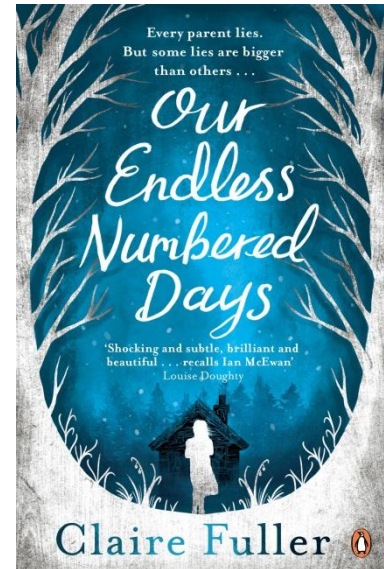


Bath Festivals Big Bath Read:

Our Endless Numbered Days by Claire Fuller

Book Group Questions



What do you think of the parenting in the book? Do you think parenting in 1976 was different to how we expect it to be done now? And how much does the type of parenting Peggy receives affect her behaviour?

Peggy seems to blame Oliver for what happened. Who do you think is the most culpable of the adults in the novel and why?

Many lies are told in the novel – characters lying to each other and to themselves. Do you think there are ever any good reasons for telling lies?

Nature is often portrayed as a character in *Our Endless Numbered Days*. Do you think this works?

What do you think of the ending / the two twists? What would you prefer to believe? With hindsight (or foresight!) what clues were there that these were coming?

How did you feel about James by the end of the novel? Did your feelings towards him change as you read? If you believe he had a mental illness how much sympathy should readers have towards him?

Some might call Peggy an unreliable narrator. At what point did you question the authenticity of her story, if indeed you do?

How well do you think you would survive in the wild with only an axe and a knife?

What do you think about Ute leaving her ten year old daughter and going on her concert tour? Do you think you would feel the same if Ute's and James' roles were reversed at this point?

What role do you think music played in the novel?

There is a strong theme of European fairy tales throughout the book from the setting in the forest to Peggy's change of name. There are at least six others touched on – how many did you spot?