

## Book Review on 'The Village by the Sea by Anita Desai

This story is set in a small village 'Thul' (outskirts of Mumbai) and gives a very in-depth view of the lives of people in a small fishing village. It also creates a realistic picture in our minds of how industrialisation and development affect the residents of such areas.

The story revolves around a family of six, four minors who have to look after themselves as their father is a drunkard and their mother is unwell and bedridden. Hari, the only brother to his three sisters and the breadwinner of the family, takes it upon himself to build a better life for his family and goes to Bombay (now Mumbai) to earn his livelihood.

Meanwhile, Lila, the oldest sibling has to struggle to make ends meet in the village, getting her sisters to school and her mother treated while also working to run the household.

This book gives us an idea of life in villages, the culture and mentality of people in such villages and also tells us about the dreams and aspirations of people living such simple lives.

It was a great read and would highly recommend this book.

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XII-B