



A Passage to India (Popular Penguins)

By E. M. Forster

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In this hard-hitting novel, first published in 1924, the murky personal relationship between an Englishwoman and an Indian doctor mirrors the troubled politics of colonialism. Adela Quested and her fellow British travelers, eager to experience the "real" India, develop a friendship with the urbane Dr. Aziz. While on a group outing, Adela and Dr. Aziz visit the Marabar caves together. As they emerge, Adela accuses the doctor of assaulting her. While Adela never actually claims she was raped, the decisions she makes ostracize her from both her countrymen and the natives, setting off a complex chain of events that forever changes the lives of all involved. This intense and moving story asks the listener serious questions about preconceptions regarding race, sex, religion, and truth. A political and philosophical masterpiece, this engrossing novel is also exotic and descriptive, making it exceptionally well suited to audio.

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Editorial Review

Review

* With this audiobook's combination of Indian music, rich description, and Syal's compelling reading, the listener can expect to enter into the heart of India. Audiofile

About the Author

Edward Morgan Forster (E. M. Forster) was an English novelist, short-story writer and essayist. Born in 1879, Forster is known for his examination of how class difference and hypocrisy in British society during the beginning of the twentieth century influenced personal connections. These themes are best represented in his novels *A Room with a View*, *A Passage to India*, and *Howards End*. Forster died of a stroke in 1970 at the age of 91.

Meera Syal, a British-born Indian, is a writer and actress. Her first novel, "Anita and Me", won a Betty Trask award and was short-listed for the "Guardian" Fiction Prize. She lives in London.

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When Adela Quested travels to India to meet her fiancé, she soon finds herself engulfed in a cultural struggle. Forster masterfully reveals colonial India through the eyes of both Indian and British residents. Talented British actress Meera Syal gives a thoughtful reading of Forster's famous novel. With such a wide assortment of characters, voicing dialogue might prove a difficult task, but Syal accomplishes it with expertise. She masters a range of British and Indian accents to produce lively conversations. Her portrayal of the kind-hearted Indian doctor Aziz is as convincing as that of the elderly Mrs. Moore. With this audiobook's combination of Indian music, rich description, and Syal's compelling reading, the listener can expect to enter into the heart of India. T.D.M. Winner of AudioFile Earphones Award © AudioFile 2009, Portland, Maine

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