shivan grapples with his own insatiable hunger and is haunted by unrelenting ghosts of his own creation. The Hungry Ghosts is a beautifully written, dazzling story of family, wealth and the long reach of the past. It shows how racial, political and sexual differences can tear apart both a country and the human heart—not just once, but many times, until the ghosts are fed and freed.

Saree Penguin  
This book tells the story of why the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) lost the war that they had always dreamt of winning in Sri Lanka. It is a collection of news stories and commentaries penned by the author

from 2003 to 2009 on the ethnic conflict in the country. Each piece is provided with an introduction that places it in the context in which it was written. The unfolding of the drama is brought about through conversations with Sri Lankan leaders, Tamil activists, Indian officials, Norwegian and other diplomats, human rights activists, former LTTE guerrillas and civilians. The Tiger Vanquished: LTTE 's Story provides a detailed account of the critical years when Sri Lanka 's internationally backed peace process slowly led to a vicious war that the LTTE decisively lost. The introduction provides previously

unpublished information, including India's covert involvement in the Norwegian-sponsored peace process and the silent war that the Indian intelligence waged against the LTTE. Also, among other things, an inside account of what went wrong with the Tigers is given by two young women who served in the LTTE.

Stigmas of the Tamil Stage Fourth Estate  
Focusing on the historical events of post-independence Sri Lanka, S. J. Tambiah analyzes the causes of the violent conflict between the majority Sinhalese Buddhists and the minority Tamils. He demonstrates

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that the crisis is primarily a result of recent societal stresses—educational expansions, linguistic policy, unemployment, uneven income distribution, population movements, contemporary uses of the past as religious and national ideology, and trends toward authoritarianism—rather than age-old racial and religious differences. "In this concise, informative, lucidly written book, scrupulously documented and well indexed, [Tambiah] trains his dispassionate anthropologist's eye on the tangled roots of an urgent, present-

day problem in the passionate hope that enlightenment, understanding, and a generous spirit of compromise may yet be able to prevail."—Merle Rubin, *Christian Science Monitor* "An incredibly rich and balanced analysis of the crisis. It is exemplary in highlighting the general complexities of ethnic crises in long-lived societies carrying a burden of historical memories."—Amita Shastri, *Journal of Asian Studies* "Tambiah makes an eloquent case for pluralist democracy in a country abundantly endowed with

such an approach to politics."—Donald L. Horowitz, *New Republic* "An excellent and thought-provoking book, for anyone who cares about Sri Lanka."—Paul Sieghart, *Los Angeles Times Book Review* *Tigers of Lanka*, from *Boys to Guerrillas* Penguin UK *Tamil Tigress* ReadHowYouWant.com *Buddhism Betrayed?* CreateSpace *A story of a child soldier in Sri Lanka's bloody civil war. Two days before Christmas in 1987, at the age of 17, Niromi de Soyza found herself in an ambush as*

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part of a small platoon of militant Tamil Tigers fighting government forces in the bloody civil war that was to engulf Sri Lanka for decades. With her was her lifelong friend, Ajanthi, also aged 17. Leaving behind them their shocked middle-class families, the teenagers had become part of the Tamil Tigers' first female contingent. Equipped with little more than a rifle and a cyanide capsule, Niromi's group managed to survive on their wits in the jungle, facing not only the perils of war but starvation, illness and growing internal tensions among the militant

Tigers. And then events erupted in ways that she could no longer bear. How was it that this well-educated, mixed-race, middle-class girl from a respectable family came to be fighting with the Tamil Tigers?

### Sri Lankan Tamil Nationalism

Bellevue Literary Press

‘ The child you threatened once, the young shoot you stepped on, the Tamil you teased, is standing with a gun in front of you. ’ This short diary was recovered from Malaravan ’ s kit after he was killed in action in 1992,

when barely twenty. In it, he recounts his unit ’ s journey to Maankulam, the island ’ s granary, to fight a critical battle where they routed the Lankan military. The LTTE ’ s planning and tactics, the fervour and camaraderie of the young Tigers, and the actual combat are minutely chronicled. As a foil to the violence, Malaravan brings out the beauty of the Tamil forest and countryside and the humanity and support of the common people for them, despite their suffering



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under army rule. Bittersweet, fresh and lyrical at times, War Journey is a testament to the Tamil longing for a homeland and the wider conflict that once engulfed the island.

The Road from Elephant Pass  
Bright Sparks  
In 1987, 17-year-old Niromi de Soya shocked her middle-class Sri Lankan family by joining the Tamil Tigers. Equipped with a rifle and cyanide capsule she was one of the rebels' first female soldiers. Now married and living in suburban Sydney, this is her

story of her time as a guerilla.

That Deadman Dance House of Anansi

This book is a comprehensive history of the Sri Lankan Tamils, their territories, their politics, religion, language, socio-economics, art, literature and culture. Until the publication of this book, based on historical evidence, the Tamils' struggle for freedom has not been understood in its true light by those engaged in research, the majority of academics, politicians and ordinary people. The existing primary sources

were not sufficient to write such an historical work. The author, in order to gather incontrovertible evidence, visited various archives, libraries, state institutions and university research centres located in the countries that are closely related to the history of Sri Lankan Tamils. These include India, Portugal, the Netherlands, Britain and the United States of America. This invaluable material has been compiled for the first time in this book. Here are some excerpts: " ... generally accept that the ancient people of Sri Lanka

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belonged to the Dravidian Language family and followed the Dravidian (Megalithic) culture of 'Urn Burials'. The findings of these scholars also show that there was a strong similarity between the ancient people of Sri Lanka and those of India, particularly from Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Kannada and the Andhra regions in South India where Dravidian languages are spoken." " ... that Saivism was firmly established in Sri Lanka long before the arrival of Buddhism to the island. The kings of the Anuradapura Kingdom had been Saivaites before the

advent of Buddhism." ..". Archaeological evidence shows that the ancient Dravidian people of ancient Sri Lanka, influenced by the arrival of Buddhism and the North Indian languages associated with it, gradually embraced Buddhism, its cultural traditions and the languages related to it." [The Girl on the Page](#) [ReadHowYouWant.com](#) Two women, two great betrayals, one path to redemption. A punchy, powerful and page-turning novel about the redemptive power of great literature,

from industry insider, John Purcell. Amy Winston is a hard-drinking, bed-hopping, hot-shot young book editor on a downward spiral. Having made her name and fortune by turning an average thriller writer into a Lee Child, Amy is given the unenviable task of steering literary great Helen Owen back to publication. When Amy knocks on the door of their beautiful townhouse in north west London, Helen and her husband, the novelist

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Malcolm Taylor, are conducting a silent war of attrition. The townhouse was paid for with the enormous seven figure advance Helen was given for the novel she wrote to end fifty years of making ends meet on critical acclaim alone. The novel Malcolm thinks unworthy of her. The novel Helen has yet to deliver. The novel Amy has come to collect. Amy has never faced a challenge like this one. Helen and Malcolm are brilliant, complicated

writers who unsettle Amy into asking questions of herself - questions about what she values, her principles, whether she has integrity, whether she is authentic. Before she knows it, answering these questions becomes a matter of life or death. From ultimate book industry insider, John Purcell, comes a literary page-turner, a ferocious and fast-paced novel that cuts to the core of what it means to balance ambition and integrity, and the redemptive power of great

literature. '[A] mischievous commentary on...literary culture ... a commercial paean to great literature, an elegy to words and reading.' Weekend Australian 'The Girl on the Page is funny, fast paced, frank, ribald, hip, erudite and clever ... This is an entire novel about books, writing and editing, and it's a delicious romp. At its heart, this story is about how the literary arts can cohabit with the mercantile world of publishing, and how writers and editors can help each other do

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better, richer, more relevant work. This is a book about the joys of creating - both for writers and for editors.' The Listener 'A slick, sharp novel about books and relationships, drenched in delicious insider detail from the book industry. Impossible not to enjoy.' - Matt Haig, international bestselling author of Notes on a Nervous Planet and How to Stop Time 'Hilarious and heartbreaking ... I know people are going to enjoy this book as much as I did.' -

Christian White, bestselling author of The Nowhere Child 'Fast-paced, clever, funny, seriously thought and talk-provoking.' - Dervla McTiernan, bestselling author of The Ruin 'Like getting on a fast-moving train or rocket ... you cannot and don't want to get off, but must follow every dynamic, insatiable, brilliant character right to the stunning end.' - Caroline Overington, bestselling author of The One Who Got Away and The Ones You

Trust 'In The Girl on the Page, John Purcell triumphs with a scalpel in one hand and his heart in the other. It is a gripping, dark comedy of a novel which eviscerates the cynicism of contemporary publishing while uttering a cri du coeur for what is happening to writers and readers this century. Through this dark comedy - I squealed with laughter, page after page - flash questions about cultural life that Purcell asks but leaves us to ponder.' Blanche

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d'Alpuget 'A juicy page turner that takes a scalpel to the literary world, written with deep insider intel and a gleeful sense of mischief, *The Girl on the Page* is a wickedly clever, razor-sharp satire of lust, betrayal and ambition.' Caroline Baum  
*Mosquito* Simon and Schuster  
With reference to Sri Lanka.  
*The Tiger Vanquished* Doubleday  
Canada  
The compelling true story of a seventeen year old girl who joins the Tamil Tigers....  
In the Shadow of a

Sword Createspace  
Independent Pub  
This volume seeks to answer the question of how the Buddhist monks in today's Sri Lanka—given Buddhism's traditionally nonviolent philosophy—are able to participate in the fierce political violence of the Sinhalese against the Tamils.  
*Tamil Tigress* SAGE Publications India  
The epic story of legendary band Yothu Yindi and 'Treaty', the song that gave voice to a movement  
WITH INTRODUCTIONS BY YALMAY YUNUPINGU & WITIYANA  
MARIKA Sometimes a musical revolution can erupt from the most unlikely of places. Long before

they were ARIA Hall of Fame inductees, Yothu Yindi were a bunch of Yolngu (Aboriginal people of East Arnhem Land) and balanda (non-Indigenous) mates rocking out in the remote Top End. Soon they were creating some of the coolest new music in the country, splicing traditional sounds with electric, and spreading a message of unity. Then, after singer Mandawuy Yunupiu penned the hit song 'Treaty' with Paul Kelly and Peter Garrett, and a remix dropped in 1991, Yothu Yindi shot out of Arnhem Land and into the hearts of music lovers across Australia and the world. Writing in the Sand, by Yothu Yindi's authorised biographer, Matt

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Garrick, is the epic story of one of Australia's most original bands and how 'Treaty' gave voice to Indigenous Australia's hard-fought struggle for recognition. Featuring photos from the band's archives never previously published, the book is based on extensive interviews with current and former band members, including mainstays Witiyana Marika, Stu Kellaway and Jodie Cockatoo, as well as family members such as Yalmay Yunupiu, Mandawuy's widow, and collaborators and fellow artists like Garrett, Kelly, Neil Finn, Joy McKean, Bart Willoughby and Andrew Farriss. Funny, poetic, heartfelt and steeped in the sights, smells

and unique rhythms of East Arnhem Land, Writing in the Sand is a must-read for anyone who cares about Australian music, and Aboriginal culture and recognition, all of which were brilliantly woven together by one of the most exciting bands of our time.

Island of a  
Thousand Mirrors  
New

Internationalist  
With his first novel since the internationally acclaimed The English Patient, Booker Prize—winning author Michael Ondaatje gives us a work displaying all the richness of imagery and language and the

piercing emotional truth that we have come to know as the hallmarks of his writing. Anil 's Ghost transports us to Sri Lanka, a country steeped in centuries of tradition, now forced into the late twentieth century by the ravages of civil war. Into this maelstrom steps Anil Tissera, a young woman born in Sri Lanka, educated in England and America, who returns to her homeland as a forensic anthropologist sent by an international human rights group to discover the source of the organized campaigns of

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murder engulfing the island. What follows is a story about love, about family, about identity, about the unknown enemy, about the quest to unlock the hidden past – a story propelled by a riveting mystery. Unfolding against the deeply evocative background of Sri Lanka ' s landscape and ancient civilization, Anil ' s Ghost is a literary spellbinder – Michael Ondaatje ' s most powerful novel yet.