

*the* GLOSS  
THE BLUE HOUR  
PAULA HAWKINS

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1. Rate the book from 1-5.
2. How does the island's tidal isolation influence choices and tension? Have you seen a setting (workplace, town, home) shape behavior in a similar way?
3. Do you read her aloneness as strength, avoidance, or both? When does solitude feel restorative vs. limiting?
4. How does a missing person drive the plot and other characters? Have you experienced someone's absence shaping a group or family dynamic?
5. In what ways does art in the novel reveal, distort, or protect the truth? Where do you think creative work should draw that line?
6. Which secrets feel justified, and which cross a moral line? What criteria do you use (in life or fiction) to decide when secrecy is acceptable?
7. How does the outsider from London shift the power balance on Eris? Have you seen a newcomer change the "rules" of a group?
8. Whose version of events did you trust most, and why? How do you weigh conflicting accounts when you don't have all the facts?
9. Where do you notice power—domestic, artistic, institutional—showing up in the story? Which scenes best expose the costs of that power?
10. What does starting over cost Grace (and/or Vanessa), and what does it offer? What makes a reinvention believable to you in fiction?
11. By the final pages, did you want truth, justice, or peace—and did the book deliver it? What alternative ending would you argue for?