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# **An Interview With Anita Desai Sampsonia Way Magazine**

This Book Is A Pioneer Study In  
Objective Criticism Of The

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Novels Of Anita Desai. An  
Electro-Cardiogram Records  
The Vibrations Of The Heart,  
Stylistics Does The Same For  
Literary Texts. Words Are The  
Symbols Of The Vibrations Of A  
Writer S Thought. Modern

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Criticism Acknowledges That  
Form And Idea In Any Literary  
Text Are Inseparable. This  
Study Successfully Proves That  
The Objective And The  
Subjective Merge Into One  
Another To Make A Complete

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Whole. The Detailed Textual  
Analysis Of The Beginnings Of  
The Eight Novels Of Anita  
Desai Is Both Revealing And  
Enjoyable Because The  
Findings Are Objectively Based  
And Are In Concord With The

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Opinion Of Other Critics On The  
Subject. The Chapters On Form  
And Structure And The Rhetoric  
Of The Novels Including  
Fictional Sequencing,  
Discourse And Discourse  
Situation, Types Of Narration,

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The Narrative Voice, Tone, Speech And Thought Presentation, And Point Of View, Are Equally Penetrating And Illuminating. The Book Has Much To Offer To Professionals And Non-Professionals Alike As

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It Combines Sound Scientific  
Approach With Keen Critical  
And Aesthetic Judgement In  
Literary Art.

Contributed articles.

Cry, the Peacock is the story of  
a young girl, Maya, obsessed

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by a childhood prophecy of disaster. The author builds up an atmosphere of tension as torrid and oppressive as a stifling Indian summer, both in the crowded, colourful cities and the strangely beautiful



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countryside. Maya's extreme sensitivity never alienates the reader because it is rendered in terms of measurable human loneliness... How well Desai does in the business of carrying her narrative through

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to a satisfactory, even explosive end.' — The Times Literary Supplement, London  
Desai's classic novel of the Holocaust era is the story of the profound emotional wounds of war and its exiles.

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The book follows Hugo Baumgartner as he leaves behind Nazi Germany and his Jewish heritage for Calcutta, only to be imprisoned as a hostile alien and then released to Bombay at war's end.

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Rethinking Subjectivity

Critical Essays on Anita Desai's  
Fiction

Anita Desai, Kiran Desai and  
Jhumpa Lahiri

Three Novellas

Anita Desai

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SHORTLISTED FOR THE 1999  
BOOKER PRIZE Uma, the plain,  
spinster daughter of a close-knit  
Indian family, is trapped at  
home, smothered by her  
overbearing parents and their  
traditions, unlike her ambitious

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younger sister Aruna, who brings off a 'good' marriage, and brother Arun, the disappointing son and heir who is studying in America. Across the world in Massachusetts, life with the Patton family is bewildering for

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Arun in the alien culture of  
freedom, freezers and  
paradoxically self-denying self-  
indulgence.

This book attempts to deal with  
the problem of literary  
subjectivity in theory and

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practice. The works of six contemporary women writers — Doris Lessing, Anita Desai, Mahasweta Devi, Buchi Emecheta, Margaret Atwood and Toni Morrison — are discussed as potential ways of



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testing and expanding the theoretical debate. A brief history of subjectivity and subject formation is reviewed in the light of the works of thinkers such as Hobbes, Hume, Kant, Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche,

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Raymond Williams and Stephen Greenblatt, and the work of leading feminists is also seen contributing to the debate substantially.

Showcases some of the best poetry, prose, and fiction from

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women in Africa, Asia, Latin  
America, and the Caribbean  
A young American in Mexico  
discovers his family ' s  
past—and a present-day  
danger—in this “ elegant,  
exquisite ” novel of suspense

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(Elle). Eric is a newly minted historian just out of graduate school, plagued by self-doubt over both his past choices and his future options. With no clear direction, he follows his lover, Em, when she travels to the

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Yucatan for her scientific research, but ends up alone in this foreign place. And so he pursues his own private quest, tracing his family ' s history to a Mexican ghost town, where, a hundred years earlier, young

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Cornish miners—among them Eric ' s grandparents—toiled to the death. Now, in place of the Cornish workers, the native Huichol Indians suffer the cruelty of the mines. When he inquires into their lives, Eric

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provokes the ire of their self-appointed savior, Dona Vera. Known as the “ Queen of the Sierra, ” Dona Vera is the widow of a mining baron who has dedicated her fortune to preserving the Huichol culture.

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But her formidable presence  
belies a dubious past. The  
zigzag paths of these characters  
converge on the Day of the  
Dead, bringing together past  
and present in a moment of  
powerful epiphany. Haunting



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and atmospheric, with splashes of exuberant color and darker violence, *The Zigzag Way* is “ a beautifully rendered combination of history, folklore, and modern fiction ” (Entertainment Weekly), from a

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Booker Prize finalist. “ Long  
before Jhumpa Lahiri . . . long  
before Monica Ali . . . another  
novelist was offering us  
exquisitely detailed portraits of  
bodies in transit [and] classes in  
the art of sly and sensuous

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fiction . . . Anita Desai was a global, migrant writer before such a thing was fashionable. ” —Time “ Almost unbearably suspenseful. ” —The Boston Globe “ A hypnotic journey. ” —San Jose Mercury News

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The Novels of Anita Desai

Bye-Bye Blackbird

Cry, the Peacock

Hullabaloo in the Guava Orchard

Games at Twilight and Other

Stories

Anita Desai, A Recipient Of Many

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Literary Awards In India And Abroad,  
And A Creative Writing Teacher At  
Massachusetts Institute Of Technology  
Since 1993, In Addition To Being A  
Fellow Of The Royal Society Of  
Literature In London And Honorary  
Fellow Of The University Of Cambridge,  
Has Proved Herself To Be A Major Indian

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Novelist Of The Post-Seventies India,  
Whose Novels Epitomize The Emerging  
Women S Search For Self-Hood In The  
Indian Context. Fire On The Mountain  
(1977), Winner Of The 1978 National  
Academy Of Letters Award, And  
Generally Considered Desai S  
Masterpiece, Is A Beautiful Novel,

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Focused On Two Elderly Ladies And One Small Girl. Nanda Kaul Retires To A Hill Station House In Her Old Age, And Leads An Isolated Life There, When Her Great-Granddaughter Comes To Stay. With The Arrival Of Raka The Story Takes A New Turn, Gathers Momentum, And Unfurls Quickly To A Symbolic End When The

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Mountain Has Been Set On Fire. The Atlantic Critical Study Of Fire On The Mountain, Which Is Primarily Meant For The Students Of English Literature Of Indian Universities, Is A Comprehensive, Self-Sufficient And In-Depth Study Of The Text. The Author, A Distinguished Scholar In The Area, Has Taken Special



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Care To Combine Lucidity And  
Profundity In Her Treatment Of The Text.  
In Its Eight Chapters The Present Study  
Examines The Text From Various Angles  
Such As The Title, Themes, Characters,  
Images And Symbols, Narrative  
Technique, And Feminist Discourse, In  
Addition To Providing An Introduction ,

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A Brief Story-Outline , And A Detailed  
Critical Summary Of The Entire Text In  
Its Three Parts, Along With A Select  
Bibliography And Sample Questions. The  
Book Will Be Immensely Useful For  
Students, Scholars And Teachers In The  
Area.

Sophie and Matteo are young and in love,

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sharing a dissatisfaction with their bourgeois Italian upbringing. Naturally, like so many other young Westerners in the sixties and seventies, they go to India. But the realities of life in an ashram ignite their differences; Sophie wants to be a tourist and go to Goa and eat shrimp, which Matteo scorns, seeking the "real"

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India. Pragmatic Sophie is disillusioned by the hardships they encounter, while her husband, who yearns for spiritual fulfillment, sees only the purity of ascetic life, leading him to Mother, a charismatic guru. Trying to reclaim an ailing Matteo, Sophie embarks on a new journey in search for a different truth; that of

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Mother's mysterious past. Soon, she finds that the immortal has a history of her own; born in Cairo, she was once Laila, a dancer who toured the world before coming to Bombay to search for "divine love". What each of the three people discover, on their individual quests, is at its heart that ancient truth: that wisdom is

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found in the journey itself. A stirring, profound exploration of emotional exile, of sacred and profane loves, *Journey to Ithaca* is a masterful novel.

Winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Man Booker Prize:  
An "extraordinary" novel "lit by a moral intelligence at once fierce and tender"

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(The New York Times Book Review). In a crumbling, isolated house at the foot of Mount Kanchenjunga in the Himalayas, an embittered old judge wants only to retire in peace. But his life is upended when his sixteen-year-old orphaned granddaughter, Sai, arrives on his doorstep. The judge's chatty cook watches over the girl, but his

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thoughts are mostly with his son, Biju, hopscotching from one miserable New York restaurant job to another, trying to stay a step ahead of the INS. When a Nepalese insurgency threatens Sai's new-sprung romance with her tutor, the household descends into chaos. The cook witnesses India's hierarchy being



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overturned and discarded. The judge revisits his past and his role in Sai and Biju's intertwining lives. In a grasping world of colliding interests and conflicting desires, every moment holds out the possibility for hope or betrayal. Published to extraordinary acclaim, *The Inheritance of Loss* heralds Kiran Desai as one of our

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most insightful novelists. She illuminates the pain of exile and the ambiguities of postcolonialism with a tapestry of colorful characters and "uncannily beautiful" prose (O: The Oprah Magazine). "A book about tradition and modernity, the past and the future"and about the surprising ways both amusing and sorrowful, in which they all

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connect. | | The Independent

Today Anita Desai Is Recognised For Her Originality, Versatility And The Indigenous Flavour Of Her Character-Portrayal That She Brings To Her Work. Her Women Characters Are Real Flesh And Blood Protagonists Who Make You Look At Them With Awe And With Their

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Relationships To Their Surroundings, Their Society, Their Men, Their Children, Their Families, Their Mental And Psychological Make-Ups And Themselves. The Present Book Purports To Be A Pioneering Attempt To Evaluate Desai S Fiction And Fictional Art From Various Points Of View And Assesses Her

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Contribution To The Indian-English Fiction. What Is Unique About This Book Is The Attempt To Include Desai S Complete Fictional Oeuvre From Her Maiden Attempt Cry, The Peacock (1963) Till Her Latest Published Work The Zigzag Way (2004). Her Novels Of Four Decades Have Been Divided Into

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Different Sections For A Focused Study. The Present Critical Anthology Of Dr. Neeru Tandon On Anita Desai Is An Admirable Effort On The Presentation Of A Coherent And Comprehensive Assessment Of Anita Desai As A Powerful Indian English Fiction Writer. In Her Collection She Has Included Certain

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Burning Topics Of The Day Such As Male-Female Dichotomy, Existentialist Vision, Religion And Culture, Concept Of Marriage And Narrative Technique In The Fiction Of Anita Desai. The Uncomplicated Language And The Natural Flow Of Words Make For Easy Reading. Since Dasai Is Prescribed In The

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Syllabus In Most Of The Universities Of India, Both The Teachers And The Students Will Find This Book Extremely Useful, And The Research Scholars Will Also Find It Very Interesting And Purposeful.

The Inheritance of Loss

Existential Dimensions in the Novels of



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Anita Desai

The Village by the Sea

Postcolonial Literatures

Their Words and Worlds : Life in Africa,  
Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean as  
Seen in Photographs and in Fiction by the  
Region's Top Women Writers

***Set in contemporary Bombay***

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***and other cities, these stories reflect the kaleidoscope of urban life - evoking the colour, sounds and white-hot heat of the city. Warm, perceptive, humorous and touched with sadness, Anita Desai's stories are peopled***

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***with intensely individual  
characters - the man  
spiritually transformed by the  
surface texture of a melon;  
the American wife who,  
homesick for the verdant  
farmlands of Vermont, turns  
to the hippies in the Indian***

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***hills; the painter living in a  
slum who fills his canvasses  
with flowers, birds and  
landscapes he has never seen.  
Anita Desai And Her Novels  
Have Been An Enigma For  
Decades. Scholars, Critics,  
Researchers And Students***

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***Have Never Stopped  
Marvelling About Supremacy  
Of Idea Over Matter In The  
Works Of This Gifted Novelist.  
The Philosophical Mood, The  
Realization Of A Grand  
Design, The Presence Of  
Unsaid, Unarticulated***

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***Realities All These Have  
Forever Teased The Mind Of  
The Discerning Reader. In The  
Present Volume, Anita Desai  
Has Been Extensively And  
Intensely Probed. As The  
Reader Will See, The Thrust  
Has Been More On***

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***Psychological And Intellectual  
Facets Of Her Fiction, Rather  
Than Social, Cultural Or  
Physical Areas. This Is The  
Trend Of Criticism These Days  
And It Is Rightly So. The Fine  
Subtleties, The Small But  
Significant Turn Of Events,***

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***The Role Of Place In The  
Formation Of Mental Scene,  
The Vitality Of Characters,  
The Force Of Their  
Personalities, The Intricate  
Web Of Relationships All  
These Have Been Examined  
And Expressed In Words That***



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***Are At Once Easy To  
Understand As Well As  
Graceful To Aesthetic Sense.  
Published to high  
praise--"groundbreaking . . . a  
landmark" (Poets and  
Writers)--this was the first  
anthology to celebrate the***

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***diversity of women who write.  
A trio of artful novellas by the  
award-winning author of The  
Zigzag Way ruminates on  
memory, illusion and  
expectation and is set in India  
of the recent past, where its  
protagonists embark on***

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***unexpected journeys that  
offer renewed hope and  
opportunity.***

***A Companion to Indian  
Fiction in English***

***A Feminist Perspective***

***Eye to Eye, Women***

***Symbolism in Anita Desai's***

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**Novels**

***Voices in the City***  
***After The Pioneer Works By***  
***Scholars Such As Naik,***  
***Narasimhaiah And Mukherjee,***  
***And The Thirty Years Of Silence***  
***Which Followed Their Ground-***  
***Breaking Achievements, The***

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***Companion Appears On The  
Scene Striving To Reinvigorate  
The Tradition Of Panoramic  
Studies Of Indian Literature In  
English. In The Intervening  
Period, Indian Fiction In English  
Has Become Of Paramount  
Importance In The Wide Context***

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***Of Postcolonial Studies: An Emergent Crop Of Novelists Belonging To The So-Called New Generation Has Colourfully Paved The Way Towards New Artistic Horizons, Re-Interpreting Western-Derived Literary Models With Inventive Approaches.***

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***Complementary To Their Role  
There Is The Articulate Presence  
Of A Host Of Indian Scholars Who  
In Recent Years Have  
Significantly Influenced The  
Course Of This Analysis And Have  
Vitaly Contributed To Enlarging  
Its Scope Well Beyond The***

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***Original Boundaries Of Studies In  
Literary Criticism. The  
Companion, Therefore, Addresses  
The Exigencies Of Critics,  
Teachers And Students Alike All  
Those Who Need To Find Quick  
Points Of Reference In This Wide  
Field Of Studies By Relying On A***



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***Team Of Authoritative  
Collaborators And Specialists  
From All Over The World. Great  
Care Was Taken Not Only In  
Selecting Collaborators On The  
Basis Of Their Specialisation But  
Also Taking Into Account Their  
Cultural Background In Relation***

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***To The Author They Were To  
Discuss. The Book In Fact Has  
Been Organised To Have What  
Have Been Deemed To Be The  
Most Representative Authors In  
Indian Fiction Discussed In An  
Essay-Long Chapter Each,  
Structured To Highlight Crucial***

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***Points Such As Biographical  
Details, Novels And Critical  
Reception. Each Chapter Includes  
A Final Bibliography Complete  
With Primary And Secondary  
Sources, Enabling The Scholar To  
Have Immediate Orientation On  
Various Specific Topics. Finally,***

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***The Book Has An Innovative  
Section, With Synopses Of  
Novels, Planned To Allow Our  
Readers To Immediately Place  
The Authors Analysed Within The  
Panorama Of Indian Fiction In  
English. The Over 400 Synopses  
Included Principally Introduce***

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***Works Written By The Novelists  
Discussed At Length In The  
Previous Chapters But, Along  
With Them, It Is Also Possible To  
Find Summaries Of Works By  
Authors Who, Although  
Contributing In A Significant Way  
To The Development Of Forms***

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***And Techniques, Do Not Feature  
In The First Part.***

***This book is a comparative and  
developmental study of the  
expression of feminist concerns  
in the novels of Kamala  
Markandaya, Nayantara Sahgal,  
Anita Desai, and Shashi***

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***Deshpande, among the best known and most prolific Indian novelists writing in English, who have been self-consciously engaged with women's issues during the postcolonial era. Cry, the Peacock***  
**Paperbacks**

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***In this sensitive portrayal of human nature, Anita Desai, one of India's foremost writers, paints an intimate portrait of lives impacted by the quest for identity and purpose. Deven, a Hindi lecturer in small-town Mirpore, lives a humdrum***



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***existence. A chance to interview Nur—India's greatest living Urdu poet—offers him an escape from his dreary life. But the Nur he meets is an enfeebled man, surrounded by clashing wives and preying sycophants. Deven's decision to be the custodian of***

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***Nur's verse gives birth to an unusual alliance between the two. Stimulating and thought provoking, In Custody is a brilliant parable lamenting the gradual corrosion of culture and tradition in the face of modernity, and a dazzling study***

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***of the complexity of human  
relationships.***

***The Artist of Disappearance***

***Roots and Blossoms***

***Baumgartner's Bombay***

***A Study Guide for Anita Desai's***

***"A Devoted Son"***

***Achebe, Ngugi, Desai, Walcott***

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This collection of essays reflects the intensified debate world-wide in literary theories, especially since 1968, and the growth of post-colonial literatures in English, which together have prompted significant re-readings of cultural

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histories in Africa, India, the Caribbean, as well as in America and Europe. Post-Colonial Literatures scrutinises the work of four writers: Achebe, Ngugi, Desai and Walcott, and their attempts to find new languages and new

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narratives to engage with the complex histories of their 'homelands'.

Although the short story has existed in various forms for centuries, it has particularly flourished during the last hundred

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years. Reader's Companion to the Short Story in English includes alphabetically-arranged entries for 50 English-language short story writers from around the world. Most of these writers have been active since 1960, and they reflect

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a wide range of experiences and perspectives in their works. Each entry is written by an expert contributor and includes biography, a review of existing criticism, a lengthier analysis of specific works, and a selected



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bibliography of primary and secondary sources. The volume begins with a detailed introduction to the short story genre and concludes with an annotated bibliography of major works on short story theory.

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The Book Is A Pioneering Study Of  
Its Kind, Chronologically Examining  
The Novels Of Anita Desai Mostly  
From A Female Point Of View. The  
Book Excels In Formally Analysing  
The Character And Situation  
Relationship In The Overall Context

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Of The Feminine Psyche Which It Thoroughly Examines. The Value Of The Book Is Immensely Enhanced By A Consideration Of Anita Desai S Fictional Technique. Dr. Gopal S Formal Method Is Not A Closed Universe But Cross Refers

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To The Social Structure Within  
Which The Situations Manipulate  
Characters And Their Destinies.  
Anita Desai S Work Represents A  
Unique Blending Of The Indian And  
The Western. Her Novels Catch The  
Bewilderment Of The Individual

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Psyche Confronted With The  
Overbearing Socio-Cultural  
Environment And The Ever-  
Beckoning Modern Promise Of Self-  
Gratification And Self-Fulfilment. In  
The Face Of This Dual Onslaught,  
Her Protagonists, Male Or Female

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Maya, Sita, Monisha And Amla;  
Sarah, Nanda And Raka; Bim And  
Tara; Devan, Baumgartner Are Seen  
Poised Rentalizingly At Different  
Junctures Of The Philosophic  
Spectrum. Applying Sociological,  
Psychoanalytic, Structural And

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Other Approaches Of Formal  
Textual Analysis, The Essays In The  
Present Anthology Take A Fresh  
Look At Established Works,  
Revealing Aspects Of Study  
Hitherto Unexplored, Offer  
Critically Insightful Probes Into

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Individual Novels And Explore The  
Deployment Of Images, Symbols  
And Other Poetic Devices, Besides  
Diverse Narrative Strategies. An  
Indispensable Source-Book For  
Students, Researchers And  
Teachers Of Indian English And



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Commonwealth Literature In  
General And Fiction And Anita  
Desai In Particular.An Insightful  
Companion For Research In  
Sociology And Women-Studies.  
The Writer on Her Work  
Interviews with Writers of the Post-

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colonial World

"Theme of Alienation and isolation  
in Anita Desai's Novels"

Journey to Ithaca

Style Studies in Anita Desai

*Interviews with third-  
world and Chicano authors*

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*speaking about their place  
in the literary canon  
This book offers  
captivating insights into  
the interaction between  
the Indian and the  
American cultural worlds.*

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*A fascinating work of research, it illustrates an extraordinary capacity to employ the details of literary texts as significant clues in understanding the*

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*configuration of  
transcultural identities.  
The book constructs an  
exciting dialogue between  
complex theoretical  
notions and the vibrant  
fictional worlds populated*

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*by Indian, American and  
European characters. Its  
original and multi-layered  
approach illustrates how  
complex theories of  
culture can help the  
reader understand*

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*contemporary processes of migration, cultural change and gender identity that interfere with daily life. Anita Desai, b. 1937, Indo-English novelist. Written in vivid narrative*

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*and chiselled prose, Bye-  
Bye Blackbird explores the  
lives of the outsiders  
seeking to forge a new  
identity in an alien  
society. Set against  
England's green and grisly*



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*landscape, enigmatic and  
attractive to some,  
depressing and nauseating  
to others, it is a story  
of everyday heroism  
against subtle oppression,  
crumbling traditions and*

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*homesickness. 'Characters grow with life, the scenes are delicately painted and the nuances of changing mood skilfully transmitted.'* – Hindu  
*'More than a novel, it is*

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*a psychological study of  
the love-hate relationship  
the immigrants have  
towards their country of  
adoption.' – Indian  
Express*

*A Critical Study of the*

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*Novels of Anita Desai*

*The Writer's Imagination*

*Feminism and Contemporary*

*Women Writers*

*Anita Desai, Fire on the  
Mountain*

*The Impact of Virginia*

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***Woolf on Anita Desai***

***A Study Guide for Anita Desai's "A Devoted Son," excerpted from Gale's acclaimed Short Stories for Students. This concise study guide includes plot summary; character analysis; author biography; study questions; historical context; suggestions for further reading;***

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*and much more. For any literature project, trust Short Stories for Students for all of your research needs.*

*Virginia Woolf was a talented and indefatigable writer. She was a very serious and conscious artist, interested more in the life of the mind - in sensation, thoughts, feelings, intuitions -*

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*than in the life of external action. Being an artist of great insight and penetration, she painted a picture of real life as she saw it. In her desire to paint reality she broke with the traditions and conventions of the 19th century novel. Anita Desai is also an indisputably one of the most powerful and distinguished contemporary*

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*Indian novelists in English. A novelist of considerable merit, Anita Desai has enriched the tradition of the Indian novel in English. She is a conscious artist of a high order and her concern for human has imparted profound appeal to her novels. Anita Desai, in contrast with other women novelists is more interested in the*



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*interior landscape of the mind, the thought than in political and social realities. Thus, Virginia Woolf and Anita Desai are two great artists in the realm of English fiction. Both are rooted in two totally different milieus, yet the works of two share not only in structure and themes but also in imagery, style and technique.*

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*The study of the impact of Virginia Woolf on Anita Desai provides a very fascinating and rewarding experience. Anita Desai and Virginia Woolf have taken deep interest in depicting the family structure. These two writers have their thematic nexus on the familial relationship. It is the depiction of the*

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*familial relationships, which binds the two novelists with each other in a strong bond. Though these two great writers, Woolf and Desai are from two different centuries and countries, the works of two shares in the structure, themes like loneliness, isolation, death etc. and imagery. Also, in the novels of both, there*

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*is a major role of 'time and memory'.  
This book makes a modest attempt to  
focus attention upon the impact of Woolf  
on Desai. In both Woolf and Desai, we  
find an almost obsessive involvement with  
the characters' past as a key to their  
consciousness, their lives. A pre-  
occupation with nostalgia and memory*

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*thus becomes an integral part of their craft. But these are not used as things in themselves. They are used artistically both for thematic as well as formal purposes. A careful study of the novels makes us understand how they are made to function as artistic tools. This book particularly, highlights the impact of*

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*Virginia Woolf on Anita Desai, with respect to three novels of each. These are - I) Mrs. Dalloway and Cry, the Peacock II) To the Lighthouse and Clear Light of Day III) The Waves and Fire on the Mountain I record my gratefulness to the principal of J.E.S. College, Jalna- Dr. R. S. Agrawal, Head of the Department of*

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*English- M.A. Sami Siddiqui for support and encouragement at every stage of my work. I also offer my sincere thanks to the senior teachers of my Department for their valuable suggestions. I feel deeply to put into words my sense of thankfulness to my parents and family. I am thankful to Rut Printer and Publisher and Dr. U.*

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*P. Mogle for the valuable work help to design and print. Dr. Varsha P. Zanwar*  
*The notion of thinking as an outsider and the critical distance which this entails is key to an understanding of Desai as a writer. This book informs her authorial perspectives on India, its places, scenes and people, and her creative engagement*



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*with those who find themselves  
marginalized, displaced, and dispossessed.  
The Book Is A Pioneering Study Of Its  
Kind, Chronologically Examining The  
Novels Of Anita Desai Mostly From A  
Feminist Point Of View. The Book Excels  
In Formally Analysing Indian And  
Western Traditions Of Feminism, Man-*

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*Woman Relationship And Art Of  
Characterisation In The Overall Context  
Of The Feminine Psyche Which It  
Thoroughly Examines. Anita Desai S Is A  
World Of Married Women Who Combat  
To Get Out Of The Manacles That Bind  
Them; To Evolve From Being A Mere  
Nonentity Victim To A Vibrant Individual*

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*Capable Of Breaking The Fetters Without  
Breaking The Relationship. The Book Is  
A Voyage From A Sense Of Incompetence  
And Paranoia To Self-Awareness And  
Resilience, To Self-Poise And Concord  
Within The Family Matrix. Dr. Gupta  
Shows How Anita Desai Has Depicted  
The Depths Of Human Consciousness*

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*And Subconsciousness In Her Existential  
Concern Which Makes Her Writings  
Uniquely Powerful Through Feminism.  
Hence, The Need And Justification Of  
The Book To Undertake The Present  
Study Of Her New Perspective On  
Feminism.*

*Indian Fiction in English*

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*The Interview Chain*

*A Novel*

*Anita Desai and Her Fictional World*

Voices in the City is based on the life of the middle class intellectuals of Calcutta. It is an unforgettable story of

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a Bohemian brother and his two sisters caught in the crosscurrents of changing social values. In many ways the story reflects a vivid picture of India's social transition - a phase in which the older elements are not altogether dead, and the emergent ones not fully evolved.

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The novel describes the bitter effects of the urban living upon an Indian family. Brought up in luxury and magnificence by an over indulgent mother, Nirode settles down in Calcutta and becomes engrossed in its bohemian life, while his elder sister, Monisha lives out a servile

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existence within the rigid and stiff confines of a traditional Hindu family. Amla sees the city as a monster, Nirode sacrifices everything for his career, and Monisha cannot bear her stifling existence in the household of a wealthy old Calcutta family.



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Sampath Chawla, a young postal worker who never feels as though he fits into the small Indian town into which he is born, one day climbs up a tree, only to become a famous holy man

The notion of thinking as an outside,

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and the critical distance which this entails, is a key to an understanding of Desai as writer, and a recurrent theme for the discussions of her novels and short stories in her book. It informs her authorial perspectives on India, its places, scenes, and people, and her

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creative engagement with those who, through a combination of accident and choice, find themselves marginalised, displaced, and dispossessed. The search for other, alternative, worlds outside of the social and cultural mainstream defines the self-identity of many of

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Desai's characters, and underlines their problematic identification with the communities in which they are located. Through detailed discussions of a number of short stories and novels, and references to other works by Indo-English writers, this book shows how

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Desai maps her 'India', and opens up ways of reading 'India' for the reader as outsider.

Transcultural Encounters in South-Asian American Women ' s Fiction

Fasting, Feasting

A Reader's Companion to the Short

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Story in English

A Critical Study

Critical Responses to Anita Desai