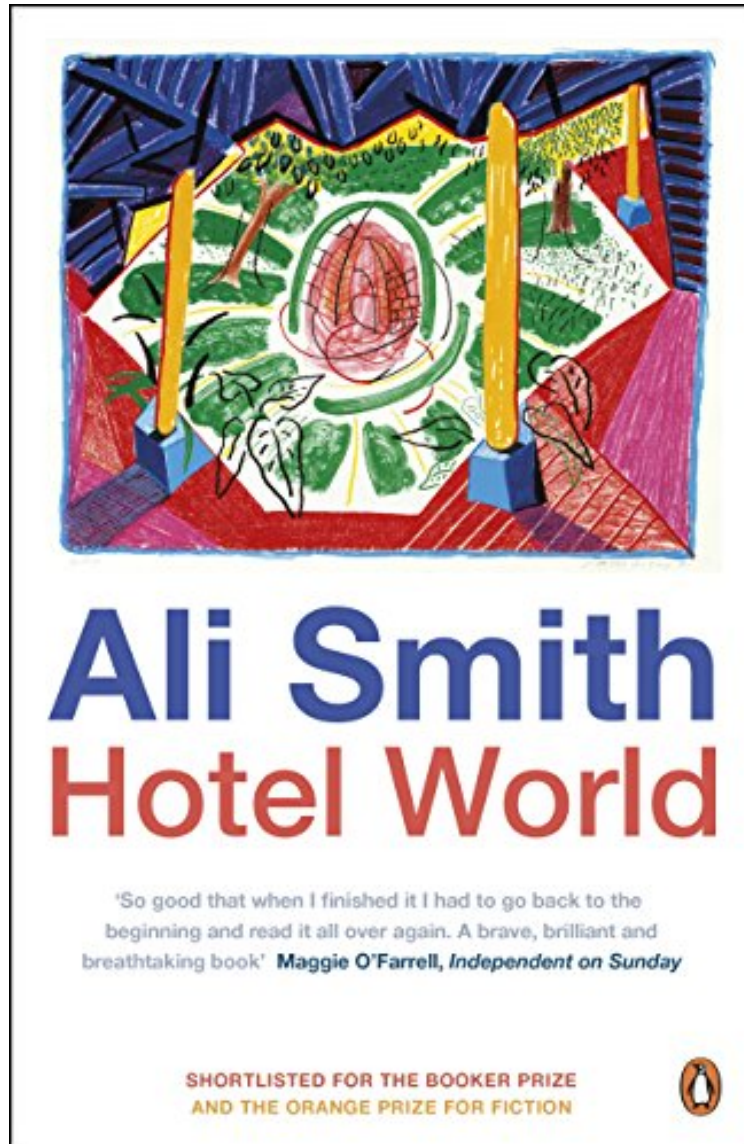


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Hotel World

Von Ali Smith

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Von Ali Smith : Hotel World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hotel World:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
DifficultVon The_FrostThe book is difficult to read and difficult to write about. The different stories are written in different styles, and each style demands concentration to catch up with it, to fully understand it. Whilst reading the book, I sometimes have been annoyed for the heaviness and intricacy of the language and the strangeness of the plot.

But after having finished reading I realized what a fascinating book, what a fascinating story it was, and that it's written the only way possible. It's one of those good books that are not thrilling, but good books never the less, because of the experiment they are, the literary experiment and the reading experiment they provide.1 von 5 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Definitely not for a tired night...Von Ein KundeIt is the first time I read Ali Smith, and the experience is really a mixed bag. The book revolves around 5 major characters and they all have very interesting lives. However, the 5 stories are written in 5 different styles (but kind of mixed together) and at times I find it really hard to follow/read. Especially when it is past my bedtime... But I have enjoyed the most parts of the book. It can be very moving and unsettling. Well, maybe I should try to read it again, when I have a long holiday.

KurzbeschreibungAli Smith's masterful, ambitious *Hotel World* was shortlisted for the Booker Prize and the Orange Prize. Five people: four are living, three are strangers, two are sisters, one is dead. In her highly acclaimed and most ambitious book to date, the brilliant young Scottish writer Ali Smith brings alive five unforgettable characters and traces their intersecting lives. This is a short novel with big themes (time, chance, money, death) but an eye for tiny detail: the taste of dust, the weight of a few coins in the hand, the pleasurable pain of a stone in one's shoe . . . 'Ali Smith has got style, ideas and punch. Read her' Jeanette Winterson 'An extremely readable, easy-flowing writer and one of the subtlest and most intelligent around. *Hotel World* is essential reading from a writer confirming herself as a major talent. . . a wonderful piece of sustained imagination' Independent'As infectious as a pop song, the story bursts open from the very first page and demands to be read in one sitting' The Times.deFive disparate voices inhabit Ali Smith's dreamlike, mesmerising *Hotel World*, set in the luxurious anonymity of the Global Hotel, in an unnamed northern English city. The disembodied yet interconnected characters include Sara, a 19-year-old chambermaid who has recently died at the hotel; her bereaved sister, Clare, who visits the scene of Sara's death; Penny, an advertising copywriter who is staying in the room opposite; Lise, the Global's depressed receptionist; and the homeless Else who begs on the street outside. Smith's ambitious prose explores all facets of language and its uses. Sara takes us through the moment of her exit from the world and beyond; in her desperate, fading grip on words and senses she gropes to impart the meaning of her death in what she terms "the lift for dishes"--then comes a flash of clarity: "That's the name for it, the name for it; that's it; dumb waiter dumb waiter dumb waiter." Blended with hers are other voices: Penny's bland journalese and Else's obsession with metaphysical poetry. *Hotel World* is not an easy read: disturbing and witty by turns, with its stream-of-consciousness narrators reminiscent of Virginia Woolf's *The Waves*, its deceptively rambling language is underpinned by a formal construction. Exploring the "big themes" of love, death and millennial capitalism, it takes as its starting point Muriel Spark's *Momento Mori* ("Remember you must die") and counteracts this axiom with a resolute "Remember you must live". Ali Smith's novel is a daring, compelling, and frankly spooky read. --Catherine Taylor PressestimmenAli Smith has got style, ideas, and punch. Read her. Jeanette Winterson "*Hotel World*" is everything a novel should be: disturbing, comforting, funny, challenging, sad, rude, beautiful. "The Independent" (London) " " In this voice from beyond the grave Ali Smith has created the perfect literary ghost imbued with a powerful sense of wonder at the minutiae of everyday sensuality and her beautiful, vivid descriptions are reinforced by a sharp, unsentimental tongue. "The Times "(London) "Ali Smith's remarkable novel *HOTEL WORLD*....is a greatly appealing read. Smith is a gifted and meticulous architect of character and voice." "The Washington Post " "The heart of Scottish writer Ali Smith may belong to good old-fashioned metaphysics -- to truth and beauty and love beyond the grave -- but her stylistic sensibility owes its punch to the Modernists. She's street-savvy and poignant at once, with a brutal sense of irony and a wonderful feel for literary economy. There's a kind of stainless-steel clarity at the center of her fiction. . . " "The Boston Globe" "*HOTEL WORLD* is that rare experiment, a novel with style to spare . . . despite all the tricks, all the tweaks of language and literature, what you remember about *HOTEL WORLD* is Smith's evocation of the anguish that results when a life ends, her rendering of the sadness at separating from the living world and the loneliness of staying behind. What a death. What a life. What a book."--"San Antonio Express-News " . " . . in Smith's hands, this slender plot serves as an excuse for a delightfully inventive, exuberant, fierce novel of which the real star is not the dead Sara, or any of the living characters, but the author's vivid, fluent, highly readable prose. *HOTEL WORLD* was a well-deserved finalist last year for two prestigious British prizes: the Orange Prize and the Booker Prize. . . . I can't begin to paraphrase all that this dazzling book conveys about humanity and mortality . . ." Margot Livesey, "Newsday" "Ali who? Hotel what? Even for people who follow contemporary British literature, neither the name nor the title meant a lot. They do now. *HOTEL WORLD* makes a striking impression. It's a challenging, often bleak but affecting journey through the lives of four young women united by the death of another . . . What an introduction to Ali Smith. "Minneapolis Star Tribune" "*HOTEL WORLD* is that rare experiment, a novel with style to spare . . . despite all the tricks, all the tweaks of language and literature, what you remember about *HOTEL WORLD* is Smith's evocation of the anguish that results when a life ends, her rendering of the sadness at separating from the living world and the loneliness of staying behind. What a death. What a life. What a book." "Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel ""*HOTEL WORLD* is compelling . . . precisely because it suggests

shifting yet coherent perspectives rather than simplifying lives into rigid, inert realities. Most impressively, Smith has mastered sophisticated literary techniques, which never intrude or bog down a delectable narrative of human perception and rumination. Apart from establishing Ali Smith as a novelist with the skills of a Martin Amis and Samuel Beckett combined, HOTEL WORLD is a damn good read." "The San Francisco Chronicle" "Wonderfully inventive and boldly lyrical, HOTEL WORLD is an exhilarating read. A chambermaid careens to her death in a broken dumbwaiter, and her dissipating spirit sings a paean to earthly existence. . . . Newly published in the U.S., Ali Smith's thrilling meditation on life, transience, class, and the material world was an Orange Prize finalist and was shortlisted for the Booker Prize." INSIDE BORDERS Courageous and startling. I doubt that I shall read a tougher or more affecting novel this year. Jim Crace"