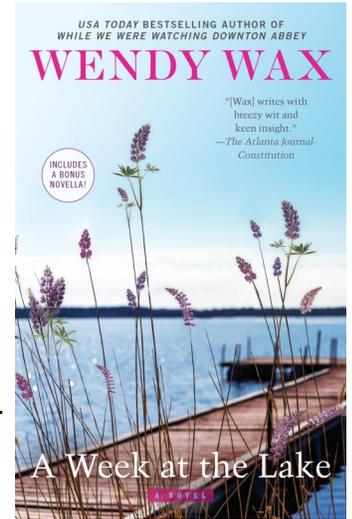


Wendy Wax's *A Week at the Lake*

Discussion Questions

- Did you identify with a particular character in the novel? Who and why?
- Emma continues to hear her grandmother's voice, even though she is no longer a physical presence in her life. Do departed loved ones continue to influence your own thoughts and actions?
- As the novel progresses, Mackenzie and Adam's relationship becomes increasingly strained. Did you want their relationship to survive or would they be better off apart?
- Did Mackenzie harbor resentment toward Adam because he didn't want to adopt a child? Was the blog a way of concealing her true feelings from others or herself?
- When Emma's betrayals are exposed do you sympathize with her? Who do you think was most hurt by her dishonesty? If a friend kept something like this from you, could you forgive her?
- Serena's therapist comments, "If you're going to expend time and energy imagining scenarios, you really need to allow for the positive." What does this say about Serena's personality? Do you tend to think for the best or the worst in difficult situations?
- How does Serena use humor to dispel her discomfort? Why do you think she constantly makes light of difficult situations?
- Were you upset with Serena for rekindling her relationship with Brooks? Can you understand her choice? Do you think it was necessary for her ultimate growth?
- Emma comments, "She could see how much of [Zoe's father] her daughter carried." Do you think personality traits and mannerisms are genetic? Have you witnessed this within your own family?
- Mackenzie is very blunt with Serena regarding her relationships with married men. Do you agree with Mac? Did you feel at all sorry for Serena?
- At a very young age, Emma divorces her family. What did you think of this extreme decision?
- By the novel's end, do you think there was room for reconciliation between Emma and her parents? Did Emma's mother deserve a second chance or did she ruin it?
- How does Zoe and Emma's relationship develop throughout the novel? What are some significant turning points in their narrative?
- How does Emma's relationship with her own family affect how she parents Zoe? Were there moments when Emma was being over-protective of Zoe due to her own experiences?



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