

# SOHO

853 BROADWAY  
New York, NY 10003

FROM

**The first Nepalese author to be published in America while writing in English**

**The first author to do a public reading in Nepal**

**Author of *The Guru of Love*, a *New York Times* Notable Book**

**Recipient of the Whiting Award**

## SAMRAT UPADHYAY

NOW COMES

# THE CITY SON

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Soho Press • Hardcover/eBook • **PUB DATE:** June 17, 2014 • **PRICE:** \$25.00 • **PAGE COUNT:** 256

**ISBN:** 9781616953812 • **eISBN:** 9781569473829

**"Fearless . . . There's an eerie element of black magic in Didi's Svengali-like manipulation that evokes the domestic horror novels of Shirley Jackson. This superb book stages an intensely powerful showdown."**

—*The Wall Street Journal*

"After learning that her husband—the Masterji, a tutor living and working in a nearby city—has a secret second family, Didi packs up her two young sons and meets the conflict head-on, forcing her way into Masterji's urban home. Before long, she has staked claim and evicted the beautiful but troubled Apsara and her preteen son, Tarun. But as Apsara spirals into deep depression, Didi takes a strong interest in Tarun, who visits on weekends, and this interest turns both physical and psychological. Tarun grows into a young man, yet he cannot escape the grip of Didi, who molests him weekly, latching onto his every sexual desire and manipulating his thoughts. And as Apsara dips further into melancholy and mental distress, Didi supplants her as Tarun's sole mother figure. Author Upadhyay (*Arresting God in Kathmandu*) tells his story with **simple and direct prose**. Though Apsara and Tarun find refuge with wealthy Mahesh Uncle, who takes them in and trains Tarun to be his business protégé, the young man cannot shake his past to fully grasp prosperity. **Close third-person perspective wanders from character to character . . . and the multi-character narration adds dramatic depth.**"

—*Publishers Weekly*

**"As if a woman scorned isn't enough of a story, Upadhyay also examines the vengeance of a truly evil woman scorned...Not for the faint of heart."**

—*Booklist*



**Samrat Upadhyay** was born and raised in Nepal. He is the author of *Arresting God in Kathmandu*, a Whiting Award winner; *The Royal Ghost*, *The Guru of Love*, a *New York Times* Notable Book and a *San Francisco Chronicle* Best Book of the Year; and *Buddha's Orphans*. He has written for *The New York Times* and has appeared on BBC Radio and National Public Radio. Upadhyay teaches in the creative writing program at Indiana University.

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For additional information please contact Abby Koski | Publicist | [akoski@sohopress.com](mailto:akoski@sohopress.com) | 212.260.1900

Samrat Upadhyay is available for interviews and events on the following dates—

06/24 — 06/25 — Austin, TX  
07/01 — 07/04 — Boston, MA  
07/05 — 07/07 — New York, NY  
07/08 — 07/08 — Washington, D.C.  
07/14 — 07/15 — Chicago, IL

## PRAISE FOR SAMRAT UPADHYAY

**“Samrat Upadhyay has created a remarkable work, one to be savored and remembered.”**

—Dan Chaon, author of *Await Your Reply*

“Upadhyay has masterfully blended history, tragedy, politics and romance to create the arresting story of a family that is at once unique and universal, set against the backdrop of **a vibrant, complicated, modern Nepal that will fascinate readers.**”

—Chitra Divakaruni, author of *One Amazing Thing* and *Palace of Illusion*

**“A triumph, a ravishingly seductive novel.”**

—*Elle*

**“Subtle and spiritually complex . . . Mr. Upadhyay’s stories bring us into contact with a world that is somehow both far away and very familiar.”**

—*The New York Times*

“*The Guru of Love* effectively weaves together the complicated dichotomies of man and mistress, love and lust, tradition and modernity.”

—*USA Today*

**“Reads like a graceful, page-turning mixture of stirring romance and social commentary.”**

—*Entertainment Weekly*

“[Upadhyay’s] stories have been burnished until they glow with **visual and emotional precision.**”

—*The Washington Post*

“**[Upadhyay’s] characters linger.** They are captured with such concise, illuminating precision that one begins to feel that they just might be real.”

—*Christian Science Monitor*

**“Upadhyay is a gifted writer.”**

—*Cleveland Plain Dealer*

“**[Upadhyay] is a marvelous storyteller, literate and engaging, lyrical and sensitive.** Samrat Upadhyay puts us in a world we know little about and makes us feel at home. Who could ask for more?”

—*Bookreporter*

“Highly entertaining . . . a major writer-in-the-making.”

—*The Indiana Express*

“In an assured and subtle manner, Upadhyay anchors small yet potent epiphanies in a place called Kathmandu, and quietly calls it home.”

—*Publishers Weekly*

“Upadhyay’s stories portray the lives of simple yet psychologically complex characters and **reveal much about the universal human condition in us all . . . Upadhyay’s stories leave the reader with much food for thought.**”

—*Library Journal*