

# Love and Miss Communication

by Elyssa Friedland

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## About the Book

Evie Rosen has had enough. She's tired of the partners at her law firm emailing her at all hours of the night. The thought of another online date makes her break out in a cold sweat. She's over the clever hashtags and the endless selfies. So when her career hits a surprising roadblock and her heart is crushed by Facebook, Evie decides it's time to put down her smartphone for good. (Beats stowing it in her underwear --- she's done that too!)

And that's when she discovers a fresh start for real conversations, fewer distractions and living in the moment, even if the moments are heartbreakingly difficult. Babies are born; marriages teeter; friendships are tested. Evie just may find love and a new direction when she least expects it, but she also learns that just because you unplug your phone doesn't mean you can unplug from life.

## Discussion Guide

1. How do you feel about Evie's dismissal from Baker & Smith? Do you think it was justified? How much time do you spend on personal matters during the workday? What do you consider excessive?
2. Evie's previous boyfriend, Jack, says he doesn't believe in marriage, yet she pursues a relationship with him and continues to pine after him long after they break up. Why do we always want what we can't have?
3. Have you ever been tempted to quit the Internet, or at least quit social media? Evie says she knows that what she sees online is not reality, yet it still upsets her. Do you have similar negative reactions to social media?
4. Evie yearns for Bette's approval in her life. Do you think she shares Bette's traditional worldview more than she'd like to admit? Does this shape the choices she makes?

5. Before going on dates with men, Evie uses Google to her advantage. Do you think she should have regrets about her former dating habits, or is it a safe rule of thumb to know your date? Do you believe Evie and Edward would have gotten together if she had, in fact, Googled him?
6. What are the top three dating tips that you would share with Evie from your own personal experience?
7. Evie struggles with being the only single one in her group of close friends. Do you think she handles it well? Do you think it's possible for friends to be close when their situations in life are so different?
8. There is a recurring theme of jealousy and self-absorption throughout the novel. Are there any times that you may have let jealousy, especially fueled by social stalking, get the better of you? Discuss the ways Evie may or may not have evolved by the end of the book.
9. Fran is the ultimate mother --- supportive, loving and not judgmental. Yet Evie seems closer to Bette. Why do you think that is?
10. In marrying Edward, Evie will become a stepmother to Olivia. Do you think she is ready for that role?
11. What do you think about the Steve Jobs quote at the beginning of the novel? Is technology really 'nothing'?
12. Do you think Evie was particularly addicted to technology, or is that the way most people are 'wired' these days?
13. Aunt Susan tells Evie that life is better with complication, and Evie dismisses the comment. Do you agree more with Susan or with Evie?
14. Do you believe Evie could have had a happily ever after with either Jack or Edward? Or is there only one right person for her?

## Author Bio

Elyssa Friedland is the acclaimed author of JACKPOT SUMMER, THE MOST LIKELY CLUB, LAST SUMMER AT THE GOLDEN HOTEL, THE FLOATING FELDMANS, THE INTERMISSION and LOVE AND MISS COMMUNICATION. Elyssa is a graduate of Yale University and Columbia Law School and currently teaches novel writing at Yale. She lives with her husband and three children in New York City, the best place on earth.

## Critical Praise

'A witty, wonderful, and thoroughly modern love story. Friedland's writing is sharp and funny, tender and true. I couldn't put it down.'

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