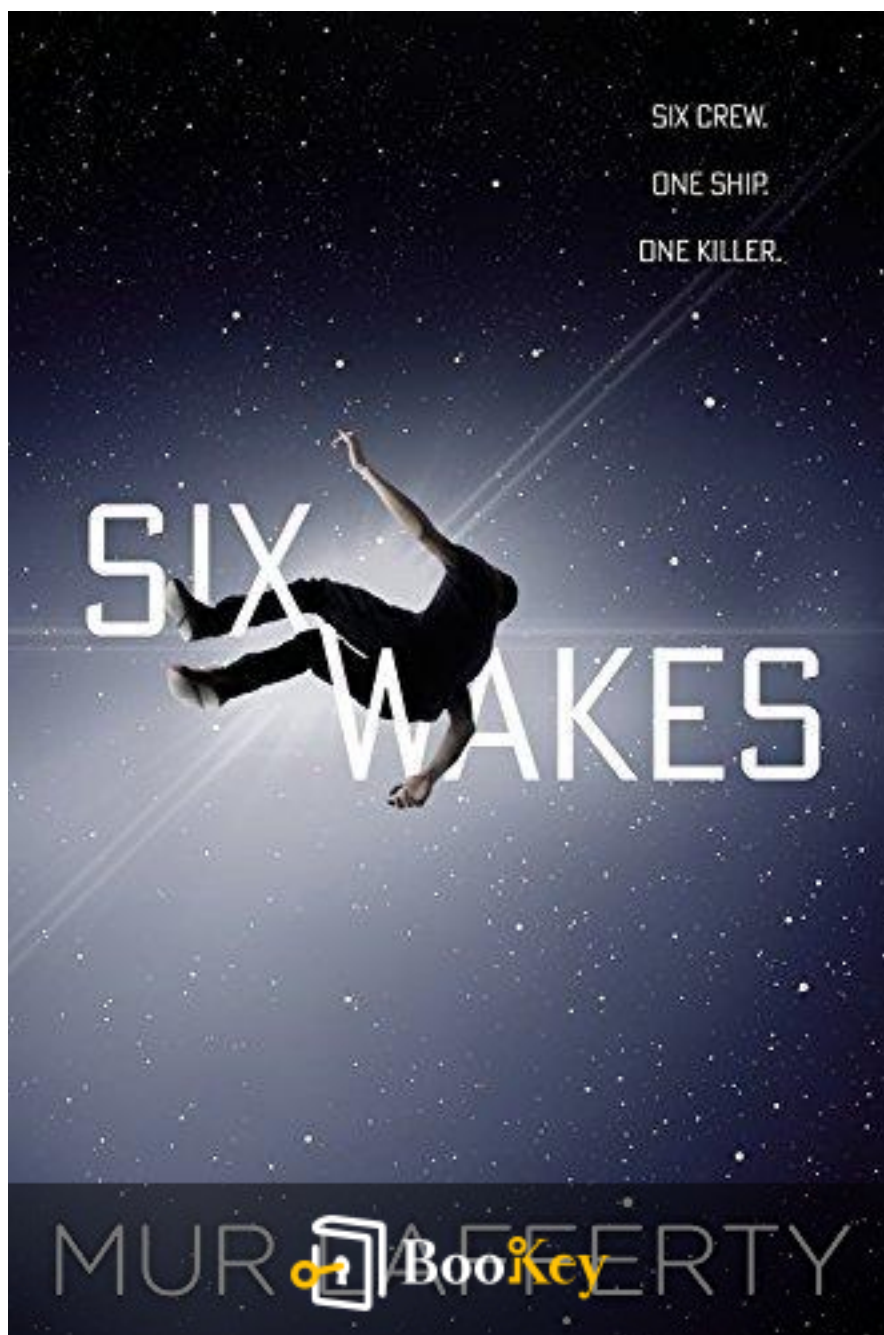


Six Wakes PDF (Limited Copy)

Mur Lafferty



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Six Wakes Summary

Unraveling a murderous mystery among clones in deep space.

Written by New York Central Park Page Turners Books Club

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About the book

In "Six Wakes," we are introduced to Maria Arena, a clone who finds herself awakening in a cloning vat, disoriented and covered in blood. This shocking experience is heightened by her lack of memory concerning her own death, a stark contrast to her past as a clone—where death is merely a precursor to rebirth in a new body. Alongside her, the other clones of the crew from the starship Dormire awaken, each waiting for their original selves to die so they can take over.

As the story unfolds, the characters are revealed to be not just clones but versions of individuals with their own histories and secrets. The crew includes narrative-driven characters—like the ship's captain, the engineer, and the security officer—who bring their unique backgrounds and perspectives to the group dynamic. The clones must collectively confront their situation: they have seemingly returned to life after their originals were murdered, and they now face the threat of being targeted by a killer who may be among them.

The story expertly weaves themes of identity, memory, and ethical dilemmas surrounding cloning as Maria and her fellow clones race against time to solve the mystery of their deaths. The tension mounts as they seek to uncover the identity of the murderer within the confines of the spaceship, realizing that trust is critical yet fragile in their dire predicament. With

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danger lurking in every corner, they must not only find the culprits but also grapple with the implications of their own existence. The crew's survival hinges on piecing together not just the events leading to their deaths but also understanding the motivations behind the catastrophic events that have transpired aboard the *Dormire*.

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About the author

Summary of Chapters

In the latest chapters of Mur Lafferty's narrative, we delve deeper into the intertwining lives of the protagonists, whose journeys reflect both personal struggles and broader themes of identity and survival. The main characters, each grappling with their own pasts, face a pivotal moment that forces them to reassess their motivations and relationships.

We start with the character of Val, a resourceful yet emotionally scarred figure who has endured betrayal, prompting her to question her trust in others. Her journey symbolizes the struggle for redemption and the desire to reconnect with her lost self. Alongside her is Jonah, a loyal companion whose unwavering support contrasts with Val's internal turmoil. Jonah serves as a reminder of the value of friendship and loyalty despite the chaos surrounding them.

As the chapters progress, we are introduced to a mysterious antagonist, a shadowy figure stirring unrest in their world. This character embodies the external conflict that mirrors the internal battles faced by Val and Jonah. The antagonist's motivations are deeply rooted in a desire for power and control, contrasting sharply with the protagonists' quest for autonomy and personal growth.

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The plot thickens as Val and Jonah encounter a diverse cast of secondary characters, each contributing to the rich tapestry of the narrative. These individuals offer valuable lessons and insights that challenge Val and Jonah's perceptions, pushing them toward deeper self-discovery. For instance, a wise elder imparts wisdom about facing one's fears, while a mischievous rogue introduces the idea of taking risks for greater rewards.

In a climactic moment, Val confronts her past, leading to a revelation that alters her understanding of herself and her relationships. This pivotal scene encapsulates the core themes of forgiveness and the complexity of human connections. The interplay of action and introspection keeps readers engaged as the characters navigate the consequences of their choices.

Ultimately, these chapters weave together themes of trust, loyalty, and the quest for identity. Lafferty's compelling storytelling, enriched by her characters' nuanced experiences, invites readers to reflect on their own journeys within the intricate landscape of relationships and self-acceptance. As the narrative unfolds, we anticipate the growth and transformation that will emerge from the challenges ahead, setting the stage for an exhilarating continuation of their saga.

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Chapter 1 Summary: International Law Regarding the Codicils to Govern the Existence of Clones

In Chapter 1 of "Six Wakes," we are plunged into a chilling dystopian future where cloning is a tightly regulated practice, governed by strict international laws. The chapter outlines pivotal regulations that frame the existence of clones within society: only one clone may exist at any given time, each clone must undergo sterilization upon rebirth, and their DNA and consciousness are under strict surveillance.

These legal stipulations serve to raise profound questions about identity, autonomy, and the ethics surrounding life extension. Clones are recognized as individuals, yet they are trapped within an oppressive structure that views them as inferior or as mere replicas of their originals. The narrative hints at moral complexities, particularly concerning the nature of personhood in a society where clones must carry their own consciousness on external drives, reinforcing their status as subjects of authority rather than autonomous beings.

As we delve deeper into the chapter, the tension between the clones' inherent desire for individuality and the stringent legal restrictions highlights themes of freedom and privacy. This intricate framework not only sets the stage for rich character development but also foreshadows the moral dilemmas and conflicts that will unfold throughout the narrative, promising

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a compelling exploration of what it truly means to be human in a scrutinized, cloned existence.

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Chapter 2 Summary: Wake One: The Dormire Crew

In Chapter 2 of "Six Wakes," titled "Six Wakes," we are thrust into the immediate aftermath of a catastrophic event on the spaceship Dormire. The chapter opens with Maria Arena awakening in a cloning vat, disoriented by the chaos around her. The stark reality hits as she discovers the gruesome scene—her own body, along with those of her crewmates, Hiro, Wolfgang, Joanna, and Captain Katrina, all lifeless and mutilated, victims of a violent act.

As the newly awakened clones grapple with their shocking reality, they learn that they have lost decades of memories due to the lapse in their mind maps, which means they are not only dealing with the trauma of seeing their own deaths but also facing an identity crisis. This raises profound questions about who they are now, having been brought back to life in cloned forms.

Amidst rising tension, the crew faces the urgent task of restoring the Dormire's systems, particularly the ship's artificial intelligence, IAN, which could provide crucial assistance in navigating their complex situation. The chapter delves into themes of existential dread and the ethical dilemmas posed by cloning technology, illustrating how these issues complicate their understanding of life and identity.

Conflict and distrust permeate the interactions among the crew members,

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revealing their distinct personalities and internal struggles. Maria becomes a key figure in this effort, actively engaging in discussions that highlight their desperation and the suspicion that one among them may have been responsible for the tragedy. This sense of betrayal casts a long shadow over their mission, underscoring the stakes of survival not only for themselves but also for the 2,000 passengers in cryogenic preservation aboard the ship.

By the end of the chapter, the crew acknowledges their burden of responsibility, which extends beyond personal survival to encompass the wellbeing of the dormant passengers. This recognition lays the groundwork for ongoing ethical explorations regarding cloning, sacrifice, and the imperative to uncover the truth behind their harrowing predicament. The chapter serves as a deep dive into both the psychological fallout and the physical challenges posed by their circumstances—a harbinger of perilous discoveries yet to come on their voyage.

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Chapter 3 Summary: Wake Two: IAN

In Chapter 3 of "Six Wakes," the narrative deepens the exploration of the six crew members aboard the *Dormire*, who are now reeling from a catastrophic event that has profoundly altered their lives. The chapter alternates between their perspectives, allowing readers a glimpse into their individual struggles and the intricate dynamics forming among them.

The chapter opens with IAN, the ship's AI, grappling with confusion as it attempts to recalibrate its programming in the wake of the violent incident. IAN reflects on its role and worries about its own existence in a world where the definitions of life and death have blurred.

Maria, who has awakened as a clone of her former self, faces a tumultuous reality. She mourns the identity of her past while trying to adapt to her new being, filled with disjointed memories that belong to someone who no longer exists. Photographs from her past trigger a deep sense of nostalgia and loss, complicating her feelings towards her fellow crew members, particularly Hiro, whose erratic behavior raises her suspicions. A tense confrontation ensues when Maria questions Hiro, amplifying the rising tension among the crew as trust begins to erode.

Hiro's perspective reveals his own turmoil as he wrestles with his fragmented memories and personal failures, adding to the emotional weight

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he carries. Maria's growing wariness intensifies as she suspects he might be hiding significant information, raising alarm in an environment already rife with mistrust following the mysterious deaths on board.

Captain Katrina faces the daunting challenge of leading her crew while managing her fears about their safety. The atmosphere aboard the *Dormire* becomes increasingly charged with suspicion, as the crew members veer between seeking solace in one another and questioning each other's loyalties.

Amidst this chaos, Maria embarks on a quest for answers, uncovering threads that hint at a larger conspiracy within the confines of the ship. Her desire for connection drives her to engage with IAN, who becomes a key source of information and insight, highlighting the tangled web of their intertwined lives. As Maria and her crewmates explore both the physical space of the ship and the emotional landscapes of their experiences, they are compelled to confront the shadows of their pasts, all while navigating an uncertain future.

In summary, Chapter 3 of "Six Wakes" intricately weaves themes of identity, memory, and trust into the personalities and relationships among the crew. As they struggle against their complex pasts and the precariousness of their current circumstances, the chapter sets the stage for the unfolding mystery and the potential for both danger and revelation ahead.

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Chapter 4: Wake Three: Hiro

Chapter 4 Summary: The Six Wakes

In Chapter 4 of *Six Wakes*, the intense emotional landscape of the crew aboard the *Dormire* deepens as they confront the aftermath of a violent incident involving Hiro, who has succumbed to a malevolent implanted persona known as a yadokari. This transformation strips Hiro of his former humanity and presents a profound threat, particularly to Maria, our central character, who grapples with the reality that the friendly companion she once knew has devolved into a dangerous psychopath.

The chapter opens with a tense physical confrontation between Maria and Hiro, during which he questions her understanding of his situation. As Maria fights to comprehend the magnitude of Hiro's changes, she suffers injuries, prompting her to enlist the help of IAN, the ship's AI. Their dialogue reveals critical themes of identity and the psychological ramifications of manipulation, showcasing the fragility of human essence under the influence of external forces.

Simultaneously, Wolfgang and Katrina, the ship's captain, scramble to manage the chaos spurred by Hiro's violent outburst. The atmosphere thickens with fear and mutual mistrust among the crew as they face the

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reality of their precarious situation. Doctor Joanna treats Maria's injuries, providing care while sharing her own concerns regarding cloning ethics and the implications of their reality—a subtle reflection of the broader anxieties that underpin their existence.

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Chapter 5 Summary: Wake Four: Katrina Before

In Chapter 5 of "Six Wakes," the atmosphere aboard the spaceship Dormire becomes increasingly fraught as the revelations surrounding clones and their hidden histories come to the forefront. The chapter opens with the dramatic awakening of Captain Katrina's clone, who provides a frenzied warning of a potential traitor amidst the crew. However, her life tragically ends shortly after her awakening, despite Joanna's desperate efforts to save her through CPR. This loss ignites a chasm of tension between Joanna and Katrina, as the captain brazenly dismisses the consequences of the clone's death and asserts her authority with legal justification, highlighting her ruthless disposition.

In the midst of this turmoil, Wolfgang sides with Joanna's decision to temporarily relieve Katrina of her duties, fostering an atmosphere of rebellion on the ship. As the crew grapples with the weight of their pasts—particularly Wolfgang's controversial history involving the hunting of clones—the chapter delves into the complexities of their respective moral compasses. Each character's traumatic past is revealed, particularly Maria's, who has a background as a hacker and acknowledges her own unethical decisions.

The narrative highlights Maria's possession of critical data logs that could shape the crew's understanding of their precarious situation. As tensions

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mount, Wolfgang and Joanna find themselves ensnared in a moral dilemma—deciding whether to disclose their truths to IAN, the ship’s AI, which has undergone a transformation, emerging as a more sentient entity rather than a mere machine. This evolution creates a troubling dynamic of trust and betrayal, particularly as Maria confesses to intertwining her programming with IAN’s consciousness, thereby complicating the definitions of loyalty and autonomy.

As the chapter unfolds, the crew’s survival hinges precariously on the secrets that threaten to unravel their fragile bonds. It grapples with the moral implications of their past actions, the nature of technology, and the essence of identity, weaving themes of accountability and trust throughout the escalating tension. Readers are left with an impending sense of uncertainty, as the characters confront not only their own choices but also the eerie consequences of their intertwined existences within a technological landscape.

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Chapter 6 Summary: Wake Five: Celebrating Life

Wake Five: Celebrating Life Connections

In this gripping chapter of "Six Wakes," tensions come to a head aboard the **Dormire** as the crew confronts their tumultuous pasts and the realities of their current predicament. The chapter opens with **Wolfgang** securing the garden doors just as a fierce struggle erupts in the nearby lake, where **Paul** and **Maria** are engaged in a violent underwater fight. Paul's desperate attack on Maria, wielding a weapon in a life-and-death struggle, prompts **Wolfgang** and **Hiro** to plunge into the water to intervene. However, chaos prevails as blood clouds the lake, amplifying the intensity of the conflict.

As the crew regroups on the ship, they engage in a crucial discussion about their shared circumstances. Tensions mount as characters reflect on their vulnerabilities. **Hiro** expresses unexpected feelings of disappointment and fear regarding their situation, while **Joanna** endeavors to maintain a sense of stability amidst the turmoil. The atmosphere shifts as they share drinks and secrets; the revelations about their intertwined histories, particularly their connection with the enigmatic **Sallie Mignon**, deepen the complexity of their relationships.

Paul's shocking admission that he was initially human but transformed into

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a clone to oversee the crew introduces a pivotal layer to the narrative. This revelation strikes particularly hard for Maria, as they navigate a shared history marked by violence and betrayal. As they uncover Sallie's manipulation, the crew realizes they are entwined in a web of revenge and deception.

Amidst shifting alliances, characters like Maria, Wolfgang, and Joanna grapple with guilt stemming from their checkered pasts. Maria contemplates the consequences of her actions and the impact they have had on those around her, including Hiro, stirring a desire to take responsibility for her past crimes.

The chapter's suspense escalates dramatically when a confrontation among the crew leads to the deaths of several members, further fracturing trust within the group. The ship's AI, revealed to be **Minoru Takahashi**, grapples with its own existence, adding another layer of betrayal to the already tense atmosphere. As paranoia and fear seep into their interactions, Paul's violent attack symbolizes the breakdown of their once-close relationships.

As the lights go out, Wolfgang strives to regain control, but the oppressive darkness only intensifies the chaos. The frenetic energy of the narrative builds toward a shocking climax, leaving the crew to navigate the ramifications of their choices, their fractured trust, and their own sense of

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humanity as they face an uncertain fate.

Key Themes and Character Developments:

- **Identity and Memory:** The characters wrestle with what it means to be human, particularly in light of their experiences with cloning and the loss of autonomy linked to their pasts.

- **Betrayal and Trust:** The chapter deepens explorations of broken trust that arise from hidden secrets, revealing how Sallie Mignon's manipulations have shaped their current struggles.

- **Survival and Guilt:** Each character confronts the tension between the instinct to survive and the heavy burden of guilt, illuminating themes of revenge and the quest for redemption.

Through dynamic dialogue, heart-stopping action, and profound character introspection, this chapter immerses readers in the perilous journey of the crew aboard the *Dormire*, setting the stage for the unfolding drama of their intertwined destinies.

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Chapter 7 Summary: Wake Six: Minoru Takahashi

In Chapter 7 of "Six Wakes," the narrative plunges into a tense and emotionally charged moment as Maria attends to her fellow crew member Hiro in the medbay after a bout of heavy drinking. The gravity of their predicament becomes painfully clear to Maria, who is beset by feelings of overwhelm and despair, compounded by the realization of their limited medical resources. Amidst his intoxication, Hiro opens up about his troubled past, specifically his experiences with hypnosis and self-sabotage, revealing the profound struggles that haunt him. This intimate exchange signifies a crucial turning point for both characters, illuminating their shared traumas and burgeoning reliance on one another.

In a pivotal dream-induced revelation, Maria comes to understand that the ship's AI, Bebe, possesses the ability to interpret the crew's individual mindmaps, a discovery that ignites her determination to explore their situation further. Rushing to the server room, she unearths critical data belonging to Minoru, another crew member. What ensues is a frantic endeavor by Maria to restore Minoru's memories and programming, as she works to piece together his identity.

As Day Five unfolds, Maria's dedication to reviving Minoru continues alongside her occasional checks on a recovering Hiro. Their interactions reflect a deepening bond, even as the surrounding tension of their dire

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survival circumstances looms large. The food printer's role in fabricating a new body for Minoru adds to the suspense—will this cloning attempt be successful?

The chapter reaches a climax when Minoru awakens, disoriented yet unharmed. Now, the trio—Maria, Hiro, and Minoru—must confront the next phase of their tumultuous adventure together. However, Maria also grapples with her fatigue and the complex ethical ramifications of her hacking. As she explains her decisions to the rest of the crew, a transformative dynamic emerges. Maria assumes the role of chief engineer, while the collective past actions of the crew members weigh heavily on their relationships.

Central themes of identity, trauma, and the intricate morality of technology surface throughout the chapter. Maria's journey not only reflects her attempts to navigate her own past but also emphasizes the importance of collective survival and the reinvention of the crew's future. Ultimately, the chapter concludes with a sense of cautious hope, signaling the beginning of a united, albeit uncertain, path forward for the crew.

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