



SPIRIT NIGHTS

EASTERINE KIRE

US PUB: OCT 3RD 2023 | PAPERBACK | 180pp
£9.99 / \$17.99 | ISBN: 9781909954540 | 7.8 X 5.0in
GENRE: WORLD LITERATURE, INDIGENOUS
Also available in Ebook

A compelling fable from an award-winning indigenous writer from Nagaland, Northeast India.

A tiger has eaten the sun, plunging Tola's village into perpetual night time. Her people are confined to their homes, frightened and isolated. A terrible taboo has been violated to cause this disaster. But the wise elder has dreamed of this day, and her grandson Namu is eager to help. Only through journeying into unknown spirit realms, and acting with wisdom and courage, can they get the light back.

Easterine Kire is the first Nagaland novelist to write in English, and draws on real Naga tribal stories for this novel. *Spirit Nights* includes an essay about these 'Dark Time Accounts' and additional informative notes. This is an exciting debut in the US and Canada.

"I harvested community memory of the Naga tribes in their remote village homes to gather the tales that fuel this novel. These stories reflect their spiritual world and while some might think of the stories as fantasy or magical, for the villagers, and for me, they are our reality. From them, I have learned about trusting my own power as a woman, and how a storm of forces are at work behind the observed world of our everyday lives. In Nagaland, we live our lives in great intimacy with the natural world and I hope this novel helps return western readers to such a place of awe for nature." – a note from the author, Easterine Kire

Key Points

- A celebrated Indian novel: Winner of the FICCI Book of the Year 2023 (Fiction) and longlisted for the JCB Prize for Literature
- Empowers women readers. The true shamanic power lies in a female elder, who wins full status in her community when men fail in the role.
- A compelling title for the Body / Mind / Spirit market. The novel explores rich Nagaland folklore and spirituality; they are central to *Spirit Nights* and real to the author.
- Brings diversity in a fabulous read to any bookstore's list. From Nagaland, Easterine Kire is a celebrated Indian voice new to the USA who writes from India's heartland.
- "This quietly irrepressible one-woman cultural renaissance has pioneered, nurtured, led and exemplified the modern literary culture of Nagaland." - Vivek Menezes, *Scroll*



About the Author

Easterine Kire, poet, short story writer and novelist, was born in Kohima, Nagaland. In 1982, she was the first Naga poet in to have her poetry published in English. Her novel, *Bitter Wormwood* was shortlisted for the Hindu Lit for Life prize in 2013 and in the same year, she received the Free Voice Award from Barcelona. In 2016, her novel, *When the River Sleeps* was awarded The Hindu Lit for Life prize.

Easterine Kire holds a PhD in English Literature from Poona University. She performs poetry, delivers lectures on culture and literature, and holds writing workshops in schools and colleges.

