

Sanjeev Dahiwadkar's *The Lives We Almost Lived* Debuts From Ukiyoto Publishing

Ukiyoto Publishing has released *The Lives We Almost Lived*, a debut novel by Sanjeev Dahiwadkar that follows four intersecting lives confronting the cost of choosing duty over desire.

BEHIND EVERY CAREFULLY CONSTRUCTED LIFE
LIES A VERSION THAT WAS NEVER LIVED.

THE LIVES WE ALMOST LIVED

A NOVEL

SANJEEV DAHIWADKAR

ukiyoto

Ellicott City, Maryland Aug 5, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.IssueWire.com)) - **Author Sanjeev Dahiwadkar** has released his debut novel, *The Lives We Almost Lived*, through Ukiyoto Publishing. The book, published July 31, 2026, is a work of contemporary fiction told through multiple perspectives, exploring how ambition, tradition, and unspoken longing shape, and sometimes limit, the lives people choose to live.

The story centers on Naomi Zhu, a disciplined, high-achieving professional in her forties who has built a life defined by self-reliance while avoiding the grief of her parents' deaths and the heartbreak of a love she was forced to abandon years earlier. A chance reunion with Yusuf, the man she once loved, resurfaces long-buried emotions and compels her to confront the choices that shaped her life.

Around Naomi, other characters wrestle with their own reckonings. Narayan Subramaniam, a high school math teacher, defies his immigrant family's definition of success by choosing purpose over prestige, even as his marriage strains under conflicting ambitions. Aysun, Yusuf's wife, has spent years surrendering her identity to tradition and obedience until her daughter's growing defiance awakens in her a desire for freedom of her own. Zulal, a devoted single father, navigates grief, cultural judgment, and the emotional weight of raising a child alone, redefining love and resilience on his own terms.

Set against the pressures of culture, ambition and tradition, the novel explores the hidden lives many people lead behind outwardly successful façades, offering a layered portrait of contemporary immigrant experience across generations. Its settings span Boston, Istanbul and immigrant communities across the United States, weaving together questions of duty, identity and personal transformation. The narrative touches on professionals balancing career success with personal fulfillment, parents navigating changing family dynamics, immigrants preserving culture while embracing change, and individuals questioning whether outward success alone defines a meaningful life, themes likely to resonate with readers of literary fiction, multigenerational family sagas and stories examining the intersection of tradition and modern life.

Richly layered, *The Lives We Almost Lived* examines love, faith, ambition and the unseen sacrifices behind outwardly successful lives, tracing the paths its characters might have followed had circumstances allowed them to choose differently.

"Dahiwadkar's novel takes readers on an unconventional tour through an interconnected community whose members deal with life and death and the choices they have made." - Kirkus Reviews

Sanjeev Dahiwadkar is a lifelong explorer of ideas, creativity, and the human experience, now bringing his rich and unconventional journey into the world of fiction. Over the past two decades, alongside his professional and creative pursuits, he has led the India Asha Foundation, a nonprofit initiative dedicated to improving educational opportunities for underprivileged children and supporting social development initiatives in India. He has also championed regional art and music, promoting creative voices across communities and audiences around the world. A songwriter, researcher and philanthropist, Dahiwadkar's interests span technology, philosophy, music and the study of ancient Indian sciences, and his work reflects an enduring curiosity about how people live, love, sacrifice and evolve. With *The Lives We Almost Lived*, Dahiwadkar turns to contemporary fiction, exploring the emotional tension between duty and desire and the quiet possibilities hidden within the lives people never fully choose. His professional background is detailed on LinkedIn, and a selection of his original songs is available

through the AshaStudios channel on YouTube.

The Lives We Almost Lived is available now through Ukiyoto Publishing and major booksellers. Bookstores, libraries, literary festivals, universities, book clubs and media organizations interested in scheduling interviews, author talks, readings or signings in their area are encouraged to get in touch using the contact details listed below.

Ukiyoto Publishing is a global publisher of fiction and nonfiction titles, supporting authors from around the world in bringing original stories to readers everywhere.

Further information is available at www.ukiyoto.com.

Get copies of the book from Amazon.com at: <https://a.co/d/0bfuU8OV>

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