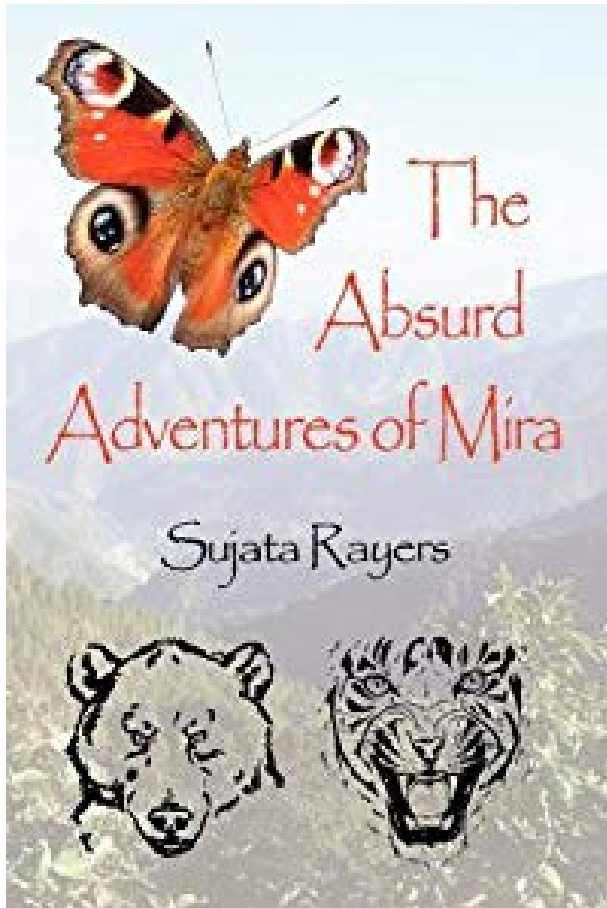


The Absurd Adventures of Mira



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When Mira, a 250-pound swarthy Asian Indian, fantasizing herself as sparkly blue-eyed actress Cameron Diaz, is raped by a radical Black Muslim Panther at a public high school "Woodstock" dance, her conservative Hindu father refuses to acknowledge the rape for fear she will be "spoiled fruit." Instead of addressing the problem, her school counselor argues the issue of the Kashmir war with Mira's father.

Mira's father emphatically states Kashmir is the land of shimmering lakes and houseboats, the land of the Hindus, whereas the level-headed counselor feels it should be fairly divided between the Hindus and Muslims. Disillusioned and caught up in her absurd world, Mira, who has been repeatedly failing in school resorts to eating and sleeping while her sister Devi (meaning Goddess) is a beautiful go-getter in medical school. Managing to graduate, Mira works as a cashier for a going-out-of-business grocery store, where she meets handsome, Jheri-curled Andy, the African American manager of the store. The two "picnic" at the empty cash register counter on "soul" food and form a bond. On Andy's request, Mira decides to move in with him. Embracing her new found freedom, she encounters a hilarious caste of characters from a Julio Iglesias look-alike to Alice, her eventual room-mate, a speech therapist who whistles "happy tunes" and whose clients continue to stutter but learn to whistle happy tunes.