

Discussion Questions

Outing the Mermaid: A Novel of Love, Fear & Misogyny by Ann Medlock



1. Do you feel as if this book changed your views on women in the 60s and 70s? Why or why not?
2. Authors like Gloria Steinem have examined the effects of misogyny on the women of New York City, both past and present. What other perspectives have you read?
3. Do you feel like *Outing the Mermaid* was an accurate reflection of the era?
4. Lee's adherence to social customs might seem controversial to us today. Pick a scene where you would have acted differently. Why?
5. What symbols did you notice that have cultural, political or religious reference?
6. Did you like Celeste's relationship with Lee? Do you have a relationship like that in your life?
7. How did you feel about Lee's relationship with her children and step-children?
8. Lee has a love / hate relationship with New York City. Do you feel that way about your city?
9. Is the ending satisfying?
10. How do you think Lee's point of view is similar or different from the author's background?
11. If you could ask the author a question, what would you ask?
12. Would you recommend this book to a friend? Why or why not?
13. Is misogyny still a problem today?

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#OutingtheMermaid

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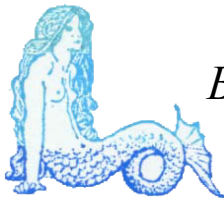


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ADDITIONAL READING

- *Misogyny Is Back. Did It Ever Go Away?* Ginia Bellafante. New York Times. Oct. 14, 2016.
<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/16/nyregion/misogyny-is-back-did-it-ever-go-away.html>.
- *Feminist Organizing After the Women's March: Lessons from the Second Wave.* Laura Tanenbaum & Mark Engler, Dissent. Jan. 25, 2017.
https://www.dissentmagazine.org/online_articles/lessons-second-wave-radical-feminism-womens-liberation-movement.
- *The Day Women Went on Strike: Aug 26, 1970.* Sascha Cohen, Time. Aug. 26, 2015.
<http://time.com/4008060/women-strike-equality-1970/>.
- *When It Comes to Women's Writing, How Do Publications Stack Up?* Lynn Neary, NPR. Feb. 26, 2014. <http://www.npr.org/2014/02/26/282600453/when-it-comes-to-womens-writing-how-do-publications-stack-up>.
- *Sexism in Publishing: 'My novel wasn't the problem, it was me, Catherine'.* Alison Flood, The Guardian. Aug. 6, 2015. <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2015/aug/06/catherine-nichols-female-author-male-pseudonym>.

Ann Medlock is the author of *Outing the Mermaid: A Novel of Love, Fear & Misogyny*, as well as a collection of poetry called *Arias, Riffs & Whispers*. She is also the founder of the Giraffe Heroes Project, working to encourage people to stick their necks out for the common good.



Book Clubs are invited to Skype with the author.

Inquire at outingthemermaid@gmail.com, or call 929.367.6527.

Remember to share a photo of yourself reading the book, or leave a comment!

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