

*The Guest Book*, Sarah Blake

When you pick up this 500-ish page, multi-generational saga, be prepared to create a list of characters as a guide to help you through a story spanning three generations of secrets, sadness and privilege. The story is told in alternating chapters from the viewpoint of the different generations as they come and go on Crockett Island. *The Island* was purchased by Ogden Milton, the patriarch of “The Milton’s of Crockett Island”.

Perhaps like many who were privileged in the 40’s, Kitty and Ogden lead a life that provides the perfect cover for what was not so perfect. Death? We don’t speak of it. Illness? No, just something others should not see. Prejudice? We don’t judge or condemn anyone, we smile and move on...

But as a second, and then a third generation appear, the money disappears and maintaining the belief that everything is always okay on *The Island* is confusing at best, and much darker at its worst.