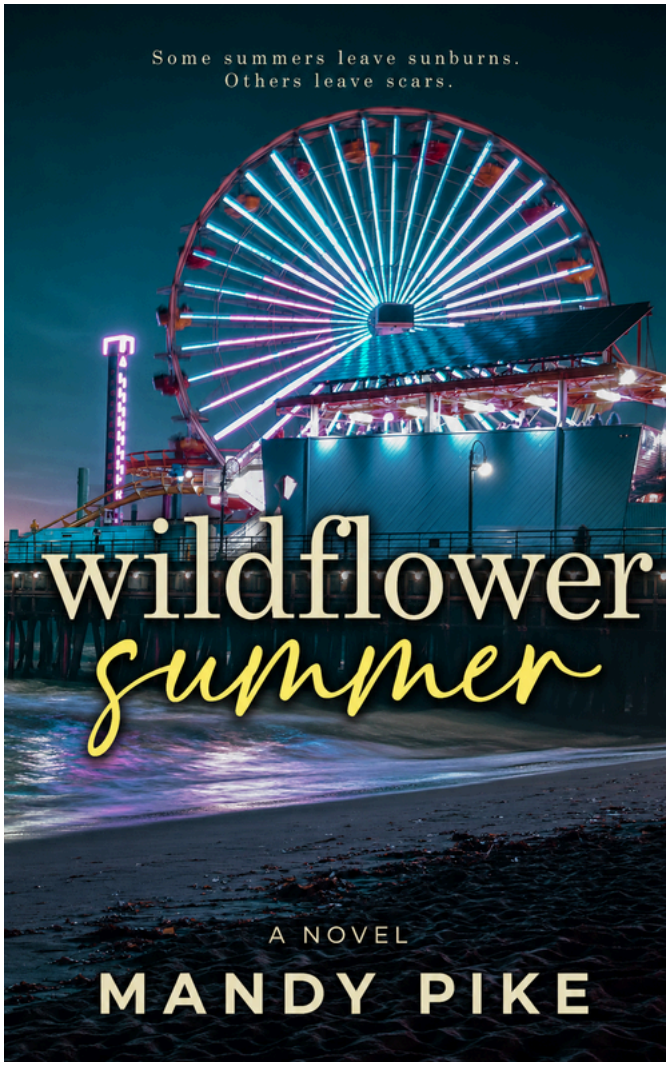
SALTWATER HOLLOW

WILDFLOWER SUMMER

BOOK CLUB KIT

For book clubs, reader groups, and spoiler-filled conversations

Some summers leave sunburns.
Others leave scars.



A little salt air. A little nostalgia
A love story that lingered.

MANDY PIKE

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Welcome to Saltwater Hollow

A letter from the author

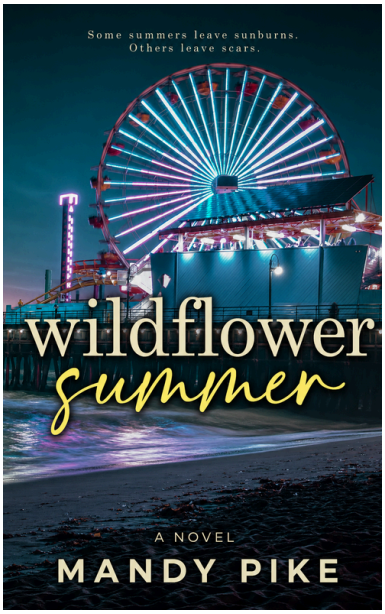
Thank you for choosing Wildflower Summer for your book club. There is something especially lovely about knowing that a story I carried quietly for so long is now going to be read around the same table - or across the same group chat - by people who get to experience it together.

This kit is meant to add a little more Saltwater Hollow to your reading experience. Some pages are simply here for fun: character guides, places, book-club-night ideas, and little details from the world of the story. Other pages are meant for after everyone reaches the last page, when spoilers are finally allowed and we can talk about the choices, heartbreak, hope, and all the things you may have wanted to yell at me about.

Please use as much or as little of it as you like. Print the review sheets. Pass around the discussion questions. Ignore half of it and spend the whole night debating one character decision. There is no wrong way to do book club.

Most of all, thank you for letting Logan, Merrick, and Saltwater Hollow be part of your gathering. I cannot wait to hear what stayed with you.

With love,
Mandy



How to Use This Kit

A simple roadmap for before, during, and after the read

01

Before you read

Start with the About the Book, Reader Guide, The People, and The Places sections. These pages are spoiler-light and safe to browse before everyone has finished.

02

While you read

Use the Questions for Mandy page to collect thoughts as you go. Mark favourite scenes, lines, details, and theories you want to bring to book-club night.

03

After the last page

Flip to the SPOILERS AHEAD section for the content notes, discussion questions, activities, timeline, and the post-read pages.

04

For the author chat

Bring your questions. Nothing is too small, too emotional, too practical, or too spoiler-heavy. Once everyone has finished the book, the door is open.

About the Book

A coastal love story about first love, grief, healing, and one unforgettable summer

Quick Facts

Author: Mandy Pike
Published: August 13, 2026
Formats: Paperback | Kindle eBook | Kindle Unlimited
Setting: Saltwater Hollow, North Carolina
Tone: Romantic | Tender | Nostalgic | Emotionally bittersweet

Story Description

In Saltwater Hollow, summer always feels temporary. Tourists come and go. The boardwalk quiets after Labor Day. And eventually, everyone leaves.

Then Logan Hayes meets Merrick Calloway.

She is chaos and kindness wrapped in ocean air and late-night laughter. He has spent so long taking care of everyone else that he barely remembers how to want anything for himself. What begins as chance encounters around town grows through carnival nights, handwritten letters, quiet conversations, and the kind of love that feels inevitable long before either of them are ready to admit it.

But some stories become memories before we realize we are living them. Tender, nostalgic, and heartbreakingly human, Wildflower Summer is a story about first love, grief, healing, family, and the people who leave fingerprints on our hearts long after summer ends.

Reader Guide

Tropes, microtropes, and non-spoilery content notes

Tropes

- Small-town / coastal romance
- Summer romance
- First love
- He falls first
- Emotional slow burn
- Found family
- Grief & healing

Microtropes

- Carnival nights & neon lights
- Handwritten letters
- Boardwalk summer nights
- Lemonade at coffee shops
- Responsible boy x sunshine / soft-chaos girl
- Old songs & remembered music

Non-spoilery content notes

Wildflower Summer includes themes of grief and bereavement, parental loss, military deployment and injury, unwanted physical contact / harassment, emotionally difficult discussions of loss, and romantic / sexual content (some spice). The story becomes emotionally heavier than its sunlit setting may initially suggest.

read gently, talk freely, keep what matters

CHARACTER FIELD GUIDE

The People of Wildflower Summer

Meet the people at the heart of Saltwater Hollow.

Logan Hayes

The steady one

Quick Portrait

Age: 28 | 6'1 | Marine | Works at The Hayes House when home. Broad-shouldered, dark-brown hair, hazel-brown eyes, worn jeans, boots, faded hoodies, and a grounded coastal presence that feels quietly safe rather than polished.

Core Identity

Logan is steady, grounded, and emotionally guarded - a man shaped by responsibility long before he was ready for it. He rarely explains what he feels, but he lives those feelings through work, loyalty, protection, and the small details he remembers about the people he loves.

Backstory

He grew up in Saltwater Hollow in a close working-class family and was deeply shaped by his father, Mark. Losing Mark in his mid-twenties pushed Logan further into the role of dependable oldest son. He carries the belief that he does not get to fall apart because too many people rely on him.

Inner World

He feels deeply but processes slowly. He is observant, dryly funny, loyal to a fault, and protective without being controlling. Letters become the place where he can finally say what spoken words make difficult. Beneath his steadiness is a quiet fear that love can disappear without warning.

Arc & Symbolism

Before the story asks more of him, Logan is learning how to imagine a life he wants, not only a life he can manage. His early-book movement is from endurance and emotional containment toward vulnerability, hope, and choosing a future. His recurring symbols are the tide - steady and returning - and ink on paper, the language of everything he cannot quite say aloud.

Merrick Calloway

The wildflower

Quick Portrait

Age: 25 | 5'8 | Social work graduate student | Hollow House. Long dark-blonde/light-brown hair, blue-green eyes, sun-warmed skin, rings and bracelets, oversized sweatshirts, denim jackets, and an easy ocean-air warmth people remember.

Core Identity

Merrick is warm, expressive, intuitive, and openhearted. Her softness is not innocence; it is something she keeps choosing in spite of hurt. She moves through Saltwater Hollow with curiosity, humor, and the instinct to make people feel seen.

Backstory

Raised primarily by her father, Daniel, Merrick grew up inside a loving but emotionally complicated home after her mother, Claire, left when Merrick was six. She kept Claire's letters, and they became one of her earliest lessons in memory, absence, and the strange way love can remain even when a person does not.

Inner World

She processes life through writing, reflection, and feeling. She is deeply empathetic, playful, lightly stubborn, and brave about emotional intimacy - but she also carries a quiet fear that people will leave, physically or emotionally. Lemonade, sunlight, ocean air, notebooks, and small rituals are where she finds steadiness.

Arc & Symbolism

Merrick begins as someone willing to feel freely and slowly discovers what it means to trust another person with the tenderest parts of herself. Her early-book arc is about openness, attachment, and letting Saltwater Hollow start to feel like more than a passing place. Wildflowers symbolize her resilience: untamed, tender, and capable of growing wherever life places her.

Brooks Donovan

The loud heart

Quick Portrait

Age: 28 | 6'2 | Marine | Logan's best friend and brother by choice. Athletic, dark-blond hair, a crooked smile, and an easy confidence that reads as bar-light charm until you notice how carefully he is watching everyone else.

Core Identity

Brooks is the loudest presence in a room and one of the most emotionally attentive people in it. Charismatic, bold, socially fearless, and quick with a joke, he often looks like comic relief until the story reveals how carefully he watches the people he loves.

Backstory

Brooks and Logan have been best friends since childhood, growing up together in Saltwater Hollow and spending entire summers at Hollow House. By thirteen, Brooks was at the Hayes house more than his own; Rachel became Mom to him long before the boys ever became Marines.

Inner World

Brooks sees more than he says. He uses teasing to defuse tension, carries his own worries beneath the performance, and knows when Logan is retreating into himself. His loyalty is fierce, practical, and deeply emotional even when he refuses to make a speech about it.

Arc & Symbolism

He enters the story as comic energy and social catalyst, but he also functions as Logan's emotional counterpart: loud where Logan is quiet, expansive where Logan is contained. Fire is his symbol - warm, bright, and impossible to ignore.

Tessa Marlow

The anchor

Quick Portrait

Age: 25 | 5'6 | Manager at Driftwood Cafe | Nursing student. Dark tousled hair, sharp eyes, oversized flannels, ripped jeans, silver jewelry, boots, and the kind of posture that makes it clear she will not be underestimated.

Core Identity

Tessa is sharp, grounded, witty, and almost impossible to intimidate. She is Merrick's closest friend and emotional truth-teller - the person willing to say the difficult thing when everyone else is circling around it.

Backstory

Tessa first came to Saltwater Hollow during summer visits as a teenager, then moved there after high school and built a life around Driftwood and nursing classes. She met Merrick through Hollow House, giving her a tour during her first week and deciding, almost immediately, that they were friends.

Inner World

She is observant, emotionally intelligent, and deeply loyal beneath the sarcasm. Tessa carries herself with confidence and tends to meet uncertainty head-on. She is not easily impressed, but once someone earns her trust, she shows up without hesitation.

Arc & Symbolism

Tessa begins guarded around Logan, then gradually relaxes as she sees what he means to Merrick. Her role in the first part of the novel is to act as an anchor - the person who steadies the emotional weather and tells the truth even when it is inconvenient.

Addie Hayes

The sunshine

Quick Portrait

Age: 7, turning 8 | Youngest Hayes sibling. Long wavy brown hair, wide expressive eyes, friendship bracelets on both wrists, bright colors, sparkle, and the kind of joyful energy that makes every room louder.

Core Identity

Addie is joy without a filter - expressive, imaginative, affectionate, dramatic, and gloriously unafraid of having feelings in public. She changes the temperature of a room simply by entering it.

Backstory

She is young enough to remember her father only in fragments, but she has been raised inside a family determined to keep love louder than grief. Friendship bracelets, glitter, music, a purple backpack, and big opinions are all part of her everyday world.

Inner World

Addie says what adults are trying not to say. She bonds with Merrick quickly because she trusts warmth instinctively, and that bond makes Merrick's place in the Hayes family feel immediate rather than theoretical.

Arc & Symbolism

Addie brings lightness, humor, and emotional honesty to the story. Through her, family scenes feel brighter, more lived in, and more immediate. Her symbol is light: open, hopeful, and enduring.

Eli Hayes

The quiet observer

Quick Portrait

Age: 13 | Logan's younger brother. Lean, a little awkward, dark hair always falling into his eyes, oversized hoodies, usually carrying a book, and an expression that suggests he has noticed far more than anyone realizes.

Core Identity

Eli is quieter than the rest of the Hayes family, dry-humored, thoughtful, and already more emotionally aware than the adults around him sometimes notice. He is the kind of person who watches first and speaks only when he has something worth saying.

Backstory

He lost his father young and looks to Logan as both older brother and role model. That makes Logan's steadiness especially important to him. Eli lives in oversized hoodies, usually has a book close by, and often seems mildly exhausted by the louder members of his family.

Inner World

He processes hard things internally. He notices shifts in mood, understands more than people explain to him, and quietly forms a natural bond with Merrick as she becomes part of the family.

Arc & Symbolism

Eli's place in the story is subtle but important: he represents the quieter emotional intelligence inside the Hayes family. His symbol is growth - thoughtful, quiet, and still becoming.

Also in Saltwater Hollow

The people who make the town feel like home

Rachel Hayes

The heart of The Hayes House. Logan, Eli, and Addie's mother; a woman who has learned how to hold grief and ordinary life in the same hands.

Daniel Calloway

Merrick's father. A senior civil engineer and project manager specializing in coastal and waterfront infrastructure. Protective, reserved, and deeply loving.

Gus Harper

The longtime owner of Driftwood Cafe and one of Saltwater Hollow's quiet observers. He has mastered the small-town art of seeing everything and saying only what matters.

Mark Hayes & Claire Calloway

Two absences that still shape the people who loved them. Their memories, choices, and the ways they are carried forward are part of the emotional architecture of the story.

SALTWATER HOLLOW FIELD GUIDE

The Places of Wildflower Summer

Five corners of Saltwater Hollow that hold more than scenery.

Wildflower Cove

Ocean wind | Dunes | Sunset light | Space to think

What it looks like

A quiet strip of beach about fifteen minutes north of Saltwater Hollow, beyond the marina and an old gravel turnout. The parking area sits above the dunes; below it is a place that feels just removed enough from town to become its own little world.

Why it matters

Where the story first breathes. Wildflower Cove is tied to beginnings, memory, and the version of ourselves we meet when no one is asking anything from us.

Book Club Prompt

Which place in your own life feels tied to a particular version of you?

The Hayes House

Coffee | Pie | Familiar faces | Controlled chaos

What it looks like

A Main Street diner with booths, tables, a pie case, a bell over the door, and a kitchen window facing the grill. It is part workplace, part family kitchen, part town information network.

Why it matters

The Hayes House is the emotional center of the Hayes family - the place where people are fed, teased, watched over, and quietly folded into the family.

Book Club Prompt

Who in this story creates home through ordinary acts of care?

Driftwood Cafe

Coffee | Lemonade | Notebooks | Sunlight through glass

What it looks like

A bright cafe with a pickup counter, espresso machine, big front windows, and tables facing the street. Gus is part of its heartbeat, and it becomes one of the first places Logan and Merrick's paths truly cross.

Why it matters

A place for accidental meetings, intentional returns, and the small rituals that slowly become meaningful.

Book Club Prompt

Which small ritual or repeated detail becomes more meaningful as the book goes on?

Murphy's Roadhouse

Music | Neon | Crowded Friday nights | Tension under the fun

What it looks like

Just outside Saltwater Hollow near the highway, tucked between a gas station and a bait shop. Friday nights bring white lights across the ceiling beams, a jukebox, pool tables, a crowded bar, and high-top tables full of summer noise.

Why it matters

Murphy's is louder than the rest of the story's favourite places. It gives the characters somewhere to perform confidence - and nowhere to hide when something goes wrong.

Book Club Prompt

Where do the characters perform confidence - and where do you see the mask slip?

Hollow House

Community | Youth programs | Banners | Folding chairs | Belonging

What it looks like

An old cedar-shingled community building a few blocks back from the boardwalk, with faded green trim, a wide front porch, and a hand-painted HOLLOW HOUSE sign above the steps. Inside are folding chairs, a piano, and the familiar evidence of people trying to make something good together.

Why it matters

Hollow House is where service becomes relationship. It is central to Merrick's work, the younger Hayes siblings, and the book's idea that belonging can be built on purpose.

Book Club Prompt

What does the novel seem to say about the difference between being welcomed and truly belonging?

Questions for Mandy

Bring these with you to the author chat - tiny details and giant feelings are equally welcome.

1

2

3

4

5

A Night in Saltwater Hollow

Optional ideas for setting the mood without turning book club into homework

Pour

Lemonade - obviously. Keep it simple, make it sparkling, add frozen berries, or let everyone customize their own. Coffee is also fully acceptable if your loyalties lie elsewhere.

Serve

Diner-inspired comfort food, pie or another easy summer dessert, salty snacks, fresh fruit, or anything that feels like a long day near the water.

Play

Build a soft summer playlist: songs that feel like night drives, boardwalk lights, ocean air, nostalgia, and the ache of knowing a season cannot stay.

Set the Table

Postcards. Candles or string lights. A bowl for anonymous hot takes. Keep it easy and a little lived-in - more heart than perfection.

Most Important

Do not make the night perfect. Make it yours. The best parts of Wildflower Summer are rarely the polished ones - they are the ordinary moments that become important while nobody is looking.

Wildflower Summer Playlist

A separate playlist page for book-club night

Track List

1. Coastline - Hollow Coves
2. Golden - Harry Styles
3. Bloom - The Paper Kites
4. Mess Is Mine - Vance Joy
5. Sweet Creature - Harry Styles
6. You Are In Love (Taylor's Version) - Taylor Swift
7. Like Real People Do - Hozier
8. Hands Down - Dashboard Confessional
9. Everywhere, Everything - Noah Kahan & Gracie Abrams
10. Turning Page - Sleeping At Last
11. Somewhere Only We Know - Keane
12. The Night We Met - Lord Huron

Songs we think belong to the book...

Add your own tracks below - songs that feel like Logan, Merrick, Saltwater Hollow, the letters, the ending, or the kind of summer ache this story leaves behind.

AFTER THE LAST PAGE

Spoilers Ahead

Do not turn the page until everyone has finished Wildflower Summer.

From this point forward, the ending, losses, time jumps, final chapters, and post-book conversation are all fair game. If your group prefers to avoid spoilers until everyone is done, pause here and come back together after the last page.

Detailed Content Notes

Spoiler-inclusive

The novel includes the death of a romantic partner, bereavement and funeral / mourning material, parental loss, military deployment and injury, a fatal accident, pregnancy after bereavement, unwanted physical contact / harassment, and romantic / sexual content.

The final sections engage directly with continuing bonds after death and the idea of loving again without replacing the person who was lost.

The story becomes emotionally heavier than its sunlit setting may initially suggest; groups may want to check in with one another before beginning spoiler discussion.

Readers are welcome to step out of any discussion that feels too close to home. There is room here for joy, grief, disagreement, and whatever each reader needs to carry.

Book Club Discussion Questions

1 Logan spends much of the novel expressing love through responsibility and caretaking. When does that feel generous, and when does it become a way of hiding?

2 Merrick is often described through softness, openness, and light. How does the book complicate the idea that softness is the opposite of strength?

3 What did you think the handwritten letters were doing structurally and emotionally? Did their meaning change for you once you understood the full shape of the story?

4 Saltwater Hollow is full of routines - diner shifts, coffee orders, boardwalk nights, family meals. Which ordinary moment became unexpectedly important to you?

5 When did you first realize how deeply Logan had fallen for Merrick? When do you think Merrick knew?

Book Club Discussion Questions

6 The people around Logan and Merrick often recognize their feelings before they do. What does the found-family ensemble add to the romance?

7 How did Brooks's humor affect the way you read him? Which moments revealed the person underneath the performance?

8 How did Addie and Eli change the emotional stakes of Logan and Merrick's relationship?

9 The novel asks whether something temporary can still be real, meaningful, and worth choosing. Where do you see that question most clearly?

10 How did your understanding of the prologue change after you reached the ending?

Book Club Discussion Questions

11 What was your emotional response to Logan's death? Did the book prepare you for the turn, or did it still feel like the floor disappeared?

12 What did you make of Merrick's life after Logan - including motherhood, grief, Owen, and the choice to continue living fully?

13 Did the final reunion feel hopeful, heartbreaking, comforting, complicated, or something else? Why?

14 If you had to describe what Wildflower Summer is ultimately saying about love in one sentence, what would you say?

15 How do Mark Hayes's death and Claire Calloway's absence continue to shape Logan and Merrick throughout the story?

Book Club Discussion Questions

16 Which recurring image or object - letters, lemonade, boardwalk lights, the blue turtle, playlists, or another detail - stayed with you most, and why?

17 How does the novel balance romance with grief? Did one ever sharpen the other for you?

18 What do you think Saltwater Hollow itself represents by the end of the novel: a place, a season, a memory, or something else?

19 Which supporting character would you most want a future novella, bonus scene, or companion story about?

20 Which scene would you most want to ask Mandy about during the author Q&A, and why?

Hot Takes

Agree, disagree, or start a lively discussion

Logan fell first, but Merrick fell harder.

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Need to discuss

Brooks understands Logan best.

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Need to discuss

Tessa is the emotional truth-teller of the group.

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Need to discuss

The letters are the real love story inside the love story.

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Need to discuss

Rachel knows almost everything before anyone says it out loud.

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Need to discuss

Merrick's relationship with Owen does not diminish what she had with Logan.

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Need to discuss

The ending is hopeful, not tragic.

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Need to discuss

Saltwater Hollow itself is one of the main characters.

☐ Agree ☐ Disagree ☐ Need to discuss

This or That

Pick one, defend it, and see where your group lands

Coffee	*or*	Lemonade
The Hayes House	*or*	Driftwood Cafe
Boardwalk lights	*or*	Wildflower Cove sunset
Handwritten letter	*or*	Shared playlist
Carnival night	*or*	Quiet beach night
Diner breakfast	*or*	Late-night takeout
Big declaration	*or*	Small remembered detail
Brooks's chaos	*or*	Tessa's truth
Summer romance	*or*	Found family
Hopeful ending	*or*	Heartbreaking ending

Would You Rather?

1. Spend a summer evening at Driftwood Cafe OR at Wildflower Cove?

2. Get a handwritten letter from Logan OR a voice-note rant from Brooks?

3. Have Rachel feed you diner pie OR let Merrick build your perfect lemonade order?

4. Tag along on a quiet beach night OR a louder Murphy's Roadhouse night?

5. Be Addie's concert audience OR Eli's chosen reading buddy?

6. Keep every letter you ever received OR every playlist anyone ever made for you?

7. Have Tessa's honesty OR Brooks's charm when things get awkward?

8. Visit Saltwater Hollow in peak summer OR right after Labor Day when it starts to quiet down?

Wildflower Summer Timeline

A simple spoiler-filled timeline of major events

Prologue
Merrick sits with a box of Logan's letters, still wearing his ring, before the story turns back to the beginning.

Early summer
Logan and Merrick begin to notice one another - first through place, atmosphere, and possibility.

The first crossings
Their paths keep colliding around Saltwater Hollow, especially through Driftwood Cafe and ordinary town rhythms.

Becoming part of the orbit
Merrick is gradually drawn into the Hayes family world: Rachel, Addie, Eli, and the diner.

Summer deepens
Long conversations, family moments, carnival nights, and growing closeness make what began lightly start to matter very much.

Deployment
Logan deploys, turning their growing love into distance, waiting, worry, and words carried across the miles.

Coming home
Logan comes home to Saltwater Hollow, and he and Merrick begin finding their way back into the everyday closeness they had built.

Choosing forever
With the distance behind them, Logan and Merrick fall even more deeply in love and choose a future together when Logan proposes.

The turn
Logan dies, and the story pivots from becoming to surviving: grief, memory, and the future nobody planned.

Life after loss
Merrick continues living - carrying Logan, motherhood, grief, and the complicated shape of loving after loss.

Final pages
The ending gathers memory, heartbreak, reunion, and hope into the novel's final answer about enduring love.

Things You Might Have Missed

Callbacks, tiny details, and choices worth noticing

1. The prologue changes the emotional meaning of almost every letter scene once you know the full story.

2. Saltwater Hollow's places each carry a different emotional function: beginnings, home, ritual, performance, and belonging.

3. Coffee and lemonade quietly become shorthand for personality, comfort, and the ways Logan and Merrick keep meeting each other halfway.

4. Addie and Eli are never just side details - they deepen Merrick's entry into the Hayes family and raise the stakes of every future dream.

5. Brooks's humor often arrives one beat before emotional truth. The jokes are not distractions so much as camouflage.

6. Absence is part of the book's architecture. Mark's death and Claire's leaving continue shaping Logan and Merrick long after the original losses.

7. The blue turtle from the carnival turns a playful early detail into a lasting emotional memory-object.

8. Again and again, the novel asks whether ordinary moments become important only in hindsight.

Behind the Book

How the story changed from its earliest version to the final novel

Early title & setting

The book was originally titled Saving Amy, and the earliest version of the setting was called Coral Bay, North Carolina. As the story deepened, both the title and the town shifted into something more atmospheric, tender, and emotionally specific.

Big first-draft differences

In the original draft, there was no active deployment storyline, the spicy scenes had not yet been added, Logan's dad was still alive, and Merrick's mother had died of cancer when Merrick was sixteen. The truck also originally belonged to Logan's best friend, who had been killed overseas while they were deployed.

Characters who grew

Originally, Tessa and Brooks were not meant to become a couple and did not have roles as large as they do in the final novel. As the story evolved, both characters took up more emotional space and became much more important to the heart of the book.

What sharpened over time

The letters, the found-family dynamics, and the quieter emotional aftermath all grew more central during revision. The final novel leans more fully into the ache of memory, the shape of grief, and the tenderness of ordinary moments.

Deleted / Changed Along the Way

Fill this in as Mandy shares behind-the-scenes details during the author chat

A scene that changed significantly

A setting detail that grew more important

An emotional beat that arrived late in drafting

A version of the ending that changed along the way

A scene, thread, or idea that was cut entirely

Favourite Things

A playful page for your group - and a perfect author-chat conversation starter

Favourite scene to write

Favourite friendship

Favourite location

Funniest moment

Most emotional chapter

Character you would most like to have coffee with

The image / line that lingered longest

Scene you would reread first

Character Superlatives

Most likely to... and other playful book-club votes

Best advice-giver

Most likely to show up when you need them

Most likely to survive being stranded

Would absolutely remember your coffee order

Most likely to cry first during a movie

Would give the best road-trip playlist

Most likely to pretend they are fine when they are not

Would make the best late-night phone call

My Wildflower Summer Review

Fill this out before the group discussion - then compare answers

My Rating ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Name

Date

Favourite character

Favourite scene

Favourite line / quote

The moment that hurt the most

The moment that made me happiest

One word for this book

Would I recommend it? Why or why not?

Our Book Club Verdict

One page for the whole group

Group rating

The character we talked about the most

The scene that divided the room

The line we wish we could underline together

The biggest surprise

The thing we still cannot agree on

The feeling we are leaving with

What Comes Next

A look at what Mandy is creating and building now

Writing

Mandy is working on a set of five novellas set in the world of Saltwater Hollow, following characters readers already know and love. She is also working on Book Two and a special Christmas surprise.

Wreckless Wild

Alongside fiction, Mandy is building Wreckless Wild: a home for poetry, reflective writing, letters, and the Wreckless Wild: Leave A Piece Of Yourself Behind journal project.

Beyond the Book

Mandy is creating an author website, setting up a newsletter, growing book-club collaborations, and pursuing more author events, including signings, author chats, Q&A sessions, bookish events, and podcast conversations.

Dreaming Bigger

A long-term hope is to explore Wildflower Summer as a script and, with luck, see whether Saltwater Hollow might one day be optioned for film or television.

Tell Me What You Want More Of

Your wish list for future stories, extras, and Saltwater Hollow

1. Which character or couple would you most like to spend more time with?

2. What kind of bonus content would you love: alternate POVs, letters, journal entries, recipes, deleted scenes, holiday stories, or something else?

3. Who - or what - do you think Book Two might be about?

4. What would you hope to find inside the special Christmas surprise?

5. What question do you hope a future story explores?

6. If you could request one author event, bonus scene, or reader extra, what would it be?

Dream Casting

If Wildflower Summer became a movie or TV show, who would you cast?

Logan Hayes	Actor / actress:
Merrick Calloway	Actor / actress:
Brooks Donovan	Actor / actress:
Tessa Marlow	Actor / actress:
Addie Hayes	Actor / actress:
Eli Hayes	Actor / actress:
Rachel Hayes	Actor / actress:
Daniel Calloway	Actor / actress:

A FINAL NOTE

After the Last Page

Books are strange little things. We write them alone, usually in rooms no one else can see, and then one day they become part of conversations we were never in the room for.

Thank you for letting Wildflower Summer become one of those conversations. Thank you for giving Logan and Merrick your time, for meeting the Hayes family, for walking the boardwalk and sitting in the diner and carrying the letters all the way to the end.

Whatever rating you gave the book, whatever you loved, whatever you questioned, whatever stayed with you - I am grateful you read it together. I hope there was at least one moment you wanted to pause on. One line you carried away. One character who felt a little too real.

I cannot wait to talk about it with you.

Forever grateful,
Mandy

Some summers leave sunburns. Others leave scars.