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Author bio:

Arathi Menon is an author and columnist based in London. She completed her MA in Creative Writing (Prose Fiction) at the University of East Anglia. Her debut book, a memoir titled *Leaving Home with Half a Fridge*, was published by Pan Macmillan India. Her middle-grade mystery novel, *A Thud in the Middle of the Night*, was brought out by DC Books, Kerala, and later published by Yali Books, New York, under the title *A Mystery* at Lili Villa. Her awards include the SI Leeds Literary Prize and Novel London. She has also been on numerous shortlists and longlists, including the BPA First Novel Award, Cinnamon Literary Award, Virginia Prize for Fiction, UA 100X100, FAB Prize, Ivan Juritz Prize and the Penguin WriteNow programme.

Da

Arathi Menon

A tender, bitter-sweet coming of age for readers of *Burnt Sugar* by Avni Doshi and *Funny Boy* by Shyam Selvadurai

A tender yet radical father-son story, *Da* explores the silences that shape families and the love that survives secrecy. For readers of Avni Doshi and Kamila Shamsie.

Da is a story about the bonds that define us, the weight of unspoken truths, and the resilience of love in the face of intolerance.

About the book

This is a story of love between a father and a son.

13-year-old Ved is a sweet, inquisitive boy living in a world where love must hide in plain sight.

His adoptive father, Da, is his entire universe – fiercely loving, fiercely protective, harbouring a secret that could destroy them both: Da is gay at a time when Section 377 makes homosexuality a crime.

Set in an Indian metropolis in 2013, *Da* is a tender story of a boy caught between devotion and fear, chronicling the everyday courage it takes to love someone the world refuses to accept.

Reviews

'Immersive, devastating and immensely enjoyable - this father-and-son novel will stay with you even after you turn the last page.' - Sangeeta Mulay, Author of *'Disobedient Women'*