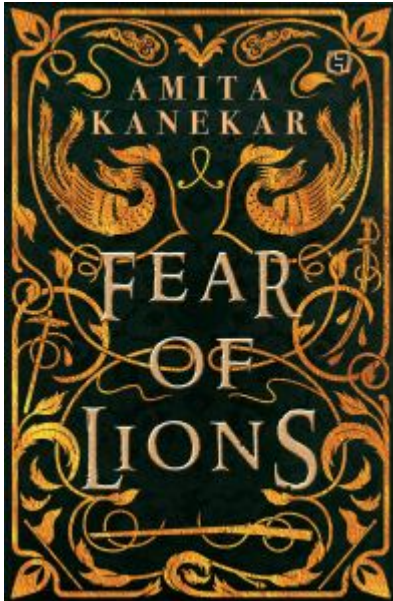


Amita Kanekar's new novel, *Fear of Lions*, will be out soon. It is now available for pre-order of Amazon. You can book your copy here, [Amita Kanekar's 'Fear of Lions' now available for pre-order on Amazon](#)



*On a hot April morning in 1673, two young Mughal nobles, Shamsheer and his sister Zeenat, leave Shahjahanabad for a trip down the royal highway to the market town of Narnaul. The reluctant Shamsheer is on a secret mission for his father; an excited Zeenat on one of her own.*

*Their journey takes them through the shattered landscape of a recently crushed rebellion – one different from those the Mughal Empire frequently spawned, of petty warlords fired by dreams of kingship. This revolt was rumoured to have been inspired by Kabir and led by a witch; her militant followers, many of them women and all of them rabble, called themselves 'Followers of Truth'. The rebels were defeated, but the questions remained: Where had they come from and what did they want? How could Kabir, the godly saint-poet of Banaras, incite violence? Why couldn't the liberalism and inclusiveness fostered by Emperor Akbar hold the realm together? What role did the firangis have to play? Or was it all simply because of the bigot on the throne?*

*Set twelve years into the rule of the austere Aurangzeb Alamgir, in a time of impossible wealth and unbearable want, of brilliant architectural extravaganzas amidst ancient traditions of squalor, and of caste society on the threshold of capitalism, Amita Kanekar's powerful and intricately woven novel tells the story of an unlikely rebellion that almost brought imperial Dilli to its knees.*

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