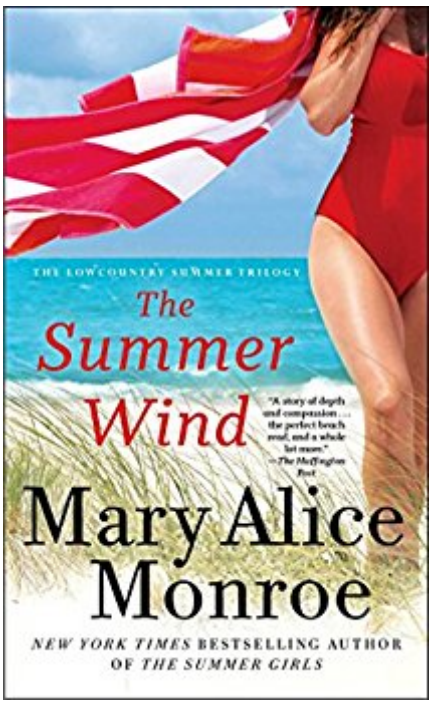
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The Summer Wind (Lowcountry Summer Book 2)



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Synopsis

The Summer Wind is the second book in MonroeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Lowcountry Summer trilogy, following the New York Times bestselling The Summer Girls. This series is a poignant and heartwarming story of three half-sisters and their grandmother, who is determined to help them rediscover their southern roots and family bonds.ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s midsummer and Eudora, nicknamed Dora, is staying at Sea Breeze, the familyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s ancestral home on SullivanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Island. For years, Dora has played the role of the perfect wife and mother in a loveless marriage. Now her husband filed for divorce, her child is diagnosed with autism, and her house is on the market. DoraÃ¢â ¬â„¢s facade collapses under the weight of her grief and she suffers Ã¢â ¬Å“broken heart syndrome.Ã¢â ¬Â• Mamaw and the girls rally around DoraÃ¢â ¬â •but itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s up to Dora to heal herself as she spends the summer prowling the beach, discovering the secrets of the island and her heart. This is a summer of discovery for all the women of Sea Breeze. Carson returns from Florida to face life-changing decisions, Lucille confronts a health scare, and an unexpected visitor has Harper reconsidering her lifeÃ¢â ¬â„¢s direction. When tropical storm winds batter the island, the women must band together and weather the tempestÃ¢â ¬â •both the one outside their windows and the raging sea of emotions within each of them. They must learn again what it means to be a sister. It is up to Mamaw to keep the light burning at Sea Breeze to guide the girls through the lies, the threats, and the rocky waters of indecision to home.

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Customer Reviews

Their final summer at Sea Breeze on SullivanÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s Island, South Carolina, continues, with some new challenges for the three half-sisters.Mamaw (Marietta Muir) is firm in her support, albeit still planning to sell the summer estate.Dora is in the midst of settling the divorce issues and helping little Nate with his grief over the dolphinÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s injuries earlier in the summer. A health crisis causes big changes in how she faces her life.Carson is instrumental in helping her nephew heal, by taking him to Florida to the treatment center where children and injured dolphins heal together. But her own unexpected life change leads to moments of facing her fears.Harper plants a garden and deals with her own issues. Secretly she writes on her computer, but shares nothing with the girls or her grandmother.Like the summer winds that come along toward the end of the story, with a big storm that resembles their own challenges, the three women will move a little closer to their own resolutions.I enjoyedÃ Â The Summer Wind (Lowcountry Summer Book 2)Ã Â and reconnecting with the characters. The support and advice of Mamaw and their old maid Lillian felt like the kind of true strength offered by a close family. I also loved how the author painted a picture of the lowcountry, making me feel as if I were right there with them. The story concluded without an ÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Å“endÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã Â• to the conflicts and challenges, but a feeling of moving in that direction. There were sad moments, but also a stronger bond between the women. I am looking forward to the final book in the trilogy. 4.5 stars.

I live in the low country of SC, so I can strongly feel and know Monroe’s descriptions and love of this place . This book eloquently discusses the problems and joys of women in different stages of life. It also examines the ties that bind Southern women. I believe Southerners have and enjoy the love of their land and cultural customs more strongly than people from other regions of this country. Perhaps this is because a lot of them grew up and in fact inherited their family’s land over many generations as I did. This gives us an appreciation of the blood, sweat, and tears needed to acquire, hold, and be good stewards of this land. I will recommend this book to my book club and anyone who wants to read authentic Southern fiction. I rated this book very highly-- a 4. I only give 5’s to books like Gone with the Wind that are classics in every way. --from Nancy Anne

Love the continuation of the story with Mamaw, Dora, Carson, Harper and Lucille on the island and how they are all growing through their combined experiences. Both together and separately each family member is experiencing such an extraordinary summer of rebirth. I don't want to say more so I don't have to include spoiler alerts but suffice it to say that a lot happens, some happy, some sad, and all heartfelt.

I find myself caught up in the trilogy of three sisters, a grandmother and a house called Seabreeze. The tumultous past, conflicts galore, romance, divorce and a dolphin are all part of the story. All three sisters are in transistion, but grandmother wants them to spend the entire summer as part of their inheritance. I find myself wishing to be on that island, where the ocean, nature and weather are part of the transitions happening. A death, a birth, a young child, new love and old love, together with many memories create the saga that exisits!

This second in the charming Lowcountry Summer series was better than the first ("The Summer Girls"), and kept my interest from start to finish.First, let me say that I am an intense fan of Mary Alice Monroe, have read everything she has written, and look forward to every book. I felt that the first in the series was a tad slow, but this one enlarged upon the characters, gave us something to hold on to, and as always with Monroe's books, made us care about a wild species, in this case, dolphins.We first met Delphine the wild dolphin, a viable character in her own right, in "The Summer Girls." Spoiler Alert if you have not read this one: Delphine meets with a possibly fatal accident due to the carelessness of humans. Enough said. In THIS book, there is quite a lot of information about dolphin conservation and care, and I ate it up. It was secondary to the plot, but melded in beautifully, just like Monroe has melded in her stories of wild turtle conservation in so many of her previous books.Yes, Monroe has an agenda, and that is the preservation of the Low Country's creatures, beaches, environment, and charm. And yes, she preaches her message, but unlike other authors of the same ilk, she draws the reader in without lecturing or badgering. Maybe that's because she always weaves her tales around such interesting people, and this book is no exception. The main characters, five women in different stages of their lives with different problems and agendas and yet bound together by family, are well drawn and totally believable. Each has to solve a problem on her own, some very serious life-altering problems--but each has the love of the others to keep her strong.This book left me very anxious to read the last in the trilogy. I hope it appears soon!

After reading the first in this series of books, I felt compelled to follow up and so I ordered the final two books. The Summer Wind started out a little slow and somewhere in the middle of the book I was seeing it as being way too predictable. I almost put it away... but I figured, I have come this far, I need to continue. I am so glad I did! Not long after that, the story became meatier and I couldn't wait to continue. (I read a chapter a night before bed). A story's ending is what brings it all together for me. If the ending stinks, so does the book. The ending of The Summer Wind offered a beautiful look at life and its purpose. I cried a little, and then a lot. Mary Alice Monroe brought her characters to a turning point in their lives with grace and dignity. Her poetic descriptions were heartfelt and tugged at the heartstrings and I cannot wait to read the final book in this trilogy.

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