

Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine: facilitator notes

BiblioFiend | Version 1.0 | 15 October 2026

Whole-book spoilers. Facilitation notes, not an answer key.

Opening lens

Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine begins with a firm routine. Eleanor has clear views about how other people behave. Readers may notice a gap between her account and what a scene shows. That gap is a useful place to start. The group need not give Eleanor a clinical label to discuss her voice.

Evidence method

Find an early claim Eleanor makes about being fine. Put it beside a later scene that changes how the claim sounds. Ask which words now seem different and why. Keep that change in view as the group talks. The ending need not turn every earlier detail into one simple answer.

Minutes	Task	Book-specific starting point
0-5	Scope and pass option	Which early routine made Eleanor's days feel most clearly defined?
5-15	Opening reaction	What small mismatch between Eleanor's account and another person's response first caught your attention?
15-30	People and relationships	How does Raymond's manner of offering company differ from an attempt to improve or instruct her? Which action best shows the difference?
30-45	Narrative choices	What happens to the humor as the account of the past changes? Name a moment that asks the reader to adjust their response.
45-55	The ending	Does the ending offer a transformed person or a person with new room to act? What detail keeps that distinction open?

Minutes	Task	Book-specific starting point
55-60	One remaining question	Close on one modest change in Eleanor's way of living. A small difference may say more about the ending than a sweeping claim that everything is now fixed.

Group 1 chapter cue

Bring an early routine chapter and note its repeated details.

Group 2 chapter cue

Locate a chapter where an ordinary shared task changes a relationship.

Group 3 chapter cue

Choose a late passage that revises the meaning of an earlier claim.

Closing direction

Close on one modest change in Eleanor's way of living. A small difference may say more about the ending than a sweeping claim that everything is now fixed.

Edition and scope note

These prompts discuss a fictional voice and its changing context. They do not diagnose Eleanor or promise a mental-health outcome for readers. A participant may pass on questions about trauma or substance use without explaining why.

Source

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/540586/eleanor-oliphant-is-completely-fine-reeses-book-club-by-gail-honeyman/readers-guide/> | Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine | Gail Honeyman | ISBN 9780735220690