



Meath County Council Library Service

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### Notes To Readers



This kit was created for book clubs to use in their discussions of *Solar Bones* and contains spoilers

### Content Warnings

Please be aware that *Solar Bones* contains content that may trigger including depictions of death and loss

### Resources

This kit is available to download on our website

# Reading Group Discussion Questions

Why do you think Conway lies to Darragh about Mairead's illness?

Conway does not want Moylette to build the school described in Section 4, why do you think this is?

Why does Conway leave the seminary?

Why does Conway like country music so much?

What does Conway remember his father doing every night at five o'clock?

What is Agnes wearing when she is "crucified"?

Why does Conway take Mairead's car to pick up her medicine?

When does Conway see Mairead's confidence begin to falter for the first time?

At dinner, described in Section 1, who drinks the water?

What does Conway do when he has a heart attack?

### Who Else Writes Like.? A readers' guide to fiction authors





You can use the library's Reading Recommendation Website "Who Else Writes Like?" to find new books to read!

Who Else Writes Like...? will help you to find something to read by uncovering new authors based on ones you already like.

And there are lots of other ways to search Who Else...?, such as genre, character and series. There are also featured links to book award winners, useful websites and editor's choice of top titles.

Some titles included in the site may be suitable for young adult readers, who are in the process of 'crossing-over' to adult novels.

#### How to Log In

To use this great resource just visit the Who Else Writes Like Website and Log in with your Library Card. Then select Meath County Libraries from the drop down menu of accounts and click on continue. And you're on your way to finding your next read.

And remember, you can also search our <u>online catalogue</u> and reserve the titles recommended.

www.meath.ie/council/council-services/libraries/what-to-read-next



# About Mike McCormack



Mike McCormack is an award-winning novelist and short story writer from Mayo. In 2016 he won the Goldsmiths Prize, and the Irish Book Award Novel of the Year and Book of the Year prizes for Solar Bones. In 2018 Solar Bones also won the Dublin International Literary Award (formerly known as the IMPAC). The novel was also shortlisted for the Republic of Consciousness Prize and the Kerry Group Irish Novel Award. In 1996 he was awarded the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature and in 2007 he was awarded a Civitella Ranieri Fellowship. His previous work includes Getting it in the Head (1995), Crowe's Requiem (1998), Notes from a Coma (2005), which was shortlisted for the Irish Book of the Year Award, and Forensic Songs (2012). He lives in Galway.

https://tramppress.com/product/solar-bone



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# More from Mike McCormack

FROM THE IRISH BOOK AWARD \_\_\_\_\_\_ AND GOLDSMITHS PRIZE\_WINNING AUTHOR OF *Solar Bones* \_\_\_\_\_



Crowe is born in the remote village of Furnace in the West of Ireland and raised by his grandfather, a man of "madness and bullying love," who teaches him grim lessons about existence. Entirely silent until his third birthday, Crowe becomes an observant and isolated teenager, eventually leaving Furnace for a large and bewildering city. There he meets a woman who will change his life and outlook, and also finds himself diagnosed with a rare and fatal aging disease.





In this gothic, debut collection, Mike McCormack dispenses nightmares both stylish and macabre. "A Is for Ax" offers an alphabetized account of the killing of a parent, while the title story tracks a chilling sibling rivalry. Others tell of a quiz on the road to Calvary, a door-to-door saleswoman trafficking in strange and menacing feats, and a self-mutilating artist pushing himself to the limit. These sly and dangerous stories, balanced on a knife's edge between life and death, showcase a young writer's mastery of wicked formal play.

JJ O' Malley, adopted from a Romanian orphanage by a single father in the west of Ireland, grows up a permanent outsider, and yet he finds his place in the community. At least until his world is shaken by the death of his best friend, and he volunteers for the "Somnos Project," an experimental program testing deep coma as a potentia...



More titles by Mike McCormack, including the titles below, are available to reserve on our <u>Online Catalogue</u>