

IGNOU Books, IGNOU Result, IGNOU Solved Assignment, IGNOU

Home
Shadow Kiss
The Iron King
Frostbite
Spirit Bound
Midnight Sun [2008 Draft]
New Moon
Eclipse
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows
Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist
The Summoning
The Notebook
Wings
The Awakening and The Struggle
Nevermore
The Initiation / The Captive Part I
Blood Promise

Posted on 14 June 2017 By Marianne Wiggins

@Book ô John Dollar ? eBook or E-pub free

Wiggins reportedly asked herself, upon reading Lord of the Flies, what would a group of girls had done This book is her answer Girls aren t any sweet than boys when left without

adults, it seems. This book was just not for me John Dollar was written plainly to shock the reader and demand our understanding of the primitive human nature The writing was complex, confusing, and elusive Who is this widow named Charlotte that we read about at the beginning What is so special about her that we need to spend 2/3 of the book following her trek across the ocean to tutor eight little girls From the beginning I knew I was in for a tough read when I can make no connection to Charlotte whatsoever And then the author takes us around to the lives of eight little girls, all different, if not a bit strange And when the girls and Charlotte finally come together with Captain John Dollar, all the pieces have fallen together for complete disaster When their ship goes down, the girls along with John Dollar wash up ashore an uninhabited island With no means of food or fresh water, the girls battle it out against savage mother nature while attempting to tend to John s wounds But we all know it only lasts so long before something snaps and self preservation, as is human nature, takes over And when that happens, some of these sweet little girls just aren t so sweet after all Read this if you must but be warned You re in for a rough ride. @Book Ø John Dollar ? Charlotte Lewes, A Young Briton Newly Widowed By The Great War, Departs For Colonial Burma In To Escape The Ruins Of Her Life As A Schoolteacher In Rangoon She Is Rejuvenated By The Sensuous Oriental Climate, And She Meets John Dollar, A Sailor Who Becomes Her Passionate Love And Whose Ill Fated Destiny Inextricably Binds Her To Him On A Festive Seafaring Expedition, The Tightly Knit British Community Confronts Disaster In The Shape Of An Earthquake And Ensuing Tidal Wave Swept Overboard, Charlotte, John Dollar, And Eight Young Girls Who Are Charlotte S Pupils Awake On A Remote Island Beach As They Struggle To Stay Alive, Their Dependence On John Overwhelms Him, And An Atmosphere Of Menace And Doom Builds, Culminating In Shocking And Riveting Scenes Of Both Death And Survival Lord of the Flies just got its period Wow This book will shake you up It manages to be both the biography of a wayward feminist traveller, a study in adolescent dynamics, a scathing commenatary on colonialism, and a nauseating thriller all rolled into one HOW DOES SHE DO IT, you re wondering Well, read this book Then, reread it. Amidst the news about an upcoming exciting, not at all derivative or formulaic remake of Lord of the Flies movie but WITH GIRLS, astute librarians tasked with finding LotF books but WITH GIRLS for the literary set provided this title as well as Libba Bray s Beauty Queens, which is queued somewhere in my endless line of to be listened to titles since I ve decided that I don t have nearly enough physical books to read Is this truly the Lord of the Flies but WITH GIRLS book of your dreams The answer is sort of Unfortunately, John Dollar seems like it wants to be a few different books, a scheme that usually doesn t end well because none of the things it wants to be are done as effectively as they should be There s a confusing prologue that isn t really cleared up in retrospect, a lot of backstory about a character who isn t even the latter half of the book, some terrifying bits about colonialism that I don t necessarily think Wiggins intended to be as scary as the LotFbWG bits but here we are, and then everything segues rather abruptly into stranded on

the island mayhem The writing is lovely but maddeningly vague for example, although I read enough to know that it was a bad scene, I remain unsure as to who exactly did what to those turtles and a few dozen pages of confusing island times left me unable to justify why those girls did what they did view spoiler the horror of Nolly and Amanda noshing on the still alive John Dollar s legs even if Nolly was the preacher s daughter HA and their murder of Gabriela when they got caught happened and was then over so abruptly it didn t seem logical I get that everyone was maybe than a little unhinged by what had happened to their parents another mildly incomprehensible sequence , but it just didn t seem like they d make the leap to cannibalism murder as blithely as the book would have it hide spoiler Boring Contrived Un original Un realistic Un readable unless you re stuck on a plane and this was your only book, d oh Genuinely amazed there are any positive reviews on this site, although now that I ve discovered the author is married to Salmon Rushdie I have to assume her fans were largely spillovers At anytime on any page I could have closed this book and never again reflected upon it nor was my life made any richer for having completed it.It s billed as a female Lord of the Flies but frankly that s insulting to women According to the author women girls will utterly surrender in the face of danger or crisis Cowardly and incapable these young females utterly capitulate in the face of every disaster and challenge they face There is no inherent survival instinct in them as there are in their fellow humans Nope according to the author females are only capable of social conflict and pettiness whilst sitting around expecting to be rescued or murdered Courage, fortitude and capability are not traits possessed by women if the authors account of this manufactured tragedy is to be believed Instead we can expect any and all women who find themselves in physical crisis to just cry a lot and well yeah, just cry a lot and have complete mental breakdowns The horrific scenes are forced and were included only for shock value in order to BE horrific as if she and some friends sat around and said what would be really freaky kinda stuff to help the book make a name for itself Worst part is that in order to arrive at these oft promised horrors the reader must slog thru 80% of a story about colonial life in 1920 s Burma Myanmar for British ex pats To quote another ex pat lost in the jungles of wherever the Horror Indeed, the only thing truly horrific is the fact readers must slog thru page after page of irrelevant, mindless musings of unremarkable characters in order to get to the banal, manufactured in advance horror scenes at the end of the story.Don t make the mistake I did and assume there must be something to this book to garner all the good reviews there ISN T. To say this was a disappointing book doesn t even come close to articulating the real heartbreak I felt finishing it Painted as a female answer to Golding s Lord of the Flies, John Dollar describes the days after eight girls, one woman, and one man are washed ashore on a deserted island off Burma.Writing this review was challenging than I expected, and I decided to do some quick searching for other thoughts on this novel to see if I was missing some subtle but crucial element What I discovered quickly is that the release of John Dollar was almost completely overshadowed by a momentous literary story the call for death of

Wiggins then husband, Salman Rushdie. In some ways, I feel like this book is constantly being overshadowed by something momentous. Wiggins herself seems to be unsure if she is writing an homage to *Lord of the Flies* or an entirely inventive examination of human nature. In an interview, Wiggins admits that the landscape she visualized while writing was actually the same scenery from the 1963 film version. Almost two thirds of the book is spent setting us up for the coming Shock and Awe. Charlotte, the schoolteacher, is properly liberal and free thinking enough to gain our sympathy. The various children represent all the stock characters needed for an examination of colonial life: the zealot, the symbiotic twins, the indigenous servant John Dollar, the itinerant ship captain, is strapping and handsome. The characters cheerfully recall *Robinson Crusoe* and Kipling. We the reader are constantly bombarded with hints that the Fall is coming. Using a technique that seems clever than helpful, Wiggins peppers the margins with text from other books and strange subheadings. I found it distracted from an already fractured story. When the Horrific and Shocking events occur, the scenes are so veiled and oblique that they are hard to realize. The oomph never really appears. Crazy book. Amazing language. Horrifying story. I read it years and years ago and I still think about it sometimes. Like everyone says, it's sort of a female version of *Lord of the Flies*, but you can really get lost in thinking about what it means in a post feminist movement world. Sweet toasted Jesus, this book is violent. It was recommended to me as *Lord of the Flies*, but with a bunch of Victorian schoolgirls in Rangoon. Apparently, Wiggins read Golding's book on a plane and thought, It would never happen that way with girls. I think her next thought must have been, It would be WAY worse, and with cannibalism and torture and rape. John Dollar is probably the most macabre work of literature I've ever set my hands on. It takes Golding's basic plot and turns it inside out, then spirals off in ten different directions, all of them impossibly terrifying. Not for the faint of heart. I read it with the idea of possibly adding it to my tenth grade curriculum, which already includes *Lord of the Flies*. But no. I can't teach this thing. I'm already spending enough of my own money on classroom supplies without having to buy a class set of barf bags.

"A powerful story that not only pulls you through to its final pages but also propels you back to the beginning again, where you find you want to follow her descent into hell a second time."

—*The New York Times*

John Dollar

a novel

M A R I A N N E W I G G I N S

Author of Evidence of Things Unseen

Comments on my re read review of Lord Of The Flies reminded me I had read this fascinating novel, often considered LOTF with girls instead of boys.

New Post

Night World, No. 1

Divergent

Leaving Paradise

Rules of Attraction

Halo

Torment

Night World, No. 2

Honey Queen

Graceling

The Summer I Turned Pretty

Twilight

Last Sacrifice

Beautiful Disaster

Angel

Shadow Kiss

Recent Post

Hush, Hush

City of Bones

The Twilight Collection

The Hunger Games

Vampire Academy Collection

Shiver

Perfect Chemistry

City of Glass

Catching Fire
Clockwork Angel
Fallen
City of Ashes
The Host
Evermore
Crescendo
Mockingjay
The Fault in Our Stars
Anna and the French Kiss
Marked
Wicked Lovely
Vampire Academy
Pride and Prejudice
Obsidian
Beautiful Creatures
Clockwork Prince
Along for the Ride
Night World, No. 1