

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Explore mental health in the Indian-American community through a new #ownvoices novel by
19-year-old author Shoilee Banerjee*

Boston, MA--Mental health: an increasingly important issue for teens. But how do we address it in our now-virtual world? One way is through reading. **Author Shoilee Banerjee** is ready to spread the word about the importance of mental health, particularly in minority communities, in her upcoming **YA literary novel, *Something***.

In *Something*, readers will follow the story of Aleeya Rai, a high schooler and aspiring singer, as she faces the cusp of adulthood through the lens of mental health. Teens and adults alike will be drawn in to the realistic exploration of emotion and come out with a heightened understanding of the importance of mental health advocacy in the Indian-American community.

From an early age, **Shoilee Banerjee** discovered the necessity of bringing awareness to mental illnesses, as she saw her peers face a new mental health crisis, spurred by the 21st century world. For some, these illnesses were mild, but for others, debilitating.

Now, Banerjee is a mental health advocate and fights to destigmatize depression and anxiety in her Indian community. At the moment, Shoilee studies Public Health at the University of Massachusetts and works as an infectious disease researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital—the same hospital where she was born.

She has raised awareness for marginalized groups through her activism and has worked with politicians such as Congressman Jim McGovern, presidential candidate Tulsi Gabbard, and the Prime Minister of India. She is also an accomplished Indian classical dancer and graduated two years ago from the prestigious Triveni School of Dance.

Shoilee Banerjee continues to advocate for those who have a hard time finding their own voice and for those who have already found theirs.

Something (ISBN: 978-1-8380331-0-1) will be released this May from [Leaf Publishing](#). It will be available for purchase in paperback and e-books forms from retailers like Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Powell's, and Waterstones.



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