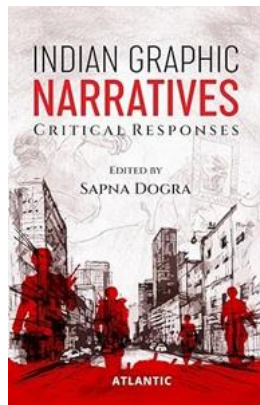


BOOK REVIEW**Ajay Pande ******Indian Graphic Narratives: Critical Response*
edited by Dr Sapna Dogra****Indian Graphic Narratives: Critical Responses, edited by Dr Sapna Dogra****Atlantic Publishers, 2024, INR 450****ISBN: 978-81-269-3824-7, pp. 107**

Indian Graphic Narratives: Critical Responses edited by Sapna Dogra, is a pioneering volume that explores the emerging field of Indian graphic narratives and provides a comprehensive analysis of this unique literary form. For anyone interested in the relationship between literature and visual art, this compilation is a great resource. It features insightful contributions from a variety of scholars. For anyone curious about the relationship between literature and visual art, it is an invaluable resource.

The book offers a thorough examination of some of the most important works in the history of Indian graphic novels. It gives readers an in-depth knowledge of the themes and strategies common in these stories by covering a wide range of subjects, such as violence, gender issues, pedagogical use, animal metaphors and the use of sexuality.

The anthology's critical analysis of well-known Indian graphic novels is one of its most notable aspects. There are three chapters on Amruta Patil's *Kari* where the deftly analyse how Patil uses the visual medium to address nuanced themes of gender, identity, belonging, and loneliness, providing readers with a thorough understanding of the protagonist's inner world.

In a similar vein, Smita Dabi's interpretation of Sarnath Banerjee's *Corridor* provides an insightful look at existential anxiety and urban alienation. Dabi's piece provides a thorough examination of Banerjee's storytelling style and his use of Delhi's urban setting to highlight the fractured lives of the characters. The critical perspective offered here helps the reader better understand *Corridor* and situates it within the greater context of modern literature.

Another notable work included in this collection is Pratheek Thomas's *Hush* which is a wordless graphic novel. The analysis by S. Sri Shakuntala focuses on Thomas's use of a subdued but potent storytelling technique. This article demonstrates the richness and diversity of graphic storytelling as a literary genre by highlighting how the story can express intense emotions and social criticisms without the need for dialogue.

The book was enhanced by an insightful review of Naseer Ahmed's *Kashmir Pending* by Sapna Dogra, the editor. This piece explores the political and social undertones of the Kashmir war through Ahmed's powerful narrative and visually arresting graphics. Dogra's work provides an in-depth understanding of the complexities of the area lost amidst of political forces.

Indian Graphic Narratives: Critical Responses also addresses broader themes in the medium in addition to examining specific works. The book examines how graphic storytelling can be used to teach, and it provides innovative ways to incorporate these works into curricula to encourage students to discuss current events. Additionally, the analysis of animals as visual metaphors in a range of contexts offers readers a unique perspective through which to assess the symbolic meanings woven into these stories.

Because the authors approach their research with scholarly discipline and a variety of perspectives, this book is a flexible resource. The combination of theoretical frameworks and close readings of texts makes the book approachable to both seasoned researchers and those new to the field. The book is an essential contribution to the scholarly literature on graphic novels, particularly when it comes to Indian graphic novels. The book offers fresh perspectives and promotes critical thinking by carefully examining significant works and taking into account broader thematic concerns.

This book serves as evidence of the richness and potency of Indian graphic novels, which use a combination of words and images to offer perceptive social commentary. For researchers, literary students, and fans of graphic novels, this book provides a bridge to

a deeper understanding and appreciation of the varied and dynamic world of Indian visual narratives.

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