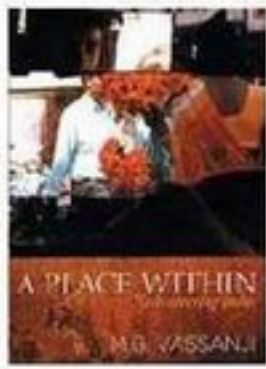


# BOOK RACK

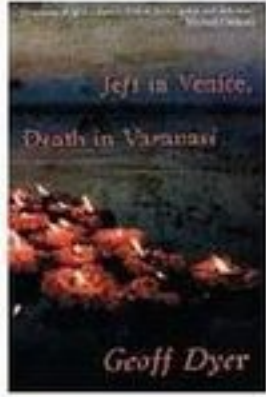
## A PLACE WITHIN: REDISCOVERING INDIA

**M G Vassanji**  
Penguin Viking, 2008, pp 371, Rs 599  
Beginning with diary entries from the author's first wide-eyed trip to India, it moves on to accounts from his subsequent and obsessive visits. Part travelogue, part history and meditation, above all a quest for a lost homeland.



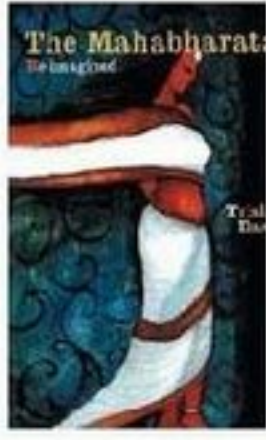
## ALONE IN BERLIN

**Hans Fallada, Translated by Michael Hofmann**  
Penguin India, 2009, pp 568, 12.99 pounds  
A dark, fast-paced wartime thriller and a chilling portrayal of a paranoid, brutal society, where the smallest action can have fatal consequences, and love has to survive against the cruellest of odds. Berlin, 1940, and the city is filled with fear.



## JEFF IN VENICE, DEATH IN VARANSI

**Geoff Dyer**  
RandomHouse, 2008, pp 291, Rs 395  
A jaded journalist in Venice for the opening of the Biennale. A visitor in Varanasi ends up staying there interminably. Could the two stories, in these two ancient and watery cities be one and the same? An profoundly playful and utterly original story of erotic love and spiritual yearning.



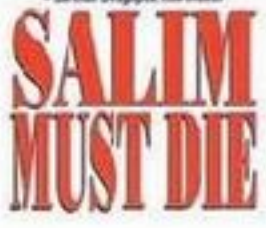
## THE MAHABHARATA RE-IMAGINED: A COLLECTION OF SCENES FROM THE EPIC

**Trisha Das**  
Rupa & Co, 2009, pp 115, Rs 95  
Set in India, almost 5000 years ago, this is a bold retelling of many stories in the original epic. Enter a bold colourful world of warring kings, spiteful queens, jealous princes and defiant princesses to find out what drove these complex characters and dare to imagine the real forces behind one of the greatest stories of all time.



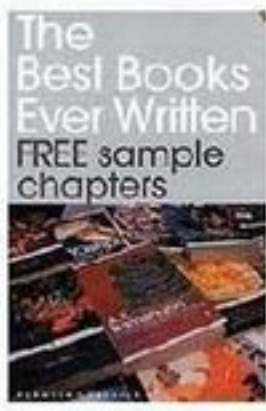
## SALIM MUST DIE

**Mukul Deva**  
HarperCollins, 2009, pp 417, Rs 225  
A tautly paced and frighteningly plausible sequel to Lashkar. A novel set against the politics between America and the Middle East, where ex-Brigadier Murad Salim of the ISI plots a global strike against the 'kafir' with devastating consequences.



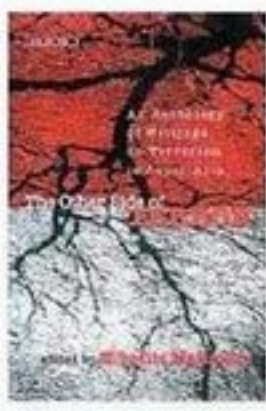
## TELL ME SOMETHING

**Adele Parks**  
Penguin Books, 2008, pp 472, Rs 295  
The story of a die hard romantic's dreams turning into a desire that becomes excessively passionate and scandalous.



## THE OTHER SIDE OF TERROR: AN ANTHOLOGY OF WRITINGS ON TERRORISM IN SOUTH ASIA

**Edited by Nivedita Majumdar**  
Oxford, 2009, pp 324, Rs 695  
This book brings together writings based on terrorism from India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Including short stories, essays, poems and excerpts from novels both original writings in English as well as translations, the volume addresses issues of wide interest.



## THE BEST BOOKS EVER WRITTEN

**Penguin, 2009, pp 200**  
This sampler offers up a tip-of-the-iceberg selection of excerpts from classic texts that make the unparalleled list that is Penguin classics.