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V. Padma obtained her BA and MA in English literature from Stella Maris college, Chennai, India. She went to do her doctoral research as a UGC Junior Research Fellow at the University of Madras, Chennai. Her areas of interest include Indian literature, mythology and criticism. She has published in all these areas in both national and international journals and books such as the Routledge Encyclopedia of postcolonial Criticism, Littcrit and the CIEFL Bulletin. She currently teaches at the Department of English, Stella Maris College, Chennai, India.

Fiction in India has witnessed great changes since the 1980s. Written, critiqued, read, patronised and translated from the myriad subject positions that Indian culture is teeming with, fiction is a valuable site from which to critique the Indian literary cultural ethos. Fiction as window, in its first part, uses the fiction produced across languages in India during this vibrant period to critically look at the issues that criticism, patronage and translation of fiction throws up. Cutting across languages, in its second part, the book analyses novels from various Indian languages and those written in or translated into English and Hindi in an attempt to see how these issues are fictionalised. The book cuts new ground with its blend of the literary and the aliterary and its analyses of awards foundations as sites of production of a cultural tradition.