

BOOK REVIEW

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BRANCH: Biotechnology

Title : THE OLD MAN AND HIS GOD

Author: SUDHA MURTHY

Introduction:

I chose The Old Man and His God because I had read a story by Sudha Murthy named 'I Will Do It' in my 10th class, and I really liked it. Her stories feel so real, like they're happening right in front of our eyes. When I saw this book and her name on the cover, I immediately wanted to read it. The title made me think it would be about an old man's devotion to God—his thoughts about life, beliefs, and spiritual journey. Since it was written by Sudha Murthy, I expected the stories to be emotional, realistic and simple yet touching, reflecting human values and everyday life.

Summary :

The Old Man and His God is a collection of short stories written by Sudha Murthy, based on real-life experiences and people she met during her work in different parts of India. The book shares stories of ordinary people—like villagers, poor women, shopkeepers, and old men—who show

honesty, kindness, and strength in simple ways. Each story teaches something meaningful about life, without being too heavy or dramatic. The stories are very easy to understand and feel very close to reality. Sudha Murty writes in a way that connects with our hearts, and even though the people in the stories are simple, their actions and choices are very powerful. The stories are not connected to each other, but they all show how values like truth, generosity, and love still exist in our society. This book doesn't have big twists or suspense, but the small moments in each story leave a strong impact. It's more like reading about real people and their everyday lives.

Analysis and Opinion :

One of the best things about *The Old Man and His God* is how simple and relatable the stories are. The stories are written in simple, clear language that's easy for everyone to understand. What worked really well is how each story is short but still meaningful. The characters are everyday people—like housewives, old villagers, shopkeepers—but they leave a lasting impression. What doesn't work well in this book, in my opinion, is the repetition of themes like kindness and honesty. After a few stories, they start to feel predictable. This reduces the emotional impact.

One character that stood out is Leela from the story 'Two Faces of Poverty'. Even though she was poor and already had two daughters, she adopted a baby girl instead of sending her to an orphanage. Her caring nature and strength showed how

big her heart was, even in difficult times.. Her kindness and strength really touched me.

Some stories were more impactful than others, but overall, none of them felt boring. They all had a quiet power.

One character exclaimed, “What else do I need when I have peace of mind?”—this line stayed with me because it shows what true happiness means. In another story, the author mentioned that a poor man believed God had already given him more than he deserved. These lines make the reader pause and think.

The book’s message is clear: even small acts of goodness matter. It reminds us that we don’t need to be rich or powerful to do the right thing. We just need to be human.

Personal connection :

These stories are based on real-life experiences that feel familiar and close to our everyday lives. After reading this book, I realised that small actions can have a big impact on our lives. It opened my eyes to how much goodness is still around us. Honestly, this book was an eye-opener—it reminded me to appreciate small things that often go unnoticed. . It’s true that “actions speak louder than words,” and this book proves that. It also made me feel that we should not “judge a book by its cover,” because many kind-hearted people live simple lives and do great things quietly. One more thing I learned is that you don’t need money to

show kindness—kindness comes from the heart, not from what you have. Even with less, we can still help others in small but meaningful ways. These stories really touched me and made me want to look at people and situations with more care.

Conclusion :

I would definitely recommend this book to others because the stories are heart-touching and easy to understand. Anyone who likes real-life experiences and wants to feel inspired will really enjoy it. It's a book that makes you think about life and the people around you.

THANK YOU!