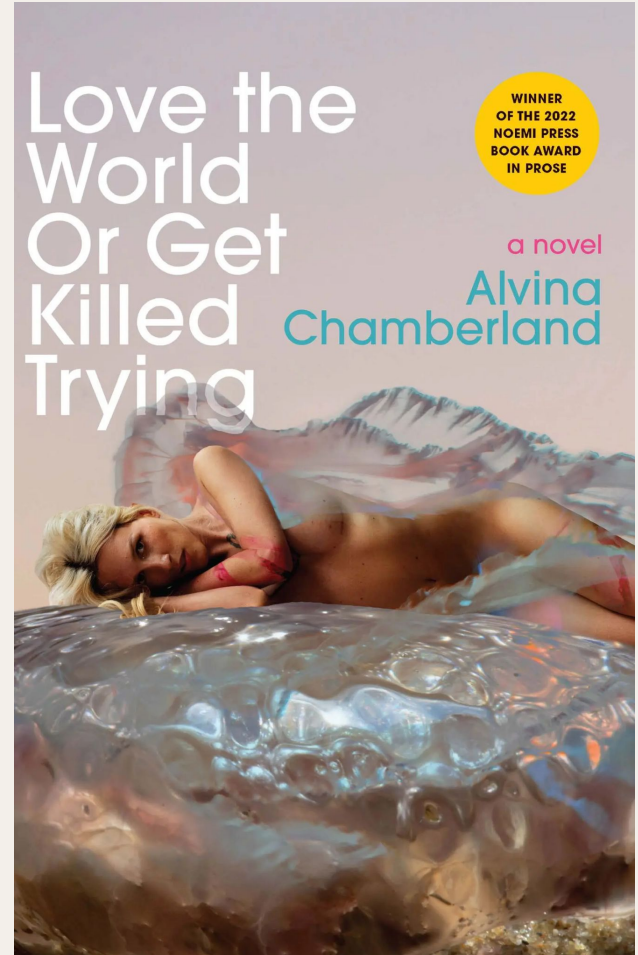


Teaching Guide:
***Love the World or
Get Killed Trying***

NOEMI



Key Terms/Themes

Key Terms:

- Objectification
- Feminism
- Transfemme
- Fetishization
- Patriarchy

Themes:

- Persevering joy
- Lust & desire
- Hypersexualization of trans bodies
- Metafiction

Book Description

Love the World or Get Killed Trying is a work of lyrical autofiction telling the story of Alvina Chamberland's journey across Europe before her 30th birthday. Chamberland uses this travelogue to explore questions about sex, womanhood, the existential, and the difficulty of continuing to find joy and love in the world around her. *Love the World or Get Killed Trying* charts a non-linear course through big questions and even bigger feelings, using gallows humor and poetic prose as its signposts

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Chamberland chose a non-linear structure to tell her story? Do you think this choice reflects any themes or ideas expressed in the text?

Discussion Questions (cont'd)

- **Parentheses (pp. 77, 83, 133, 152-3, 160, and 191)**
 - Examine the author's use of parentheses to demarcate commentary within the text. What might these parentheses be doing?—Signifying internal conflicts between the narrator's authentic self and the external world? Providing intimate asides to the reader? Consider using other instances of parentheticals in your answer.
- **See: pp. 88-9, 102-3, 142-4, 155-6, 201-2, 217, and 225-7**
 - What about the author's use of parentheses in conjunction with italics, bold type, and capital letters? How do these stylistic choices enrich or complicate your interpretations?

Writing Exercises

- **From pg. 230:** “*Listen. Stay. (They are verbs. They are more actions than any action.)*”
 - After considering the meaning of this line, come up with a list of 5-10 verbs that might fit the definition provided here.
 - Once you have your list, reflect on the following questions:
 - Why did you choose each verb? Are they ideologically connected?
 - What do your verbs have in common with *listen* and *stay*?