

SEA NOW

Eva Meijer, translated from Dutch by Anne Thompson Melo

1. Describe the sea's role in the novel. Is the sea a character?
2. In addition to being a writer, Eva Meijer is an artist and philosopher of nonhuman animals and nature, and the author of *Animal Languages: The Secret Conversations of the Living World* (tr. Laura Watkinson). How is this interest evident in the novel? How do animals participate in the story?
3. Describe the novel's tone and its use of language. What impact do these have on the reading experience?
4. What is significant about the novel's setting in the Netherlands, the "center of peace and justice" which "leads the world" in water management (pg. 18, 41)? What perspective does *Sea Now* have on humanity and its capacity for change more generally?
5. What new ecosystems emerge because of sea rise, both above and below the water?
6. What is the relationship between the novel's form and its content? Consider its organization into two parts and its many subgenres, including prose poetry, emails, letters, and advertisements.
7. *Sea Now!* starts as a slogan used by climate activists, and it is also the book's title. What additional meanings does the slogan take on throughout the novel?
8. How does *Sea Now* compare to other contemporary creative depictions of floods, sea rise, and environmental disaster? What does the novel add to, expand, and/or challenge about the ecofiction genre?



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