



Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine Gail Honeyman

Discussion Questions

1. How do you think you would have treated Eleanor if she had been your work colleague? What do you think the world is like for those who are often seen as 'different' or 'difficult'?
2. "Today, it was 'Top of the World' by The Carpenters. That beautiful voice... she sounds so blissful, so full of love. Lovely, lucky Karen Carpenter." Why do you think Eleanor described Karen Carpenter as 'lucky'?
3. "All the studies show that people tend to take a partner who is roughly as attractive as they are; like attracts like, that is the norm." Do you agree?
4. How does the novel deal with the idea of grief? Who does Eleanor grieve for?
5. "I feel sorry for beautiful people. Beauty, from the moment you possess it, is already slipping away, ephemeral. That must be difficult." Do you think there is any truth in this? How do you feel about beautiful people?
6. "If I knew one thing about romance, it was that the perfect moment for us to meet and fall in love would arrive when I least expected it, and in the most charming set of circumstances." Has this ever happen to you? Where do you think Eleanor has culled this idea from and is this sort of romantic ideal harmful or harmless?
7. "That's the thing: it's *best* just to take care of yourself." Is there truth in this?
8. "I suppose one of the reasons we're able to continue to exist for our allotted span in this green and blue vale of tears is that there is always, however remote it might seem, the possibility of change." Is this the main theme of the novel?
9. "Grief is the price we pay for love, so they say. The price is far too high." Discuss.
10. Why do you think Eleanor is the way she is? Do you think this is a result of nature or nurture?





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About the Author

While Gail Honeyman was writing her debut novel, *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*, it was shortlisted for the Lucy Cavendish Fiction Prize as a work in progress. It has subsequently sold to almost thirty territories worldwide, and it was chosen as one of the Observer's Debuts of the Year for 2017.

Gail was also awarded the Scottish Book Trust's Next Chapter Award in 2014, and has been shortlisted for the Bridport Prize.

This book is available for download as an eBook and an eAudiobook. For more information, please visit lpl.overdrive.com or call 519-661-4600.