



Mother of the Unseen World: The Mystery of Mother Meera

Mark Matousek

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"Mother of the Unseen World is absolutely riveting, deeply searching, and thought-provoking."--
Gretchen Rubin

For readers interested in the mysteries of spiritual awakening, an exploration of the Indian "avatar" Mother Meera, known as an embodiment of the Divine Feminine

Throughout history there have been rare individuals who transcend what seems humanly possible, "enlightened" beings born with knowledge and experience that defy explanation. Kamala Reddy was a ten-year-old servant in rural India when her mysterious powers were recognized; she is believed to be an "avatar"--a divine incarnation in human form--and was soon given the name Mother Meera. Over the past forty years, she has welcomed millions of seekers from all faiths to have *darshan* (silent blessing) at her homes in Germany and India. Mother Meera has no dogma, offers her gifts free of charge, and belongs to no particular religion. Her transformational work is done using a particular light, she explains, which she transmits through her fingertips when she touches each person's head during *darshan*, undoing "energetic knots" and quickening a person's spiritual development. "Like electricity, the light is everywhere, but one must know how to activate it. I have come for that," she says.

Mark Matousek was a nonbeliever when he met Mother Meera in 1985. Yet, in her presence, he experienced inexplicable occurrences that forced him to challenge his worldview. Now, in this deeply moving and wise book, he takes us as close as possible to this extraordinary woman. Is divine incarnation truly possible, he asks, as most of the world's religions insist? Who is Mother Meera, really? Speaking to members of her inner circle, working at her school for the poor in India, and interviewing the elusive master herself, Matousek takes the reader on a mysterious quest into the "unseen world" where the divine and human intersect.

Advance praise for *Mother of the Unseen World*

"Mother of the Unseen World reads like a classic adventure novel, with one exception--much of the adventure goes on inside the reader as we follow Mark Matousek's everyman journey from pain and doubt to discovery and awakening."--**Elizabeth Lesser, author of *Broken Open* and co-founder of Omega Institute**

"Mark Matousek brings us to the feet of Mother Meera in this transcendent, rapturous, astonishing book."--
Eve Ensler, author of *The Vagina Monologues* and *In the Body of the World*

"At once a spiritual autobiography and an exploration of one of the most mystical beings of our time."--**Dani Shapiro**

"Mother Meera's message of peace and love has touched me profoundly."--**Ringo Starr**

Mother of the Unseen World: The Mystery of Mother Meera Details

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From Reader Review Mother of the Unseen World: The Mystery of Mother Meera for online ebook

Caitlin H says

This book is, i imagine, like Mother Meera herself. Small, seemingly unassuming, with an air of quietude. I don't know, because i didn't even know of Mother Meera until i found out about this book (& i forgot how i even did that).

My knee-jerk response is "It's too short", but then i remember that Mother Meera herself doesn't do long, drawn-out talks. Much of her work is accomplished in silence, within *darshan* & beyond. Mark Matousek's brevity, therefore, fits his subject completely. The book seems more to be a tantalizing introduction to a woman who says she is an Avatar of the divine. There's no pretense here. It was a little jarring, going from reading about something like Jonestown to reading this book. Going from reading about a cult to reading about Mother Meera is like night & day. The former is controlling & forceful, whereas Mother Meera never forces or tries to convince. She doesn't coerce, doesn't demand, doesn't put herself above others. She lets her work do the talking for her, & people are transformed by it.

I didn't read to try to become convinced of Mother Meera's divinity. Like Matousek, i'm open-minded, but skeptical. I see it as prudent & realistic. What do i know is, if given the chance, i would absolutely go meet Mother Meera to receive *darshan*. I can't get to Germany in the foreseeable future, so for now, i'll check for any upcoming US visits. Until then, i'll do the best i can on my own.

(P.S.: I did find it comforting when asked about humanity's fate & how many of us are scared, Mother Meera said we'd be okay & to not be afraid. Although i definitely agree with Matousek with regards to the "Well, I hope you're right" kind of feeling, i found it to be legitimately reassuring that she said what she did.)

Staci Suhy says

I received this book for free as part of a first reads promotion

Joyce says

Matousek's work has given me insight to a spiritual reality I had not considered before this read. Most enlightening story about an exceptional woman. I will reread many times, I'm sure.

May Ling says

I had no idea who this person was when I grabbed this book from my laundry room shelf. Now I can only hope I somehow meet her or am able to find her lectures. Matousek weaves a great picture of Meera through his eyes. I think this is super fair, given that any person's telling of a person is always shadowed by their own lens. In this case, that's his point. Meera is other-worldly. How would you explain her.

I especially like the chapter about their mutual gay friend and how he was not going to write about it, but indeed does, but saying so.

All and all, very interest account of how one explains someone like a Meera. I think if one is fortunate enough to meet such other worldly people it is in fact very hard to do them justice. Praise for the humility with which he's able to convey the respect he feels for this amazing woman.

TammyJo Eckhart says

Mark Matousek states he has two goals in this short book.

The first is to explore "how do you respond when your mind encounters things it can't possibly explain?" In this case he means with Mother Meera, a spiritual figure from India who primarily resides in Germany that he first encountered in 1984 and continued to meet and "follow" for many years. It is a valuable question and she is clearly a figure of importance to a significant number of people around the world.

His second goal with this book is to allow "the facts speak for themselves" with little interpretation. The problem with this goal is that some as subjective as the first goal means that facts are really subjective experiences. Matousek has grounded his book in first hand experiences and the experiences of those he interviewed.

Given how wide spread her following is, I'm very surprised at how short this book is. Do followers simply not wish to spread or is Matousek's first goal in this book really quite difficult to achieve. A Google search shows numerous foundations and organizations that he just touches upon. I got the distinct impression that the book and his involvement ended in the late 1990s so why did it take so long to be published? I would really have appreciated far more interviews up until 2015 or 2016.

I didn't know anything about this movement or this spiritual leader so I thank Matousek for bringing her to my attention.

Joy D says

Mark Matousek has written a combination biography and memoir. His book provides a very personal account of his search for enlightenment, and the story of an Indian avatar, Mother Meera, from her humble beginnings to recognition as an incarnation of the Divine Feminine. The author tells the story of Mother Meera's life, and of his own interactions with her. While I may be "too Western" to believe in the divinity of a living person, I found the book thought-provoking, and Mother Meera's philosophy to be positive and uplifting. Recommended to those interested in spiritual quests, paths to enlightenment and Eastern philosophy.

This book is scheduled to be released in November 2017. Many thanks to NetGalley and the Random House for providing me an advance copy in return for feedback and candid review.

Rena Graham says

I look forward to hearing him read from this in a few days: March 1st, Thurs night in Vancouver:
<https://www.banyen.com/events/matouse...>

The ideas in this book were an easy sell for me because I've had the fortune to be close to attained people who are surrounded by similar mysteries. What is so completely different about Mother Meera however, is that she did little to nothing to engineer her extraordinary level of enlightenment. She was preordained in some fascinating way to bring love, healing and enlightenment to our poor benighted species and we are richer for it. Her life is geared towards an altruism seldom seen and Mark Matousek is one lucky man to have witnessed it close up. He's written a wonderful book about experiences that are very hard to put on the page and I hope it will be read by many. Whoever picks this up will benefit from his powerful insights.

Niamh Dempsey says

I first came across Mother Meera 10 years ago and have been touched by her light ever since in deeper and deeper ways. She has been a central figure in the transformation of my life on all levels to one of quiet harmony and peace. Her reason for being here is to help humanity by bringing down the Paramatman Light.

So, as you can imagine, I was delighted to hear about the publication of this book and I'm glad to report that I wasn't disappointed by it. The author really does his subject justice in a clear and concise way . He contextualises Mother Meera's presence here in a way that hasn't been done before, relating the story of her early years, her contact with Mr. Reddy, Adelakshmi and the Sri Aurobindo ashram in Pondicherry and her eventual move to Germany. There are lots of lovely details of daily life and insights into the way Mother Meera works in the world, both practicaly and spiritualy.

The author has had close contact with Mother Meera over many years, and his own understanding and appreciation of her changed and deepened as he developed spiritualy, so he was in a perfect position to write this book and convey, to the West in particular, the sublime subject of a living incarnation of the Divine Mother - for those that have the ears to hear it.

Nikki says

I had never heard about Mother Meera before reading this book. I found the subject matter very interesting and felt that the author did a good job in explaining who she is and how she impacted his, and other lives. I felt that it ended a little 'open ended' but perhaps there will be a follow-up book.

Roben says

Totally beguiled by this biography of a living avatar. Thinking of how I might have an audience.

Tod Jones says

Very interesting and balanced. I first read about Mother Meera in the early nineties when Andrew Harvey published his mind-blowing book, *Hidden Journey*. Not many years after, Harvey split with Meera and denounced her as a homophobe and a false guru, which saddened me and I subsequently lost interest in her.

This book, while not the pyrotechnic spiritual tour de force that *Hidden Journey* is, brings a much calmer journalistic tone to the story of Mother Meera, her character, and the impact she has on those who surround her. I have no idea what passed between Meera and the wildly brilliant and high-strung Andrew Harvey, but it seems clear that Meera is no homophobe, and there is every indication that she is the real deal: at the very least an authentic spiritual adept who is working tirelessly for the well being of humanity.

Sarah says

I picked this up at the library. I almost put it back, but then I took it out on the basis of some of the blurbs on the dustjacket, particularly one by Gretchen Rubin. (Some of my favourite books have come to me through her recommendations.) Gretchen Rubin wrote: "*Mother of the Unseen World* is absolutely riveting, deeply searching, and thought-provoking. Mark Matousek uses his own encounters with Mother Meera as a lens through which to examine her life and teachings and influence in the world."

Well, I did indeed find this book to be very interesting, but I don't know what to make of Mark Matousek's (and others') **experiences** of Mother Meera. This isn't because I am not a "believer" in Mother Meera. I have the same problem within my own Christian tradition; for example, in my recent rereading of *I Am With You Always: True Stories of Encounters With Jesus*. What is earth-shattering for the recipient of such encounters does not easily translate in the telling of it. Perhaps I am hampered by never having had any such experiences as described in either book.

I was struck by this excerpt from an interview Matousek had with Mother Meera towards the end of the book:

"The destruction of the world is a human idea. Not a divine one," she replied.

"Many people are terrified. They think the world is about to end."

Mother Meera corrected this: *"Humanity will not be destroyed. There is nothing to fear."*

(p.180)

I contrast this favourably with the pronouncements of certain Christians I know who believe God is going to destroy the world, and who seem to look forward to the vengeance they believe is to be unleashed upon the "unsaved."
