



HEATHER WEBBER

is the national bestselling author of more than thirty novels and has been twice nominated for an Agatha Award. She loves to spend time with her family, read, drink too much coffee and tea, birdwatch, crochet, watch cooking competitions and home improvement shows, and bake. Heather lives in southwestern Ohio and is hard at work on her next book.

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Guide by Ariana Carpentieri

1. Why is Sadie so drawn to the lake? What void does it fill within her?
2. "But I hadn't been destined for greatness. I was just Sadie Way Scott, and I still didn't know why I'd been saved." Does the pressure of being saved prevent Sadie from following her dreams? Does not living up to the expectations of those around her keep her from understanding her true potential? Why or why not?
3. When Sadie went to the Lockheart pharmacy, she expected to feel relief that Will wasn't there, but she instead felt disappointment. Why?
4. Leala seems to have an incredibly difficult time being away from her son, Tucker. Do you think she should be more trusting of her husband to look after their son, or do you think her level of worry is justified? Would you be the same way or different if you were in her position?
5. The loon is a recurring image in the book. What does this bird symbolize for the characters? Is there a sad kind of freedom that the loon possesses that both Sadie and Leala long for?
6. Sadie is set on spending her life running from her past and her problems. Why is she so against processing her feelings? Do you think it's better for her to leave her hometown or should she stay? What would you do if you were in her shoes?
7. "Sadie had been right. I'd all but abandoned her to chase after love, to chase after the dreams I harbored of a perfect family, and in doing so I managed to damage the most loving relationship I already had." Why did Leala let her love for Connor consume her life? Do you think, in her own way, that Leala ran away like Sadie did?
8. It seems that Susannah is especially hard on Leala and she tends to pick apart everything Leala does. Why do you think this is the case? Is there any jealousy or resentment involved?
9. If you were to attend a lantern festival and make a wish, what would you wish for?

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