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Nadeem Aslam

Pakistan - England

Nadeem Aslam :

The author

Nadeem Aslam is the author of three previous novels, *Season of the Rainbirds* (1993), *Maps for Lost Lovers* (2004) — longlisted for the Booker Prize, shortlisted for the IMPAC Prize, and awarded the Kiriyama Prize and the Encore Award — and, most recently, *The Wasted Vigil*, described by A. S. Byatt as « unforgettable... tragic and beautifully written ». Born in Pakistan, he now lives in England.

Ressources

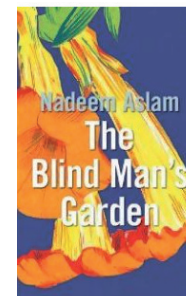
<http://www.faber.co.uk/catalog/author/nadeem-aslam>

Bibliography

The Blind Man's Garden (novel), Faber & Faber, 2013, 416p.
The Wasted Vigil, Faber & Faber, 2008, 448p. - 2009
Maps for Lost Lovers, Faber & Faber, 2004, 384p. - 2005
Season of the Rainbirds, Faber & Faber, 1993, 208p. - 2005

Zoom

The Blind Man's Garden (novel), Faber & Faber, 2013, 416p.



From the author of *Maps for Lost Lovers* and *The Wasted Vigil* comes a searing, exquisitely written novel set in Pakistan and Afghanistan in the months following 9/11 — a story of war, of one family's losses and of the simplest, most enduring human impulses.

Jeo and Mikal, foster-brothers from a small Pakistani town, secretly enter Afghanistan: not to fight with the Taliban, but to help care for wounded civilians. But it soon becomes apparent that good intentions can't keep

them out of harm's way ...

From the wilds of Afghanistan to the heart of the family left behind — their blind father, haunted by the death of his wife and by the mistakes he may have made in the name of Islam and nationhood ; Jeo's wife, whose increasing resolve helps keep the household running, and her superstitious mother — Aslam takes us on an extraordinary journey.

In language as lyrical as it is piercing, *The Blind Man's Garden* unflinchingly describes a topical yet timeless world, powerfully evoking a place where the line between friend and enemy can be lost and where the desire to return home can burn brightest of all.

Press

« There aren't many writers who can take you inside the heads of, say, a vulnerable young Pakistani widow one moment, and a US Special Forces operative the next, with as little visible effort of impersonation as he does in *The Blind Man's Garden*. »

James Lasdun, *The Guardian*

« The portentous writing in *The Blind Man's Garden* (" Above him the sky has suddenly opened into the cold of the cosmos ") detracts only somewhat from a gripping work that goes to the heart of Muslim fanaticism and Pentagon intransigence alike. Aslam is a wonderful talent, and we are lucky to have him. »

Ian Thomson, *The Telegraph*

The Wasted Vigil, Faber & Faber, 2008, 448p. - 2009

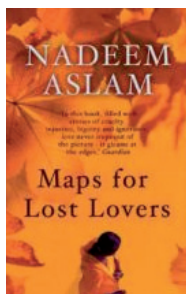


A Russian woman named Lara arrives at the house of Marcus Caldwell, an Englishman and widower living in an old perfume factory in the shadow of the Tora Bora mountains. It is possible that Marcus's daughter, Zameen, may have known Lara's brother, a Soviet soldier who disappeared in the area many years previously. But like Marcus's wife, Zameen is dead; a victim of the age in which she was born.

In the days that follow, further people will arrive at the house: David Town and James Palantine, two Americans who have spent much of their adult lives in the area, for their respective reasons; Dunia, a young Afghan teacher; and Casa, a radicalised young man intent on his own path.

The stories and histories that unfold - interweaving and overlapping, and spanning nearly a quarter of a century - tell of the terrible afflictions that have plagued Afghanistan.

Maps for Lost Lovers, Faber & Faber, 2004, 384p. - 2005



In an unnamed town Jugnu and his lover Chanda have disappeared. Rumours abound in the close-knit Pakistani community, and then on a snow-covered January morning Chanda's brothers are arrested for murder. Telling the story of the next twelve months, *Maps for Lost Lovers* opens

the heart of a family at the crossroads of culture, community, nationality and religion, and expresses their pain in a language that is arrestingly poetic.

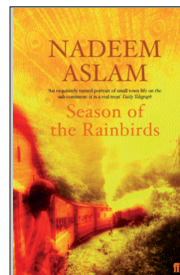
« This is a deeply pastoral novel, tied to the seasons and resonating with birdsong . . . Like Aslam, I was heartbroken when the dense, dark tapestry was finished. »

Independent on Sunday

« Despite the violence that lies at the heart of the novel, it is a celebration of love and life. Sights and sounds, smells and colours are not so much vivid backdrops for the narrative as structural, mood- and texture-enhancing parts of it . . . This is that rare sort of book that gives a voice to those voices that are seldom heard. »

Observer

Season of the Rainbirds, Faber & Faber, 1993, 208p. - 2005



The highly acclaimed and Betty Trask Award-winning debut from the author of *Maps for Lost Lovers* .

A sack of letters lost in a train crash nineteen years previously has mysteriously reappeared, and the inhabitants of a small town in Pakistan are waiting anxiously to see what long-buried secrets will come to light. Could the letters have any bearing on Judge Anwar's murder?

In one of the most exquisite fictional debuts of recent years, Nadeem Aslam creates an exotic and timeless world, but one whose traditional rituals of everyday life are played out against an ominous backdrop of faraway civil wars, assassinations, changing regimes and religious tensions.