



Bombay, City of Sandals

Shänne Sands , Emily Whitfield-Wicks (Photographer)

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During the 1950s Shanne Sands lived between England and India. This evocative, beautifully written prose work by the poet, brings gods to life, populates streets with breath and takes you into the world of many religions wandering their path on unsteady legs through the vibrant seasons and the reasons people give for living.

Bombay, City of Sandals Details

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Author : Shänne Sands , Emily Whitfield-Wicks (Photographer)

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From Reader Review Bombay, City of Sandals for online ebook

Daniel Benshana says

Wonderfully evocative account of Mumbai in the nineteen fifties. Full of humour and family life and an unequaled account of a thriving, bursting city of many faces.

Ashley says

A wealthy woman fancies she has much poetical insight into India and its inhabitants.

Ikebukuro says

A very colorful and vivid writing which makes you want to travel to India as soon as you begin the book. You follow the streets of Bombay with the author, you meet people and you can easily imagine the smiles of children, the colors, the perfumes of the city.

I really loved the way Shänne Sands share with the reader her love for this country, it's amazing how she succeed to make you share her feelings with her words. In every chapter, you have these wonderful pictures, mainly from Indian people by Emily Whitfield-Wicks. I highly recommend this book. I give it 5 out of 5.

My review in French:

Ce livre est une invitation au voyage pleine de poésie, de couleurs, de parfums et d'humanité. Vous n'avez plus qu'une envie, sauter dans le premier avion pour Bombay... Au fil de la promenade à laquelle l'auteur vous convie, vous allez partir à la rencontre des habitants et des petits métiers de la rue et découvrir les traditions qui régissent la vie quotidienne indienne. Il suffit de fermer les yeux pour imaginer les rues grouillantes de monde, sentir les parfums, entendre le bruit de la ville...

Ce livre se lit comme un roman avec l'Inde comme principal personnage. J'ai été particulièrement touchée par la façon dont l'auteur a su nous faire partager son amour pour ce pays à travers les émotions et les sensations qu'elle ressent au fil de ses promenades : les couleurs chatoyantes des étals de marchés, les senteurs des épices et les parfums de cuisine. C'est un récit particulièrement vivant et plein de poésie, agrémenté des superbes photos d'Emily Whitfield-Wicks qui viennent rythmer chaque chapitre.

L'accent est mis sur l'humain, tant par le texte que par l'image avec ces superbes portraits des gens de la rue ou à travers les sourires éclatants des enfants et le lecteur est tout de suite impliqué dans le récit à travers les mots de l'auteur. Tout au long des chapitres, on sent combien l'auteur a su lutter contre les idées préconçues et les préjugés pour tenter de comprendre l'essence même de ce pays et de celle ville. C'est un magnifique livre et une parfaite introduction pour tout voyageur qui rêve, comme moi, de visiter l'Inde et Bombay.

Anna says

Differences between India and Great Britain. Showing India - country of many faces.

Anna Mills says

First just let me say that these people at Footsteps Press take exquisite care of their books. These books are loved! And for good reason.

This book has the most lyrical prose that I have ever read. It's a gift of poetry, no denying that the author is a poet.

India, it is vast, mysterious, beguiling. Sands' story makes it entirely personal and she displays such love for the country while introducing a very feminine introspective. The Indian women really have a way of inhabiting their femininity, being both soft and strong of purpose at the same time. Very sensual, grace seems to flow from Sands' words. I would love to have heard her broadcasting on Air India Radio. She is not shy to give the reader a view of the ugliness and unseemly along with the rampant beauty. She understands that you cannot behold one without the juxtaposition of the other. She portrays the natural world inhabiting every aspect of her day to day life. Airy rooms, flowing clothing, and the sweetest perfumes of native flowers. Protective coconut oils on skin and brushed through black hair. The spices of curry.

Crowded, hot street life and the way of Castes. Drugs and prostitution on the streets. And, almost uttered in passing, the problem of rape.

It took me a long time to be able to approach this review. The story of the rape and murder of the young Indian woman making headlines at the same time as the problem we are having with this issue near where I live. As the present day news stories unfold, the corruption is unmasked. We do, indeed, have cultural similarities.
