

Everyone needs to read this book!

Whip of the Wild God

All too rarely, you come across a novel that gallops you off into the biggest adventure of your life. It flips your emotions from soaring glee to hair-yanking horror, feeds you pearls of delicious wisdom that you know you'll savour for years to come, and makes you want to sob when you turn the last page. We're lucky enough to have come across one such book with Mira Prabhu's *Whip of the Wild God: A Novel of Tantra in Ancient India*.

The story follows the exquisite Ishvari, who, as a 12-year-old girl, is plucked from poverty to be trained as the esteemed High Tantrika – a priestess of sensual love. Her mission is to raise the kundalini of the corrupt king and, in doing so, rescue her land from the spiritual squalor that is encroaching with the rise of civilisation. Reading it, we lurch from vicarious highs to despairing lows as Ishvari teeters on a tightrope between spiritual enlightenment and fleshy corruption. It's got more sex (Tantra), drugs (charras) and rock and roll (emotional roller coastering) than Woodstock. But that's just the story.

The real gleam of Mira Prabhu's novel is in its fascinating exploration of yoga, Tantra,

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kundalini, Advaita and other ancient Eastern teachings. These pearls of true wisdom are sewn into the fabric of this bristling adventure with such skill that you wonder how this vivid tale can also be such a seminal spiritual tome? This is the sexy big sister to Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist*, and the Eastern answer to Elizabeth Haich's *Initiation*. Everyone really does need to read this book!

