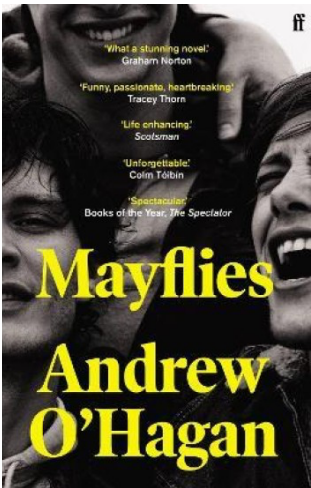


Mayflies

By Andrew O'Hagan



Everyone has a Tully Dawson; the friend who defines your life.

Summer 1986 and a bunch of mates from Ayrshire, Scotland, take off to a music festival in Manchester for a riotous weekend of music, drugs and mayhem, a weekend that becomes part of the friends' collective mythology.

But thirty years later Tully needs his mate Jimmy to perform a final request, something he can only ask of his very closest friend...

Andrew O'Hagan is an acclaimed prize-winning novelist

Discussion Questions

1. The novel is in two distinct parts – the early life of Tully, Jimmy (aka Noodles) and their pals and a later part when the boys are men and Tully is near the end of his life. Did you enjoy one section more than the other, and, if so, why?
2. A key theme of the novel is male friendship. Do you feel that it was an authentic description of close male friendship? There are far fewer books written about the bonds between men than there are about women; why do you think this is?
3. *“As soft as Tunnocks Teacakes, as sentimental as sherbet,”* says one of the characters, describing another. Why do men often feel they need to seem the opposite i.e hard and unsentimental? What do you think of when you think of ‘manliness’?

