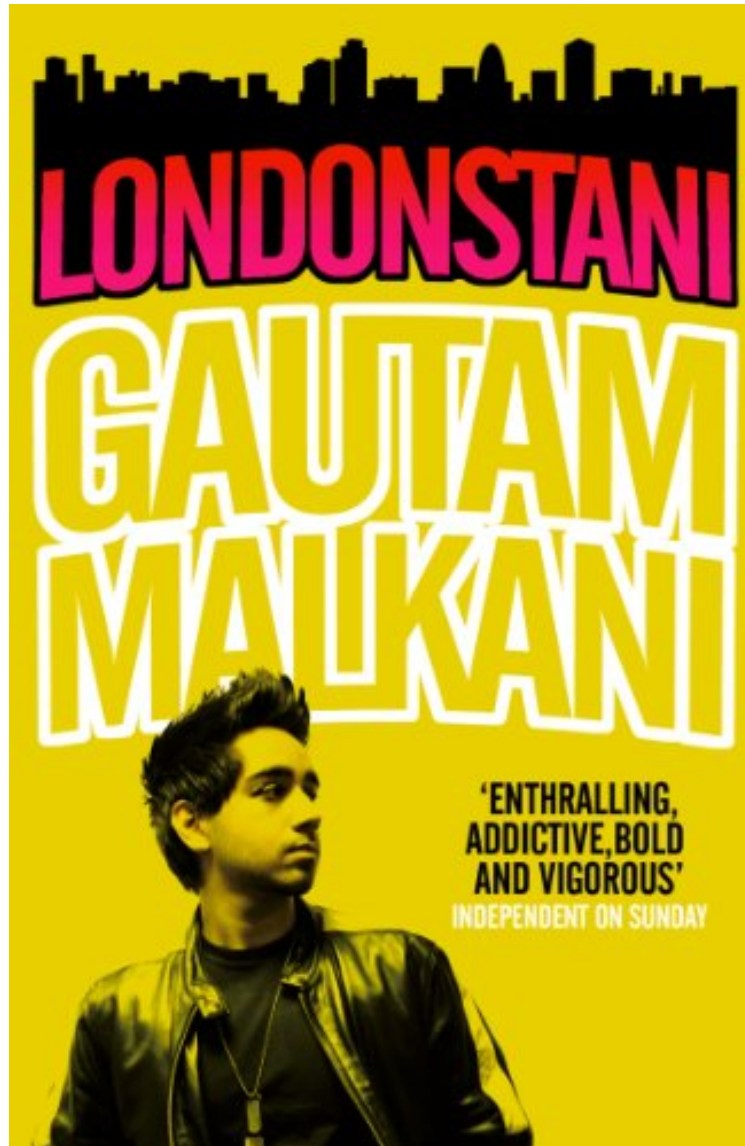


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Londonstani

Von Gautam Malkani

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Von Gautam Malkani : Londonstani before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Londonstani:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Must READ!Von Mirriane UffenbrinkThe Novel Londonstani by Gautam Malkani is a Story about a young Man named Jas. He is the main character of the novel and lives in Hounslow, a London neighborhood.After being an outsider without friends, who gets picked on by others in school, he is 'adopted' by a gang of Sikh and Hindu and tries hard to

fit into the community of the youngsters, so called 'rude boys' Jas takes the reader through his experiences of a 'good' boy trying to be 'bad' and the difficulties he has, trying to do so. A very striking and probably key feature of the novel is the Slang Malkani uses through the whole Novel. It enables the reader not only to feel the atmosphere in which the characters move, but nearly hear their voices and have an authentic feeling about their attitude and Lifestyle. The slang, spelling and absence of quotation marks etc makes it difficult for the reader to understand the plot immediately and makes a second or third reading of some passages or dialogs necessary. This and the way Jas doesn't only describe what is actually happening but, why it is happening that way he gives the reader not only his perspective, but also what he knows is going on in the heads of the other characters, gives you the feeling of having a whole picture and not only the view of the first narrator. Even though Jas is telling the story, his role as an outsider and his descriptions of what is happening make him an ally of the reader and the reading of the book an entertaining experience. All in all Malkani's Londonstani is a really good read which takes a bit of time to get into but let's you take part in an extraordinary story. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Spezielle Milieustudie Von Andr Aschwanden Der Autor schreibt fast vollständig in extremer Londoner Jugendsprache, bzw. im Ethnolekt der südasiatischen Jugendlichen - dies macht die Lektüre für Fremdsprachige nicht ganz einfach. Schnell gezeigt werden alters-, milieu- und herkunftsspezifische Konflikte. Oft ist der Fluss der Handlung jedoch sehr langsam und das überraschende Ende wirkt doch etwas an den Haaren herbei gezogen... Hier wird auch fast zu vieles offen, bzw. unerklärt gelassen. 0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Wow - Ali G in da House vs Bend it like Beckham!! Von Nipunski Very, very well written. A reader may need to have an idea how things work in an Indian "family related environment" to enjoy the story than be offended by it. The mind farts (rants) of Jas who tells this very unusual and funny story are deep in meaning at the same time extremely funny. Reads like a comic!

Kurzbeschreibung Londonstani, Gautam Malkani's electrifying debut, reveals a Britain that has never before been explored in the novel: a country of young Asians and white boys (desis and goras) trying to work out a place for themselves in the shadow of the divergent cultures of their parents generation. Set close to the Heathrow feed roads of Hounslow, Malkani shows us the lives of a gang of four young men: Hardjit the ring leader, a Sikh, violent, determined his caste stay pure; Ravi, determinedly tactless, a sheep following the herd; Amit, whose brother Arun is struggling to win the approval of his mother for the Hindu girl he has chosen to marry; and Jas who tells us of his journey with these three, desperate to win their approval, desperate too for Samira, a Muslim girl, which in this story can only have bad consequences. Together they cruise the streets in Amit's enhanced Beemer, making a little money changing the electronic fingerprints on stolen mobile phones, a scam that leads them into more dangerous waters. Funny, crude, disturbing, written in the vibrant language of its protagonists a mix of slang, Bollywood, texting, Hindu and bastardised gangsta rap Londonstani is about many things: tribalism, aggressive masculinity, integration, cross-cultural chirping techniques, the urban scene seeping into the mainstream, bling bling economics, 'complicated family-related shit'. It is one of the most surprising British novels of recent years. From Publishers Weekly Malkani's debut novel is set among the South Asian rude boys of London's Hounslow section. Aimless, middle-class 19-year-old Jas is adopted by a small gang headed by Hardjit, a Sikh bodybuilder, that includes sexual braggart Ravi and Hindu nationalist Amit. The crew, with Jas in the backseat, ride around a lot in a Beemer and say things like, "Dat bitch b trouble, u get me?" To make money, they unblock stolen cell "fones." This attracts Sanjay, a Desi entrepreneur who hires them and organizes their activities. Briefly, the money rolls in, and Jas, taken under Sanjay's wing, makes the more hazardous move of courting the beautiful but Muslim Samira Ahmed. Hardjit's feeling about Muslims and Samira's brothers' feeling about Hindus mean that disaster starts mounting for Jas before you can hum a chorus of West Side Story. Malkani, who is director of the Financial Times's Creative Business section, follows such masters of the London subcultural slumming sendup as Martin Amis and Will Self, but this book doesn't have the verbal gear to keep up; Jas's strained, graffiti-like teen talk is wearying (as is a major plot point centered on the EU's value added tax) and never rises to the kind of Burroughsian lyricism one is hoping for. And a final twist on race isn't much of a surprise. (June 26) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist Hilarious and grim, raucous and anguished, this first novel about young Indian men in West London parodies Bollywood soap opera and then goes beyond satire with a wild drama of family, gangsters (corporate and street), fists, blood, love, and sorrow. Ever since he has stopped being an academic gimp, Jas, 18, hangs out with his Sikh and Hindu friends, but when he hooks up with gorgeous Samara, he has to keep it secret because she is Pakistani and a Muslim. The gang steal cell phones, taunt one another, and detail real or invented sexual conquests. The prose switches from the kids' obscenity-rich dialogue and instant-messaging style ("u want me 2 pull out your tongue") to furious quarrels with adults about assimilation, tradition, and, always, family guilt ("After-Everything-We've Done-For You"). Yes, some of the identity issues are confusing, but the surprising climax makes you go back for a gripping second read. Hazel Rochman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved