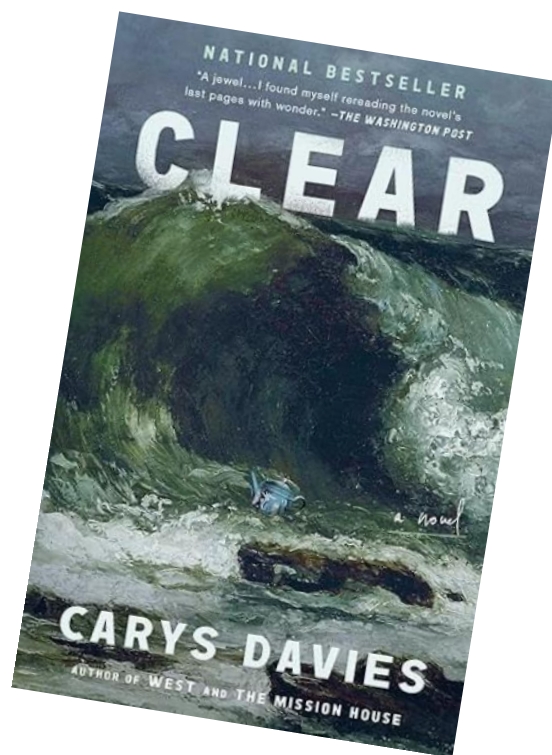


**Parkdale United
Zoom Book Club**

**Saturday, December 13th
at 10:00 am**

CLEAR

by Carys Davies



From Amazon:

“A “daring and necessary...sophisticated and playful” (*The New York Times*) novel from an award-winning writer, *Clear* is the story of a minister dispatched to a remote island to “clear” its last remaining inhabitant — an unforgettable tale of resilience, change, and hope.

John, an impoverished Scottish minister, has accepted a job evicting the lone remaining occupant of an island north of Scotland — Ivar, who has been living alone for decades, with only the animals and the sea for company. Though his wife, Mary, has serious misgivings about the errand, he decides to go anyway, setting in motion a chain of events that neither he nor Mary could have predicted.

Shortly after John reaches the island, he falls down a cliff and is found, unconscious and badly injured, by Ivar who takes him home and tends to his wounds. “*Clear* chronicles the surprising bond that develops between these two men...pack[ing] a great deal of power into a compact tale” (*The Wall Street Journal*) about connection, home, and hope — in which John begins to learn Ivar’s language, and Ivar sees himself reflected through the eyes of another person for the first time in decades.

Unfolding during the final stages of the infamous Scottish Clearances — a period of the 19th century which saw whole communities of the rural poor driven off the land in a relentless program of forced evictions — this singular novel explores what binds us together in the face of insurmountable difference, the way history shapes our deepest convictions, and how the human spirit can endure despite all odds. Moving and unpredictable, “a love letter to the scorching power of language” (*The Guardian*), *Clear* is “a jewel of a novel” (*The Washington Post*) — a profound and unforgettable read.”

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82432011683?pwd=SEgwSFFIOTRZODVtSmVuYW1vOXNwdz09>

Meeting ID: 824 3201 1683

Passcode: 284356

If you’re not able to join the meeting, you are welcome to send your comments about *Clear* to sloanelm@shaw.ca or bethbalshaw@shaw.ca before December 13th so they can be shared with the group and included in our next Book Club Newsletter.