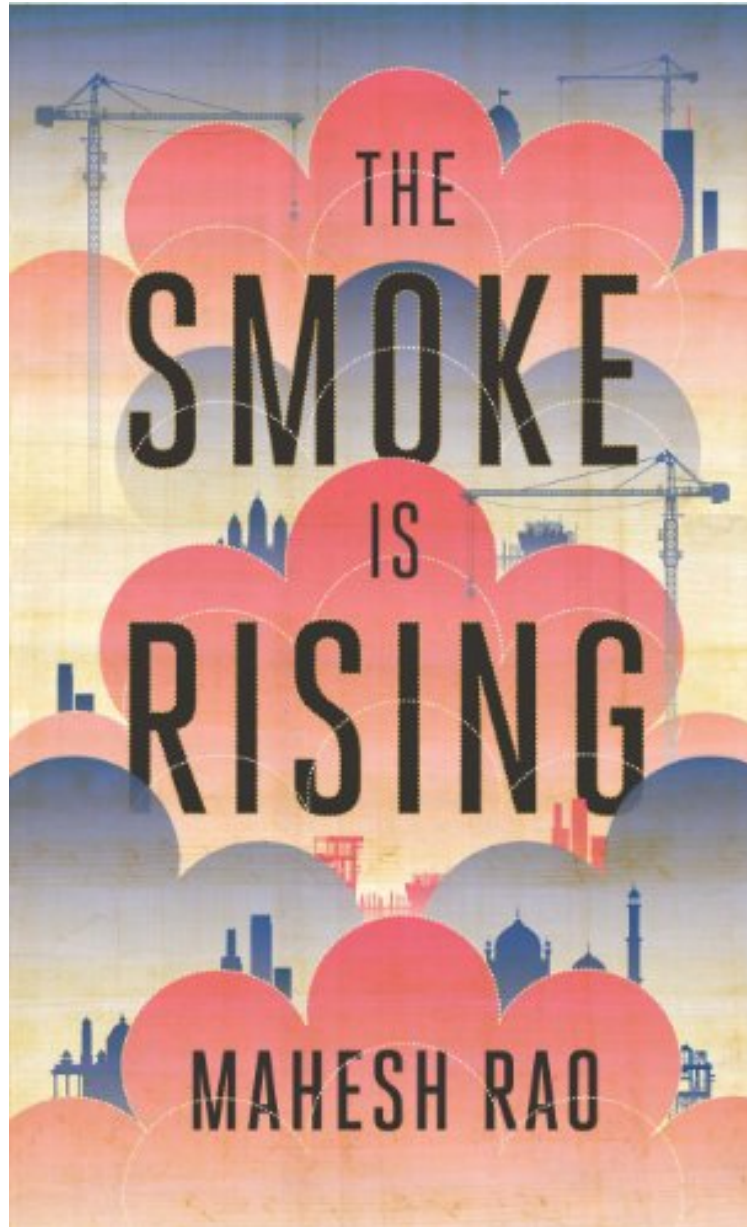


(Download ebook) The Smoke is Rising

The Smoke is Rising

Von Mahesh Rao

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Von Mahesh Rao : The Smoke is Rising before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Smoke is Rising:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Modern

India Von Christiane The characters in Mahesh Rao's novel set in Mysore represent different strata of Indian society. Through the glimpses into their lives that the author offers, the reader comes away feeling that only the super rich - more exactly the nouveau super rich have some control over their destiny. Despite the inroads of modernity in the form of India's first rocket launch to the moon, theme parks, luxury malls, an international film festival, dieting clubs, lifestyle fads, ubiquitous advertising of entire ranges of products that the middle classes were completely unaware that they required and an effort to make over the city's image into the Geneva of the East, everyone else is to a greater or lesser extent oppressed by the traditional evils that still plague India: the cast system, extreme poverty, sub-human living conditions, environmental degradation, an erratic electricity and drinking water supply, spousal abuse, etc. As if all that were not enough, Rao's characters are suffocating under the pressure exercised by society, their own families and friends to conform to some rigid ideal of propriety. Envy, vicious slander and humiliation destroy even the most innocent attempts at happiness. This is an intelligent, very well written novel which despite the seriousness of the subject matter is not strident and often very funny.

Kurzbeschreibung The future is here. India has just sent its first spacecraft to the moon, and the placid city of Mysore is gearing up for its own global recognition with the construction of HeritageLand - Asia's largest theme park. From behind the formidable gates of Mahalakshmi Gardens to the shanty houses on the edge of town, the people of Mysore are abuzz as they watch their city prepare for a complete transformation. Susheela, an elderly widow, is forced into a secretive new life. Uma, trying to escape her painful past, learns the lasting power of local gossip. And Mala must finally confront the reality of her husband's troubling behaviour. Savagely funny and deeply poignant, *The Smoke is Rising* is a riveting portrait of a city hurtling toward an epic clash of modernity and tradition, and all the wandering souls - some hopeful, some broken, and a few somewhere in between - who find themselves caught in the middle. A darkly comic novel . . . Rao veers between sharp, economic dialogue that can be both hilarious and disquieting, and set-piece extravaganzas crammed with colour. - Spectator An auspicious debut - its comedy is dry and biting, its perceptiveness acute, and its picture of India ringingly truthful. - Neel Mukherjee The medieval and the modern India are depicted here as co-existing, and Rao has succeeded in capturing this with delicacy and insight. - Times Literary Supplement A subtle, tender and withering portrait of a society in confused transition. This is an exceptionally accomplished novel. - Siddhartha Deb

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