

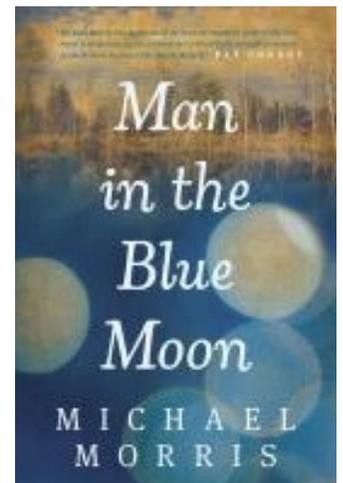


Man in the Blue Moon

Michael Morris

Discussion Questions

1. How did you experience the book? Were you engaged immediately, or did it take you a while to "get into it"? How did you feel reading it—amused, sad, disturbed, confused, bored...?
2. Describe the main characters—personality traits, motivations, and inner qualities. Why do characters do what they do? Are their actions justified? Describe the dynamics between characters (in a marriage, family, or friendship). How has the past shaped their lives?
3. Are the main characters dynamic—changing or maturing by the end of the book? Do they learn about themselves, how the world works and their role in it?
4. Discuss the plot. Is it engaging—do you find the story interesting? Is this a plot-driven book—a fast-paced page-turner? Does the plot unfold slowly with a focus on character? Were you surprised by complications, twists & turns? Did you find the plot predictable, even formulaic?
5. Talk about the book's structure. Does the time-line move forward chronologically? Does time shift back & forth from past to present? Is there a single viewpoint or shifting viewpoints? What difference does the structure make in the way you read or understand the book?
7. What passages strike you as insightful, even profound? Perhaps a bit of dialog that's funny or poignant or that encapsulates a character? Maybe there's a particular comment that states the book's thematic concerns?
8. Is the ending satisfying? If so, why? If not, why not...and how would you change it?





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About the Author

A fifth-generation native of Perry, Florida, Michael Morris knows Southern culture and characters. They are the foundation and inspiration for the stories and novels he writes. Michael started his career as a pharmaceutical sales representative and began writing in the evenings. The first screenplay he penned is still someplace in the bottom of a desk drawer.

While studying under author Tim McLaurin, Michael started the story that would eventually become his first novel, *A Place Called Wiregrass*. The debut book won the Christy Award for Best First Novel. Michael's second novel, *Slow Way Home*, was compared to the work of Harper Lee and Flannery O'Connor by the *Washington Post*. It was nationally ranked as one of the top three recommended books by the American Booksellers Association and named one of the best novels of the year by the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

Publishers Weekly named his latest novel, *Man in the Blue Moon*, a best book of 2012 -- calling it "a magical and mesmerizing page-turner...with overtones of Flannery O'Connor and the rural Florida backdrop of *Their Eyes Were Watching God*." *Man in the Blue Moon* was also an Indie Next List book club selection -- ranking number three on the independent bookseller association's list of recommended reads.

A finalist for the Southern Book Critics Circle Award, Michael's essays have appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Dallas Morning News* and the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*. Michael is a graduate of Auburn University and holds an MFA in Creative Writing from Spalding University. He lives in Alabama with his wife, Melanie.

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