

Hotel World

Ali Smith

Published by Hamish Hamilton in Trade Paperback on 5th April 2001

Price: £10.99

****SHORTLISTED FOR THE BOOKER PRIZE 2001****

****SHORTLISTED FOR THE ORANGE PRIZE FOR FICTION 2001****

****WINNER OF THE ARTS FOUNDATION 2001 AWARD
FOR SHORT STORY WRITING****

Praise for *Hotel World*:

"Ali 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, and beautiful. It can turn from tragedy to hilarity within a sentence, or even a clause. Everyone should check in at their earliest convenience." Independent on Sunday

"Emotionally charged and compassionate, Ali Smith's second novel bristles with inventiveness. Remember you must live. And remember that you must read this book" Scotsman

"By turns moving, funny, and compassionate, Hotel World is, quite simply, the kind of book that will make even the most established writers feel inadequate."
The List

"Ali Smith has a rare ability to show the profound in the mundane. She is an extremely readable, easy-flowing writer, and one of the subtlest and most intelligent around." Independent

"Smith has pulled off an ambitious, disturbing, and immensely affecting experiment and made it work brilliantly." Big Issue

"I found myself bowled over by Smith's ability to draw characters who's inner turmoil packs an emotional punch." Diva

One hotel. One night. Five characters. Four living, one dead. How do their stories connect?
Continues...

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In her most ambitious book to date, the brilliant young Scottish writer, Ali Smith, checks us into the surreal world of the Global Hotel, part of an upmarket yet lacklustre hotel chain. The five women who people the novel and the hotel itself are, though, far from lacking in lustre - one has died in strange circumstances whilst working at the hotel, another is homeless sitting outside it but longing to be inside; another is the receptionist that takes pity on her.

Smith challenges the laws of cause and effect which we like to believe shape our lives. Passionate, witty, and formally inventive, *Hotel World* brings alive these five unforgettable characters and traces their intersecting lives. *Hotel World* is a beautifully written novel with big themes; time, chance, money and death, intelligently and sophisticatedly dealt with.

Her writing is stylish and original, and has a freshness that I have not come across in a long while. The beautifully poetic prose is further heightened by Smith's amazing eye for the smallest of 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 was born in Inverness in 1962 and lives in Cambridge. Her first book, *FREE LOVE*, won the Saltire First Book Award. *LIKE* was published in 1997 and *OTHER STORIES AND OTHER STORIES* in 1999. Both have been very highly acclaimed. Ali Smith also writes for the Scotsman and the TLS. She is available for interview.

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