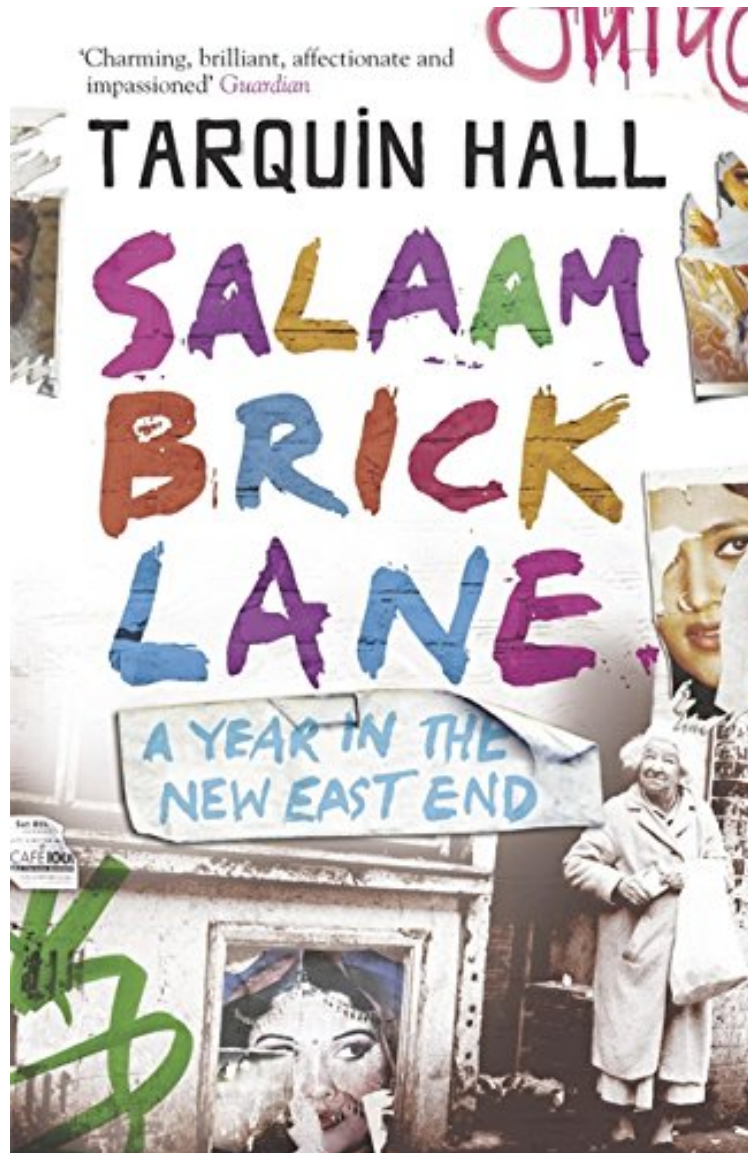


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## Salaam Brick Lane: A Year in the New East End

Tarquin Hall

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#614825 in Books John Murray 2006-04-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.80 x .74 x 5.50l, .44 #File Name: 0719565561288 pages | File size: 45.Mb

**Tarquin Hall : Salaam Brick Lane: A Year in the New East End** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Salaam Brick Lane: A Year in the New East End:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Interesting Look at the New LonodnBy LH422After spending ten years abroad as an international journalist, Tarquin Hall returned to his native London. He discovered that the only place he could afford to live was the East End, a place with a long and colorful history. It is known as the section of London that houses the poor, that is run by petty criminals, and in the past few decades has become to many new

immigrants to the U.K, particularly from the Indian subcontinent. Living in the East End gave Hall insight into the various pressures faced by the neighborhood and its residents. The most significant of these are racism, poverty, and disillusionment. Racism runs rampant, not just among white Londoners, but among immigrants who have arrived years earlier. Hall learns about the harrowing pasts of his asylum-seeking neighbors. They have lived through violence and warfare, and find themselves facing anger and disgust in London. The book also discusses Hall's personal life. He is trying to convince his fiancée to move from Delhi to London, and Brick Lane is not making the project any easier. The culture shock of London strains their relationship. For those interested in London, this is an interesting and worthwhile read.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. All His Books Are Worth Reading--Maybe More Than Once By Serena Very interesting. It brings this part of London to life and almost makes me want to live there. It's especially interesting to me because I recently read "Call the Midwife" which also takes place in the East End of London--but in the late 1950's. The difference in the area is amazing. While the East End never seems like a paradise, it seems like it has improved a lot since it was a bombed out decaying war relic. The population has changed a lot too. Salaam Brick Lane has been criticized for lack of character development. But, I don't think that was intention of this book. It's about getting to know a place that seems too different and too scary to ever be a home. And learning to love it.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book is a good balance of humor and seriousness By C. Nelson What a delightful book! It took me three copies to finish because I kept recommending and lending copies to friends. The author moves into the East End because he's broke and then goes on to describe the fascinating lives of his neighbors. Hall has some interesting insights into British culture, such as foreigners' confusion at trying to fit in. This book is a good balance of humor and seriousness. I'm so glad I found this book.

After 10 years living abroad, Tarquin Hall wanted to return to his native London. Lured by his nostalgia for a leafy suburban childhood spent in south-west London, he returned with his Indian-born, American fiancée in tow. But, priced out of the housing market, they found themselves living not in a townhouse, oozing Victorian charm, but in a squalid attic above a Bangladeshi sweatshop on London's Brick Lane. A grimy skylight provided the only window on their new world—a filthy, noisy street where drug dealers and prostitutes peddled their wares and tramps urinated on the pavements. Yet, as Hall got to know Brick Lane, he discovered beneath its unlovely surface an inner world where immigrants and asylum seekers struggle to better themselves and dream of escape. Salaam Brick Lane is a journey of discovery by an outsider in his own native city.

'Salaam Brick Lane is a compelling journey of discovery by an outsider in his own city and offers an explicit glimpse of this quarter of London' \* Traveller \* 'A gem of a book that reveals a hidden world lying right on our doorstep. As the stories unfold, so does our appreciation for Tarquin Hall's acute eye and for the gentle power of his narrative' \* Saira Shah, writer and broadcaster \* 'He brings a sharp eye and a dry humour to his descriptions' \* Anthony Sattin, Sunday Times \* 'Tender and harrowing' \* The Times \* 'A thought-provoking read . . . fascinating insights into fractured lives. And Hall's affectionate portrayals of eccentric acquaintances enhance this touching portrait no end' \* Metro \* Such a light, playful book and yet with a compelling tow which takes you into the myriad realities of life in the East End of London. \* Yasmin Alibhai-Brown \* 'Entertaining' \* Bookseller \* Fascinating and funny \* Sunday Times \* Entertaining . . . Hall cannily plays the bewildered public schoolboy to a range of different characters . . . allows us to hear the wonderful patter of the East Enders \* Times Literary Supplement \* This is a beautifully written book about a world we ignore except when it makes tabloid headlines. \* American \* A remarkable cross-section of British society . . . Hall's sympathetic, anecdotal approach is a fine counter to the appalling racism of much current tabloid journalism . . . This is a fine and eloquent book. \* What's On UK \* He has a fine ear for the myriad speech patterns of the East End's varied inhabitants. \* Daily Mail \* I was absolutely riveted. It's funny, enlightening and very moving . . . I'm recommending it to all my friends just because it's such a good read. \* Kate Fox, author of Watching the English \* Powerful \* Kent Messenger \* Fascinating and funny \* Canterbury, Herne Bay, Whitstable Faversham Focu \* Fortright and funny \* Daily Telegraph \* Amused and amusing, this is a refreshing addition to the accounts being offered of the area. \* Stratford Recorder \* Tarquin Hall is right at the heart of what he writes about . . . Hall's new friends spring brilliantly to life off the page . . . it's hard to imagine a more moving or more telling record of lives on the edge \* Caroline Gascoigne, Sunday Times \* 'Charming, brilliant, affectionate and quietly impassioned ... it manages to be balanced, humane and life-affirming. I hope it sells out faster than cases of Chalky's "Coat de Roen"'. \* Guardian \* Well-written without mawkish pieties. \* Saga Magazine \* About the Author Tarquin Hall is a British author and journalist who has lived and worked throughout South Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. He is the author of "The Case of the Missing Servant", "The Case of the Man Who Died Laughing", and "The Case of the Deadly Butter Chicken", along with dozens of articles and three works of nonfiction, including the highly acclaimed "Salaam Brick Lane", an account of a year spent living above a Bangladeshi sweatshop in London's notorious East End. He lives in Delhi with his wife, Indian-born journalist Anu Anand, and their son.