

Hello, Summer

Discussion Questions

1. There are two homes in the novel 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 the relationship of Conley and Grayson's parents 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 were finally able to open their hearts?
3. What do 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 life decisions that Conley makes? Or did you anticipate where she would ultimately choose to live and who she would be romantically involved with?
5. Many members of the Silver Bay community were not pleased that Conley was investigating and writing about 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? Did you anticipate that their relationship would end up where it did?
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 does each of their stories contribute to the plot of *Hello, Summer*?
9. Toddie is a very dynamic and interesting character in the novel. What do you think about the evolution of her character? What do you think about the role she plays (intentional or not) in her ex-husband's death?
10. What do you think of the dramatic scene toward the end of the novel with Conley, Buddy Bright, and Poppell? Were you surprised by this? Were you surprised by the secrets that Buddy Bright and Poppell were keeping?