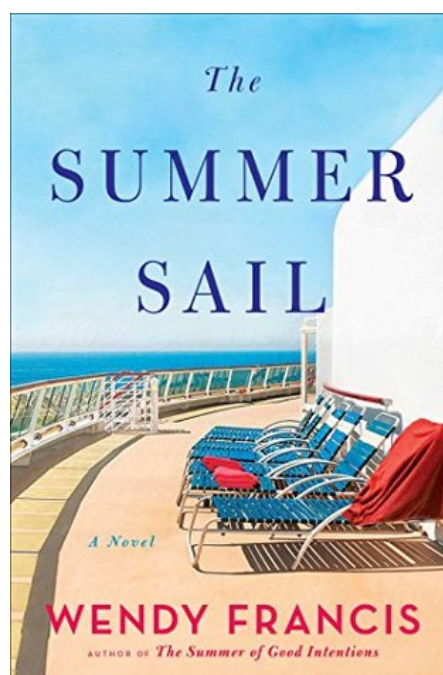




The Summer Sail

Wendy Francis

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“A great summer read for fans of Jennifer Weiner and Emily Giffin.” (*Library Journal*)

A trio of college friends who reunite aboard a cruise ship experience an unforgettable vacation in this compelling novel from the author of *The Summer of Good Intentions*, which was hailed as “everything a summer read should be” by Elin Hilderbrand.

Three college roommates are celebrating a twentieth wedding anniversary by taking a cruise to Bermuda. As the ship pulls away from the pier, everyone is looking forward to lounging by the pool, sipping sunset cocktails, and reminiscing. Abby, the mother hen of the group, will be celebrating her wedding anniversary in style, even as she and her husband keep a secret from the group. Ambitious career woman Caroline happily anticipates several stress-free days away from her magazine job with her boyfriend, Javier, who may or may not be finally inspired to propose. And single mom Lee (annoyingly gorgeous and irresistibly popular in college) hopes she’ll win back the affections of her formerly sweet daughter Lacey, who after her first year in college, has inexplicably become a little bit of a monster.

As the balmy pink shores of Bermuda come into view, tensions simmer, and old jealousies flare, sending the temperature from soothing to scorching in this engrossing tale of three best friends on a vacation they won’t soon forget—but not for the reasons they expect.

The Summer Sail Details

Date : Published May 1st 2018 by Touchstone

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Author : Wendy Francis

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From Reader Review The Summer Sail for online ebook

Julie says

Too cutesy and fluffy for me. Not much depth and I think I needed a bit more out of the characters. Probably be a good read on the deck of a cruise for easy reading.

Donna Hines says

Fun in the Sun! Cruising to Bermuda for a 20th Wedding Anniversary with college friends leads to new adventures not yet imagined!

Who wouldn't turn down an invite for a cruise among friends? Especially with friends who have confided in you, trusted your instincts, and valued your opinions.

Friends like Abby , Caroline, Lee and daughter Lacey will always have be there for one another offering love , mutual support and understanding.

Abby decides along with Sam to bring everyone together to renew her vows showing not only their love but the love of friendship.

However, how much do you know about your friends especially those you've known for a number of years? What will be revealed on this cruise? What new outcomes must be approached with caution? Will the relationships survive once the truths are revealed?

Life is not a guarantee nor is health and well being. So what god forbid would happen if a tragedy or illness hops aboard? Will the friendship become stronger or fall apart at the seams?

This is purely magical and I loved every minute of it.

I'm so glad I was blessed with this ARC copy courtesy of the author Wendy Francis, publisher, NetGalley and Aldiko.

What a wonderful way to begin the summer

Carrie says

The Summer Sail by Wendy Francis is a contemporary novel of friendship, family, life and love. The story is told from multiple points of view of Abby, Caroline, Lee and Lacey.

Abby is celebrating her twentieth wedding anniversary and after getting some rather devastating news she decides to do it in style by booking a cruise for not only herself, husband and two sons but also her college friends Caroline and Lee and their families.

As the group sets sail for Bermuda it quickly becomes apparent that all have different things going on in their lives that they are focused on. Not only is Abby struggling with sharing her news but Caroline struggling with wanting a proposal and Lee with reconnecting with her daughter, Lacey.

As a fan of cruising it only took one glance at the cover of this book to sell me on reading it. I was hoping to find the author had done a wonderful job with the setting as much as I was hoping for some lovely characters. Thankfully when finished I found both of these things and was even highly impressed at how well the author knows her cruising even including tips and tricks veteran cruisers have come to rely on. This was definitely a wonderful read all around.

I received an advance copy from the publisher via NetGalley.

For more reviews please visit <https://carriesbookreviews.com/>

Linda Zagon says

My Review of "The Summer Sail" by Wendy Francis Published by Touchstone May, 2018

"The Summer Sail" by Wendy Francis is a perfect enjoyable summer read. What more could you ask for in a novel about friends and cruising to the sea and surf in beautiful Bermuda? I love the author's scenic descriptions of the landscape on the boat, in the water, and on the land. The Genres of this novel are Fiction and Women's Fiction. The timeline of this story is in the present and goes back to the past or mentions the future when it pertains to the events or the characters.

Wendy Francis describes her colorful cast of characters as complex, troubled, secretive, and loyal. This is a wonderful book about friends and sisterhood. Three college roommates meet together with their families and significant others on a cruise to celebrate one of their twentieth Anniversary Wedding Celebrations.

Many things have changed, yet stayed the same in the twenty years span for the friends. Abby and her husband Sam along with their twin teenage sons are celebrating twenty years of being married by taking her friends on a cruise. Caroline is now a high-profile Magazine writer and is with her boyfriend Javier. Caroline is hoping for a proposal, but is Javier, who has been with her three years on board with that? Single Mom Lee, is trying to stabilize her relationship with her daughter Lacey, who has changed since her first year of college.

This is a heartwarming, captivating and endearing story of friendship, sisterhood, family, love, faith and hope. I would recommend this novel to readers that enjoy Woman's Literature.

Sherri Thacker says

This is a cute book about a group of friends vacationing together on a cruise. At times, I felt like I was on the cruise with them and then once they got to Bermuda, I felt like I was there in the pink sand with them too. This is a great summer read for anyone! Thank you to the publisher and NetGalley for this complimentary copy. Opinions expressed in this review are completely my own.

Elizabeth of Silver's Reviews says

FULL REVIEW WILL BE ON SEPTEMBER 5.

"If you need a pick me up and an idea for getting back together with friends from your younger years, THE SUMMER SAIL will make you want to give your best girlfriends a call and suggest meeting.

THE SUMMER SAIL was a lovely change of pace for me. This book is about love, friendship, caring, and learning to live life to the fullest.

There were some nice quotes to think about as well.

ENJOY when you read THE SUMMER SAIL. 5/5

This book was given to me as an ARC by the author. All opinions are my own.

Jennifer ~ TarHeelReader says

4 smooth sailing stars to The Summer Sail! ? ? ? ?

I L.O.V.E. to cruise. There is nothing better than unpacking your suitcase in your cabin, going to sleep, and magically waking up in a new place every single day. I'm especially drawn to books about cruising (and I haven't found many!) because I'm trying to recapture that sense of adventure, which my inner 80s child will always equate with "The Love Boat!"

The Summer Sail is about three college friends who reunite for a cruise to Bermuda. Abby is celebrating her 20th anniversary with her husband while on the cruise, and she's keeping some secrets. Caroline is on the trip with her boyfriend, and Lee is a single mom who brought her college-age daughter with her.

Unfortunately, the vacation is not as stress-free as the friends had hoped. Past transgressions surface, dynamics shift, and their relationships are tested.

Bottom line, Wendy Francis has delivered a fantastic escapist read in every sense with a fabulous setting, smooth writing, likable characters, and dilemmas that just about anyone could relate to. I enjoyed my time aboard The Summer Sail!

Thank you to Wendy Francis, Touchstone, and Netgalley for the ARC. The Summer Sail is available now!

Bruna Morais says

The heart of the book is friendship: three best friends since they were roommates in college with a lot of stories to share.

Abby is celebrating her 20th anniversary and invites her two best friends to go on an amazing cruise that stops in Bermuda.

Caroline goes with her boyfriend and expects a proposal after 3 years in a serious relationship.

Lee goes with her 20-year-old daughter Lacey, attempting to get along with her like old times as they have been distant since she moved away to college.

The highlight of the story, which makes the book nearly impossible to put down, is the secret that Abby wants to share with her best friends. On the other hand, she wants everybody to have fun on the cruise and doesn't want her secret to ruin the trip.

Abby isn't the only one with a secret as Lacy has a secret that she's been keeping from her mom. And now, she can't keep it to herself any longer.

It's easy to get attached to the characters since the author describes their thoughts and feelings so well. Right at the beginning of the book you will find yourself choosing your favorite character and cheering them on.

The Summer Sail is a light read but intense at the same time. It's funny, beautifully written, and creative. This book will make you think about friendship and its importance in both good and bad times. Final praise: the scene descriptions are so good that you can actually see yourself on the cruise and feel the pink sand and warm water in Bermuda.

Robin says

Even though the topic about women's relationships with friends and family has been done before, Francis has created a cast of likable characters and a very enticing cruise ship and Bermuda setting. In fact, I'm ready to book the next ship bound for Bermuda--or any place warm and sunny. This is a solid entry for my list of Beach Books for 2018.

I enjoyed Francis' previous title THE SUMMER OF GOOD INTENTIONS, and would this recommend for fans of Nancy Thayer and Wendy Wax. It's a bit lighter in tone but readers of Elin Hilderbrand might also enjoy.

Thanks to the publisher for the advance digital reading copy.

Reading.Between.Wines says

???????? / 5

Do not be alarmed if The Summer Sail by Wendy Francis makes you want to go on a cruise because now I desperately want to!

The Summer Sail focuses on 3 best friends that were roommates in college - Abby, Lee, and Caroline. To celebrate Abby's 20th wedding anniversary, she invites them to join her and her husband Sam on a cruise to Bermuda all expenses paid. Lee is a single mom living in South Carolina while Caroline is living in New York with her longtime boyfriend Javier. Everyone has something going on; Abby is carrying a large secret from her friends and 2 sons, Lee is struggling with her teenage daughter Lacey as she has become a bit of a handful after her first year of college in Maine, and Lee desperately wants Javier to propose on the cruise or she is considering calling things quits. Everyone is together on the cruise and it's amazing how much happens in the week that this book covers.

The Summer Sail switches viewpoints from Lee, Abby and Caroline with a little of Lacey interspersed as well. It was interesting to see how each person is dealing with their own issues, and what Lacey is thinking while also knowing what her mom Lee is thinking. I think this might be the epitome of a beach read. It was incredibly readable and I was able to finish the entire book plus the conversation with the author all under 4 hours, something someone could easily accomplish at a day at the beach.

I loved that there were serious topics told in an overall light hearted manner, plus the book leaves you feeling hopeful. I really connected to these women and Lacey, and I was tearing up throughout but especially towards the end. This was a super sweet book that will leave you feeling warm and fuzzy at the end.

Final Thought: I think *The Summer Sail* will be relatable for a lot of women, and it's such a fun read about friendship, parenting and romance. Even though the characters are in their 40s and Lacey is 19, I still felt like

I could connect to each of them in a way. If you like Hallmark movies there is a good chance you will love this book because I could totally see this as a Hallmark movie (and I personally love them). I definitely recommend this to people that need a lighter beach read to brighten up their summer.

Darcy says

On our road trip this summer, I flew through this one in one day. Good thing the husband was driving! I really liked the idea of this book, but honestly, I found myself skimming through some of the more uninteresting parts.

The story focuses on three former roommates in college and how they try to get together once a year. This year, one of the women invites the other two, along with their immediate families, to go on a cruise so she and her husband can renew their vows after 20 years of marriage. All three of the women are dealing with their own issues, so each chapter jumps around and focuses on each woman at a time.

The only one I was remotely interested in was the daughter, and even then, she was a bit shallow. The ending just seemed to appear without a whole lot of resolution, so that was rather disappointing. There were parts of the story that seemed a little too full of fluff, and there were other parts that made me wonder. Like whatever happened to the other twin after his brother got in trouble? It just wasn't a very memorable read for me.

Meg - A Bookish Affair says

In "The Summer Sail," Abby has the idea to bring her two best friends from college, Lee and Caroline, on the cruise. Lee wants to bring her college age daughter, Lacey, to get closer to her and repair their frayed relationship but Lacey may be hiding a secret of her own. Caroline is bringing her long term boyfriend and hoping for an engagement or at least some sign that he wants to be with her for the long haul. Abby is hiding her own secret and reason for bringing everyone together.

I really liked this story. It's a good story of friendship and why it's so important to surround yourself with really good people. Although Abby is definitely hiding the biggest secret (no spoilers), everyone else is hiding their own hopes and fears throughout the book. Part of the fun of this book is seeing how the characters initially hide things from each other only to realize how important it is to let your friends in to help you when you need it!

The pacing and the writing of this book was great. I really liked how the author captured the warmth of the relationship between Abby, Lee, and Caroline! The author does a really good job of giving the reader just enough of a hint of where the story was going to keep you reading. I read this book super quickly because of that. This was a great summer read about friendship!

Jen says

Happy #pubday to The Summer Sail! ? Three college roommates reunite every summer, this year going on a cruise to Bermuda to celebrate the 20th wedding anniversary of Abby and her husband. Abby has a secret that makes this trip even more meaningful, will her best friends find out the truth? Caroline comes along with

her boyfriend Javier, with whom she wants more of a commitment. Rounding out the trio is Lee, a single mom to Lacey. Lacey is in her first year of college and on uneven ground with her mom. I loved the details of the cruise ship and the beaches of Bermuda. This was everything a good beach read should be- it was light, witty, juicy, and has the right touch of mystery. Chock full of details that helps the reader slip away with them on the cruise to Bermuda, this was an enjoyable easy read. For me, this was ????????/5 stars (rounded up from 3.5). Thank you @touchstonebooks for this advance reader in exchange for my honest review.

Reeca Elliott says

Love, love, love this cover. Who does not love a cover which looks like instant relaxation!

Three college friends and their families are setting sail on a cruise to Bermuda, basically to celebrate the renewal of vows for Abby and her husband. This turns into a trip to remember.

This is a quick, good, all around beach read. And to tell you the truth, I have no idea what was so great about it. It really is a normal beach read about life, family, friends. Nothing special. But, I was captivated! All the way through.

Each character brings a different story into the mix. Caroline and her boyfriend Javier..is he going to propose? Single mom Lee and her college aged daughter Lacey...is she pregnant? And then there is Abby with her twins and her great husband...what is wrong with Abby? On top of all these questions, the setting of the cruise ship and Bermuda just kept me glued to the pages.

All the characters compliment each other and really give this story the kick you need to start off BEACH SEASON! HOORAY!

I received this novel from Edelweiss for a honest review

Samantha March says

What a fabulous women's fiction novel for your summer reading list! Right off the bat I was hooked on the story of three college friends who reunite on a cruise ship. I love friendship fiction and each woman's story was interesting to read about, and the cruise ship setting was so much fun. We follow Abby, Caroline and Lee, and even though they have their own busy lives, families, and careers, their bond of friendship is still strong. Each is going through their own thing of course – Abby and her husband hiding a secret from their loved ones, Caroline hoping her boyfriend will finally propose, and Lee struggling with her suddenly sullen daughter.

This was a story that made me crave a sequel. How would each woman's story continue? I read this on a plane, and toward the end I simply had to finish the book, even as we hit turbulence and my motion sickness wanted to kick in. That's how much I enjoyed this story and had to get to the end. The writing is strong and moves at a quick pace, the scenery is vivid, and this is one I highly recommend.

I received a review copy
