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**A new organ trafficking Medical Fiction illuminates gray area between right and wrong**

*A kidney is taken from a poor Indian villager while a desperate American needs a life-saving transplant*

Los Angeles, CA, January 3, 2017 – Twelve-year-old Juhi Gupta loves her simple life in a remote Indian village. She and her mother and father might be poor, but they're happy. Then one day, everything changes.

Her father heads to the doctor for a simple procedure—the removal of a rotten tooth—but instead, his kidney is stolen and sold on the black market. Juhi and her parents are kidnapped and dropped in a New Delhi slum. Separated from her parents, Juhi must quickly learn to survive. Luckily, she has a rare skill that's greatly in demand, especially in the slums: she knows how to read and write. At first, her quick wits allow her to thrive, but soon they attract unwanted attention, and she's faced with impossible decisions and desperate choices. Meanwhile, in the United States, Kevin Whitman is dying of kidney failure. No American doctor can help him, so he ventures to India for treatment. Kevin suspects the kidney he purchased might be stolen, but his desire to live overshadows his conscience.

How far would you go to survive?

"Sometimes the line between right and wrong is blurry," said author Mamta Jain Valderrama. "I wanted to write a story about good people who make (or are forced to make) bad decisions. What followed was a suspenseful, heart-wrenching, coming of age story about a young Indian girl and an American man who both do what they must to survive. I want my readers to think about and question the medical ethics involved in organ trafficking, and the social justice issues that surround human trafficking, in general."

Valderrama is no stranger to kidney transplants. She was an operations manager and a strategist for one of the largest dialysis companies in the United States. Prior to that, while earning an MBA at University of Southern California, Valderrama wrote an award-winning business plan on medical tourism—when Americans travel abroad for life-saving surgeries at a fraction of the U.S. cost. It was in the research for that business plan that Valderrama learned about organ trafficking, and its large footprint in her parents' native country, India. Valderrama has visited the locations throughout India that are vividly described in her debut novel. The author is attracted to social justice issues, and seeks opportunities to engage readers in topics

where right and wrong isn't always black and white. (Majavii Press; January, 2017; ISBN 9-780692-788882; \$15.95; available at <http://amzn.to/2hNETRR> or by calling 202.607.5246 or emailing [Mamta@MamtaJainValderrama.com](mailto:Mamta@MamtaJainValderrama.com)).

Start your 2017 reading list with *A Girl In Traffick*, and read the first chapter at [www.mamtajainvalderrama.com/mediapress](http://www.mamtajainvalderrama.com/mediapress).

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#### About the Author:

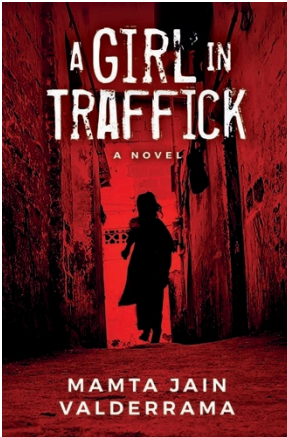


Mamta Jain Valderrama is a writer, mom, and entrepreneur. Formerly a healthcare strategist, she learned about the difficulties involved in kidney transplants and the daily suffering of those living on dialysis. These important social-justice issues inspired her to write *A Girl in Traffick*.

Valderrama graduated from George Washington University with a bachelor's degree in journalism. After working as a reporter, she went on to receive her MBA from the University of Southern California, where she wrote an award-winning business plan centered on medical tourism. As a first-generation Indian American, she has visited many of the beautiful and intriguing places she describes in her novel, both in the United States and India. She now resides in Los Angeles with her husband and daughter.

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### About the Book:



Juhi Gupta is only twelve years old when she finds herself abandoned in the slums of New Delhi after her father's kidney is stolen and sold on the black market. She must fight every day to survive. She is dragged into a dark, dangerous, and gruesome criminal operation, and she's forced to make impossible choices between what's right and what's required for survival. Meanwhile, in the United States, Kevin Whitman is dying. He needs a kidney transplant. No American doctor can help him, so he ventures to India for treatment. Kevin suspects the kidney he purchased might be stolen, but his desire to live overshadows his conscience. (Majavii Press; 2017; ISBN 9-780692-788882; Paperback \$15.95 or Kindle \$9.99; available at <http://amzn.to/2hNETRR> or [www.mamtajainvalderrama.com](http://www.mamtajainvalderrama.com) or by calling 202.607.5246 or emailing [mamta@mamtajainvalderrama.com](mailto:mamta@mamtajainvalderrama.com)).

### Review Copies and Media Interviews:

For a review copy of *A Girl in Traffick* or an interview with Mamta Jain Valderrama, please contact 202.607.5246 or [mamta@mamtajainvalderrama.com](mailto:mamta@mamtajainvalderrama.com). When requesting a review copy, please provide street address.

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