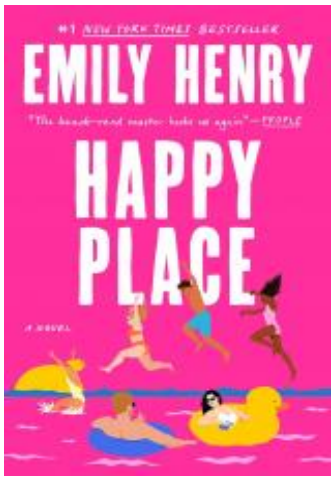
Happy Place

by Emily Henry



About the Book

A couple who broke up months ago pretend to still be together for their annual weeklong vacation with their best friends in this glittering and wise new novel from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Emily Henry.

Harriet and Wyn have been the perfect couple since they met in college --- they go together like salt and pepper, honey and tea, lobster and rolls. Except, now --- for reasons they?re still not discussing --- they don?t.

They broke up five months ago and still haven?t told their best friends.

Which is how they find themselves sharing a bedroom at the Maine cottage that has been their friend group?s yearly getaway for the last decade. Their annual respite from the world, where for one vibrant, blissful week they leave behind their daily lives; have copious amounts of cheese, wine and seafood; and soak up the salty coastal air with the people who understand them most.

Only this year, Harriet and Wyn are lying through their teeth while trying not to notice how desperately they still want each other. Because the cottage is for sale, and this is the last week they?ll all have together in this place. They can?t stand to break their friends? hearts, and so they?ll play their parts. Harriet will be the driven surgical resident who never starts a fight, and Wyn will be the laid-back charmer who never lets the cracks show. It?s a flawless plan (if you look at it from a great distance and through a pair of sunscreen-smeared sunglasses). After years of being in love, how hard can it be to fake it for one week...in front of those who know you best?

Discussion Guide

1. Before the events of the book, Harriet and Wyn?s friend group has had a pretty seamless experience traveling together. What would you look for in an ideal travel partner? Have you ever taken a trip that put a relationship to the test?

2. Have you had a close relationship that?s spanned different phases of life? How, if at all, did those relationships change with time?

3. Do you tend to avoid conflict or face it head-on? Has this changed over time? If so, why?

4. Who out of this friend group do you most relate to, and why? Who do you least relate to?

5. If you were going to take a yearly trip to the same place, where would you go, and who would you go with?

6. So much of Harriet?s journey is about deciding whether or not to let go of a dream that no longer excites her, despite all the time and energy she?s already invested into it. Was there ever a time in your life when you had to make a decision like this? Did you make the same choice Harriet did, or did you decide to see it through?

7. Harriet and Wyn?s friend group plays a game where they talk about what they would do if they had another entire life to live. What would you do with a second life? Do you see yourself pursuing this in any way in your real life?

8. At the beginning of the book, Harriet is really ?living for the weekend,? so to speak. Do you ever find yourself experiencing that? What are some ways you find joy and purpose in your day-to-day life?

9. For each character in the book, success and happiness look a little different. How do you define each?

10. Do you have a ?happy place?? Is it an actual place, an experience, a person? Has it remained the same over the years, or does it change?

Author Bio

Emily Henry is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of GREAT BIG BEAUTIFUL LIFE, FUNNY STORY, HAPPY PLACE, BOOK LOVERS, PEOPLE WE MEET ON VACATION and BEACH READ. She studied creative writing at Hope College and now spends most of her time in Cincinnati, Ohio, and the part of Kentucky just beneath it.

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