



The Reel Sisters

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A naked girl gets swept downstream and is fished out by four women fly fishers. Tales of adventure, as well as stories of renewal, discovery, and tragedy follow the five women as they find each other (and themselves) through the sport of fly fishing.

Through the voice of each character, *The Reel Sisters* fosters the notion that fly fishing has the potential to transcend age, gender, culture, and even socioeconomic barriers, and can occasionally be the glue that binds us.

The Reel Sisters is a story about the power of women friendships, and how we learn a little bit about ourselves each time we step into the river. By the end of the book, you'll want to start planning your own *Reel Sisters* adventures.

The Reel Sisters Details

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From Reader Review The Reel Sisters for online ebook

Valerity (Val) says

Friendship is a strong part of most everyone's life. And in this story, it plays a very pivotal role. Among a group of women friends, fly fishing also plays a strong part, which at first seems strange. But as you will find, it's as natural as breathing for them. I found this book to be a lot of fun, and as I got into it, hard to put down as I got to know and care about the friends. I wanted to see what was going to happen next with them and stayed up far too late to find out. While I learned a bit more about fly fishing than I'll ever need to know, the interplay between the 'girls' made up for it with humor and warmth. A very well crafted story that I was pleased to win a digital copy of on Goodreads from the author, Michelle Cummings.

Julia says

I am very passionate about fly fishing, so when the opportunity fell in my lap to hear the author, a fly fisher herself, talk about how this book came to be as well as how fly fishing plays an important part in her life and in the story, I knew I had to read this book. I waited to finish reading, after I had been to Salida and Coaldale, CO and fished the Arkansas River for the first time, myself.

While this is a novel, the characters are quite real. I found myself thinking this character is like so-and-so in my life. I even found that fly fishing was a character as well. The experiences the women mastered/endured/suffered truly exist with fly fishers--regardless the gender. There are the days when I quit fishing because I have caught more than my body has the strength to catch. There are those days where I've been skunked; other days, offered the fish of a lifetime, all of which the author shares with readers via her characters and the emotions that accompanies those situations. Then, Cummings accurately portrays the settings where fly fishers find themselves--the boulders, the currents, swift waters, slow waters, hikes to out-of-the way, isolated spots--this is a novel with so many accuracies of real life, that it was easy to picture the views, the sounds, the smells, and the feelings associated with fly fishing, catching fish, or the frustration of not, releasing fish, tying flies, catching fish with personally tied flies with rods personally built, that it was surreal. At times, this reads as a novel, and at times, it reads as vignettes.

Some of the characters readers will bond with instantly; others may take awhile to enjoy. Regardless, there are aspects of each character with which fly fishers and outdoor enthusiasts can relate easily, even if one has only pondered learning fly fishing. For new fly fishers, there is much sage advice. For experienced fly fishers, there are so many call-to-mind memories, that sometimes laughter or tears are for what has actually happened to the reader, as well as the character in the story.

Regrettably, there is some language that precludes this novel for high school students and less mature audiences, regardless the quality of the novel. Even though it existed, I learned to skim over this aspect, as I felt the read was worth the roughness of one of the characters, who did scale back her language as the story progressed.

I am excited about and looking forward to the sequel!

Linda says

Female Friendships With A Hook

Five women bond over the sport of fly fishing. I liked that they were very different people who might not have become friends except that they enjoyed time on the river together. I learned a lot about fly fishing, and enjoyed the setting in Colorado. I've visited Salida and the Wet Mountain Valley. It's beautiful country! I hope there's a second book to tell us what happens to the characters after the shocking ending.

Veline says

I really wanted to like this book. My husband is a fly fisherman, so I know the terminology, as well as the excitement of actually fly fishing. I liked all the characters and enjoyed their back stories, but felt none of them was well developed enough to really care about. I was especially surprised that when a tragedy happened, I couldn't feel any real emotion for any of them. I didn't feel real emotion coming from them, it just all seemed very contrived just for the author's purpose of sharing a message. Potential, definitely, just not enough delivery on character development.

Mahoghani 23 says

Sex and the City move over! Now we have a real foursome (soon five) group of women that are truly concerned and care about each other in a Biblical sense and not in a fashion, sexual excursions, and New York sense. They meet for weekends of camaraderie, fly fishing, relaxation, girl talk and wine (not specifically in any type of order). Meet Rose, Sophie, Veronica, and Amanda. On the first weekend together, once the snow has cleared, they're fly fishing at Rose's cabin when they hear screams coming from upstream. The screams are from a naked woman, the fifth and new member to be added to the group, Melody. Each woman has a strength that helps each other and a story to tell about themselves. Each woman narrates her own story and how she interacts with the other women. There's no negativity, only positive energy flowing throughout the book. These women will describe to you the positive impact that this sport has had in their lives, the uncanny friendships they've developed over the years and how much each one of them means to the other person.

Rose is the Matriarch of the group and has taught each woman the basics about fly fishing. She has an uncanny sense to figure out what each woman may need without asking questions and she willingly helps everyone she comes into contact with. She never utters a negative word or even possesses a negative thought process. She's fighting the guilt of losing something she treasured more than her life and Melody's naked entrance to the group brought it back to the surface. She keeps having flashbacks to that terrible event that caused her such tremendous pain. Sophia is the loner of the group and wishes she could locate someone that loves her as much as she sees the love shared between Amanda and Veronica with their spouses. She owns her own greenhouse and donates food and her time to the community. Veronica is the outspoken, determined, self-sufficient woman of the group that never believed in a million years that she would be fly fishing. She's married to Thatcher (whom is a successful restaurateur) and owns her own company that coaches female executives to become better leaders. Veronica's past is playing with her determination, drive and possibly guilt and shame. Amanda is a middle school teacher with two toddlers and married to Mike. She's dealing with the stress of having a husband deployed in Afghanistan, their two children, her job and

the tight budget they're on to make ends meet. Melody is a fantastic photographer with insecure issues of her own. Not sure if she wants to live her life pleasing her parents or live her life pleasing herself. She's a very artistic woman in music and photography and has no idea which direction she wants to head in.

I rate this book [b]3 out of 4[/b] stars. The name of the book catches your attention. I first thought we were talking about movie makers (without looking at the photo on the book cover). I enjoyed the author's introduction of the women in the story and explaining how they became involved with fly fishing as well as becoming very close friends. She did a wonderful job describing the women's personalities. The story took off once Melody entered the picture and never slowed down. The book is filled with humor, real life circumstances and the introductions to the sections prepared you for what you were about to learn next about each individual.

I did not enjoy the beginning of the story. There was a lot of background information concerning fly fishing that you had to read in order to get to the story. The first section was long-winded and dragging in the beginning. The author spent a lot of time talking about Caddis and where the fish may bite. I had to stop reading the book to look up the word to understand what the author was talking about. It was a little too much background information that can deter a reader from maintaining interest in the book or finishing it. There were a few punctuation errors concerning commas, semicolon, and the usage of apostrophes in front of a partial year with the "s" included but not enough to hinder the storyline the author was portraying.

The storyline correlates these women and fly fishing to the circle of life. No one understands why things happen. We just know they happen for a reason. The story was heartfelt, sincere and painful. You understood where these ladies were coming from and shared the pain, embarrassment, desires, fears and love. These things the author was able to put into the story and for the reader to grasp the intent of the author.

RM(Alwaysdaddygirl) Griffin (alwaysdaddyprincess) says

Do you love fly-fishing? If so, read Reel Sisters by Michelle Cummings. This is a story about five different women of different ages. Each of these ladies has a journey of self-discovery.

These women come together over fly-fishing. If it were not for fly-fishing, they would probably never have met. The bond they create is strong, and it shows the meaning of true friendship and the importance of friendships. This is one reason why I like the book.

The book also gives a lot of information about fly-fishing and explains how it is different from regular fishing. Indeed, one learns enough about fly-fishing from the book to start a new hobby. Also, the geographical setting the author describes is so beautiful that you can picture yourself there reeling or exploring. That is the second reason why I like this book.

While I prefer regular fishing, this book did make me give fly-fishing a second thought. I also like how the author provides in-depth information (after the story) for anyone looking to find a fishing club and gear. The author's notes section is also very informative.

The book is paced well, which not only helped me bond with the characters but also kept my interest. Each chapter in the book is told from the perspective of one of the five women. It is hard to decide who my favorite character is, but if I have to choose, it would have to be a tie between Amanda and Rose. Amanda is a military spouse, and I have deep respect for our military. Rose is like a second mom.

The ending comes with a surprise. There are no cliffhangers. I think it would be interesting to follow these characters in a second book. They are well developed, and the ending makes you wonder what the future has in store for these ladies. You want to see what happens next for them after they each finish their own personal journey.

I would recommend this book to any gal or guy who wants to learn about the true value of friendships and, of course, to anyone who likes fly-fishing. Given the strong story of friendship in the book, I think the grammatical errors can be overlooked. (Some sentences require editing and polishing.) The book's focus on the value of friendships and the meanings of true friends is why I give this book four stars. If this site's reviews were based on a five-star system like on Amazon, I would give it five stars.

Yolimari García says

Marvelous Book About Fly Fishing and Friendship

The Reel Sisters by Michelle Cummings is a marvelous and touching book about fly fishing and friendship. The story centers around a diverse group of women who practice the sport of fly fishing and share a strong sisterhood. The book also offers detailed information about fly fishing. Colorado, particularly a cabin next to the Arkansas River, is the gorgeous and organic setting of the story.

It was a joy reading this story. Each of the characters has a life story and personality. The story is narrated in present tense from the perspective of each of the women. The pace of the novel is tranquil and slow, which matches the natural setting and ambience of the novel.

I recommend this beautiful book to those who love reading about fly fishing, friendship, strong female characters, and nature.

Echo Haapala says

Beautiful and Captivating

I gave this book a 5 star rating because the character development is superb. Each woman has a unique personality, quirks and life story. It is so well written that it makes you feel as though you are a part of the fly fishing crew. The author kept me fascinated throughout the entire book left me broken-hearted with the conclusion.

I would recommend this book to women of all ages. I do believe that there will be a story or stories within this book that every reader will be able to resonate with.

♥ Joy Joy ♥ says

A Must Read At Least Once In Your Life Book.

From page 1 the flow of the book was so smooth that it wasn't until pages later I realized just how hooked into the story I had become. The writing was impeccable with great imagery for the scenes and the little stories dotted here and there as the reader was introduced to each of the characters.

Overall, the characters diversity in age, their introduction and take to fly fishing, life situations and strengths and weaknesses played well together and truly enhanced the story as it continued. I also found myself enjoying the basic walkthroughs on various situations, which was surprising. Many books that attempt to explain certain things end up becoming tedious and losing that immersive quality. But with this book - whether it was about peeing, details on fabric chosen for quilts, or how to chop wood, the author managed to weave these things into the story so well that I didn't mind it at all.

The events leading up to the rescue and the rescue itself were captivating. I really couldn't explain or describe it in a way that would do it justice without just spoiling it. My eyes were glued to the pages and I wouldn't have been able to put it down if I wanted to. I actually felt my heart rate pick up a bit as I anxiously rooted for the women to not just save Melody but to remain safe doing it...although I admit I laughed hard at Sophie's reaction of "Jesus, you're naked!" I love that character so much!

Simple yet powerful. I think that's the best way to describe this book. The characters, the introduction, the ups and downs of life that unfold in the story, and even the tragedy that they all end up facing. It is a powerfully impacting story of life that will grip you up until the end.

P.S. Keep an extra box of tissues handy...just in case.

Karen Kasson says

I loved this book! Many people would think it is about fly-fishing, but I have to disagree. I think it is all about friendships. The love and care the women had for each other transcend fly-fishing, other hobbies, jobs, distance and marital status. While they learn to be authentic and real with each other they go fly-fishing. The author allows us the opportunity to watch them open up and share their chaotic and adventurous lives. I could just imagine myself somewhere in the Rocky Mountains next to a swiftly flowing river, watching the gracefulness of a fly-fisher. I found myself wanting to learn how to fly-fish right alongside them. I recommend it to any woman who wants a good read. While there is some technical jargon that I had to wade through because I am not a fly-fisher, I felt it was definitely worth the read.

Molly Anna says

Every so often in the wild of Colorado, near the Arkansas River, four women meet to share wine, food, stories, laughter, and, of course, their love of fly fishing. One such meeting, however, they end up fishing out more than just fish. Melody, a young Goth photographer, finds herself freezing and naked, flailing uncontrollably down the river, but she is quickly rescued by the four fishing friends. From that point forward, the five ladies come to share every heartache, triumph, worry, and secret in their lives.

I found this novel to be delightful and enjoyed reading about the unique relationships these women had. Melody was, by far, my favorite character, and I found myself wishing that the whole book could have been from her perspective. The changing point of view among the women was a pet peeve for me. Unfortunately, however, there was another aspect that I really didn't like: the dialogue and storytelling more often than not tended to be sickly sweet and too quaint. Main complaints aside, however, I grew to like this book and would

recommend you give out a try if reading about close-knit friends appeals to you. Added bonus: learning about fly fishing!

Please read my full, official review here: <https://forums.onlinebookclub.org/vie...>

Mfc Casey says

Fly Girls

Good first book from a woman who loves her subject matter: fly fishing! I think the author could have done a little more with the subject if she had chosen to write a memoir instead of a fiction feel good story of a group of women brought together by their love of fly fishing. I did learn a little about the sport, and her descriptions are vivid and living.

Becca McCulloch says

As lovely and ponderous as fly fishing

My dad, an avid fly fisherman, recently died. I grabbed this book to feel close to him and it didn't disappoint. The descriptions of fishing and life outdoors with all its marvels and pains were perfect. The characters bloomed too life like flowers in spring, not too fast, maybe a little too slow, but beautiful once fully unfolded.

On the down side, very little happens in this book. The characters themselves experience little change. The one bit of drama hit me heart center but I also resented it. By the point it arrived, I'd been lulled into a sense of security.

Though, I suppose, that's also part of life on a river. Peaceful and perfect until the river takes control and you have to face the unseen dangers. So maybe this is the perfect female companion book to *A River Runs Through It*. Or maybe it's just the right book to read when the rivers are frozen over and your fly fishing gear waits for spring.

Melvs Camasis says

This book is a work of Women's Fiction. A story of six friends joined together because of their fascination over fly fishing. Though they were intertwined by their same interest, the twist and turns of each other's lives have made them much closer than friends. They became real sisters in reeling-in what life has got to offer for them.

Read more on the link below...

<http://www.melvs.me/reviews/review-of...>

Shahnaz B. Ahmed says

Heartwarming in so many ways

The first two pages got me hooked and smiling. Somehow there's a realism about these characters and their relationships that speak to me. Maybe it's my age but it's written with the yearning of a woman. We all hope for such friendships and you are fortunate to have what these girls in the book had.
