



Discussion Guide

Fly Away With Me

by Susan Fox (a.k.a. Savanna Fox and Susan Lyons)

Kensington Zebra; July 2017

Blue Moon Harbor series #1

[Look for:

#2: “A Blue Moon Harbor Christmas” in *Winter Wishes* (Oct 2017)

#3: *Come Home With Me* (Dec 2017)

#4: *Sail Away With Me* (Oct 2018)]

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These questions are available for download (in PDF format) from my website.

Thanks so much for reading *Fly Away With Me*. I hope you enjoyed this first title in my new Blue Moon Harbor series. I'm happy to provide bookmarks and autographed bookplates for any of my books. Just send me your name and address. Please visit my website for info on other titles, insights into how each book came about, excerpts, reviews, recipes, a monthly contest, and other fun stuff. You can also subscribe to my e-newsletter.

Now, let's talk about *Fly Away With Me*. I suggest you skim through the questions and pick the ones that interest you the most.

1. *Best thing in the world.* When Aaron and Eden first meet, he says flying is the best thing in the world. For her, the best thing in life is her family. What do these different opinions say about the two characters and their lives to date? What's the best thing in life, for you?
2. *Fish out of water.* In what ways is Eden a “fish out of water” on Destiny Island? How does this play out over the week she spends there, and what does she learn from the experience? And how is the reverse true when Aaron visits Ottawa? Have you ever had a fish-out-water experience and, if so, what did you learn from it?
3. *Parents and children.* There are a lot of parent-child relationships in this book: Eden and her parents; Kelsey and those same parents; Helen and Lucy and their parents; Aaron and Miranda and their parents; Miranda and her daughter. Consider the nature of each, and how the relationship affected the children as they grew up. What makes for a “good parent”? Do you see any common threads with your own relationship with your parents and/or child(ren)?
4. *Siblings.* Helen and Lucy/Di are long-estranged sisters. Eden and Kelsey are sisters. Aaron and Miranda are half siblings. Discuss each of these relationships and how they evolved. Do you think it's inevitable that there will be closeness between siblings? Is it inevitable that there will be tensions? Now, if you have a sibling or siblings, consider your relationship with them.
5. *Petty crime.* Aaron and Miranda learn to do a lot of things at an early age. One is to read and make use of libraries. Another is to shoplift and pick pockets. Is that kind of petty crime ever justified?
6. *I'd do anything for you.* Who would Eden do anything for, and why? Who would Aaron do anything for, and why? And how about Miranda? Are there people you'd do anything for?

(please turn over)

7. *Mentorship*. When Lionel catches Aaron stealing, he doesn't turn him into the police. Why not? Do you think he should have? What do you think of Lionel's style of mentorship and his relationship with Aaron? Do you think Eden had a mentor, and if so who was it? Do you think Miranda's life would have been different if she'd had a mentor?
8. *Independence and pride*. Miranda places a high value on these, and hates having to admit that she needs help. Aaron's pretty independent too. And even Eden, who's so tied to her family, likes to be in control rather than to delegate. How do each of these characters develop these qualities, how do the attributes play out in their lives, and what changes do you see over the course of the book?
9. *Destiny*. Describe Destiny Island. Why do some people love it and others not like it? How would you feel about living in a place like Destiny?
10. *Looking for love*. Eden has always wanted love, a home, and children. Why, and how has she gone about looking for them? Miranda has also sought love. Why, and how has she gone after it? Aaron, on the other hand, has believed that love isn't for him, nor for his sister. Why? How has this affected his behavior? How does his view slowly change over the course of the book?
11. *His bold step*. Why does Aaron go to Ottawa? What big step does this represent for him, in his emotional development?
12. *Opposites?* At the beginning of the book, Eden and Aaron view themselves as opposites in many ways. Which ways? Why does Aaron resist her efforts to learn more about him, and take a "what you see is what you get" approach? What similarities emerge over the course of the book, and what is it that draws them together: the differences, the similarities, or both?
13. *If they'd never met*. If Aaron and Eden never met, what would their lives be like?
14. *Calling it quits*. Di and Seal both break all ties with their families. Di's parents destroy all traces of her and pretend she doesn't exist. What do you think of such extreme behavior? Have you ever done, or contemplated doing, something so final?
15. *Dealing with serious illness*. How do Helen and her family deal with her first cancer diagnosis and then the recurrence? Have you ever had to face something like this yourself? What do you think is the best approach? Do you agree with Di's advice about acknowledging fears?
16. *Those crazy hippies*. The late 1960s and early 1970s were a special time in history. Did you live through those times and if so, how did they affect you? If you didn't, have you heard older relatives talk about them? Can you relate to what young people sought in those days: the idealism, the dreams, the protests, the sexual freedom and exploration, the drugs, the music? What do you think of the older Destiny residents who once belonged to the commune, and what their lives have been like since then?
17. *Merlin and Starshine*. Aside from the search for the long-lost Lucy, there's a small mystery thread running through the book, and it never gets resolved. What do you think happened to Merlin and Starshine? (And if you want to find out, all will be revealed in *Come Home With Me*, the story of Miranda's romance.)

I'd love to hear your thoughts on some of these questions and issues! Email me at susan@susanlyons.ca. And don't forget to drop by my website: www.susanlyons.ca. I'm also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SusanLyonsFox.