SYNOPSIS OF RODDY DOYLE’S THE WOMAN WHO WALKED INTO DOORS

The story takes place in Dublin, Ireland. It is a story about a woman named Paula O’Leary, who lives her life just as she wants and then gets married to a man named Charles Spencer, or the so-called Charlo Spencer. Paula and Charlo have four children. Paula does not work; she is just a housewife, while her husband works as a builder. She is happy with Charlo until the time when she carries their first baby and then she gets hit by her husband, which changes her whole life. Paula has to put up with her husband hitting her for seventeen years. Charlo hits her so many times but Paula still wonders if she has done something wrong that makes her husband so angry that he hits her. She keeps blaming herself for that. Paula never tells anyone about the violence she gets from her husband. Every time she goes to the hospital, she says that she has walked into doors and gets injured. That way the people in the hospital know her as the woman who walked into doors. Many times Paula tries to escape from it but Charlo tells her that she cannot live without him. And then finally one day her sister Carmel makes her realize what Charlo has done to her, then one thing leads to another, she is encouraged to throw Charlo out and that leaves her to survive to live without him despite the fact that her drinking problem is getting worse, but
she has to fight it for the sake of her children. One year after Paula dumps Charlo, Charlo gets killed while escaping from the scene of the crime he has committed.

SYNOPSIS OF ANNA QUINDLEN’S BLACK AND BLUE

Black and Blue is a story that takes place in America, which tells about a woman named Fran Benedetto, who has a husband named Bobby Benedetto. They have a son named Robert. Bobby works as a police officer, while Fran works as a nurse in the emergency room of a hospital. She has to deal with women who come with bruises on their faces and she suspects them as PDA (Possible Domestic Abuse). Fran herself has to face the fact that she is also abused by her husband, Bobby. Fran has to put up with it for years because of her son, who loves his father so much.

In the hospital where Fran works, there is a woman named Patty Bancroft, who always comes to Fran’s department to see if there is a woman who needs help to get away from her husband. Six months after Fran was given Patty’s name card, Fran finally decides to contact Patty Bancroft to help her. Then, with the help of Patty, Fran gets a new identity as Elizabeth Crenshaw and moves far away with Robert to a place where she thinks Bobby will not be able to find her and their son, Robert, whom she thinks is depressed every time he sees her bruises. She lives a life as Beth Crenshaw and does things that she can never do when she is still with Bobby. In spite of the fear that she deals with every time she thinks of Bobby finding them, with her new identity as Beth Crenshaw, she meets Mike, a man whom she can feel safe with.
BIOGRAPHY OF RODDY DOYLE

Roddy Doyle was born in Dublin in 1958. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts from St. Fintan's Christian Brothers School in Sutton and continued his education at University College, Dublin. He was once a Geography and English teacher at Greendale Community School in Kilbarrack, North Dublin. His first novel, The Commitments, was published in 1987 and got much critical praise. Doyle followed The Commitments up with The Snapper in 1990, and a year later, The Van was published. These three novels were also known as the Barrytown Trilogy; moreover they were made into films. Then, he wrote a book entitled Paddy Clark Ha Ha Ha (1993), which made him win the Booker Prize - the United Kingdom’s greatest literary honor. After writing this book, he decided to be a full-time writer. In addition, he wrote a novel inspired by one of the episodes of the mini series that he wrote previously for BBC; the title of the novel is The Woman Who Walked into Doors, which was published in 1996. Both the novel and the series were critically acclaimed, but caused a stir for their realistic portrayal of domestic violence. Doyle’s most recent book is the historical novel A Star Called Henry. Today, he lives with his wife Belinda and their two children in Dublin, Ireland.

BIOGRAPHY OF ANNA QUINDLEN

Anna Quindlen is a best-selling author and a Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist. Quindlen was born on 8 July 1953. She graduated from Barnard College in New York City in 1974, where she serves on the college's Board of Trustees. Quindlen started her career in journalism as a reporter for the New York
Post in 1974. In 1977, she began working for the New York Times. Her first column was the “About New York” column, which she wrote from 1981 to 1983. In 1985, she created the “Life in the 30s” column, and then in 1990 she began writing her most well-known column, “Public and Private”. Two years later, she won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary. A collection of her New York Times columns, Thinking Out Loud, was published in 1993. In 1995, she left the Times and journalism to pursue a career as a full-time novelist. In 1988 her first book, Living Out Loud, was published by Random House as well as her first best-selling novel, Object Lessons, in 1991. Later on, other best-selling novels of hers, namely One True Thing and Black and Blue, were made into films. Black and Blue became a selection of Oprah Winfrey’s book club. In one of the interviews made, she claimed that she was a feminist. Now she stays in New York with her husband, who is a lawyer, and their three children.