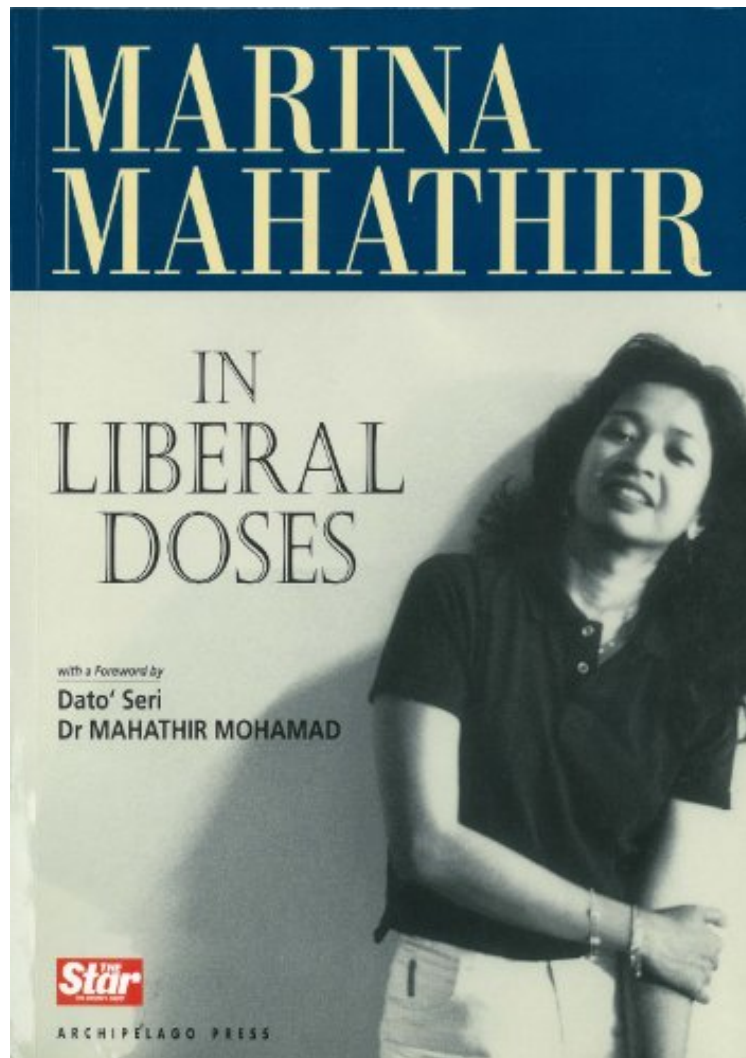


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## In Liberal Doses

Von Marina Mahathir

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Produktinformation Verffentlicht am: 2012-11-27Erscheinungsdatum: 2013-01-24File Name: B00AKSC70S  
| File size: 46.Mb

**Von Marina Mahathir : In Liberal Doses** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In Liberal Doses:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen1 von 1 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.  
Refreshing PerspectiveVon Ein KundeAs a Malaysian now living in the States, it was really refreshing to read articles that dare to address issues that you hardly get to see on the internet versions of Malaysian newspapers. Malaysia is a censure-happy country, and most of their journalists and papers rarely ever report on anything other than articles tooting the government's horn and parroting words that come out of the mouths of publicity-seeking government officials.I think one of the main reasons why Marina has always been able to escape persecution for writing her

articles is because she IS the daughter of the Prime Minister. He might not agree with them at all, but he's not going to jail his favorite child. Marina talks of an ideal Malaysia; where Malaysians could feel free to express their opinions and offer constructive criticisms of their government officials, where women are provided with the equal opportunity to succeed, and where you won't be jailed for writing little comments like these. In short, a country where I would still be living in.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The book is a collection of the author's reactions to events. Von Ein Kunde This book is a compilation of regular contributions to a column, 'Musings', on The Star newspaper in Malaysia. As such it does not offer any systematic view of the author's on any subject. At most, it collects the author's reactions to events and situations as they unfolded mainly in Malaysia but also wherever the author may have travelled to. It emerges from early on that the author is somewhat of a free thinker, with little or no inhibitions about expressing her impressions or views. A great deal of those views are shot through and thorough with indignation that the author feels and expresses against, among others, the treatment of women, youth and children in Malaysia. Whether it be the prevalent attitudes towards pop music as a possible negative influence on youth (long hair, loafing etc.), the lack of proper means of curbing child abuse and rape, the conservative disposition of religious authorities and cultural 'Neanderthals', the author lashes out at them with vigour and tenacity. She measures up what she perceives to be their reprehensible acts and standpoints against the norms of democracy in Malaysia and Vision 2020 society. Unwittingly, she evolves and upholds standards of decency and civilised behaviour as well as community values that must be redefined to match advances in the economy of the nation. And yet, sometimes the author's concerns for some kind of transformation in the value systems of Malaysians remain unarticulated. She might thunder and rage at the treatment of youth, women, immigrants and the like but does not always offer palpable solutions. Her objections to certain things, such as censorship, do not link with any positive indicators of what approaches might be acceptable to her. It will certainly earn her points among those who suffer in one way or another (from prejudice of all sorts--racism, HIV/AIDS--or the police, the political and Judicial administration) but it will not help those in positions of authority, or those outside of it for that matter, to change things in accordance with her wishes. This is partly because, although she sees and demonstrates the downsides of many propositions, policies and practices she often prefers to stay within an ivory tower (her self-confessed cosy, well-decorated residence, frequent travels abroad) where her responsibility appears merely to express scornfully "YO YO NO NO"! Perhaps, the non-conformist or cynic streak in her that she freely admits to may have a lot to do with her failing but life would be meaningless if the courage to say NO is not modulated by the no less deserving courage to say YES (or shut up) when the way forward is clear or can be established. Otherwise, 'liberal doses' of endless criticism without the onus of finding (or may be attempting) the answers ONESELF verges on the hypocritical. Unfortunately for Marina, society is not cleanly divided into some people who have to do their jobs and others who have to stand by the wayside and muse.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Malaysia - A Lesson in Living in Harmony Von Pat English (patsjc@earthlink.net) This collection of essays on the social values, traditions and norms of Malaysia left me anxious to visit this dynamic country. Marini Mahathir shows how this young country blends the cultures of the Chinese, Indians, Malays and Moslems harmoniously into the Malaysian way of life. Marina gives an intelligent and independent view of Malaysia as it is today. It is not a boring historical treatise but a lively look at what it means to be Malaysian with all the outside pressures to conform to Western values. One gets the feeling that the Malaysians are sensitive, spiritual people who care for both their neighbors and their country. Malaysia appears to have cohesion between cultures and races not common in many countries. We in the US could learn a lesson from our Malaysian friends. Yes, Hillary, it does take a village!

Kurzbeschreibung Marina Mahathir is one of Malaysia's most fascinating voices: compassionate, outspoken, liberated and unabashedly liberal, usually generous, sometimes wicked, never parochial and always proudly Malaysian. Marina's 'Musings' columns for The Star newspaper are a talking point in Malaysia's capital and throughout the country. They began as a regular personal commentary on Marina's everyday life as a mother, but as time went on the range expanded. Her writing came to touch on, and often debate, vital issues of national and global importance, and are eagerly read by a huge public. As a mother, a committed AIDS worker, daughter of the Prime Minister, publisher and activist, Marina engages directly with the troubles and triumphs of Malaysian society as it reaches towards a new millennium. This book collects the best of these columns between 1991 and 1997, and Marina herself introduced the pieces, putting them into perspective.

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