

# THE BODECIA BOOK CLUB REVIEW

## **Nights of Rain and Stars by Maeve Binchy**

When we were given this book many of us thought, “oh no, a romance novel full of frills and predictabilities!” What did we find? Yes, a book that sets a good picture and a very easy read but it is also packed full of intrigue, issues and drama.

The book centres around four strangers, with nothing in common but a need to escape. They meet in a Greek taverna high above the small village of Aghia Anna, on the Greek island of Naxos. From Ireland, America, Germany and England, they have each left their homes and old lives, when a shocking tragedy throws them unexpectedly together.

Fiona is a young nurse, trying to make her family understand her need to follow her own path. Thomas desperately misses his young son and fears that his ex-wife will come between them. Elsa abruptly left her career as a television presenter, but someone from her past refuses to let her go. And shy, quiet David is determined to make a stand against his overbearing father. With these four is Andreas, the taverna owner, who badly misses the son who left home nine years ago and has never returned.

Nights of Rain and Stars is the story of one summer and four people, each with a life in turmoil. With the help of Vonni, a middle-aged Irish woman who lives in the village and is now a near-native, they find solutions - though not necessarily the ones they anticipated.

We can all relate to friendships that have been forged whilst on holiday, although we did find it very hard to believe that such good friendships could be made by four very different people from very different backgrounds. The tragedy on the small island brings them all together which we know communities pull together to support one another and these four people are caught up with the grief and sorrow and it brings them together.

The whole book is a feel-good read which you can read in a day! Which a few of us did. Parts will leave you a bit weepy with joy as the book culminates with everything fitting in place. The four strangers lives are changed forever and they will never forget their summer in the gorgeous Greek isle.

If you're going to Greece this is the holiday book you should take and if you're not this is the book that will leave you wanting to go!

We gave Nights of Rain and Stars **6/ 10**

The book we are now reading is **No Time For Goodbye by Linwood Barclay**

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