



Speedpost: Letters to My Children about Living, Loving, Caring and Coping with the World

Shobhaa Dé

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Commentary on growing pains, adolescent problems in India, sex, love, religion, and culture. Series of letters that address a wide range of concerns. Compassionate, loving, witty, and as always, provocative. By a leading best-selling novelist. South Asia Books carries several of De's novels.

Speedpost: Letters to My Children about Living, Loving, Caring and Coping with the World Details

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From Reader Review Speedpost: Letters to My Children about Living, Loving, Caring and Coping with the World for online ebook

Pranjal says

I am a regular reader of the writer's column in TOI and hence have a brief acquaintance with her vast pool of vocab. Considering that these letters are written informally and to family members, a little repetition of anecdotes is expected. This book does more than just getting the reader involve in their lives. It conveys a message through many of the letters, to the world. Some important lessons of parenting are reflected too. Its a goodread for readers who like Indian authors and novels involving a bit of a drama. The author has portrayed herself to be a competent mother by admitting her faults and revealing her care for her children simultaneously.

Swagatika Mohapatra says

Just finished reading Speedpost by Shobha De'. Really a master piece. every mother, would be mother, not just mothers, but every book lovers would definitely appreciate it. Really mothers are the true world for their children. They surely knows how their child will happy in which object, in what circumstances or not. As she writes, God must be a mother.....Through series of letters she is successfully tryng to convey her children the most secret and hidden jewels of life, rather to the whole world. marvellous, just go for i.

Ram A says

I bought long back... yet to complete..

Asawari says

Loved d book !!! Must read for moms

Koel Dutta says

it's kind of a relaxing read. Neither too fast paced, nor too slow/ I'm just devastated by the fact that parents and their children can be that distant.

Deepti says

Awful preaching.

Ruchita says

A collection of letters from a mother to her six children. The letters are funny, thoughtful and at times touching. It was unnerving to see many of the things that so troubled and bothered my fourteen year old self set down, in plain sight, discussed, laughed at, and made easier by, of all people, a *gasp* parent. I cherished this book very much when I was fourteen, it made me laugh and think. These letters definitely deserve a wider audience.

Manisha says

A must for every Indian mother whose children are entering the teenage.

Pankaj Suneja says

The book Speedpost was gifted to me on my 17th or 18th birthday by my friend's mother. I read it that time. But now I rediscovered this book in my shelf and I had no memory about the content of the book. I longed to read it again. I longed to feel the motherly affection again.

This time I am 27 years old.

The book has letters written by a mother, Shobha de, to her daughters. Currently Shobha de is in her 60's, the same age probably my mother would have been if she was alive. I lost her when I was 7 years old.

Speedpost, the book is an interesting read. Letters by an urban mother to her children. There were times I related with Shobha De's children. Other times it was amusing. I wondered why would a mother write open letters to her children. I mean if she would have given them personally, what could have been the difference. Then I could have not peeked into life of her, children. I would have not been attracted to Radhika. I wish I could travel to Happy country, Bhutan, and among other things.

This book definitely attempts to fill the space of absence of mother in my life. It takes me closer to experience of mother-child relationship. I found shobha de to be very conventional mother and who talked about usual worries of mother. It is an autobiographical too, I meant not only about children but mostly about herself. I found it filled with urban desires and urban lifestyle. I had difficulty in relating to it sometimes, and found it superficial.

I felt engaged to parts when she gave up some of her plans and assignments to stay with her children. I thought it was very touching and self sacrificing. It could be perplexing for many, this doubt.

She compared many times with other families and she always believed she had better understanding and dealt better with her children than others, ofcourse it did seem like a motherly nature or human one, to not see faults in one. This book is positioned at a comfort level and when it sees the difficulties of life or problems of world, it does not go deep. Her views on politics or religion did not affect me anyway. I thought it was exaggerated a bit.

I do find it interesting to read about her life and her children. When I find some stuff online about them, I do find it attractive and something I might want to know more about. It is because I have entered their lives.

The book has around 100 letters. Each letter 2 to 3 pages. This is one of the books, I found easy to read. This book is special in its idea and knowing the lives of people. I would like to read more of Non fiction. It makes me happy to read and learn about lives.

Priyanka says

Great book or letters from a mother to her children , which consists of all flavours, drama, emotions, practicality and her all kinds of experiences. From a daughter's perspective, it was heart warming to read all that. People not interested or not wanting to read about other's feelings or these emotions will feel the book as bore one.

Swati says

A good read indeed !
Could connect to a lot of her letters.. Nice work. Enjoyed reading it.

Reshma Shaikh says

I have read some part of it that was translated in marathi. i wish i could read it as early as possible

Farman says

This was my first book that was written by an Indian author and I like the way she writes. You can learn lot about parenting from these letters, some letters can make you laugh and some are very thoughtful. A must read for every mother.
