

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR **LOVE ON THE LINE**

by Deeanne Gist

1. In their first encounter, Luke made Georgie really mad when he insisted on having the list of subscribers and the key to the desk. Why do you think she reacted so strongly?
2. At the turn of the century, decorating hats with birds and bird-parts was all the rage. You'd be amazed at the pictures of some of the hats! Do you ever wish we still wore hats today the way they did up until the 1950s?
3. *Love on the Line* took place in a small Texas town with a rich German heritage. One of the festivals they celebrated (and still celebrate today) was Maifest (pronounced May-fest). It was a celebration of the arrival of Spring. What are some of your favorite festivals?
4. What about courting rituals? In *Love on the Line* our hero, Luke, leaves a decorated Mai tree leaning against Georgie's house. Young men in Germany still follow that tradition today and leave a Mai tree beneath the window of their lady-love. Did your boyfriend or husband do something special to get your attention? Do you wish we still had old-fashioned courting rituals? Which ones?
5. When Luke had to go undercover as a telephone repairman, he lost the trappings of his Texas Ranger uniform. Have you ever worn a uniform at work or school? Did people treat you differently when you wore it?
6. Georgie's little assistant, Bettina, was a tomboy. What about you? Were you a girly-girl or a tomboy? Why?
7. Georgie is a telephone operator and everyone in town uses the old wall units with no rotary dial—just a mouthpiece, an earpiece, and a crank to ring up the operator. What's your earliest phone experience?
8. In the early days of the telephone, they had party lines where anyone in town could listen in on your conversation. Do you think we get that same kind of rush on Facebook when we go to a friend's wall and read the conversations going on there?
9. Georgie was a bird watcher. Do you have a hobby? What is it and what do you like about it?
10. Luke proposed to Georgie in a very off-handed manner. Today, marriage proposals can be very elaborate. What's the most elaborate proposal you've heard of? How did your husband/fiancé propose to you?

