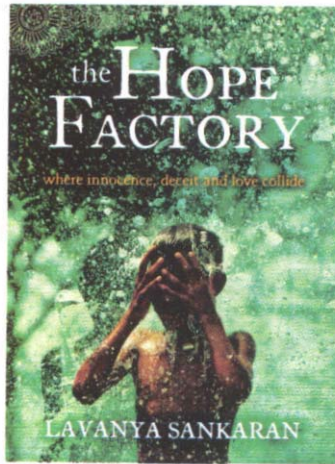


PUBLICATION: SOCIETY	
EDITION: NATIONAL	DATE: JUNE. 2013

>> BOOK

Lavanya Sankaran follows up her critically acclaimed collection of short stories, *The Red Carpet*, with *The*



Hope Factory, a novel about a successful Indian businessman, Anand Murthy—a small town boy, and the people in his universe. Sharing equal space in the book is the story of Anand's house-help, Kamala and her bright son, Narayan and an earnest family whose lives have been short-changed by fate. While Anand is battling a low-point in his marriage and the demands of expanding his business in a corrupt system, Kamala's life is precariously dependent on Anand's wife's volatile moods and the dynamics

associated with domestic chores. Sankaran explores the lives of the rich and the disenfranchised with empathy and erudition. Set in Bangalore, where Lavanya lives, the book is a well-crafted and long-awaited work from an author who you wish would write more often.