



THIS BELONGS TO
R. L. KANTHI

Interpreter of Maladies
The Namesake
Unaccustomed Earth
The Lowland

THE FICTION OF
Jhumpa Lahiri

A Critical Response

Edited by

SUMAN BALA

**Jhumpa Lahiri's *Unaccustomed Earth*:
A True Panacea for Multicultural and
Global Inhabitants**

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Lahiri is an award-winning author and has achieved a quick international success. All her works deal with the themes of cultural identities and the nostalgia of the characters for homeland and the problems they face while living in America. In her works, she depicts the lives of Indians in exile, of people navigating between ethnic culture and tradition they have inherited and a baffling new world they must encounter everyday without any bias. Her themes include physical and emotional displacement, assimilation, loneliness, rootlessness, linguistic barriers, failed relationships, marital difficulties and misunderstandings. With a remarkable insight, she delves deep into the psychological depths of her characters and reveals their inner world. We realize that in their emotional displacement, the border between home and world becomes confused. In an article 'My Two Lives' published in *Newsweek*, Lahiri admits that when her parents die, she will lose her connection to India: "Everything will change once they die. They will take certain things with them—conversations in another tongue, and perceptions about the difficulties of being foreign. Without them, the back-and-forth life my family leads, both literally and figuratively, will at last approach stillness. An anchor will drop, and a line of connection will be severed."