

Title: The Mother I Never Knew

Author: Sudha Murty

“The mother I never knew” by “Sudha Murty” is a heart-touching yet intriguing book about human relationships and their complexity. It beautifully captures the emotional tumult faced by the protagonists. The simplicity of the language and writing style makes one look forward to read the next page and thus, makes it an even more riveting novel. It comprises of two stories, which are independent yet interconnected. On one hand is the story of Venkatesh, a kind-hearted banker who, when transferred to Hubli discovers to find his step-mother and on the other hand is Mukesh, an NRI who, when faced with the news of the sudden death of his father, goes back to India and receives the shocking news of his adoption. Both of these characters then set out on a new journey thus, making the novel into a comforting one. It also makes one think about both, the fragility of human relations in difficult conditions in the first story and the strengthening of bonds in difficult situations in the second one.

Overall, I would give this book a 9/10 rating.

■ **Shreya Khanna, XII-A**