

*"Mary Kay Andrews delivers a blissfully divine holiday gift."*

—*Kirkus Reviews*



## *Christmas Bliss* DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. While talking about wearing the wedding dress that both her mother and grandmother wore Weezie says, "Marian Foley didn't do sentimental...She lived in the here and now...But I've always been the exact opposite, a dreamer and a schemer..." Are you more like Marian or Weezie? Do you find that you are similar to or different from those closest to you in this way?
2. Throughout the book we see how the notion of "family" can have many different forms and isn't necessarily limited to blood relations. What are some examples of this throughout the book? What does "family" mean to you?
3. "In Savannah there's a law that says you cannot get engaged, married, christened, or buried without a nicely polished silver tray of cheese straws." Are there "laws" like this unique to your region?
4. The book alternates between the points of view of Weezie and Bebe, best friends with very different personalities, views, and circumstances. How are these two characters similar and how are they different?
5. What compromises, both big and small, do Daniel and Weezie make for each other throughout the story? What about Bebe and Harry?
6. Bebe is adamant about not revealing the truth about her marital status to Harry. Would you have felt the same way? What would you have done in Bebe's situation?
7. *Christmas Bliss* takes place in Tybee and New York City, and setting plays a huge role in the story in several ways. How do the two different locations affect the mood and tone in similar and different ways?
8. On page 86, Bebe says, "Being in his arms made me feel safe and good, and finally, for the first time in my adult life, I knew I was exactly where I was supposed to be." Have you ever had a moment that felt this way? What was it?
9. Weezie tells Daniel, "You have to have a favorite movie that can be part of our annual Christmas tradition. Like, every year, when it comes on, we'll put on our pj's and have hot chocolate and popcorn and decorate the tree." Do you have a favorite movie that you watch during the holidays? What are your favorite holiday traditions?
10. Were you surprised when Daniel and Weezie decided not to move to New York? What would you have done in their position?
11. Both Bebe's baby shower and Weezie's wedding were largely influenced by other people's opinions and desires. What do you think of the outcomes? In both situations there were details that were the results of what other people thought should happen, rather than what the two women had envisioned for their celebrations. Were the events successful? Have you ever had to contend with other people's influences on a personal event of your own, and what happened?
12. How do the relationships between Bebe and Harry and between Weezie and Daniel evolve throughout the book? Where were there key moments where you noticed a shift? Were other changes more gradual?

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