



## Slide, a Modern Satire on the Excess of Greed

*Saira Viola*

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## **Slide, a Modern Satire on the Excess of Greed** Saira Viola

During the postmodern boom of Blair's Britain, two well-meaning drug dealers on the verge of becoming respectable businessmen become embroiled in a surreal gangster heist. Tony, a West London drug dealer, attempts to start a legitimate business around a new age herbal pill that provides natural highs. In order to secure the cash for their start up venture, he strikes a deal with a kooky English aristocrat. Their plans go askew, however, when Richard, their lawyer and long term friend, involves them in his own shady dealings. Richard acquires an international bearer bond worth \$100 million which belongs to Poncho Khan, a notorious Indian Crime boss. In a time when mass consumerism and licentious hedonism are the dominant features of London society, the three men attempt to outsmart the drug king before they fall victim to their own depravity. "

## **Slide, a Modern Satire on the Excess of Greed Details**

Date : Published August 5th 2009 by Strategic Book Publishing & Rights Agency, LLC

ISBN : 9781608604890

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Format : Paperback 128 pages

Genre : Contemporary, Literature

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# **From Reader Review Slide, a Modern Satire on the Excess of Greed for online ebook**

## **Amelia James says**

If you're a fan of Pulp Fiction, Eddy Grant and tequila you have to read this book if not read it anyway! The language dazzles and the urban landscape is the perfect setting for a surreal fable of the have and have nots and their struggle to make it . The rhythm of the city described in comic detail and stylised beauty . It is ambitious , provocative and intelligent . Viola's depiction of Bernie a major league crook with a mohican hair cut and a head for numbers is a stroke of genius . These are caricatures with their own enormous reality . Tim the suburban moneytrader and coke addict with a predatory lust for hookers and escort girls and Poncho the Bollywood mobster who has Louis IV curls and dresses like Elvis .... the story vibrates with music and humour and on the dark side reveals a world of moral excess and social decline .

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## **Koako De Gras says**

On the surface with its neon yellow cover (an original piece by Micheal Del Monty the celebrated surrealist painter) , SLIDE gives the impression of being a strikingly simple but honest study in social realism . The biting and often controversial descriptions of the party jet set living it up in famous London haunts and eateries provides the reader with an amusing and comical insight in a celebrity fuelled world where drugs are king and the two worlds of those who have and those who don't get it on and get it together the unifying bond being their addiction to drugs . What makes SLIDE different however, is Viola's remarkable use of play on words .Self styled sonicscatterscript. Viola 's book is all the more extraordinary in that she wrote it under 21 days and much of her narrative creates the most amazing "visual tapestries". This book is dense with rich analysis of the social inequalities and divisions that fracture contemporary society and a must read for anyone with a hunger for the unusual and intelligent .

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## **Chris Jones says**

The Princess of Cool : This book is wicked a smart humdinger of a novel . Guys with "coke bloat" torsos and mobsters who make plans in grungy bars and dives around London town. I was drawn to this book by the cover ! I know what a cliché but it's mind- blowing, the amazing colours and out of this world images kind of like the story itself .The writer describes the people in her world in funny but realistic terms and you get a glimpse of how the different classes and social groups intermingle on the London scene . She has all these banging phrases and ways of saying things . All the places and faces of London are familiar to me all the labels that people wear and the way they talk . Everything about this book is cool cool cover cool characters cool story that's why she's the princess of cool! Read it and see.

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## **Niles Stewart says**

This is a real treat of a book . Not kidding it's a maverick, quirky finely crafted novel that got me hooked from the first paragraph. It's accessible and witty and Viola has a rebel , punky attitude to writing which is

like a breath of fresh air in the all too serious world of post modern fiction . Excellent . As Hunter S. Thompson would say "buy the ticket take the ride...."

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### **Stephanie Landers says**

#### **The Seduction of Genius !**

Generally , i'm not one for hyperbole and over egging the pudding but this book is like no other I've ever read . Every character that appears in it is examined in harsh detail with very few words and that's the key to this novel. It's short and pithy and appeals to a new digital generation managing to convey in only a very few sentences the wide cross section of the British and American mainstream. The sense of reality often indulged with exquisite detail of the surreal .The severe penetrating symbolism of class struggle and social divisions of society make it representational of a new style of writing and I think this is why Viola stands out as different . I hate to use the word edgy . It is richly decorated with allegory, style , and social satire . The story held together in a clearly defined classical narrative that cleverly brings the landscape of city life to the attention of the reader. Familiar sights and sounds: office people, clubs, restaurants are greatly elaborated and given new depth providing a truthful and provocative account of urban struggles. From buildings ( law courts are seen in muted tones ) to grungy rock and roll haunts every aspect of life is captured with precision and artful grace. There is a real understanding in this novel of the way rhythms , harmonies and symmetry of sound work together to develop a unique and balanced composition. That is why many readers point o the poetic association of the narrative , the elements are linked to art and music creating a visual and conceptual unity within the text . There is an almost endless and streaming play on words and the contrast of negative and positive.

A perception of excess and hedonism seen through the main characters transfigures reality offering a springboard for more bohemian rhapsody for the future . A subliminal read and hugely recommended . The fact that it is still largely unknown only adds to its allure .

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### **Pippa Strong says**

London's answer to Tristan Egolf the underground lit chick with balls and attitude you'll either love this book or find it utterly repellant . I loved it :)

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### **Adam Godwin says**

Hysterically funny, I love the dirty dangerous London. A- listers having their lifestyle scrutinised exposed. Seriously sexy - 5 stars.

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### **John says**

A destructive trail of decadence and greed . Ridiculing all the social bar flies and all the power trippers . It's an American publication but it's mainly about England and how these two drug dealers set off on their path to

become respected businessmen . Seriously this is a laugh a minute kind of novel read it and see.

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### **Chloe Roberts says**

A funny, hip crime novel that is surreal , provocative and moving all at the same time. From the dingy back streets of Tin Pan Alley to the ostentatious decadence of the Chelsea "in crowd" Slide looks at the different layers of society who are all tied together through their use of drugs and debauchery . The main thread running through this book is that we shouldn't judge people too readily over what they do . One of the key characters in the novel may be a Drug Dealer but he has a generous and kind spirit while other characters that appear on the surface sweet lack sincerity and depth . All of the big themes in life are considered : death, poverty, relationships but the dark irony that moves the action along stops it from becoming too heavy and over emotional .It's chaotic, fun and full of catchy sayings and neat one liners that make you question your own views on people in society . Like the gay pop star or the upper class party set . This is a London where everything is wild wicked and wanton .....

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### **Carrie Windle says**

This is a superb book richly crafted with detailed images of the hip and the happening on both sides of the Atlantic . The story is of two drug dealers who want to become respected businessmen in their bid to corner the "Natural Highs" pill market . They strike a deal with a "kooky" English aristocrat and end up in a "surreal gangster heist" .

The plot line is tight and fast paced the narrative real but coloured with beautiful and often poetic language . The subject matter gritty and the characters brilliantly depicted . The book is similar to Dickens and other social commentators as it reveals an image of contemporary society that is powerfully reflected through the social disparity of the characters themselves : Gerogie and Kamilla are two society chicks who do drugs with the in crowd and the lead protagonist is a former boxer - turned dealer - turned businessman who just wants to ditch the coke and lead a good life . This is a social portrait of how the good and the bad converge the results are electrifying !

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### **Christina Rossini says**

I am currently reading this book it is audacious and crazy and utterly brilliant I really recommend it .Finished SLIDE 128 pages of chaos, beauty and surreal insanity . I loved the book and so did my BF! Viola manages to combine Sky News, Andre Breton, Jean Luc Godard, South Park and Damien Hirst all in the same literary space and that's not even half of the novel .I liked the pace and the beat of the writing it has a real hook almost like a record . There's lots of music in it from the urban dialogue to the elegance of the English aristocrats . It's remarkably original and elevates the normal to the sublime . Viola 's on her way to literary brilliance .

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## **Jonn Blane says**

I was given this book by an old flame Rose who used to be a party girl on the New York social scene. The story is all about the jet set, the party animals, the upper class princesses guys who have to do crummy jobs all coming together to get high and get it on. It's all about everyone who's anyone on the scene. It's fast, furious and funky. The writing is beautiful, mysterious and memorable a lot like the writer of the book. I read this book a couple of days ago and it's now one of my best loved. An instant winner. Slide, A Modern Satire on the Excess of Greed Try it and see.

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## **Steve Cann says**

This is the first book of Saira's that I read, and it's certainly in a class of its own as a contemporary, in-your-face, gritty, grinding satire.

The drug-dealing, gang-busting, London underworld story pulls no punches, and it's also a joyously bumpy ride for the reader and our bold protagonists, and a story that will shock, disturb and delight!

I won't give too much away here - but if you love sharp wit, clever social comment and a super-cool crime story, then slide yourself into this!

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## **Daley says**

This book is a wonderful depiction of the excesses of modern life. I loved the way people are described through music and art. The cover is amazing showing the destruction of greed. I like the honesty of this book in that it reveals the truth about drug taking and drink and sex binges within the middle class. If your idea of drugs is "train spotting" cool but this book takes a different approach showing people who party to excess because they can afford to. They were £300 pound shoes because they can and they are ruthlessly ridiculed in the novel but some people are like that. This book really captures the mood of the decadent nature of society before the credit crunch and is laugh out loud funny. The realistic descriptions of waiting in line to get into the best clubs and be given VIP access shows how ridiculous all that exclusivity is and the nature of society in which we live. On another level it may also be an allegory for belonging and being accepted if we all talk, dress think alike. This book makes you think about what's important and that some things are not always black and white or good or bad. The opening of the book starts with Eddie Grant's rock down to Electric Avenue and this book rocks read it and be inspired!

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## **Claire says**

ORGASMIC YOU WANTED MORE MUCH MORE MORE AND MORE !

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## **Gill says**

This book is awesome. I loved it, it's hilarious!

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### **Jes jewels says**

This book is one of the most original pieces of fiction I have ever read in my whole life . I saw some of the reviews on sites and ordered a copy as I thought the cover was crazy enough but when I found that some people had actually read the book on this site I was really pleased ! It's a crime satire so the characters in it are playful and really cool and that's one of the really clever hooks of the book. You think it's going to be some hard nut read but it turns out to be melodic, vibrant and smart. The orgy of violence, greed and moral excess is so vivid it makes you feel as if you're living the action.

I give this book 11/10!!!!

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### **Heather Miller says**

I met the author of this book by chance at JFK Airport New York , she was sooo nice and psyched because her book was for sale there . I bought it and she autographed it for me too. She was wearing large sunnies but her face and hair was exactly the same as her cover photo. Just thought I'd mention that it was a true likeness. I read it on my way to Berlin and have now finished her book which is a totally radical story, it's a satire on the British people and uses the theme of a drug dealer as a stylised metaphor. As an English major I found the prose arresting and detailed with long lush descriptions of how people look , think and behave without boundaries or morality to hinder them. As a native New Yorker , with a global outlook I was very drawn to the political overtures of the novel and what they represent. In this way it has an "Animal Farm " feel to it but the novel itself contains so many ideas and subtextual beauty I have to surmise it is the work of a truly gifted writer with a rare and remarkable talent. In reading this book I learnt about the excesses of the upper class elite of London and NYC and was very drawn to the writer's visual display of ideas she uses a unique ground breaking style unlike any other but very close to the techniques of Ellroy and Burroughs although it is not the same. A brave and remarkable piece of fiction that deserves widespread recognition . I thoroughly recommend this novel and very rarely submit reviews but felt connected enough to do so plus the author was really nice to me :)

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### **Angela Laker says**

Wow! This book has it all and it's utterly unique . The cover is outrageous depicting scenes of decadence and gluttony . The writing is melodic and powerful.

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### **Shaun Smart says**

Hits harder than a jack and coke on acid this book is seriously cool

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