

NORUMBEGA JURY PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING FICTION

Beyond the Cayenne Wall is an award winning collection of stories by Shaila Abdullah about Pakistani women struggling to find their individualities despite the barriers imposed by society. It captures the cultural chasm—and sometimes the collision between the East and the West—as the characters dare to go beyond the wall that divides their traditions and the world outside. Abdullah weaves together a collection of events that spin around betrayals, confessions, lost opportunities, misunderstandings, revenge, acceptance, and denial, shaken in with exotic spices and flavor, a potpourri for the senses.

Awards: This book won the Jury Prize for Outstanding Fiction in the 2005 Norumbega Fiction Awards and received notable mention in the 2006 Writers Notes Award. *Moment of Reckoning*, one of the stories from *Beyond the Cayenne Wall* was a winner of the *Writer's Digest* Short Story Award.

Marketing: TV interview with Voice of America. Invitation to 2005 Chowrangi Fundraiser for Reading. Book signing planned by Junior League of Austin in November 2006. Saheli Fundraising through *Beyond the Cayenne Wall* planned in fall 2006. Interview with *Mood Indico*, *Chowrangi*, and *InSITE* magazines. Several book review requests received. 100 copies of book sent to book review editors. 1000 press releases sent to media contacts. Periodic newsletter titled *My Cayenne Words* sent to select group.

Abdullah takes us into the hearts and minds, realities and yearnings, and daily existence of women young and aged in and from South Asia.

DR. SHIRLEY HORD, AUTHOR OF *IMPLEMENTING CHANGE*

Beyond The Cayenne Wall is a superb read for students of literature, culture and sociology because of its deftly written engagement into the world and life of the alienated foreigner.

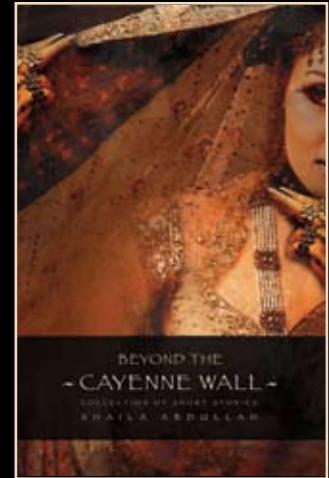
MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW

At the root of the stories are the cultural burdens women bear. Although the setting appears exclusively eastern, oddly enough, the struggles, disappointments, joys, and sorrows of these women transcend borders. I truly enjoyed this collection of short stories, and devoured them in one setting.

BLACK BUTTERFLY REVIEW

BEYOND THE CAYENNE WALL

COLLECTION OF SHORT STORIES
SHAILA ABDULLAH



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Shaila Abdullah was born in Karachi, Pakistan in 1971. She has been published in *Dallas Child*, *Web Guru*, *About Families*, *SEDL Letter*, *Sulekha*, *Women's Own*, *She*, *Fashion Collection* and a magazine of the *Daily Dawn* newspaper called *Tuesday Review*, etc. Her creative work focuses on the strengths and weaknesses of Pakistani women and their often unconventional choices in life. Information on the author and book is available online at <http://www.shailaabdullah.com>.