

Summer Friends Holly Chamberlin

Returning to Ogunquit, Maine, for an extended visit, successful businesswoman Maggie Weldon reunites with her best friend growing up, native Mainer Delphine Crandall, and together they reflect on their choices and compromises, the girls they were and the women they've become.

“Warm and witty . . . Fans of Elin Hilderbrand and Wendy Wax will adore this genuine exploration of family bonds, personal growth, and acceptance.” —Booklist Against the irresistible backdrop of Christmas in New England, bestselling author Holly Chamberlin creates a heartfelt story of reunited family, new beginnings, and unconditional love—the best gift of all. To outsiders, Appleville, New Hampshire, is a storybook small town. To Gincy Gannon Luongo, it was a place to escape from as quickly as she could. Since she moved away twenty years ago, Appleville has been her hometown in name only. But at her brother Tommy’s urging, Gincy is coming back to visit their recently widowed mother in the weeks leading up to Christmas—and she’s bringing her teenage daughter, Tamsin, with her. Ellen Gannon, once feisty and strong-willed, is mired in depression. Tommy isn’t doing much better. Gincy starts restoring order to the household in her usual practical way, but it’s clear that imagined slights and lingering resentments have created deep chasms. With each day, she realizes she has seriously undervalued her mother and her brother. Only now, with the support of her husband, daughter, and best friends, does she see how much she may have missed. For beyond the surface of every family and every picturesque town is something more complicated but infinitely more rewarding—a tapestry of those small acts of acceptance, love, and loyalty that could transform this Christmas into the best Gincy’s ever known.

“An endearing tale” of friendship, love, and the choices we must make in their name from the New York Times bestselling author of *A Thread of Truth* (Manic Readers). While New Bern, Connecticut, lies under a blanket of snow, the Cobbled Court Quilt Shop remains a cozy haven for its owner, Evelyn Dixon, and her friends. Evelyn relishes winter’s slower pace—besides, internet sales are hopping, thanks to her son Garrett’s efforts. In addition to helping out at the shop, Garrett has also been patiently waiting for his girlfriend, Liza, to finish art school in New York City. But as much as Evelyn loves Liza, she wonders if it’s a good idea for her son to be so serious, so soon, with a young woman who’s just getting ready to spread her wings . . . Liza’s wondering the same thing—especially after Garrett rolls out the red carpet for a super-romantic New Year’s Eve—complete with marriage proposal. Garrett’s the closest thing to perfect she’s ever known, but what about her own imperfections? The only happy marriage Liza’s ever seen is her Aunt Abigail’s, and it took her decades to tie the knot. Soon, Liza is not only struggling with her own fears, but with the mixed reactions of her friends and family. And when she finds herself torn between a rare career opportunity and her love for Garrett, Liza must grasp at the thinnest of threads—and pray it holds . . . Praise for Marie Bostwick’s *A Single Thread* “A big-hearted novel filled with wit and wisdom.” —Susan Wiggs, New York Times bestselling author “Bostwick’s warmly nourishing, emotionally compelling novel is quiet yet powerful.” —Chicago Tribune

"Love and loss, revenge and redemption, this debut novel will stick with you for a long time." —Emily Giffin "I love *The Next*...elegantly written, thoughtfully sharp, surprisingly touching." —Cathleen Schine Is there a right way to die? If so, Joanna DeAngelis has it all wrong. She’s consumed by betrayal, spending her numbered days obsessing over Ned McGowan, her much younger ex, and watching him thrive in the spotlight with someone new, while she wastes away. She’s every woman scorned, fantasizing about revenge . . . except she’s out of time. Joanna falls from her life, from the love of her daughters and devoted dog, into an otherworldly landscape, a bleak infinity she can’t escape until she rises up and returns and sets it right—makes Ned pay—so she can truly move on. From the other side into right this minute, Jo embarks on a sexy, spiritual odyssey. As she travels beyond memory, beyond desire, she is transformed into a fierce female force of life, determined to know how to die, happily ever after.

Set against the exquisite backdrop of Florence, Italy, *The Gilder* is a compelling and beautifully wrought novel of secrets, friendship, betrayal, and the simple choices that change us forever. . . In Marina Nesmith's skilled hands, even the most tarnished picture frame or objet d'art can be made perfect once again. Her life, too, seems flawless, at least on the surface. But more and more, Marina is conscious of what she lacks--someone to share her joys and sorrows with, confidence in the decisions she's made, and the courage to tell her teenage daughter, Zoe, the truth about her father. Then Marina is invited to return to Florence, where she lived years before while learning her trade as a gilder. In those heady days, she wandered the city's picturesque streets, marveling at the masterpieces in the Duomo and the Pitti Palace. In the church of Santa Croce, she met Thomas, an American photographer who, along with his wife Sarah, introduced Marina to a thrilling, bohemian world of art and beauty. Through them, she also learned about love, lies, and the way one mistake can multiply into many. Now, as her past and present collide, Marina will finally have to move beyond the intricate veneer she's crafted around herself, and find the life that she--and Zoe--have been looking for. Following college, Kathryn Kay spent five years living in Florence, Italy, where she studied restoration and gilding. Kathryn is the founder of the Nantucket Writers Studio, which offers writing workshops for women. She has three adult children, and lives on Nantucket Island with her husband, Robert. Advance praise for Kathryn Kay and *The Gilder* "After reading Kathryn Kay's lovely debut, I had the best kind of cry. What a beautiful, emotional novel. I loved the way she writes about love, necessary secrets, and the dark unknowability of another person, no matter how close. She writes so well about the vulnerability of strong women, the complexity of long friendship, the ways mothers and daughters protect each other, and sweet, tender forgiveness." --Luanne Rice, New York Times bestselling author "Kathryn Kay's *The Gilder*, beautifully set in the romantic city of Florence, reminds us that love, like great art, is always complex. Kay leads her talented artist and loving mother Marina through a courageous quest as labyrinthine as an ancient Italian street. With persistence and passion, Marina discovers that relationships can be repaired, making what is truly golden

shine forth." --Nancy Thayer, New York Times bestselling author "The Gilder engages the reader from the very first line. Amid sensuous details of life and art in Florence, Kathryn Kay tells a compelling story of seduction and betrayal which ultimately transforms into a story of love and redemption." --Holly Chamberlin, author of Summer Friends "In my book on the writing life I talk about taking risks and digging deep to find your voice. I tell my students if they dig for gold they will find gold. I have just finished Kathryn Kay's debut novel, *The Gilder*, and, boy, has she hit the mother lode. Her riveting story of friendship, love, betrayal and forgiveness kept me up way beyond my bedtime. Kathryn writes beautifully about difficult things, the things that tear people apart, and she does it with such honesty and tenderness that, clearly, her words come straight from the heart." --Nancy Aronie, author of *Writing From The Heart*

Sleeping on the couch for a decade after her husband's hoarding gets out of control, unfulfilled university employee Paula rescues a dying man's beloved dog and embarks on a life-changing journey that compels a new vocation at a wildlife rehabilitation center. 50,000 first printing.

On a beautiful Greek island, myths, magic, and a colorful cast of characters come together in *When the Cypress Whispers*, Yvette Manassis Corporon's lushly atmospheric story about past and present, family and fate, love and dreams that poignantly captures the deep bond between an American woman and her Greek grandmother. The daughter of Greek immigrants, Daphne aspires to the American Dream, yet feels as if she's been sleepwalking through life. Caught between her family's old-world traditions and the demands of a modern career, she cannot seem to find her place. Only her beloved grandmother on Erikousa, a magical island off the coast of Greece, knows her heart. Daphne's fondest memories are of times spent in the kitchen with Yia-yia, cooking and learning about the ancient myths. It was the thought of Yia-yia that consoled Daphne in the wake of her husband's unexpected death. After years of struggling to raise her child and pay the bills, Daphne now has a successful restaurant, a growing reputation as a chef, and a wealthy fiancé—everything she's ever wanted. But across the ocean, Yia-yia can see through the storybook perfection of Daphne's new life—and now she is calling her back to Erikousa. She has secrets about the past to share with her granddaughter—stories from the war, of loyalty and bravery in the face of death. She also has one last lesson to teach her: that security is not love, and that her life can be filled with meaning again.

A summer wedding, a college reunion, a gorgeous Maine beach house—it's the ideal setting for bestselling author Holly Chamberlin's captivating novel about the connections that shape us, sometimes break our hearts, and forever change our lives . . . Bess Culpepper has long been sure of two things—that her group of college friends would stay close, and that love is worth the wait. At forty-two, she's found the right man, and she's celebrating her upcoming wedding by inviting her best friends to beautiful Kennebunkport. Bess has always been at the helm of these reunions, herding everyone together despite distance and outside commitments. As usual, Marta and Mike journey from their home near New York City, while Chuck and his husband, Dean, travel from Los Angeles. But Allison, half of a devoted couple since college, is making the trip from Chicago without her husband, Chris. None of the others knows the reason for their impending divorce. There are other tensions too. The usually level-headed Marta is conspicuously on edge, and Chuck reveals devastating personal news. As reality encroaches on her dreams of the perfect gathering, Bess begins to second guess her assumptions about friendship and fidelity. If relationships like these, nurtured over decades, can flounder, how can any couple stay committed? Is it possible to truly know the ones we love—or even to predict where one's own path will lead?

Multiple generations gather at a beloved summer house—wondering who will inherit it next—in this “dramatic and moving” novel (Booklist). Some houses have a personality of their own. Larchmere is that kind of place—a splendid, sprawling home with breathtaking views that open to briny Atlantic air and seabirds' calls. It's where Tilda McQueen O'Connell grew up and now vacations each year, and where she and her siblings—Adam, Hannah, and Craig—are commemorating the tenth anniversary of their mother's passing. But instead of the bittersweet but relaxing reunion Tilda expected, she finds chaos. Her father's plan to marry a younger woman has thrown the fate of the beach house into uncertainty. For Tilda, the stakes seem the highest. Alone and vulnerable two years after her husband's death, she sees Larchmere as not just a cherished part of her history, but her eventual refuge from the world. Faced with losing that legacy, Tilda must embrace an unknown future. And all the McQueens must reconcile their shared, sometimes painful past—and learn how to love one another even when it means forging a life apart. This poignant, evocative novel sweeps you into the picturesque town of Ogunquit, Maine, where a family in flux explores their ties to a beautiful beach house, and to each other. “Explores questions about the meaning of home, family dynamics and tolerance.”—Bangor Daily News “Provides a touristy taste of Maine's seasonal attractions.”—Publishers Weekly “A novel for all seasons.”—The Maine Sunday Telegram

For a mother and her almost-grown daughters, Christmas in coastal Maine difficult choices, new surprises and a chance at love in this heartfelt novel. At first glance, Nell King's cozy home in Yorktide, Maine, seems a step down from the impeccable house she shared with her husband in Boston. But in the six years since he abruptly left to marry another woman, Nell and her daughters have found real happiness here. Now, faced with what may be their last Christmas together, Nell feels anxious. She gave up her own ambitions when she married. What will become of her once her daughters leave the nest? Twenty-one-year-old Molly worries about sacrificing her independence the way her mother did. Should she stay in Maine with her dependable boyfriend, or move to the city and prove herself? Felicity, meanwhile, is torn between loyalty to Nell and wanting to spend time with her glamorous stepmother. Nell is eager to make this holiday picture-perfect. But there's a complication—and an opportunity. Nell's first love, now a successful novelist, is in town for a book signing. As the two rekindle their friendship, Nell confronts the choices she once made in the name of stability. And as the days unfold with revelations and unexpected gifts, this Christmas promises to herald a bright new beginning . . .

In this touching novel, a Boston divorcée buys a Maine B&B where she juggles the demands of a celebrity wedding with being a single mother. When Louise Bessire was living in Boston, she dreamed of another way of life, far from the phony smiles and small-talk of corporate dinners. Now she's got what she wanted—though not exactly in the way she hoped. Blindsided by her husband's affair, Louise has used her divorce settlement to buy Blueberry Bay, a picturesque bed and breakfast in Ogunquit. And with a celebrity wedding taking place on the premises this summer, business is looking up. While Louise deals with paparazzi and wedding planners, her sixteen-year-old daughter, Isobel, is falling hard for local boy Jeff Otten. Being singled out by Jeff—nineteen, handsome, and from a wealthy family—almost makes up for her father's increasing neglect. Yet even in the glow of golden beach days there are sudden, heart-wrenching revelations for both Louise and Isobel. It will be a summer that tests their strength and courage and proves that through every changing season, nothing is as steadfast as a mother's love . . .

"Sometimes tough, sometimes tender, always heartfelt and honest, *Bella Fortuna* is a lively, finely-stitched tale of life and love, family and friendship, and a zest for *cose Italiane!*" —Peter Pezzelli, author of *Home to Italy* Valentina DeLuca has made hundreds of brides' dreams come true. At Sposa Rosa, the Astoria, New York, boutique where she, her sisters, and their mother design and sew couture knock-off gowns, she can find the perfect style for even the most demanding customer. Now, it's her turn. Valentina has loved Michael Carello ever since he rescued her from a cranky shopkeeper when she was ten years old. He's handsome, chivalrous, and loyal. And in a few weeks, she's going to marry him—in Venice. But just when she thinks everything is falling into place, Valentina is forced to re-examine her life to see what truly makes her happy. And as she soon learns, in a place as magical as Venice, what seems like misfortune can turn out to be anything but, although who knows what may be waiting around the next corner? The chance to enjoy a moonlit gondola ride, to sip Prosecco in St. Mark's Square, to eat mouthwatering gelato, to put aside "sensible" for once and see where the warm Italian breezes guide her as she visits all the sights she's dreamed of: The Doge's Palace, Il Rialto, the little islands of Murano and Burano. And maybe, along the way, to discover that *bella fortuna*—good luck—isn't what you're given, but what you make. "Chiofalo brings the Italian immigrant community and neighborhoods richly to life." —Publishers Weekly "Well-drawn characters . . . A charmer." —BookPage

Set against the backdrop of the beautiful Maine coast, Holly Chamberlin's novels are a summer staple. Now she weaves a heartfelt story of past and present summers and new beginnings, as a mother and daughter reconnect after decades apart... There are moments that change your entire life's direction. For Arden Bell, owner of a cherished bookstore in the seaside hamlet of Eliot's Corner, one such moment comes early on a summer day when she opens the door to Laura Huntington--the daughter she hasn't seen in thirty-seven years. Not a day has passed in which Arden hasn't thought of the baby she glimpsed only once before her wealthy, powerful parents forced her to give her up for adoption. Shy and sheltered, Arden finally mustered the courage to leave her Maine hometown of Port George, changed her name, and has barely seen her parents since. Nor has she heard from Rob, the boy she was so passionately in love with. Now Laura's arrival, and her inevitable questions, will propel both women on a journey to forge a new relationship and unravel the past. Amid revelations and discoveries--sometimes painful, often unexpected--they will learn the truth about a long-ago summer, and about the risks we take and sacrifices we make for love.

"A thoughtful social commentary and tender narration of friendship and loyalty" from the bestselling author of *A Wedding on the Beach* (Publishers Weekly). The town of Yorktide, close to Maine's beautiful beaches and the city of Portland, seems like the perfect place to raise a family. For Jane Patterson, there's another advantage: her best friend, Frannie Giroux, lives next door, and their teenaged daughters, Rosie and Meg, are inseparable. But in the girls' freshman year of high school, everything changes. Rosie—quiet, shy, and also very pretty—attracts the sneers and slights of a clique of older girls. Over time, the bullying worsens. When Meg betrays their friendship, fearful that she too will be targeted, Rosie suffers an emotional breakdown. Blaming both Meg and Frannie, Jane tries to help Rosie heal while dealing with her own guilt and anger. In the months that follow, each struggles with the ideas of forgiveness and compassion, of knowing when a friendship is shattered beyond repair—and when hope can be salvaged, one small moment at a time... Praise for Holly Chamberlin "Nostalgia over real-life friendships lost and regained pulls readers into the story."—USA Today on *Summer Friends* "A great summer read but with substance. It will find a wide audience in its exploration of sisterhood, family, and loss."—Library Journal on *Summer with My Sisters* "A dramatic and moving portrait of several generations of a family and each person's place within it."—Booklist on *The Family Beach House*

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"Beach reading at its best . . . four stories of sun-filled days and warm, intoxicating nights" headlined by the #1 New York Times bestselling author (USA Today, "Hot New Romance Releases to Knock Your Socks Off"). That summer feeling: sultry days, steamy nights, and the sweet expectation that comes with finding—or rediscovering—love . . . "His Bride to Be" Lisa Jackson The job perks: a two-week luxury cruise in the company of one of the most eligible bachelors on the West Coast. But posing as Hale Donovan's fiancée to finesse a takeover deal will challenge all of Valerie Pryce's resolve to keep business and pleasure separate . . . "You Again" Elizabeth Bass A group yoga tour to Peru is the last place Meredith expects to see her workaholic ex-boyfriend, Sam. Seven years have changed everything—except Meredith's regret at abruptly running away. Yet amid the magnificent views and ancient ruins, a new chance may be waiting . . . "Return to Hampton Beach" Mary Carter Jacob was the shy, kind twin. Chris was wild and dangerous. As a teenager, Celia Jensen was a little in love with them both. Now Celia is coming back to Hampton Beach for a summer, where she'll untangle the lie that broke her heart. "Summer Memories" Holly Chamberlin There's nowhere Ellen would rather nurse her wounds after her ex's betrayal than Ogunquit, Maine—a little beach town where she spent

idyllic childhood summers. Then Ellen meets a charming local artist who challenges her to create new memories . . .

The bestselling author of *The Beach Quilt* sets a tale of friendship, family, and newfound love against the beautiful backdrop of coastal Maine. Every June, the quiet beach town of Ogunquit is overtaken by wealthy families who hire local young women like Amy Latimer and Hayley Franklin to care for their children. Best friends since childhood, Amy and Hayley are eager to secure lucrative summer jobs to finance their future hopes and dreams . . . Amy is immediately in thrall to her dynamic boss, Cressida Prior, so different from Amy's mother, Leda. Though skilled at creating tapestries and rugs, Leda lacks confidence. But one thing she does know, after a painful summer long ago as a nanny herself, is how damaging a manipulative boss can be. Hayley's employers, Jon and Marisa Whitby, are loving parents to their two-year-old twins. Jon also has a grown son by a previous marriage. Ethan is kind, handsome, and not least, wealthy. For the first time, Hayley, usually so selfless, can't help seeing him as an opportunity. But the passing weeks bring complications and revelations, altering friendships, testing the bond between mothers and daughters, and proving that the ripples from a single season can last forever . . . Praise for the novels of Holly Chamberlin "There is sure to be much clamor for this latest beach read. Recommend it to fans of Claire Cook and Elin Hilderbrand."—Booklist on *Home for the Summer* "Chamberlin's latest is a great summer read but with substance. It will find a wide audience in its exploration of sisterhood, family, and loss."—Library Journal on *Summer with My Sisters*

A mother and daughter escape to coastal Maine to find healing in the wake of heartbreaking loss in a poignant novel by the author of *All Our Summers*. The journey to Yorktide, Maine, was always a happy one for Frieda and Aaron Braithwaite and their two daughters. Frieda loves her mother's old farmhouse, and the girls have grown closer there, sharing a bedroom and spinning stories into the night. But that was before—when tragedy was something that happened to other families. Since the car crash that claimed the lives of her husband and their younger daughter, Frieda has struggled emotionally and financially. Bella, now seventeen, is withdrawn and wary, and Frieda fears losing her too. At her mother's urging, Frieda decides to return to Yorktide with Bella for the summer. Bella gets a job in a local shop, and little by little edges her way back into the world. But it's the unexpected connections they make—with a former schoolmate, a troubled teenage girl, and Frieda's estranged father—that will spur them to find healing amid bittersweet memories, and discover if their bond is strong enough to guide them back to hope once more. Praise for the writing of Holly Chamberlin "Chamberlin's latest is a great summer read but with substance. It will find a wide audience in its exploration of sisterhood, family, and loss." —Library Journal on *Summer With My Sisters* "Nostalgia over real-life friendships lost and regained pulls readers into the story." —USA Today on *Summer Friends*

After her estranged step-sister, Heidi, returns to the family farm that she and her sister run as a tourist destination, Rue Anderson hopes that Heidi will find a safe place there, but her sister, Laura, is not so sure, and soon devastating news shakes the foundation of their tenuous sisterhood. A first novel.

On paper, Jazmine, Judith, Erin and Sara have little in common - they're very different people leading very different lives. And yet at book club meetings they bond over a shared love of reading as well as the growing realisation that their lives are not turning out like they expected. With the help of books, laughter, and the joy of ever evolving friendships, Jazmine, Judith, Erin and Sara find the courage to navigate new and surprising chapters of their lives as they seek their own versions of happily-ever-after.

In the Hamptons, the everyday people are as complicated and fascinating as the millionaires... When Katie Doyle moves across the country to the Hamptons, she is hoping for summer employment, new friends for her young son, and a chance to explore a new love affair with a dazzling investor. What she finds is a strange cocktail of classes, where society's one-percenters vacation alongside local, hard-working people who've lived in the Hamptons for generations. Though she's looking forward to their move, Katie is wary about mingling with her boyfriends' East Coast elite circles. She soon discovers Southampton isn't all that it seems to be on the surface—and neither are the people who live there. As George takes Katie on a whirlwind tour of country clubs, haute couture, and lavish events, she is amazed to witness sudden whims become dire needs, extra-marital affairs blossoming right and left, and people purchase friends and loyalties like a pair of shoes. Even the middle-class townspeople maintain a determined façade while maneuvering like sharks among the wealthy summer invaders. The more Katie becomes immersed, the more she learns the secrets of both the upstairs and downstairs, the upper crust and middle of the road. The combustion between the classes becomes explosive as the summer tears on. Betrayals, a sexual predator, and a missing person lost in murky waves drive the reader on a racing Learjet ride through impossible twists and turns until landing at the shocking conclusion. When she meets Luke, a local surfer and middle school teacher, he makes her question what it is she really wants as she understands the life she's begun for herself is built on shifting Hamptons' dunes.

In a picturesque seaside town in Maine, two families face choices and changes over the course of one eventful summer: "Compelling."—The Pilot Everyone in Yorktide, Maine, knows sixteen-year-old Sarah Bauer. She's a good student and a dutiful daughter, as well as a beloved best friend to Cordelia Kane. So it's a surprise to all when sensible Sarah reveals that she's pregnant. Though shocked, Sarah's family is supportive. But while Sarah reconciles herself to a new and different future, the consequences ripple in all directions. Her father—a proud, old-time Mainer—tries to find more work to defray expenses. Her younger sister grapples with a secret she can't share. Cordelia feels abandoned, and Cordelia's mother faces the repercussions of a long-ago decision. As Sarah's mother frets about how she'll juggle childcare with her job at the local quilting store, she seizes on an idea: to band together and make a baby quilt. Piece by piece, a beautiful design emerges. And as it progresses, reflecting the hopes and cares of the women who create it, each will find strength in the friendship and love that sustains them, in hardship and in joy . . . Praise for the writing of Holly Chamberlin "A thoughtful social commentary and tender narration of friendship and loyalty." —Publishers Weekly on *Last Summer* "Nostalgia over real-life friendships lost and regained pulls readers into the story." —USA Today on *Summer Friends*

Set in Tehran in 1973, seventeen-year-old Pasha Shahed spends his summer with his best friend planning his future and falls in love with his neighbor Zari, who has been betrothed since birth to another man.

By showing that kitchen skill, and not budget, is the key to great food, *Good and Cheap* will help you eat well—really well—on the strictest of budgets. Created for people who have to watch every dollar—but particularly those living on the U.S. food stamp allotment of \$4.00 a day—*Good and Cheap* is a cookbook filled with delicious, healthful recipes backed by ideas that will make everyone who uses it a better cook. From Spicy Pulled Pork to Barley Risotto with Peas, and from Chorizo and White Bean Ragù to Vegetable Jambalaya, the more than 100 recipes maximize every ingredient and teach economical cooking methods. There are recipes for breakfasts, soups and salads, lunches, snacks, big batch meals—and even desserts, like crispy, gooey Caramelized Bananas. Plus there are tips on shopping smartly and the minimal equipment needed to cook successfully. And when you buy one, we give one! With every copy of *Good and Cheap* purchased, the publisher will donate a free copy to a person or family in need. Donated books will be distributed through food charities, nonprofits, and other organizations. You can feel proud that your purchase of this book supports the people who need it most, giving them the tools to make healthy and delicious food. An IACP Cookbook Awards Winner.

Elizabeth "Betts" McGee loved those lazy afternoons on pristine Bulls Island in the Carolina Lowcountry. But everything came crashing down when tragic fate—coupled with nasty rumor and innuendo—ended her engagement to Charleston golden boy J.D. Langley of the fabulously wealthy (and fabulously snooty) Langley clan. Betts left soon after, and she

hasn't been back in nearly twenty years. Successfully reinventing herself in New York City, Betts is now a top banking executive and heading up the most important project of her career, but it'll transform the untouched island she loved in her youth into something unrecognizable. And it's forcing her to return to the bosom of her estranged family, where she may not be welcomed with open arms. Worse still, it's uniting her with ex-flame J.D., who's changed . . . but perhaps not enough. And then there's that crazy alligator . . . This special edition includes an excerpt from Dorothea Benton Frank's upcoming novel *Lowcountry Summer*.

Three strangers share a beach house for the summer and find that friendship isn't always based on how well you know a person's past, but in opening each other's eyes to the future.

LaVyrle Spencer, known for her “heartrending slices of Americana”* writes of how love can be more special the second time around in this New York Times bestseller. It is 1916 and Roberta Jewett is surprised to find that her hometown of Camden, Maine, considers a divorced woman little more than a prostitute. Condemned by her mother and scorned by neighbors, she nonetheless perseveres in her struggle to forge a good life for her girls and herself. Behaving like no “respectable” woman would, she gets a job as a county nurse, learns to drive, and buys her very own Model T. Embittered by her painful marriage to an unfaithful husband, she has no intention of being any man's victim again. So Roberta is taken aback to find the widowed carpenter Gabriel Farley has somehow found his way into her heart. And in the ultimate test of will and devotion, she must depend on the man she has grown to love—and summon the courage to stand up to an entire town. “[LaVyrle Spencer] knows how to tug at readers’ heartstrings.”—*Publishers Weekly

By the award-winning author of *East of the Sun*, “a powerful and memorable novel” (Publishers Weekly) about the forbidden love between a young Indian doctor and an English midwife. Oxfordshire, 1947. Kit Smallwood, hiding a painful secret and exhausted from nursing soldiers during the Second World War, escapes to Wickam Farm where her friend is setting up a charity sending midwives to the Moonstone Home in South India. Then Kit meets Anto, an Indian doctor finishing his medical training at Oxford. But Kit’s light-skinned mother is in fact Anglo-Indian with secrets of her own, and Anto is everything she does not want for her daughter. Despite the threat of estrangement, Kit is excited for the future, hungry for adventure, and deeply in love. She and Anto secretly marry and set off for South India—where Kit plans to run the maternity hospital she’s helped from afar. But Kit’s life in India does not turn out as she imagined. Anto’s large, traditional family wanted him to marry an Indian bride and find it hard to accept Kit. As their relationship begins to fray, Kit’s job becomes fraught with tension as they both face a newly independent India, where riots have left millions dead and there is deep-rooted suspicion of the English. In a rapidly changing world, Kit’s naiveté is to land her in a frightening and dangerous situation... Based on true accounts of European midwives in India, *Monsoon Summer* is a powerful story of secrets, the nature of home, the comforts and frustrations of family, and how far we’ll go to be with those we love.

Madeline King and Grace Pancik are best friends and the envy of Nantucket for their perfect marriages, their beautiful kids, their Sunday night double dates with their devoted husbands. But this summer, something's changed, and if there's anything Nantucket likes better than cocktails on the beach at sunset, it's a good rumor. And rumor has it... ..that Madeline, a novelist, is battling writer's block, with a deadline looming, bills piling up, and blank pages driving her to desperation--and a desperately bad decision; ...that Grace, hard at work to transform her backyard into a garden paradise, has been collaborating a bit more closely than necessary with her ruggedly handsome landscape architect; ...that Grace's husband, successful island real estate developer "Fast Eddie" Pancik, has embarked on quite an unusual side project; ...that the storybook romance between Madeline's son, Brick, and Grace's daughter Allegra is on the rocks, heading for disaster. As the gossip escalates, and they face the possible loss of the happy lives they've worked so hard to create, Grace and Madeline try mightily to set the record straight--but the truth might be even worse than rumor has it.

Four bestselling authors “explore the topic of lost love and the magical qualities of unexpected second chances” in this pitch-perfect summer collection (Publishers Weekly).

Golden sand, pounding surf, a sense of endless possibility—and four unforgettable stories of love, friendship, and starting over . . . “The Brass Ring” Lisa Jackson It’s a beautiful June day, perfect for a wedding—until Shawna learns that her fiancé, Parker, has been involved in a car crash. Though his injuries heal, his memories of her are gone. Yet Shawna won’t stop reaching to reclaim the love they once shared . . . “June’s Lace” Cathy Lamb In her studio on the Oregon coast, June MacKenzie creates beautiful lace wedding dresses, with no intention of ever wearing one again herself. Then songwriter Reece rents the house next door—and sets out to change her mind . . . “Second Chance Sweethearts” Holly Chamberlin Thea Foss is putting a bad marriage behind her in the pretty vacation town of Ogunquit, Maine. But when her first love wanders into the local diner, he reminds Thea of the person she once was, and the life it’s not too late to claim . . . “Carolina Summer” Rosalind Noonan A storm along North Carolina’s Outer Banks strands Jane Doyle in a beautiful, remote town that soon feels a lot like home. And thanks to the local sheriff, she finds herself staying longer than she ever expected . . .

Bullied at school and neglected by her poor, self-absorbed, single mother at home, high school junior Noelle finally reaches the breaking point after a classmate commits suicide. “Fans of *Sex in the City* will enjoy” this tale of a Boston woman’s rocky road to finding herself by the author of *Barefoot in the Sand* (Booklist). From Holly Chamberlin, author of *Tuscan Holiday* and *Summer Friends*, comes a witty, insightful novel chronicling a year in one woman’s quest to find love, joy—and herself . . . At twenty, singlehood is a lifestyle choice. At thirty-two, it starts to feel like an affliction. Erin Weston has a rewarding PR career, loyal friends, and a wonderful Boston condo. But in between weekend brunches, farmers’ market forays, and dinners in Cambridge and the South End, Erin can’t shake the sense that something’s missing. The traditional ideal—husband, house, clothing-coordinated children—once seemed too obvious, and pride in her accomplishments doesn’t keep the loneliness at bay. Now, ready to venture into uncharted territory, Erin is going to claim the life she thinks she wants. And in the process, she might just figure out exactly what—and who—she really needs . . . Praise for the writing of Holly Chamberlin

“Nostalgia over real-life friendships lost and regained pulls readers into the story.” —USA Today on Summer Friends “An honest, forceful novel about love, family, and sacrifice.” —Booklist on One Week in December “It does the trick as a beach book and provides a touristy taste of Maine’s seasonal attractions.” —Publishers Weekly on The Family Beach House

Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award *A New York Times Notable Book* *Winner of the Texas Book Award and the Oklahoma Book Award* This New York Times bestseller and stunning historical account of the forty-year battle between Comanche Indians and white settlers for control of the American West “is nothing short of a revelation...will leave dust and blood on your jeans” (The New York Times Book Review). Empire of the Summer Moon spans two astonishing stories. The first traces the rise and fall of the Comanches, the most powerful Indian tribe in American history. The second entails one of the most remarkable narratives ever to come out of the Old West: the epic saga of the pioneer woman Cynthia Ann Parker and her mixed-blood son Quanah, who became the last and greatest chief of the Comanches. Although readers may be more familiar with the tribal names Apache and Sioux, it was in fact the legendary fighting ability of the Comanches that determined when the American West opened up. Comanche boys became adept bareback riders by age six; full Comanche braves were considered the best horsemen who ever rode. They were so masterful at war and so skillful with their arrows and lances that they stopped the northern drive of colonial Spain from Mexico and halted the French expansion westward from Louisiana. White settlers arriving in Texas from the eastern United States were surprised to find the frontier being rolled backward by Comanches incensed by the invasion of their tribal lands. The war with the Comanches lasted four decades, in effect holding up the development of the new American nation. Gwynne’s exhilarating account delivers a sweeping narrative that encompasses Spanish colonialism, the Civil War, the destruction of the buffalo herds, and the arrival of the railroads, and the amazing story of Cynthia Ann Parker and her son Quanah—a historical feast for anyone interested in how the United States came into being. Hailed by critics, S. C. Gwynne’s account of these events is meticulously researched, intellectually provocative, and, above all, thrillingly told. Empire of the Summer Moon announces him as a major new writer of American history.

A mother struggles to reconnect with her long-lost daughter in a picturesque Maine beach town in this novel by the author of Barefoot in the Sand. Every year on March 26, Verity Peterson visits Ogunquit Beach, where she puts a handwritten message into a bottle and launches it into the waves. It’s a ritual of remembrance for the daughter she hasn’t seen in sixteen years—not since her baby’s father, Alan, took two-month-old Gemma and disappeared. Verity keeps searching and hoping, sustained by the thought that someday she might get to be a mother to her own child. And finally, one phone call may change everything . . . Verity learns that Alan is now in jail on abduction charges—and Marni Armstrong, born Gemma Peterson-Burns, is coming to live with Verity in Yorktide, Maine. But this isn’t the joyful reunion Verity imagined. Gemma has been raised to believe Verity was an unfit mother who left Alan no choice but to take her out of harm’s way. Over the course of one summer, Verity tries to reach a tough, wary young woman who’s more stranger than daughter. And Gemma must reexamine everything she thought about her parents—and decide whether to trust in a relationship that, though delicate as a seashell on the surface, could prove to be just as beautiful and resilient.

A heartfelt novel of friendship, marriage, divorce, and starting over, from the bestselling author of Barefoot in the Sand. Jess’s marriage has ended after she was caught having an affair. Nell’s husband has left her for another man. Laura’s marriage fell apart over a disagreement about having children, and Grace is still supporting her freeloading ex. These four Boston women are still getting used to being single again—but there comes a time to put regrets and resentments aside and get back in the game . . . Praise for the novels of Holly Chamberlin “Nostalgia over real-life friendships lost and regained pulls readers into the story.” —USA Today on Summer Friends “It does the trick as a beach book and provides a touristy taste of Maine’s seasonal attractions.” —Publishers Weekly on The Family Beach House

A woman discovers that nothing can disrupt a perfect wedding like an unplanned pregnancy in this novel by the author of Living Single. And to think pink was once my favorite color . . . Then the two pink lines appeared. Pink, as in positive . . . as in pregnant . . . as in pure, unadulterated panic. This wasn’t supposed to happen: I’m scheduled to marry the handsome, successful, and very appropriate Ross Davis in six months. Unfortunately, while Ross may not rock my world with kitchen-table sex, his technique worked well enough to put a bun in my thirtysomething oven . . . Don’t get me wrong, babies are great—in theory. But I enjoyed my life the way it was. Loved my job, my rooftop apartment, my friends; was having fun planning my wedding and gazing at my pretty three-carat diamond. I didn’t need anything more . . . did I? Well, whatever I needed, here’s what I currently have: A nasty case of morning sickness, a future mother-in-law obsessed with “Ross’s Baby,” and a custom-designed wedding dress I’ll soon be too fat to wear. Now, as I burst the seams on my pencil skirts, I’m trying to take some small comfort in the fact that one is never too bloated for a really cute purse. But impending motherhood also has me reassessing more than my wardrobe—and wondering how fast I can finish growing up . . .

In 1961 after Castro has come to power in Cuba, fourteen-year-old Lucia and her seven-year-old brother are sent to the United States when her parents fear that the children will be taken away from them as others have been.

In the first novel of the Union Street Bakery series, Daisy McCrae learns how easily life can turn on a dime... Suddenly without a job or a boyfriend, Daisy now lives in the attic above her family’s store, the Union Street Bakery, while she learns the business. It doesn’t help that, as the only adopted daughter, her relationship with her sisters has never been easy. When an elderly customer dies, Daisy is surprised to inherit a journal from the 1850s, written by a slave girl named Susie. As she reads, Daisy learns more about her family—and her own heritage—than she ever dreamed. Haunted by dreams of the young Susie, who beckons Daisy to “find her,” she is compelled to explore the past more

deeply. What she finds are the answers she has longed for her entire life.

Against the picturesque coastal Maine setting that she evokes so well, bestselling author Holly Chamberlin creates a heartfelt story of family bonds and new beginnings . . . It came as no surprise to anyone in Yorktide when glamorous Carol Ascher fled the little Maine town for New York City. While Carol found success as an interior designer, her younger sister, Bonnie, stayed behind, embracing marriage and motherhood. She even agreed to take in Carol's teenage daughter during a tumultuous patch. Now both their girls are grown and Bonnie, recently widowed, is anticipating the day she'll retire to Ferndean House, the nineteenth-century family home on the rocky Maine coast. But forty-five years after leaving Yorktide, Carol suddenly announces that she's moving back—into Ferndean. Bonnie is indignant. She's the one who kept the homestead in order and tended to their dying mother. Now Carol expects to simply buy her out? As far as Bonnie is concerned, Ferndean is part of their heritage—not just another of Carol's improvement projects, to be torn apart and remade according to her whim. The entire Ascher family is in flux, uncovering secrets that upend their relationships. Carol's longing to be welcomed home is fueled by a painful truth she's carried for years. It will take an extraordinary summer—in a remarkable place—to lead these women back to each other, buoyed by the tides of friendship and forgiveness.

Summer in Maine means breezy, sun-kissed beach days, golden evenings, and, in bestselling author Holly Chamberlin's irresistible novels, a time for self-discovery and surprising connections... Like Elin Hildebrand's Nantucket novels, Holly Chamberlin's Maine-set summer reads are perfect for the beach--heartwarming, engaging, and emotionally satisfying. In her latest novel set in the charming seaside town of Eliot's Corner, the revelation of her mother's secret affair will turn one woman's world upside down--and bring new possibilities. A delight for fans of Nancy Thayer, Shelley Noble, and Pamela Kelley. Sometimes you sense something, deep inside, long before it's proven true. Thirty-year-old Petra Quirk has always felt as if a vital element of her life is missing. It's not until she moves back to the small town of Eliot's Corner for the summer that she learns why. Rummaging in the attic, Petra comes across a diary. The discovery prompts her mother, Elizabeth, to make a confession to her three daughters. Decades ago, she fell in love with her husband's best friend, Chris--and Petra is Chris's child... Elizabeth ended the affair before she learned she was pregnant, and Chris has no idea he's a father. Hugh, who Petra believed to be her dad, was a good-natured but self-centered, blustering man. He and Chris seemed to have little in common, though their friendship was genuine. Elizabeth loved Chris deeply yet refused to tear her family apart. Even since Hugh's death, she's resisted contacting Chris. But Petra, floundering and unsure of her path, is compelled to search out her biological father, though she knows it will complicate her relationship with her family. Over the course of two summers, decades apart, romance will be kindled and rekindled, life-altering decisions made, and secrets of the heart will come to light at last.

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