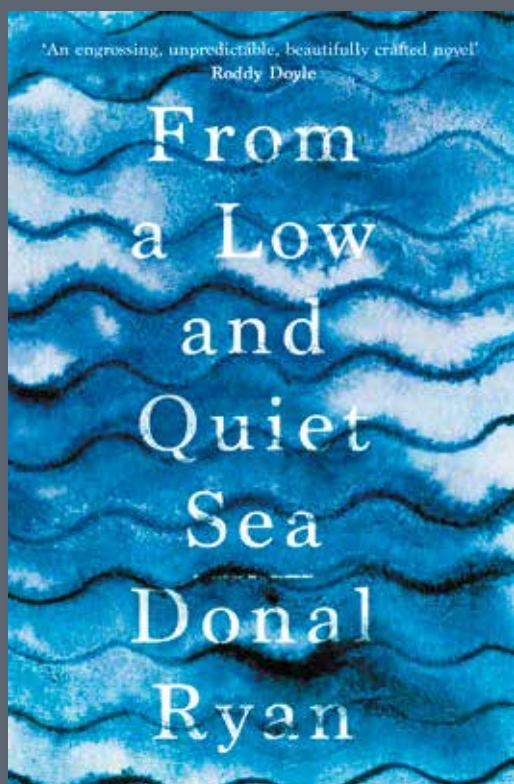




Readers' Guide



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	<p>Farouk's country has been torn apart by war.</p> <p>Lampy's heart has been laid waste by Chloe.</p> <p>John's past torments him as he nears his end.</p> <p>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.</p>
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	<p>Before the final section, could you see any similarities between the men?</p> <p>Each character has a very different background and story. Is there one to whom you feel more connected, or have more sympathy towards?</p> <p>How does the sea, or how do other images of water, play into the narrative?</p> <p>What lessons can we learn about how humans treat each other?</p>
Themed reading	<p>AS Patrić <i>Black Rock White City</i></p> <p>Khaled Hosseini <i>Sea Prayer</i></p> <p>Colm Tóibín <i>The Empty Family</i></p> <p>John Banville <i>The Sea</i></p>
Useful links	<p>https://www.ft.com/content/9e2eb9b8-4ec9-11e8-ac41-759eee1efb74</p> <p>https://www.rte.ie/culture/reviews/2018/0321/949041-reviewed-from-a-low-and-quiet-sea-by-donal-ryan/</p> <p>https://www.independent.ie/entertainment/books/book-reviews/a-journey-to-the-brink-of-an-emotional-abyss-36709961.html</p>