



The Space Between Us

Zoya Pirzad , Amy Motlagh (Translator)

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In a small town on the edge of the Caspian Sea, Edmond Lazarian and his best friend Tahereh pass their days playing together, drifting between the delights of beachcombing and the joys of the sherbet shop. Although Edmond is Armenian and Tahereh is the Muslim daughter of the school's janitor, they remain blissfully unaware of the disquiet that ripples the surface calm of their close-knit community. Yet years later, when Edmond's daughter chooses a Muslim to marry, tensions inevitably build. Unable to keep sidestepping the prejudices around him, Edmond is finally forced to make a choice, and one that will haunt him for years to come.

From the critically acclaimed author of *Things We Left Unsaid*, *The Space Between Us* is a poignant, wistful story about belonging and otherness, pride and prejudice, and the pressures and family expectations that inform our decisions. Brilliantly painting the landscape of intricate social conventions and private emotional conflict, Pirzad has produced an intimate portrait of ordinary Iranians living everyday lives.

The Space Between Us Details

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Author : Zoya Pirzad , Amy Motlagh (Translator)

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From Reader Review The Space Between Us for online ebook

Sally Whitehead says

Pirzad manages to capture an entire world in these deftly written 136 pages.

On the one hand a beautifully captured portrait of everyday Iranian family life, on the other a seamless journey through a family's lifetime of love, loss and separation.

Subtle and skilful characterisation make this a memorable short read.

Masumeh says

این کتاب را در روزهای اخیر خواندم و به شدت از آن لذت بردم. داستان را به سبب شخصیت‌های جذاب و پیچیده و همچنین فضای تاریک و پرمعنی آن دوست دارم. نویسنده به خوبی توانسته است تا با استفاده از جزئیات و دیالوگ‌ها، تصویری زنده و پویا از زندگی یک خانواده ایرانی در یک جامعه متغیر را ارائه دهد. این کتاب را به همه کسانی که به دنبال یک اثر عمیق و تأمل‌برانگیز هستند، پیشنهاد می‌کنم.

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Zohreh Hanifeh says

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Chris says

I won a copy of this right here on Goodreads!

I love the story and the characters in this book. Pirzad develops the characters well, but I really wanted more. The conflict of religious beliefs seemed like a really good theme that wasn't explored to the fullest. Also what happened to Edmond's friend?

That being said, the journal like qualities allowed me to get into Edmond's head. I'd honestly love it if the book was twice as long. I really wanted more and more.

It's a great novel for young adults and adults alike. I'd definitely recommend it.

Sara says

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Henna says

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maryam says

Her first steps...

Samanta S says

I received this book through Goodreads First Reads. It was a lovely story that took me into the world of Edmond, the character that the story revolved around. It was like being in his head, reading the journal of his life. This story was about an Armenian man, growing up in Iran. As a born and bred Canadian, I was whisked into a land with a different culture and social customs quite beautifully.

I truly enjoyed learning about the issues the character was surrounded by - the role and submission of women, the clash of Christianity versus Islam, sexual abuse, and how society treated those who did not fit into the same social cookie cutter. However, I felt that these issues were too lightly touched upon, as there was so much more room to expand on these issues. I was left with far too many questions about the fate of the characters who were once close to Edmond's heart upon being affected by these problems.

My only complaint about the way it was written that the author seemed to try to build suspense before revealing a new character or situation at the beginning of the book/each section, but it simply just confused me more than anything. Rather than trying to read faster because of the intensity of the build before the situation was revealed, as we all do when we're intrigued, I had to reread the page(s) over and over again to attempt to understand what was going on. This issue was minimal though, as there were only three sections thus little to get confused about.

It was a short but sweet book that had much potential but fell a little short. It is still worth reading nonetheless, because it successfully brought me into a world with a different culture and customs. I loved learning everything about Edmond's world.
