

BOOK CLUB in a bag

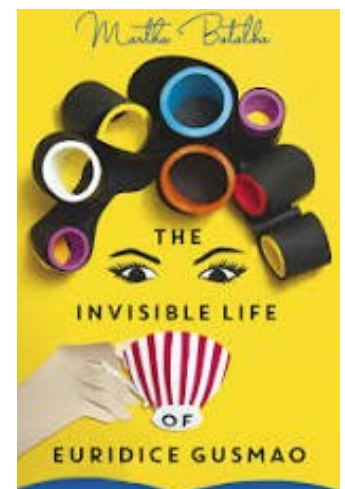


The Invisible Life of Euridice Gusmao

Martha Batalha

Discussion Questions

1. The novel is set in 1940's Brazil, was it difficult to transport yourself to that time and place? How much did you know about Brazil before reading this novel?
2. The author used many real life stories and people in the book, such as famous poets and artists. Did this book make you want to look into any of them? Did you discover something new?
3. In "Dear Readers", Martha Batalha writes that you can still meet women like Euridice and Guida today. Do you know women like Euridice, Guida, Zelia, or any of the others? Do you see your own life reflected in their stories?
4. One of the themes the author explores is the invisibility and silencing of women. How are the different female characters silenced? Which story stuck with you the most?
5. The life of Euridice's housemaid, Maria das Dores, is invisible to the reader, and to Euridice herself. Why do you think that is? How do you imagine their relationship is like?
6. Contrast the different ways Marcos' and Guida's parents reacted to their children coming back home after marrying in secret. Why do you think their reactions were so different?
7. Do you think Antenor or other male characters in the book would react in the same way Antonio did, when Zelia came to tell him "the truth" about his new wife?
8. Are there lingering questions from the book you're still thinking about?
9. Have you watched the movie the based on the book, "The Invisible Life", available on Kanopy through LPL? Was it a faithful adaptation?
10. Would you want to read another book by this author?



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About the Author

Martha Batalha studied journalism and literature in Brazil, working first as a reporter before starting her own publishing company. *The Invisible Life of Euridice Gusmao* is her first novel. Martha lives in Santa Monica, California, with her husband and two children. Eric M. B. Becker is editor of world literature journal *Words without Borders* and a translator of literature from Portuguese into English. He lives in New York.

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