

2016 South Asia Book Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature

2016 Award Winners



Tiger Boy by Mitali Perkins; illustrated by Jamie Hogan

(Charlesbridge, 2015)

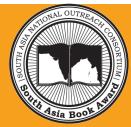
A gripping and heartfelt tale of a young boy's love for, and sense of responsibility towards, his island home in the Sunderbands of West Bengal and the wildlife that shares it with him. Universal concerns of conservation, equal education, and economic inequality are seamlessly intertwined with the narrative of Neel's daily life and his adventure with a tiger cub.



**Dear Mrs. Naidu** by Mathangi Subramanian

(Young Zubaan, 2015)

When twelve-year-old Sarojini is forced to begin the school year without her best friend, Amir, who begins attending a higher class school outside of their neighborhood, she becomes wholly conflicted about her own social standing. Fortuitously, Sarojini's spirited new teacher assigns her to write letters to someone she would like to know, and as Sarojini channels her thoughts as correspondence with her deceased, freedom-fighter namesake, Sarojini Naidu, she awakens her own sense of activism, communal relationships, familial bonds, and confirmed friendships, both old and new.



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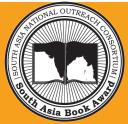
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The South Asia Book Award is given annually for up to two outstanding works of literature, from early childhood to secondary reading levels, which accurately and skillfully portrays South Asia or South Asians in the diasporas, that is the experience of individuals living in South Asia, or of South Asians living in other parts of the world. This year four Honor Books and five Highly Commended Books were recognized by the award committee for their contribution to this body of literature on the region.

#### **2016 Honor Books**

## Bhimrao Ambedkar: The Boy Who Asked Why

by Sowmya Rajendran; illustrated by Satwik Gade (Tulika Publishers, 2015)

# The Boy Who Speaks in Numbers

by Mike Masilami; illustrated by Matthew Frame (Tara Books, 2015)

## Razia and the Pesky Presents

by Natasha Sharma; illustrated by Priya Kuriyan (Duckbill Books, 2015)

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