

Understand the power and poignancy of writing from leading literary and media voices

“The honesty, wisdom and pain of this writing add up to something very important: truth. SDS writes with unflinching truth about the unbearable, and thus makes it, at least, comprehensible.”
-Salman Rushdie

For Immediate Release

The idea that literature and writing can be cathartic and make us emotionally and physically stronger goes back to the time of Plato.

HarperCollins India and **Avid Learning** present **The Power of Prose: Writing and Healing in the Time of COVID** – an illuminating live session with *Bestselling Author Siddharth Dhanvant Shanghvi* in conversation with *Writer, Consultant and former EIC, Harper's Bazaar India Nonita Kalra*.

Please read on for more details:

What does it mean to lose someone? To answer this timeless question, Siddharth draws on a string of devastating personal losses – of his mother, of his father and of a beloved pet – to craft a moving memoir of death and grief in his new book, *Loss*. He makes his non-fiction debut with this collection of personal essays on mortality. With surgical detachment and subtle feeling, Siddharth charts the landscape of bereavement as he takes the reader down the dark, winding path to healing. In this session, Siddharth will draw from the book and a selection of his other writings to highlight the power of writing about personal life experience to confront, recover and spread the message of healing beyond the self.

In conversation with Nonita, they will together delve into the various techniques and creative approaches aspiring writers can use to weave a story around loss, to create a tapestry of hope from grief and to spin a safety-net of healing for both writer and reader.

They will examine the fundamentals, as well as the finer creative and prosodic nuances involved in capturing moments of personal experience poignantly and in a relatable way. Using examples of differing kinds of writing- poetry, prose, episodic & essay writing and more- they will explore how these varied formats serve to give voice to emotion and can help with the cathartic process of writing as well as the act of reading to heal, or, bibliotherapy.

Join us for insights on this poignant topic from one of India's most beloved contemporary writers and one of the media world's most impactful influencers.

When: Thursday, 28th January 2021 | 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

RSVP: www.avidlearning.in

Press Email: Ayeshah Dadachanji on ayeshah.avid@gmail.com



In this live session, Siddharth will draw from his new book, *Loss*, and a selection of his other writings to highlight the power of writing about personal life experience to confront, recover and spread the message of healing beyond the self. In conversation with Nonita, they will together delve into the various techniques and creative approaches aspiring writers can use to weave a story around loss, to create a tapestry of hope from grief and to spin a safety-net of healing for both writer and reader. They will examine the fundamentals, as well as the finer creative and prosodic nuances involved in capturing moments of personal experience poignantly and in a relatable way. Using examples of differing kinds of writing- poetry, prose, episodic & essay writing and more- they will explore how these varied formats serve to give voice to emotion and can help with the cathartic process of writing as well as the act of reading to heal, or, bibliotherapy. Join us for insights on this poignant topic from one of India's most beloved contemporary writers and one of the media world's most impactful influencers.

#AVIDONLINE **LIVE**



Bestselling Author
**Siddharth Dhanvant
Shanghvi**

in conversation with



Writer, Consultant,
& Former EIC,
Harper's Bazaar India
Nonita Kalra

DATE: **THURSDAY, 28 JANUARY '21**
TIME: **6:00 PM - 7:30 PM**
REGISTER: www.avidlearning.in



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About the Speakers

Siddharth Dhanvant Shanghvi's first novel, *The Last Song of Dusk*, won the Betty Trask Award, the Premio Grinzane Cavour, and was nominated for the IMPAC Prize. His second book, *The Lost Flamingoes of Bombay*, was shortlisted for the Man Asian Prize. His most recent book is *The Rabbit & the Squirrel*. A past contributor to *TIME*, the *New York Times*, *Vogue* and other publications, he lives in north Goa. <https://www.facebook.com/shanghvi>, <https://twitter.com/sdshanghvi?s=11>

Nonita Kalra has three decades of media experience, in print and television. For the last four years, she was the Editor of *HARPER'S BAZAAR*. Prior to that, she was the Editor-in-Chief of *ELLE* India, where she spent nearly 13 years, at the helm. She has been an influencer in fashion, beauty and lifestyle; her ideas and her initiatives have shaped careers and launched trends. Nonita's consultancies have included working on a special beauty project with Godrej Consumer Products Ltd - working on building a new brand (2013). In 2015, she consulted with the Fashion Design Council of India on two fashion weeks. Nonita has also written columns for *The Indian Express*, *The Economic Times*, the *DailyO* website and *Forbes Life* magazine. Her work has also appeared in *Man's World*, *Vogue* and *Grazia*, as well.

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