

Est La Vie: Anglo Indian Lives: Dolly Dudman, La Metisse

Dolly Dudman was born in Calcutta, India, in 1851. Her father was a British civil servant and her mother was an Indian ayah (nanny). As a result of her mixed parentage, Dolly was classified as an Anglo-Indian, a term used to describe people of mixed British and Indian descent. Anglo-Indians were often marginalized by both British and Indian society, and they faced discrimination and prejudice from both communities.



C'est La Vie (Anglo Indian Lives - 1. Dolly Dudman - 2 La Metisse - 3 - C'est La Vie) by Paul Beatty

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 137 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported



Dolly's childhood was marked by poverty and instability. Her father died when she was young, and her mother struggled to support her family. Dolly was often forced to work as a servant to help make ends meet. Despite these challenges, Dolly was a bright and ambitious young woman. She was determined to get an education and to make a better life for herself.

In 1869, Dolly married an Anglo-Indian man named George Dudman. The couple had four children together. Dolly continued to work as a servant, but she also began to write about her experiences as an Anglo-Indian woman. In 1890, she published her first novel, *East Lynne*. The novel was a critical and commercial success, and it helped to raise awareness of the plight of Anglo-Indians.

Dolly Dudman became a leading voice for Anglo-Indian rights. She spoke out against discrimination and prejudice, and she campaigned for better educational and economic opportunities for her community. She also wrote several other novels and short stories, all of which explored the lives and experiences of Anglo-Indians.

Dolly Dudman's legacy is one of struggle and triumph. She overcame adversity and prejudice to become a successful writer and activist. Her work helped to raise awareness of the plight of Anglo-Indians, and she inspired others to fight for their rights.

Dolly Dudman's Struggle for Identity

Dolly Dudman's struggle for identity was a lifelong journey. As an Anglo-Indian, she was neither fully British nor fully Indian. She was often seen as an outsider by both communities, and she faced discrimination and prejudice from both sides.

In her novel *East Lynne*, Dolly wrote about the challenges of growing up as an Anglo-Indian. She described the feeling of being "betwixt and between," of not belonging to either the British or the Indian community.



“I was neither one nor the other, but a hybrid, a mongrel, a pariah. I was despised by the British because I was not pure white, and by the Indians because I was not pure Indian. I was an outcast, a misfit, a nobody.”

Despite the challenges she faced, Dolly Dudman never gave up on her search for identity. She found solace in her writing, and she used her voice to speak out against discrimination and prejudice.

Dolly Dudman's Activism

Dolly Dudman was a passionate activist for Anglo-Indian rights. She spoke out against discrimination and prejudice, and she campaigned for better educational and economic opportunities for her community.

In 1892, Dolly Dudman helped to found the Anglo-Indian League, an organization dedicated to fighting for the rights of Anglo-Indians. She served as the League's secretary for many years, and she played a key role in its campaigns for better education and employment opportunities for Anglo-Indians.

Dolly Dudman also wrote extensively about the need for Anglo-Indians to be recognized as a distinct community. She argued that Anglo-Indians had their own unique culture and identity, and that they should be treated with respect and equality.

Dolly Dudman's Legacy

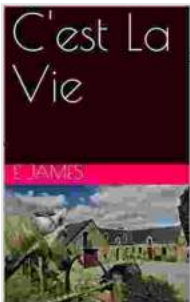
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work helped to raise awareness of the plight of Anglo-Indians, and she inspired others to fight for their rights.

Dolly Dudman's novels and short stories continue to be read today, and they offer a valuable insight into the lives and experiences of Anglo-Indians. Her work is a reminder of the challenges that Anglo-Indians have faced, and it serves as an inspiration to those who continue to fight for equality and justice.

Further Reading

- Dolly Dudman on Wikipedia
- Dolly Dudman: A Forgotten Voice
- The Anglo-Indian Working Women: Dolly Dudman's East Lynne



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