



Will AI Kill Books, or Are Women the Secret Weapon?

In 2025, whilst artificial intelligence threatens to revolutionise every industry, there's one demographic quietly ensuring the survival of literature. What if I told you that the future of books doesn't depend on technology, but on a group that makes up the majority of readers worldwide?

Today, we'll explore how women are not just reading books—they're writing them, selling them, and creating the entire ecosystem that keeps literature alive in the digital age.



What Happens When Half the Population Stops Reading?

30

Free Books Given Away

In Ian McEwan's London park experiment, nearly all takers were women

100%

Market Collapse Risk

If women stopped reading, the book market would collapse overnight

2007

Research Evidence

Eric Weiner's study confirmed women read significantly more than men

The data is startling: when British author Ian McEwan handed out free books in a London park, women were "eager and grateful" whilst men "frowned in suspicion or distaste." His conclusion? "When women stop reading, the novel will be dead."

Are Indian Women Writers Finally Getting Their Due Recognition?

Banu Mushtaq & Deepa Bhashti

International Booker Winners 2025

"Heart Lamp" – Stories of Muslim women in Karnataka, earthy and honest narratives that have reached thousands of Indian readers

Kiran Desai

20-Year Literary Journey

"The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny" – Booker shortlisted after two decades of meticulous crafting, exploring modern love and diaspora

Anita Desai

Literary Legend at 88

"Rosarita" made Obama's 2025 summer reading list – a gem about independence and art in Mexico

2025 has turned the spotlight on exceptional Indian women writers. From Karnataka's intimate stories to New York's polished narratives, these women are reshaping global literature.



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Personal Mentorship Program



What Does It Take to Write for 20 Years Without Giving Up?

"Every morning I go straight to my desk. I think of it as a spiritual discipline, a code of austerity that I keep so that I can work well. Every single day I work like an ant or a bee or an earthworm. Just transposing one little molecule of real life into artistic life."

Kiran Desai's discipline reveals the psychology behind literary excellence. After winning the Booker Prize, she spent 20 years crafting her next novel, working "without knowing, without a vision" of the final destination.

This isn't just dedication—it's a masterclass in delayed gratification and artistic integrity. Desai's approach mirrors the patience required in our instant-gratification world.

Can a Mother's Story Become Literature's Most Honest Betrayal?

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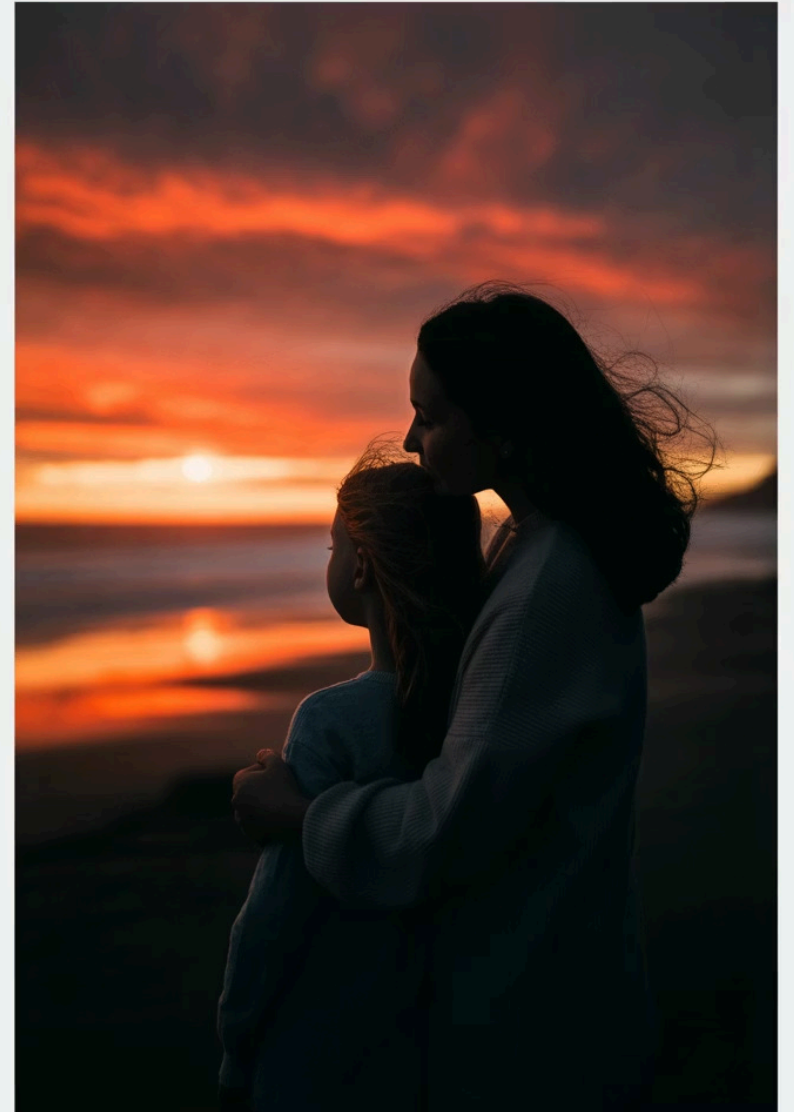
"I've thought of my own life as a footnote to the things that really matter. Never tragic, often hilarious. Perhaps what I'm about to write is a betrayal of my younger self by the person I've become."

— Arundhati Roy, "Mother Mary Comes to Me"

”

Roy's memoir tackles the uncomfortable truth about motherhood and identity. It's a riveting account of an unusual childhood and difficult parent, questioning whether women can be neatly labelled as perfect mothers or daughters.

Perhaps this raw honesty about family dynamics is what creates truly transformative writers—the courage to examine our most sacred relationships.



Who's Really Taking Books to Readers in the Age of Algorithms?



Independent Bookstores

Women across India are opening independent stores, moving away from Amazon's algorithm to provide personalised book recommendations



Community Libraries

Female entrepreneurs are establishing local libraries, creating spaces for readers young and old to discover their next magical read



Last-Mile Connection

These women are talking directly to book buyers, bridging the gap between authors and readers through human connection

Away from digital algorithms, women are creating the human infrastructure that keeps literature alive—one conversation, one recommendation at a time.



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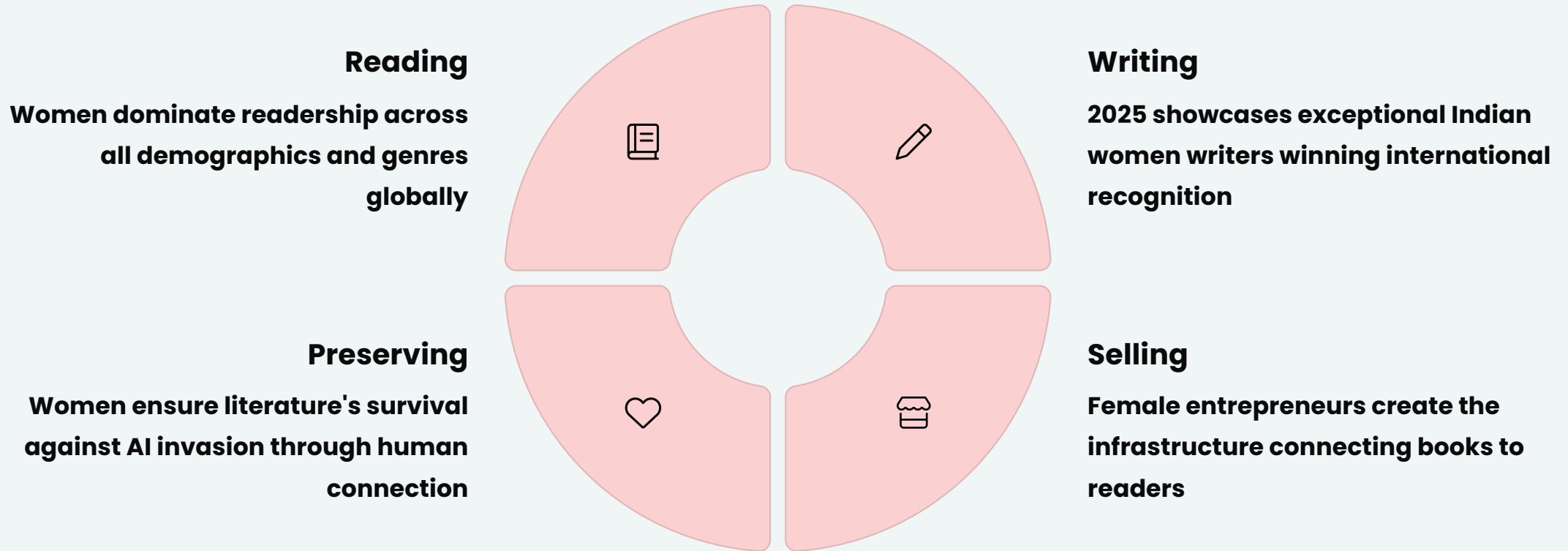
Quick Fire: Test Your Literary Knowledge!

- 1 Which Pulitzer Prize winner speaks fluent Bengali?**
Born in England, lives between Rome and New York, writes in English and Italian
- 2 What percentage of free book takers were women in McEwan's experiment?**
Hint: It was overwhelming majority in a London park
- 3 How long did Kiran Desai spend writing her latest novel?**
Clue: It's longer than most people's careers

Think you know? The answers reveal just how deeply women are embedded in every aspect of literary culture.



The Verdict: Are Women Literature's Ultimate Insurance Policy?



As the son of a primary school teacher and husband of a voracious reader, Derek O'Brien believes books will outlive AI's invasion—if their fate remains in women's hands.

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