Hello, Summer

by Mary Kay Andrews



About the Book

New York Times **bestselling author and Queen of the Beach Reads Mary Kay Andrews delivers her next blockbuster, HELLO, SUMMER.**

It?s a new season...

Conley Hawkins left her family?s small-town newspaper, *The Silver Bay Beacon*, in the rear view mirror years ago. Now a star reporter for a big-city paper, Conley is exactly where she wants to be and is about to take a fancy new position in Washington, D.C. Or so she thinks.

For small town scandals...

When the new job goes up in smoke, Conley finds herself right back where she started, working for her sister, who is trying to keep *The Silver Bay Beacon* afloat --- and she doesn?t exactly have warm feelings for Conley. Soon she is given the unenviable task of overseeing the local gossip column, ?Hello, Summer.?

And big-time secrets.

Then Conley witnesses an accident that ends in the death of a local congressman --- a beloved war hero with a shady past. The more she digs into the story, the more dangerous it gets. As an old heartbreaker causes trouble and a new flame ignites, it soon looks like their sleepy beach town is the most scandalous hotspot of the summer.

Discussion Guide

1. There are two homes in the novel that are the main two places where much of the action takes place. What is the

significance of each home to Conley and the members of her family? How does that change over the course of the novel? Do you have places in your life that hold similar meaning?

2. How do you think Conley and Grayson?s parents' relationship affected how the two sisters handle romantic relationships and treatment of their partners? What were each of their breakthrough moments in the novel when they finally were able to open their hearts?

3. What did you think of Buddy Bright?s role in the story? Did you predict how large of a part he would ultimately come to play? Did you suspect he had such a complicated backstory with so many secrets?

4. Were you surprised by the end of the novel and Conley?s decision to remain in Silver Bay and make a life for herself there?

5. Many members of the Silver Bay community were not pleased that Conley was writing and investigating the death of Symmes Robinette. What were some of the reasons they were against the work she was doing? What do you think of Conley?s choice to move forward with her story anyway?

6. How does Conley and Grayson?s relationship evolve over the novel? What do you think about where it ends up by the end? Did you anticipate that they would end up being able to mend their relationship?

7. Family secrets are a major theme that runs through the novel. What do you think about the different families and the secrets they are keeping and the manner by which they are ultimately revealed?

8. There are many strong female characters in the novel. What are their different attributes? How do each of their stories contribute to the plot of HELLO, SUMMER?

9. Toddie is a very dynamic and interesting character in the novel. What did you think about the evolution of her character? What did you think about the role she ends up playing (intentional or not) in her ex-husband?s death?

10. What did you think of the dramatic scene towards the end of the novel with Conley, Buddy Bright and Poppell. Were you surprised by this? Were you surprised by the secrets that both Buddy Bright and Poppell were keeping?

Author Bio

Mary Kay Andrews is the *New York Times* bestselling author of THE BEACH HOUSE COOKBOOK and more than 30 novels, including ROAD TRIP, SUMMERS AT THE SAINT, THE WEEKENDERS, LADIES' NIGHT, SPRING FEVER, SUMMER RENTAL, THE FIXER UPPER, DEEP DISH, BLUE CHRISTMAS, SAVANNAH BREEZE, HISSY FIT, LITTLE BITTY LIES and SAVANNAH BLUES. A former journalist for *The Atlanta Journal Constitution*, she lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

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