



A Nostalgist's Map of America: Poems

By Agha Shahid Ali

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With his prologue poem "Eurydice," Agha Shahid Ali's *Nostalgist* introduces the motifs of journey and exile, myth and politics, history and loss, that animate this collection.

Mapping America as he travels westward, the Nostalgist is an exile from his native Kashmir, and even from his first American home; his is the unique perspective of the outsider. These jeweled, intricate poems, like the multilayered "In Search of Evanescence," locate and reflect the America that must be "unseen to be believed."

Somewhere between cartographer and stargazer, the Nostalgist links images of water, desert, and myth, returning to Tucson in the monsoons, or seeing Chile in his rearview mirror, all the while creating an intense and vital vision.

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A Nostalgist's Map of America: Poems By Agha Shahid Ali Bibliography

- Rank: #1185663 in Books
- Published on: 1991-11-17
- Released on: 2013-03-08
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.20" h x .50" w x 5.50" l, .38 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 105 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

There are Mogul palace ceilings whose countless mirrored convexities at once reduce, multiply, scatter and enchant the figures under their spell. If I may speak for 'America,' it is a privilege to be held in so mercurial, many-faceted a gaze as this poet's, who goes to the heart of my troubles and turns them into bitter honey.--
James Merrill

About the Author

Agha Shahid Ali (1949-2001) taught at the University of Utah, at the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College, and at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marcy Madison:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style on this era globalization. With reading you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world may share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire their reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the textbooks. But also they write about the ability about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors on this planet always try to improve their expertise in writing, they also doing some exploration before they write with their book. One of them is this A Nostalgist's Map of America: Poems.

Kenton Marshall:

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