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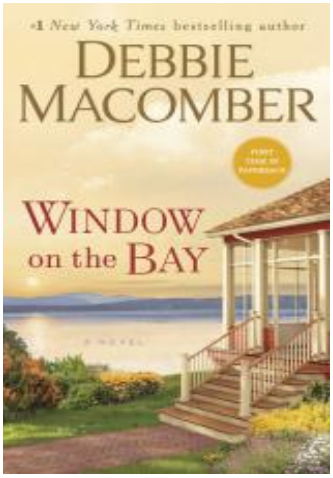
Window on the Bay

by Debbie Macomber



About the Book

When a single mom becomes an empty nester, she spreads her wings to rediscover herself --- and her passions --- in this heartwarming novel from #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Debbie Macomber.

Jenna Boltz?s life is at a crossroads. After a messy divorce from her surgeon husband nearly 20 years ago, she raised her two children on her own, juggling motherhood with her beloved job as a Seattle intensive-care nurse. Now that Paul and Allie have gone to college and moved out, Jenna can?t help but wonder what her future holds.

Her best friend, Maureen, is excited for Jenna?s newfound independence. Now is the perfect time to finally book the trip to Paris they?ve been dreaming of since their college days. But when it comes to life?s other great adventure --- dating --- Jenna still isn?t sure she?s ready to let love in...until an unexpected encounter begins to change her mind.

When Jenna?s elderly mother breaks her hip, Dr. Rowan Lancaster saves the day. Despite his silent, stoic exterior, Rowan is immediately smitten with Jenna. And even though Jenna is hesitant about becoming involved with another surgeon, she has to admit that she?s more than a little intrigued. But when Jenna?s children approach her with shocking news, she realizes that she needs to have faith in love and embrace the unexpected --- before the life she has always dreamed of passes her by.

Discussion Guide

1. Initially, Jenna is skeptical to date a surgeon, given her marriage to Kyle. But, despite her reservations, she is able to fall in love with Rowan. Discuss a time when your expectations about someone were changed.

2. Jenna often contemplates the changes in her life while sitting by her window on the bay. Is there a place that holds special meaning to you? What about it soothes you?

3. Though Jenna and Maureen?s ?green light, yellow light, red light? system has always dictated their dating lives, each handles her own relationship differently over the course of the novel. Do you find yourself identifying with Jenna?s approach more so than that of Maureen, or vice versa? Explain.

4. After attending the Seattle Seahawks game with Logan, Maureen decides to invite him to a night at the ballet. Compare and contrast the two dates. Do you believe Maureen and Logan are equally willing to explore each other?s interests? Why or why not?

5. Jenna finally confides in Rowan about her divorce and Kyle?s affairs. Shortly afterward, Rowan breaks down to her after losing a young patient. How do you approach a tough conversation, and how do you know when you?re ready to open up to someone?

6. Maureen?s conversation with Misty, though initially uncomfortable, pushes her to tell Logan her true feelings. Her talks with her daughter, Tori, also lead her to the same conclusion. Discuss a time in which a conversation or some particular words of wisdom guided you to make a decision. Did it pay off? Why did you approach that particular person for advice?

7. Mackensie decides to conceal from Rowan the fact that she is attending the University of Washington, though she later regrets that decision. What do you make of Jenna?s reaction to the news, as she takes it to mean that Rowan is just like her ex? Was her reaction justified, or should she have offered Rowan the chance to explain himself at the time?

8. Allie and Mackensie become ?thick as thieves? and close friends after sharing a class together. They also bond over having divorced parents. Discuss the girls? attitudes toward their parents. How are they similar, and how do they differ?

9. Jenna and Maureen?s planned trip to Paris is a symbol of their friendship --- and, though they postpone it a number of times, they are finally able to have the vacation of their dreams at the end of the novel. Have you ever taken a trip or vacation that meant something to you? What made it a time to remember?

10. Explain how you felt upon reading the epilogue. Jenna and Maureen have both remarried. What do you believe is in store for these characters and their families?

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.

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Publication Date: February 25, 2020
Genres: Fiction, Women's Fiction
Mass Market Paperback: 432 pages
Publisher: Ballantine Books
ISBN-10: 0399181350
ISBN-13: 9780399181351