Queensland. Fleeing her family home, 19-year-old Mary Oxnam has few prospects and no connections. Plain and penniless and living in a Brisbane boarding house. With few prospects and no connections, Oxnam is living in a state of destitution.

Mary Oxnam is a character in Judy Johnson's novel, "The Secret Fate of Mary Watson." The novel is set in the late 19th century in Far North Queensland, Australia, and revolves around the fictional life of Mary Watson, a young woman who is forced to flee her family home to escape an unwanted marriage. The novel is a thrilling tale of peril and intrigue, infused with secrets, spies, and smugglers on a remote Australian island.

The novel is part of the "Australian Women's Weekly Staff View" collection and is an unabridged edition read by Eloise Oxer. It is published by ABC Audio and is available in both print and audio formats.

The novel explores the little-known history of smuggling operations and piracy in northern Australia in the late 19th century. It is a gripping tale of a daring heroine testing her wits against a backdrop of secrets, spies, and smugglers.

The novel is a historical fiction that blends elements of adventure, mystery, and romance. It is a well-researched book that provides a glimpse into the lives of women during that time period. The book is a fascinating read for anyone interested in historical fiction and Australian history.

The novel has received positive reviews from readers and critics. It has been praised for its engaging plot, interesting characters, and vivid imagery. The Secret Fate of Mary Watson is a thrilling tale of adventure and intrigue that will keep readers on the edge of their seats.

In conclusion, "The Secret Fate of Mary Watson" is a gripping and suspenseful novel that will appeal to fans of historical fiction and those who enjoy a good mystery. It is a well-crafted book that blends historical accuracy with imaginative storytelling to create a compelling and engaging read.