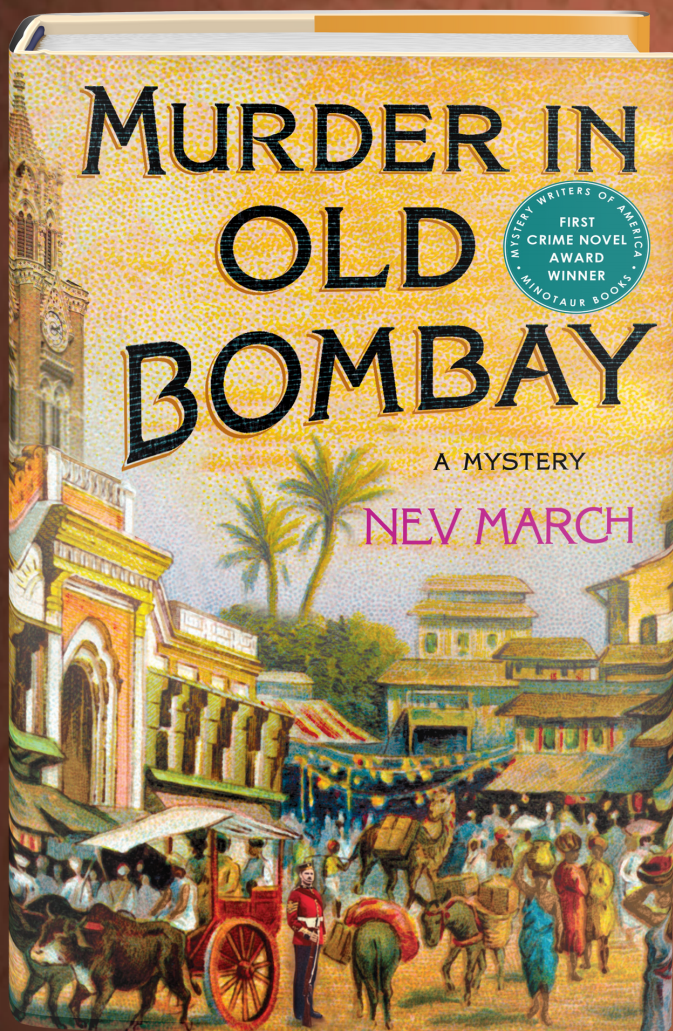


THE MINOTAUR BOOKS/MYSTERY WRITERS OF AMERICA  
FIRST CRIME NOVEL AWARD-WINNING DEBUT

A GOLDEN AGE.  
A LAND OF DIVIDED LOYALTIES.  
A MURDER IN OLD BOMBAY.



MINOTAUR BOOKS

In 1892, Bombay is the center of British India. Nearby, Captain Jim Agnihotri lies in Poona military hospital recovering from a skirmish on the wild northern frontier, with little to do but re-read the tales of his idol, Sherlock Holmes, and browse the daily papers. The case that catches Captain Jim's attention is being called the crime of the century: Two women fell from the busy university's clock tower in broad daylight. Moved by Adi, the widower of one of the victims—his certainty that his wife and sister did not commit suicide—Captain Jim approaches the Parsee family and is hired to investigate what happened that terrible afternoon.

But in a land of divided loyalties, asking questions is dangerous. Captain Jim's investigation disturbs the shadows that seem to follow the Framji family and triggers an ominous chain of events. And when lively Lady Diana Framji joins the hunt for her sisters' attackers, Captain Jim's heart isn't safe, either.

Based on a true story, and set against the vibrant backdrop of colonial India, Nev March's Minotaur Books/Mystery Writers of America First Crime Novel Award-winning lyrical debut brings this tumultuous historical age to life.

AVAILABLE WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD  
NOVEMBER 10, 2020

## Nev March

Author, *Murder in Old Bombay*



[Nevmarch.com](http://Nevmarch.com)

Author Nev March is the recipient of the Minotaur Books/Mystery Writers of America Award for Best First Crime Fiction with her debut novel, *Murder in Old Bombay*.

Always in the middle of reading one fiction and one non-fiction book, she started writing in her teens, inspired by writers like Arthur Conan-Doyle, Rudyard Kipling, Mary Stewart and Neville Shute. In 2015, after a long career in business analysis, she returned to her passion of writing fiction and now teaches creative writing at Rutgers-Osher Institute. A Parsee Zoroastrian herself, Nev immigrated from India 30 years ago and lives in New Jersey with her husband and two sons.

She has appeared in radio and podcast interviews including NPR. Her writing has been featured in Mystery Tribune, Mystery Scene Magazine, CrimeReads, BookPage, DearReader, The History Reader and other publications. *Murder in Old Bombay* was selected as Amazon's Editor's Pick for November Mysteries. Her book is available in hard-cover, kindle and Audiobook on [Amazon](http://Amazon).

Visit her website at [NevMarch.com](http://NevMarch.com)

Connect on Social Media: [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com) | [Twitter](https://twitter.com) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)

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PUBLICATION DATE  
November 10, 2020

Hector DeJean, Minotaur Books  
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**Terrific praise for *Murder in Old Bombay* by Nev March:**

“Bravo to Nev March for capturing late 19th century Indian history so beautifully in *Murder in Old Bombay*. Compelling characters, striking settings and the intricacies of social stratification shine in this talented author’s hands. I eagerly await more historic Bombay adventures narrated by sharp-eyed, open-hearted Jim Agnihotri.” — **Sujata Massey**

“March fills the story with finely developed characters, particularly Agnihotri, who proves a zealous investigator. She also presents an authentic view of India under British rule while exploring the challenges faced by a character of mixed race. The heartfelt ending leaves plenty of room for a sequel.” — ***Publishers Weekly***

“Based on true events, March’s crisply written debut combines fascinating historic details with a clever puzzle.” — ***Kirkus Reviews***

# MURDER IN OLD BOMBAY

*A Mystery*

## by Nev March

Nev March won the Mystery Writers of America/Minotaur Books First Novel Award with *MURDER IN OLD BOMBAY*, a grand and amazing tale of a British Raj-era veteran faced with a score of mysteries—about his society, his nation, and himself—leading him into a fraught and painful search for answers.

Captain Jim Agnihotri, an officer of mixed Indian and British parentage, leaves the army after barely surviving a massacre in Afghanistan; the year is 1891, and Jim, in need of a new start but still seeking facts that will give him closure on his own trauma, hears of the strange deaths of two Parsi women in Bombay, who either fell or were thrown from a clock tower. Jim introduces himself to Adi Framji, the cousin of one woman and the widower of the other, and promises to find out who could have done this. In the process, he becomes a member of Adi’s household, enjoying the hospitality of Adi’s parents, and the attention of his beautiful sister Diana.

Jim’s discoveries about the death of the women point to dangerous revelations about another Indian family ruling a principality where the reach of the British Raj does not extend, and his relationship with Diana becomes dangerous as well. Jim’s quest for the truth will take him from luxurious galas to dirt roads choked with refugees, and from Bombay’s busy docks to India’s mountains, where the British army calls upon him for one last mission.

— OVER —

An astounding novel rich with intrigue, romance, and momentous history, ***MURDER IN OLD BOMBAY*** presents to readers the award-winning talent of a fresh new author, one that they'll want to see again.

Born in Mumbai herself to a Parsi (Zoroastrian) family, **Nev March** has worked as a data scientist and written numerous short stories. She lives in New Jersey with her husband and sons.

**MURDER IN OLD BOMBAY**

**By Nev March**

**Minotaur Books**

**Hardcover**

**ISBN: 978-1-250-26954-6**

**On Sale: November 10, 2020**

**\$26.99 US**



## **Press Coverage (Publications, Interviews, Articles)**

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### ***New Jersey Hills: Hunterdon Review***

- [Raritan Township writer wins Mystery Writers of America prize](#) (May 15, 2019)

#### ***Publishers Weekly***

- [Murder in Old Bombay](#) (Jul. 15, 2020)

#### ***Kirkus Reviews***

- [Murder in Old Bombay](#) (Aug. 19, 2020)

#### ***Mystery and Suspense Magazine***

- [Review: Murder in Old Bombay](#) (Oct. 7, 2020)

#### ***BookPage***

- [Whodunit: November 2020](#) (Oct. 7, 2020)

#### ***Indo American News***

- [Mystery Murder Story Set in Colonial Bombay](#) (Oct. 19, 2020)

#### ***India Currents***

- [Murder in Old Bombay: A True Story](#) (Oct. 26, 2020)

#### ***Amazon***

- [Editor's Picks: Best Mystery, Thriller & Suspense](#) (Nov. 2, 2020)

#### ***POPSUGAR***

- [Every Captivating Thriller and Mystery You'll Want to Read in November](#) (Nov. 1, 2020)

### ***DesiNews (Online & E-Magazine)***

- [A Novel Approach](#) (November 2020 Issue)
- [Murder in Old Bombay by Nev March, Minoteur Books](#) (November 2020 Issue)
- [Old Bombay Comes to Life](#) (November 2020)

### ***LibraryReads***

- [Macmillan Library Marketing: Book Buzz From Home - 07:00](#) (Apr. 27, 2020)
- [MURDER IN OLD BOMBAY is a November LibraryReads Pick!](#) (Oct. 15, 2020)
- [November 2020 - The top ten books published this month that library staff across the country love](#) (Nov. 1, 2020)

### ***Historical Novel Society – Issue 94 (Online/Print)***

- [Murder in Old Bombay: A Mystery](#) (Nov. 2020 Issue)

### ***Shelf Awareness***

- [Review: Murder in Old Bombay](#) (Nov. 3, 2020)

### ***We Are Bookish***

- [November's Most Anticipated Books](#) (Nov. 9, 2020)

### ***GoodReads (E-Newsletter)***

- Noteworthy Novels of November (November 2020 Issue)

### ***Avalon Free Public Library***

- [Best New Books: Week of 11/10/2020](#) (Nov. 10, 2020)

### ***Jersey's Best***

- [What Fran's Reading: N.J. author's award-winning debut is a Sherlock Holmes-style Mystery](#) (Nov. 12, 2020)

### ***Booktrib***

- [Is it Suicide or “Murder in Old Bombay”?](#) (Nov. 10, 2020)

### ***Crime Reads***

- [5 Debut Novels You Should Read This November](#) (Nov. 20, 2020)
- [The Best Traditional Mysteries of 2020](#) (Dec 23, 2020)

### ***Aunt Agatha’s***

- [Top 10 List 2020 - plus extras!](#) (Nov. 21, 2020)

### ***Writer’s Digest***

- [Nev March: Taking a Leap of Faith to Write an Award-Winning Historical Mystery Novel](#) (Nov. 11, 2020)

### ***Mystery Tribune***

- [14 Best Crime Mystery and Thriller Books of November 2020](#) (Nov. 2020)

### ***Federation of Zoroastrian Associations of North America (FEZANA)***

- [Book Awareness - December 2020](#) (Nov. 30, 2020)

### ***Sun Sentinel***

- [‘Murder in Old Bombay’ a promising start for debut novelist](#) (Dec 23, 2020)

### ***You Read It Here First***

- Q&A [Murder in Old Bombay](#) (Dec 21, 2020)

## **INTERVIEWS**

### ***WGVU News: National Public Radio (NPR)***

- [Murder in Old Bombay](#) (Sept. 4, 2020)

### ***ZAMWI***

- [Zoom Call \(Recorded\)](#) (Sept. 21, 2020)

### ***FEZANA***

- [Book Chat with Award-Winning Parsi Authors – Thrity Umrigar and Nawaz Merchant: The FEZANA Talks #10](#) (Oct. 1, 2020)

### ***Author Groupie***

- [Author Groupie D. M. Barr's interview with Nev March](#) (Oct. 27, 2020)

### ***WYSO-FM: NPR***

- [Book Nook: Murder in Old Bombay by Nev March](#) (Oct. 28, 2020)

### ***Poisoned Pen***

- [Nev March and Sujata Massey in Conversation](#) (Nov. 12, 2020)

### ***Hunterdon County Library***

- [Author Nev March with Jennifer Winberry](#) - Password: uJVxfud3 (Nov. 18, 2020)

### ***Murder by the Book (Facebook)***

- [Nev March, Susan Cox and Joanna Schaffausen Live on Facebook](#) (Nov. 23, 2020)

### ***Raven Book Store (Crowdcast)***



- [Award-Winning Crime Fiction: Susan Cox in Conversation with Joanna Schaffausen, moderated by Nev March](#) (Nov. 24, 2020)

### ***Virginia Festival of the Book***

- [Shelf Life: Intercontinental Affairs with Jasmine Aimaq and Nev March](#) (Dec. 3, 2020)

### ***Mystery Writers of America NY***

- [KGB Readings](#) (Dec 8, 2020)

### ***Indo-American Arts Council (Facebook)***

- [IAAC Literary Festival: Nev March - Author](#) (Dec 8, 2020)

### ***Speaking of Mysteries (Podcast)***

- [Episode 207: Nev March](#) (Dec. 14, 2020)

## **ARTICLES BY NEV MARCH**

### ***Crime Reads***

- [Was Uncle Dino a Murderer?](#) (Aug. 12, 2020)

### ***Mystery Tribune***

- [Elmore Leonard's Unknown Man #89](#) (Aug. 26, 2020)

### ***Criminal Element***

- [A Hundred-Year-Old Unsolved Crime Inspires a Crime Novel and a Personal Journey](#) (Sept. 9, 2020)

### ***The South Asian Times***

- [Writing this historical mystery mined my memories of India](#) (Sept. 14, 2020)

### ***Dear Reader***

- My First Flight (Oct. 15, 2020)

### ***BookPage***

- [Behind the Book - Murder in Old Bombay by Nev March](#) (Nov. 10, 2020)

### ***The History Reader***

- [Indian Maharajas and their American Counterparts: Heroes or Villains?](#) (Nov. 12, 2020)

### ***Quick and Dirty Tips***

- [Learning to Name Characters from Dickens](#) (Nov. 13, 2020)

### ***Writer's Digest***

- [Why I write Mysteries](#) (Nov 25, 2020)

### ***Jungle Red Writers***

- [The Women of MURDER IN OLD BOMBAY; a guest post by Nev March](#) (Dec. 1, 2020)

### ***Novel Suspects***

- [Keeping it Fresh](#) with Mystery Suspense Author Nev March (Dec 10, 2020)

## **Testimonials**

*“Based on true events, March’s crisply written debut combines fascinating historic details with a clever puzzle.”*

— **Kirkus Reviews**

*“March fills the story with finely developed characters, particularly Agnihotri, who proves a zealous investigator. She also presents an authentic view of India under British rule while exploring the challenges faced by a character of mixed race. The heartfelt ending leaves plenty of room for a sequel. Readers won’t be surprised this won the Minotaur Books/Mystery Writers of America First Crime Novel Award.”*

— **Publishers Weekly**

*"Bravo to Nev March for capturing late 19th century Indian history so beautifully in Murder in Old Bombay. Compelling characters, striking settings and the intricacies of social stratification shine in this talented author’s hands. I eagerly await more historic Bombay adventures narrated by sharp-eyed, open-hearted Jim Agnihotri."*

— **Sujata Massey**

*“This award-winning lyrical narrative is a delightful multilayered treat.”*

— **India Currents**

*“An insightful account of life in India on the cusp of the 20th century. Highly recommended.”*

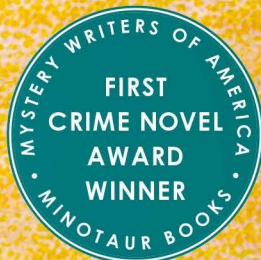
— **Historical Novel Society**

*“March has created a likable, honorable sleuth whose humble origins and instinctive kindness make spending time with him a pleasure.”*

— **Infinite Reads’ Shelf Awareness**

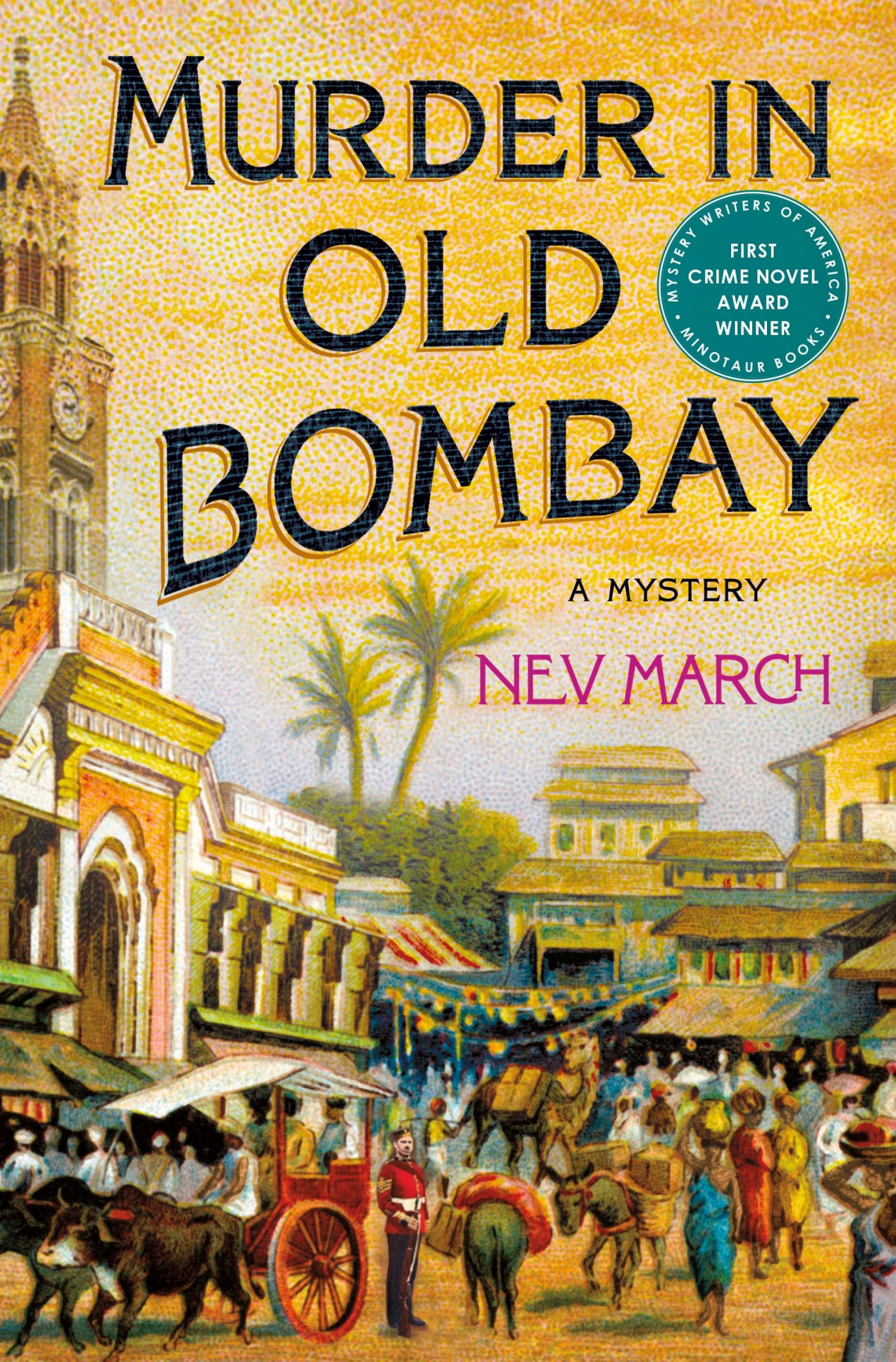


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