



Shauna Singh Baldwin



What the Body Remembers



NARRATED BY MADHURI BHATIA

"A captivating jewel of a novel by
a seasoned and sophisticated writer."

— *The Washington Post*

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What the Body Remembers



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For the first time — This stunning first novel tells the tale of Roop, the young and gorgeous second wife of a rich Sikh, kind however uncompromisingly traditional. Domestic politics become as dangerous as national politics, and, like the bigger Partition, the division of family members creates new anguish. simultaneous reserve publication, radio broadcast, and Between your Covers Collection audiobook discharge! What your body Remembers is defined in the condition of Punjab right before Partition. Finally Roop discovers in herself the self-preserving ambition of the woman who was her mortal enemy and is now nearly her guiding spirit.



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The Ultimate Partition Novel This may be the best Indian historical novel I've read to date--certainly, about the end of the Raj. What the Body Remembers That is a beautifully written novel. The lives of these two ladies illustrate a search for personal happiness and self-confidence, mirroring the desperate struggle of Sikhs to remain surviving in their homeland. Many feminine Sikh, Muslim and Hindu characters in the tale encounter sexism from their families; I adored the history of Sikhism, politics, and lifestyle in Punjabi households, great and poor. Shauna Singh Baldwin has generated very true and flawed characters--a truth that I love. However, I feel that they had to become there, to truly make the story believable and as haunting since it ended up being. Roop is normally naive and shallow when at age group 16, she willingly marries Sardarji, thinking only about the riches and leisure that should await her. Just what a rude awakening she has when Satya uses her to her own devices. Both characters grow in a manner that is intensely satisfying. I cannot realize why it has taken so long for it to capture on in the U.S. They are trained to say yes and consent to anything meted out to them, even when the result may be fatal. The last two chapters consist of scenes of violence which may be very disturbing to some; Satya, Sardarji's 1st wife, is bitter after the embarrassment of not really delivering a kid after many years of marriage. For weekly . 5, I was utterly embroiled into the world of Roop and Satya, both wives of Sardarji Singh, a rich Sikh landowner who also works as an

engineering officer for the (British) Indian Civil Service in 1940s Punjab. Shauna Singh Baldwin creates elaborate characters that are completely believable within their complexity. S. Once I began reading the publication, I couldn't place it down. Nor may I help wondering: Imagine if Sardarji hadn't chosen a second wife, had grieved his not begetting a child with Satya, and experienced devoted his existence to her? Imagine if Satya had changed her anger and resentment of Sardarji and believed in his goodness to her? I urge anyone serious about stepping beyond the predicability of a novel of plot or romantic relationships to read this book. In her own method, Shauna Singh Baldwin will weave transformation into her personas. And yet I was sorry to close it after reading the last page--it was thoroughly engrossing, and as interesting in its method as *Memoirs of a Geisha*. Like a great read! A People Squeezed on the Hinges of History I knew about the partition of India into Muslim and Hindu says after Independence, but half of a world and half of a century away from the events, We had no clue about what that actually designed to the people who were living in that area of the world. It's much less a novel of plot than of experience, told from the perspective of those who suffer the most when a people is usually squeezed on the hinges of background. I could not put it down, and I have not had that encounter for a long time. What if Satya had transformed her jealousy of Roop and befriended her instead of taking revenge? The battle between Roop and Satya mirrors Sardarji's very own fight to keep his holdings and life in Punjab, while facing the realities of the inevitable British pullout of India in 1947. And her plot is continually filled with surprises. So few people under western culture understand of the terrible times in India at the time of the partition. And after an extended tale filled with some happiness plus some great sadness, the closing will change everything. This book, using its no-holds-barred tale of the treatment of ladies in India, whether Muslim, Hindu or Sikh, could be painful to read--but it's difficult not to. Of all novels I've browse by and about Indian women's lives, *What your body Remembers* was the most disturbing. The title of the book is most apt in this age where we are increasingly appreciating the reality of what your body remembers. I highly recommend it. Five Stars Happy to have this book, needed it for class. You'll be glad you read it Many of the other 5-star reviews provide an excellent summary of the book. the characters--guys and women--will remian in your thoughts and heart longer after you have finished the book." "Awful/amazing" books tell painful truths in such a compelling manner that the reader greedily ingests them, even aches for more. that is among those books that you will be happy to have read. Five Stars It is an excellent description of where We grew up and how the partition of the united states took place, A book everyone should read ! **YOUR BODY Remembers Pain** What the Body Remembers falls in to the genre known among my friends and I as "awful/wonderful. This very human story depicts the life span of a Sikh gal who has so little control over her own fate and the tale of a family attempting to survive the horrors of racial and civil war.

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