



READING GUIDE

January, 2023



Dangerous Crossing

Rachel Rhys

A gripping historical whodunnit on the seas dripping with glamour, intrigue, and murder.

IN DETAIL

1939: Young Lily Shepherd boards an ocean liner in Essex, bound for Australia. She is ready to start anew, leaving behind the shadows in her past. The voyage shows Lily places she'd only ever dreamed of and enables her to make friends with people above her social station. She even allows herself to hope that a man she couldn't possibly have a future with outside the cocoon of the ship might return her feelings. But Lily's new-found friends - the toxic, wealthy couple Eliza and Max; Cambridge graduate Edward; Jewish refugee Maria; fascist George - are also running away from their pasts. As the glamour of the voyage fades, the stage is set for something sinister to occur. By the time the ship docks, two passengers are dead, war has been declared, and Lily's life will be changed irrevocably.



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QUICK QUESTIONS

What is the effect of setting the action almost entirely on a ship? What does it add to the story?

The story is set in 1939, with the shadow of war looming over the ship. What difference does this threat make to the characters and the way they behave?

Why do you think the author included the epilogue with the newspaper profile of Lily? Were you glad to find out what had happened to her, or would you have preferred it was left to your imagination?

One of the book's themes is migration, with someone leaving home and travelling to another country in search of a better life. How relevant is Lily's story to what is happening in the world today?

RECOMMENDED LISTENS AFTER DANGEROUS CROSSING

Other nautical mysteries

Murder Makes Waves by Carmen Radtke

The Woman In Cabin 10 by Ruth Ware

A Different Kind Of Evil by Andrew Wilson

Other mysteries with glamorous characters

Tamam Shud: A Phryne Fisher Mystery by Kerry Greenwood

L.A. Confidential by James Ellroy