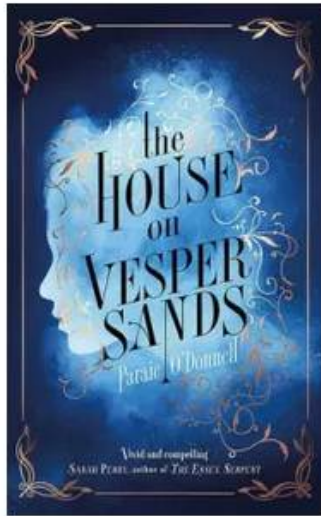


Gold Coast Book Lovers

It's all about good books...

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May 2020



This month we discussed [The House on Vesper Sands](#) by [Paraic O'Donnell](#). This is O'Donnell's second novel and was originally published in October 2018. It was a Guardian and Observer book of the year for 2018 and The Bookseller Editor's Choice for October 2018.

The writer takes us to the dark and murky streets of London in the winter of 1893, where a seamstress arrives on a cold and snowy night to work at a residence in Mayfair. She is in great pain, yet her focus is clear and her intention is purposeful. When she plunges to her death from an upstairs window the drama unfolds taking us through twists and turns into the murky world of death and

deception.

Whilst published reviews were effusive and flattering, the majority of our club readers were decidedly unimpressed with the novel. A few readers found it entertaining, enjoyable and

Whilst published reviews were effusive and flattering, the majority of our club readers were decidedly unimpressed with the novel. A few readers found it entertaining, enjoyable and engaging; an easy, light read. The majority found it lacked substance, depth, menace and the sophistication of other writers of this era. There was no real character development of the protagonists, the plot was straightforward and when revealed, it all seemed so silly.

Ratings: Claudia DNF; Gail, Sandy, Viv and Janet 2.5, Margie, Nicola and Lynda 2.

Our next meeting will be at Preece House on 8/06/20 at 6:30PM to discuss [Outline](#) by [Rachel Cusk](#).

Hope to see you all there and happy reading!

Other Books We Read

May 2020

The Dickens Boy by Tom Keneally, 3.5

Here we are by Graham Swift, 4

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo, 3.5, 3 & 3

The Fish Girl by Miranda Riwoe, 4

The Erratics by Vicki Laveau-Harvie, 3.5

Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel, 4

Unquiet by Linn Ullman, 3

The Mirror & the Light, by Hilary Mantel 4.5

On Artists by Ashleigh Wilson, 3

Outpost by Dan Richards, 3

The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern, 3

West with the Night by Beryl Markham, 4

The bookshop by Penelope Fitzgerald, 4

The death of Noah Glass by Gail Jones, 4

Too much lip by Melissa Lucashenko, 3.5

Bruny by Heather Rose, 3

Redhead by the side of the road by Anne Tyler, 2.5

The railwayman's wife by Ashley Hay, 2.5