

Across the Broken Tide: Devi Laskar's Epic of Love, Loss, and Resilience Amidst India's Tumultuous Past

In the annals of historical fiction, "Across the Broken Tide" by Devi Laskar stands as a poignant and immersive masterpiece. Set against the backdrop of the Indian independence movement and the Partition of India, this novel delves into the intricate lives of characters whose destinies are shaped by the cataclysmic events of their time. Laskar's evocative prose transports readers to a world both familiar and陌生, where love, loss, family, and identity are tested against the unforgiving tides of history.



Across the Broken Tide by Devi S. Laskar

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1363 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 298 pages



The Historical Context: A Nation Divided

"Across the Broken Tide" unfolds in the tumultuous years leading up to and following the Partition of India in 1947. The novel captures the fervor of the independence movement, the hopes and aspirations of a nation on the cusp of freedom, and the shattering consequences of its division along

religious lines. Laskar weaves a rich tapestry of historical events and personal narratives, allowing readers to witness the human toll of this tragic chapter in Indian history.

Through the eyes of her characters, we experience the rise of nationalism, the struggle for self-determination, and the horrors of communal violence. The novel exposes the deep fissures that divided Indian society, as neighbors turned against each other and families were torn apart. Laskar's nuanced portrayal of this complex period in history provides a sobering reminder of the fragility of peace and the devastating impact of hatred and prejudice.

The Characters: Lives Interwoven by History

At the heart of "Across the Broken Tide" lies a cast of characters whose lives are inextricably intertwined with the historical events that surround them. Asha, a young woman from Calcutta, embodies the hopes and aspirations of a generation yearning for a free and united India. When her family is uprooted by the Partition, she finds herself lost and adrift in a world turned upside down.

Asha's journey is paralleled by that of Dinu, a Muslim boy from East Bengal who dreams of becoming a doctor. His dreams are shattered when his family is forced to flee their home and seek refuge in a refugee camp. Amidst the chaos and despair, Asha and Dinu forge an unlikely connection that transcends the boundaries of religion and culture.

Laskar's characters are not mere ciphers in a historical narrative, but fully realized individuals with their own hopes, fears, and aspirations. Their stories of love, loss, and resilience resonate deeply with readers, reminding us of the enduring power of the human spirit even in the face of adversity.

Themes: Love, Loss, and the Search for Identity

"Across the Broken Tide" explores a multitude of themes that resonate with readers of all backgrounds. Love, in its various forms, is a central thread that runs throughout the novel. Asha and Dinu's forbidden love challenges societal norms and prejudices, while the love between family members is tested by the forces of history. Laskar portrays love as a powerful force that can both heal and destroy, offering a nuanced exploration of its complexities.

Loss is another prominent theme in the novel. The characters experience loss on multiple levels - the loss of their homes, their loved ones, and their sense of identity. Laskar delves into the psychological and emotional impact of loss, exploring how it can shape and transform individuals.

Amidst the chaos and upheaval of Partition, the characters grapple with questions of identity. They are forced to confront who they are and where they belong in a world that is constantly changing. Laskar's exploration of identity is particularly relevant in today's globalized world, where individuals are increasingly navigating multiple cultures and identities.

Style: A Tapestry of Voices and Perspectives

Devi Laskar's writing in "Across the Broken Tide" is characterized by its lyrical beauty and evocative power. She employs a tapestry of voices and perspectives to tell her story, immersing readers in the thoughts and emotions of her characters. Laskar's use of language is both poetic and precise, creating vivid images and sensory experiences that transport readers to the heart of the novel's setting.

The novel's structure is non-linear, reflecting the fragmented nature of history and the characters' own fractured lives. Laskar deftly weaves together multiple timelines and perspectives, creating a complex and multifaceted narrative that keeps readers engaged from beginning to end.

Legacy: A Timeless Tale of Human Resilience

"Across the Broken Tide" has received widespread critical acclaim for its historical accuracy, its nuanced characterization, and its exploration of timeless themes. It has been translated into multiple languages and has become a staple on university syllabuses around the world.

The novel's enduring legacy lies in its ability to connect with readers on a deeply human level. It is a story of love, loss, and resilience that resonates with anyone who has ever experienced the pain of separation or the struggle to find their place in the world. "Across the Broken Tide" is a powerful reminder of the resilience of the human spirit and the importance of empathy and understanding in the face of adversity.

Devi Laskar's "Across the Broken Tide" is a literary masterpiece that transports readers to a pivotal moment in Indian history. With its unforgettable characters, evocative prose, and exploration of timeless themes, the novel offers a profound and moving examination of love, loss, and the search for identity amidst the turmoil of historical events. It is a book that will stay with readers long after they finish its final pages, inspiring reflection and empathy in equal measure.

Devi Laskar is an award-winning author known for her historical fiction and non-fiction works. Born and raised in India, she currently resides in the United States. "Across the Broken Tide" is her most acclaimed novel and has garnered praise for its authenticity, its sensitive portrayal of cross-

cultural relationships, and its exploration of the human condition during times of social and political upheaval.



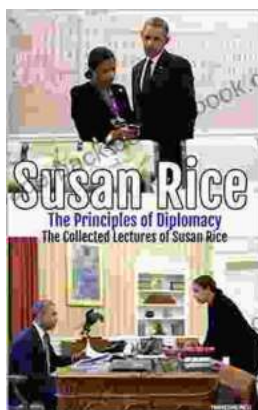
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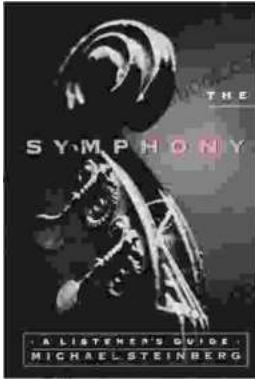
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