

Black Country Creatives - Kuli Kohli

NEW POETRY

ANTHOLOGY

'A WONDER WOMAN'

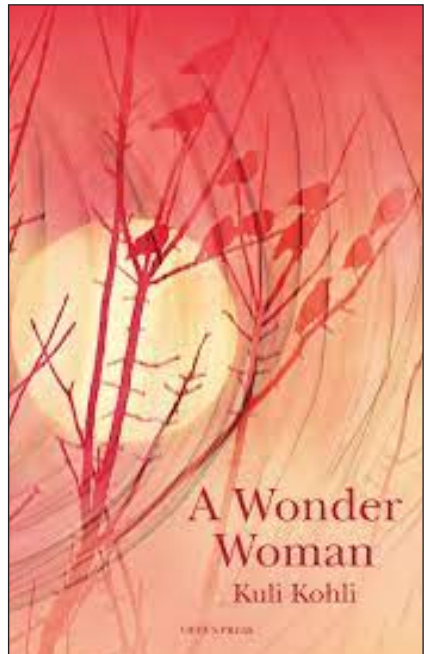
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Reviewed by Kerry Hadley-Pryce



I first met Kuli Kohli maybe five years ago – possibly more. I was invited to read some of my work by Offa's Press' Simon Fletcher in the bygone days when we were allowed to meet, in person, and have an actual chat, and a drink, in a room full of people – the good old days. Kuli was there. At the time, she was building up a base of keen followers, and had written, she told me, a novel based on her life, she was also, she said, writing some poetry. She's come a long way since then.

Colin Hambrook (Disability Arts Online Editor, Poet and Artist) refers to her as a '“wobbly” poet of Asian heritage' and he mentions that she writes poetry that 'speaks of resilience, rising above the discrimination faced by a working class Punjabi family arriving in Britain in 1973'. And I agree. Kuli's poetry has a warmth and a joy to it, it reflects her resilience and determination, it's thought-provoking and clever, too. Kuli's is the kind of poetry that transports the reader into the Punjab, and on bus rides through her Black Country, and on, through the green borderlands. She writes of history and humanity. More than that, she writes compellingly. Debjani Chatterjee, MBE, says her poems are 'survivor's poems' but I'd say they're much, much more than that – they're inspirational.



You can find out more about Kuli Kohli at:

www.kulikohli.co.uk

and you can buy her anthology at:

www.offaspress.co.uk