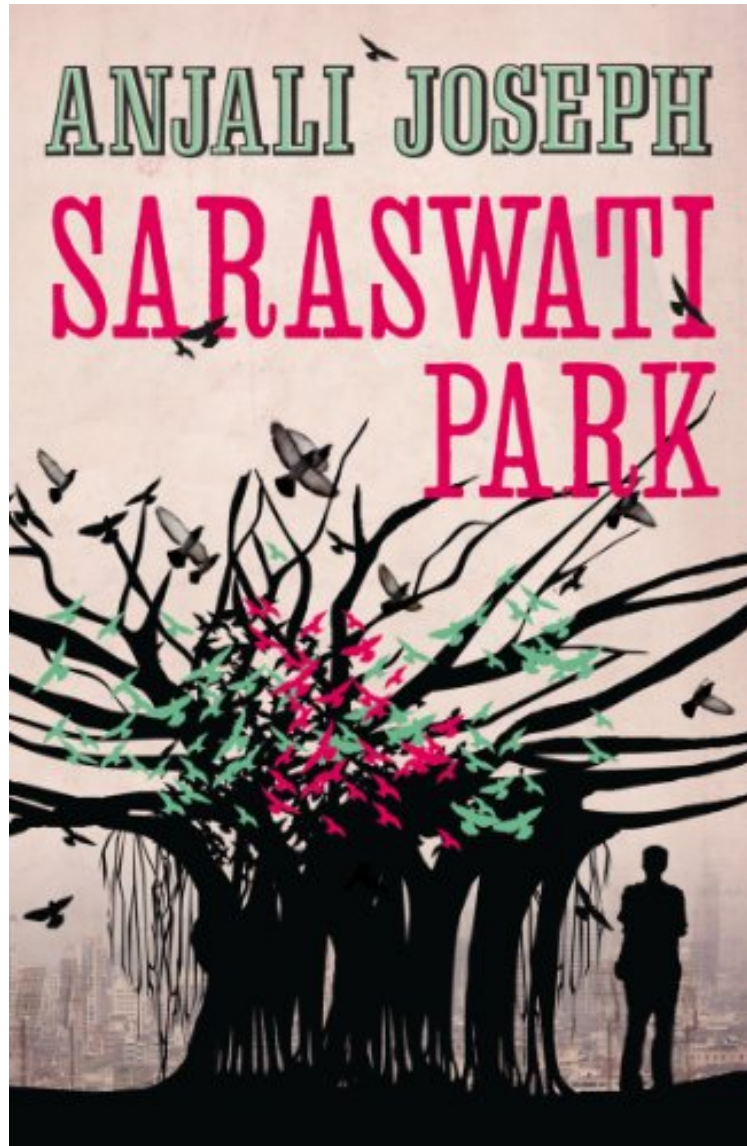


(Free) Saraswati Park

Saraswati Park

Von Anjali Joseph

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Von Anjali Joseph : Saraswati Park before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Saraswati Park:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Very lightly and well writtenVon Andr AschwandenThis book made me remember my own first moments of falling in love. The author has a real talent to write so well that you just feel exactly as the protagonist when he hopelessly falls in love with an older man. Furthermore, if one has made similar experiences, it is very refreshing to read the story and

Joseph's words. Aside, all the created worlds and environments in Mumbai the author writes of and all the supporting roles are just so nicely developed and described. A novel that is really worth reading, even though a critical reader might feel that the end is a bit too cliché for post-colonial literature...0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Somewhat insubstantial. Von Christiane. Except for the last few chapters which are very moving, this book left no deep impression on me, and not necessarily because of the lack of a plot. It's well written with a fine sense of humour and some lovely analogies. There is a lot about birds and trees, rain, dust and smells and it's all very evocative but there is little substance. The story is suffused with feelings of sadness, regret, disappointment and defeat as the characters live their ordinary lives through their ordinary days though, luckily for everyone, it ends on a note of hope.

Kurzbeschreibung A tremendous first novel from an exciting young author. Feted for its electric chaos, the city of Bombay also accommodates pockets of calm. In one such enclave, Mohan, a middle-aged letter writer the last of a dying profession sits under a banyan tree in Fort, furnishing missives for village migrants, disenchanted lovers, and when pickings are slim, filling in money order forms. But Mohan's true passion is collecting second-hand books; he's particularly attached to novels with marginal annotations. So when the pavement booksellers of Fort are summarily evicted, Mohan's life starts to lose some of its animating lustre. At this tenuous moment Mohan and his wife, Lakshmi are joined in Saraswati Park, a suburban housing colony, by their nephew, Ashish, a diffident, sexually uncertain 19-year-old who has to repeat his final year in college. As Saraswati Park unfolds, the lives of each of the three characters are thrown into sharp relief by the comical frustrations of family life: annoying relatives, unspoken yearnings and unheard grievances. When Lakshmi loses her only brother, she leaves Bombay for a relative's home to mourn not only the death of a sibling but also the vital force of her marriage. Ashish, meanwhile, embarks on an affair with a much richer boy in his college; it ends abruptly. Not long afterwards, he succumbs to the overtures of his English tutor, Narayan. As Mohan scribbles away in the sort of books he secretly hopes to write one day, he worries about whether his wife will return, what will become of Ashish's life, and if he himself will ever find his own voice to write from the margins about the centre of which he will never be a part. Elliptical and enigmatic, but beautifully rendered and wonderfully involving, *Saraswati Park* is a book about love and loss and the noise in our heads and how, in spite of everything, life, both lived and imagined, continues. **Pressestimmen** Joseph writes beautifully about quietness and stillness! she evokes the physical world that her characters inhabit exactly, without ever resorting to the sort of touristic colour that mars some English language Indian novels! this is a quiet, restrained novel but a great deal is going on beneath the surface' *Sunday Times* 'Joseph contrasts the inner and outer lives of her characters, and the uneasy friction between new and old cultures, with all the wit and delicacy of a latter-day Mrs Gaskell' *The Times* 'Anjali Joseph's debut novel is replete with evocative images of Bombay! but the book's greatest strength lies in its delicate portrayal of a young man's desperation for intimate connection, and a couple's acceptance of a marriage that has failed' *Financial Times* 'An unhurried, quietly heartbreaking study of a lower middle-class Bombay family's disintegration and renewal! Joseph's skill is finding the poetry inside modest dreams, small tragedies and disappointments' *Metro* 'A beautiful novel that personifies the new India from the inside out' *Literary* 'The frustrations of middle-class family life are the focus of Bombay-set *Saraswati Park*! each character quickly feels like a familiar face, making this like *The Corrections*, but set in India! a treat' *ELLE* 'Since the publication of Salman Rushdie's novel *Midnight's Children* the dominant mode of Indian fiction in English has been a kind of manic inclusiveness! Anjali Joseph's first novel is remarkable for how clearly it rejects that ambition: modest in scale, refined in sensibility, and almost free of dramatic incident, it recalls the hushed, civilised tones of a generation of novelists that included R K Marayan! the limpidity of Joseph's writing allows her to enter with unusual force into these torpid, melancholic lives. But the tone of her narrative is leavened by the gentle humour of her characterisation' *TLS* 'Here is the suburban, petit bourgeois world of Bombay, seldom written about before, and with such acuity, delicacy, and intelligence, illuminated at different times of day by flashes of reflected light. This is the best debut novel I've read for a long time: admirable in its masterful ease, moving in its constant surrender to compassion and wonder' *Amit Chaudhuri* 'A wry and delicate portrait of domestic life, brimful of secret longings' *Giles Foden* "A first novel of great poise, full of understated drama" *Tash Aw* **Pressestimmen** Winner of the Desmond Elliott Prize Winner of the Betty Trask Prize Shortlisted for the Ondaatje Award Shortlisted for the Hindu Best Fiction Award Shortlisted for a Commonwealth Writers' Prize 'Joseph contrasts the inner and outer lives of her characters, and the uneasy friction between new and old cultures, with all the wit and delicacy of a latter-day Mrs Gaskell' *The Times* 'Joseph writes beautifully about quietness and stillness! this is a quiet, restrained novel but a great deal is going on beneath the surface' *Sunday Times* 'Anjali Joseph's debut novel is replete with evocative images of Bombay! but the book's greatest strength lies in its delicate portrayal of a young man's desperation for intimate connection, and a couple's acceptance of a marriage that has failed' *Financial Times* 'An elegantly realised portrait of unrequited love, frustrated aspirations and the unspoken compromises of marriage and family. Joseph neatly weaves in elements of the rapid social change occurring in the ever-expanding city but her principal concern is the more complex process of personal change and development and its bittersweet effects: the

nerves, hang-ups and pains of youth and the regrets, pleasures and fulfilment of old age' Observer 'How true to life it seems -- the background of disconsolate rains and chattering mynah birds entirely Bombay, the preoccupations universal ! a generous book where absolutes are neither sought nor found.' Guardian 'The frustrations of middle-class family life are the focus of Bombay-set Saraswati Park ! each character quickly feels like a familiar face, making this like *The Corrections*, but set in India!a treat' ELLE 'An unhurried, quietly heartbreaking study of a lower middle-class Bombay family's disintegration and renewal!Joseph's skill is finding the poetry inside modest dreams, small tragedies and disappointments' Metro 'A beautiful novel that personifies the new India from the inside out' Literary