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## Latecomers (Penguin Decades)

Von Anita Brookner

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Anita Brookner

Latecomers



'A modern Jane Austen'  
*Independent*

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**Von Anita Brookner : Latecomers (Penguin Decades)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Latecomers (Penguin Decades):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. the burden of a life without a pastVon WesterIn this novel Anita Brookner focuses on the lifes of two former participants of the Kindertransport 1938/39 (from Germany to England, trying to save as many children as possible from Nazi prosecution), who lost their past due to it.Starting off, the two former children are adults and still best friends with

relatively normal lives, but immediately the reader has to realize that something is not as ordinary as one might think. The two protagonists fight or try to deal very hard with a past they lost and either want to regain or forget it forever. Brookner allows the reader to follow the two of them in their different walks of life from their young adulthood onward (connected with some flashbacks focusing on their earliest memories, starting with their departure from Germany and their problems on arriving in their new homes) up to their mid-60's. One gets to know their totally different wives, children and grandchildren and how the past and their dealing with it influences their everyday-life as well as their ability to keep up relationships. Brookner draws a very interesting picture of two friends who got to know each other due to the circumstance of being Jewish in the wrong decade in the wrong country. Unfortunately, in a few instances she is too obvious in forcing her messages onto the reader that it becomes quite tedious. That is the reason why I give her novel only 4 stars out of 5.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Ausgezeichnet Von Tolstoy This is an amazing book. The author delves deep into its 4 main characters, and writes with compassion, insight and sheer honesty. I felt I knew each character well, sympathised and empathised with each. There is a flicker of humour within the characters making them all the more real. Loved the book.

Kurzbeschreibung 'No man is free of his own history' Hartmann and Fibich came to England on the kindertransport. As orphans of the war they were strangers in a strange land. Together, they survived. And in adulthood they have been unable to separate, sharing a successful business. Yet Hartmann's carefully polished manners conceal the past he refuses to think about. While Fibich, a mass of fears and neuroses, can do nothing but remember. Together these two men seek to build a future from the shaky foundations of their own pasts . . . 'Like Virginia Woolf, Brookner's aim is not to draw characters in the round, but to reveal psychological reality in the deep' The Times From Library Journal Separated from their families in Nazi Germany, Fibich and Hartmann grow up in England to become inseparable allies, friends, and business partners. Charming Hartmann chooses to live in the present with every sybaritic comfort, while gloomy Fibich must live in the present because he fears the future and is haunted by a past he cannot remember. With little plot or dialogue, the book is a detailed character study of two gentle men and their contrasting wives and children. It will appeal to readers who appreciate fine writing but not to those who demand vicarious excitement from a novel. Brookner is well known as author of *Hotel du Lac*, *Providence*, and other books. - Maurice Taylor, Brunswick Cty. Lib., Southport, N.C. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. Pressestimmen Her technique as a novelist is so sure and so quietly commanding -- Hilary Mantel Guardian Anita Brookner's best novel so far -- Victoria Glendinning She has never written a better novel ... unbearably moving -- Ruth Rendell It is hard to imagine her taut spare prose going out of fashion The Times