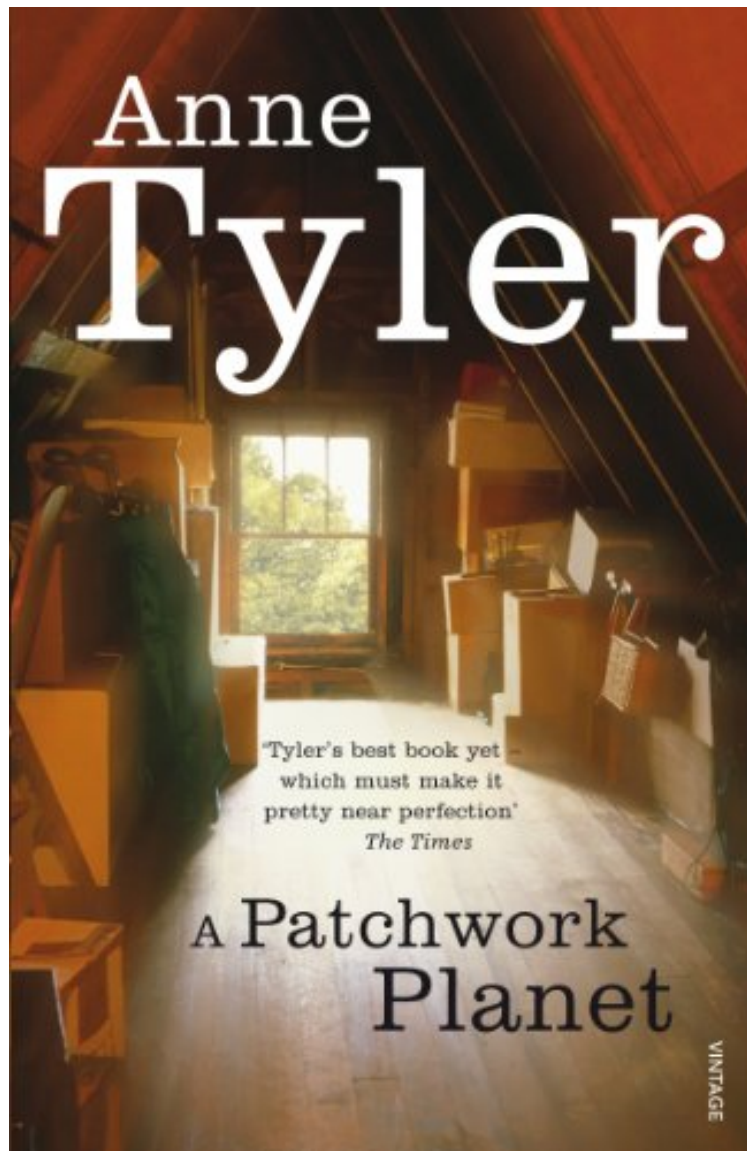


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A Patchwork Planet

Von Anne Tyler

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Von Anne Tyler : A Patchwork Planet before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Patchwork Planet:

Kundenrezensionen Hilfreichste Kundenrezensionen 1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Und noch ein Meisterwerk von Anne Tyler Von AliEs fillt mir schwer, meine Begeisterung fr diese Geschichte in Worte zu fassen ohne mich dabei einfach nur in Superlativen zu verlieren. Barnaby, die Hauptperson und gleichzeitig derjenige, der die Geschichte aus seiner Sicht erzht, ist ein liebenswerter (fast) geluteter Tunichtgut auf dem Weg zu einem

besseren Leben. In gewohnter Tyler-Manier ist alltägliches Treiben in seiner fast akribisch präzisen Beschreibung keinem Krimi spannungsmässig unterlegen. Ich weiss nicht, wie es diese Autorin schafft scheinbar Unbedeutendes so zu erzählen, dass der Leser gefesselt Seite um Seite verschlingt. Vielleicht liegt das Geheimnis ein bisschen auch darin, dass es eben genau die Details sind, die unser Leben ausmachen, dass es nichts Unbedeutendes gibt, sondern es an uns liegt, ob etwas wert ist betrachtet und berichtet zu werden. Andererseits versteht die Autorin auch perfekt die Kunst, den Leser eine Wendung in der Geschichte erahnen zu lassen, ohne dass dies explizit formuliert wird. Dies alles geschieht mit feinstem Humor, mit Sensibilität und einer Lebensklugheit, die niemals moralisierend daherkommt. Man möchte noch viel länger bei den Menschen dieser Geschichte bleiben dürfen, bei Barnaby und Sophia, seiner Tochter Opal, seinen Eltern und Grosseltern, bei den alten Leuten, die er bei Rent-a-back betreut, bei Martine und wie sie alle heissen. Und doch ist das Wann, Wo und Wie des Endes der Erzählung so brillant, dass das Weglegen des Buches ein wenig leichter fällt. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A True Hero Von LibrarianMITyler does it again with her deceptively simple, straightforward prose that says more than the most flowery author. Barnaby is another great Tyler creation. His natural sense of goodness won't allow him to forgive himself for the missteps of his youth, and his insensitive, insecure mother continually rubs salt in the wound. When Barnaby meets his "angel" Sophia, his family hopes he is finally 'settling down'. What they fail to realize is that Barnaby is the most settled of them all, a trustworthy guy who works at an underpaid job that truly helps people. But he has few material things and no appreciation for their values. They can't see past his threadbare clothes, basement apartment, and lack of ambition. They can't forgive him or appreciate him, and he therefore can't appreciate or forgive himself. As the story progresses Barnaby takes a journey of self-awareness and forgiveness. I was sorry to leave these characters. Another fine turn for Anne Tyler. 4 von 4 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Funny-sad in the best possible way Von Ein Kunde This comparison might be a bit overused, but the main character Barnaby in "A patchwork planet" *really* reminds me of Holden Caulfield out of "The catcher in the Rye"- turned thirty. I think it is mainly the dry wit of his narrative voice. And in my opinion Barnaby has a similar personality, somehow torn between extreme sympathy for and arrogance towards people. He views them like a child would, always with astonishment and wonder. He can't connect to their values and goals, even finds them funny, while they in turn criticize his lack of ambition, and, in their view, refusal to "grow up". It's not often characters in books seem to me as believable and true to life as they are here. The descriptions of Barnaby's family, friends, lover, daughter and especially the old people he deals with in his job are hilariously funny, but never overdone. I also like the fact that any obvious moral at the end is missing. It keeps you wondering how things will turn out for everyone involved.

Kurzbeschreibung Barnaby Gaitlin has less in life than he once had. His ex-wife Natalie left him and their native Baltimore several years ago, taking their baby daughter Opal with her. He acquired an unalterably fixed position as the black sheep of the family. And this family isn't one where black sheep are tolerated. The Gaitlins are rich and worthy, supposedly guided by their own special angel to do the right thing.... deBarnaby Gaitlin is one of Anne Tyler's most promising unpromising characters. At 30, he has yet to graduate from college, is already divorced, and is used to defeat. His mother thrives on reminding him of his adolescent delinquency and debt to his family, and even his daughter is fed up with his fecklessness. Still, attuned as he is to "the normal quota for misfortune," Barney is one of the star employees of Baltimore's Rent-a-Back, Inc., which pays him an hourly wage to help old people (and one young agoraphobe) run errands and sort out their basements and attics. Anne Tyler makes you admire most of these mothball eccentrics (though they're far from idealized) and hope that they can stave off nursing homes and death. There is, for example, "the unstoppable little black grandma whose children phoned us on an emergency basis whenever she threatened to overdo." And then there's Barnaby's new girlfriend's aunt, who will eventually accuse him of theft--"Over her forearm she carried a Yorkshire terrier, neatly folded like a waiter's napkin. 'This is my doorbell,' she said, thrusting him toward me. 'I'd never have known you were out here if not for Tatters.'" These people are wonderful creations, but their lives are more brittle than cuddly, Barnaby knows better than to think of them as friends, because they'll only die on him. Yet his job offers at least glimpses of roots and affection. Helping an old lady set up her Christmas tree (on New Year's Eve!) gives him the chance to hang a singular ornament--a snowflake "pancake-sized, slightly crumpled, snipped from gift wrap so old that the Santas were smoking cigarettes." And Barnaby himself is sharp and impatient at painful--and painfully funny--family dinners, apparently unable to keep his finger off the auto-self-destruct button every time his life improves. As much as his superb creator, he is a poet of disappointment, resignation, and minute transformation. --Kerry Fried.com Barnaby Gaitlin is one of Anne Tyler's most promising unpromising characters. At 30, he has yet to graduate from college, is already divorced, and is used to defeat. His mother thrives on reminding him of his adolescent delinquency and debt to his family, and even his daughter is fed up with his fecklessness. Still, attuned as he is to "the normal quota for misfortune," Barney is one of the star employees of Baltimore's Rent-a-Back, Inc., which pays him an hourly wage to help old people (and one young agoraphobe) run errands and sort out their basements and attics. Anne Tyler makes you admire most of these mothball eccentrics

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