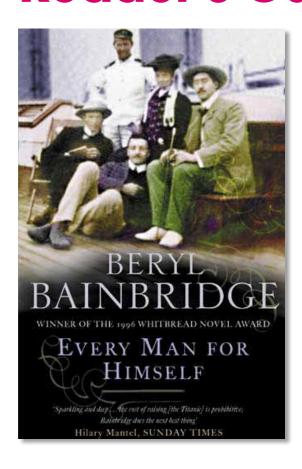


Reader's Guide



Every Man for Himself Beryl Bainbridge

Abacus
Price £8.99

www.themanbookerprize.com





Every Man for Himself

For the four fraught, mysterious days of her doomed maiden voyage in 1912, the Titanic sails towards New York, glittering with luxury, freighted with millionaires and hopefuls. In her labyrinthine passageways are played out the last, secret hours of a small group of passengers, their fate sealed in prose of startling, sublime beauty, as Beryl Bainbridge's haunting masterpiece moves inexorably to its known and terrible end.

Discussion points

Does the book title "Every Man for Himself" accurately reflect the spirit of the novel?

Does Morgan have a role in the novel that goes beyond the simple narration of the events?

The stranger who dies in Morgan's arms at the beginning of the story becomes an on-going topic among the passengers aboard Titanic. Are you satisfied by the way the author revels that the stranger was Adele's lover?

Dreams and dreaming are an ongoing theme in *Every Man for Himself*. How does Beryl Bainbridge use this to provide an insight into the characters?

During most of the journey the sky is empty of stars. After the collision the sky is full of stars, what is the significance of this, what do the stars depict?

Background information

Link to the Man Booker Prize website http://themanbookerprize.com

Link to the publisher's website http://www.littlebrown.co.uk

The Guardian Book Club with John Mullan http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/jan/03/fiction-books-review-beryl-bainbridge