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By Drabble, Margaret.

Mariner. 1 Paperback(s), 2013. soft. Book Condition: New. Jessica Speight, a young anthropology student in 1960s London, is at the beginning of a promising academic career when an affair with her married professor turns her into a single mother, in this novel from the author of The Sea Lady, The Seven Sisters, and The Peppered Moth. Anna is a perfect baby with a delightful sunny nature; eventually, however, it becomes clear that Anna will not be a normal child. Told from the point of view of the group of mothers who surround Jess, this brilliant, prismatic novel is "a closely observed group portrait of female friends, a patient insight into the joys and pains of motherhood, and an image of how society has changed and how it has not." Harper's" It is a testament to the intensity and skill of [Margaret] Drabble's writing that part of this novel's suspense has to do with our waiting for definitions, diagnoses, and certainties that are never offered; and that part of our satisfaction lies in our acceptance that they cannot be. These are characteristic Drabble maneuvers: to take us all the way to death and madness and then back, to life defiant and friendship itself...



Reviews

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