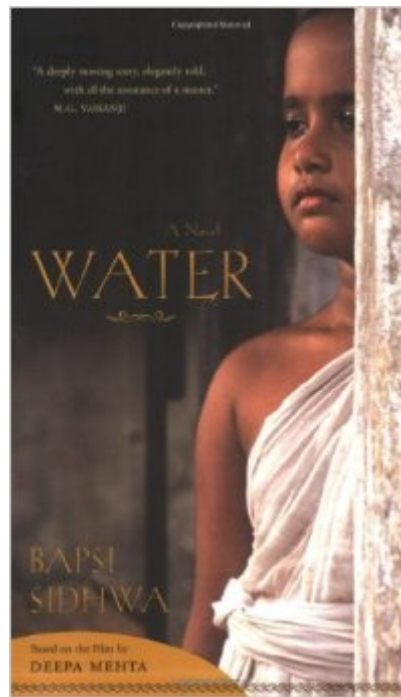


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# Water: A Novel



## Synopsis

The renowned author Bapsi Sidhwa and the equally renowned filmmaker Deepa Mehta share a unique artistic relationship: Mehta adapted Sidhwa's novel *Cracking India* for her brilliant film *Earth*, and here, Sidhwa adapts Mehta's controversial film *Water* to the printed page. Set in 1938, against the backdrop of Gandhi's rise to power, *Water* follows the life of eight-year-old Chuyia, abandoned at a widow's ashram after the death of her elderly husband. There, she must live in penitence until her death. Unwilling to accept her fate, she becomes a catalyst for change in the widows' lives. When her friend Kalyani, a beautiful widow-prostitute, falls in love with a young, upper-class Gandhian idealist, the forbidden affair boldly defies Hindu tradition and threatens to undermine the ashram's delicate balance of power. This riveting look at the lives of widows in colonial India is ultimately a haunting and lyrical story of love, faith, and redemption.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (11 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I love this author and this book, albeit from a movie screenplay, doesn't fail. It is a great story that holds your interest straight through until the last page. I guess that I should not reveal the ending. The loss of childhood innocence and the helpless existence of pre-Ghandian India for widows no matter the age, creates the background for this novel. You can try all you want but there is no way to identify with the main character even though personally I am a widow. It astounds me throughout the reading that some women even could adapt to this ashram and it's grotesque "leader" but without a doubt this is what happens in many places of the world, even today. Another

great read from a favorite author. The One Eyed Turtle

Excellent read. Gives quite an eye opener as to what happens to young girls where parents marry their daughters off for a dowry to older well off men.....who then die. Wow!!

A beautiful story as usual by an outstanding writer. I have not seen the movie so I read it with a fresh perspective and it kept me spellbound till the last page.

Everyone should read this story. It's heartbreaking, yet uplifting. A well written book that tells the story of a child bride.

It was very sad to see widows of all ages treated so badly in India and that made it difficult to read about it

wonderful. movie is even more beautiful.

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