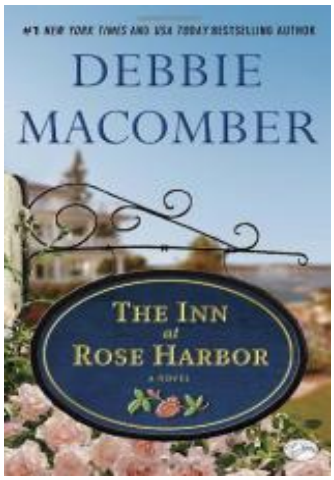
ReadingGroupGuides
The online community for reading groups

The Inn at Rose Harbor

by Debbie Macomber



About the Book

From #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Debbie Macomber comes a heartwarming new series based in the Pacific Northwest town of Cedar Cove, where a charming cast of characters finds love, forgiveness, and renewal behind the doors of the cozy Rose Harbor Inn.

Jo Marie Rose first arrives in Cedar Cove seeking a sense of peace and a fresh start. Coping with the death of her husband, she purchases a local bed-and-breakfast --- the newly christened Rose Harbor Inn --- ready to begin her life anew. Yet the inn holds more surprises than Jo Marie can imagine.

Her first guest is Joshua Weaver, who has come home to care for his ailing stepfather. The two have never seen eye to eye, and Joshua has little hope that they can reconcile their differences. But a long-lost acquaintance from Joshua?s high school days proves to him that forgiveness is never out of reach and love can bloom even where it?s least expected.

The other guest is Abby Kincaid, who has returned to Cedar Cove to attend her brother?s wedding. Back for the first time in twenty years, she almost wishes she hadn?t come, the picturesque town harboring painful memories from her past. And while Abby reconnects with family and old friends, she realizes she can only move on if she truly allows herself to let go.

A touching novel of life?s grand possibilities and the heart?s ability to heal, THE INN AT ROSE HARBOR is a welcome introduction to an unforgettable set of friends.

Discussion Guide

1.) Debbie chose a bed-and-breakfast in the fictional Pacific Northwest town of Cedar Cove, Washington, as the

backdrop for *THE INN AT ROSE HARBOR*. How do you think the choice of a bed-and-breakfast versus a hotel or motel impacts the story? How is the depiction of Jo Marie?s bed-and-breakfast different or similar to your travel experiences?

2.) *THE INN AT ROSE HARBOR*, the bed-and-breakfast turns out to be a place where its innkeeper and her guests heal from different kinds of heartache. Have you ever had a similar experience, where a trip or a stay in a certain place turned out to be so much more than you thought it would be, more than just a vacation or a respite from work and the stress of everyday living? If so, share the miracle of this trip and how it impacted your life, as the stay at the Rose Harbor Inn forever changed the lives of Jo Marie?s first two guests.

3.) Cedar Cove quickly embraces Jo Marie Rose as one of its own. What qualities does Jo Marie possess that enable people to warm to her so openly? Do you think her ease in settling into the community of Cedar Cove had more to do with her personality or with the nature of the town --- or both?

4.) One of the recurrent themes in *THE INN AT ROSE HARBOR* is second chances --- that it?s never too late to start over, to adopt a fresh outlook on life. Which character struggling to overcome the past do you relate to the most and why?

5.) As the story begins Richard is a difficult, unsympathetic character. Do you feel that he changes by the end of the book, and if so, how? Did his journey make you feel any different about someone in your life?

6.) Jo Marie decides to have a rose garden planted at *THE INN AT ROSE HARBOR*. What significance does this rose garden have for Jo Marie?

7.) The one thing Josh hopes to retrieve from his stepfather when he returns to Cedar Cove is his late mother?s Bible. What memento or heirloom from a family member do you treasure and why?

8.) Abby?s chance encounter with an old high school friend, who welcomes her back to Cedar Cove with honest enthusiasm, is the spark that gradually enables Abby to reconnect with those she loves and to begin to forgive herself. She also seeks forgiveness once again from Angela?s parents. Discuss the challenges and differences between forgiving yourself and forgiving others. Do you think one is more important than the other?

9.) How does Jo Marie grow from the beginning of the story until the end? How have her guests, and her budding relationship with Mark, enriched her life and opened her to life?s possibilities?

Author Bio

Debbie Macomber is a renowned #1 *New York Times* bestselling author and one of today?s most cherished writers, with over 200 million copies of her books sold globally. Her novels beautifully depict meaningful relationships, celebrating family bonds and enduring friendships, and inspire readers with stories of connection and hope. Macomber?s works have collectively remained on the *New York Times* bestseller list for more than 1,000 weeks, with 15 titles reaching the top spot.

In addition to her captivating fiction, Macomber has authored bestselling cookbooks, adult coloring books, numerous inspirational and nonfiction titles, and beloved children?s books. Known as ?the official storyteller of Christmas,? her annual holiday tales are adored by fans, many of which have been adapted into original Hallmark Channel movies. She is also the author of the bestselling *Cedar Cove* series, which was adapted into the Hallmark Channel?s first dramatic scripted television series, enjoying a popular three-season run.

Debbie and her husband, Wayne, are dedicated parents, grandparents and recently great-grandparents. They reside in the Pacific Northwest --- the charming area that inspired many of her books.

The Inn at Rose Harbor

by Debbie Macomber

Publication Date: August 14, 2012
Genres: Fiction, Women's Fiction
Hardcover: 352 pages
Publisher: Ballantine Books
ISBN-10: 0345528921
ISBN-13: 9780345528926