PREFACE

Amit Chaudhuri was born in Calcutta in 1962 and brought up in Bombay. A graduate of University College, London, he was at Balliol College and later Creative Arts Fellow at Wolfson College, Oxford. His first book, A Strange and Sublime Address, (1991) won first prize in the Betty Trask Awards, the Commonwealth Writers Prize for Best First Book (Eurasia) 1992 and was shortlisted for the 1991 Guardian Fiction Prize. Afternoon Raag won the 1993 Southern Arts Literature Prize and won the Encore Award for the best second novel. Freedom song, published in 1998 and in the US, where it was published with his first two books, was awarded the LA Times Book prize for Fiction. His most recent novel, A New World, was published to great acclaim in 2000. He is also the editor of The Picador Book of Modern Indian Literature. Amit Chaudhuri’s work has appeared in various publications, including the London Review of Books, the Times Literary Supplement, Granta and the New Yorker. He lives with his wife and daughter in Calcutta.

This dissertation discusses the three novels of Chaudhuri’s A Strange and Sublime Address (1991), Freedom Song (1998) and A New World (2000) and examines their thematic and technical aspects.

The dissertation is divided into four chapters. In the first chapter, Chaudhuri’s A Strange and Sublime Address is about a boy’s discovery of Calcutte and of an extended family. The second chapter contains the discussion of his third novel Freedom Song which is about the Marxist philosophy and the lives of its followers in practicality. The third chapter deals with the recent novel A New World (2000) which is about a couple that faces the world with a new perspective, after their divorce. The final chapter is a conclusion that summarises Chaudhuri’s literary achievement in respect of theme and technique of his works and his contribution to the Indo-Anglian fiction.
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