Burton et al./Book review

45 Liessinger C, Becton D, Cornell C Jr, Cox GJ. High-dose DDAVP intranasal spray (Stimate) for the treatment of menorrhagia in women with mild haemophilia A, mild or moderate type 1 von Willebrand disease and symptomatic carriers of haemophilia A. Haemophilia 2001; 7: 258–266.

BOOK REVIEW


Research has demonstrated that many people have sexual problems they are unable to talk about. Ian McEwan gives us a compelling story about ‘doing nothing’. He chooses a different time and he chooses Florence and Edward with their separate narratives. It hints at growing intimacy with these people. It hints at narratives. But it could be now. It could be Florence and Edward with their separate lives, just these people. And it gives a glimpse of the obstetric and gynaecological manifestations of bleeding disorders. Haemophilia 2005; 11: 295–307.

As readers, Ian McEwan allows us to be very skilled listeners. As doctors we too are asked to be very skilled listeners and to do more besides: to reflect with our patients, and to develop a shared understanding. Does their narrative give us an understanding? There were hints in Florence’s recorded relationship with her father. Even Edward had concerns about this. We know that Florence identified a need to communicate with Edward but she couldn’t overcome her barrier to this. Could we have helped her understand that? Possibly, however, there is a danger that in attempting these tasks of evidence of learning for next year’s appraisal.

Reading a novel is something wonderfully insight into non-consumption; not every case, just this one. It is an insight into people; not all people, just these people. And it gives a glimpse of the obstetrician, the reader-character or doctor-patient relationship and its impact on the health of our patients. And the significance of Chesil Beach? I don’t know. It reminds me that there is always something more immediate to read. Not this time. It is difficult to think that anyone reading this Journal would not benefit from reading this book. It could even be evidence of learning for next year’s appraisal.

Reviewed by Alex Connan, MRCGP, MPM
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Starting in this issue with On Chesil Beach by Ian McEwan, the journal will review a novel of modern fiction that has as a core theme a topic likely to be of interest and relevance to health care professionals working in the fields of sexual and reproductive health care.

The journal will announce the title to be reviewed in the next issue so that interested readers may choose to ‘read along’ with the reviewer and thus see whether their view of the book mirrors that of the guest reviewer. The title to be reviewed in the July issue is We Need to Talk About Kevin by Lionel Shriver (500 pages, Penguin’s Tails. 2010, ISBN: 1-85242-467-2).

Finally, if any journal readers would like to offer to review an appropriate fiction title of their own choosing then they should contact the Journal Editorial Office by e-mail (journal@fshr.org) in the first instance with details of their nominated title.

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On Chesil Beach

Alex Connan

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