



Setting Guide

.....

Here are some general pointers on the world that “The Island That Rocks” is set in.

Time Period

The events of “The Island That Rocks” occur within present day.

Location

The story takes place in the fictional and secret ‘Republic Of Concealed Keys’ (‘Republic’ or ‘ROCKS’ for short) amid an unspecified ocean in our world. It is a relatively small archipelago of 8 interlinked ‘Keys’ (small islands). The area is roughly circular, with sea and land mass similar to that of the real-life Canary Islands.

Climate

The weather brings occasional rainstorms throughout the year, coupled with hot summers and warm winters. This makes much of the archipelago verdant with sandy beaches. Exceptions are the large desert of “Key Wilder” and its high rocky permafrost mountain peak known as “Mount Kiona”, which is constantly covered in snow.

The Cyclone

This system of constant storms and dangerous currents surrounds the archipelago - cutting it off and shrouding it from our world.

The Cyclone is caused by the “Boundary” - the edge of an underwater crater over which the archipelago sits. The Boundary sits about 5 metres below sea level, making it too risky for watercraft to navigate without running aground. The highly magnetic composition of the crater also causes interference, making communications in or out of the system almost impossible.

At the time of the story, the effects of the Cyclone are weakening - possibly due to global warming disrupting the weather patterns. The isolating properties of the Cyclone are weakened further when the Spuin submarine torpedoes its way through a section of the Boundary. This event allows the first transmission of data (Chloe and George’s journal) from the ROCKS to the outside world.

Population

The Republic has a technologically and socially advanced population of around 700,000 people. It is made up of the descendants of early settlers and occasional influxes of people (initially called Outsiders) who safely cross the Cyclone - either intentionally or accidentally (as in Chloe and George’s case).

Technology

Although the ROCKS’s technology is occasionally influenced by Outsiders, the society has developed mostly independently of them. There are close parallels, but in some ways, the ROCKS is technologically more advanced than our world.

Politics

The politics of the population are not specified any further than the word “Republic” at this stage in the story. It can be assumed that there is an established democracy built from the proud but friendly citizens. However, we only get to meet a small representation of the population in the events of “The Island That Rocks”.

Clothing

Citizens dress to suit the environment they live and work in. Generally, cultures from around the world are represented with a subtle elegance - with the people of Key Wilder being a little more flamboyant than most!

Flag

The flag of the Republic Of Concealed Keys represents the 8 Keys, sustained by a central star and an infinity loop to symbolise its self-sustaining nature. See “resources” section.