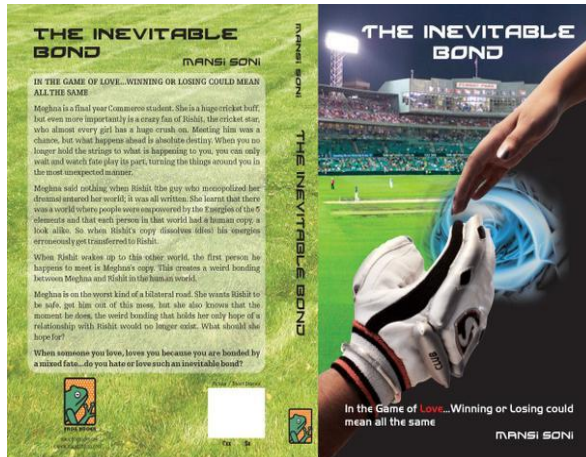


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The write path



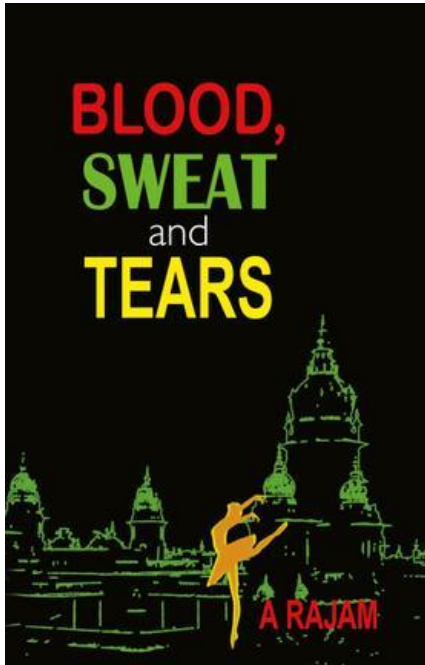
Mansi Soni (22)

The Inevitable Bond

Fantasy

Mansi Soni was inspired by the five-elements theory and decided to spin a story out of it. “There’s been a lot of research on how people can be empowered by the elements. I create a parallel world where people have elemental powers. It is also a story of a cricket fan, who meets a popular cricketer, falls in love with him and how she helps him from danger,” says the author. It took seven months to write, many more to edit, and faced a few rejection letters. “Publishing teaches you patience. I sent my manuscript to the top 10 publishing houses, and I did get a few rejects. You just have to learn to face it. I knew it was a good subject and someone would eventually pick it up.”

(The Inevitable Bond is available at bookstores for Rs. 150)



Arya Rajam (26)

Blood, Sweat And Tears

Romantic Drama

You'd have thought Arya Rajam's protagonist would be a Bharatanatyam dancer, considering her mother is dancer Anita Ratnam. But this author's book explores the life of a young ballet dancer, half-Indian half-Russian. "There are so many books by Indian authors on the arts. I wanted a different subject and found this new. To make sure I got my information right, I read autobiographies of two well-known ballerinas, learnt ballet for a couple of months and spoke to a few insightful people and read many books on the subject," says Arya. The book, which took three years to write, was released on February 1 and is said to have been well-received. "People liked the Indian-Russian blend and the main characters. It's got good reviews from youngsters and older people," she says.

(Blood, Sweat And Tears is available at bookstores for Rs. 295)