

## **BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS FOR TATTY**

**By Christine Dwyer Hickey**

- 1. The narrator of Tatty is a child. How well do you think this works? Did it ring true?**
- 2. How affective was the child's voice in telling the story of her parents – should they have been given their own voices?**
- 3. The voice of Tatty changes as the novel progresses and she grows older. Did you think this is a good idea or should she have stayed the same age throughout?**
- 4. What was your first reaction to this book – did it draw you in at once or did it take a while to become accustomed to the unusual tone?**
- 5. How well do you think it dealt with the subject of alcoholism and its effect on the family unit?**
- 6. Has our attitude to alcohol changed since that time?**
- 7. Did it make you think about women's lives in the 1960s and 1970s and how much has changed in this regard?**
- 8. How did the structure of the book work for you?**
- 9. Tatty has a sister with 'special needs'. How do you think this affected the family? And how well did the author deal with this situation?**
- 10. Which character did you relate to most and what do you think connected you to him/her?**
- 11. If you could hear the story from another character's point of view, who would that be?**
- 12. If you could ask the author one question – what would it be?**
- 13. What did you think of the length of the book? Was it too short or did it end in the right place? Did you like the ending?**
- 14. How well did you think the author captured the era i.e. Dublin in the 1960s and 1970s?**
- 15. Have you read any other books with a similar subject matter i.e. the effect of alcoholism on the family, living with a child with special needs?**
- 16. What do you think happened to the family after the novel ended?**
- 17. Did the book change your perspective about anything?**
- 18. Have you read any other books by this author and if so, are there any similarities?**