

Micro review: "Girls Don't Cry" is a thought-provoking saga

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HIGHLIGHTS

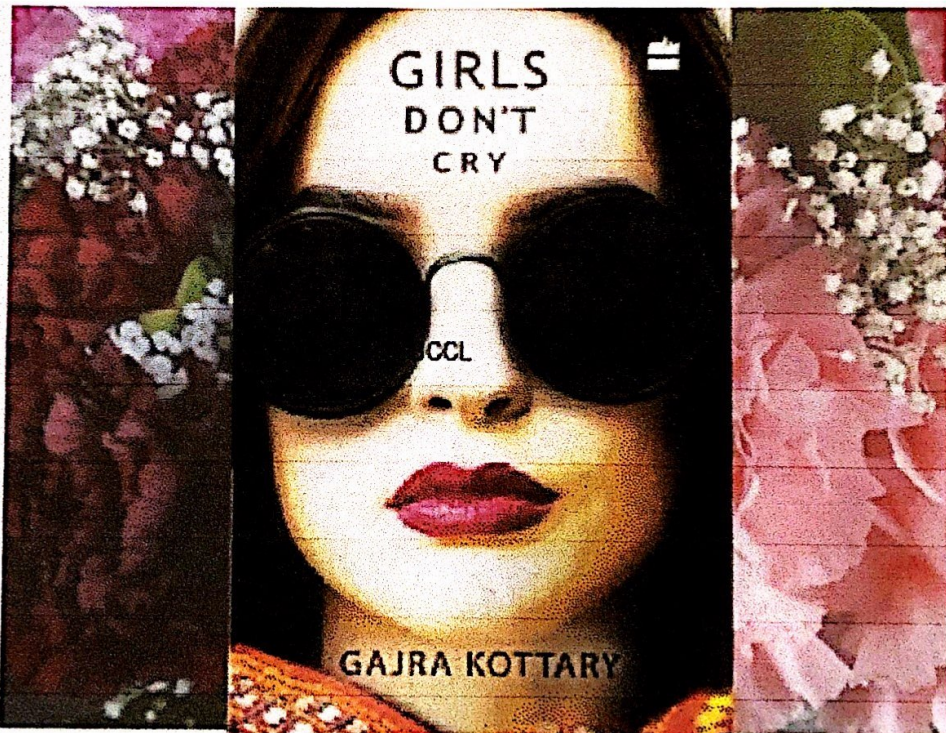
Title: Girls Don't Cry

Author: Gajra Kottary

Genre: Contemporary Fiction

Publisher: HarperCollins

Price: 229 INR



Pages: 280 (Paperback)

Gajra Kottary's book *Girls Don't Cry* is a thought-provoking saga. It portrays the vitality of eliminating irrational stereotypes and adaptation in this dynamic age. A tale woven around a middle-class family in Jalandhar, the novel brings the reader face to face with the orthodox behaviour of the general crowd that often justifies heinous acts like honor-killing and female foeticide. Kothary's work blends the modern with the traditional while walking on the path of righteousness.

En route to their dreams and liberty, three generations of women course a stressful journey through the rigid patriarchal world, each vulnerable in her sensitivity yet strengthened by her willpower. It begins with Amala, a young and ambitious advertising professional who is living and changing to keep in stride her big-city aspirations and small-town upbringing. Her grandfather's sudden demise compels her to enter into a sojourn of deep understanding, as life lays bare the hidden secrets of her dear ones, pushing her to reassess her relationships. The book reveals the magnitude of grit and emotional strength that both Amala's grandmother and mother have displayed during tragic adversities. Not all that is meant is said, some ideas are subtly planted to compel thought.

Each page, each character, has a story to tell. From male dominance to stale mindsets, the book instils the belief that the journey we take is forged by the decisions we make. Amidst all the mess, Gajra has beautifully knitted a sacred setting for motherly love. It reinforces one's trust in the miraculous power of forgiveness and love. It has a promise to make a reader laugh and cry simultaneously.

How critics view the book

Author Ruchita Mishra writes, "unputdownable- it's a novel about truly brave women."

Kirron Kher writes about the book, "Gajra Kottary weaves a riveting tale of how at heart, the dreams, hopes and aspirations across three generations of women in a family remain constant".