



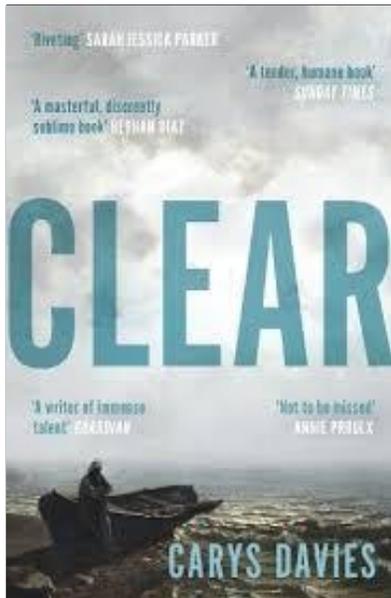
Prison Reading Groups  
25 years  
1999-2024

## Book Talk

### *Clear*

By Carys Davies

Number of pages: 196



Ivar is the only person who lives on his island off the north coast of Scotland. One day he finds a man, unconscious, washed up on the beach, and takes him into his home to nurse him back to health. Ivar and the man share no common language, but begin to develop a fragile bond...

John Ferguson has been sent to a remote Scottish island to evict the one person living there, and turn it into grazing land for sheep. His wife, Mary, waits at home for news of his voyage. However, when John's journey goes wrong, he meets Ivar and learns much more about him than he had anticipated.

We recommend this book if you enjoyed *Whale Fall* by Elizabeth O'Connor, or *Audition* by Katie Kitamura.

### Discussion Questions:

1. If you were in Mary's position, would you have advised John to take the job or not?
2. 1843 was a time of great religious conflict. How is religion presented in the novel?
3. Do you see any similarities between John and Ivar?
4. In reality, do you think either protagonist has much agency?
5. What do you think happens to John, Mary and Ivar after the end of the book?

*Thank you to our volunteer Ruby for choosing this title and creating the resource.*