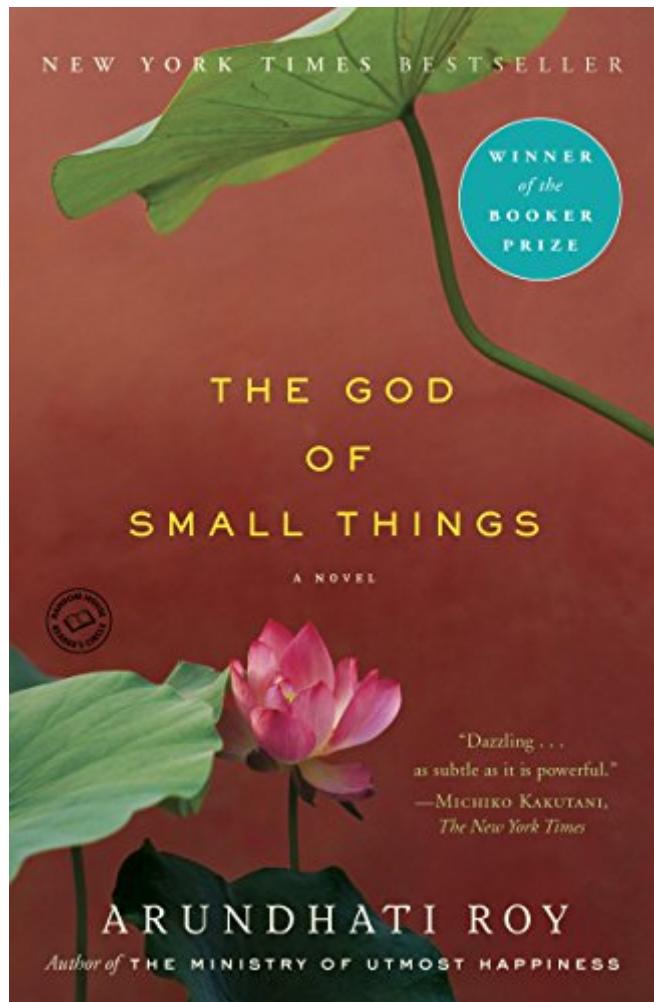


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# The God Of Small Things: A Novel



## Synopsis

The beloved debut novel about an affluent Indian family forever changed by one fateful day in 1969, from the author of *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER & MAN BOOKER PRIZE WINNER Compared favorably to the works of Faulkner and Dickens, Arundhati Roy's modern classic is equal parts powerful family saga, forbidden love story, and piercing political drama. The seven-year-old twins Estha and Rahel see their world shaken irrevocably by the arrival of their beautiful young cousin, Sophie. It is an event that will lead to an illicit liaison and tragedies accidental and intentional, exposing "big things [that] lurk unsaid" in a country drifting dangerously toward unrest. Lush, lyrical, and unnerving, *The God of Small Things* is an award-winning landmark that started for its author an esteemed career of fiction and political commentary that continues unabated. Praise for *The God of Small Things* "Dazzling . . . as subtle as it is powerful." Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times* "[*The God of Small Things*] offers such magic, mystery, and sadness that, literally, this reader turned the last page and decided to reread it. Immediately. It's that haunting." USA Today "The quality of Ms. Roy's narration is so extraordinary" "at once so morally strenuous and so imaginatively supple" "that the reader remains enthralled all the way through." The New York Times Book Review "A novel of real ambition must invent its own language, and this one does." John Updike, *The New Yorker* "Outstanding. A glowing first novel." Newsweek "Splendid and stunning." The Washington Post Book World

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

It is like watching the same movie over and over, but coming in at different place each time. By then, you figure out that you have seen enough, getting to the end is just not worth it. It is annoying because so much is repeated that I was getting board, frustrated, and was not in the mood for so much melancholy. I just could not finish the book, so I cheated, and read backwards until I figured out what happened. Since I do not like to leave books unfinished, I proceeded to read several analyses. I understand what Roy was trying to convey about the twins horrific day & destiny. The story was imbedded in noire, which in this case may or may not work better on the screen. Never the less, I just did not have the patience to get through it. There are just too many great reads out there for me, I don't need to wallow in this dark disjointed place.

This review is posted on my blog: [...] my writing seminar here at school, we had to read The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy. This novel takes place in southern India and follows the life of the twins Esthappen and Rahel. It is 1969 and the Marxist Uprising is very prominent in the state of Kerala. Through a series of flashbacks and present day scenes, Roy creatively illustrates the unbecoming of their family through secrecy, loss of innocence, and tragedy. This was one of the best books I have had to read for a class. It throws the twins into a situation they never dreamed of being in and shows how one person's mistakes can affect an entire family. While reading, you slowly begin to see the children lose their innocence and trust in the good things that their world has to offer, which ultimately hardens their hearts. The conclusion of this novel was very tragic and made me cry. When you learn who the "God of Small Things" is it makes you so happy but you also know what is going to happen and it is so upsetting. But once the twins are reunited as adults, they realize that there was always that special connection between them, even if it isn't the connection you expect. Roy's work successfully shows the corruption of India's current Love Laws and Caste System. She breaks down borders and builds her characters around these strict laws but allows them to step out of bounds. Through her social commentary, Roy thoroughly describes to the reader what needs to be changed in India. Roy is a fresh and strong voice that stands up against the laws of her land, showing others that change is

necessary.4.3 Stars

Very well written, with images and thoughts that will haunt you in many ways. Vivid tale of the many sides or class (caste), race, family abuse, patriarchy, and love. All in all, one of the saddest books I remember.....everyone in this book suffers.

This was one of the most 'disjointed' books I have ever read. I struggled to get through this book. No plot, no flow at all. Would not recommend. I hope her other book The Ministry of Utmost Happiness is better, as I purchased both at the same time.

Beautifully written, interesting timeline and story development. Character development follows the timeline - interesting. Read it!

I did not like one single character in this book. Also I found time shifts confusing.

Very colorful writing, to the point that one would need to read the book twice in order to catch more than half of the details.

Woow! Reading this book has been a journey in the senses and culture of Kerala. The author shows tremendous creativity in her use of words, metaphors, structure of the story.

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