

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**DEBUT NOVEL EXPLORES  
THE ENIGMATIC WORLD OF GYPSY SPAIN**

*Lajas, Puerto Rico – November 2012* – A daring new novel is attracting attention for its up-close look into the mysterious world of the Spanish Gypsy.

Mainstream society – both in Europe and the United States – has been at odds with the Gypsies since their migration from India in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The Gypsies have lived most of their history accused of being different, non-conformists, and problematic. They have been marginalized, stereotyped, persecuted, glorified, and underappreciated. But never before have they been valued as models for a way of life that has nothing to do with flamenco, stolen car rings, drugs, and robbing unsuspecting tourists – until the book *City of Sorrows* (Azahar Books, 2012).

*City of Sorrows* is the debut literary work from author Susan Nadathur. The novel portrays a way of life that most people don't see, but can certainly benefit from. Historically wary and suspicious of outsiders, the Gypsies stick to themselves and rarely allow people from the outside in. But over the last four years, Susan Nadathur was given the unique opportunity to live with a group of Gypsies in Seville. From that experience, she penned this book.

*City of Sorrows* is an emotionally-intense story about how relationships can get complicated, and how life is not always the way we want it to be. When the prejudice of a wealthy Spaniard appears to cost the life of a young Gypsy woman, a vengeful young husband must work his way through anger and grief, without losing himself or his humanity in the process. *City of Sorrows* is a captivating novel about what we allow to control us, and the choices we must make to be free.

Susan Nadathur has become active as an advocate for Gypsies and other marginalized populations. She currently maintains a blog with research, stories and news at <http://susannadathur.com>. The author is available for interviews, book club appearances, speaking engagements and/or guest articles on the subjects of Spanish Gypsy culture, outcasts, outsiders, and writing. She resides with her family in Lajas, Puerto Rico.

**Azahar Books** is a small, independent press based in Lajas, Puerto Rico and distributed to retailers via the Ingram Book Company.

**For more information, to request a review copy, or to schedule an interview, contact:**

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## About Susan Nadathur

Susan Nadathur is a widely-traveled writer, teacher, and self-proclaimed “outsider” from Connecticut who lives on-and-off in Spain with an extended family of Gypsies in Seville. A registered nurse with a master’s degree in Spanish, Susan also teaches language and cultural diversity workshops to childbirth and healthcare professionals, and has authored several books on Spanish language acquisition and cross-cultural communication. She lives with her husband, a philosophical scientist from India, and their multicultural daughter in Lajas, Puerto Rico. *City of Sorrows* is her debut novel. Susan blogs about Gypsies and life at <http://susannadathur.com>

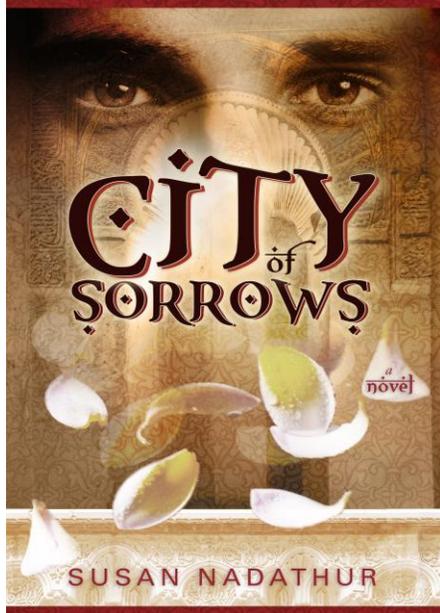
## Interview Questions

- 1) Your novel challenges the idea that Gypsies are all fortune tellers, thugs and thieves. What do you want the world to know about Spanish Gypsies?
- 2) Tell us how you ended up living with the Gypsies in Southern Spain.
- 3) Your novel raises awareness of the struggles of modern Spain in relation to the Gypsies. What do you consider the most positive aspect of modern Gypsy life in Spain? What are the struggles?
- 4) You’ve become an advocate and lay expert in issues related to Gypsies and marginalized populations. How did that interest develop?
- 5) What’s next for you as a writer? Any other projects planned or underway?

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## Azahar Books Presents for Review



**Title:** *City of Sorrows*

**Author:** Susan Nadathur

**Publisher:** Azahar Books

**Category:** Mainstream/Multicultural Fiction

**ISBN:** 978-0615604701

**Pages:** 310

**Price:** \$14.99

**Publication Date:** November 2012

### How this title is unique:

This original novel portrays a way of life that most people don't see, but often wonder about. Historically, Gypsies have been marginalized, stereotyped, persecuted, glorified, and underappreciated. But never before have they been valued as models for a way of life that has nothing to do with robbing unsuspecting tourists – until the book *City of Sorrows*.

### Book concept:

*City of Sorrows* is an emotionally-intense novel that tells the story of three men – a Spaniard, a Gypsy, and an Indian, who under normal circumstances never would have met. On a dark road outside the city of Seville, the lives of these three men collide as one man's anger leads to an unthinkable act, another's grief threatens both his sanity and his safety, while the third man's friendship binds them together, even as he struggles to find his own way. The choices they make ripple outward, throwing not only their lives, but an entire city, into turmoil and change.

### Early reviews call it:

A captivating novel about what we allow to control us and the choices we must make to be free.

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