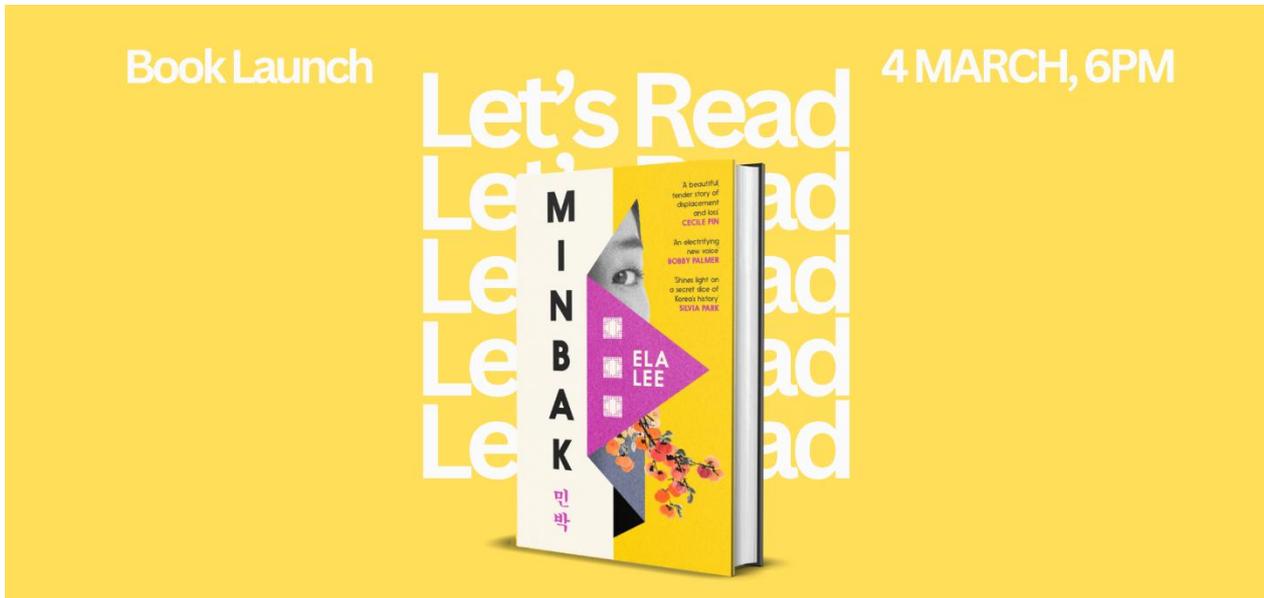


NEWS RELEASE

KCCUK Hosts 'Minbak' Book Launch with Ela Lee in London



The Korean Cultural Centre UK (KCCUK) hosted 'Evening with Ela Lee: Celebrating the Publication of Minbak' on Wednesday, 4 March, introducing the novel to UK readers and members of the literary community.

Ela Lee, a British author of Korean and Turkish heritage, made her literary debut in 2024 with her first novel *Jaded*, which drew critical attention for its exploration of consent, race and identity. She has since developed a distinctive body of work centred on themes of generational memory, migration and belonging. Her latest novel, *Minbak*, marks a further evolution of this literary voice.

Set between Incheon in 1985 and London in 2008, *Minbak* traces the interconnected lives of three generations of women. The narrative begins with the birth of a nameless baby in a traditional Korean guesthouse, before following Hana, who once worked there as a child, and Ada, who, years later, sets out to uncover her mother's past and long-buried family secrets. Through these interwoven stories, the novel explores memory, family relationships, migration, loss, and resilience, reflecting on how the past continues to shape the present.

The event featured a conversation between the author and her publisher, offering insight into the novel's themes and creative process, followed by a Q&A session and book signing. Attendees had the opportunity to engage directly with Lee and discuss the narrative and its wider cultural context.

Through the event, KCCUK aimed to introduce a compelling new voice in contemporary literature to UK audiences while supporting the growing presence of Korean and diasporic storytelling within the English-language literary landscape.

For more details, please visit <https://kccuk.org.uk>

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About Korean Cultural Centre UK (KCCUK)

The Korean Cultural Centre UK, opened under the aegis of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the United Kingdom, aims to enhance friendship, amity, and understanding between Korea and the UK through cultural and educational activities. From the KCCUK's central London location near Trafalgar Square, our dedicated team works to expand cultural projects, strengthen cooperation with major arts organisations and partners, and encourage cultural exchange.