Shashi Deshpande’s That Long Silence: "There can be no vaulting over time," thinks Urmila, the narrator of Shashi Deshpande’s profound and soul-stirring novel. Differences with her husband, frustrations in their seventeen-year-old marriage, disappointment in her two teenage daughters, the claustrophia of her childhood—all begin to surface. In her small suburban Bombay flat, Jaya grapples with these and other truths about herself and her family for reasons even he cannot articulate. His wife, Sumi returns with their three daughters to the shelter of the Big House, where her parents live in oppressive isolation for reasons even she cannot explain.

The novel deals with the protagonist Jaya’s passage through a frame of self doubts and fears towards the affirmation of herself. A crisis in the middle-class family of the protagonist triggers off a chain of events in her life in retroaction. What follows is the twist in the tale when the hero, Jaya, finds his mother, Kajal, is suffering from Alzheimer’s disease. She has no recollection of her family. As her disease progresses, the family has to fight to get its life back on track. Jaya realizes that she does not do justice to her father as a writer. Her constant fear of disappointing her husband and the certainty of society, not only make her give up writing but also discourage her from acknowledging her friendship with a man who is not her husband, brother or father. The novel focuses on a young woman who is educated and aware—unwilling to break free from the mould of expectations.

The Forerunners in Shashi Deshpande’s “That Long Silence”:

- Shashi Deshpande’s That Long Silence-Santwana Halder 2005 This Book Offers A Detailed Study Of The Novels That Add To The Fast Growing Corpus Of Feminist Criticism And Women S Studies.
- Shashi Deshpande’s That Long Silence: Shashi Deshpande 1989 Jay’S Life Comes Apart At The seams When Her Husband Is Asked To Leave His Job While Allegations Of Business Malpractice Against Him Are Investigated. Her Familiar Existence Disrupted, Her Husband’S Reputation In Question And Their Future As A Family In Jeopardy, Jay, A Failed Writer, Is Haunted By Memories Of The Past. With the deterioration in the status of women in India and the subsequent efforts made during the freedom struggle to pave the way for women’s participation in political life, Shashi Deshpande’s deeply compassionate vision, is that out of this web of loss and despair emerge a strand of life and hope—a binding vine of love, which means the most to her and she must now fight to get it all back. It is a deeply moving and inspiring account of growing up, of the power of faith and how a writer of fiction can capture the heart.

The Portrait of the Difficulties and Choices Facing Women—especially Educated, Independent Women—in India Today:

- Shashi Deshpande’s That Long Silence: Shashi Deshpande 1989 Jay’S Life Comes Apart At The seams When Her Husband Is Asked To Leave His Job While Allegations Of Business Malpractice Against Him Are Investigated. Her Familiar Existence Disrupted, Her Husband’S Reputation In Question And Their Future As A Family In Jeopardy, Jay, A Failed Writer, Is Haunted By Memories Of The Past. With the deterioration in the status of women in India and the subsequent efforts made during the freedom struggle to pave the way for women’s participation in political life, Shashi Deshpande’s deeply compassionate vision, is that out of this web of loss and despair emerge a strand of life and hope—a binding vine of love, which means the most to her and she must now fight to get it all back. It is a deeply moving and inspiring account of growing up, of the power of faith and how a writer of fiction can capture the heart.

- Shashi Deshpande’s That Long Silence: Shashi Deshpande 1989 Jay’S Life Comes Apart At The seams When Her Husband Is Asked To Leave His Job While Allegations Of Business Malpractice Against Him Are Investigated. Her Familiar Existence Disrupted, Her Husband’S Reputation In Question And Their Future As A Family In Jeopardy, Jay, A Failed Writer, Is Haunted By Memories Of The Past. With the deterioration in the status of women in India and the subsequent efforts made during the freedom struggle to pave the way for women’s participation in political life, Shashi Deshpande’s deeply compassionate vision, is that out of this web of loss and despair emerge a strand of life and hope—a binding vine of love, which means the most to her and she must now fight to get it all back. It is a deeply moving and inspiring account of growing up, of the power of faith and how a writer of fiction can capture the heart.
Are you afraid of the darkness? Sydney Sheldon 2009-05-17 All around the globe, people are being reported dead or missing. In Berlin, a woman vanishes from the city square. In Paris, a man plunges from the Eiffel Tower. In Denver, a small plane crashes into the mountains. In Manhattan, a body washes ashore along the East River. At first these seem to be random incidents, but the police soon discover that all four of the victims are connected to Kinpley International Group (KIG), the largest think tank in the world. Kelly Harris and Diane Stevens—young widows of two of the victims—encounter each other in New York, where they have been asked to meet with Tanner Kinpley, the head of KIG. He assures them that he is using all available resources to find their husbands. But he may be too late. Someone is intent on murdering both women, and they suffer a harrowing series of near escapes. Who is trying to kill them, and why? It's far too dangerous to protect friends, suspicions of each other and everything around them, and trying to find answers for themselves, the two widows embark on a terrifying game of cat and mouse against the unknown forces out to destroy them. Taut with suspense and vivid characterization, full of shocking twists, and with an unerringly realistic premise that could alter all of our lives, The long-awaited Are You Afraid of the Darkness? is Sydney Sheldon at the top of his game.

Ships that Pass—Shashi Deshpande 2012 Ships that Pass tells the story of Tara and Shaw, near strangers to each other after fourteen years of being married, and Tara’s sister, Radhika, recently engaged, almost on a whim, to someone she barely knows. Even as Radhika tries to understand how a once ideal marriage has come undone, and struggles with her own feelings for an older man, tragedy strikes: Tara dies in mysterious circumstances and Shaw is arrested for murder.

In the Country of Deceit—Shashi Deshpande 2009-06-08 Why did I do it? Why did I enter the country of deceit? What took me into it? I hesitate to use the word love, but what other word is there? Deshpande chooses to live alone in the small town of Rajgar after her parents’ death, nursing the gently voiced despair of her family and friends, Teaching English, creating a garden and making friends with Ruj, a former actress who settles in the town with her husband and three children. Deshpande’s life is a trampoline, firm under her bare feet; a job in a new area where the only woman is the executive assistant. Deshpande’s new boss is a willowy woman who is already a full body of a woman’s power. She is without a doubt the most audacious, reckless, and unapologetic woman; she is the kind of woman that you love to hate and hate to love. Deshpande’s life is turbulent, imbued with a hard-won independence. Then she meets Ashok Chapagain, Rajgar’s new District Superintendent of Police, and they fall in love despite the fact that Ashok is much older, married, and—so both painfully acknowledge from the very beginning—it is a relationship without a future. Deshpande’s unflinching gaze tracks the suffering, evasions and lies that overhear those caught in the web of subterfuge. There are no hostages taken in the country of deceit; no victims; only scared lives. This understated yet compassionate examination of the nature of love, loyalty and deception establishes yet again Deshpande’s position as one of India’s most formidable writers of fiction.

A Feminist Perspective on the Novels of Shashi Deshpande Y. S. Santia Beddy 2001 The Study Aims To Evaluate All Her Novels From A Feminist Perspective. Her Works Reveals That She is A Highly Sensitive Writer Who Is Aware Of Male-Female Inbalance In Society.


Post-colonial Women Writers—Sunita Sinha 2008

Indian English Poetry and Fiction—Amar Nath Prasad 2007

The Woman Of The Image In the Novels of Shashi Deshpande—Sarjith K. Sandhu 1991 The Book Makes An Exhaustive Study Of The Depiction Of The Image Of Woman In Her Novels.

Feminist Perspectives Towards Shashi Deshpande’s Novels Pre Sarkar 2002-05-19 Shashi Deshpande is one of the most fascinating writers in the genre of Indian English writing to have addressed problems and issues related to women and society, breaking the traditional image of a woman as a daughter, wife or mother, exploring the inner psychological conflicts of a woman and making her women characters emerge as self-dependent individuals with a space of one’s own. Through her bunch of wonderful novels Shashi Deshpande aims to highlight that everyone in this society should be treated as equals, as human beings; there should not be any mysterious deaths of loved ones. Shashi Deshpande’s protagonists in quest of an exclusive identity, which has the essence of individuality and self-confidence and which make them stand apart from the atmosphere that gives by traditional patriarchal society; the atmosphere which is the reason behind the women characters’ conflict and the atmosphere which also makes them want to carve a niche for themselves by utilizing their potential and willpower has formed the core of the book. Comprehensive and analytical in nature, the present book would prove an asset to students of English literature.

South Asian Novelists in English—Jaina C. Sanga 2003 Profiles more than fifty novelists from South Asia and discusses each author’s major works, literary themes, and critical reception.

New Perspectives on Indian English Writings—Mitali Agraharkar 2007 New Perspectives On Indian English Writings Is A Collection Of Thirty Eight Research Papers On Various Fictionists, Dramatists And Poets Of Indian Origin. These Papers, Conducted By Scholars And Teachers Of Repute, Study In Depth The Major Works Of The Pioneers As Well As Emerging Indian Authors, Writing In English. The Writers Included In This Volume Are Kamala Markandaya, Jhumpa Lahiri, Shashi Deshpande, Nayantara Sahgal, Girth Karnad, Manjula Kripal, Bhairavi Mukhopadhyay, R. K. Narayan, Sunali Baskid, Arundhati Roy, Gita Mehta, Kamala Das, Nisim Ezekiel, Rukia Pracer Jawahal and Many Others. The Wides Range Of The Authors, Covering In This Volume, Makes It Useful For Researchers, Teachers And Postgraduate Students, Studying In Various Universities Of India.


Emergence of new women in the novels of Shashi Deshpande and Anita Desai Dr. Rachana Yadav


The Fiction of Shashi Deshpande—Dr. R. S. Patha 1998

The despondency of women in patriarchal constellations as portrayed in “That Long Silence” by Shashi Deshpande—Shamshoor Bano 2010-06-25 the despondency of women in patriarchal constellations as portrayed in “That Long Silence” by Shashi Deshpande—Shamshoor Bano 2010-06-25

The preoccupation of the woman with her career in “If I Die Today” by Shashi Deshpande—Sarani Das 2007

Cultural identity and the modern woman in Shashi Deshpande’s “In Her Novels.”—Sarani Das 2007

Under the same blue sky—Shashi Deshpande’s brilliant short story—Sarani Das 2007

South Asian Novelists in English—Jaina C. Sanga 2003 Profiles more than fifty novelists from South Asia and discusses each author’s major works, literary themes, and critical reception.