



The Perfume of Promise

By Nandita Bose

Lifi Publications, New Delhi, 2013. Soft cover. Book Condition: New. 20 cms. ix, 205p. It was Sashwat who had wanted to marry Gauri. Meanwhile their entire locality was abuzz with the irregularity of her younger sister Uma being married before her. As Uma's classmate, Sashwat was younger too. This fact alone made Gauri extremely reluctant. Yet the marriage did take place. Married life was uneasy in that forbidding new household. Her job had been given up and there was nothing to do. These were minor. The fact was that neither she nor Sashwat had established a rapport or devised channels of communication. That inability made her withdrawn as it spurred Sashwat to anger and the decision to migrate abroad. Seven years later, he visits India to attend a funeral. Thoughts of his father and childhood home draw him to a brief stopover in Kolkata. He is surprised to find Gauri still there. That fact and some unresolved issues compel him to investigate that disaster that was their marriage. The answers he finds are not what he expected.



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