

Water by John Boyne

Water by John Boyne tells the story of Vanessa Carvin, who has left Dublin and moved to a little island to escape. She changes her name, cuts off her hair and rents a house where she can reckon with the scandal of her ex-husband's crimes. At the same time, she has to navigate a community of characters who might find out her secret.

The book takes its time to reveal the details of why Vanessa has fled to the island, and particularly what happened to Emma. Why do you think the author has done this and what did you think of it?

The book gives a unique perspective on sexual abuse as Willow is neither the victim nor the perpetrator. What did you think of this?

How does the setting of the island reflect Willow's emotions and internal strife?

Rate the book out of 10 and explain why you have given it that score.

