



Islands

Gwyn G.B.

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An emotion charged story of love, regrets and loss, set against the real-life events of 2008 that shocked the beautiful island of Jersey.

Jersey born, Katherine, is a successful business woman living and working in London. She's estranged from her husband and family and hiding from the pain of failed motherhood. When a major murder and child abuse investigation launches in Jersey, the news shocks the island and brings the world's media to its idyllic shores. As the island of Jersey faces up to its hidden past, Katherine is forced to face up to hers. A letter arrives from the dying mother of her teenage friend – the friend whose death Katherine caused 32 years before. She knows she must return home and tell the truth; but Katherine isn't the only one with secrets... Will the truth heal or destroy her? Will she ever come to terms with what drove her away from the man she loved and the sister that needs her?

UK Kindle reviews:

"If you expect this to be just another 'woman's book', you will be sorely mistaken. I wept at its honesty when I read its first draft because this is a book which does not shy away from handling big issues - both miscarriage for women and the miscarriage of justice."

"Downloaded this today and have just read it in one go. Page turning, plot secrets revealed with unexpected twists. Brilliant capturing of the pain of invisible loss. A gorgeous debut novel."

Islands Details

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Author : Gwyn G.B.

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Genre :



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From Reader Review Islands for online ebook

Tracey Harris says

Loved this book couldn't put it down, best I've read in a long time

Margaret Spalling says

Good read but kind off left wondering

Enjoyed this book. First book I've read by this author. Only thing was that Katherine seemed to be the main focus though it bought closure to all events in her life just not the one with her husband John. Is this for book two or do we just use our own imagination for the ending of them?

Rebecca says

Interesting story, exploring how we live our lives on assumptions, based on lack of communication and misunderstandings. Everyone has a hidden story, I guess, and this book plays with that nicely. Everything was tied up a little too neatly (unrealistically) for me by the end, but I enjoyed the book.

Georgina Troy says

This is a powerful, well-told story that made me cry, a couple of times. It's also the story of secrets, misunderstandings and heartbreak. The different timelines slowly peel away Katherine's story to reveal what really happened to her friend Anne when they were sixteen-years-old and the reasons other's decisions were made. Reading this book reminded me of so many of my own hopes, dreams and plans when I was that age, especially when I think of some of the well-loved places so cleverly interwoven into this story.

I've lived in Jersey most of my life and recall only too well how horrible it felt for the world's media to print dreadful inaccuracies brought about by the Haut de la Garenne investigation, as they described an island I didn't recognize. This book has been incredibly well researched and told from the perspective of two women who were brought up on the island and it felt like they gave a voice to those of us who watched with disbelief and shock as the news reports unfolded at that time.

A brilliant debut with many shocks and twists that I didn't see coming. I can't wait to read this author's next book.

Ian says

A lovely powerful book. Extremely moving and very sensitively written. Clearly the author has experienced

some of the events laid out in the plot herself at close hand. Some sections were quite emotionally affecting and I was a bit watery-eyed at times (..a bit embarrassing whilst reading on the train!!). Maybe some of the descriptive passages are a bit over-long and at times I was itching for the plot to move on a bit quicker. But I really really liked it and can't wait to read the next one.

Susie Besford says

Excellent story.

Paula Janssen says

I really enjoyed this book, it makes me want to visit Jersey. The characters were all well defined and by the end of the book I felt as if I knew them all. Look forward to reading another by the author.

Desley (Cat fosterer) says

This is the first book I have read by Gwyn GB, I was going to read one of her others first, but it was pointed out this was set in Jersey so I decided to read this instead, really glad I did, I knew a lot of the places mentioned in the book so could visualise a lot. Very enjoyable read and would read more by this author.

Cassandra Parker says

This is an emotionally charged book. It is filled with ups and downs. A great read.

Ali Welsh says

Debut novel so I was not sure what to expect. It just built and built until I could not put it down. A really powerful insight into a family split by secrets and personal pain. A woman's story based around the relationship between two sisters and the growth of their individual families. The problems that occur when the siblings take two different paths. The rest would spoil it but for anyone interested in family dynamics and the problems of unspoken truths this is a great read. Jersey makes an elegant backdrop and the author's metaphors are wonderful when describing the setting for this story.

I loved it and can't wait for the next one.

Amanda says

Beautifully written, this story draws you in right until the very end and after you have read it stays in you're

mind!!

Carla says

This book captivated me from the start with the vivid descriptions of my island both now (well 2008) and back in the days of my teenage years. The use of all the very Jersey names made me smile and although at one time it felt a bit like a travel guide, that it is probably no bad thing as Jersey sounds wonderful!

This is the second book recently that has transported me back to the steamy summer of 1976 which was the year I got married and had my daughter, the first being The Night Book, but due to the setting, this one reminded me of places and experiences I had totally forgotten

I have no idea whether the author experienced the traumas she describes so well, but it certainly was written convincingly. Some passages had a bit too much description for my taste, but as I have lived here for all my nearly 59 years, I could picture every place that was mentioned from Havre des Pas where we pushed our baby's pram every hot evening that summer to the Fort Regent ramparts, and many more. All in all, I loved this book and could not put it down as I needed to get to the bottom of the mystery mentioned right at the beginning.

Val says

I loved reading this book, a page turner from beginning to end.

It is set on the island of Jersey & is set in the years from 1976 to 2008.

It is about the lives of two sisters Margaret & Katherine & their families & the history of them. the stories are believable & well expressed.

I look forward to reading the next book.

Rebecca Baudains says

Nice to read a book and to actually live in the area. When you read it it feels so real. It has a different feel to just normal fiction. I felt as if I was actually part of it looking in.

Quite emotional in parts. Recommend you read this, will be buying Gwyn's crime story now.
Fantastic book!!

mrs s m reynolds says

Couldn't put it down!!!

Had me hooked from the first page. Highly recommended! It goes back in time then brings you back up to the present (2008) and I really became absorbed into the two sisters lives.
