Virago Modern Classics

Attia Hosain

Phoenix Fled

"Listen to me, child. You will be a woman soon and must behave well and with modesty. The Kazi will ask you three times whether you will marry Kalloo Mian. Now don't you be shameless, like these modern educated girls, and shout gleefully 'Yes.' Be modest and cry softly and say 'Hoon'"

A marriage is arranged between a little servant girl and a middleaged cook with an opium habit; an idealistic political worker faces
disillusionment; a servant returns to a wife he scarcely knows; a
conventional bride has her first encounter with her husband's
"emancipated" friends: telling of the lives of servants and
children, of conflict between the old traditions and the new,
modern civilisation, and exploring the human repercussions of the
Muslim/Hindu divide, these twelve short stories present a moving
and vivid picture of life in India. To each episode Attia Hosain
brings a superb imaginative understanding and a sense of the
poignancy of the smallest of human dramas. First published in
1953, Phoenix Fled is a book of "unusual distinction" — Times
Literary Supplement.

Attia Hosain was born in Lucknow, India, in 1913 and moved to England in 1947 where she worked as a journalist and broadcaster. She now divides her time between London and India.

Cover shows "A Head-and-Shoulders Portrait of a Girl Holding a Tambura at a Window", Lucknow, c. 1780. Private collection.





Phoenix Fled Virago Modern Classics

Attia Hosain

Phoenix Fled Virago Modern Classics:

Phoenix Fled Attia Hosain, 2021-08-19 BY ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL INDIAN WRITERS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY There is so much to love and admire in these stories their understanding of heartbreak their attention to affection and love across many divides KAMILA SHAMSIE Hosain's greatest strength lies in her ability to draw a rich full portrait of her society ANITA DESAI Listen to me child You will be a woman soon and must behave well and with modesty The Kazi will ask you three times whether you will marry Kalloo Mian Now don t you be shameless like these modern girls and shout gleefully Yes Be modest and cry softly and say Hoon A marriage is arranged between a little servant girl and a middle aged cook with an opium habit an idealistic political worker faces disillusionment a man returns from years studying in England to a wife he scarcely knows a conventional bride has her first encounter with her husband s emancipated friends Telling of the lives of servants and children of conflict between the old traditions and new ways and exploring the human repercussions of the Muslim Hindu divide these twelve stories present a moving and vivid picture of life in India in the mid twentieth century To each episode Attia Hosain brings a superb imaginative understanding and a sense of the poignancy of the smallest of human dramas Attia Hosain published only two books but her writing has influenced generations of writers Discover Sunlight on a Broken Column Hosain's acclaimed only novel a coming of age story set against the turbulent background of Partition also published in Virago Modern Classics Sunlight on a Broken Column Attia Hosain, 2021-08-19 BY ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL INDIAN WRITERS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY The deftness with which Attia Hosain handles the interplay of manners class culture and different forms of female power is gorgeously done KAMILA SHAMSIE An extraordinary novel with an extraordinary heroine MONICA ALI A masterful examination of class culture family and women s lives set against the backdrop of Partition KIRAN MILLWOOD HARGRAVE My life changed It had been restricted by invisible barriers almost as effectively as the physically restricted lives of my aunts in the zenana A window had opened here a door there a curtain had been drawn aside but outside lay a world narrowed by one s field of vision Laila orphaned daughter of a distinguished Muslim family is brought up in her grandfather's traditional household by her aunts who keep purdah At fifteen she moves to the home of her liberal but autocratic uncle in Lucknow As the struggle for Independence sharpens Laila is surrounded by relatives and university friends caught up in politics but she is unable to commit herself to any cause her own fight for independence is a struggle against tradition With its stunning evocation of India its political insight and unsentimental understanding of the human heart Sunlight on a Broken Column is a classic of Muslim life Attia Hosain published only two books but her writing has influenced generations of writers Discover Phoenix Fled Hosain's acclaimed short story collection also published in Virago Modern Classics The History of British Women's Writing, 1970-Present Mary Eagleton, Emma Parker, 2016-04-29 This book maps the most active and vibrant period in the history of British women s writing Examining changes and continuities in fiction poetry drama and journalism as well as women s engagement with a

range of literary and popular genres the essays in this volume highlight the range and diversity of women s writing since 1970 Phoenix Fled Attia Hosain, 1988 First published in 1953 12 short stories present a moving and vivid picture of life in The Journal of Commonwealth Literature ,1989 Issues for 1965 include section Annual bibliography of India Kliatt Young Adult Paperback Book Guide, 1990 Commonwealth literature 1964 South ,1988 Attia Hosain Rai Kumar Kaul, Jasbir Jain, 2001 The present volume is a diptych volume and the first full length study of Attia Hosain s work Attia Hosain 1913 1998 is one of the earliest women writers of the Indian diaspora R K Kaul explores the historical and literary aspects of her work contextualising her within the Indian and more specifically the urdu literary tradition while Jasbir Jain goes on To open out her work in many different ways locating her within the topos of exile Together the two sections reveal the hidden depths of Hosain's work and bring out not only its thematic richness the partition theme the dilemma of the Indian Muslim the relationship with the raj the dislocation of the aristocracy but also the significance of space and of the cultural inheritance as it adapts and evolves New Statesman Society ,1990-10 Library Journal, 1989 The **Antioch Review** John Donald Kingsley, 1990 The Journal of Asian Studies ,1989 South Asian Writers in Twentieth-Century Britain Ruvani Ranasinha, 2007-02-22 South Asian Writers in Twentieth Century Britain is the first book to provide a historical account of the publication and reception of South Asian anglophone writing from the 1930s to the present based on original archival research drawn from a range of publishing houses This comparison of succeeding generations of writers who emigrated to or were born in Britain examines how the experience of migrancy the attitudes towards migrant writers in the literary market place and the critical reception of them changed significantly throughout the twentieth century Ranasinha shows how the aesthetic cultural and political context changed significantly for each generation producing radically different kinds of writing and transforming the role of the postcolonial writer of South Asian origin The extensive use of original materials from publishers archives shows how shifting political academic and commercial agendas in Britain and North America influenced the selection content presentation and consumption of many of these texts The differences between writers of different generations can thus in part be understood in terms of the different demands of their publishers and expectations of readers in each decade Writers from different generations are paired accordingly in each chapter Nirad Chaudhuri 1897 1999 with Tambimuttu 1915 83 Ambalavener Sivanandan born 1923 with Kamala Markandaya born 1924 Salman Rushdie born 1947 with Farrukh Dhondy born 1944 and Hanif Kureishi born 1954 with Meera Syal born 1963 Raja Rao Mulk Raj Anand Attia Hosain V S Naipaul and Aubrey Menen are also discussed Voices of the Crossing Naseem Khan, Ferdinand Dennis, 2000 Table of Contents Preface Introduction Taking the Drawing Room Through Customs Deep Roots New Language Waltzing Across Four and a Half Decades Journeys without Maps Becoming a Caribbean Man West Indian Writers in Britain A Writer in Exile Changes of Scenery Crossing Boundaries In Search of a Talisman Liars Hypocrites Imperialists and Sages The Vernacular Cosmopolitan Ancestors I Carry Speaking in Tongues

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