

## World Unseen Shamim Sarif

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### **ANNA WISE**

[My Lover's Lover](#) Bywater Books

In this “luminous” (The New York Times) historical novel—perfect for fans of *All the Light We Cannot See* and *The Flamethrowers*—a Swedish glassmaker and a fiercely independent Australian journalist are thrown together amidst the turmoil of the 1960s and the dawning of a new modern era. 1965: As the United States becomes further embroiled in the Vietnam War, the ripple effects are far-reaching—even to the other side of the world. In Australia, a national military draft has been announced and Pearl Keogh, an ambitious newspaper reporter, has put her job in jeopardy to become involved in the anti-war movement. Desperate to locate her two runaway brothers before they’re called to serve, Pearl is also hiding a secret shame—the guilt she feels for not doing more for her younger siblings after their mother’s untimely death. Newly arrived from Sweden, Axel Lindquist is set to work as a sculptor on the besieged Sydney Opera House. After a childhood in

Europe, where the shadow of WWII loomed large, he seeks to reinvent himself in this foreign landscape, and finds artistic inspiration—and salvation—in the monument to modernity that is being constructed on Sydney’s Harbor. But as the nation hurtles towards yet another war, Jørn Utzon, the Opera House’s controversial architect, is nowhere to be found—and Axel fears that the past he has tried to outrun may be catching up with him. As the seas of change swirl around them, Pearl and Axel’s lives orbit each other and collide in this sweeping novel “that brings the cultural upheaval of 1960s Australia vividly to life, and readers who appreciate leisurely paced, thoughtful literary fiction will savor each word of this emotional story of two people—and a country—reckoning with their past and future” (Booklist).

**Always Anjali** MIT Press

Elena. A wife who will not question her loyalty to a husband she does not love nor her duty to a church whose tenets she does not fully accept. Peyton. A lesbian trapped in an arid relationship and a life that has brought her success but scant emotional sustenance. Their eyes first meet across the distance of a public park. One glance is all it takes for ignition. A slow-building sexual

fire soon becomes a conflagration that engulfs both their lives. But no matter how compelling the attraction, no matter how intensely love may reach into the depths of either of their souls, reality is inflexible. Elena’s husband is pastor of a church; her son is the center of her life; and she is haunted by a burden of grief and guilt that fixes her firmly in the conventional life she leads.

**Queer Muslim Diasporas in Contemporary Literature and Film** بيلومانيا للنشر والتوزيع

Life in the World Unseen

[Random Sh\\*t Flying Through the Air](#) Bywater Books

“A thrilling journey. . . . A must-read.” Freida Pinto “How fortunate a thing it is, when life alters you without warning.” Lisa Ray is one of India’s first supermodels. She’s also an acclaimed actor, a cancer survivor, a mother of twins born through surrogacy, a lifelong student, and a person of no fixed address. She is a woman who has lived many lives. And this is her story. Unflinching and deeply moving, *Close to the Bone* traces Lisa Ray’s serendipitous life, from her childhood in Canada as the biracial daughter of an Indian man and Polish woman, to her rise as a Bollywood star; from her battle with a rare and incurable cancer, to her journey to find identity and belonging,

both in the world and in her own body. Transporting and atmospheric, it takes readers across the globe: Toronto in the 1970s, when Lisa was searching for place and purpose; the intense, frenetic streets of Bombay, where, young and unmoored, she became a peer of some of the biggest names in the Bollywood industry; the lush sensuality of Colombo and a film role that changed the course of her career; and in London, where she simultaneously found her footing in drama school and lost herself in an abusive relationship. It is a storied life, and one whose adventures teach Lisa that in the brightest and darkest moments, no matter where she travels to, she can always find her way back home—to herself. At once charming and wise, intimate and gut-wrenchingly honest, *Close to the Bone* is a revealing travelogue of the soul—a brave and inspiring story of a life lived on one's own terms.

**Wrote the Book, Made the Movie, Raised the Kids, Now the Blog** HarperCollins  
Multi-generational lesbian love story set in both modern and Civil War era Atlanta.

*The World Unseen* HMH Books For Young Readers

Swan's international bestselling novel *The Wives of Bath*, is both a shocking Gothic tale about a murder in a girls' boarding school and an adolescent confession. Mouse and Paulie, reluctant fourteen-year-old boarders at Bath Ladies College, are confronted by the slippery quest for one small, vital thing: the thing that definitively makes boys different from girls. The novel was made into the feature film *Lost and Delirious*, shown in 34 countries. Since the film's debut, young women all over the world have role-played the parts of Mouse, Tory and Paulie on the *Lost and Delirious* website.

*The Oxygen Man* Bywater Books

In this powerful and gritty first novel, Steve Yarbrough takes us into the deep-South world of Ned Rose, who works nights checking the oxygen levels in fish-farm ponds and does all the dirty work his wealthy boss requires. He silently shares the family home with his sister Daze, who is nearly blinded by bitterness, obsessed with her mother's reputation as a loose, lustful woman. Since his angry teenage years as a scholarship student at a posh, segregated school, Ned's life has been marred by a violence that erupts loudly and quickly disappears, leaving him filled with secrets and regret. When one last hope for deliverance emerges, however, both brother and sister are forced to come to terms with their heritage.

*Wrong Number, Right Woman* Open Road Media

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING TITLE THE ORPHAN'S TALE OUT NOW! Forbidden love in the time of war, this is essential reading for fans of emotional historical romance, perfect for fans of Katie Flynn and Maureen Lee.

*Despite the Falling Snow* Simon and Schuster

From the author of *The Marriage Portrait* and New York Times bestseller *Hamnet* comes *My Lover's Lover*, an intense, unnerving and passionate story of betrayal, loss and love, with all the frisson and psychological intensity of Rebecca. When Lily moves into new boyfriend Marcus's apartment and plunges headlong into their relationship, she must contend with an intangible, hostile presence—Marcus's ex-girlfriend, Sinead. As Lily and Marcus become more deeply involved, Lily becomes obsessed with Sinead's fate and thinks she sees her everywhere. She must question not only her sanity, but whether the man she loves is someone she can, or should, be with at all.

*Shaken and Stirred* Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

The enthralling narrative of Shamim Sarif's powerful second novel moves between present day Boston and 1950s Moscow. After an early career amongst the political elite of Cold War Russia, Alexander Ivanov has built a successful business in the States. For forty years, he has buried the tragic memories surrounding his charismatic late wife, Katya - or so he believes. For into his life come two women - one who will open up the heart he has protected for so long; another who is determined to uncover what really happened to Katya so long ago. The novel's journey back to the

snowbound streets of post-Stalinist Moscow reveals a world of secrets and treachery. Shamim Sarif's elegant writing delicately evokes the intensity of passionate love and tragic violence.

*Don't Get Me Started* Multicultural Textualities

The stunning prequel to the much-loved *Under the Witness Tree*.

**Daughters of a Dead Empire** Lawson Library Paperbacks

The Child Manuela (Das Mädchen Manuela) Manuela was a longed-for child, a child beloved in advance. Manuela ought to be born. Manuela ought to be a girl. Before she was born, a house was ready. A father who was already becoming impatient. A mother—deeply familiar with this child—even before she held her in her arms. Two brothers were certain comrades. A little patronising, but proud of her—now that she was really here. Manuela had to be born on Sunday—it also had to be Christmas. When the two brothers returned home from the Children's Christmas Theatre, she was in the cradle. She had arrived like a Christmas present. The two brothers were not surprised. They had just seen the Christ Child lying in the cradle in the stable of Bethlehem. So that five-year-old Bertram said to ten-year-old Alfred in a confusion of thoughts, "Let's carry her into the stable; this will be fun for her." Only the objection that there were neither cows nor a donkey in the stable, but only horses—which did not exist in Bethlehem—made him abandon the plan.

**City of Saints & Thieves** Ladylit Publishing via PublishDrive

A stellar host of writers explore the cornerstone of fiction writing: character. The *Book of Other People* is about character. Twenty-five or so outstanding writers have been asked by Zadie Smith to make up a fictional character. By any measure, creating character is at the heart of the fictional enterprise, and this book concentrates on writers who share a talent for making something recognizably human out of words (and, in the case of the graphic novelists, pictures). But the purpose of the book is variety: straight "realism"—if such a thing exists—is not the point. There are as many ways to create character as there are writers, and this anthology features a rich assortment of exceptional examples. The writers featured in *The Book of Other People* include: Aleksandar Hemon Nick Hornby Hari Kunzru Toby Litt David Mitchell George Saunders Colm Tóibín Chris Ware, and more Read Zadie Smith's newest novel, *Swing Time*.

*Under the Witness Tree* Bywater Books

"This fresh, thrilling take on Anastasia establishes that O'Neil is a debut author to watch."

—Buzzfeed From debut author Carolyn Tara O'Neil comes a thrilling alternate history set during the Russian Revolution. Russia, 1918: With the execution of Tsar Nicholas, the empire crumbles and Russia is on the edge of civil war—the poor are devouring the rich. Anna, a bourgeois girl, narrowly escaped the massacre of her entire family in Yekaterinburg. Desperate to get away from the Bolsheviks, she offers a peasant girl a diamond to take her as far south as possible—not realizing that the girl is a communist herself. With her brother in desperate need of a doctor, Evgenia accepts Anna's offer and suddenly finds herself on the wrong side of the war. Anna is being hunted by the Bolsheviks, and now—regardless of her loyalties—Evgenia is too. *Daughters of a Dead Empire* is a harrowing historical thriller about dangerous ideals, inequality, and the price we pay for change. An imaginative retelling of the Anastasia story. A Junior Library Guild Selection

*The Last Embrace* Penguin

The year is 2144...and the battle over Earth's precious resources has raged for a century. With global economies in ruins and all-out world war more than a possibility, the U.S government turned to the Union Aerospace Corporation, giving it carte blanche on the legendary red planet of Mars in a desperate bid to construct an off-world outpost that might provide resources, a military advantage...as well as something so secret that even members of government don't have a clue about it.... Special Ops Marine Lieutenant John Kane was once a careerist simply glad to have a job, and couldn't care less about politics just as long as Uncle Sam's check cleared. But that was before he listened to his conscience and disobeyed a direct order. Busted down to private, Kane has been

reassigned to the "U.S. Space Marines" -- the private army of the UAC -- with the prospect of becoming little more than a glorified security guard on Mars.... Now Lt. Kane's fate leads him to Mars City -- part environmental community, part lab center, and all owned and protected by the UAC. It's a strange world with a fatal environment, and the thousands who live and work within the city have already begun to think of themselves as Martians. And away from Mars City, at the strange ancient sites uncovered on the planet, a small squad of marines stand guard while scientists uncover wall glyphs and search for artifacts, having already found something that is so far amazing and inexplicable -- including the relic called "U1," nicknamed "the Soul Cube" -- and unknown to all, the bringer of destructive chaos and unspeakable horror....

*At Your Most Beautiful* Macmillan

Some nights are unforgettable... Ten years ago, Quinn Hathaway and Maya Mercer shared a night of forbidden passion they vowed to keep secret forever. When Quinn and Maya meet again, old sparks fly, but none of the reasons to hide their passion have changed. Quinn is still much younger and Maya has never told her son that she's attracted to women. Can Maya overcome her fear of what her family might think of her? And how will Quinn's parents, who used to be Maya's next-door neighbors, react to their daughter's unconventional love affair? Best-selling lesbian romance author Harper Bliss brings you a second-chance age-gap story about not being afraid of living life on your own terms.

**The Child Manuela (Das Mädchen Manuela)** Roaring Brook Press

With her self-healing ability widely known, Nita's only chance for survival is to become too feared to be targeted again, starting with killing her betrayer, Fabricio.

*Queer Cinema in the World* BRILL

From the New York Times bestselling author of *The Giver of Stars* and the forthcoming *Someone Else's Shoes*, a sweeping bestseller of love and loss, deftly weaving two journeys from World War I France to present day London. Paris, World War I. Sophie Lefèvre must keep her family safe while her adored husband, Édouard, fights at the front. When their town falls to the Germans, Sophie is forced to serve them every evening at her hotel. From the moment the new Kommandant sets eyes on Sophie's portrait—painted by her artist husband—a dangerous obsession is born. Almost a century later in London, Sophie's portrait hangs in the home of Liv Halston, a wedding gift from her young husband before his sudden death. After a chance encounter reveals the portrait's true worth, a battle begins over its troubled history and Liv's world is turned upside all over again.

*The Girl You Left Behind* Random House Books for Young Readers

Modern women really can have it all - work, family, friends and fans - but having a sense of humour helps By popular demand, Shamim Sarif's collected blogs from 2009 are all here, together with full colour photos and captions." Hilarious and insightful, the blogs follow Shamim's work as a writer, director, mother and wife - the 21st Century musings of an exhausted Renaissance woman.

*The Book of Other People* Doubleday Canada

A single text message can change everything! Flirting has never been Denny's strong suit, but so what if she's too shy to ask women out? She's content with her simple life, working as a cashier and helping her sister raise her niece. But then she gets a wrong-number text message from a stranger named Eliza, asking her of all people for dating advice! Eliza is Denny's total opposite: witty, outgoing--and straight. Despite their differences, the accidental text sparks an unlikely friendship. Soon, Eliza--self-proclaimed queen of disastrous first dates--would rather banter back and forth with Denny than to keep trying her luck at online dating. When they meet in person, there's an instant connection. But what Eliza is feeling can't be attraction, right? It doesn't mean a thing that she's starting to wish the guys she dates would be more like Denny. Or does it? Can the wrong number lead to the right woman after all? *Wrong Number, Right Woman* is a light-hearted, slow-burn lesbian romance that embraces likable characters without all the drama.