

[Click Here](#)





























Summary and ending explained for Long Island by Colm Tóibín, released by Scribner on May 7, 2024. This is a sequel to *Tóibín's 2009 novel Brooklyn*, in which we follow Ellis Lacey's journey as she moves from Ireland to America. Long Island by Colm Tóibín Long Island picks up 20 years later, when Ellis returns to Ireland facing personal troubles. Her husband, Tony Fiorello, is having a child with another woman, and though Ellis doesn't want to raise the baby, Tony's family pressures her to do so. Back in her hometown of Enniscorthy, Ellis rekindles a romance with Jim Farrell. Jim has been waiting for another chance with Ellis, but his complicated relationship with her widowed best friend, Nancy Sheridan, makes things difficult. The novel deals with themes like loneliness, the challenges of living in a small town, and the conflict between personal desires and responsibilities. Release date: May 23, 2024Genre: Women's Literary FictionHardcover: 304 pagesPublisher: Picador Summary | Ending | Character Analysis | Reviews | Quotes | My Thoughts | Similar Books | FAQ Colm Tóibín is an acclaimed Irish author born on May 30, 1955, in Enniscorthy, County Wexford. Known for his novels, essays, and short stories, Tóibín explores themes of Irish society, identity, and exile. His notable works include *The Master*, *Brooklyn*, and *The Magician*. Tóibín has won prestigious awards such as the International Dublin Literary Award and the Folio Prize. He has taught creative writing at institutions including the University of Manchester and Columbia University, and served as Chancellor of the University of Liverpool. Tóibín currently resides in Dublin and Los Angeles. Q: The ending of "Long Island" has a particularly fast pace. Was this always part of your plan, or did it develop during the writing process? A: The swift pace toward the end was part of the plan. As characters face the climax of their indecision, they must eventually make decisive choices. The end of the book reflects a shift from prolonged indecision to a pivotal moment where Alish makes a significant decision. This change in pace emphasizes the urgency and consequences of her actions, bringing the story to a powerful conclusion. Q: In Long Island, there's a dinner scene that highlights Alish's outsider status in her new family. Can you elaborate on this dynamic? A: The dinner scene illustrates how Alish, as an outsider in her new Italian-American family, struggles to fit in. The family's shorthand and language of love make her feel alienated. Her outsider status is further emphasized when she has a disagreement with her father-in-law over the Vietnam War. This argument highlights her sense of not belonging and the subtle but significant barriers between her and the family. Q: How did you come up with the idea for the opening scene of "Long Island"? A: The idea for the opening scene came to me unexpectedly while walking down the street. I wanted to create a plot-driven narrative where an initial action would have far-reaching consequences, similar to Thomas Hardy's approach in "The Mayor of Casterbridge." The initial event had to be something that would inevitably influence the rest of the story, creating a new dynamic rather than just extending the previous book's storyline. One day, an Irishman shows up at Ellis's door on Long Island and says that his wife is pregnant with Ellis's husband's baby. He plans to leave the baby with Ellis when it's born in August. Later that night, Ellis asks her husband Tony if the man is telling the truth. Tony admits that he is and apologizes for not telling her sooner. Ellis says she doesn't want the baby and doesn't want it in her home. Worried that her mother-in-law, Francesca, will try to overrule her, Ellis meets with Tony's brother, Frank, who is also her lawyer. Frank tells Ellis that Francesca already knows about the baby and is trying to adopt it, with plans for Francesca to raise it. Francesca often tries to make difficult situations seem normal to keep the peace, and soon she talks to Ellis about the baby, asking what she wants to do. Ellis realizes Francesca is trying to make her seem like the bad guy and insists that she doesn't want the baby around. Ellis gets a letter from her mother in Ireland, who is about to turn 80. Her mother mentions everyone in town except Jim Farrell. Years ago, after Ellis's sister Rose died, Ellis had returned to Ireland and fell in love with Jim, even though she was secretly married to Tony. When she left to marry Tony, Jim was heartbroken. Now, Ellis decides to visit her mother in Ireland for advice about the baby. She tells her teenage children, Larry and Rosella, about the baby, and they decide to join her halfway through her trip. Nancy Sheridan, Ellis's former best friend, now runs a chip shop in Enniscorthy. She converted it from the market she once ran with her late husband. When drunk customers bother her, she calls Jim Farrell from his pub to get her out of the situation. Nancy and Jim are secretly involved, keeping their relationship quiet because they don't want to overshadow Nancy's daughter's upcoming wedding. Nancy wants to move away with Jim, leaving their businesses behind, but she hasn't told him yet. One day, Ellis visits Nancy, and as they catch up, Nancy notices that Ellis doesn't mention her husband. When Ellis asks if Jim ever got married, Nancy lies and says Jim is seeing someone in Dublin. Ellis buys new appliances for her mother, but her mother, still upset with Ellis for moving to America, refuses to accept them. She is very critical of Ellis and uninterested in her American life. To escape her mother's harshness, Ellis takes a walk through town and briefly passes by Jim Farrell. Jim is surprised to see Ellis and is hurt that no one told him she was back. He recalls the pain of her departure and the gossip he endured afterward. He felt very lonely for years and only found comfort with Nancy. Jim spends the night thinking about Ellis and even walks by her house. Nancy arranges a ride with Jim to Dublin so she can try on wedding dresses for her daughter's wedding. She worries about whether people will see them together and if Jim will be uncomfortable with their close company. While trying on dresses, Nancy confides in a saleswoman about Jim and her dream of getting married in Rome. The saleswoman convinces her to buy a wedding dress, and Nancy leaves feeling more hopeful and confident about her future with Jim. Ellis's mother keeps bothering her, so Ellis escapes for a night alone at her brother's seaside cottage in Cush. It's the first time she's ever been alone, and she thinks about her children back home. She also remembers leaving Tony at the airport and how she wanted to confront him but couldn't because his sadness stopped her. She left him behind without looking back. Meanwhile, Jim wants to marry Nancy but is frustrated by their secretive plans. He wants to see Ellis once more before she goes back to America. He learns from Ellis's brother that she is staying in Cush to avoid their mother. Jim finds Ellis on the beach, but their talk is brief and straightforward. At Nancy's daughter's wedding, Nancy feels torn between her future with Jim and her past with her late husband George. She sees Jim talking to Ellis but doesn't think much of it, even when she hears that Jim rushes back to town, puts on her old engagement ring, and announces to Mrs. Lacey and the town that she's engaged to Jim Farrell. When Ellis gets home, Rosella informs her that her mother has booked a flight back to Long Island with them. Ellis realizes her mother must have gone through her suitcase and found the ring and Francesca's letter. Ellis tries to persuade her mother not to come, but her mother reveals she knows everything, including Jim and Nancy's engagement. Ellis agrees to call Jim, but he doesn't answer. She goes to his pub to find him. Jim returns to his pub and starts packing his things. Nancy soon arrives and makes an excuse about why she announced their engagement early. She avoids mentioning Ellis, and Jim doesn't bring it up either. They agree to celebrate at midnight. After Nancy leaves, Ellis arrives and confronts Jim about not telling her about Nancy. They discuss what Jim might do if he calls her in the future while in New York. Ellis says she's nothing and leaves. Jim, left alone, feels uncertain and waits for Nancy at midnight, hoping he will figure things out by the next day. As Jim and Ellis grow closer and plan their future together, they both reflect on how loneliness has shaped their lives. Jim waited over 20 years after Ellis left him to start a new relationship, often not recognizing his own loneliness. Ellis, on the other hand, feels increasingly isolated in her marriage to Tony. His close-knit family makes her feel like an outsider. She describes her living situation: "I live in a sort of enclosure with four houses. Tony's two brothers and their families each have a house, and my parents-in-law have the fourth. It sounded like a great idea. It's been good for the kids and very safe. But it hasn't been good for me" (259). Ellis highlights the gap between the ideal of a supportive family compound and the reality of her isolation. Her use of "enclosure" suggests that this arrangement feels more like a prison to her. She realizes that, despite being surrounded by family, she has felt alone. This loneliness influences her decision to pursue Jim, as she doesn't want to face the Fiorello family on her own. Though Ellis and Jim manage to keep their relationship secret for a while, Nancy eventually discovers it. She becomes suspicious when she notices Jim and Ellis missing at the same times and catches them kissing on the beach in Cush. Believing that Jim might leave her for Ellis, Nancy puts on an engagement ring and announces their engagement to manipulate the situation. "The reason she had put on the engagement ring was not to impress the town. That could wait. The engagement ring was for Ellis Lacey to hear about" (259). Nancy hopes to scare Ellis away by making her think Jim is already committed. She believes that if the town hears about their engagement, Jim will be pressured to stay with her and not confront Nancy. Nancy uses the town's gossip to end Ellis and Jim's relationship and secure her own future. In Part 7, as the story concludes on Long Island, Jim faces challenges from both women. Nancy pretends not to know about Jim's relationship with Ellis, while Ellis directly asks him about Nancy. Jim struggles to balance his feelings for Ellis with his promises to Nancy. "He wanted to let her know that everything he had said this morning was still true. He wanted to follow her to America. But if he said that, she could ask him to tell her what he had promised Nancy. Did that still hold? Was that still true?" (292). Jim is caught between his desire for Ellis and his obligations to Nancy. He worries that if Ellis knew he had broken his promises to Nancy, she might lose respect for him. Jim's struggle to choose between Ellis and Nancy reflects his inner conflict between personal desire and social responsibility. Ellis does not leave Tony in Long Island. Throughout the book, Ellis faces several challenges, including the unexpected arrival of Tony's child from another woman and her complicated feelings about Jim Farrell. Despite these difficulties, she does not decide to leave Tony. For instance, the plot shows that Ellis is deeply troubled by the child and has to handle the situation with her in-laws, particularly Francesca. Even though she has a significant emotional struggle, including her interactions with Jim, there's no clear decision in the summary indicating that she plans to leave her husband. In the discussion about the book, many readers expressed their mixed feelings about the ending. Some felt the story ended too abruptly and were disappointed by the lack of resolution. Others speculated that Ellis might choose to stay in Long Island and build a new life there, given her established safety nets like her job and her brother's support. While the ending leaves things open to interpretation, there is no concrete evidence from the book that Ellis decides to leave Tony. So, although Ellis is dealing with significant personal dilemmas and emotional conflicts, the book does not provide a clear resolution showing her leaving Tony behind. Character developmentEllis LaceyProtagonistEllis evolves significantly from Brooklyn to Long Island. In the sequel, she is a more mature woman grappling with her past and present. Her return to Ireland forces her to confront unresolved feelings and her identity. She faces major decisions about her future, reflecting her growth and complexity. Her emotional struggles with Tony's secret and her relationship with Jim highlight her internal conflict and development.Tony FiorelloEllis's husbandTony is portrayed as a loving but flawed husband who has a significant secret—a child from another relationship. His actions, particularly the concealment of this secret, reveal his complexity and the strain on his marriage with Ellis. His character development revolves around his attempts to reconcile with Ellis and manage family expectations. Jim FarrellEllis's former love interestJim's development is marked by his ongoing feelings for Ellis and his current relationship with Nancy. He struggles with his past love for Ellis while trying to move forward with his life. His decision to reach out to Ellis and his subsequent actions reflect his internal conflict and unresolved emotions.Nancy SheridanJim's current partner and Ellis's former friendNancy is a supportive character who is involved in a secret relationship with Jim. Her development shows her desire for stability and happiness, often at the expense of honesty. She is portrayed as determined to build a new life with Jim despite the complications involving Ellis.Francesca FiorelloTony's motherFrancesca is a key figure in the family dynamics, particularly in relation to Tony's child. Her attempts to incorporate the child into the family, despite Ellis's resistance, highlight her manipulative and controlling nature. Her actions reveal her complex role in maintaining family harmony.Frank FiorelloTony's brother and Ellis's lawyerFrank acts as a mediator between Ellis and Tony's family. His role in revealing Tony's secret and his professional and personal interactions with Ellis underscore his importance in the story. His development is seen in his efforts to balance family loyalty with legal and ethical responsibilities.Ellis's MotherEllis's mother is initially critical and distant, reflecting her disappointment and anger over Ellis's departure to America. However, as the story progresses, she shows more warmth, particularly towards Ellis's children, indicating a change in her attitude and acceptance of Ellis's life choices. Brooklyn and Long Island . . . capture the decency and ordinariness of the characters as well as the deep emotional ruptures that drive them toward disorder. The confrontations between these people, so long delayed, feel momentous and hugely affecting. These pendant novels, I think, will be the fiction for which this wonderful writer is best remembered. — Wall Street Journal You don't have to leave Brooklyn to enjoy the many pleasures of Long Island. It is a masterful novel full of longing and regret. A tale of lovers reconciling, of compromise, and the settling that can come later in life. Intensely moving and yet full of restraint, I was sad to turn the final page — Douglas Stuart, author of Shuggie Bain Tóibín is the consummate cartographer of the private self, summoning with restrained acuity (and a delicious streak of sly humour) the thoughts his characters struggle to find words for. . . [Long Island is] the work of a writer at the height of his considerable powers, a story of ordinary lives that contains multitudes. — Clare Clark — Guardian First in Brooklyn, and now in Long Island, Tóibín has conducted an exhilarating masterclass in extract the maximum effect from the minimum of prose, with the leanest and cleanest narrative line. . . His gifts are so remarkable — Robert McCrum — Independent The Coast Road by Alan Murray It's 1994 in County Donegal, Ireland, and everyone is talking about Colette Crowley — the writer, the bohemian, the woman who left her husband and sons to pursue a relationship with a married man in Dublin. But now Colette is back, and nobody knows why.Returning to the community to try and reclaim her old life, Colette quickly learns that they are unwilling to let her back to her. The man to whom she is still married is denying her access to her children, and while the legalisation of divorce might be just around the corner, Colette finds herself caught between her old life and the freedom for which she risked everything. Desperate to see her children, she enlists the help of Izzy, a housewife and mother of two, and the women forge a friendship that will send them on a spiralling journey — one toward a path of self-discovery, and the other toward tragedy.Brilliantly observed from a sharp new literary talent, *The Coast Road* is a novel about a closed community and the consequences of daring to move against the tide. window.\$adManagementConfig = window.\$adManagementConfig || {}; window.\$adManagementConfig.web || {}; window.\$adManagementConfig.web || {}; window.\$adManagementConfig.web.localModel = {"optimize\_mobile\_pagespeed":true,"optimize\_desktop\_pagespeed":true,"content\_selector":".mvt-content","footer\_selector":".footer.footer","content\_selector\_mobile":".mvt-content","comments\_selector":"","sidebar\_atf\_selector":"","sidebar-primary.widget-container:nth-last-child(3)","sidebar\_atf\_position":"afterend","sidebar\_btf\_selector":"","mv-sticky-slot","sidebar\_btf\_position":"beforeend","content\_stop\_selector":"","sidebar\_btf\_stop\_selector":".footer.footer","custom\_css":"","ad\_box":true,"sidebar\_minimum\_width":"1161","native\_html\_templates":{"feed":

```
","content":
```

```
","sidebar":"","sticky_sidebar":"","adhesion":""}); !(function(){window.growMe|((window.growMe=function(e){window.growMe._push(e)}),(window.growMe._=[]));var e=document.createElement("script");(e.type="text/javascript"),(e.src=""),(e.defer=10),e.setAttribute("data-grow-faves-site-id","U2l0ZTpiNjRkOTExZi04MwQ4LTRhNzEtYjA2My01YjBjZGY4Y2JjNDI=");var t=document.getElementsByTagName("script")[0];t.parentNode.insertBefore(e,t)}); Skip to Content var molongui_authorship_byline_params = {"byline_prefix":"","byline_suffix":"","byline_separator":"","u00a0","byline_last_separator":"","u00a0and\u00a0","byline_link_title":"View all posts by","byline_link_class":"","byline_dom_tree":"","byline_dom_prepend":"","byline_dom_append":"","byline_decoder":"v3"}; var mvt = {"version":"0.18.1","options":{"register_pwa":true,"require_name_email":true},"rest_url":"https://wroteabook.org/wp-json/","site_url":"https://wroteabook.org","img_host":"wroteabook.org","theme_directory":"https://wroteabook.org/wp-content/themes/mediavine-trellis","pwa_version":"68519","comments":{"order":"asc","per_page":50,"page_comments":false,"enabled":true,"has_comments":"0"},"i18n":{"COMMENTS":"Comments","REPLY":"Reply","COMMENT":"Comment","COMMENT_PLACEHOLDER":"Write your comment...","REPLY_PLACEHOLDER":"Write your reply...","NAME":"Name","EMAIL":"Email","AT":"at","SHOW_MORE":"Show More Comments","LOADING":"Loading...","PLEASE_WAIT":"Please wait...","COMMENT_POSTED":"Comment posted!","FLOOD_MESSAGE":"Please wait before posting another comment."},"FLOOD_HEADER":"Slow down, you're commenting too quickly!","DUPLICATE_MESSAGE":"It looks as though you've already said that!","DUPLICATE_HEADER":"Duplicate comment detected","INVALID_PARAM_MESSAGE":"Please check your email address."},"INVALID_PARAM_HEADER":"Invalid email address","INVALID_CONTENT_MESSAGE":"Please check your comment before sending it again."},"INVALID_CONTENT_HEADER":"Invalid content","AUTHOR_REQUIRED_MESSAGE":"Creating a comment requires valid author name and email values."},"AUTHOR_REQUIRED_HEADER":"Missing some fields","GENERIC_ERROR":"Something went wrong."}}; Page 2 window.$adManagementConfig = window.$adManagementConfig || {}; window.$adManagementConfig.web = window.$adManagementConfig.web || {}; window.$adManagementConfig.web.localModel = {"optimize_mobile_pagespeed":true,"optimize_desktop_pagespeed":true,"content_selector":".mvt-content","footer_selector":".footer.footer","content_selector_mobile":".mvt-content","comments_selector":"","sidebar_atf_selector":"","sidebar-primary.widget-container:nth-last-child(3)","sidebar_atf_position":"afterend","sidebar_btf_selector":"","mv-sticky-slot","sidebar_btf_position":"beforeend","content_stop_selector":"","sidebar_btf_stop_selector":".footer.footer","custom_css":"","ad_box":true,"sidebar_minimum_width":"1161","native_html_templates":{"feed":
```

```
","content":
```

```
","sidebar":"","sticky_sidebar":"","adhesion":""}); !(function(){window.growMe|((window.growMe=function(e){window.growMe._push(e)}),(window.growMe._=[]));var e=document.createElement("script");(e.type="text/javascript"),(e.src=""),(e.defer=10),e.setAttribute("data-grow-faves-site-id","U2l0ZTpiNjRkOTExZi04MwQ4LTRhNzEtYjA2My01YjBjZGY4Y2JjNDI=");var t=document.getElementsByTagName("script")[0];t.parentNode.insertBefore(e,t)}); Skip to Content var molongui_authorship_byline_params = {"byline_prefix":"","byline_suffix":"","byline_separator":"","u00a0","byline_last_separator":"","u00a0and\u00a0","byline_link_title":"View all posts by","byline_link_class":"","byline_dom_tree":"","byline_dom_prepend":"","byline_dom_append":"","byline_decoder":"v3"}; var mvt = {"version":"0.18.1","options":{"register_pwa":true,"require_name_email":true},"rest_url":"https://wroteabook.org/wp-json/","site_url":"https://wroteabook.org","img_host":"wroteabook.org","theme_directory":"https://wroteabook.org/wp-content/themes/mediavine-trellis","pwa_version":"68704","comments":{"order":"asc","per_page":50,"page_comments":false,"enabled":true,"has_comments":"0"},"i18n":{"COMMENTS":"Comments","REPLY":"Reply","COMMENT":"Comment","COMMENT_PLACEHOLDER":"Write your comment...","REPLY_PLACEHOLDER":"Write your reply...","NAME":"Name","EMAIL":"Email","AT":"at","SHOW_MORE":"Show More Comments","LOADING":"Loading...","PLEASE_WAIT":"Please wait...","COMMENT_POSTED":"Comment posted!","FLOOD_MESSAGE":"Please wait before posting another comment."},"FLOOD_HEADER":"Slow down, you're commenting too quickly!","DUPLICATE_MESSAGE":"It looks as though you've already said that!","DUPLICATE_HEADER":"Duplicate comment detected","INVALID_PARAM_MESSAGE":"Please check your email address."},"INVALID_PARAM_HEADER":"Invalid email address","INVALID_CONTENT_MESSAGE":"Please check your comment before sending it again."},"INVALID_CONTENT_HEADER":"Invalid content","AUTHOR_REQUIRED_MESSAGE":"Creating a comment requires valid author name and email values."},"AUTHOR_REQUIRED_HEADER":"Missing some fields","GENERIC_ERROR":"Something went wrong."}}; Page 3 window.$adManagementConfig = window.$adManagementConfig || {}; window.$adManagementConfig.web = window.$adManagementConfig.web || {}; window.$adManagementConfig.web.localModel = {"optimize_mobile_pagespeed":true,"optimize_desktop_pagespeed":true,"content_selector":".mvt-content","footer_selector":".footer.footer","content_selector_mobile":".mvt-content","comments_selector":"","sidebar_atf_selector":"","sidebar-primary.widget-container:nth-last-child(3)","sidebar_atf_position":"afterend","sidebar_btf_selector":"","mv-sticky-slot","sidebar_btf_position":"beforeend","content_stop_selector":"","sidebar_btf_stop_selector":".footer.footer","custom_css":"","ad_box":true,"sidebar_minimum_width":"1161","native_html_templates":{"feed":
```

```
","content":
```

```
","sidebar":"","sticky_sidebar":"","adhesion":""}); !(function(){window.growMe|((window.growMe=function(e){window.growMe._push(e)}),(window.growMe._=[]));var e=document.createElement("script");(e.type="text/javascript"),(e.src=""),(e.defer=10),e.setAttribute("data-grow-faves-site-id","U2l0ZTpiNjRkOTExZi04MwQ4LTRhNzEtYjA2My01YjBjZGY4Y2JjNDI=");var t=document.getElementsByTagName("script")[0];t.parentNode.insertBefore(e,t)}); Skip to Content var molongui_authorship_byline_params = {"byline_prefix":"","byline_suffix":"","byline_separator":"","u00a0","byline_last_separator":"","u00a0and\u00a0","byline_link_title":"View all posts by","byline_link_class":"","byline_dom_tree":"","byline_dom_prepend":"","byline_dom_append":"","byline_decoder":"v3"}; var mvt = {"version":"0.18.1","options":{"register_pwa":true,"require_name_email":true},"rest_url":"https://wroteabook.org/wp-json/","site_url":"https://wroteabook.org","img_host":"wroteabook.org","theme_directory":"https://wroteabook.org/wp-content/themes/mediavine-trellis","pwa_version":"68705","comments":{"order":"asc","per_page":50,"page_comments":false,"enabled":true,"has_comments":"1"},"i18n":{"COMMENTS":"Comments","REPLY":"Reply","COMMENT":"Comment","COMMENT_PLACEHOLDER":"Write your comment...","REPLY_PLACEHOLDER":"Write your reply...","NAME":"Name","EMAIL":"Email","AT":"at","SHOW_MORE":"Show More Comments","LOADING":"Loading...","PLEASE_WAIT":"Please wait...","COMMENT_POSTED":"Comment posted!","FLOOD_MESSAGE":"Please wait before posting another comment."},"FLOOD_HEADER":"Slow down, you're commenting too quickly!","DUPLICATE_MESSAGE":"It looks as though you've already said that!","DUPLICATE_HEADER":"Duplicate comment detected","INVALID_PARAM_MESSAGE":"Please check your email address."},"INVALID_PARAM_HEADER":"Invalid email address","INVALID_CONTENT_MESSAGE":"Please check your comment before sending it again."},"INVALID_CONTENT_HEADER":"Invalid content","AUTHOR_REQUIRED_MESSAGE":"Creating a comment requires valid author name and email values."},"AUTHOR_REQUIRED_HEADER":"Missing some fields","GENERIC_ERROR":"Something went wrong."}}; Page 4 window.$adManagementConfig = window.$adManagementConfig || {}; window.$adManagementConfig.web = window.$adManagementConfig.web || {}; window.$adManagementConfig.web.localModel = {"optimize_mobile_pagespeed":true,"optimize_desktop_pagespeed":true,"content_selector":".mvt-content","footer_selector":".footer.footer","content_selector_mobile":".mvt-content","comments_selector":"","sidebar_atf_selector":"","sidebar-primary.widget-container:nth-last-child(3)","sidebar_atf_position":"afterend","sidebar_btf_selector":"","mv-sticky-slot","sidebar_btf_position":"beforeend","content_stop_selector":"","sidebar_btf_stop_selector":".footer.footer","custom_css":"","ad_box":true,"sidebar_minimum_width":"1161","native_html_templates":{"feed":
```

```
","content":
```

```
","sidebar":"","sticky_sidebar":"","adhesion":""}); !(function(){window.growMe|((window.growMe=function(e){window.growMe._push(e)}),(window.growMe._=[]));var e=document.createElement("script");(e.type="text/javascript"),(e.src=""),(e.defer=10),e.setAttribute("data-grow-faves-site-id","U2l0ZTpiNjRkOTExZi04MwQ4LTRhNzEtYjA2My01YjBjZGY4Y2JjNDI=");var t=document.getElementsByTagName("script")[0];t.parentNode.insertBefore(e,t)}); Skip to Content var molongui_authorship_byline_params = {"byline_prefix":"","byline_suffix":"","byline_separator":"","u00a0","byline_last_separator":"","u00a0and\u00a0","byline_link_title":"View all posts by","byline_link_class":"","byline_dom_tree":"","byline_dom_prepend":"","byline_dom_append":"","byline_decoder":"v3"}; var mvt = {"version":"0.18.1","options":{"register_pwa":true,"require_name_email":true},"rest_url":"https://wroteabook.org/wp-json/","site_url":"https://wroteabook.org","img_host":"wroteabook.org","theme_directory":"https://wroteabook.org/wp-content/themes/mediavine-trellis","pwa_version":"68705","comments":{"order":"asc","per_page":50,"page_comments":false,"enabled":true,"has_comments":"0"},"i18n":{"COMMENTS":"Comments","REPLY":"Reply","COMMENT":"Comment","COMMENT_PLACEHOLDER":"Write your comment...","REPLY_PLACEHOLDER":"Write your reply...","NAME":"Name","EMAIL":"Email","AT":"at","SHOW_MORE":"Show More Comments","LOADING":"Loading...","PLEASE_WAIT":"Please wait...","COMMENT_POSTED":"Comment posted!","FLOOD_MESSAGE":"Please wait before posting another comment."},"FLOOD_HEADER":"Slow down, you're commenting too quickly!","DUPLICATE_MESSAGE":"It looks as though you've already said that!","DUPLICATE_HEADER":"Duplicate comment detected","INVALID_PARAM_MESSAGE":"Please check your email address."},"INVALID_PARAM_HEADER":"Invalid email address","INVALID_CONTENT_MESSAGE":"Please check your comment before sending it again."},"INVALID_CONTENT_HEADER":"Invalid content","AUTHOR_REQUIRED_MESSAGE":"Creating a comment requires valid author name and email values."},"AUTHOR_REQUIRED_HEADER":"Missing some fields","GENERIC_ERROR":"Something went wrong."}}; In James Joyce's "Ulysses," Stephen Dedalus says, "History is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake." Dick seems to see the reality in which we live in much that way. He once made a remark to the effect that reality doesn't live up to his standards. In TMITHC, the various horrors of life in an Axis-run world have a hallucinatory, nightmarish, slightly unreal quality about them which almost foretell Juliana's eventual perception that they aren't real. The more believable they are - like Bob Hope gleefully wisecracking about Goering on the radio - the more like a bad dream they are. And Juliana is able to wake up. It's interesting that TMITHC implies that our world isn't real, either. The I Ching says "inner truth" is a much more humane post-war world than the one we know, with no USSR, and as for the British eventually winning, Dick has his heroine Juliana say that the British always were the best. Maybe we can all awaken to a world where Elizabeth II's picture, or Churchill's are on everybody's money. Your audiobook is waiting! One credit a month to pick any title from our entire premium selection to keep (you'll use your first credit now). Unlimited listening on select audiobooks, Audible Originals, and podcasts. You will get an email reminder before your trial ends. $14.95$14.95 a month after 30 days. Cancel
```

online anytime. Learn more about membership Sold and delivered by Audible, an Amazon company The Amazon Prime Video series The Man in the High Castle was in a lot of ways very different from the Philip K. Dick novel it was based on, as the show expanded and diverged from the book. This meant that the ending of the series, which was released by Amazon on November 15, was very different from the end of the book. However, the ending of the 1962 novel may provide some answers who found themselves perplexed by the final moments of the series. In the show, viewers saw people from another world start to go through the portal created by the Nazis. Many found themselves confused by this scene and were left wondering what these people were doing in the Greater Nazi Reich and how they would help bring the reign of the Nazis to an end. In contrast, the book ended with Juliana Crain (played in the series by Alexa Davalos) discovering that The Grasshopper Lies Heavy, a forbidden book written by Hawthorne Abendsen (Stephen Root) that depicts a world where the Allies won World War II, is real and that the characters are living in a false reality. Clearly, these two endings are very different and show some more differences between the show and book—for example, in the series, The Grasshopper Lies Heavy is a forbidden film reel rather than a novel. However, the themes that are revealed by the conclusion of the book match those of the series. In the book, Hawthorne (also known as The Man in the High Castle) is called "an external frame of reference," whose work allows readers to realize that the reality they are living in is not the only possible reality. Each one of the people from another reality who comes through the portal, presumably from a place where the Allies won the war, provides their own living frame of reference which, once they intermingle with the population of the GNR, should help the latter also realize that the reality they are living in can be different. "The Man in the High Castle" book's ending suggests an explanation for the Season 4 finale. "The Man in the High Castle" book's ending suggests an explanation for the Season 4 finale. Penguin However, the series seems to suggest more dramatic change than the book does. In the final moments of the novel, Crain tells Hawthorne that he has channeled the "true" reality through his writing, a reality where Germany and Japan lost the war. However, Hawthorne is unable to process the information that a world where the Nazis did not win the war is possible and grows angry that Crain revealed this information to him. While this seems to suggest one person was unable to process the information, in the Amazon series, dozens or even hundreds of people make their way through the portal into the GNR from a timeline where the Allies won the war. This suggests that if enough of these people spread the knowledge about what they know, it could bring the Nazi reign to an end and change society. The Man in the High Castle Season 4 is streaming now on Amazon Prime. In James Joyce's "Ulysses," Stephen Dedalus says, "History is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake." Dick seems to see the reality in which we live in much that way. He once made a remark to the effect that reality doesn't live up to his standards. In TMITHC, the various horrors of life in an Axis-run world have a hallucinatory, nightmarish, slightly unreal quality about them which almost foretell Juliana's eventual perception that they aren't real. The more believable they are - like Bob Hope gleefully wisecracking about Goering on the radio - the more like a bad dream they are. And Juliana is able to wake up. It's interesting that TMITHC implies that our world isn't real, either. The I Ching says "inner truth" is a much more humane post-war world than the one we know, with no USSR, and as for the British eventually winning, Dick has his heroine Juliana say that the British always were the best. Maybe we can all awaken to a world where Elizabeth II's picture, or Churchill's are on everybody's money.