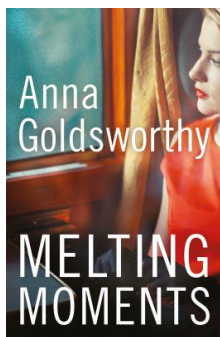


Melting moments by Anna Goldsworthy

Reviewed by Skye



Melting Moments is Anna Goldsworthy's debut novel, and I am already eagerly awaiting her next.

The novel opens with Ruby as a young woman, establishing herself in Adelaide after a rural childhood. What follows is a tenderly written and moving memoir as Ruby navigates the changing roles in her life as a wife, lover, mother, grandmother, daughter and daughter-in-law.

Ruby's relationships are the heart of the novel. Her marriage to Arthur is depicted in both the large, life changing events (the reason for his medical discharge is never disclosed to Ruby), and the minutiae of everyday life.

The sense of expectation of what a woman of Ruby's generation should (and shouldn't) be is played out in all of Ruby's relationships and interactions. My personal favourite is the relationship between Ruby and her cantankerous mother-in-law.

I really enjoyed the way this book is written. I could clearly picture Ruby wearing an apron in the kitchen of her home or attacking the weeds in the garden. The story of Ruby's life is delivered tenderly, with an understanding of generational change, social norms and private yearnings.

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