



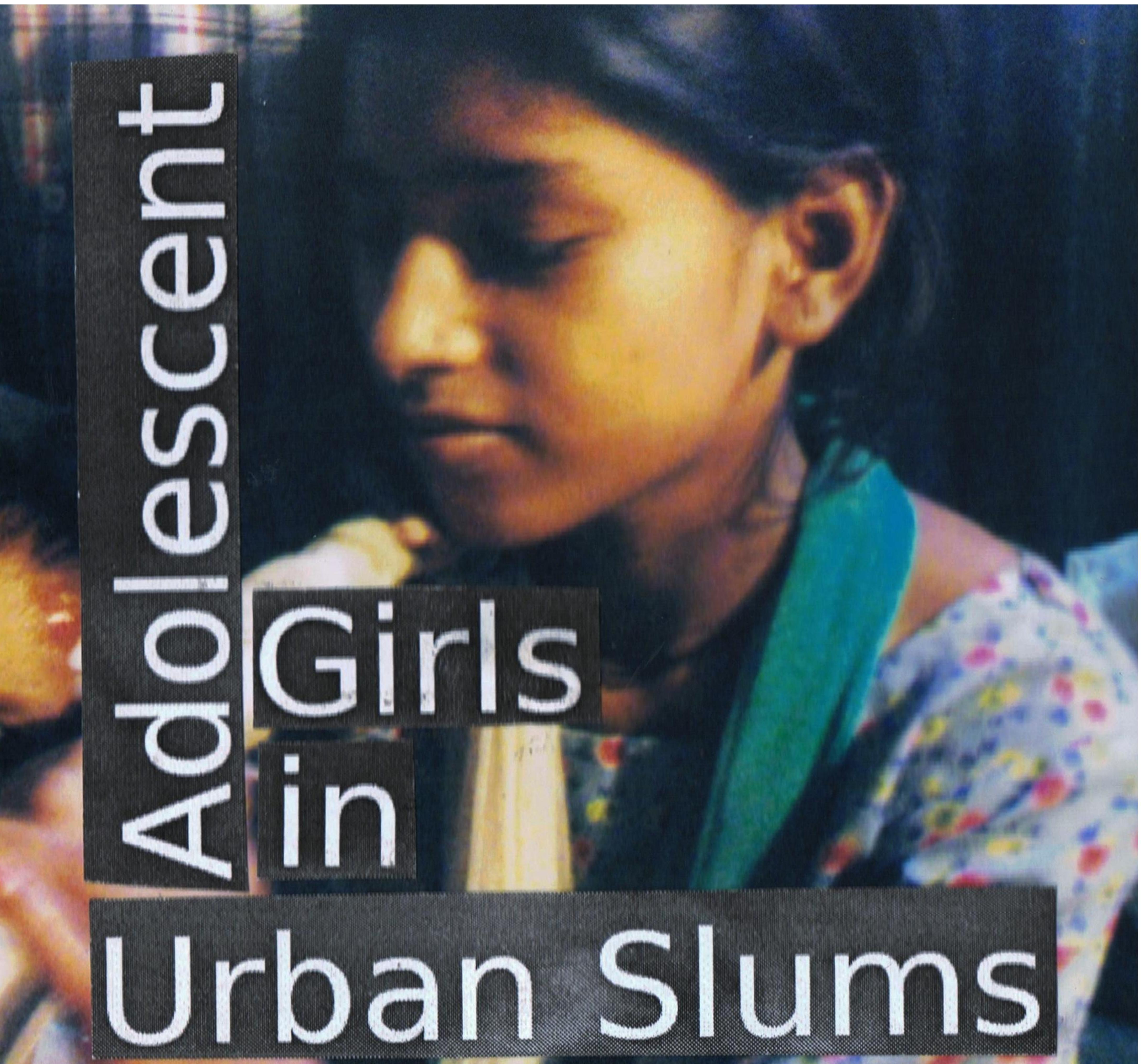
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a rupee in
hand, a
bucket in
another,
rani
negotiates
her way to
the common toilet
every

evening.

no avoiding
the male eyes
that
follow her
every step.



SLUM

BASTI

JHOPAD

PATTI

CAMP

GANDA
AREA

HOME



THE WALLS OF DO'S & DON'TS

WATCHING THE WORLD GO BY . . .

BOXED IN SMALL SPACES

GIRLS PEEP OUT FROM BEHIND

EACH WITH A SIMILAR STORY.



In my very first breath
it stirred

The bitter poison of defeat
as I heard

'Oh, it's a girl!'

'a girl!'

'Is this a girl?
Pray for her good fortune,
then.'

It is still cawed into
my hearing.
The first prayer of my elders.

- ISHRAT AAFREEN

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