

DESTINATION FUNERAL

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you, like Didion, have a friend or friend group that you regret parting ways with? What would you say to them if you reunited?
2. What was your initial reaction when you realized the characters were stuck in a time loop? What do you think you would have done in their position?
3. Is there any day in your life that you would like to repeat over and over again? If so, what made you choose it? Would you do anything differently?
4. Didion, a chef, loses her love for cooking when it becomes her career. Have you ever had a passion that slipped away from you? What do you think happened, and would you ever be willing to reignite that spark?
5. In a flashback, Babe tells her daughters that witch blood runs in their family. Do you think Didion and Sammie actually have magic in them? If so, what moments in the novel support your theory?
6. What do you believe initiated the timeloop? Is there a scientific or supernatural explanation, or no explanation at all?
7. The novel is, at times, an exploration of the relationship between sisters, as well as the relationship between mothers and daughters. What parts of this stood out to you the most? Were there any moments that you found particularly relatable?



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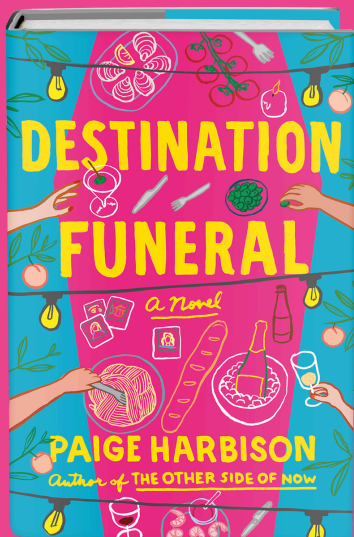
8. Do you agree with Babe's parenting style? What could she have done differently, if anything, for her daughters?

9. Is there a place that feels like Birdsong to you? Where is it and what is its significance in your life? What have you learned from your time there?

10. What did each of the main characters—Didion, Sammie, Austin, and Matt—take away from Birdsong growing up? How has time changed their relationship with the house, for better or for worse?

11. At one point, Matt mentions that grief "makes people crazy" (106). How does grief affect Sammie and Didion differently? Over the course of the novel, how do they learn to process their emotions in less self-destructive ways?

12. Were you satisfied with the ending? What moments in the story stuck with you the most, and what questions do you still have after finishing?



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