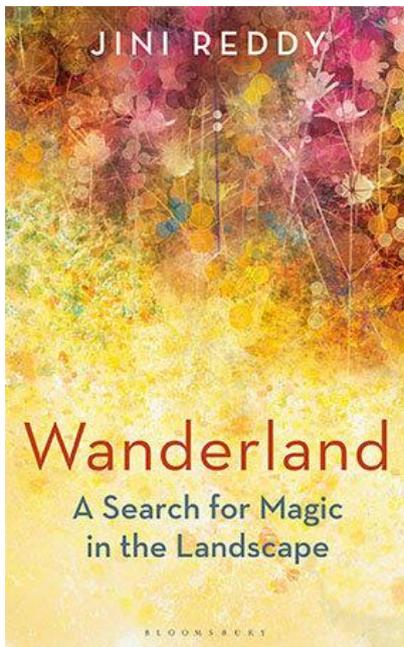


Literacy Lowdown

To advance your wider reading



A Level students should:

- undertake wider reading.
- use factual texts and discursive / creative material.

Summary

Wanderland is written by travel writer and journalist Jini Reddy — an explorer with a desire to discover what it might be like to feel ‘a spiritual bond’ with the land. Jini is trying to get away from merely being able to name flora towards ‘...something else, something a bit Other and a bit mystical even’ with the process of seeking out the magic of landscape being part of the excitement. The book takes you from ‘a lost spring’ in Hastings, to a final search for a ‘Temple in the Land’ on the island of Iona — a journey full of wonder.

© Jini Reddy

Specification Links

Population and the environment AQA 3.2.4.7. *Case study of a specified local area to illustrate and analyse the relationship between place and health related to its physical environment.* ‘Sugar Loaf mountain,’ says Elen. ‘It’s in Wales, across the border.’ Beyond it are the Brecon Beacons. This is where the magic lies... p88 Edexcel 4B.3 *How past and present connections have shaped the demographic and cultural characteristics of your chosen places.* Eduqas Changing Places 1.3.7. *Diversification in the post-productive countryside is achieved through re-imagining and regenerating rural places.* OCR Changing Spaces; Making Places 1.a. *Places are multi-faceted, shaped by shifting flows and connections which change over time.*

Key Quotes

I don’t have the ears and eyes of the deep listener. I have no such gifts....And I struggle to keep loneliness at bay — the kind of lonely that keeps the most beautiful things and the most serene settings at arms length, behind an invisible glass wall. To the Oracle on the Sea p39

I don’t know what’s worse, needing to know the name of every beautiful flower you come across or needing to photograph it. Lost Spring p56

It’s an enchanting spot, far more intimate and inviting than I could have even imagined. A Rumi quote comes to mind: ‘What you are seeking is also seeking you’. Lost Spring p62

The countryside, the patchwork fields, the Black Mountains in the distance, every tree just so. The sheep grazing. It’s richly textured. Like a tapestry, a work of art. A Woman of the Old Ways p88

In other words, the island has chakras, and these chakras are considered places of potent energy — temples in the land. A Temple in the Land p203

The scene is exquisite. This is what love looks like, I think, as expressed by the landscape. A Temple in the Land p205