

Reviews of:

Journey into the Interior

Sylvia Moody

****Short-listed for the PEN Writing Prize****

****Long-listed for the Cinnamon Debut Novel prize****

1.

An enthralling read

Beautifully written, atmospheric, thought-provoking and witty. Real philosophical and intellectual depth is balanced perfectly by a whimsy and lightness of touch which is only rarely found in this sort of writing. An enthralling read.

Lee Williams, author

2.

Wonderfully imaginative

This is a wonderfully imaginative and thought-provoking book, which I have found very moving as well as witty and teasing. It gives an insight into some complex experiences and ways of coping with them, which I think will have much to offer to many readers.

Pat Easterling, Classics professor

3.

A perfect gem!

Journey into the Interior is a great delight. It has a felicity of language and a delicacy of ideas that I haven't met in a long while. The story was an experience to relish, full of wit and insight and with a series of openings that went deep but in a roguish and mischievous way. I found myself chuckling out loud time and again. It is a perfect gem.

Alec Davison, librettist

4.

A classic in the making

Absolutely first-class. There is so much in this story that I hardly know where to begin in describing it. The writing is without question brilliant, the style perfectly suited to the content. Bold adventures of the mind sustain the whole, mixed with ordinary, everyday events concerning extraordinary people. Although what I feel I'm being shown is how extraordinary ordinary people are, and ordinary objects also. A classic in the making.

Allie Anders, children's writer

5.

A gripping tale

This is a gripping tale of an inner journey told with insight, humour and vivid detail. There is a hypnotic quality to the story-telling which means that the psychological adventures of the narrator remain in memory long after the book has been finished.

Adrian Gurney, playwright

6.

The best piece of writing I've read for a long time.

This is terrific. There are brilliant moments here. The Blue Vase being listed in the Dramatis Personae is pure genius. This is a superb evocation of what it is to be utterly alone with oneself, and how frightening and revealing dissociation can be. This is the best piece of writing I've read for a long time.

Lawrence Poole, author

7.

Beautifully-written and engaging

Very accomplished. I was delighted to be reading such a beautifully-written, engaging piece. Every word is well-chosen, every sentence well-structured, and each paragraph proceeds with logic and a nod to the previous one.

Stacey Zee, author

8.

I wish I'd written this!

I adored this. Every now and then, you read something that you wished you'd written yourself. And I wished I'd written this. I loved everything about it, from the quotation at the start, through to the unusual cast-list and of course, the narrative itself. I became completely immersed in the main character's predicament and it all seemed thoroughly believable and intriguing. Everything was described so vividly and I loved the flashes of humour.

A. Willow, author

9.

A brilliant read

Witty, philosophical and thoroughly entertaining. The writing is so precise, meaningful, witty and impeccably punctuated down to the last letter.

This is the kind of novel I adore. It seems to be a psychological journey which really speaks to me personally. And it speaks to the sort of psychological battles all those who think must go through - the whole disconnection from oneself - yet, at the same time there is a brilliant wit throughout and a concision of expression that stops it from ever being contrived or boring. Each little section was a gem on its own. Thank you for a brilliant read.

Daniel Languages, linguist