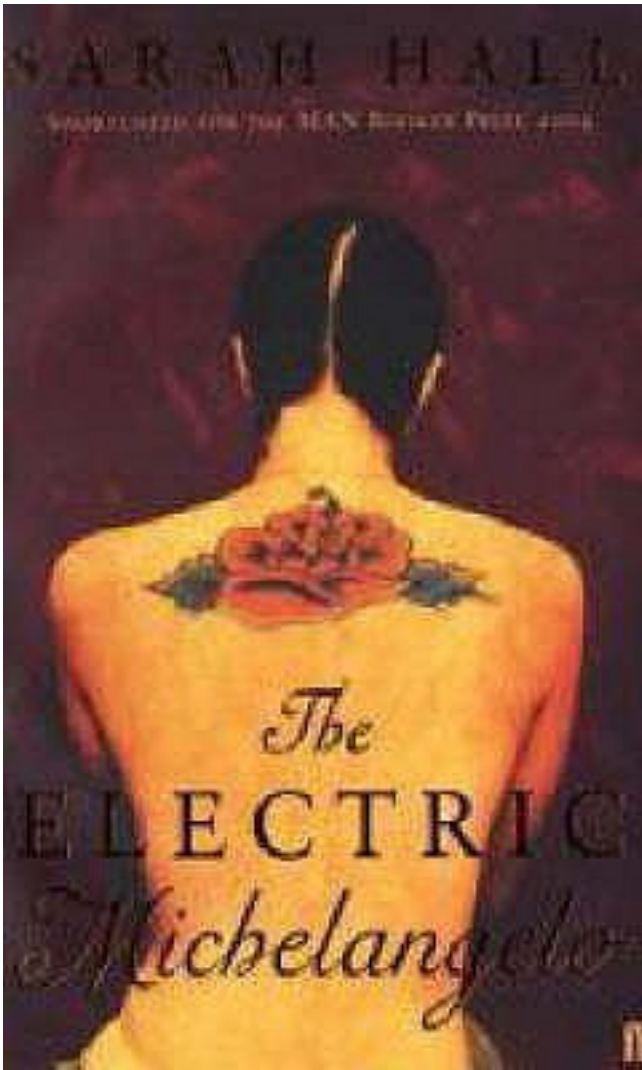

Sarah Hall

The Electric Michelangelo



Title: The Electric Michelangelo

Author: Sarah Hall

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Description

Opening on the windswept front of Morecambe Bay, on the remote north-west coast of England, *The Electric Michelangelo* is a novel of love, loss and the art of tattooing. Hugely atmospheric, exotic and familiar, it is an exquisitely rendered portrait of seaside resorts on opposite sides of the Atlantic by one of the most uniquely talented novelists of her generation.

Insightful reviews

Allie: What Sarah Hall does well in "*The Electric Michelangelo*" are descriptions. The images of blood, coughed up from lungs or pulled with a tattoo needle, are vivid enough to make me queasy. Likewise, I can perfectly imagine the characters and their every mannerism, except the main character Cyril whose perspective gives the story. However, after all these carefully constructed visuals I was left wanting more plot. The main action takes many fewer pages than the descriptions and happens so abruptly that I had to reread it to understand what had happened. After creating all these fascinating characters, I really wanted Hall to do something with them. I realize that some things were left intentionally mysterious, but I feel like a great thing about fiction is its ability to reveal some of the secrets that you never find out in life.

Diana Andrei: *Michelangelo Electric*, un roman captivant si neconventional care s-a numarat printre finalistele prestigiosului Booker Prize 2004, face parte din Colectia Raftul Denisei (foarte faina si ingrijita) si prezinta povestea fascinanta a unui artist tatuator de la inceputul secolului XX cand aceasta meserie era marginalizata si privita cu dezgust.

"Tatuajele puteau fi socante un timp. Dar in cele din urma deveneau componente obisnuite ale anatomiei umane. Oamenii treceau prin viata ca niste cani indelung folosite, adunand cioburi, zgarieturi si pete, de atata uzura, dupa ce au continuat si au turnat viata."

Michelangelo Electric de Sarah Hall are un inceput visceral si pe alocuri poate neplacut pentru cei obisnuiti cu o lectura soft dar pe masura ce treci de primele 30 de pagini incepe sa te fascineze tot mai mult. E drept ca dialogul este aproape inexistent iar limbajul este un fel de proza poetica, pe alocuri mult prea incarcat si cu detalii ce nu prea-si au rostul insa, daca ai rabdare, gasesti fraze tari si minunate.

"Tatuarea era un salt inainte. Era implicita. Era explicita. Era intimitate absoluta, intimitate cu intreaga lume primara care fute, ucide, iubeste. Astea sunt culorile fundamentale ale vietii, nu? Cele trei culori originale pe care fiintele umane doar le amesteca pentru a scoate din ele nuante civilizate."

Povestea il urmareste pe Cy (Cyril Parks), un pusti ce creste in hotelul pentru tuberculosi al mamei sale, de la prima sa intalnire cu viitorul mentor intr-ale tatuajului, Eliot Riley (foarte dubios si decadent), trecand prin perioada de ucenicie, mutarea la New York, apoi in Coney Island unde isi gaseste muza (o artista de circ ce traieste intr-un apartament impreuna cu calul sau) si revenirea in Morecambe-le natal de pe coastele Marii Britanii.

Desi nu se spun prea multe despre sentimentele sau gandurile lui Cy, autoarea strecoara multe alte povestioare si detalii despre vietile altora, despre ce poarta in spate cel mai mic dintre semnele imprimate in piele.

“Deodata, Cy intelese despre ce era vorba. Vazu dincolo de cerneala rosie care intra in piele. Vazu prin miezul lucrarii lui, vazu cum daruia lumii comunicare fara compromis, cum scotea la iveala sinele. Cum talmacea experienta si identitatea in culoare si forma. Cum el reprezenta mainile artistice ale celorlalti oameni, poate redundant in alegerea temei, dar imperativ in transmiterea ei. Aceasta era esenta sa stranie si imposibila.”

Deasemeni, in roman se regasesc subiecte referitoare la litoralul infloritor al Marii Britanii inainte de Primul Razboi Mondial, la succesul si prabusirea lui Coney Island, originile si tehnicile primitive folosite in arta tatuajului si, ce mi-a placut cel mai mult, introducerea in lumea vie si colorata a “freak show”-urilor din anii 1900.

Merita sa intri intr-o atmosfera aparte si sa-l cunosti pe Michelangelo electric pentru ca el picteaza inimi, si picteaza suflete.

Catherine: I am a fan of the photographer Dianne Arbus and although I didn't know it when I put this on my wishlist, there are strong similarities in style. If Arbus had written, it would have been a book like this. There is distance from the characters yet aching intimacy. The atmosphere is so loaded, so heavy so exotic, yet the story so understated. Her writing is original, her phrasing accomplished. Wow! What an awe-some writer -- in the real sense of that word.

Alicia: i attempted to learn this numerous instances and have not been capable of get via it. I want i may clarify why, yet possibly it seriously is not my style.

Nancy B. : I anticipated this booklet to be one of those fluffy tale a few tattoo artist and his adoration of a girl, however it seems that it is rather a brilliantly drawn coming of age novel for the paintings of tattooing, america, and one attractive younger man. The girl, who does not are available until eventually late, is interesting and solid, with a feminist bent that's plausible and respectable. Sweet!

Sharon: Sarah Hall's prolific use of phrases makes this a type of designated reads. this is often the tale of Cy Parks from age seven to age sixty-six. He spends his early years in his mom's consumptive lodge in Morecambe Bay round the flip of the century. At an early age he turns into apprenticed to a tatoo artist, Eliot Riley, who's an obnoxious and erratic alcoholic. these years with Riley by no means get erased from Cy's brain. Cy takes at the identify 'Electric Michelangelo' and leaves Morecambe Bay for the united states He opens up his personal store at the Coney Island boardwalk the place he meets Grace, a fellow immigrant who continues to be a secret to him. She is a circus performer, and she or he hires Cy to tatoo 'eyes' far and wide her body. the affection that develops among them is tragically misplaced as Sarah weaves a dismal story of existence within the carnival-like surroundings of Coney Island. Sarah does loads of philosophising in regards to the paintings of tattooing and approximately existence in a lodge seashore town. it's this that contributes to the curiosity within the book.

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