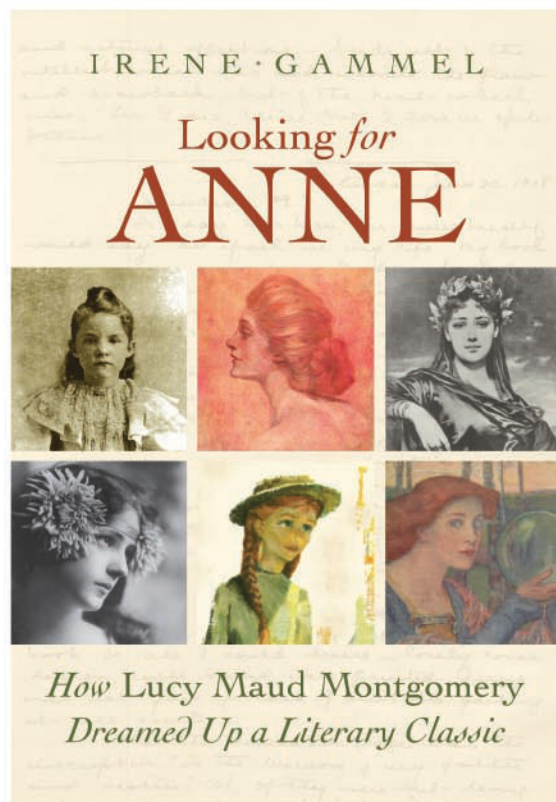


Reading Guide for Book Clubs and Students

Looking for Anne by Irene Gammel

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. How does *Looking for Anne* challenge the conventional wisdom about a beloved children's classic?
2. To what extent were Maud's mother's early death and her distanced relationship with her father responsible for the trajectory of her writing?
3. Why did the bosom friends play such a central role in *Anne of Green Gables*? How do they affect us today?
4. Discuss L. M. Montgomery's propensity for seeking a better reality in writing fiction. Was this impulse escapist or empowering?
5. "But if you call me Anne please call me Anne spelled with an e," Anne famously says in the novel. Discuss the irony of these lines.
6. Which imaginative influences from the glossy metropolitan magazines do you find most fascinating? Why?
7. Anne Shirley is a nostalgic character and yet she also possesses profoundly modern sensibilities. Discuss.
8. In the novel, Anne says to her friend Diana, "There's such a lot of different Annes in me. I sometimes think that is why I'm such a troublesome person." Discuss.
9. How does Lucy Maud Montgomery construct herself from shy Cavendish scribbler to celebrity author? What elements of her personality enable this public role?
10. What does the rejection of *Anne of Green Gables* and her subsequent engagement to Ewan Macdonald suggest about their relationship?
11. What aspects of *Looking for Anne* did you find most surprising or noteworthy? Why?
12. How do the discoveries of *Looking for Anne* affect Montgomery's legacy as an author of national significance? Discuss.



For more information on readings, events, and the national exhibit tour ***Anne of Green Gables: A Literary Icon at 100*** curated by Irene Gammel during the centenary year in Prince Edward Island, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, and Vancouver

www.annecentenary.com



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