

# Arrivals and Departures

by Amanda Eyre Ward

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## About the Book

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of **THE JETSETTERS** comes a witty and wonderful new novel about one unforgettable family and the journeys we take --- across oceans and through heartbreak --- to find our way back to love.

The Perkins family has problems. They're scattered across the globe. Lee, a glamorous reality TV star, is struggling with her mental health in the spotlight. Regan, her younger sister, has fallen for a romance scammer. Cord, their charming brother, is one drink away from losing it all. And their mother, Charlotte, still longs for the love she let slip away a decade ago, a lover who sailed off with her heart to a remote island in Greece.

When Regan disappears, Lee flies first-class to Athens to save her family --- again. There, against the glittering Mediterranean and the shadow of the Acropolis, Lee contends with emotional nieces, relentless paparazzi, and her own fragile heart. Lee is desperately searching --- for her sister, and for the hope and joy she thought was gone forever.

Across continents and crises, each member of the Perkins family must face the same question: Is it ever too late to choose love?

Featuring characters from Ward's bestselling novel, **THE JETSETTERS**, **ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES** is brimming with humor, honesty and hope. It's the story of a family finding the courage to say the only words that can save us: *I love you*.

## Discussion Guide

1. Flora describes romance scams as 'pig butchering' --- a process of emotional manipulation. How does this concept extend beyond Regan's storyline into other relationships in the book?
2. Regan is portrayed as both a victim and someone making harmful choices. How did your perception of her evolve over the course of the novel?
3. The novel explores generational patterns of trauma and coping. In what ways do you see behaviors repeating across Charlotte, Lee, Regan and the girls?
4. Mental health is central to the story, particularly through Lee and Flora. How does the book portray the difference between living with mental illness and being defined by it?
5. Lee's career opportunity arises directly from her public breakdown. What commentary does the novel make about society's fascination with vulnerability and trauma?
6. The setting shifts between Savannah, Athens and beyond. How do these locations reflect the emotional states of the characters?
7. Isabelle and Flora respond very differently to their mother's absence and instability. How do their coping mechanisms compare, and what do they reveal about their needs?
8. The theme of 'being needed' appears repeatedly. Is being needed the same as being loved in this novel? Why or why not?
9. After finishing the novel, what are your thoughts on its conclusion? Do you see the ending as hopeful? What do you think comes next for the Perkins family?

## Author Bio

Amanda Eyre Ward is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *CAT & VIVIAN*, *SLEEP TOWARD HEAVEN*, *HOW TO BE LOST*, *LOVE STORIES IN THIS TOWN*, *FORGIVE ME*, *CLOSE YOUR EYES*, *THE SAME SKY*, *THE NEARNESS OF YOU*, *THE JETSETTERS*, *THE LIFEGUARDS*, *LOVERS AND LIARS* and *ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES*.

Her bestselling novels have been featured in *People* magazine, the *New York Times* and more. Amanda publishes nonfiction in *Travel + Leisure*, the *New York Times*, *Texas Monthly* and more, and publishes original work on Audible.com. Amanda's work has been optioned for film and television and translated into 15 languages. She lives in Austin, TX.

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