

in an M.M. Kaye novel about the cruelty of the Indians, the terror and shock of the British. So it was a strange revelation when my aunt told me to visit the monument to the "freedom-fighters" of 1857.

It's the same feeling of rediscovery, of suddenly seeing the world differently, that I find with my grandmother. Positive words and images begin to displace my anger and discomfort at what I learn elsewhere.

My anger does not end with Columbus Day—but my discovery begins.

Thanks to Andrea Imada for her thoughtful comments and support.

Sarita Srivastava has been studying and working for popular education and environmental action. For the past year and a half, she has been an activist and spokesperson for Greenpeace Canada. This fall she is beginning work on a doctoral degree at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

NUPUR GOGIA

How to Achieve Silence From a Woman of Colour

tongues tied

voices cut

throats slashed

blood drips

and

drips

slow leaking

slowly dying

silence achieved

a scream enters

Nupur Gogia is a brown activist who has been working with women of colour.



Toronto, Canada

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