

(Ebook free) Anna and the King

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Margaret Landon

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Margaret Landon : Anna and the King before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Anna and the King:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Anna is not a great storyteller. By Cornelia East This book gets boring rather quickly. I bought it after seeing a performance of the revival of the musical made from Anna's life in "Siam" which I enjoyed enormously. This book had none of the charm. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. High drama in the Thai court of Mongkut By Joanna D. Novelized account of Anna Leonowens, tutor to King Rama V (Chulalongkorn.) Landon fictionalized the diaries of Leonowens (The English Governess at the Siamese Court.) Leonowens herself portrayed the events with a lot of editing or outright deception, according to many. The account Landon gives here may stray far from reality, but as a novel it worked so exceptionally well that it became beloved (outside of Thailand where it is not in favor, portraying the king in a less-than-perfect light in a country that has deep reverence bordering on worship of their royals.) Landon was a skilled writer, but none of her other books reached the success of "Anna." A fictionalized account of her own missionary experience in Asia (Never Dies the Dream) has conflict and well-drawn characters but falls flat compared to the rich material from Leonowens' own eventful life. Landon did good research on Leonowens and did impart some of the character of the self-made (and self-styled) adventurer into the novel. The musical did not fully elucidate the book's drama, to Landon's satisfaction and she felt it was cheapened by the Rogers and Hammerstein version--little of Mongkut's complexity comes through but still--it's loved. I've read many versions of Leonowens' story, some purchased in Thailand and none comes close to the Landon novel, though it may be lacking in truth in spots. The theme of slavery is well handled and the scene of the

brass door and the shackled slave and her son is one you can't forget. Nor the execution of Tuptim and her monk lover. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating read. By David This classic narrative is an eye-opener to the actual characters we only have known from the musical, "The King and I." It was heartening to see the tremendous effects of Abraham Lincoln and the Emancipation Proclamation on the Siamese government.