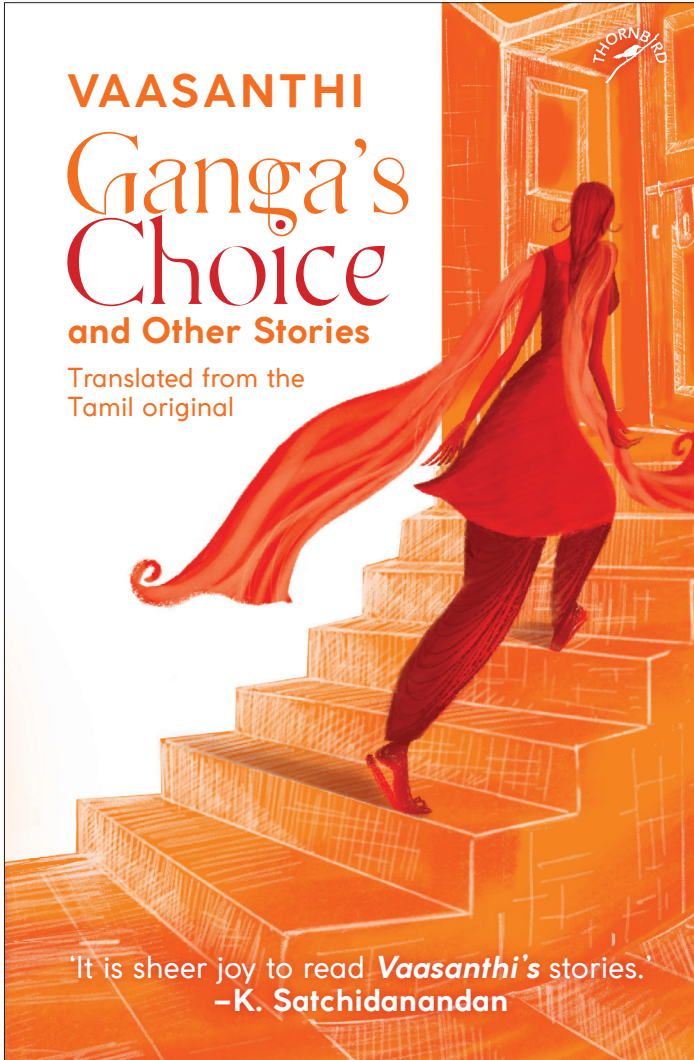


A collection of 15 powerful stories, set in different parts of India and abroad.

The stories depict situations ranging from the problems faced by migrant labourers during a lockdown, to how women confront the social restrictions that constrain their freedom.

The book features memorable portraits of characters and their intense struggle for dignity.



NOVEMBER | DECEMBER 2021

IMPRINT: THORNBIRD
FICTION

TRANSLATION FICTION

₹450

ISBN: 978-93-91125-43-1

Size: 216mm x 140mm; 256pp

Book Print Paper

Black and white

Flexiback

Ganga's Choice and Other Stories

Vaasanthi

'It is sheer joy to read Vaasanthi's stories.'

How free are women to make their own choices in the circumstances in which they find themselves? How do ordinary citizens become caught in communal divisions and migrant labourers cope with despair during the pandemic? These are some of the queries posed by the poignant and thought-provoking tales in this book.

Set in various parts of India and abroad, this collection by one of India's well-known writers powerfully captures slices of life to showcase the courage and strength of ordinary people.

A young woman derided as a freak chooses to live her life on her own terms; women from different backgrounds struggle against gender roles that are defined by rigid and oppressive social conventions; two migrant workers—rendered jobless during a lockdown—try to return to their village and maintain a bond of solidarity, despite different religious identities; a Sikh farmer living near the Line of Control loses his family to cross-border shelling but looks after the orphaned son of his neighbour from a different community.

Ganga's Choice and Other Stories reflects the range and depth of Vaasanthi's writing and shows how humanity redeems the individual and provides hope, even in the midst of adversity.

Vaasanthi is a leading writer, journalist and columnist in Tamil and English. She has published 30 novels, 6 short story collections, 4 volumes of journalistic articles and 4 travelogues in Tamil in the last 40 years. She was the Editor of the Tamil edition of *India Today* for 10 years. Her articles have appeared in leading Indian newspapers and magazines.

Her works have been translated in Malayalam, Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, English, Norwegian, Czech and Dutch. Two of her novels have been made into Malayalam films. She is the recipient of several awards in Tamil Nadu including the Best Short Story Writer award, Best Novel award for Ammani and Gnana Bharathi award. She has received the UP Sahitya Sansthan award and Punjab Sahitya Akademi award for her novels translated in Hindi and English respectively. Now a freelance writer and journalist, she lives in Delhi.



**NIYOGI
BOOKS**
Fine publishing within reach

Email: niyogibooks@gmail.com
Website: www.niyogibooksindia.com

Endorsement

‘Vaasanthi’s stories surprise and enchant the reader with their thematic diversity and the vividness and vivacity of her characters drawn from different backgrounds. These 15 short stories are apt to give even a reader unacquainted with her many worlds a clear idea of her narrative skill and her deep insight into human situations and the transformations in attitudes and world-views that mark generational changes in the subcontinent. It is sheer joy to read Vaasanthi’s stories in this representative collection.’

K. Satchidanandan