

## APPENDICES

### SYNOPSIS OF ANITA RAU BADAMI'S THE HERO'S WALK

The Hero's Walk is about a journey of Sripathi Rao, the central character, who tries to conquer his fears and to reshape his life and finally finds a way to change his life.

In a small dusty town in India, there lives Sripathi Rao, a person who initially is stubborn and rude. He also always thinks negatively. However, in the end he becomes soft-hearted and has a positive thinking. He formerly struggles to maintain his family's house, which starts crumbling. His problems vary: his mother forces him not to be a lawyer, his son prefers social protest to work, his unmarried sister is made angry by her repressed desire, and his obedient wife blames him for refusing to communicate with their daughter, Maya. Maya defies their tradition and rejects her proper Brahmin fiancé for an American husband, Alan. Then a phone call brings a tragedy. Maya and her husband get killed in an accident and they leave a child, Nandana, in Vancouver. Sripathi reluctantly travels to Vancouver and brings the child back to India. Terrified, Nandana resists her distant grandfather. Filled with guilt about his daughter and unable to express his feelings, Sripathi finds everything in his life falling apart; however, since he meets Nandana, his world has slowly and unexpectedly changed. He seems to find a second chance to have a new life.

## **BIOGRAPHY OF ANITA RAU BADAMI**

Anita Rau Badami was born in 1961, in the eastern part of Rourkela, India. Badami spent her childhood drifting around India and transferred frequently with her father, who was a mechanical engineer and train designer. Since her parents both spoke different Indian dialects, English was the bridging language for the family. Badami's second language is Hindi. When she was at school, her literary talents were not always accepted by her teachers. At school the teachers taught Greek and Roman myths; yet, Badami was not taught about Hindu mythology. Inspired by the cultures and myths of her family and the multilingual railway workers, she cultivated her storytelling ability and shaped the exploration of heroism that appeared throughout her latest novel, The Hero's Walk. In 1991 Anita left Bangalore in southern India to join her husband in Calgary, where he went to reach his Master in Environmental Science. Then he went to Vancouver for a PhD. With their four-year-old son and five hundred dollars, she lived in a depressing basement apartment. Earlier, to earn money she became a journalist and copywriter as well as an author of children's stories; all her works were sold in a mall. Then Badami began to take creative writing courses and started her first novel, Tamarind Mem. The novel was also her Master's Thesis Project at University of Calgary. She sent the manuscript to Penguin Canada and became the best selling author with a reputation as a talented new Canadian writer. After the publication of The Hero's Walk, Badami won the prestigious Marian Engel Award, which is given to a Canadian woman author in her mid-career for outstanding prose writing. Recently, The Hero's Walk was optioned for film by a Canadian producer of See Spot Run Films in Los Angeles.