

Annika Sharma

Author. Podcaster. Storyteller.



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 The Woke Desi podcast, one of the largest independently run South Asian podcasts in the world. She has been invited to keynote speak at multiple events. Her freelance work with FemHealth Project focuses on women's health topics. 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.

PRESS



Forbes



[Enter The Woke Desi](#), Urban Asian - August 13, 2019
[Taboo Topics Don't Need to be Whispered](#), Brown Girl Magazine - August 27, 2019
[American Born Confident Desis](#), THE TIMES OF INDIA - October 19, 2019
[Announcement of weekly Rukus Avenue Radio show](#), Rukus Avenue Radio - March 23, 2020
[Annika Sharma on the Unexpected Gurus](#) by Mamata Venkat, Mamata Venkat - April 1, 2020
[Meet The Woke Desi](#), Brown Girl Magazine - April 5, 2020
[Annika Sharma on The Caffeinated Brown Girl Podcast](#) - May 25, 2020
[Annika and Nehal as Keynote Speakers at the Youth 2.0 Heartfulness Conference](#) - May 30, 2020
[For Indian Americans, Black Lives Matter movement is a chance to discuss casteism and racism](#), Scroll.in - July 3, 2020
[BBC CDX: Brown Girls on the Rise](#), BBC - July 28, 2020
[Featured Podcasters: The Woke Desi](#), OSSA Collective - October 6, 2020
[Annika and Nehal on The Unexpected Gurus Podcast](#) - November 18, 2020
[Women Who Win Feature Article](#) - December 2, 2020
[21 Books to Read in 2021: Brown Girl Bookshelf Instagram](#) - January 4, 2021
[Five Asian American Podcasts That Are Busting The Model Minority Myth](#), FORBES - May 24, 2021
[Starred Review](#), Library Journal - June 1, 2021

LOVE, CHAI, AND OTHER FOUR-LETTER WORDS

THE CHAI MASALA CLUB SERIES

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. *L, C, aOFLW* follows Kiran, an Indian, who falls in love with Nash, an American, with some Bollywood-like family drama thrown in on both sides and set against a backdrop of bucket lists and city lights. It is available for preorder on [Amazon](#), [Barnes and Noble](#), [Bookshop](#), and more.



THE WOKE DESI 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 [The Woke Desi](#) 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, 100K+ listens, listenership in 50+ countries
- **Socials:** Over 9K+ 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.



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