

Hutchinson, 2020

About the Author

Andrew Hunter Murray is a writer from London. For ten years, Andrew has been one of the writers and researchers behind the BBC show *Ql*. He is one of the co-hosts of *Ql*'s spin-off podcast, *No Such Thing As A Fish*, which since 2014 has released 250 episodes, been downloaded 200 million times, and toured the world. It has also spawned three books, and a BBC2 series, *No Such Thing As The News*.

Andrew also writes jokes and journalism for *Private Eye* magazine, and hosts the Eye's in-house podcast, *Page 94*. In his spare time he performs in the awardwinning comedy show *Austentatious*, which plays in London's West End and around the UK. His first novel, *The Last Day*, is a high-concept thriller set in a world whose rotation has slowed to a halt.

The Last Day by Andrew Hunter Murray

About the Book

A world half in darkness. A secret she must bring to light.

2059. The world has stopped turning.

One half suffers an endless frozen night; the other, nothing but burning sun.

Only in a slim twilit region between them can life survive.

In an isolationist Britain, scientist Ellen Hopper receives a letter from a dying man.

It contains a powerful and dangerous secret.

One that those in power will kill to conceal...

Other books by the author

This is the author's debut novel.

Andrew is also an author on *The Book*of the Year series and the *QI Book* of

General Ignorance series.





Discussion points

- Which parts of the book stood out for you? Were there any parts you thought unique, out-of-place, thought-provoking, or disturbing?
- If you had to trade places with one character, who would it be and why?
- The author has built a detailed picture of the world in *The Last Day* and threaded the story through it. In his writing, did you prefer the action or the description? Do you have any favourite passages?
- What would you say are the main themes of the book? What points do you think the author was trying to make?
- What are your thoughts on the book's structure? Did it serve the story well?
- Did you guess the ending? If so, at what point? Would you have chosen a different ending for any of the characters?

Suggested further reading

Children of Men by P. D. James

The Gone-Away World by Nick Harkaway

Fatherland by Robert Harris

The Wall by John Lanchester

Station 11 by Emily St John Mandel

For younger readers: The Wind Singer by William Nicholson

Useful Links

Listen to Andrew talk about *The Last Day* on: <u>Simon Mayo's Book of the Year podcast</u>

Thejournal.ie article by Andrew: Britain has pride about not succumbing to...

Book Review on Sparkly Pretty Bright: *The Last Day by Andrew Hunter Murray*

Follow Andrew on twitter: @andrewhunterm

The Wilbur & Niso Smith Foundation

