

All About Love by bell hooks - ACAB discussion 2/25/18

1. hooks describes the inspiration and solace she finds in graffiti art declaring, "The search for love continues even in the face of great odds" (p. xv). Where have you found similar signs that have restored your faith in love?
2. hooks probes the gap between the values many people "claim to hold and their willingness to do the work of connecting thought and action, theory and practice" How does our culture reward those who nurture this gap? What changes would we have to make in society to nurture and inspire the closing of this gap?
3. What do you think of hooks definition of love? Is it similar or different to your own definition? This book was written in 2000. Has our society gotten better or worse at defining love?
4. Home life is an important part of hooks' exploration of love. How do traditional households help or hinder children from pursuing honest, loving relationships? Did hooks experience resonant with your own?
5. Self-love and self-care can be difficult to balance with political work. What are ways that you seek that balance? What can we learn from hooks analysis?
6. Honesty and open communication comes up repeatedly as a fundamental part of love. How easy or difficult is it to build honest relationships? Do you ever deal with pressure, particularly in political spaces to look or act differently than you usually do?
7. Mass media often wants to portray anarchists as exclusively angry or violent. How do you see love as fitting into your political practice? What are some ways love has or can in the future be part of your political actions?
8. What's the different or similar for you between bell hook's take on love and the popular "love trumps hate" idea about love?
9. How has All About Love enhanced, contradicted, challenged, altered your vision of love?
10. hooks asks us to radically transform our relationships. How realistic and achievable are these goals for you or for our political movements? What's one way you can implement this book in your life and your relationships?