

Prohibited Zone

A thriller in the desert

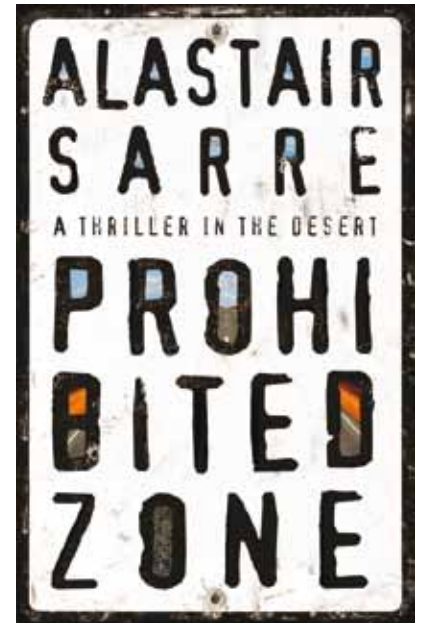
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Book club questions

- 1 Part of the action is set in the Woomera Prohibited Area. Is this the 'prohibited zone' of the novel's title? Are there alternative prohibited zones?
- 2 How does Westie use humour to keep distance in his relationships? Is this a common trait in (Australian) men?
- 3 Is Kara a sympathetic character? What do you like about her? What don't you like? Do some of her actions harm others? Why do you think Westie decides to help her?
- 4 What are the novel's main themes?
- 5 How would you characterise the attitude of men to women in the novel? Do any male characters differ in this?
- 6 How would you describe Westie's attitude towards Lucy? Does he behave honourably?
- 7 How do Westie, Lucy, Kara and Baz change in the course of the novel?
- 8 Saira claims that 'Eventually, there is always justice.' In the context of the novel, is this true? Which characters, in your view, receive adequate justice, and which do not?
- 9 Which characters are genuinely concerned about the fate of asylum-seekers?
- 10 In the context of the novel, to what extent do you think conditions will change for asylum-seekers as a result of the actions of Kara and Westie?



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