

Blue Sisters

By Coco Mellors

*The three Blue sisters are exceptional—and exceptionally different. **Avery**, the eldest and a recovering heroin addict turned strait-laced lawyer, lives with her wife in London; **Bonnie**, a former boxer, works as a bouncer in Los Angeles following a devastating defeat; and **Lucky**, the youngest, models in Paris while trying to outrun her hard-partying ways. They also had a fourth sister, Nicky, whose unexpected death left the family reeling. A year later, as they each navigate grief, addiction, and ambition, they find they must return to New York to stop the sale of the apartment they were raised in.*

*Imbued with Coco Mellors's signature combination of humor and heart, *Blue Sisters* is a story of what it takes to keep living after loss—and, ultimately, to fall in love with life again.*

AUTHOR OF CLEOPATRA AND FRANKENSTEIN

Coco Mellors



A NOVEL

Blue Sisters

Pages in Paradise:

What was your “Ah-Ha!” moment that led you to write *Blue Sisters*?

Coco Mellors:

‘*Until you know my sisters, you don’t know me.*’ This was the comment, uttered casually by a friend several years ago when I was still writing *Cleopatra and Frankenstein*, desperately dreaming of finishing one (just one!) novel, that eventually planted the seed of *Blue Sisters*.

Pages in Paradise:

Are there any specific works of fictions that inspired you when writing *Blue Sisters*?

Coco Mellors:

I imagined *Blue Sisters* as my take on sibling stories like *The Corrections*, *Little Women*, and *The Royal Tenenbaums*, in which siblings from the same family turn out wildly differently.

Pages in Paradise:

Can you discuss some themes that you intended to explore when crafting *Blue Sisters*?

Coco Mellors:

Blue Sisters is, first and foremost, a family novel. It’s about the ways sisters shape each other, how addiction manifests between generations, and how grief changes us. It’s also (because I’m me, and I can’t write the dark without the light) about glamour, sex, and the joy of living.

Pages in Paradise:

Can you describe the personal journey that you embarked on while writing *Blue Sisters*?

Coco Mellors:

Emotionally, this novel took me deeper than I’ve ever gone before. It also pushed me far past my comfort zone in terms of research. Bonnie, the second eldest sister, is a professional boxer; in order to write her fight scenes with technical accuracy, I trained with a boxing coach in Venice, L.A. for over a year (and even proudly sported a black eye from sparring to prove it).

I also interviewed models from all over the world to better understand the youngest sister Lucky’s career as a teen model in the fashion industry. For Avery, the eldest sister, who has an affair with a man she meets in AA ten years into sobriety, I had countless conversations with other addicts about how self-destructive impulses can shape-shift in long-term sobriety.

Finally, since I'm a city mouse through and through, one of my favorite parts of working on *Blue Sisters* was how, in addition to New York, I got to try my hand at portraying three of my other favorite cities: Paris, L.A., and London.