

APPENDICES

SUMMARY OF CHITRA DIVAKARUNI'S *QUEEN OF DREAMS*

The Queen of Dreams is a story of the two narrators as Indian immigrants who live in America. The first narrator, Rakhi, is an Indian girl who was born and has grown up in America. During her childhood, she lives in one culture, American culture. Although she adopts American culture, she is curious to know about Indian culture. She finds that the Indian culture is very mysterious and this makes her curious. She wants to know about it but her mother does not want to tell about it. So she tries to create it from what she sees in her mother's job.

The second narrator, Rakhi's mother, Mrs. Gupta, is as dream teller. She was born in and married to Mr. Gupta in Calcutta, India. After that, they move to America. She still keeps her hereditary culture. Because of her profession, she becomes secretive and she has to obey a dream teller's rules. So that is why, she faces some social conflicts with her daughter. Rakhi does not understand why her mother is different from other mothers. She thinks like this because her mother does not give her logical reasons. That makes the relationship between mother and daughter

become worse. But it is ironic because the conflicts are resolved when Rakhi finds her mother's journals after her mother's death.

Mrs. Gupta not only faces social conflicts, but also inner conflicts. As a dream teller, she has to choose between her talent and her husband's love. One of the rules are she cannot have sex with her husband. When her husband knows that she is a dream teller, he can accept it. But it is ironic because her husband becomes drunkard.

One day, Rakhi's mother dies by car accident. Rakhi blames her father because she thinks that her father is the cause of her mother's death. But her father tries to explain that he is irresponsible. The relationship between father and daughter becomes close after Rakhi believes her father's story before the accident.

Rakhi not only faces social conflict with her father but also with American citizens. It happens because terrorist planes hit the World Trade Center and the Americans think Rakhi, her family and her Indian friends are identical with terrorists. This is because they physically share the same characteristics of the terrorists who attacked the World Trade Center in New York.

Rakhi 's life is better because all the conflicts can be resolved and thanks to her mother's journals so she can understand her mother's past life and India.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE AUTHOR

Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni is an award-winning author and poet. She was born in 1957 in Calcutta, India and lived there until 1976, until she was nineteen, then

she left Calcutta and came to the United States. She continued her education in the field of English Language, receiving a master's degree from Wright States University in Dayton, Ohio and a Ph. D. from the University of California, Berkeley.

For several years Chitra Divakaruni has been interested in women's problems and has worked with Afgani women refugees and women suffering from families' attack and shelters. Since 1991, she has been President of MAITRI, an organization for South Asian women's service in the San Fransisco area.

She writes several books of poetry. She produces a few works, including : *Dark Like The River* (1987), *The Reason For Nasturtiums* (1990), *Black Candle* (1991), *Arranged Marriage* (!995), *The Mistress of Spices* (1997), *Leaving Yuba City* (1997), *Sister of My Heart* (1999), *The Unknown Errors of Our Lives* (2001), *The Vine of Desire* (2002), and *Nella: Victory Song* (2002).

In 2000, Chitra Divakaruni became one of the judges for the prestigious National Book Award. Chitra Divakaruni receives a lot of awards, for example: The American Book Award in 1996 for *Arranged Marriage*, The Best Books of 1997 from Los Angeles Times for *The Mistress of Spices*, and The Best American Short Stories in 1999 for *Mrs. Dutta Writes a Letter*.