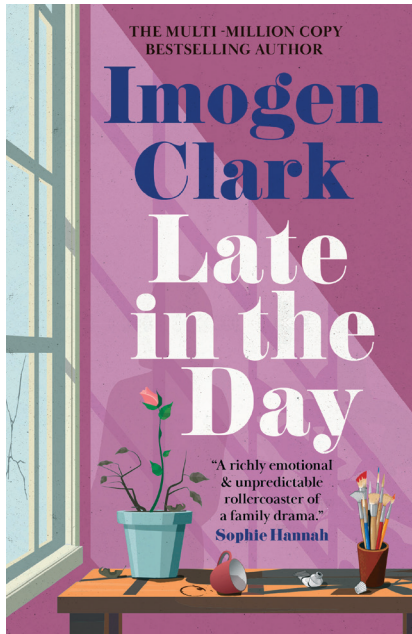


IMOGEN CLARK

author



Late in the Day

Book Club Questions

- Loretta is seen as a pillar of the Ripon community, yet she hides a huge part of her past from everyone, including her children. Do you think she was right to keep her history and Natalie a secret? Do you understand why she made that choice?
- Bronte is the only sibling who takes Natalie's claim seriously. Why do you think she reacts differently from Marc and Annie? Did you sympathise with her curiosity or think she was naïve?
- How did your feelings about Natalie change as her story unfolded? Did you trust her from the start, or share Marc's suspicion?
- The novel explores how family identity can be shaped as much by what is hidden as by what is shared. How do secrets like Loretta's affect relationships across generations?
- Natalie and Loretta's paths after their parents' deaths are dramatically different. To what extent do you think this was down to personality, circumstance, or the choices they made?
- Sicily, and in particular the presence of the mafia, plays a pivotal role in Natalie's life. How did you feel about the way the setting shaped her fate?
- Guilt is a recurring emotion for several characters — Natalie for leaving Sicily, Loretta for urging her to run, and Bronte for not knowing the truth sooner. How do each of them handle guilt differently?
- Bronte grows in confidence through her connection with Natalie. Which moments do you think were turning points for her?
- Forgiveness is a key theme — from Paola forgiving Natalie, to Bronte learning to see her mother in a new light. Did any act of forgiveness in the story particularly resonate with you?