One Big Happy Family

by Jamie Day



About the Book

The next riveting summer suspense by the bestselling author of THE BLOCK PARTY, Jamie Day.

Could this reunion be the death of them?

The Precipice is a legendary, family-owned hotel on the rocky coast of Maine. With the recent passing of their father, the Bishop sisters --- Iris, Vicki and Faith --- have come for the weekend to claim it. But with a hurricane looming and each of the Bishop sisters harboring dangerous secrets, there's murder in the air --- and not everyone who checks into the Precipice will be checking out.

Each sister wants what is rightfully hers, and in the mix is the Precipe?s 19-year-old chambermaid, Charley Kelley, who is smart, resilient, older than her years and in desperate straits.

The arrival of the Bishop sisters could spell disaster for Charley. Will they close the hotel? Fire her? Discover her habit of pilfering from guests? Or, even worse, learn that she's using a guest room to hide a woman on the run?

With razor-sharp wit, heart, thrills and twists, Jamie Day's ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY delivers a unique brand of summertime suspense.

Discussion Guide

1. The novel opens with the narrator, Charley, hiding in the Precipice Hotel amidst an impending hurricane. The first chapter closes with an ominous question: ?Which sister is coming to kill me?? How did this set the tone for your reading of the novel?

2. The events in the current timeline of ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY all take place over three days. How did that short timeline affect your reading of the novel? Did it enhance the suspense?

3. How did only having Charley?s point of view affect your reading experience? Which of the other characters? points of view do you wish you could have had? Explain.

4. What did you learn from the cast of characters at the Precipice Hotel? Is there a moral to this novel? Explain.

5. This novel explores the theme of the power of the truth. Almost every character in this novel withheld the truth in some way. Do you think lying and withholding the truth are the same? Is one more moral than the other? Are there situations in which this is okay?

6. Did you have any initial suspicions about who the murderer was or who was leaving the ominous messages? How did you come to those conclusions?

7. Why do you think Charley agreed to help Bree in the first place? Was it simply just wanting to help someone in need, or do you think there is more to it?

8. In the epilogue, Charley says, ?Clothes don?t make a person. Actions do.? The novel explores the idea of image versus reality. What can we learn about our world from the difference between the image that each sister portrays versus the problems they?re facing internally?

9. Did you enjoy the flashbacks into the past? How did the added context on the sisters influence your reading of the novel? Did they enhance your reading experience?

10. Were you surprised by the ending? Why or why not?

Author Bio

Jamie Day lives in one of those picture-perfect, coastal New England towns you see in the movies. And just like the movies, Jamie has two children and an adorable dog to fawn over. When not writing or reading, Jamie enjoys yoga, the ocean, cooking, and long walks on the beach with the dog, or the kids, or sometimes both.

One Big Happy Family
by Jamie Day

Publication Date: June 10, 2025
Genres: Domestic Thriller, Fiction, Suspense, Thriller
Paperback: 384 pages
Publisher: St. Martin's Griffin
ISBN-10: 1250382807
ISBN-13: 9781250382801