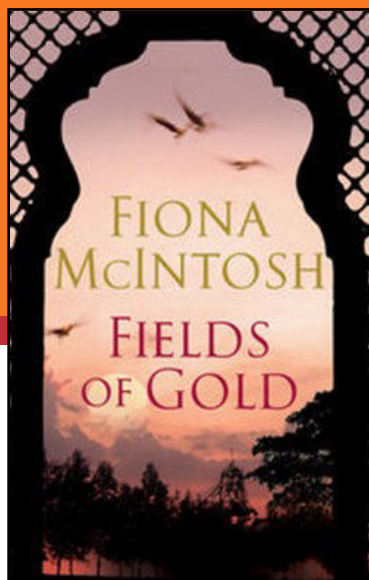


Fields of Gold

By Fiona McIntosh

First published in 2010



Genre and Subject

Historical Fiction

Indian British Fiction

Synopsis

Charismatic womaniser Jack Bryant has the world at his feet, but when trouble catches up with him he's forced to flee Penzance for good.

Honest Ned Sinclair is on a family adventure in Rangoon when he is dealt a bitter blow. With all the odds against him, he risks his life in a desperate bid to escape.

Both men hope to start their lives anew, seeking their fortune in India's fields of gold. Their paths collide in the colourful city of Bangalore, where they form a friendship like no other. In the years that follow, they remain inextricably bound by a dark secret, while their love for the same woman threatens to tear them apart.

From the windswept cliffs of the Cornish coast to the goldmines of southern India, this is a story of high adventure, devastating tragedy and enduring love.

Author Biography

Fiona McIntosh is the author of best selling commercial novels ranging across various genres including fantasy for adults and for children. Her popular crime series, featuring DCI Jack Hawksworth has recently been option for TV and she will continue to write more crime novels. She is perhaps best known for her historical dramas with their lush landscapes from around the world and her suspenseful, fast paced storytelling style.

Born and raised on the English south coast, she spent her early childhood in West Africa and its experiences forged her dream to continue travelling to far-flung places. Just turning twenty she moved to Australia where she founded and ran her own marketing and PR consultancy before joining her husband to publish an award-winning travel magazine.

When she's not travelling to research or busy in writing mode and/or hosting her highly regarded masterclass courses, Fiona lives a quiet life with baking her main hobby, but enjoying learning to draw with pastels and keeping the family menagerie entertained. She lives with her husband, Ian and finds every excuse for their adult twin sons to visit regularly. Her passions are fine chocolate and excellent coffee, but her guilty secret is winter boots and amassing bakeware of all types.

Discussion Starters

- How did you experience the book? Were you engaged immediately, or did it take you a while to "get into it"? How did you feel reading it—amused, sad, disturbed, confused, bored?
- Describe the main characters—personality traits, motivations, and inner qualities. Why do characters do what they do? Are their actions justified? Describe the dynamics between characters (in a marriage, family, or friendship). How has the past shaped their lives? Do you admire or disapprove of them?
- Discuss the plot: Is it engaging—do you find the story interesting? Were you surprised by complications, twists & turns? Did you find the plot predictable, even formulaic?
- Talk about the book's structure. Does the time-line move forward chronologically? Is there a single viewpoint or shifting viewpoints? Why might the author have chosen to tell the story the way she did?
- What main ideas—themes—does the author explore? (Consider the title, often a clue to a theme.) Does the author use symbols to reinforce the main ideas?
- What passages strike you as insightful, even profound? Perhaps a bit of dialog that's funny or poignant or that encapsulates a character? Maybe there's a particular comment that states the book's thematic concerns?
- Is the ending satisfying? If so, why? If not, why not...and how would you change it?
- If you could ask the author a question, what would you ask? Have you read other books by the same author? If so how does this book compare. If not, does this book inspire you to read others?
- Has this novel changed you—broadened your perspective? Have you learned something new or been exposed to different ideas about people or a certain part of the world?

If you liked this book, you may also like...

- *East of Alice* by Annie Seaton
- *The French Agent* by Belinda Alexander
- *The Night Tide* by Di Morrissey

Author biography from <https://fionamcintoshmasterclasses.com/fiona/>

Discussion starters from LitLovers (<http://www.litlovers.com/run-a-book-club/questions-for-fiction>).

Read-a-likes from Good Read <https://www.goodreads.com/book/similar/12665561-fields-of-gold>