



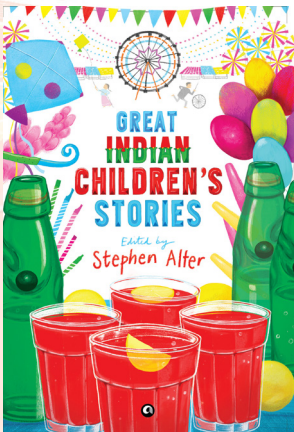
ALEPH

ALEPH BOOK COMPANY IS DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH  
OF ITS CHILDREN'S BOOKS LIST

*GREAT INDIAN CHILDREN'S STORIES* by **STEPHEN ALTER**  
*IT'S TIME TO RHYME* by **SHOBHA THAROOR SRINIVASAN**  
*MIRACLE AT HAPPY BAZAAR* by **RUSKIN BOND**

*'We have long wanted to add children's books to our publishing mix—Stephen Alter's GREAT INDIAN CHILDREN'S STORIES, Shobha Tharoor Srinivasan's IT'S TIME TO RHYME: Poems for Kids of All Ages, and Ruskin Bond's MIRACLE AT HAPPY BAZAAR were the perfect books with which to launch the list. To start with, we are planning to put out no more than 3-4 books a year for older children. Depending on how these books fare we will gradually expand our children's publishing.'*

—**DAVID DAVIDAR**, Publisher, Aleph Book Company



#### ABOUT THE BOOK

*Great Indian Children's Stories*, edited by award-winning writer Stephen Alter, collects nine delightful short stories for older children by some of India's foremost writers. The handpicked stories in this anthology include classics such as Rabindranath Tagore's 'The Kabuliwallah', revolving around an unlikely friendship between a little Bengali girl and an Afghan man; Munshi Premchand's 'Idgah', the heart-warming story of the gift a young boy gives to his grandmother on Eid; Mahasweta Devi's 'The Why-Why Girl', the true story of a young girl from the Shabar community with an indomitable spirit; Ruskin Bond's 'The Blue Umbrella', a tale of jealousy and understanding set in the pristine Garhwal hills; Khushwant Singh's 'Portrait of a Lady', a poignant story about a young boy and his beloved grandmother; and Shashi Tharoor's 'The Boutique', a sensitive account of an adolescent boy's rite of passage to adulthood.

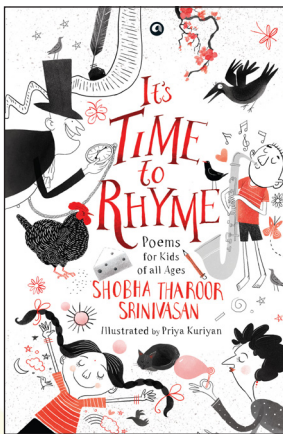


#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Stephen Alter is the author of more than twenty books of fiction and non-fiction, including *The Secret Sanctuary* and *The Cloudfarers*. *Wild Himalaya: A Natural History of the Greatest Mountain Range on Earth*, his most recent work of non-fiction, received the 2020 Banff Mountain Book Award in the Mountain Environment and Natural History category. His memoir, *Becoming a Mountain: Himalayan Journeys in Search of the Sacred and the Sublime*, received the Kekoo

Naoroji Award for Himalayan Literature. His most recent works of fiction include *Birdwatching: A Novel* and *In the Jungles of the Night: A Novel about Jim Corbett*, which was shortlisted for the DSC South Asian Literature Award.

Alter has taught at the American University in Cairo, Egypt, where he was director of the writing programme for seven years. Following this, he was writer-in-residence at MIT for ten years. Among the honours he has received are fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the Fulbright Program, the East West Centre in Hawaii, and the Banff Centre for Mountain Culture. He is also the founding director of the Mussoorie Mountain Festival.



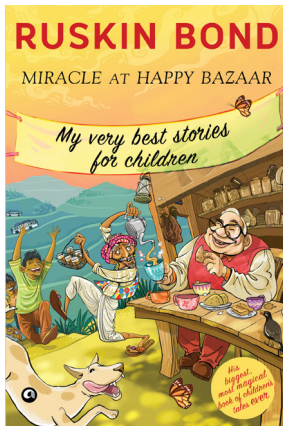
### ABOUT THE BOOK

With offerings from sonnets in iambic pentameter, to limericks, acrostics, and villanelles, *It's Time to Rhyme* is the perfect introduction to the joys of poetry for readers of all ages. Using ingenious examples, Shobha Tharoor Srinivasan explains the fun world of verse while inviting children to use their creativity and write their own poems. Whether you're a young reader interested in knowing how poetry works, a parent looking for an entertaining way to explore the form with your children, or a teacher looking for a unique text to introduce students to the basics of verse, *It's Time to Rhyme* is the essential book for young rhymesters and wordsmiths to learn about the enthralling universe of poetry.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Shobha Tharoor Srinivasan is a children's author, poet, editor, and voice-over talent. She is also a former non-profit development professional who spent two decades as an advocate and fundraiser for persons with disabilities. Shobha has recorded voice work for documentaries, educational programmes, journalistic initiatives, and audio books. She has published and translated children's books in India and the United States, including *A Pie Surprise and Other Stories*, the award-winning *Indi-Alphabet*, and *How Many Lines in a Limerick?*. Shobha's work has been anthologized by Tulika Books, Solstice, and *Skipping Stones*. Essays and reviews have appeared in publications including *India Currents*, *Bizworld*, and *Scroll.in*. Her most recent book *Prince With a Paintbrush: The Story of Raja Ravi Varma*, was a 2021 *BTB Wordsmiths of the Year* 'Best Book'. Shobha loves words because they make her heart and voice sing. You can learn more at [www.shobhatharoorssrinivasan.com](http://www.shobhatharoorssrinivasan.com)



## ABOUT THE BOOK

*Miracle at Happy Bazaar* is the biggest and best book of children's tales by Ruskin Bond yet published.

Personally selected by the author, these fifty stories are the finest of the several hundred tales spun by India's favourite children's author in a career spanning several decades. They include gems that have never been published before like 'Miracle at Happy Bazaar', 'Chocolates at Midnight', 'Life is Sweet, Brother', and 'The Old Suitcase' as well as classics that have delighted generations such as 'The Blue Umbrella', 'Angry River', 'Panther's Moon', 'The Room of Many Colours', and 'The Cherry Tree'. Illustrated throughout, this is Ruskin Bond's ultimate book for young readers.

Ruskin Bond has been writing children's fiction for over sixty years. His books have been part of the childhood of millions of Indians. The stories in this book show us why he is cherished by all those who love great storytelling. Many of these tales are filled with the author's special brand of gentle humour. Others are rip-roaring adventure yarns. There are accounts of ghosts to give you a fright and mysteries and thrillers to keep you awake at night. Animals are a favourite theme and this collection is full of tigers, panthers, crocodiles, pythons, monkeys, bears, elephants, ostriches, and even a cassowary. There are tales of mischief, and others of magic, those with romance in them, many that speak of the joy and innocence of childhood, several that evoke the calm and peace of the hills, and much, much more.

Playful, entertaining, magical, funny, and gripping, by turn, the stories in *Miracle at Happy Bazaar* will be adored by readers of all ages.



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

RUSKIN BOND is the author of several bestselling novels and collections of short stories, essays, and poems. These include: *The Room on the Roof* (winner of the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize); *A Flight of Pigeons*; *The Night Train at Deoli*; *Time Stops at Shamli*; *Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra* (winner of the Sahitya Akademi Award); *Angry River*; *The Blue Umbrella*; *Delhi is Not Far*; *Rain in the Mountains*; *Tigers for Dinner*; *Tales of Fosterganj*; *A Gathering of Friends*; *Upon An Old Wall*

*Dreaming*, *Small Towns*, *Big Stories*; *Unhurried Tales*; *A Gallery of Rascals*; and *Rhododendrons in the Mist*.

For further information, please contact:

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