



### Discussion Questions for Elin Hilderbrand's HERE'S TO US

- 1.) How does Deacon's relationship with his parents, especially his father, influence his relationship with his own children?
- 2.) At first glance, Laurel, Belinda, and Scarlett are three extremely different women. In what ways are they unexpectedly similar? What draws Deacon to each one?
- 3.) Do you think that Deacon's views on marriage evolved with each of his relationships? Why or why not?
- 4.) Do you think Deacon changed as he became a more successful chef? Is fame partially responsible for the dissolution of any of his marriages?
- 5.) In what ways are Angie and Hayes repeating the mistakes of their parents in life and in love? In what ways are they learning from their parents' choices?
- 6.) What qualities drew Laurel, Belinda, and Scarlett to Deacon? Did they each fall in love with the same aspects of his personality? Or did different sides to Deacon appeal to each woman?

- 7.) Does your family have a vacation refuge similar to American Paradise? If so, what's your favorite memory there?
- 8.) Did Deacon ever really stop loving Laurel and Belinda after his marriages to them ended? What makes you think that?
- 9.) Have you ever found yourself stuck in close quarters with a romantic rival (or two)? How did you handle the situation similarly, or differently, from Laurel, Belinda, and Scarlett? Which woman's approach is most effective over the course of the weekend? Why?