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Sketches from Memory: Vol. I: A Journey to Gandhi

By Margaret Chatterjee

Promilla & Co., Publishers, New Delhi, India, 2009. Paperback. Book Condition: New. First Edition. Written at the suggestion of a friend, this book chronicles a tale in space and time, a journey from one culture to another entirely different. After the introductory sections dealing with the author's early life, the influences that were at work, and the interests she developed, the focus shifts to people met in the course of unusually wide travels. They were so memorable that they are given centre stage. The author arrived in India in 1946 and the book is partially autobiographical for it does not include a large part of her life- her marriage to Nripendranath Chatterjee, originally a Professor of English, her experiences in a university in UP where there were caste hostels, and her subsequent involvement in district and village life in Bengal after her husband became one of the first emergency recruits to the newly formed IAS. They were crowded years in which she raised a family and acquired a working knowledge of two languages. So the journey to Gandhi was prepared by what the author had already learnt about India through the years which she has not recorded lest the book...



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