

'A banquet for all the senses we bring
to reading'—*Newsweek*

Still, to say that it all began when Sophie Mol came
to Ayemenem is only one way of looking at it...

It could be argued that it actually began thousands
of years ago. Long before the Marxists came. Before
the British took Malabar, before the Dutch Ascendancy,
before Vasco da Gama arrived, before the Zamorin's
conquest of Calicut. Before Christianity arrived in a
boat and seeped into Kerala like tea from a teabag.
That it really began in the days when the Love Laws
were made. The laws that lay down who should be
loved, and how. And how much.

'A sad story, told very hilariously, very
tenderly and very craftily' *Pioneer*

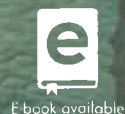
'It is rare to find a book that so effectively cuts
through the clothes of nationality, caste and religion
to reveal the bare bones of humanity' *Daily Telegraph*

'A masterpiece, utterly exceptional in every way'
William Dalrymple, *Harpers and Queen*

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Arundhati Roy

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