

Devdutt

For 100 years, nobody wanted to give their body to the ghost of the ill-fated Devdas, but Lieutenant Devdutt Sharma, a naval officer, accepted. Can Devdas fulfill his unfinished business through Devdutt? What will be the fate of Devdas this time and what was his unfinished business? 14 Screenplays of a Spiritual Filmmaker are about some unique characters: a Chamiya cow, a suicidal young man, an angry Goddess Durga, a killer doctor, a naughty child, extra-terrestrial beings from different planets, a wacky artist, a rebel farmer, a failed filmmaker, a Bangladeshi buyer, an NRI marrying a girl he hasn't seen yet, a lonely, rich lady, a planet where children are born as old people and grow up to be children, a sad Goddess Saraswati and a VJ who faked his guest's death on live TV. Part 2 of this series, coming soon.

In this landmark book, bestselling author, leadership coach and mythologist Devdutt Pattanaik shows how, despite its veneer of objectivity, modern management is rooted in Western beliefs and obsessed with accomplishing rigid objectives and increasing shareholder value. By contrast, the Indian way of doing business as apparent in Indian mythology, but no longer seen in practice accommodates subjectivity and diversity, and offers an inclusive, more empathetic way of achieving success. Great value is placed on darshan, that is, on how we see the world and our relationship with Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. Business Sutra uses stories, symbols and rituals drawn from Hindu, Jain and Buddhist mythology to understand a wide variety of business situations that range from running a successful tea stall to nurturing talent in a large multinational corporation. At the heart of the book is a compelling premise: if we believe that wealth needs to be chased, the workplace becomes a rana-bhoomia battleground of investors, regulators, employers, employees, vendors, competitors and customers; if we believe that wealth needs to be attracted, the workplace becomes a ranga-bhoomia playground where everyone is happy. Brilliantly argued, original and thoroughly accessible, Business Sutra presents a radical and nuanced approach to management, business and leadership in a diverse, fast-changing, and increasingly polarized world.

Why is Ganesha such a popular god despite being only 1500 years old? Did you know he is the god associated with the maximum number of symbols? Why is his vehicle a rat? Why does he carry an axe? Because of Ganesha, the terrifying Kali becomes the maternal Gauri, and the sanyasi Shiyav becomes a father and householder – Ganesha is the god of domestic life. His devotees can represent him as they wish – these days his potbelly has been replaced with six-pack abs! Ganpati's own history, his changing roles, indicate how Indian society has changed over time – in Mumbai, Ganpati has taken on a form which didn't exist 100 years ago! Find out more about this beloved god of good luck and auspiciousness this festive season in this short, sweet read from Devlok.

Marriage, by mythologist Devdutt Pattanaik, brings together stories from Vedic, Puranic, Tamil, and Sanskrit literature, from regional, classical, folk and tribal lore, from oral and textual traditions, across 3000 years of history and 3 million square kilometres of geography, to reveal the diversity and fluidity of Indian customs and beliefs around marriage. 'Let all the gods and the waters anoint our two hearts.' -Rig Veda This is the first ever book which links the Indian wedding rituals with mythological stories. The book offers a modern and inclusive, also narrative interpreting stories about LGBTQ in

mythology. The book reasons out the customs and the concept of Indian marriage in a logical, spiritual and practical manner. Each story is followed by take-away points at the end, making the reading experience wholesome.

Are the illustrious clans of the Mahabharata from Surya Vansh or Chandra Vansh? Which yuga does the Ramayana occur in and does it occur only once? What do haldi, kumkum, bhasm or chandan signify in a puja thali? After the sensational response to Season 1 of EPIC Channel's Devlok with Devdutt Pattanaik, Devdutt invited his viewers and readers to ask him questions about Hindu mythology, which he has answered over thirty thrilling episodes. Prepare to be educated, entertained and moved as Devdutt delves into the exhilarating variety of Hindu mythology. In this volume, you will discover the difference between dhyana and darshan, aastik and nastik, Surya Vansh and Chandra Vansh. There are amusing stories about your favourite Hanuman and fascinating facts about the dark Vishnu avatars, Varaha and Narasimha. Learn why Lakshmi or Saraswati are always in conflict and how women have the most intriguing characters in mythological tales. Journey deeper into the magical world of Hindu mythology with Devdutt and you'll never want to turn back.

High above the sky stands Swarga, paradise, abode of the gods. Still above is Vaikuntha, heaven, abode of God. The doorkeepers of Vaikuntha are the twins, Jaya and Vijaya, both whose names mean 'victory'. One keeps you in Swarga; the other raises you into Vaikuntha. In Vaikuntha there is bliss forever, in Swarga there is pleasure for only as long as you deserve. What is the difference between Jaya and Vijaya? Solve this puzzle and you will solve the mystery of the Mahabharata. In this enthralling retelling of India's greatest epic, the Mahabharata, originally known as Jaya, Devdutt Pattanaik seamlessly weaves into a single narrative plots from the Sanskrit classic as well as its many folk and regional variants, including the Pandavani of Chattisgarh, Gondhal of Maharashtra, Terukkuttu of Tamil Nadu, and Yakshagana of Karnataka. Richly illustrated with over 250 line drawings by the author, the 108 chapters abound with little-known details such as the names of the hundred Kauravas, the worship of Draupadi as a goddess in Tamil Nadu, the stories of Astika, Madhavi, Jamini, Aravan and Barnareek, the Mahabharata version of the Shakuntalam and the Ramayana, and the dating of the war based on astronomical data. With clarity and simplicity, the tales in the elegant volume reveal the eternal relevance of the Mahabharata, the complex and disturbing meditation on the human condition that has shaped Indian thought for over 3000 years.

Novel on Yuvanashva, a childless king from Mahabharata.

Saraswati is the goddess of knowledge in Hinduism, as well as in Buddhism and Jainism. Her name is derived from the fluidity (saras) of the imagination. Human imagination enables us to invent and innovate, visualize, plan and de-risk. Yet imagination is a bad word in the world of business and management. It strips us of certainty. We want to control the imagination of those who work for us, prevent their minds from wandering from work. Yet every human being lives in an imagined reality. Recognizing this enables us to work with talent, build strong relationships and nurture people to face any situation with faith and patience. Failure to recognize imagination is why family-owned businesses are unable to manage professionals and how professionally-run companies end up creating ineffective, mechanistic talent management systems. Training, learning and development, are not just about skills and

knowledge and competencies, they are about appreciating the human-animal, recognizing that neither we nor those around us are programmable machines that we can plug and play. Managing people, hence relationships, is key to the survival of an organization. Derived from Devdutt Pattanaik's influential bestseller *Business Sutra*, this book explores concepts like creativity in the workplace, nurturing talent and the importance of teamwork. It will help employers and managers become more inclusive leaders who are able to carry their team along with them.

Where did the name Radha come from? When did Christianity first come to India? What is the connection between *sanskar* and *dharma*? After the enormously successful runs of the first and second seasons of EPIC Channel's *Devlok* with Devdutt Pattanaik, and their book editions, the trailblazer of Hindu mythology Devdutt Pattanaik is back with a third instalment to answer these questions and more! Covering over fifteen informative and inspiring episodes, this volume is a heady mix of education and entertainment. The show delves into myriad topics and lesser-known tales and questions that will be revisited by Devdutt in a Q&A format, making mythology more interesting for everyday audiences.

Provides a fresh understanding of the Hindu spiritual landscapes and pantheon of gods and goddesses through 99 classic myths.

The three *devis* are forms of *Shakti* and consorts of the three gods—but aren't the *Tridevi* superior to the *Trimurti*? Did the *Devi* come before the *Bhagvan*, or after? Can it be true that without *Shakti*, *Shiva* is dead? Finding the feminism in spirituality, Devdutt shows us the intrinsic balance built into Hindu scripture and culture through our goddesses. *Annapurna* shows *Shiva* that no matter how ascetic, even sages need food to eat, and that there is greatness in feeding the hungry. *Durga* showed *Shiva* that a monster that cannot be killed by a *deva* or *asura* might be killed by a woman instead. *Saraswati* and *Laxmi*—knowledge and wealth—are the fruit of labour, born of desire. Find out more about an ancient tradition of venerating the female in a natural equality in this short and sweet read from *Devlok*.

In 2015, a historic panel discussion took place at the global Festival of Theology held in Sweden. Its objective was to examine what the sacred texts of the Abrahamic faiths -- Judaism, Christianity and Islam -- had to say about human sexuality. *Behold, I Make All Things New* is the outcome of the effort. This is a landmark work that recasts religion -- especially Abrahamic faiths -- as an ally and not an adversary of queer emancipation, and thus significantly informs the secular and legal movements for LGBTQ rights around the world. It follows in the same vein as *I Am Divine, So Are You* (2017), which put forth perspectives on sexuality from the Karmic faiths of Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism and Hinduism, and played a small but significant role in the reading down of Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code. Taken together, the two groundbreaking books expand the conversation between world religions and human sexuality to a truly global level.

How many avatars does *Vishnu* actually have? Is *Buddha* an avatar of *Vishnu*? What do *Bodhisattva* and *Vishnu* have in common? What do all of his avatars symbolize? Is there a connection between *Vishnu's* avatars and *Darwin's* theory of evolution? It is believed that *Vishnu* always comes to earth when *Devi* is suffering—*Parashurama* for *Renuka*, *Ram* for *Sita*. Another belief is that every time *Vishnu* takes an avatar, *Devi* too is born. A *Vishnu* avatar went on a rampage destroying all *Kshatriyas*, but also strives

to protect the weeping earth goddess who appeared before him as a cow. Which of these many personas does Vishnu represent? Find out more about the rich symbolism of his multitude of personas in this short, sweet read from Devlok.

The Inescapable Curse

For Hindus, Brahma is the God who creates the world and the world he creates is known as Brahmanda. This Brahmanda makes our very existence possible and yet, one rarely comes across a temple that's dedicated to Brahma. For Hindus, there are also certain things, certain occurrences, and phenomena that are considered more sacred than others. But who decides what is sacred? Is it the creator? Or are these rules a result of the creator's creation? Read on as Devdutt Pattanaik, the master of mythology, explores Brahma's role in Hindu mythology in Brahma: the Creator.

Culture50 Insights from Mythology Harper Collins

'Devdutt Pattanaik is an exponent of myths, using them [to] deepen storytelling, and obtain a sense of life and living' - Scroll.in Hindu mythology is vast and voluminous. There is so much we don't know or that has not been presented in a simplified way, making sense to contemporary times. This special omnibus edition brings together two bestselling books by Devdutt Pattanaik, India's most famous and renowned mythologist. My Gita and My Hanuman Chalisa are part of a series where Devdutt does 'darshan' of the scriptures, not just gods, and helps readers navigate through scriptures that seem forbidding (Bhagavad Gita) and simple ones whose sophistication is often overlooked (Hanuman Chalisa)

- Olympus is the home of the Greek gods, much like Amravati of the Hindu devas. - Zeus, leader of Olympians, wields a thunderbolt like Indra, and rides an eagle like Vishnu. - The feats of the Greek hero Heracles, known to Romans as Hercules, reminded many of Krishna, as did his name, 'Hari-kula-asha' or lord of the Hari clan. - The Greek epic of a husband sailing across the sea with a thousand ships to bring his wife, Helen, back from Troy seems strikingly similar to the story of Ram rescuing Sita from Lanka. Is there a connection between Greek and Hindu mythology then? Does it have something to do with a common Indo-European root? Or maybe an exchange of ideas in the centuries that followed the arrival of Alexander the Great, when Greek emissaries travelled to the kingdoms of Mathura and Magadha? In this book, mythologist Devdutt Pattanaik turns his attention to ancient Greek tales, and explores a new world of stories. Long have Europeans and Americans retold Indic mythologies. It is time for Indians to reverse the gaze.

What does the Biblical story of Nathan and David say about effective communication skills? How do you identify the Raja Bhoj, the Gangu Teli and the Shekchilli in your office? What is the corporate equivalent of an Ashwamedha yajna? Drawing from sources as diverse as the Mahabharata and the Bible, the Vikram-Betal stories, the Iliad and the Odyssey, Islamic tenets, the tales of rishis and kings, and fables from around the world, Devdutt Pattanaik, India's leading mythologist, provides a fascinating account of what leadership entails. How to choose the right leader, effectively communicate with a boss, maintain the right balance between discipline and leniency? In these and other workplace

situations, Pattanaik shows what leaders of today can learn about the art of leadership from stories written thousands of years ago, things no management course can teach. *Leader: 50 Insights from Mythology* uses myths and legends to arrive at wisdom that is both time-worn and refreshingly new, on what makes a good leader.

Reflecting on one of Hinduism's most popular prayer for positive energy Acclaimed mythologist Devdutt Pattanaik demystifies the Hanuman Chalisa for the contemporary reader. His unique approach makes the ancient hymn accessible, combined as it is with his trademark illustrations. Every time we experience negativity in the world and within ourselves, every time we encounter jealousy, rage and frustration, manifesting as violation and violence, we hear, or read, the Hanuman Chalisa. Composed over four hundred years ago by Tulsidas, its simple words in Awadhi, a dialect of Hindi and its simple metre, musically and very potently evoke the mythology, history and mystery of Hanuman, the much-loved Hindu deity, through whom Vedic wisdom reached the masses. As verse follows verse, our frightened, crumpled mind begins to expand with knowledge and insight and our faith in humanity, both within and without, is restored.

In devotional literature, gods take female forms all the time. Sometimes to serve as 'go-betweens' to bring lovers together, sometimes to stand in for a missing wife, and sometimes to nurse a sick devotee. Not all queer stories are sexual but they do challenge notions of gender. This queering, which is unique to India's devotional tradition, is worth examining to see how natural queerness was viewed by gods like Vishnu and Shiva. Read on as Devdutt Pattanaik examines a few of the most interesting instances of queerness in *Gender Fluidity in Hindu Mythology*.

Itihas means this is how it was, this is how it is, and this is how it will continue to be. It means history, but it also means timeless. The Ramayana and the Mahabharata form a rich tapestry of Indian itihas. Which came first—the Ramayana or the Mahabharata? Are they actually historical events? Which one has Krishna's raas-leela? Where is Shiva in this? What about the Devi? India's favourite mythologist Devdutt Pattanaik tells you everything you didn't know about our myths—a story born 2000 years ago teaching us the ageless tale of how to live in grace. Did you know the Laxman-rekha didn't exist in the original Ramayana? Or that Radha is never mentioned in the original Krishna story? Perfect for this festive season, find out all this and more in this short, sweet read from Devlok.

Why are Hindus so ritualistic? Why do they worship idols? Were Hindus always casteist? Are Hindus supposed to be vegetarian? Why is a Hindu prayer different from a Muslim or Christian prayer? Did the arrival of Muslim invaders a thousand years ago destroy Hindu culture? Answering key questions on Hindu philosophy and associated Indian history in simple, lucid, engaging ways, and exploring the often curious customs and beliefs that are an intrinsic part of the Hindu faith, Devdutt Pattanaik's latest book is a treasure house of information on the complex

tenets of Hinduism. For many a curious reader, Faith: 40 Insights into Hinduism will prove to be a delightful and eye-opening introduction to the intricacies of one of the world's most practiced religions.

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The popular names of many yogic asanas - from Virbhadrā-asana and Hanuman-asana to Matsyendra-asana, Kurma-asana and Ananta-asana - are based on characters and personages from Indian mythology. Who were these mythological characters, what were their stories, and how are they connected to yogic postures? Devdutt Pattanaik's newest book Yoga Mythology (co-written with international yoga practitioner Matt Rulli) retells the fascinating tales from Hindu, Buddhist and Jain lore that lie behind the yogic asanas the world knows so well; in the process he draws attention to an Indic worldview based on the concepts of eternity, rebirth, liberation and empathy that has nurtured yoga for thousands of years.

the success sutra is packed with unique and profound insights into how individuals can create wealth and achieve success in life by following indian principles of strategic thinking and decision-making. most human beings hunger after riches and success. there are any number of management books which provide theories and techniques on how to become rich and successful. all of them advise us to chase lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, in order to make her our own. but the indian approach to prosperity and fulfilment warns against the relentless pursuit of the goddess, writes noted thinker and mythologist devdutt pattanaik, as it will result in conflict. rather, we have to give in order to get, we have to satisfy the hunger of others in order to satisfy our own. if we learn and practise this fundamental truth, lakshmi will enter our homes and our lives. derived from his acclaimed bestseller business sutra, this book is filled with lessons and insights into management, business and the creation of wealth and success.

It is significant that the stories of Vishnu rose to prominence after the rise of Buddhism. Prior to that, Hinduism was the religion of the elite-based complex

rituals known as yagna and esoteric speculations captured in texts known as the Aranyakas and the Upanishads. Bestselling author Devdutt Pattanaik offers insights into the stories and pictures of Vishnu.

It is significant that the only character in Hindu mythology, a king at that, to be given the title of ekam-patni-vrata, devoted to a single wife, is associated with the most unjust act of abandoning her in the forest to protect family reputation. This seems a deliberate souring of an uplifting narrative. Ram's refusal to remarry to produce a royal heir adds to the complexity. The intention seems to be to provoke thought on notions of fidelity, property and self-image. And so the mythologist and illustrator Devdutt Pattanaik retells the Ramayana, drawing attention to the many oral, visual and written retellings composed in different times, in different places, by different poets, each one trying to solve the puzzle in its own unique way. This book approaches Ram by speculating on Sita: her childhood with her father, Janaka, who hosted sages mentioned in the Upanishads; her stay in the forest with her husband, who had to be a celibate ascetic while she was in the prime of her youth; her interactions with the women of Lanka, recipes she exchanged, emotions they shared; her connection with the earth, her mother, and with the trees, her sisters; her role as the Goddess, the untamed Kali as well as the demure Gauri, in transforming the stoic prince of Ayodhya into God.

How do myths and stories influence culture? What is the difference between one culture and another, and how did these differences come to be? Are cultures fixed or do they change over time? Devdutt Pattanaik, India's leading mythologist, breaks down the complex maze of stories, symbols and rituals to examine how they shape cultures. He investigates how stories influence perception and construct truths, the cultural roots of the notion of evil and reveals the need for mythology through a telling of various Indian and Western myths. In doing so, he shows how myths reflect the culture they emerge from while simultaneously reinforcing the source. Culture is a groundbreaking work that contextualizes mythology and proposes that myths are alive, dynamic, shaped by perception and the times one lives in.

RAMAYANA MAHABHARATA Also available as an e-book Non-fiction/Philosophy RAMAYANA vs DEVDUTT PATTANAIAK MAHAB HARATA He is Eka-vachani, a king who always keeps his word; Eka-bani, an archer who strikes his target with the first arrow; and Eka-patni, a husband who is eternally and absolutely devoted to a single wife. He is maryada purushottam Ram, the supreme upholder of social values, the scion of the Raghu clan, jewel of the solar dynasty, the seventh avatar of Vishnu, God who establishes order in worldly life. Hindus believe that in stressful and tumultuous times chanting Ram's name and hearing his tale, the Ramayan, brings stability, hope, peace and prosperity. Reviled by feminists, appropriated by politicians, Ram remains serene in his majesty, the only Hindu deity to be worshipped as a king.

In the game of cricket, having scored 99 runs, when a batsman stands poised on

the threshold of that much coveted century, he experiences the moment that is best associated with Ganesha. Fear and uncertainty envelope him; between him and his achievement stand hurdles, both real and imaginary: a possible spin from the bowler can overwhelm him, his own anxiety can paralyze him, cheering fans can distract him. He needs divine intervention then. He needs to focus, get rid of all hurdles, perform, get the final run, and achieve what he so longs for. In other words, he needs to think of Ganapati. This book brings together 99 meditations to better understand the stories, symbols and rituals of that adorable elephant-headed Hindu god who removes hurdles and brings prosperity and peace. Known variously as Ganapati, Gajanana, Vinayaka or Pillayar, he can help all of us score a century in the game called life.

Did Brahma create the universe? Was it born out of the sacrifice of Prajapati? Did his wife Shatarupa create animals while being pursued by him? Or was it all a product of Manu? A Vedic poet says that for anything to be created in the universe, it must be preceded by desire. If desire is the seed, the cosmos is its fruit. A Shaiva story says that in the beginning there was a golden woman in the shape of a lotus, and when it bloomed, Brahma was in it, and he then divided into Shiva and Shakti. The Vaishnava tradition says that in the beginning, everything was asleep – and then Vishnu awoke, and the first creation was born of the fear of loneliness. The Shakta tradition says that before the earth was born, Shiva was doing tapasya and there was pralaya – everything was frozen and barren. Then Parvati emerged from the mountain and seduced and married him. The heat or energy within him was then released and the snow started to melt and the earth became fertile. Which is it? Discover all these origin myths and more in this short, sweet read from Devlok.

In My Gita, acclaimed mythologist Devdutt Pattanaik demystifies The Bhagavad Gita for the contemporary reader. His unique approach—thematic rather than verse by verse—makes the ancient treatise eminently accessible, combined as it is with his trademark illustrations and simple diagrams. In a world that seems spellbound by argument over dialogue, vivaad over samvaad, Devdutt highlights how Krishna nudges Arjuna to understand rather than judge his relationships. This becomes relevant today when we are increasingly indulging and isolating the self (selfimprovement, selfactualization, selfrealization—even selfies). We forget that we live in an ecosystem of others, where we can nourish each other with food, love and meaning, even when we fight. So let My Gita inform your Gita.

Exploring mysteries of gender and biology and shedding light on the roots of taboos and traditions still practiced in India today, Pattanaik shows how mortal woman can be both worshipped and feared as she embodies the image of the Mother Goddess.

We live in times where people have extreme views. On the one hand, there are scholars who describe Shiva's linga literally as a phallus, and see all metaphoric meaning as embarrassed apology of the uneducated. On the other hand, we

have puritanical Hindus who want to strip the Shiva linga of all sexual meaning and sanitize Shiva's lore. In both cases, a symbol is being reduced to a sign. In Shiva to Shankara, Devdutt Pattanaik, India's leading mythologist, seeks to bridge the gap. As he explores the layers of meanings embedded in Shiva's linga, we discover why and how the Goddess transforms Shiva, the hermit, into Shankara, the householder.

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