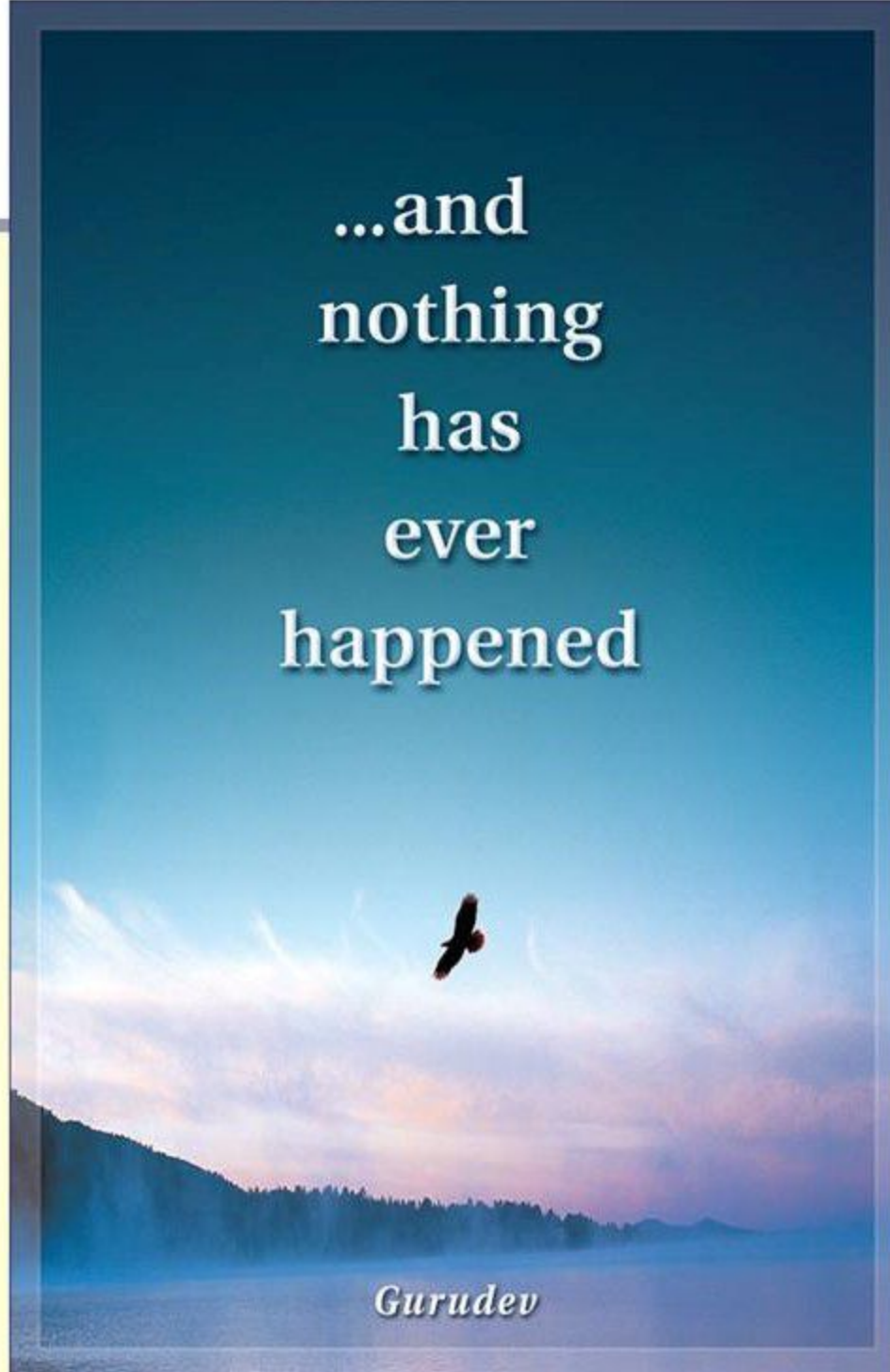


...and
nothing
has
ever
happened



Gurudev

₹ 295 Paper back 255 Pages

lovingly addressed as
gurudev, swami chaitanya bharti
is a delightfully down-to-earth mystic
residing in srirangapatna, india.
his meditation retreats have attracted
thousands of seekers from around
the world for the past 40 years.

his simple words
and earthy language have
connected many to something vast,
something mysterious that lies
unacknowledged within all of us.
the fragrance of his words contain an
unusual, yet powerful combination
of osho and shri nisargadatta maharaj.

during his talks at the retreats,
he keeps listeners enthralled by
unveiling the hidden dimensions of
love, relationships and day-to-day living.

but when you least expect it,
he pulls out the rug from under
your feet, plunging you into the
bottomless abyss of advaita vedanta.

swami chaitanya bharti,
now known to his followers
as whosoever, is one of the first
generation disciples of osho –
who, assigned the responsibility
of conducting meditation
workshops to him.

though this seems very nebulous
and vague to the average mind, as
one imbibes whosoever's teachings,
things begin to get clearer.
it is a compilation of his talks
and views that he shared with his
disciples in workshops conducted
in goa and panchgani.

throughout the book, whosoever
comes across as a teacher who
will spare no effort to see that his
disciples reach their goal. he is a
friend to all, but he can be stern and
rough, if that be the student's need
for learning and transformation.

the talks are down-to-earth and
simple, and he cajoles and coaxes
the gathering to be light-hearted and
non-serious. according to him – it is
the serious minded people who
commit major mistakes, with the
potential for causing injury to others.

his talks are punctuated with
jokes and anecdotes designed to
make people laugh. he says that
laughing out aloud is also a form
of meditation in which one forgets
oneself. there are frequent cries
of "ho jaaye" as a cue for the
audience to start laughing.

there is one motif in his talk –
that of forgetting the i and trying
to feel the beingness or isness.
he reiterates what eckhart tolle
says in the power of now,

which is to be always passive,
ever attentive, and always be
available in the present moment.
forget the past and the future,
and live in the now, is also
whosoever's message.

he takes us through the
five levels of consciousness,
starting from the first level,
where we blame the other person
if something goes wrong; through
the next four levels of sharing the
blame; blaming oneself; blaming
no one... and finally, accepting
that nothing ever happened.

the essence of the book
is that the whole world and
our entire existence is maya –
a leela, or illusion – and nothing else.

he touches on the topic
of taboos related to sex and
non-vegetarianism, explaining
how our minds are conditioned by
our parents, our faith, our beliefs,
and our customs.

the book is interspersed with
articles and poems written by
his students. it ends with a guided
course on the art of meditation.

the author also dwells on
the principles of advaita vedanta,
according to which there is no i,
no you, no he or no she. there is
only nothingness, as you reach
the state of consciousness
which is called turiya... and
even further to the turiyateet state.

an excellent book,
it will touch your heart and
change your outlook on life.

review by Dr. P.V. VAIDYANATHAN