

A Poisonous Palate

Book 14 of the Key West Food Critic Mysteries

Discussion Questions

Note for my readers: I hope this guide enhances your book discussion and reading. I wish I could listen in on all your conversations!

1. How would you describe Hayley Snow's character? If you've read any of the previous books in the series, how has she grown and changed? Does she change over the course of this book?
2. How does the setting of Key West create a unique atmosphere for this story? Talk about how the commune in the 1970s came to life. How does the historical backdrop influence the mystery?
3. Discuss the dual mysteries in the book, the disappearance of Veronica in the 1970s and the present-day murder. How are they connected? Did you identify the murderer before he or she was revealed? Which clues and red herrings stood out to you?
4. Talk about the theme of toxic love and how it manifests itself in the relationships between these characters and in the overall plot. How does the theme of friendship and loyalty play out in the resolution of the mysteries? Are there particular characters that demonstrate these very different themes best?
5. Given that Hayley is a food critic, how do culinary themes play out in the book? Do you feel that they contribute to the story?
6. Talk about how the title, *A Poisonous Palate*, relates to the plot. Does it capture the essence of the book, while fitting into the other series titles?
7. Are there unresolved issues that you would've liked to have seen addressed in this book? What would you like to see happen with the characters in a sequel?