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In a Novel *Of Memories and Mirages*, History and Humanity Intersect

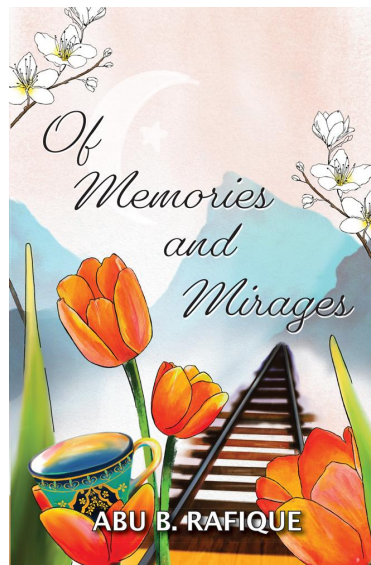
written by Abu B. Rafique
on sale January 4, 2022

“Abu Rafique writes with honesty, precision, and compassion. He understands the frailties and strengths inside the hearts and minds of his characters . . .”

- Michael Imperioli, author of *The Perfume Burned His Eyes*

[Brandylane Publishers, Inc.](#) of Richmond, Virginia, is excited to announce the upcoming release of a new work of fiction, [Of Memories and Mirages](#), written by Abu B. Rafique. Drawing together characters from various origins and times to tell stories of a single close-knit neighborhood in Pakistan’s largest city, this poignant novel is composed of letters, recollections, and lush description that contextualizes devastating historical events through their effect on the lives of ordinary people. In doing so, it reflects the tragedy of the human condition—and the romance that persists despite all pains.

A masterful exploration of identity, diaspora/belonging, migration, love, and war, *Of Memories and Mirages* is scheduled for release on January 4, 2022.



In the heat of Karachi—the city to which her grandparents, Suraiya and Iqbal, moved after meeting amid the bloodshed of the Partition that saw the creation of Pakistan—young Aasiya slips away from watchful eyes to meet her lover at a tea shop. Meanwhile, a nearby couple deals with the consequences of their son eagerly leaving the city and bearing firsthand witness to the horrors of a seemingly holy war—a war all too like the one from which the tea shop’s owner, Salim, has also managed to find refuge.

This is a collection of interwoven stories of the lives that fate and circumstance have tied to Pakistan—soulful stories of love, loss, trauma, and the transformative power of time.

About the Author

[Abu B. Rafique](#) was born in Los Angeles, California in 1995. His family moved to the Northern Virginia area when he was four years old and they have been there ever since. At a young age, Rafique had a passion for reading and storytelling, although it wasn’t something he considered as a serious pursuit until he got to high school. After graduating from Lake Braddock Secondary School, he enrolled in college but left after three semesters to pursue a career as a writer. At age twenty, he self-published his first collection of short stories. His short stories have been published in India, and his poetry is published in a number of Middle Eastern literary prints.

Interviews available upon request.

[Brandylane Publishers, Inc.](#) is an independent press located in Richmond, Virginia, that has published books since 1985.

Of Memories and Mirages (paperback, 272 pages, \$17.95) is available for pre-order from [Amazon](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), and other fine booksellers. Kindle e-book (retail \$4.99) forthcoming.