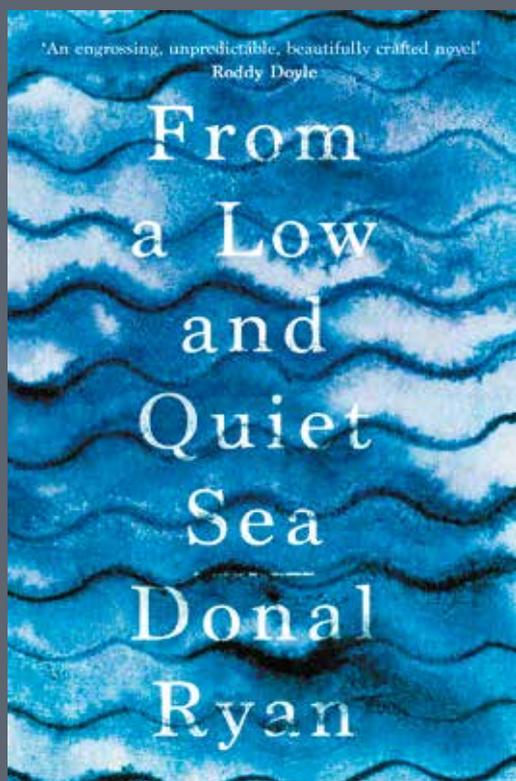




Readers' Guide



Other novels by Donal Ryan
All We Shall Know (2016)
A Slanting of the Sun: Stories (2015)
The Thing about December (2013)
The Spinning Heart (2012)

From a Low and Quiet Sea Donal Ryan

Doubleday Ireland

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About the author	Donal Ryan was born in Tipperary, Ireland, in 1976. He is the award-winning author of four novels and one short story collection. A former civil servant, Ryan lectures in Creative Writing at the University of Limerick. He lives with his wife Anne Marie and their two children.
About the book	Farouk's country has been torn apart by war. Lampy's heart has been laid waste by Chloe. John's past torments him as he nears his end. The refugee. The dreamer. The penitent. From war-torn Syria to small-town Ireland, three men, scarred by all they have loved and lost, are searching for some version of home. Each is drawn towards a powerful reckoning, one that will bring them together in the most unexpected of ways.
What the judges thought	"A portrait of three men in one landscape, <i>From A Low and Quiet Sea</i> holds its narratives in perfectly sustained equilibrium, then brings them together without cliché. A deft, unshowy novel about manhood and momentous contingency, it evokes the way in which real lives unfold and wrap around each other."
Discussion points	Before the final section, could you see any similarities between the men? Each character has a very different background and story. Is there one to whom you feel more connected, or have more sympathy towards? How does the sea, or how do other images of water, play into the narrative? What lessons can we learn about how humans treat each other?
Themed reading	AS Patrić <i>Black Rock White City</i> Khaled Hosseini <i>Sea Prayer</i> Colm Tóibín <i>The Empty Family</i> John Banville <i>The Sea</i>
Useful links	https://www.ft.com/content/9e2eb9b8-4ec9-11e8-ac41-759eee1efb74 https://www.rte.ie/culture/reviews/2018/0321/949041-reviewed-from-a-low-and-quiet-sea-by-donal-ryan/ https://www.independent.ie/entertainment/books/book-reviews/a-journey-to-the-brink-of-an-emotional-abyss-36709961.html