

VENTURA BOOK REVIEWS

WHERE WILL THE NEXT BOOK TAKE YOU?

INTO THE WATER

BY PAULA HAWKINS



“Beckford is not a suicide spot. Beckford is a place to get rid of troublesome women,” (89). Keep that in mind while reading Paula Hawkins newest novel, *Into the Water*. Like her last novel, *The Girl on the Train*, the book is written from multiple people’s points of view, each with their own insight and clues as to who committed the crime. And like *The Girl on the Train*, the story is full of suspense and twists and turns that leave the reader guessing whodunit up until the last sentence.

With so many characters’ insights, the reader gets to experience multiple stories within the story. All of them connect back to the town of Beckford and the Drowning Pool. The river is the main attraction of the small town, but it also holds a lot of secrets. When one local woman is found dead in the river, drownings from the past are revisited and more information is discovered. Some grow closer together while other relationships are torn apart. No matter who the chapter belongs to, each one ends, ironically, with a cliffhanger. There is a cliff on the edge of the river where some women were known to have committed suicide by jumping from it into the water. Hawkins clearly enjoys using metaphors because the

novel is full of ones related to water or cliffs. One example of this is on page 333, “I felt like an idiot for blurting it out like that, not leading up to it, not testing the water at all.”

There was one little mystery in the story that I thought was obvious, but the character did not figure it out until later on in the book. Other than that, the novel kept me interested and I had to reread the last couple paragraphs a couple times to let the truth sink in. *Into the Water* serves as another great read by Paula Hawkins.

REVIEWED BY GRACE VENTURA