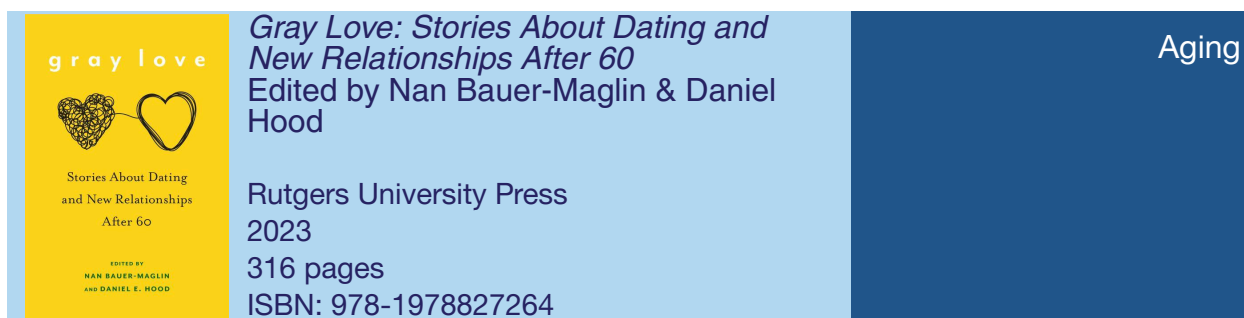


Discussion Guide



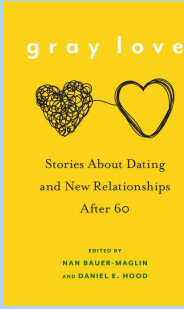
Summary

Gray Love narrates stories about the most common themes – searching for and (perhaps) finding love. Forty-five men and women between ages 60 and 94 from diverse backgrounds talk about dating, starting or ending a relationship, embracing life alone or enjoying a partnered one. The longing for connection as old age encroaches is palpable here, with more and more senior singles searching online. Those who find new partners explore issues that most relationships encounter at any age, as well as some that are unique to elder relationships. These include having had previous partners and a complicated and deep personal history; family and friends' reactions to an older person's dating; alternative models to marriage (such as sharing space or living apart); having more than one partner at the same time; one's aging body, appearance, and sexuality; and the pressure of time and the specter of illness and death.

Questions

1. What were your initial impressions of *Gray Love*? Do you think there is value in this kind of collection of stories?
2. What did you like most about the book? What did you like least?
3. Of the forty-five contributors to the book, thirteen were men and thirty-two were women. What do you make of this discrepancy? What other demographics might be missing here?
4. Did a particular contribution stand out to you? What about it made it noteworthy?
5. Are there topics or issues you wish the book had addressed but didn't?
6. Have you read any other books, or other media, about the love-lives of people over 60? How did *Gray Love* compare?
7. As noted in the introduction, many of these stories and experiences reflect a pre-pandemic world. What about dating has changed since 2020? Do you think any of those changes have been particularly important to the 60+ crowd?
8. Would you recommend *Gray Love* to a friend? Why or why not?
9. Do you have a story about dating over 60? Are you willing to share it with the group? Would you have been willing to contribute to an anthology like this one?

Discussion Guide

	<p><i>Gray Love: Stories About Dating and New Relationships After 60</i> Edited by Nan Bauer-Maglin & Daniel Hood</p> <p>Rutgers University Press 2023 316 pages ISBN: 978-1978827264</p>	Aging
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10. What could society do to help people - of any age - find and maintain stable relationships?
11. What questions do you have after reading this book? How could you find answers?