

APPENDICES

Synopsis of Jasmine

Jasmine, the main character and narrator in Bharati Mukherjee's novel, is born in India. When she is a small girl, an astrologer foretells that she will become a widow and be exiled. Jasmine's name is Jyoti. Jyoti is angry and does not want to believe the astrologer but until she is grown up, she continually remembers what has been foretold and is afraid that it will come true.

Jyoti is a smart girl. She goes to school 3 years longer than her sisters and she learns English. Later on, Jyoti meets Prakash, a modern clever man who can speak English. Jyoti falls in love with him and marries him when she is about 14. Prakash thinks modernly and he wants Jyoti to be a modern woman too, so he changes Jyoti's name into Jasmine. Jasmine is happy with her marriage.

Together, Prakash and Jasmine have a plan to go to America. Unfortunately, Prakash dies before they can fulfill their plan. He dies when he and Jasmine are in a store that has a bomb planted by a Punjab named Sukhwinder. Jasmine becomes a widow and is exiled in a widow's dark hut, just as has been foretold. But Jasmine does not want to end up like that, so she decides to go to America with a mission to finish what her husband has dreamt of.

Arriving in America, Jasmine experiences terrible things. She is tricked and raped by a man whom she calls Half-Face. Fortunately, after being raped she meets a nice lady named Lilian, who rescues her and introduces her to Taylor and Wylie. Jasmine works and lives with them as a caregiver for their little daughter. Taylor begins to love Jasmine and calls her Jase. One day, Taylor and Wylie's marriage is over. Jasmine is happier after Wylie has left because she loves Taylor. Jasmine, Taylor and Duff, Taylor's daughter, live together in an apartment and it makes Jasmine feel very close to each other. Their happiness is perfect until Jasmine sees a Punjab man who has planted a bomb that has killed Prakash. Jasmine is very scared. She thinks that man has been following her and is going after her. So she moves to another town.

In the other town, she meets Bud Ripplemeyer and becomes his lover. Bud calls her Jane. Bud is crippled but he was not crippled when Jasmine met her. After they have been together for about a year and a half, Bud is shot by a mad man. Since that time, he has to sit in a wheel chair and Jasmine has to take care of him all the time.

Jane and Bud also adopt a teenage immigrant from Vietnam named Du. Jane loves Du as a relative. When Du wants to move to live with her real sister, Jane is very sad and lonely. Jane feels lonely even though she still has Bud.

One day, Taylor comes to Jane's house. He asks her to come with him and she thinks that life as a caregiver is not bad, so she decides to leave Bud to be a caregiver with Taylor and Duff. She also wants to see Du. She does not want to think about what has been foretold. She chooses the way of life she wants. Then she

feels relief and she realizes the transformation in her has stopped. She knows what she wants.

Synopsis of The Glass Inferno

Inge, the main character and the narrator of Angelika Fremd's novel, is born in Germany. She moves to Australia in her early childhood and undergoes a bad childhood. She lives in a broken home and her stepfather often abuses her sexually.

When she has grown up, she runs away from home with David. Soon, they live together in Melbourne. Inge is very submissive. She always stays at home, doing household chores and taking care of David. Inge lives that kind of life without complaining, even though she feels her life is meaningless. She feels lost and is looking for her map. Until she finds her map, she is willing to wait and follow wherever life takes her.

Inge has several friends with different characteristics. She is use to observing them and their behaviors. She thinks a conventional submissive girl is very sweet, but she also admires the bravery of her feminist tomboy girlfriend. One day, she meets Tristan and is attracted to him. Suddenly she thinks Tristan is the one who holds her map.

When Inge gets pregnant, Inge and David decide to get married. Before the wedding, Inge visits her hometown, which reminds her again of her bad childhood when she has been raped by her stepfather. Being a German among Australians, she has tried hard to associate with Australian. She hates her origin, she hates her past and she wants to wash herself clean of all of them.

After the birth of her baby, Inge and David move to Sydney. In her new environment, she meets a new friend and has an affair with Paul. David is very mad so Inge chooses to stay with Paul. But after about 3 months, Paul never comes home at night. Inge feels lonely and has another affair with Paul's friend, Michael. She experiences a lot of difficult things until Inge decides to go back to David.

Inge and her family then move to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. David and Inge work as teachers. They grow closer to each other when they are there. Meanwhile, Tristan keeps sending her letters. Inge keeps thinking of Tristan from time to time. She feels comfortable living in Port Moresby.

Later on, she meets Tugl, a Papuan boy. She immediately likes Tugl and apparently Tugl likes her too. So they have an affair. Because the village is so small, soon every Papuan knows about it. They throw stones at Inge's house. She can not stand it so she leaves her house, leaving David and her first daughter.

Later, Inge meets Tristan and they become lovers. But things do not work out better even though Inge thinks she has found her soul mate, her answer to the quest. Tristan is a very jealous and possessive man. He is paranoid. He always suspects Inge of having an affair and always forces her to tell him who her secret lover is and how they make love. He does not believe her when she tells him that there is no other man, so, in order to please him, Inge makes up a story. Later, Inge ends up being a prostitute just to make Tristan happy. But then, again Inge feels lost.

Inge can not stand it anymore so she leaves Tristan and suddenly she realizes that she has never understood herself better than this time. Society and man do not have the map she was looking for. Without them, she has come to know herself. The identity she is looking for is in herself.

Biography of Bharati Mukherjee

Bharati Mukherjee was born on July 27, 1940 in Calcutta, India. Her parents named Sudhir Lal and Bina Mukherjee are wealthy. She was a clever child. At the age of three, she learned how to read and write. In 1947, when she was eight years old, she moved to Britain with her family. She lived in Europe for about three and a half years. At the age of ten, Mukherjee knew that she wanted to become a writer, and had written numerous short stories. She got her B.A from the University of Calcutta in 1959 and her M.A. in English and Ancient Indian Culture from the University of Baroda in 1961. She then came to the United States of America. She was awarded a scholarship by the University of Iowa, obtained her M.F.A. in Creative Writing in 1963 and her Ph.D. in English and Comparative Literature in 1969. She met a Canadian student from Harvard, Clark Blaise, on September 19th, 1963 while studying at the University of Iowa. The two of them met and married within two weeks. Mukherjee's career as professor and her marriage to Blaise Clark have given her opportunities to teach all over the United States and Canada. At the moment she is a professor at the University of California, Berkeley.

Biography of Angelika Fremd

Angelika Fremd was born in Berlin. She migrated and is now based in Brisbane. She gained a Secondary Teachers Certificate from Mt Gravatt College of Advanced Education and was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Master of Arts degree. She worked as a teacher in Papua New Guinea and in Queensland secondary schools from 1966 to 1986 .

Angelika Fremd was a writer-in-residence in 1986 at the Brisbane Migrant Resource Centre and in 1987 at the Ethnic Communities Council in Tasmania. She worked as a Multicultural and Community Literature Officer from 1986 to 1989, and is now a freelance writer and educator. In 1992, she received a Category B Fellowship from the Literature Board of the Australia Council. Now, she lives in Brisbane as a mother of five children and the grandmother of two.