

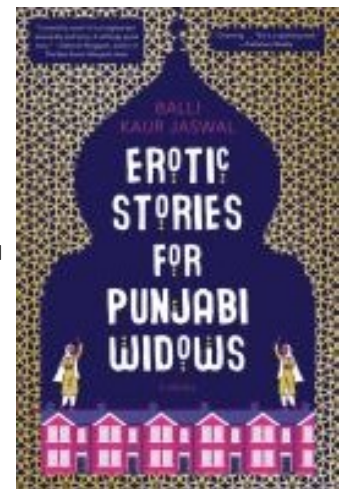


# Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows

Balli Kaur Jaswal

## Discussion Questions

1. How did you experience the book? Were you engaged immediately, or did it take you a while to get into it? How did you feel reading it—amused, sad, disturbed, confused, bored...?
2. Describe the main characters—personality traits, motivations, and inner qualities. Why do characters do what they do? Are their actions justified? How has the past shaped their lives?
3. Are the main characters dynamic—changing or maturing by the end of the book? Do they learn about themselves, how the world works and their role in it?
4. Discuss the plot. Is it engaging—do you find the story interesting? Is this a plot-driven book—a fast-paced page-turner? Does the plot unfold slowly with a focus on character? Were you surprised by complications, twists & turns? Did you find the plot predictable, even formulaic?
5. Talk about the book's structure. Is it a continuous story...or interlocking short stories? Does the time-line move forward chronologically? Does time shift back & forth from past to present? Is there a single viewpoint or shifting viewpoints? Why might the author have chosen to tell the story the way he or she did? What difference does the structure make in the way you read or understand the book?
6. What main ideas—themes—does the author explore? (Consider the title, often a clue to a theme.) Does the author use symbols to reinforce the main ideas?
7. Is the ending satisfying? If so, why? If not, why not...and how would you change it?





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## About the Author

Balli Kaur Jaswal is the author of *Inheritance*, which won the Sydney Morning Herald's Best Young Australian Novelist Award in 2014 and was adapted into a film at the Singapore International Festival of the Arts in 2017. Her second novel *Sugarbread* was a finalist for the 2015 inaugural Epigram Books Fiction Prize and the 2018 Singapore Literature Prize.

Her third novel *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows* (Harper Collins/William Morrow) was released internationally to critical acclaim in March 2017. Translation rights to this novel have been sold in France, Spain, Italy, Israel, Poland, Germany, Sweden, Greece, China, Brazil and Estonia. Film rights to *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows* have been acquired by Ridley Scott's production company, Scott Free Productions and Film Four in the UK. *Erotic Stories for Punjabi Widows* was also picked by Reese Witherspoon's book club and The Girly Book Club in 2018.

**This book is available for download as an eBook and an eAudiobook. For more information, please visit [lpl.overdrive.com](http://lpl.overdrive.com) or call 519-661-4600.**

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