

ENGL 273G-5: Art of Fiction
Prof. Jessica Shannon

Journal #6 Assignment:

Prompt: We learn at the beginning of the book that Ashima "never thinks of her husband's name when she thinks of her husband, even though she knows perfectly well what it is. She has adopted his surname but refuses, for propriety's sake, to utter his first. It's not the type of thing Bengali wives do. Like a kiss or caress in a Hindi movie, a husband's name is something intimate and therefore unspoken, cleverly patched over" (2).

Through Jhumpa Lahiri's analogy we learn about two aspects of Bengali culture: physical gestures in public and the relationship between a husband and a wife. Using this analogy as your point of departure, compare Bengali culture with American culture in these two ways. How, in fact, would this analogy be rewritten to reflect American culture?

Mechanics: Each journal entry should be 2-3 typed, double-spaced pages, using Times New Roman or similar font and 1-inch margins.

Due Date: Thursday, November 3, 2016

IMPORTANT: Remember, this is a reflection paper. I want to see you engaging with the material and offering responses that show how each piece of writing is personal to you. This is not a research assignment that needs supporting sources, etc. Tell me your thoughts and opinions. Use examples from the text where appropriate.