

# Where the Long Grass Bends



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"Fierce and bold, these beautiful stories provide a highly kinetic exploration of sameness and difference in terms of ethnic and racial origin. Through a romp of language-vital, outrageous, unpredictable-the fireworks of Neela Vaswani's original genius cast shadows and illumine psyches that conventional monovisions never perceive. The stories of "Where the Long Grass Bends "are for readers willing to view the shape-shifting of both reality and literary form. Vaswani's characters embrace their fates through such rigorous birthing that what has been internal finally contains and defines them." -Sena Jeter Naslund "If it is true, as one of Vaswani's characters claims, that a musical movement is the equivalent of a sentence, then the stories in "Where the Long Grass Bends "comprise an uncanny and beautiful symphony. This is a luminous collection, where each fiction evolves its own mythology. I want to live in the world of these stories just as I am afraid of this beautiful and often dark world. Neela Vaswani's "Where the Long Grass Bends "is lovely, strange, lyrical, full of true mystery." -Victoria Redel "Where the Long Grass Bends" is a delight of invention and language. In whirling, catch-me-if-you-can prose, Vaswani tells stories that subvert conventional narrative by employing Indian lore, Gaelic fable, and historical legend. Spare, fierce, and unpredictable, this debut collection is boundless, even boundary-less, because Vaswani has, as David Garnett said of Virginia Woolf, a mind that sticks to nothing. Neela Vaswani lives in New York. Her short stories have appeared in numerous journals, including "Prairie Schooner, American Literary Review," and "Global City Review." In 1999, she was awarded the Italo Calvino Prize. She is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Maryland, and teaches in the Master of Fine Arts in Writing program at Spalding University.

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