The Guest Book is a picture of a wealthy high society family. Much of the story revolves around their summer island retreat in Maine but described by one character "this place is a pile of lies". From Entertainment Weekly "Evie Milton uncovers the unsettling truth of her parents' and their parents' lives." The book also explores prejudice in this country at that time. Because this book covers three generations, the relationships between the characters were often confusing. The characters were also not that likable or sympathetic.