

The Ladder to the Sky by John Boyne

5 stars

How far can the ambition of a writer corrupt a person's life?

This excellent novel is a deep, dark psychological thriller brilliantly crafted to include many fascinating, colourful characters evolving some into loss and oblivion, some on the light side and one into the depths of psychological depravity.

The story is about writers, successfully published authors - as well as authors who fail. It is about who has talent and who does not have any talent. Those who don't have talent can accept it and move on or allow their failure to swirl them into a vortex of jealousy that has no boundaries. Yet if someone is so profoundly psychologically wrong how far the jealousy will go? It takes a scholar doing some research to unfold the horrendous layers bit by bit in a tense, unstoppable, captivating read.

Maurice asked Theo: "And you – you've heard the old proverb about ambition, haven't you? That it's like setting a ladder to the sky. A pointless waste of energy."

Why did he not just follow the talent he did have? He could not because of his other more profound, darker, more sinister talent that had a stronger hold on him even to the end.

Read it! Brilliant!

BonnieK

Breakaway Reviewers received a copy of the book to review.