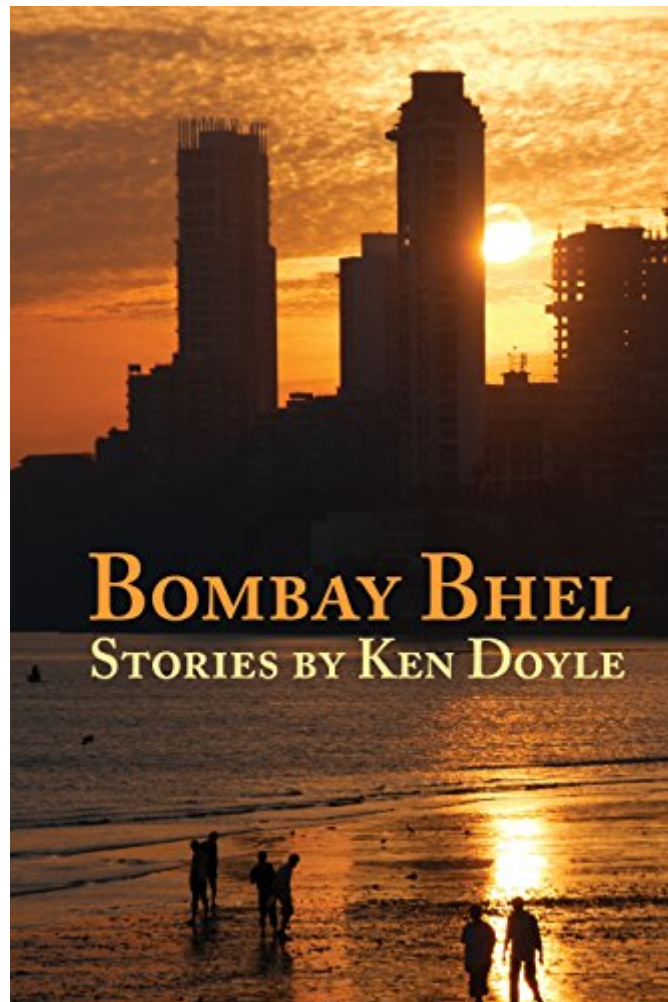


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# Bombay Bhel



## Synopsis

Like the city's ubiquitous snack food, Bombay Bhel blends a variety of ingredients to serve up glimpses of life among the Goan and Anglo-Indian communities' minorities in one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities. The interlinked stories are set in the late twentieth century, before a wave of anticolonialism crested across India and resulted in the city's rechristening. A schoolboy's loyalty to a street vendor is tested when the vendor disappears without notice. A grandmother prepares to begin a new chapter in her life. Bombay's tangled web of bureaucracy threatens the livelihood of an ex-serviceman. Each story in this debut collection offers a taste of the rhythm and verve of Bombay life.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

(I received a free copy in exchange for an honest review)I was intrigued enough with the name, but when I read the blurb, I just HAD TO ASK FOR THIS ONE!! I've always lived in Bombay, now Mumbai, since my birth and even though there is a lot to hate about this city, I STILL LOVE IT.I started reading into the stories, small and simple. I enjoyed Ken's different anecdotes and small

stories. What it made me realise was that Bombay was a total potpourri and that makes the title of the book more perfect, Bombay Bhel. The Book is a mix of stories about different people in Mumbai. When one talks about Mumbai, there isn't one particular topic or a direction you can talk about. There are the extremely rich on one side, and there are people living off the street. There are people of different religions making different places of the city their home. There are different foods, lifestyles, cuisines, cultures that mingle here because there are just so many people who have come to call this place HOME. The stories talk about people who are oft ignored in usual stories or descriptions. Food stall vendors, middle class people struggling with their lives and wondering whether they will make it large in this city. The one point which really touched me was that the stories were not overly dramatic, yet they touched at a deeper level. The people from the stories were real people who had lives with real struggles, not some made up situation. I wouldn't exactly describe this as fiction because it encapsulates reality so well. As a Mumbaiite, I'd recommend this book to EVERYONE I know. This book provides an opportunity to a person to explore a side of Mumbai which is not often shown. Which is overshadowed in the glitz of Bollywood and the Stress of Corporate Life.

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