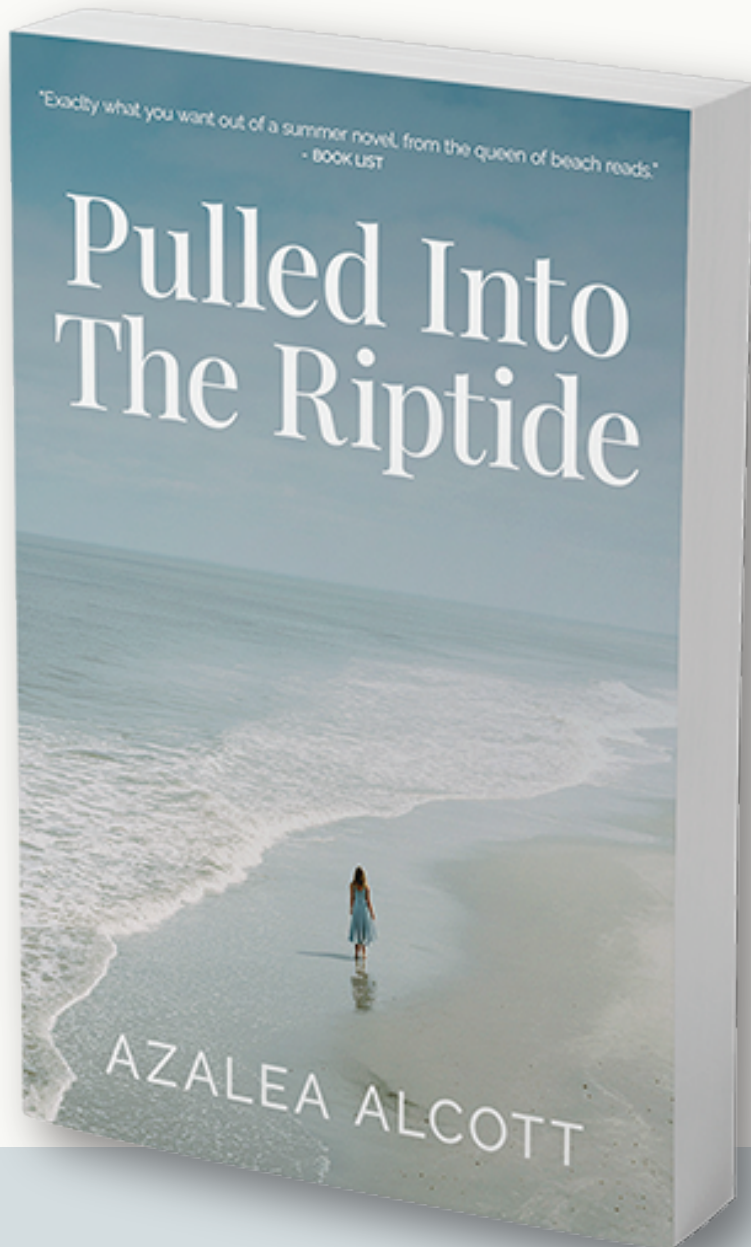


“The horizon never looked so endless as it did the night we decided forever was just another word for tomorrow.”

from PULLED FROM THE RIPTIDE



## BOOK CLUB GUIDE & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Returning Home:** Harper insists her return to the North Carolina coast is temporary. Why do you think returning to a hometown can feel both comforting and emotionally complicated?
- 2. The Power of Place:** The novel is set in the Outer Banks region of North Carolina. How does the coastal setting shape the mood of the story and the characters' emotional journeys?
- 3. Past vs. Present:** Harper and Beck share a powerful history. How does their past relationship influence the way they interact when they see each other again?
- 4. Second Chances:** Do you believe Harper and Beck deserve a second chance at love? Why or why not?
- 5. Harper's Escape:** Harper left behind her life in Charleston after things fell apart. What do you think she was really running from—her circumstances, her past with Beck, or something deeper?
- 6. Beck's Growth:** Beck was once the "golden boy" of the town. How has time changed him? In what ways has he matured—or remained the same?
- 7. Forgiveness:** Both Harper and Beck carry emotional scars from their past. What does the story suggest about the difficulty—and necessity—of forgiveness?
- 8. Family and Legacy:** Harper returns home to settle her father's affairs and repair the beach house. How do family memories and obligations influence her decisions throughout the story?
- 9. The Riptide Metaphor:** The title suggests powerful, dangerous currents. How does the idea of a riptide mirror Harper and Beck's relationship?
- 10. Storms and Change:** With hurricane season looming, the threat of storms hangs over the story. How do the approaching storms parallel the emotional tension between the characters?
- 11. Home and Belonging:** By the end of the novel, how does Harper's understanding of "home" change?
- 12. Risk vs. Safety:** Harper must choose between returning to the stable life she built elsewhere or risking her heart again with Beck. What would you have done in her position—and why?

# THEMED DRINKS & SNACKS

## THE CHARTER CAPTAIN

Inspired by Beck's life on the water.

Ingredients

2 oz bourbon

½ oz honey syrup

2 dashes bitters

Orange peel

Stir with ice and serve in a rocks glass.

## HARPER'S COASTAL LEMONADE MOCKTAIL

Fresh, summery, and simple.

Ingredients

Lemonade

Splash of Coconut water

Fresh mint

Lemon slice

Serve over ice for a light beachy drink.

## COASTAL SNACK IDEAS

Easy foods that feel like a North Carolina beach gathering.

Shrimp cocktail or Old Bay shrimp skewers

Crab dip with crackers

Fresh fruit (pineapple, mango, berries)

Mini key lime pies

Coconut macaroons

Chips with mango salsa

Optional: decorate the table with shells, driftwood, or blue tablecloths for a seaside vibe.

# CONVO-STARTER QUESTIONS

## BOOK ADJACENT

If you could live in a beach town like the Outer Banks for a year, what would your dream job there be?

What's your favorite beach memory or vacation spot?

Would you enjoy living in a small coastal town year-round, or would you miss city life?

## SPOILER-FRIENDLY QUESTIONS

What moment made you believe Harper and Beck still had chemistry?

What scene felt the most emotionally vulnerable?

How important is timing in a relationship like theirs?

Do you believe people can truly change after years apart?

What role does nostalgia play when reconnecting with a first love?

What scene best captured the coastal atmosphere?

Thank you so much for reading (and hopefully enjoying) **PULLED FROM THE RIPTIDE**. Writing these books is such a delightful escape for me, and I hope it's the same for you.

AZALEA ALCOTT