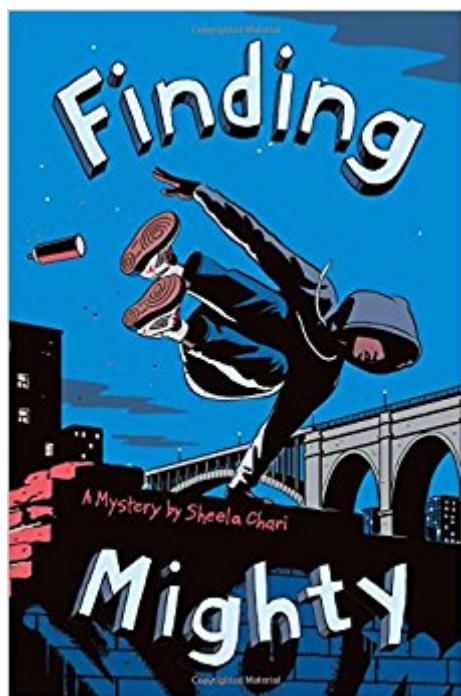


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# Finding Mighty



## Synopsis

Along the train lines north of New York City, twelve-year-old neighbors Myla and Peter search for the link between Myla's necklace and the disappearance of Peter's brother, Randall. Thrown into a world of parkour, graffiti, and diamond-smuggling, Myla and Peter encounter a band of thugs who are after the same thing as Randall. Can Myla and Peter find Randall before it's too late, and their shared family secrets threaten to destroy them all? Drawing on urban art forms and local history, *Finding Mighty* is a mystery that explores the nature of art and the unbreakable bonds of family.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Savvy readers will put the pieces together, too, although false leads and red herrings are cleverly interwoven...the rich backdrops of gritty New York City and history-laden Dobbs Ferry and is made all the more colorful by references to graffiti art and parkour." (Kirkus) "Fast-paced and intricately plotted, Chari's mystery is a rare achievement that pays off at every turn, featuring characters of color interested in their families' histories and cultures." (Booklist)

Sheela Chari is the author of the Edgar Award finalist *VANISHED*. She lives in New York with her husband and two daughters.

New York sixth grader and Indian American Myla (no one can pronounce her actual name) dreams

of being noticed. She is short, and doesn't see anything remarkable in herself. Mixed-race Peter just wants to hang out with his older brother Randall since their mother is busy (when she is not nervous about something) and their father has been dead for years. Myla buys a necklace with an Om (Sanskrit letter) on it hoping it will draw attention, and a creepy guy tries to get it back from her. Peter's brother vanishes and then their mother insists they move AGAIN. Parallel mysteries narrated by the two main characters intersect as the two meet and (slowly) learn to trust each other. What does the Om necklace have to do with the graffiti Om tags appearing around New York & suburbs? How does that tie in to Randall's disappearance? And does any of this have anything to do with Peter's father's death or the diamonds his grandmother is reported to have helped to steal? Sheela Chari's second mystery is as intriguing as her Edgar-award nominated first mystery *Vanished*. Very realistic, intelligent, urban middle-classed tween characters people (and solve) this page-turning mystery. Well worth every young mystery reader's time. (Hmm, you say, a sentence in that review sounds very familiar after a look at the book jacket...wonder why...:-)

Sheela Chari has done it again. *Finding Mighty* was a very engaging read, with plot twists and a web of events that are gradually revealed along the way. The characters are well-developed, with insights into their thoughts and motivations as they each try to figure out their piece of the puzzle and who they can trust among the other characters. I could not put it down!

A fantastic read for both boys and girls!!! *Finding Mighty* tells the story of twelve year old neighbors Myla and Peter, who search for the link between Myla's necklace and the disappearance of Peter's brother, Randall. There are lots of interesting worlds explored here, graffiti and parkour among them. It also takes place in New York City and the suburb of Dobbs Ferry, NY which might be exciting for local readers. On the search for Randall, Myla and Peter both find themselves on the edge of danger which makes this book a real page-turner, but Chari doesn't just stay on the surface. Complex and diverse characters, friendships, and family bonds are all at work here in another great mystery by Sheela Chari!

This is the first of Sheela Chari's books I've read and WOW! *FINDING MIGHTY* is a wonderful, page-turning mystery. The main characters, sixth graders Myla and Peter, are brilliantly drawn with distinct and real voices, each

working through separate challenges yet bonded by a common mission. Peter's brother, Randall, and figure out how Myla's necklace is connected. I love books I can learn from and this certainly qualifies. I was fascinated by this world of tags, parkour, yoga, and the history of a NY town which all played a part in a complex web of details necessary for these two to solve this mystery. *FINDING MIGHTY* is a beautifully written and captivating story full of grit and heart. I couldn't put it down until the very satisfying end.

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