

Tex Miller Is Dead
Written by Kelly Elizabeth Huston
www.kellyelizabethhuston.com
Book Club Discussion Starters



Hello dear reader! Formulating such academic questions about what I hope is a fun and frothy escape from “real life” was harder than I thought it would be. Please forgive me if I’m expecting too much of my fiction. TEX was a super fun catapult out of my own writing slump and my aim in my *brief career* has always been to entertain. I hope you were.

xo, Kelly

Humor and Satire: "Tex Miller Is Dead" is infused with humor and satire, particularly in its portrayal of the publishing industry, fandom culture, and celebrity obsession. What role does humor play in the novel, and how does it contribute to its overall tone and themes? Are there any specific comedic moments or satirical elements that stood out to you?

The Nature of Endings: As the title suggests, "Tex Miller Is Dead" grapples with the idea of endings and closure, both in terms of Callie's decision to conclude the Tex Miller series and her own personal journey. How does the novel explore the significance of endings, both in fiction and in real life? Do you find the conclusion satisfying, and why or why not? How does it reflect the themes and character development explored throughout the story?

Metafiction and Narrative Layers: "Tex Miller Is Dead" is a metafictional novel that delves into the intricacies of storytelling and the relationship between authors and their characters. How does the inclusion of Tex Miller as a fictional character within Callie Austin's own narrative add depth to the story? What commentary does it offer on the nature of fiction and the role of authors as both creators and characters within their own tales?

Exploring Identity: Throughout the novel, Callie Austin grapples with her identity as both an author and a person. How does her decision to kill off Tex Miller reflect her own internal struggles and desire for change? In what ways do you think her journey mirrors the process of self-discovery that many people go through in their lives?

The Impact of Technology: The novel is set against the backdrop of technological advancements, including the rise of streaming services and social media. How does technology shape the characters' experiences and interactions throughout the story? In what ways does it facilitate or complicate their pursuit of personal and professional fulfillment?

Casting: I don't cast my characters, particularly the principal ones (much like TEX, they are too “real” for me to attach other faces to) but I love to hear what readers see when reading my words.