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Meath County Council Library Service Book Club Kit

WITH A FOREWORD BY FINTAN O'TOOLE

Many studies have been written about the quest for the Great American Novel. Anyone seeking its Irish equivelent need search no further.' The lesh Times





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Notes To Readers Spoiler warnings

This kit was created for book clubs to use in their discussions of Strumpet City and contains spoilers



Reading Group Discussion Questions

How does the setting of Dublin in the early 20th century influence the events and characters in "Strumpet City"?

Which character did you find most compelling or relatable, and why? How does the novel depict the socio-economic divide between

different classes?

In what ways do the characters' personal struggles reflect the broader political and social unrest of the time?

What role does religion play in the lives of the characters, and how does it impact their decisions and outlooks?

Discuss the significance of the title "Strumpet City." How does it reflect the themes and atmosphere of the novel?

How does James Plunkett use the character of Father O'Connor to explore themes of morality and social justice?

What are the different ways in which the labor strike is portrayed in the novel? How do the various perspectives contribute to the narrative?

How does the author use descriptive language to bring the city of Dublin to life? Provide examples. How do the relationships between characters evolve over the course of the novel?

How does "Strumpet City" compare to other historical novels you have read? What makes it unique or particularly effective?

What lessons can contemporary readers learn from the struggles and experiences of the characters in "Strumpet City"?

How do the characters deal with issues of power and powerlessness? Provide specific examples.

If you could ask James Plunkett one question about "Strumpet City," what would it be and why?

What are the main themes of the book, and how are they woven into the story?

About the Author

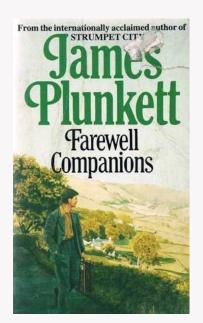


James Plunkett

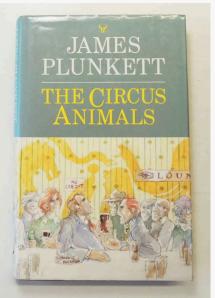
Plunkett grew up among the Dublin working class. His best-known works are the novel Strumpet City, and the short stories in the collection The Trusting and the Maimed. His other works include a radio play on James Larkin, who figures prominently in his work.

During the 1960s, Plunkett worked as a producer at Telefís Éireann. He won two Jacob's Awards, in 1965 and 1969, for his TV productions. In 1971 he wrote and presented "Inis Fail - Isle of Destiny"

More by James Plunkett



A rich and intricate tapestry of Irish life, this time of the period from the 1914 war to the ending of World : War II. Like many other great novels it Is basically about growing up. We watch Tim McDonagh : and his two close friends moving through childhood and adolescence to early manhood, adapting each in his own-way to the varied and complex strands of the Irish heritage.



Set in Dublin in the 1950s, this novel concerns Frank and Peggy, a young couple experimenting with new ideas and feelings, against a background of a society on the brink of dramatic change. Counterpointed with their experiences are those of the older generation



