

BOOK REVIEW



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**"The
socioeconomic,
religious and
cultural differences
are vast and
fascinating."**

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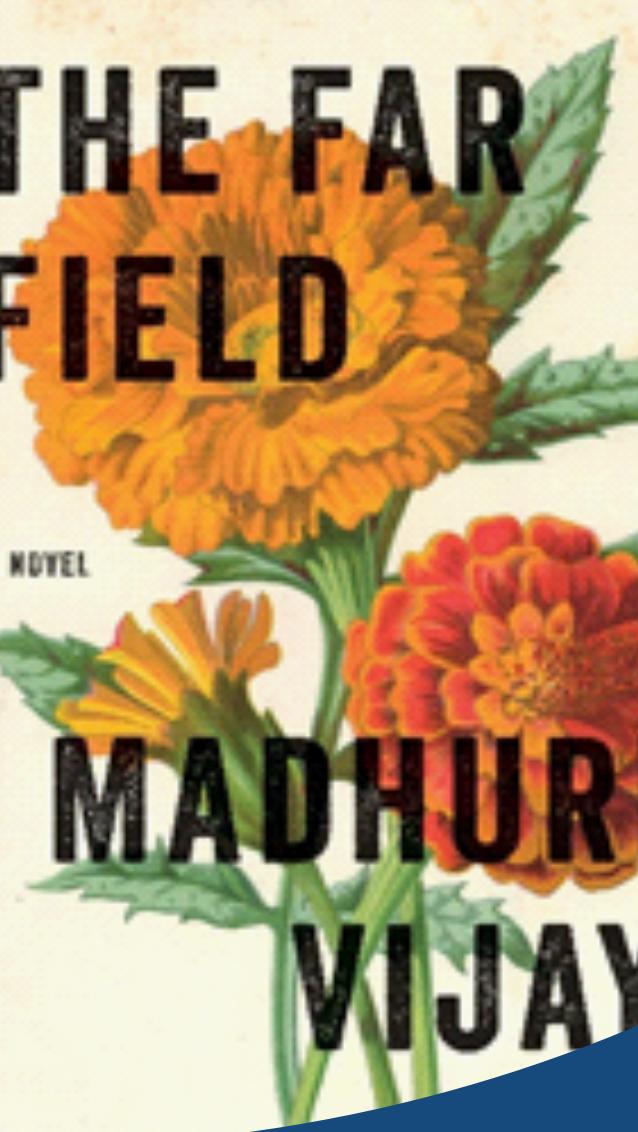


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THE FAR FIELD

by MADHURI VIJAY



Fiction (Contemporary), Adult

The Far Field, a superb debut novel by Madhuri Vijay, teaches the reader a lot about the current state of relations between the peoples of southern India and the Kashmir region. The socioeconomic, religious, and cultural differences are vast and fascinating. Equally fascinating is the story she tells to illustrate these realities.

The first person narrative is told from the perspective of Shalini, a privileged and well-educated young woman of Bangalore, a major city in Southern India. Her father is a successful businessman and her mother is a stay-at-home wife who displays disturbing signs of mental instability. A personal disaster propels Shalini on a quest to find the missing link to her and her mother's past. Her journey spreads this personal disaster into the simple, yet unfortunate lives of a kindhearted Kashmiri family. This is an unforgettable and absorbing tale told in a spare and polished style.