

BOOK REVIEW ETC ASSIGNMENT

TITLE OF THE BOOK: MALGUDI DAYS

AUTHOR OF THE BOOK: R.K.NARAYAN

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INTRODUCTION

The main reason behind choosing this book was the simplicity and the language that Rk Narayan is famously known for implementing in his books.

Another reason was Rk Narayan himself. Having read a lot of his work I always felt me as a reader always had a special connection with him as he keeps things simple yet interesting.

My initial expectations from the book were about a scenery in Malgudi with the astrologer in the center of it and busy streets with people all over the country coming to take a visit and trying to get a chance to meet and know about their future from the astrologer.

Hence, I buckled up and got ready for an exciting and captivating journey that awaited me.

SUMMARY OF THE STORY

So it all begins on a midday when the astrologer sits under a tamarind tree, wears a saffron turban, his forehead covered with ash and vermilion and eyes were beaming with light. Then he meets a man named Guru Nayak who he thought was his customer. Guru Nayak poses a challenge saying he will give him money if he correctly predicts about his future otherwise he will have to give it back with interest. First he was hesitant but later he agreed to tell guru Nayak about his future. He then said there was a man who almost stabbed Guru Nayak and Threw him in a well, listening to this Guru Nayak was amazed as this was what happened. His next question was whether he would find him in his lifetime as he wanted to take revenge from that man. To, this the astrologer replied its worthless to find that man because he has already died a painful death being hit by a bus and its better for Guru Nayak to go back and never come back to Malgudi.

Guru Nayak was dejected but also jovial as he heard about that person's death.

Later, when the astrologer returned home and was in a conversation with his wife we come to know that the man who tried to stab Guru Nayak was none other than The Astrologer himself. He was so sacred and full of guilt at that time that he came to Malgudi to escape Guru Nayak.

Here in this story the main characters are the Astrologer and Guru Nayak as these two had the longest interesting conversation in the full story

We also get to see the astrologer's wife but it was for a brief amount of time

The astrologer is the Protagonist with Guru Nayak being the Antagonist and his wife having a small supporting role

The central theme in this story is about Fate and Illusion of Control

ANALYSIS AND OPINION

My analysis on this story is that its quite well written and it attracts the readers mind and makes him wonder what would be next part of the story. So overall I liked it and was amazed at the final twist that came at the end.

I think the idea of fate is depicted well here. The astrologer tried to forget his past and started a new life but the man Guru Nayak eventually came back in his life.

I think there are less characters in this story. It's a bit monotonous with only 2 people having conversations between them.

For me the astrologer stood out the most because he atleast tried to move on with his life and tried to forget about his past and started a new life. In life its very important to move on irrespective of what has happened in the past.

The Illusion of control is quite well explained here

Its basically like when the person thinks he has control over the situation when in reality he has not.

Another lesson is that it is impossible to outrun your past but when life gives you lemons you make a lemonade and make the best use of the second chance.

"Never travel southward again, and you will live to be a hundred," the astrologer said.

This is the example of direct speech told to Guru Nayak

He told him that the man he was looking for had died long ago in an accident and there was no point in searching anymore.

This is an example of indirect speech again told by the astrologer to Guru Nayak

PERSONAL CONNECTION

It indeed did impact my thought process about how life goes in circle. As said in Avengers Endgame by Thanos "Dread from it, run from it and destiny still arrives" and this is proved true in the story. It kind of changed my perception about life that whatever you have done in the past no matter how far you travel in order to escape from the past it will still knock your door someday that is you can't run away from your past and eventually your past will catch up with you and it always comes back to haunt you.

It also taught me that no matter how good a person is, Everyone's got skeletons in the closet—they just don't talk about them.

CONCLUSION

I would recommend this book to people of all age groups to dive into a story that has a thrilling experience.

The reason being it not only teaches about a very important moral lesson but also teaches us about being kind and nice to people and doing good things in your present so that your past doesn't haunt you and future is safe secure and sound.

I think kids and teenagers would love this book as it has suspense and also teaches good avlues. It's a constant rollercoaster ride so it would captivate young minds.

