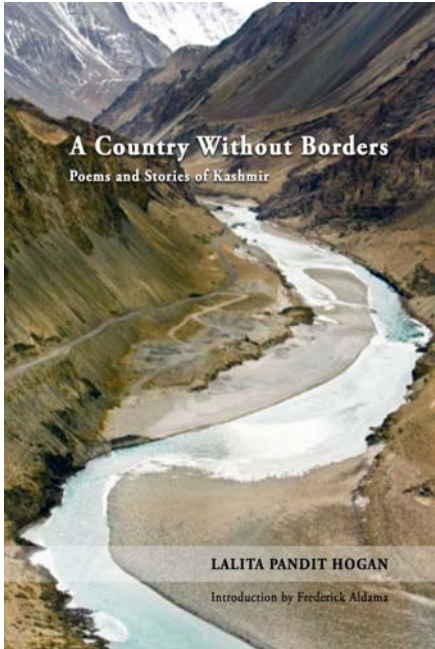


A Country Without Borders Poems and Stories of Kashmir by Lalita Pandit Hogan



COVER ART: Lalita Pandit Hogan

Lalita Pandit Hogan



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A COUNTRY WITHOUT BORDERS, POEMS AND STORIES OF KASHMIR is the debut collection of Lalita Pandit Hogan, an expatriate Kashmiri scholar and poet who shares with readers the loss of identity and home, culture, migration, womanhood, otherness and exile. Blooming with intense lyricism and fertile imagery, these full-blooded poems are elegant, mythic, and intricately woven, evoking a home no longer accessible. A COUNTRY WITHOUT BORDERS is an invaluable collection for all who are interested in cultural remembrance and meditations that reflect postcolonial poetry, and for students reading South Asian literature and culture.

"In grieving poetry and eloquent prose Lalita Pandit Hogan explores the mind of Hindu Kashmiri exile. Her lines have the specificity of a place and time exactly registered. Her issues and questions throb with vital reference to present global issues and challenges. In A COUNTRY WITHOUT BORDERS, Hogan shares the look and feel of Kashmir before the cut of partition, the stop of borders: her grandmother's sun worship in the morning, domestic life in a solid four story house in Kulgam, area bridges and tunnels freely traversed. An expatriate Hindu Kashmiri patriotism speaks in Hogan's text, but the poetic intelligence is that of Anglo-American transnationality, ironic, alienated. I'm constantly thinking of William Faulkner as I read this book."

— Neil Schmitz
Professor of English, University at Buffalo

"It is the enigma of having lived in too many places and not being able to call any place home. . . . It makes one's mind a country without borders." In these stories and poems, the author enlists dreams, myths, family stories, and her own memories to resurrect the lush Kashmir of her youth, a place of saffron flowers and fruit trees, wedding parties and mountain shrines, pink tea and "salt bread with fennel and sesame seeds." Then war with all its horrors, then the twin sadness of mourning and exile, "pounding the concrete of foreign streets." A COUNTRY WITHOUT BORDERS is a remarkable testament, not only to one people's experience, but to all who walk with ghosts."

— Dr. John Roche, Associate Professor of English
Rochester Institute of Technology
author of *Road Ghost* (2010) and *Topicalities* (2008)

About the Author

LALITA PANDIT HOGAN is an expatriate Kashmiri scholar and poet. She is a professor in the Department of English at the University of Wisconsin at La Crosse, and affiliate faculty of the South Asia Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Hogan is co-editor and contributing author for three scholarly books, including *Rabindranath Tagore: Universality and Tradition* (2002), as well as three special issues of journals, and the author of numerous scholarly articles and book chapters. Her poetry and fiction have appeared online and in print outlets in English, as well as in Hindi. A COUNTRY WITHOUT BORDERS, POEMS AND STORIES OF KASHMIR is Hogan's debut collection of poetry.

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