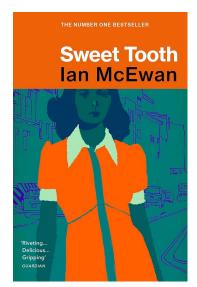


Sweet Tooth

By Ian McEwan



England, 1972. The operation code 'Sweet Tooth' names the MI5 project McEwan constructs that funds writers to write more novels with politics aligning with the government. As the Cold War brims with tension, Serena Frome - characterised by her love for novels – is recruited to intercept up-and-coming young writer Tom Haley and his literary circle. However, Serena soon finds herself falling for Tom as well as his work, resulting in a mental battle between concealing her true identity and her true feelings for Tom.

How can Serena continue her fictional undercover life? McEwan's work boils with wit, mystery, and entertaining dual identities creating a cunning narrative of subterfuge.

Discussion Questions

1. A key theme of the book is the act of spying. Who is the real spy of the novel?

2. What were your most memorable points of betrayal in the novel?

3.	Do you think that 'Sweet Tooth' is a conventional spy novel?
4.	How is the theme of faith/religion presented in the novel?
5.	Recall the moment when Serena returns home and cries on her dad's shoulder. What does this scene show about their relationship?
6.	Are you sympathetic to Serena's character?
	Thank you to our volunteer Heidi for choosing this title and creating the resource.