

The Reel Sisters by Michelle Cummings is a book about five women of different ages who meet on a fly-fishing trip to Rose's cabin on the Arkansas River. Meet Sophie, the farm and greenhouse owner who also happens to be married to Thatcher, an entrepreneur. Veronica runs a successful business and is married to Thatcher. Amanda, the school teacher, and mother of two adorable kids. Melody accidentally fell into the river while fly fishing with the group of women. The story takes us on a roller-coaster ride of love and friendship, betrayal, and glimpses into women's lives from a realistic perspective. These women are ordinary ladies running jobs, businesses, and their homes. They laugh together, care for each other, eat, fly, and fish together. They lift each other during their trials and troubles.

I enjoyed this book. The plot was very well written, and I could relate to the characters. They all want to be in each other's company and enjoy having 'me time.' The writer has realistically woven each character in this book. Ms. Cummings has taken a good lot of time to write this masterpiece. Her efforts seem visible reading through this book. What I most loved about the book was her breaking of the sections with the actual quotes from the fly-fishing books. They are not just lessons of the sport of fly fishing; they are life lessons taught in a light, playful manner. Rose's character seemed like a motherly one who cared for and trained each woman like a child. She even sensed it like a mother when and how to provide life advice to her friends. Whether it was Sophie or Melody, she guided them with sincerity.

The only thing I disliked about this book was that there was a lot of background information concerning fly fishing that you had to read to get to the story. The first section was long-winded and dragging in the beginning. The author spent much time discussing Caddis flies and where the fish may bite. I had to stop reading the book to look up what a Caddis fly was because I needed to understand what she was talking about without looking it up first on Google or Wikipedia. It was too much background information for me to enjoy reading about because she could have condensed it into fewer paragraphs without losing anything from her story or causing confusion among readers who have never fished.

The Reel Sisters by Michelle Cummings is a tale of friendship and committed couples. It is a book that can be enjoyed by women and men alike, as it deals with the day-to-day problems women face worldwide. The plot, characterization, and narration all sounded perfect, per the book's requirements. The writer has done full justice to all the characters in the book. This book is 4 out of 5 because it is so well-composed and edited.

This is a book I recommend to ladies of all ages. Every reader will find at least one or more stories in this book with which to connect with their lives.