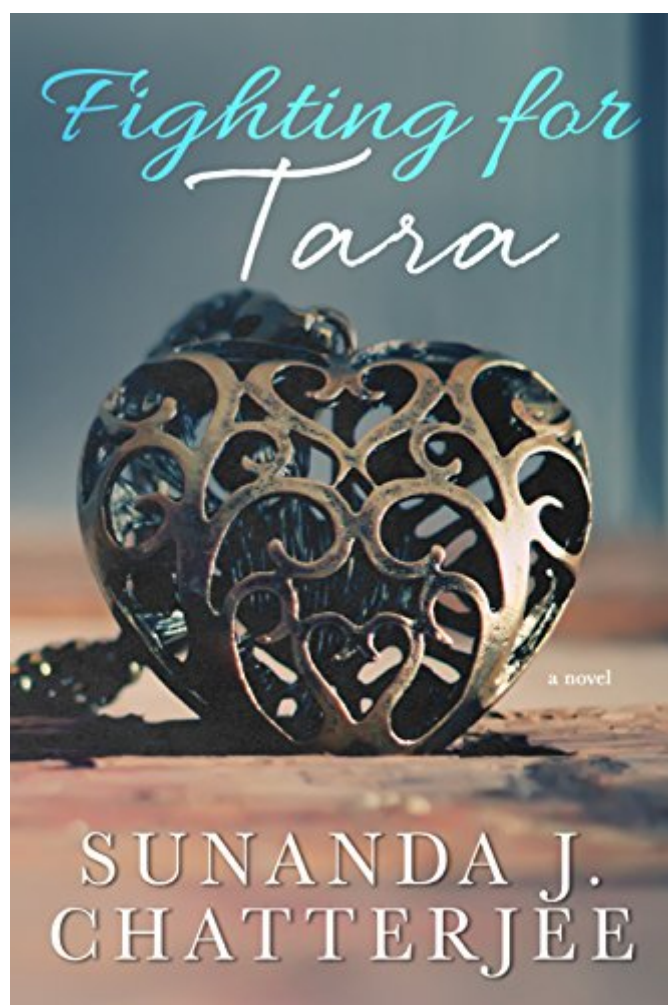


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Fighting For Tara: A Novel



Synopsis

How far will a mother go to save her child? She'll have no use for a baby girl. Get rid of her tonight!

He towered over her as she cringed in fear. But Hansa, a thirteen-year-old child-bride in rural India, refuses to remain a victim of the oppressive society where a female child is an unwanted burden. Instead of drowning her baby, Hansa escapes from her village with three-month-old Tara. Hansa soon discovers that life as a teenage mother is fraught with danger. But a single lie opens the door to a promising opportunity far from home. Just seven years later, Hansa finds herself fighting for Tara's life once more, this time in an American court, with a woman she calls "Mother." Will the lie upon which Hansa built her life, defeat its own purpose? How can she succeed when no one believes the truth? A story of two mothers, two daughters and a fight to save a child, *Fighting for Tara* explores the depth of love and motherhood.

Book Information

File Size: 2744 KB

Print Length: 310 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Sunanda J Chatterjee; 1 edition (June 17, 2016)

Publication Date: June 17, 2016

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B01H9BS428

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #45,809 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #4 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > Drama & Plays > Asian #8 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > World Literature > Asian #36 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Literature & Fiction > United States > Asian American

Customer Reviews

I read and loved *Shadowed Promise* by this author and thought it perfect but this book... Wow! It is even better! Poignant, heart-rending, compelling, this is an addictive, beautiful story peopled with

characters who grabbed hold of my heart and still haven't let go. I feel I know Tara and Wolfy, Anne and Liam, Sheila and Vikram, Sabina and Rani Sahiba, and especially the wonderful, brave and indomitable Hansa. A brilliant story with a powerful message. One that will appeal to everybody and one that will definitely stay with me. A must read.

Disclaimer: I downloaded a kindle version of this book in return for my honest review. I received no monetary compensation for the same. Fighting for Tara is the story of 13-year-old Hansa, who is also the mother of Tara, a month-old baby. Hansa had been married when she was barely eleven, to a very old man. Not aware of any other life, she accepts her role as his wife and later as Tara's mother. The only highlight in her life is the time she spends with Rani Champawati, who teaches Hansa to read and write. Her simple life is shaken when her husband Gyani dies. His brother Baldev comes from another village and offers to marry Hansa. But his offer comes with a condition - that she kills her girl child. Well, Hansa does consider it as she doesn't have a choice. But when push comes to shove, she's unable to kill her sweet little baby. That's when she decides to run away... The author takes the reader from the small village in Rajasthan to a big city in the USA, the tale flowing in many threads, over the next decade. Tara is adopted by an American couple. But the story doesn't end there. There's more... I fell in love with the courageous little Hansa, who's so protective of her little child. Beautifully penned by Sunanda Chatterjee, Hansa's character surpasses all else. The next on my list is Wolfgang. He's so real and I loved him only next to Hansa. All the other characters, Vikram, Rani Sahiba, Baldev, the Stuarts, Tara and a host of others - all were well sketched. The author has woven a beautiful tale that's extremely plausible. What I liked best is the hope it gives the reader - that life can turn positive when we put the right effort into it.

Wow! This was an amazing novel. I fell in love with Hansa on the first page. She is one of those characters you will never forget. Strong, brave, loyal and good. I will never forget this beautiful story either. There were so many well developed and complex characters and so many twists and turns. You will not want to put this book down once you start reading it. I felt many emotions while reading - sadness, anger, fear, surprise, hope, joy. Sunanda has a wonderful way with words. If I could give it 10 stars I would! I can't wait to read more of her work.

There's something very sweet and graceful about Ms. Chatterjee's storytelling. After reading her first book, Shadowed Promise, I trusted her to take me on a journey that would leave me

somewhere better than where I started... and I was not disappointed. This book is about Hansa, a young woman (in fact she starts out as a child bride) who struggles to protect her daughter in spite of her position in society and in spite of a tradition that oppresses her. As with the first book, I really enjoyed this glimpse into another world and culture.

I have read this author's previous books and liked them immensely. I was eager to read "Fighting for Tara" when it was released. As always the author didn't disappoint. The author vividly describes the plight of Hansa and her fight to protect her daughter. A mother would go to extremes for her children. I could not put the book down when I started reading it, as it had me engrossed in the plot. Kudos to the author for a great book!

Sunanda Chatterjee has done it again! Her latest novel, 'Fighting for Tara', gives us an insight into the indomitable spirit of Hansa. A child herself, this young mother overcomes seemingly insurmountable obstacles as she fights for a better life for her beloved Tara. With rich imagery, the author has weaved together a poignant and heartwarming tale of a mother's unconditional love - what a great story!

What would a mother give up to keep her daughter safe? Hansa struggles with tradition, expectation, and the harsh reality of being a teen mom, a widow, and much more in India. Through fast thinking and just the sheer determination to keep Tara safe, Hansa and Anne learn the difference between happy and safe and the lengths that true love will reach. Full fledged characters from Hansa's past and her future makes this book hard to resist. As readers we watch as two worlds mix and the friction that it generates, but also the love that blooms in the heart of so many.

After reading "Shadowed Promise" by Sunanda Chatterjee, I was looking forward to "Fighting for Tara." The author did not disappoint, and I will add that I purchased this book with hard-earned dollars instead of waiting for a free day. Chatterjee is an accomplished writer with a wonderful command of language for both descriptions and dialogue. Character, locale and plot flow seamlessly and without apparent effort. The author conveys universal emotions flawlessly, gripping the reader on the first page and not letting go even after the story ends. Thank you, Sunanda Chatterjee for another fine novel, and best wishes for many, many more literary successes!

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