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Digging to America

Von Anne Tyler

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Von Anne Tyler : Digging to America before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Digging to America:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Gewohnt subtil Von Ali Auch wenn ich mich, was Anne Tyler betrifft, gerne zu Wiederholungen hinreißen lasse, ich kann es nicht anders formulieren: Diese Autorin nimmt mich jedesmal aufs Neue in ihren Bann. Auch in dieser Geschichte geht es, wie fast immer, inhaltlich-sachlich gesprochen nicht um viel. Anne Tyler zeichnet sich nicht durch

raffinierte Handlungsstränge oder spannende Verwicklungen aus. Ich möchte deshalb auch keine Inhaltsangabe machen, die findet man andernorts in ausreichender Form. Was hingegen fesselt ist Tylers Fähigkeit, Beziehungen (vornehmlich familiäre) subtil und hintergründig zu beleuchten und dabei immer auch eine gehörige Portion ihres höchst eigenartigen Sinns für Komische einfließen zu lassen. Die Geschichte der beiden Familien, deren Verbindung durch die zeitgleiche Adoption zweier koreanischer Mädchen entsteht und deren Verquickung über viele Jahre hinweg beschrieben wird, ist ein weiteres Juwel aus der Sammlung dieser begnadeten Schriftstellerin. Zu meinem Leidwesen bleiben mir nicht mehr viele ungelesene Titel.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Cultural Clash in Baltimore! Von Verena75

Im Jahr 1997 treffen sich zufällig zwei Familien am Flughafen von Baltimore, um ihre koreanischen Adoptivkinder abzuholen. Die Familien könnten nicht unterschiedlicher sein: Die Donaldsons so amerikanisch wie Apple Pie und die Yazdans, Einwanderer iranischer Abstammung. Während die Donaldsons versuchen, die koreanische Abstammung ihrer Tochter in ihr Leben zu integrieren (sie geben ihr einen koreanischen Namen, kleiden sie koreanisch), lassen die Yazdans ihre kleine Susan in ihrer eigenen sehr gemischten iranisch-amerikanischen Kultur aufwachsen. Einmal im Jahr treffen sich die Familien, um den Jahrestag der Ankunft ihrer Kinder zu feiern. Eines Tages entdeckt der verwitwete Vater von Bitsy Donaldson romantische Gefühle für Maryam - Susan's Großmutter. Und plötzlich fängt Maryam an, ihre eigene Kultur, Werte und Traditionen zu hinterfragen... Anne Tyler erzählt in ihrem 17. (!) Roman die Geschichte einzelner Identitäten in einem multikulturellen Amerika und wie wir Freundschaften über Herkunftsgrenzen entwickeln. Sie geht nicht weiter auf die Anschläge des 11. September ein, aber schildert auf ganz subtile Weise, wie den Yazdans in den Folgemonaten mittraut wird. Das englische Original ist für Erwachsene mit guten Englischkenntnissen geeignet. Ab und zu erscheinen ein paar Amerikanismen, deren Sinn sich aber auch aus dem Kontext ergibt.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Lovingly 'multi-culti' Von Alfred J. Kwak

Greatly enjoyed and admired her *The Beginners*, *Goodbye and A Spool of Blue Thread*. Am marginally less enthusiastic about this still pretty brilliant treatment of a hot issue: immigration and integration in combination with adoption of foreign-born babies. Why? Because it seems to be addressed to women more than the above titles. So I skipped all text about what everyone was wearing and cooking, and some dialogue too. No men talking to men here. Beginning at Baltimore airport, Anne Tyler creates and develops years of friendship between two married and adopting couples, one American, the other Iranian-American, and both their wider families. Maryam, mother of Sami - the adopting father of Susan - becomes a central character along with flaky Bitsy, adopting mother of Jin-Ho whom she insists should keep her original Korean name. It records how two extended families interact, celebrate, bond and bicker mildly and how small issues are constantly on their minds. Thanks to her technique of thick description, AT has an uncanny ability to make readers feel like flies on the wall of any venue. She treats key themes like identity, responsibility, culture tradition, cancer bereavement subtly and brilliantly in a book composed of hundreds of scenes, crammed into just 10 chapters. AT did impeccable research, writes good dialogue and plots well. Her greatest strength is characterization. The main characters Maryam, Bitsy (and her father Dave) are completely believable whilst other protagonists are wisely colored in paler hues. But minor actors like the Iranian cuisine expert-cum-inventor William, his ebullient wife Farah and new baby Xiu-Mei are quite memorable. So is Jin-Ho, who wrote Ch. 9. What will preoccupy every reader about the annual Arrival Parties, leaf clearings and routine close contacts, is the question, will it last?

Kurzbeschreibung

SHORTLISTED FOR THE ORANGE PRIZE Friday August 15th, 1997. Two tiny Korean babies are delivered to two very different Baltimore families. Every year, on the anniversary of Arrival Day the two families celebrate together, with more and more elaborately competitive parties, as little Susan and Jin-ho take roots and become American.

OVER A MILLION ANNE TYLER BOOKS SOLD

She's changed my perception on life

Anna Chancellor One of my favourite authors Liane Moriarty She spins gold' Elizabeth Buchan

Anne Tyler has no peer Anita Shreve My favourite writer, and the best line-and-length novelist in the world Nick Hornby A masterly author Sebastian Faulks Tyler is not merely good, she is wickedly good John Updike I love Anne Tyler Anita Brookner Her fiction has strength of vision, originality, freshness, unconquerable humour Eudora Welty From Publishers Weekly

Tyler (*Breathing Lessons*) encompasses the collision of cultures without losing her sharp focus on the daily dramas of modern family life in her 17th novel. When Bitsy and Brad Donaldson and Sami and Ziba Yazdan both adopt Korean infant girls, their chance encounter at the Baltimore airport the day their daughters arrive marks the start of a long, intense if sometimes awkward friendship. Sami's mother, Maryam Yazdan, who carefully preserves her exotic outsidership despite having emigrated from Iran almost 40 years earlier, is frequently perplexed by her son and daughter-in-law's ongoing relationship with the loud, opinionated, unapologetically American Donaldsons. When Bitsy's recently widowed father, Dave, endearingly falls in love with Maryam, she must come to terms with what it means to be part of a culture and a country. Stretching from the babies' arrival in 1997 until 2004, the novel is punctuated by each year's Arrival Party, a tradition manufactured and comically upheld by Bitsy; the annual festivities gradually reveal the families' evolving connections. Though the novel's perspective shifts among characters, Maryam

is at the narrative and emotional heart of the touching, humorous story, as she reluctantly realizes that there may be a place in her heart for new friends, new loves and her new country after all. (May 9) Copyright c Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist*Starred * The finest novelists of psychologically acute domesticity purposefully linger over the preparation of meals and the furnishing of rooms, and often turn special occasions into crucibles for conflicts and epiphanies. A master at these time-honored techniques, Tyler extends her reach in her seventeenth novel and creates two very different households that serve as microcosms for twenty-first-century American society. The two families converge at the Baltimore airport, each nervously anticipating the arrival of an adopted Korean baby girl. Bitsy and Brad Donaldson appear to be stereotypical white middle-class Americans. The Yazdans--Ziba, Sami, and Sami's glamorous, long-widowed mother, Maryam--are Iranian Americans. Hoping that the families will stay in touch so that their daughters can grow up together, Bitsy invents Arrival Day, an annual celebration that grows increasingly elaborate each year. Ultimately, these amusingly awkward and contentious events become the gauge of their lives. Each of Tyler's endearing characters is authentically rendered, but Jin-Ho and Susan, the two diametrically opposed young girls, are standouts, as is Maryam. As the novel's reigning consciousness, she reveals what it feels like to be viewed as "exotic" or "foreign" in America before and after 9/11, and how one can become detrimentally attached to the role of outsider. Handling time with a light touch, Tyler creates many blissful moments of high emotion and keen humor while broaching hard truths about cultural differences, communication breakdowns, and family configurations. This deeply human tale of valiantly improvised lives is one of Tyler's best. Donna Seaman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved