

# Annika Sharma

Author. Podcaster. Storyteller.



WEBSITE



INSTAGRAM



TWITTER



FACEBOOK



AMAZON



APPLE PODCASTS



SPOTIFY



Born in Delhi and raised in central Pennsylvania, Annika Sharma followed her Penn State-loving heart to college in Happy Valley. There, she graduated with two Bachelor's degrees in Biobehavioral Health and Neuro-Psychology. She also holds two Master's degrees from Penn State and George Washington University, respectively, in Early Childhood Special Education and Public Health.

In addition to being an agented and published author, Annika is a co-founder and co-host of That Desi Spark podcast (formerly called The Woke Desi), one of the largest independently run South Asian podcasts in the world. She has been invited to keynote speak at multiple events. She currently lives in New York City and works as a health communications manager by day, while juggling her writing and podcasting careers by night. She is a lover of endless conversations, college football, social justice, traveling, books, all things related to England, dancing, superhero movies, and coffee.



THE TIMES OF INDIA



RUKUS AVENUE  
RADIO

PRESS

Forbes

BBC

VICE

- [Meet That Desi Spark Podcast](#), CanvasRebel - December 2022
- [Community Over Competition: The Desi Podcasts in the US Shattering Stereotypes](#), The Quint - July 2022
- [Challenging South Asia's Toxic Patriarchy Through Podcasts](#), The Diplomat - February 2022
- [Top 50 Coolest South Asians of 2021](#), Diss Dash World - January 2021
- [Best Books of 2021](#), Library Journal - December 2021
- [15 Books Our Readers Loved in October](#), Book Bub - October 2021
- [Starred Review](#), Library Journal - June 2021
- [Five Asian American Podcasts That Are Busting The Model Minority Myth](#), FORBES- May 2021
- [21 Books to Read in 2021: Brown Girl Bookshelf Instagram](#) - January 2021
- [Women Who Win Feature Article](#) - December 2020
- [Annika and Nehal on The Unexpected Gurus Podcast](#) - November 2020
- [Featured Podcasters: The Woke Desi](#), OSSA Collective - October 2020

BBC CDX: Brown Girls on the Rise, BBC - July 2020  
For Indian Americans, BLM movement is a chance to discuss casteism and racism, Scroll.in - July 2020  
Annika and Nehal as Keynote Speakers at the Youth 2.0 Heartfulness Conference - May 2020  
Annika Sharma on The Caffeinated Brown Girl Podcast - May 2020  
Meet The Woke Desi, Brown Girl Magazine - April 2020  
Annika Sharma on the Unexpected Gurus by Mamata Venkat, Mamata Venkat - April 2020  
Announcement of weekly Rukus Avenue Radio show, Rukus Avenue Radio - March 2020  
American Born Confident Desis, THE TIMES OF INDIA - October 2019  
Taboo Topics Don't Need to be Whispered, Brown Girl Magazine - August 2019  
Enter The Woke Desi, Urban Asian - August 2019

## LOVE, CHAI, AND OTHER FOUR-LETTER WORDS

THE CHAI MASALA CLUB SERIES

LIBRARY JOURNAL BEST BOOK OF 2021



Releasing on October 5, 2021, *Love, Chai, and Other Four-Letter Words* is the first book in a romcom trilogy, focusing on Indian-American friends in New York City, each with their own unique, culturally-conflicted love story. *Love, Chai* has received two starred reviews from Library Journal and Booklist, was selected for the cover of Booklist, and was named an Amazon Best Book of September 2021. Annika was selected an Apple Books' Writer to Watch. *Love, Chai* is available for preorder on [Amazon](#), [Barnes and Noble](#), [Bookshop](#), and more.



## THAT DESI SPARK PODCAST

A SOUTH ASIAN SHOW FOR  
A GLOBAL AUDIENCE



Recognizing a void in the podcasting space for first-generation, third-culture, South Asian millennials, Annika began That Desi Spark podcast with Nehal Tenany and Sri Pisupati in 2019. It has quickly become a prominent voice in the South Asian world.

- **Stats:** Top 2.5% podcast globally, 150K+ listens, listenership in 70+ countries
- **Socials:** Over 10K+ on Instagram (@thewokedesi)
- **Keynote Speaker/Appearances:** Heartfulness Youth 2.0 Conference, BBC CDX, ViacomCBS, Product of Culture Festival, Kaur Creative
- **Platforms:** [Apple](#), [Spotify](#), and all major podcasting platforms.