Super Satya Saves the Day
Raakhee Mirchandani (CGS’01, COM’03)
Bharat Babies

FIRST-TIME CHILDREN’S BOOK
author Mirchandani tells the story of a little girl who fears her super-

Also Out

A thriller, a memoir, and an
award-winning children’s book

Saraboni Banerjee (COM’02)
Hide with Me (Razorbill, 2018)
When a boy finds an
injured girl on his family’s
farm, both begin to plot an
escape from their broken
pasts. Critical view: “Hide
with Me is a gripping story of friendship
and first love in a dangerous world.”
Tampa Bay Times

Ed Fuller (Questrom’68) and Gary Grossman
Red Hotel (Beauport Books, 2019)
Former Army intelligence officer
Dan Reilly tracks down a wanted ter-
rorist in this political thriller. Critical
view: “A terrific, fast-paced, stylish,
eye-opening spy thriller, with a know-
ing, insider’s look at the interseets
of terrorism, the CIA, and world politics.”
Bruce Feinstein (COM’75), journalist and
screenwriter

Deborah Gold (a pseudonym) (CAS’82)
Counting Down: A Memoir of Foster
Parenting and Beyond (Ohio Univer-
sity Press, 2018) A foster parent’s per-
spective on building a family in a rural
mountain community. Critical view: “A
beautiful and poignant story of love,
commitment, strength, and under-
standing.” Growing Intentional Families
Together newsletter

Sarah Marie A. Jette (Sargent’06)
What the Wind Can Tell You (Islandport
Press, 2018) Middle-schooler Isabelle
Perez and her brother soar beyond his
physical disability to a magical world in
this 2018 Moonbeam Children’s Book
Award silver medal winner. Critical
view: “A heartwarming, magical mid-
dle-grade novel.” Foreword Reviews

Jamie McDonald (COM’92)
No Access
New York City: The City’s Hidden
Treasures, Haunts, and Forgotten
Places (Globe Pequot Press, 2018)

An overlooked train sta-
tion, a rooftop World War
I fighter plane, and a gold
vault all feature in this guide
to a city’s secrets. Critical
view: “Mr. McDonald, who
writes, directs and hosts the
PBS series ‘New York Originals,’ invites
readers on an eclectic sightseeing tour.”
New York Times

Lara Salahi (COM’07) and Pardis Sabeti
Outbreak Culture: The Ebola Crisis
and the Next Epidemic (Harvard
University Press, 2018) Journalist Salahi
joins with computational geneticist Sa-
beti to uncover the catalogue of fail-
ures that let a virus run amok. Critical
view: “A forceful and instructive ac-
count, as passionate and heartfelt as
it is learned.” Paul Farmer, cofounder,
Partners In Health

Nell Stevens (GRS’13)
The Victorian and
the Romantic: A Memoir, a Love Story,
and a Friendship Across Time
(Doubleday, 2018) As Stevens faces crises
of love and career, she finds an ally in
19th-century author and biographer
Elizabeth Gaskell. Critical view: “Stev-
ens is a very artful writer—the structure
she chooses is inspired—and the book
builds to a surprising, and surprisingly
moving, ending.” New Yorker

Dario Suarez (GRS’12)
A Kind of Soli-
tude (Willow Springs Books, 2018) A
collection of 11 stories on navigating
oppression and poverty in Cuba af-
ter the fall of the USSR. Critical view:
“We get to know these Cuban men and
women intimately: their pain, suffering,
anger, loneliness, and above all their
hopes. This book announces the sig-
nificant beginning of a new talent.” Ha
jin (GRS’93), poet, author, and director
of the BU Creative Writing Program—
Andrew Thurston

Critical view:

Winter–Spring 2019 BOSTONIA 53

ILLUSTRATION BY MARA SASSOON
Ellen Wasserman Miller (CAS’81) has created a visually stunning, in-depth how-to guide to decorating clothing in Creating Couture Embellishment (Laurence King Publishing, 2017). From hand embroidery to appliqué, feather trims to pleating, the book teaches hundreds of techniques and was inspired by the Couture Details class she used to teach at the School of Fashion Design in Boston. “I was frustrated by not having a comprehensive text for the entire course,” she says. “By amassing all this information in one volume, a student can get accustomed to one voice, plentifully illustrated instructions, and consistent terminology.” The 400-page tome took her five years to write and two years to edit and lay out. “It was a much more involved, and more rewarding, project than I ever dreamed.” The chapter “Embellishments and Trim-mings” includes methods for creating a variety of fabric flowers, such as a Dior rose, which Miller notes was made famous by designer Christian Dior. Miller has worked as a theater costume maker and now teaches master classes and writes for sewing publications like Threads magazine.—MARA SASSOON