

THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN UNEARTHING THE MYSTERY

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The Girl on the Train' is a psychological thriller which will definitely keep you stuck to your seat for the longest time. A page-turner, the mystery novel written by British writer Paula Hawkins, is a first person narrative by Rachel, Anna and Megan. Each narrator takes turns and talks about her experience, people she meets, the inner storms occurring within and so much more. The accounts read as though the narrators are reading out pages from their diaries while the readers listen intently. Even though the narrators are remotely related to each other, there come points in the novel when their stories connect and cross over to the other side of the street, thus introducing twists to the already complex suspense story.

The narrations, however, do get a little long and might tire out the reader slightly, especially with the continuous bouts of darkness and sorrow spewing out of each narrator. But then again, 'The Girl on the Train' is an amalgamation of human emotions – suicidal thoughts, deception, depression, addiction and not being loved.

One would say that the story is about several identities connecting to draw a proper picture. With every identity comes a story, each darker than the other. The murder could never have been solved if these identities never connected and the stories were not revealed! What's also extraordinary about this book is that the reader subconsciously tries to solve the mystery by reading the narratives, even before the characters are doing so in the novel. That's what many readers found so

The Girl on the Train (2015) The novel debuted at No. 1 on The New York Times Fiction Best Sellers of 2015 list (combined print and e-book) dated February 1, 2015 and remained in the top position for 13 consecutive weeks, until April 2015. In January 2016 it became the No. 1 bestseller again for two weeks. Many reviews referred to the book as "the next Gone Girl", a popular 2012 novel.

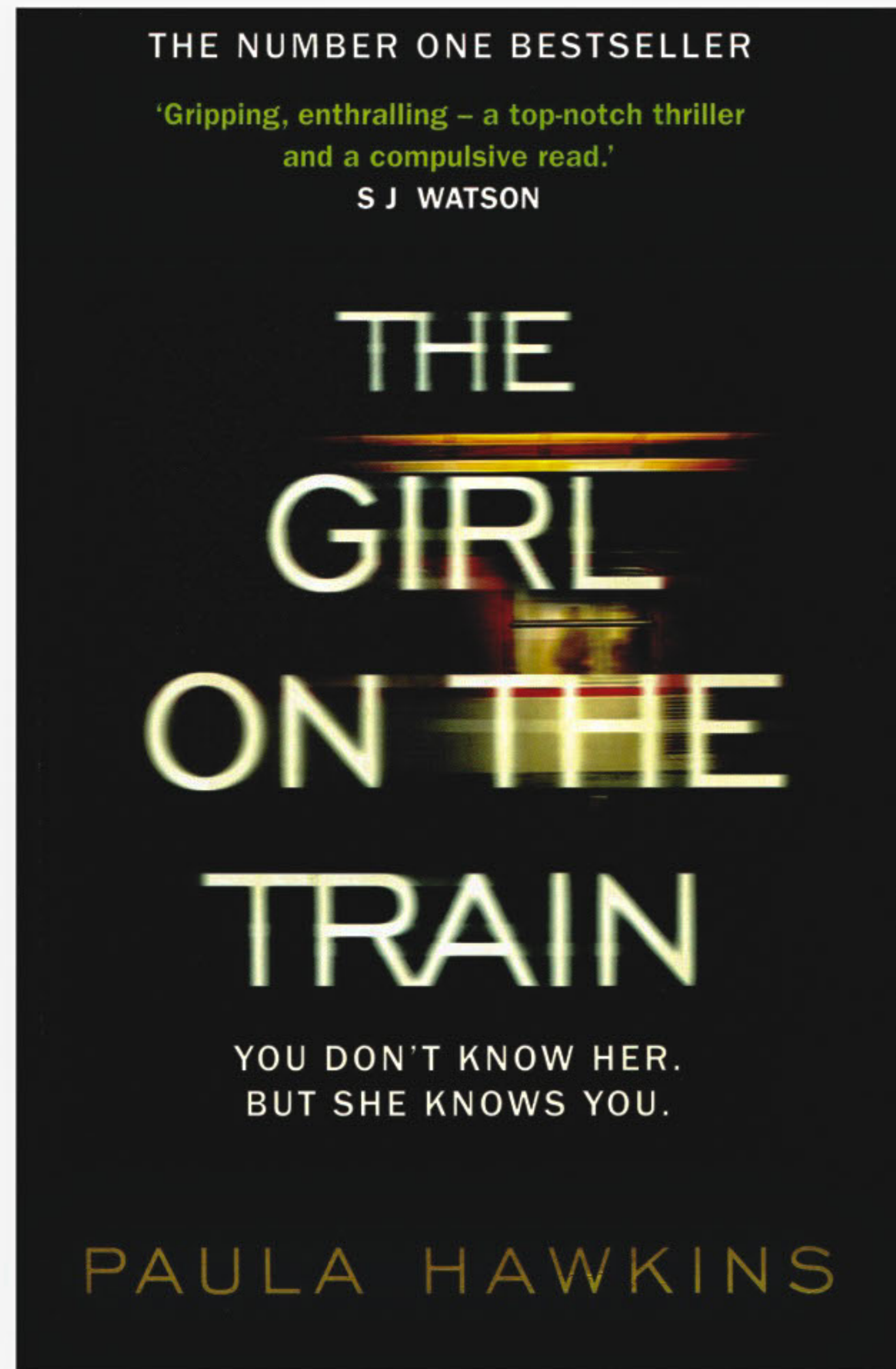
By early March 2015, the novel had sold over 1 million copies, and 1.5 million by April. It has occupied the number one spot of the UK hardback book chart for 20 weeks, the longest any book has ever held the top spot. By early August 2015, the book had sold more than 3 million copies in the US alone, and, by August 2016, an estimated 11 million copies worldwide.

The film rights were acquired by DreamWorks Pictures in 2014 for Marc Platt Productions. The adaptation, starring Emily Blunt and directed by Tate Taylor, is scheduled for release on 7 October 2016.

Source: internet

intriguing about 'The Girl on the Train'. When you pick up an Agatha Christie or other popular, even older, mystery stories, there are times when you are lost into the plot, waiting for the detective's next move. But in this book, the narrators seemed to be talking to the reader, and getting him or her rather delve into the mystery and investigate.

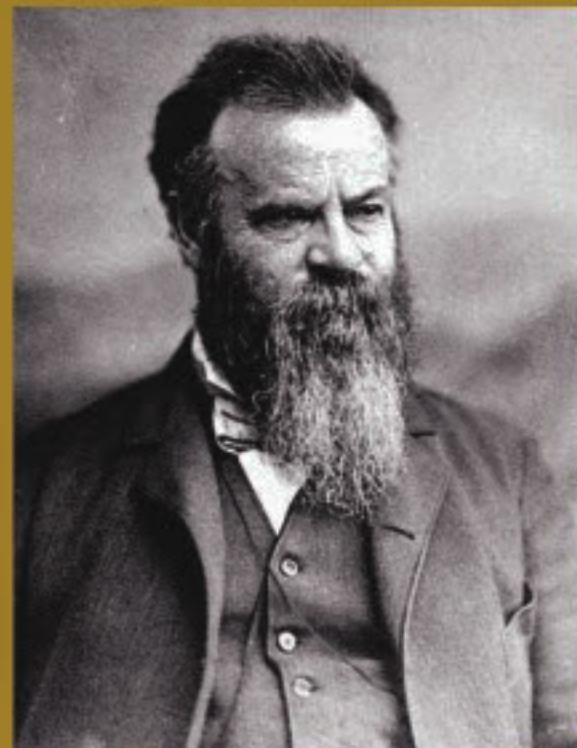
Don't forget to pick up this book whenever and wherever you get a chance to!



PEARLS OF WISDOM

“YEARS OF DROUGHT AND FAMINE COME AND YEARS OF FLOOD AND FAMINE COME, AND THE CLIMATE IS NOT CHANGED WITH DANCE, LIBATION OR PRAYER.”

JOHN WESLEY POWELL
former U.S. soldier, geologist



“CLIMATE IS ALWAYS EVOLVING, AND NATURAL DISASTERS HAVE ALWAYS EXISTED.”

MARCO RUBIO
American politician and attorney

“IF YOU HAVE A MAJOR DISASTER INVOLVING HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS, OR IN THIS CASE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE, WHETHER IT BE A NATURAL DISASTER OR AN ACT OF TERRORISM, THE FIRST 72 HOURS ARE GOING TO BE TOTALLY CHAOTIC NO MATTER WHAT YOU PLAN TO DO.”

WARREN RUDMAN
former American attorney and Republican politician



| PAGE TURNER |

HERITAGE

REDISCOVERING DHAKA COLLEGIATE SCHOOL

APURBA JAHANGIR

PHOTOS: ORCHID CHAKMA

In 1835 the General Committee of Public Interaction submitted a proposal to Lord William Bentinck, asking to establish an institution which would teach English literature and science in major cities such as Dhaka, Patna and many more. After the proposal, a lot of works was put into the planning. Intellectuals of that time went through several meetings with the committee; to see if a government funded school could be possible under the British Raj. In June that year, the government passed this proposal and on July 15 the first government school in Bengal was established. The institution went by the named – Dhaka Collegiate School. Even after 181 years, the school still remains, being the oldest educational institution in Dhaka.

Now located in Loyal Street, Sadarghat; this school was first established a couple of blocks away from the current location. During that time, the school was given the building of a British bungalow, and later moved to its current building which was also used to be an office catered to indigo farming. The school started off with just three teachers; Mr Ridge acting as the headmaster, Paricharan Sarkar and Mr Goon. Rumour has it that Mr Goon, after leaving the school, went through severe depression and lived in isolation for the remaining of his life. The school started with 136 students. The next year, the number increased to 149, including 8 Muslims and 7 Christians. It is said that Brajasundar Mitra, founder of the *Brahmo Samaj*, Abdul Ali, founder of Maulabhi Bazaar and Armenian *Jamindar* Harney were among the first few batches of students.

Around 1841, the school developed its college (classes 11 and 12) section. Around the same time Dhaka College was established. This is when the school moved to its new building – the ground floor was allotted for the school section and the upper floor for college. The institution also built a hostel named 'Raj Chandra Hindu Hostel'. The monthly fee was 7.50 taka, including food.

The most fascinating aspects of this school are the stories that surround it. In 1888, Ratamoni Gupta was



appointed the principal of the school. "It is said that in the interview he was asked why he would be selected for this job. He replied that he would make the school stand first in the entrance exam or else he would resign," said Muhammad Abdul Kader, current English teacher of Dhaka Collegiate School. For 8 years under Gupta's headmastership Dhaka Collegiate School stood first. "Ironically on the 9th year, Gupta's son, also a student of the school was taking the exam and after 8 years, the school came in second. Gupta resigned after this incident."

Many Bengali famous figures studied at the Dhaka Collegiate, including Jagadish Chandra Bose,

Bhabatash Dutta, freedom fighter Matur Rahman, minister Rashed Khan Menon and others. Famous novelist Buddhadev Bose was also a student of this institution. In his book *Amar Chelebela*, his words act as a painted picture, describing the beauty of Dhaka Collegiate School.

The school now stands with its two buildings, giving a proper contrast of the then and now Dhaka. Even today, there are desks and chairs from the eighteen hundreds, some of which are still used by the students. Gramophones, radios and other vintage equipment are still stacked in the headmaster's shelves. "Unlike others we try to grab on to our glorious past," says Muhammad

Abdul Kader. "We are one of the few schools who had such a magnificent history, and we try our very best to keep up to that reputation." The school ensures 95 percent pass rate in the board exams.

In the midst of somewhat chaotic Dhaka, the school still has its head held up high. And that makes all the difference.



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