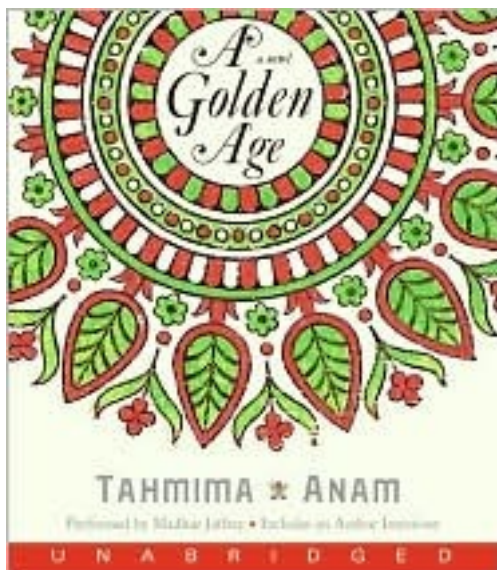

Tahmima Anam

A Golden Age CD: A Golden Age CD



Title: A Golden Age CD: A Golden Age CD

Author: Tahmima Anam

Format: Audio CD

Language: English

Pages: 288

Publisher: , 0

ISBN: 0061537888

Format: PDF / Kindle / ePub

Size: 8.4 MB

Download: allowed

Description

As young widow Rehana Haque awakes one March morning, she might be forgiven for feeling happy. Her children are almost grown, the city is buzzing with excitement after recent elections. Change is in the air.

But no one can foresee what will happen in the days and months that follow. For this is East Pakistan in 1971, a country on the brink of war. And this family's life is about to change forever.

Set against the backdrop of the Bangladesh War of Independence, *A Golden Age* is a story of passion and revolution, of hope, faith, and unexpected heroism. In the chaos of this era, everyone must make choices. And as she struggles to keep her family safe, Rehana will be forced to face a heartbreaking dilemma.

Insightful reviews

Paul: This is a debut novel set against the Bangladesh War of Independence; it's not a historical novel, but the story is told through the medium of one family and those in their immediate circle. The plot has a personal inspiration and is the story of Rehana Haque. She is a single mother; her children are in their late teens and are part of the struggle for independence. There is the brutality of war, mostly at a distance, sometimes present and political events intrude; but there is a continuum of family life, food, neighbours, love and loss. Sadly, I don't know enough about the historical events to comment on the historical accuracy, but Anam tells an engaging story. Whilst there is warmth and empathy for those struggling for independence, the characterisation is very polarised and the Pakistan based characters tend to be generally evil. The violence and atrocities are there, but they are not overdone, nor too vividly drawn. The novel is well written and easy to read; the main strength is the family drama and there is a good bit of tension as well. I enjoyed it and it covered an area that I know too little about.

Chrissie: Rather than depicting the events of Bangladesh independence, i.e. the split between East and West Pakistan in 1971, the central theme is a mother's efforts to save her children. There is too little history. On the other hand, I just finished another book concerning how war wreaks havoc in people's lives, [Scribbling The Cat](#), and that I loved. That didn't have a lot about the exact historical events of the Rhodesian War, but I still loved it, so something else must be wrong. The central theme here, in the book about Bangladesh, is that all can be sacrificed except her children. The mother will do almost anything for her children. I think I couldn't relate to that. In Fuller's book I felt that the author was revealing her own search for coping with war experiences, not only K's. I think I was touched by her honesty and willingness to reveal herself. In *A Golden Age*, by Tahmima Anam, the mother reveals herself honestly; it is clear that she has made questionable choices, done things she shouldn't have done, but she remained only a fictional character for me.

Fuller's book has humor that balances the terrible events. There is little humor in Anam's book. I could place myself in Fuller's book, and I could not do that in Anam's book. Both books have

sentences that are not translated into English. Fuller's book has a section at the back that translates these expressions. Anam's book didn't. I did not have access to the translations because they are not included in the audiobook version. In both books you do understand what is going on, even without the translations.

Melinda: I thought that this book gave an excellent perspective of daily life during the Pakistan War during the early 1970s. Knowing very little about this conflict, I found the realistic setting intriguing. The scenes are vivid and intense as they describe the deplorable conditions of the refugees and the treatment of captured nationalist soldiers.

As far as the fictitious part of the story, I found the characters a bit shallow. Sometimes, I had difficulty following sections of the story.

Overall, it is a good story of ordinary people faced with extraordinary circumstances and the pressures and consequences their choices require.

Emma Deplores Goodreads Censorship: Tahmima Anam is a kind of infrequent authors who can write approximately normal, daily occasions and feature them be totally compelling. I wasn't certain from the blurb if i want this book, yet was once sucked in from the 1st web page and total quite loved it. A Golden Age is the tale of a family--told from the point-of-view of a mom with teenage children--during Bangladesh's struggle for independence in 1971. it kind of feels to be meant extra as a common tale approximately households and battle which occurs to be set in Bangladesh, instead of a e-book approximately Bangladesh; the tale is robust even if there wasn't as a lot feel of position as I expected. yet Anam pulls it off well, and entering it figuring out little or no approximately Bangladesh I did examine a few things. a number of reviewers have complained that readers do not truly witness a lot violence during this book; Rehana, the most character, is at the sidelines, permitting guerillas to take advantage of her domestic as a base and appearing small acts of courage, no longer actively fighting. that is the point: that the tales of individuals like Rehana are worthy telling. Anam is a wonderful storyteller and makes Rehana's story fascinating; those that are available in awaiting plenty of heart-pounding motion might be disappointed, yet i actually cherished Anam's selection here. I felt i'll relate to a few of the extra scary events Rehana chanced on herself in additional so than is common in books approximately war, accurately as the events are extra mundane. For this type of brief book, the nature improvement is particularly solid, with a good little bit of mental depth, and the pacing and prose type are good. My purely different criticism is that the romance subplot isn't precisely compelling, however it will get little web page time and the remainder of the publication is nice sufficient that i am prepared to forgive that. i'd definitely suggest this one.

Chris: The details of the clash among Pakistan and Bangladesh aren't known to many folks in America. To make this new flooring palatable, Anam deftly filters the massive photograph throughout the own reports and very unlikely offerings of her characters. We instinctively comprehend the indelible and intimate influence of passionate insurrection at the quotidian; we odor the fetid air of the refugee camp, the place the simplest shield for one's kinfolk is located inside of a development pipe, whereas even as we're surprisngly moved by means of the desperation of a silly girl who forces her daughter's marriage to a eco-friendly younger military officer, believing it is going to confirm their protection in risky times. it truly is such gem-like moments, with out even the slightest trace of anxiety or enjoying to the audience, that made me

suppose lucky to be examining A Golden Age in the course of the unfortunately old week of the assassination of Benazir Bhutto, and to be studying approximately a side of Pakistan's heritage that informs what happens there today. i glance ahead to the following volumes within the trilogy.

Angela: Taking a tip from the illustrious Chris Blattman, my version on being a globe trotting improvement worker, i made a decision to learn this publication in practise for an upcoming business journey to Bangladesh. i am completely happy I did - examining (even fictionalized) historic money owed a couple of kingdom is perhaps a fun, insightful strategy to know about it, so long as you retain in brain the capability biases. during this author's case, i guess there are two: first, she used to be born a number of years after the Bangladesh Liberation warfare (this tale facilities round the 9-month 1971 clash among what was once then East and West Pakistan), and so i think there is a few romanticizing nostalgia happening (the related means i would romanticize the Iron Curtain or the Berlin Wall). And secondly, each (West) Pakistani personality during this ebook is lovely uniformly lousy - from the shrill Karachi family members to the evil Pakistani army forces. The book's evidently pro-Bangladesh, that's effective and good and all that, even though i believe its satisfaction (and nationalism) occasionally spills over into implicitly anti-Pakistan jingoism too. that is much less appealing. Onto the great bits! One very, first-class bit is that the protagonist is a middle-aged lady, a mom of 2 headstrong, charismatic university kids. The middle-aged-lady-as-focus is particularly infrequent certainly all through film/TV/books, and so it is often clean to listen to this voice, see via those eyes. Rehana Haque, the heroine, is additionally well quirky: from her easy-going spirituality to her girlish rebellious streak. now and then it lines credulity, or feels a piece thin, equivalent to Rehana swinging from anxiousness to delight re: her son's guerrilla exploits. yet overall, the voice is constant and compelling. The total writing type can be compelling, and it feels very, very familiar. At least, i believe like i might have written this within the very same means - which intended that, whereas the familiarity used to be hot and fuzzy, it additionally left me wishing for anything more, within the similar method i locate my very own writing restricted or even formulaic. the writer is not any Salman Rushdie, blowing your hair again with an enormous mind strutting its stuff. neither is she even a R.K. Narayan, fascinating you with humanistic simplicity. Instead, it used to be good, by no means nice - and satisfying, yet by no means overly stimulating.

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