



# She

*Shireen Jeejeebhoy*

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**She** Shireen Jeejeebhoy

**\*\*Finalist for the 2012 The Word Guild Awards, Novel -- Futuristic Category\*\***

An entity from nothing space and time, Akaesman lurks in his dominion, waiting, watching through his peephole into our world for the right prey. And when he spots a good one, he forces himself into our space and time, evading the Akaesman patrol, invading his chosen one. He spreads his evil to everyone, one by one, male and female, changing them forever into his image. But the young songwriter and her fiancé, enjoying the end of their road trip, have never heard of Akaesman.

On the eve of the summer solstice, they fly home to Toronto down a local highway past slumbering fields, toward a thick starlight-sucking forest, oblivious of their destination: Akaesman. He comes out of a green neon wind. He smacks their car; he cracks the window; he's in her. Her songwriting career is dead. Her name is gone. When she learns of his presence, she resists him; she wrestles with him; she seeks help in her battle. Yet she loses ground. She's ready to quit. And that's when she discovers that there is more than one kind of evil...

"Put simply this is the best urban fantasy story that I have ever read period." Shane Porteous on *She*, from his Goodreads review.

"I found myself caught up in the story and carried through to the end. It's not in a genre I would normally enjoy (though to be honest, in that context it's hard to classify "*She*"), but I did enjoy it and would strongly recommend it." Andrew Fogg on *She*, from his Amazon UK review.

"I found this an unusual and interesting read. It was suspenseful right to the last page. I would recommend it to all lovers of Fantasy." Primula on *She*, from her Amazon UK review.

"Shireen's pen has all the force of a great storyteller and the artistic skills of reviving a past scene in its most original form." Ernest Dempsey on Shireen Jeejeebhoy's award-winning biography *Lifeline: The Judy Taylor Story*

"If you want a book you can't put down, get *Lifeline* into your hands..." Gloria Oren on Shireen Jeejeebhoy's award-winning biography *Lifeline: The Judy Taylor Story*

## She Details

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## **From Reader Review She for online ebook**

### **Bodicia says**

This book is interesting for two reasons; not only is it a well written fantasy book in its own right it also holds, for me, a deeper meaning. The main character has been invaded by an alien force called Akaesman and this invasion causes the character to change radically; emotionally and physically. The deeper meaning is this could be the story of almost every person who has a 'hidden' disease, whether that be M.E., Fibromyalgia, Lupus or other disorders which can't be seen or understood easily by those around them.

Zarine, the 'she' in the story, is having a normal evening drive with her fiancée. On the way they encounter a force on a forest road which blows the car off course and causes Zarine to be slightly injured. Her fiancée gets control over the car again and they reach the edge of the forest where they are stopped by the Akaesman Patrol who look them over and advise Zarine to visit her GP first thing. After her encounter Zarine starts to change physically, mentally and emotionally. Her friends put this down to a lack of will, depression and laziness, mocking what they can't see or understand and telling her it's all in her mind. Zarine is bewildered but struggles on, helping herself the best way she can whilst facing professionals who tell her she is perfectly fine. Eventually she finds the help she needs and embracing faith and expressing true grit she pushes through to her conclusion.

This book follows the story of a woman who was normal one day and who gradually became unable to do the things she once took for granted. It looks at her relationship with her friends and family, the inevitable 'pull yourself together' conversations and the lack of care from some health professionals who simply don't have the answers but won't admit it. It highlights misconceptions about 'hidden' illnesses beautifully and, at one point, reduced me to tears with its realism, emotions and truthfulness.

Shirleen Jeejeebuoy has written a story people can relate to who have a relative or friend in a similar situation to the main character. Her heroine isn't there to be pitied, she is there to show there is light at the end of the tunnel and things can get better no matter what obstacles are thrown in the way or other people's ignorance. Resilience and bravery will win out.

Very inspiring!

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### **Shireen says**

It's a bit difficult to review one's own book. First one is convinced it's the worst dreck ever, then the thought creeps in that it's brilliant, but of course reality is in between. And so I am eminently unqualified to star it or rate it. But I hope you will!

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### **Louise Graham says**

SHE is written by Canadian Author Shireen Jeejeebhoy.

One fated night a young songwriter and her fiance are out driving when they collide with something

unknown and unseen to them. Through the green neon winds this thing cracks the window and invades into her being.

As they approach the Highway Patrol the word Akaesman is first mentioned on that eve of Summer Solstice.

'An entity from nothing space and time, Akaesman lurks in his dominion, waiting, watching through his peephole into our world for the right prey. And when he spots a good one, he forces himself into our space and time, evading the Akaesman patrol, invading his chosen one. He spreads his evil to everyone, one by one, male and female, changing them forever into his image'

Not only is her songwriting ability gone from this moment but also her life as she knows it.

Can anyone explain what has happened to her? Can she rid herself of it, Can she re-build her life and be herself again?

I will be honest I was reluctant to read this book at first when Shireen approached me to review it for her as fantasy is not my cup of tea. After reading it, I'm still not sure where I stand on this genre! Shireen has written a book packed full of emotion and really gets over to you the struggle that this girl is facing without the support and love of her friends around her, and boy what a struggle she has. As the story progressed, I started to lose my compassion for the lead as I wanted more from her, I wanted her to help herself more but that is the point of the whole story and the part I had difficulty in understanding. I imagine anyone who loves fantasy novels with spirits that they can't see etc would really enjoy this book. My little brain has trouble grasping anything that isn't real!!

It's a strong story that flows really well. Loved the Grandmother character and the cat Smokey was adorable!

Thank you Shireen for sending me a copy of this book and I am really glad I did read it.

You can find out more about Shireen by following her on twitter @ShireenJ or via her website <http://jeejeebhoy.ca/>

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## **Simone says**

I received a free copy of this book in exchange for my honest review. Zarine and Jim are driving home from a road trip. While Zarine was napping, to her dismay, Jim decides to come off of Highway 10 and take a back road through the forest. Zarine is suddenly filled fear and begs Jim to go back on the highway. Out of nowhere comes a neon green wind that spins their car, damages the windshield and invisibly enters Zarine. Her life is inexplicably changed. This is Zarine's journey, fighting Akaesman Syndrome.

I love the fact that someone mixed an alien invasion into a Christian Fantasy novel. This book was brilliantly written, with the good versus evil concept. Akaesman, even the description of him and his behavior tells you that this 'thing' is Satan. I enjoyed the fact that she needed to be spiritually strong to defeat him. There were a lot of parallels to Christianity, the way we think and how it assists in overcoming obstacles. I enjoyed this very much. I felt really bad for Zarine with the situation she had with her friends. The issues she had with them were realistic and so was what she was going through, her symptoms seemed close to Fibromyalgia. I loved her fighting spirit and the fact that she never gave up. All in all, a great book that teaches us to never

give up, and that when you feel alone, you're not.

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**Catrina Bradley says**

I wanted to rate this 4 1/2 stars... not quite a 5, but outstanding allegorical fiction. I'm still processing, but I hope to elaborate further at a later time. I predict I'll be thinking about "She" for a while.

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