Sea Glass Castle

Book Club Kit

"She allowed herself to finally believe the fairy tale could come true."

— Sea Glass Castle

A Note from T.I. Lowe

Each book in this series has been dedicated to my daughter, Lydia. And each dedication has come with purpose even if it wasn't obvious at the time.

In *Beach Haven*, I encouraged Lydia—and you (yes, you)—to dare to be different. I hope readers take away from Opal's story the fact that it's okay to be different. In my opinion, it's better! How boring this life would be if we all matched in personality and everything else. I personally want to be an Opal. To wear what I like, not what's trending. To write a story in my style, even if it doesn't fit into the box of what folks expect for my genre.

In *Driftwood Dreams*, I urged Lydia and you to dare to dream. Circumstances told Josie she couldn't, but sweet, encouraging August said she could. Finally the ole gal listened! I'm a great example of this, if I do say so myself. Had I not chased the dream of writing, listening to society whispering that a stay-at-home mom with very little college education could never be a successful author, what a poor role model I'd have become for my Lu. (I'm sticking my tongue out at critics as we speak.) Surround yourself with encouragers like August. I've had three specific blondes in my corner from the very start of this writing dream. They told me I could, and they wouldn't let me turn my back on the dream even when it seemed hopeless. Thank you, blondies. You know who you are.

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When it came to *Sea Glass Castle*, I challenged Lydia and you to dare to declare your own destiny. I hope Sophia has shown you that you have the power to do whatever it is you're led to do. Do not allow someone else to tell you who to be or how to be. I love the saying "You do you." My hope is that Sophia showed us all that it's okay to stop being a people pleaser and to stop worrying about what others think of you. Who you are is between you and God and no one else. I guarantee you will never meet the expectations of others. Don't even bother. I encourage you to live up to God's expectations and your own, and no one else's. Sometimes those other fools are just too discombobulated about what their expectations are anyway...

"The Sand Queens had endured their fair share of storms. Some more severe than others, but each time they chose to rebuild a life and move forward, each one holding on to the hope of a greater life filled with love and peace that came even during the midst of storms."

— Sea Glass Castle

Discussion Questions

1.) Sea Glass Castle is not only the book's title but is also the name of Weston's beach house. How does the book's name relate to the main characters, Sophia and Weston?

2.) Did you like Sophia when you first met her, whether in this book or one of the previous books? If not, how did you warm up to her?

3.) Sophia certainly did not get a good first impression of Weston. Did you find this to be true for you as well? How might his circumstances have affected the way he came across to people when the story started? 4.) Collin plays a significant role in this story: Sophia trying to take care of him, Weston easily settling into a fatherly role for him. Both adults had only good intentions for the little boy but didn't always get it right. How so?

5.) The author enjoys infusing comic relief into her stories. Does any particular scene from this book come to mind?

6. Seth is the mischievous twin. Did he add another layer to the story or detract from it?

7. Even though Weston tried to start the next chapter of his life after losing his wife and child, how did he carry them into this new chapter?

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Discussion Questions

Notes:

8. Ty came back into town midway through the story, throwing a wrench into Sophia and Weston's blossoming relationship. How was his appearance the final period Sophia needed to firmly close that chapter of her life?

9. The turbulent journey of sea glass and the turbulent lives of both main characters come together at the end. How do they correlate?

10. Sea Glass Castle is the conclusion to the Sand Queens' stories. Does the series feel complete? Was the conclusion satisfying or is there someone else's story that needs to be told?

My Book Club Notes

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Sea Glass Castle

Recipe

Note to readers: Looking for a summery drink to enjoy after reading *Sea Glass Castle*? Turn the page for a summer punch recipe that just might hit the spot. Be sure to exercise caution when making the recipe! Remember you're trying it out for the first time and consuming the ingredients at your own risk. Happy cooking!

Recipe: Sand Queens' Summer Punch

Ingredients:

2 packets (0.16 ounce each) Kool-Aid un-sweetened tropical punch powdered soft drink 1 46-ounce can 100 percent pineapple juice 1 12-ounce can pink lemonade concentrate, thawed 1 32-ounce bottle Simply Orange orange juice 1 liter ginger ale, chilled

Directions:

Combine first four ingredients. Pour mixture into quart-size freezer bags, filling halfway. Seal each bag carefully and place in freezer until completely frozen. To prepare punch, chop frozen blocks of mixture and place in punch bowl. Pour ginger ale in and stir. Serve and be prepared to make more quickly! Yes, it will disappear. Just to be on the safe side, go ahead and double this recipe. For special occasions, you can change up the recipe by using regular lemonade instead of pink lemonade and using a different flavor/color of Kool-Aid.

Note: I'd advise against allowing a member of the Knitting Club to prepare the punch. They have been known to switch the ginger ale for sparkling wine ...

My recipe notes:





Sea Glass Castle Playlist

"Everything to Everyone" by Everclear "Waiting on Superman" by Daughtry "I Could Use a Love Song" by Maren Morris "Wonderful" by Everclear "Praying" by Kesha "I Have This Hope" by Tenth Avenue North "I Met a Girl" by Sam Hunt "Carolina" by Parmalee "Broken & Beautiful" by Kelly Clarkson "Born to Be Yours" by Kygo & Imagine Dragons



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