

Aamer Hussein

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Aamer Hussein was born in Karachi on the 8th of April, 1955. He lived there until 1968, then studied for a year and half in the Blue Mountains in India, and moved to London in 1970. He graduated from SOAS (London University) with a degree in Urdu, Persian and History, and later briefly worked as a researcher for films and television before beginning to write full-time in the mid-eighties.

His early stories appeared in *Critical Quarterly* and *Artrage*, and anthologies including *Colours of a New Day* (Penguin), *God* (Serpent's Tail) and *Border Lines* (Serpent's Tail) before being collected in his first volume, *Mirror to the Sun*. He has since published written three more collections: *This Other Salt*, *Turquoise* and *Insomnia*. A volume of selected stories, *Cactus Town*, was published in Pakistan by OUP. He is also the editor *Kahani: Short Stories by Pakistani Women*. His stories have been widely anthologised.

His reviews, articles and essays have appeared in a number of publications, including *Third World Quarterly*, *Literary Review*, *Wasafiri*, *The New Statesman*, the *TLS*, the *Annual of Urdu Studies* and *Moving Worlds*. He now reviews fiction regularly for the *Independent*.

Since the early 90s, Aamer Hussein has divided his time between writing and teaching. He is currently a lecturer at the Institute of English Studies at the University of London and teaches Creative Writing in the English Department of Southampton University.

In 2004, he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

He has recently completed a novella, *Another Gulmohar Tree*, which will be published by Telegram Books in May 2009.

He lives in Maida Vale, London.