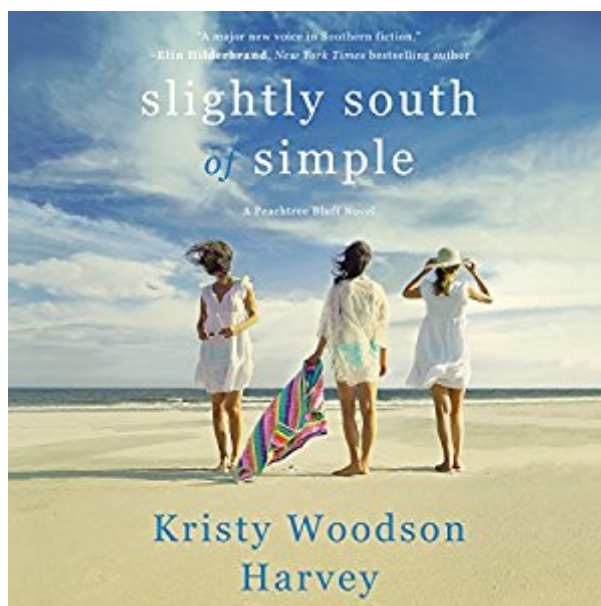


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Slightly South Of Simple: Peachtree Bluff, Book 1



Synopsis

From the next "major voice in Southern fiction" (New York Times bestselling author Elin Hilderbrand) comes the first in an all-new series chronicling the journeys of three sisters and their mother - and a secret from their past that has the potential to tear them apart and reshape their very definition of what it means to be a family. Caroline Murphy swore she'd never set foot back in the small Southern town of Peachtree Bluff; she was a New York girl born and bred and the worst day of her life was when, in the wake of her father's death, her mother selfishly forced her to move - during her senior year of high school, no less - back to that hick-infested rat trap where she'd spent her childhood summers. But now that her marriage to a New York high society heir has fallen apart in a very public, very embarrassing fashion, a pregnant Caroline decides to escape the gossipmongers with her nine-year-old daughter and head home to her mother, Ansley. Ansley has always put her three daughters first, especially when she found out that her late husband, despite what he had always promised, left her with next to nothing. Now the proud owner of a charming waterfront design business and finally standing on her own two feet, Ansley welcomes Caroline and her brood back with open arms. But when her second daughter Sloane, whose military husband is overseas, and youngest daughter and successful actress Emerson join the fray, Ansley begins to feel like the piece of herself she had finally found might be slipping from her grasp. Even more discomfiting, when someone from her past reappears in Ansley's life, the secret she's harbored from her daughters their entire lives might finally be forced into the open. Exploring the powerful bonds between sisters and mothers and daughters, this engaging novel is filled with Southern charm, emotional drama, and plenty of heart.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mothers, Daughters, Sisters *—* | ahh, the complexities. The fabulously talented Kristy Woodson Harvey's latest southern charmer, "Slightly South of Simple" not only hits close to home *—* but for me personally, her novel IS home. I have three daughters of my own, and the author brilliantly captures the intricacies of motherhood/sisterhood with profound understanding and spot-on precision. She powerfully explores the unbreakable bond of three sisters, who, for various reasons, leave their "normal" lives behind and converge in the small southern town of Peach Tree Bluff to be with their mother. Each woman harbors her own secrets, her own pain, and each is trying to heal. Emotional drama and family secrets are unveiled against the backdrop of the ocean *—* practically a character in its own right. The book is a page-turner -- a perfect beach read that challenges oft-times dysfunctional relationships and reminds us that family ties bind and release, and yet ... while overcoming adversity, particularly matters of the heart, love grows and ultimately prevails.

When Kristy Woodson Harvey released her debut novel, *Dear Carolina*, just over two years ago, I had found a new favorite author. Then, *Lies and Other Acts of Love* was released in the spring of 2016, and I was even more impressed. I am not one who re-reads books often, but each of these are re-read worthy, and I've given each as gifts to friends many times over. There is an ease and flow to her writing that I adore. Her southern settings are quaint and fun, especially for this North Carolinian. Shortly after the release of *LAOAL*, I found out that Kristy would be releasing a trilogy of books about three sisters, and *Slightly South of Simple* is the first in the series. In *SSOS*, our narrators are Ansley, the fifty-something mother of the three sisters, and Caroline, the eldest sister. We learn quickly that the personalities of each sister are starkly different, but somehow there is something relatable within each one. Ansley was easily likeable, and while Caroline was gruff and tough and even condescending at times, by the end of the book, I found her softer vulnerability. Overall, this is one of the best types of beach reads—full of depth, family secrets, entertaining, easy-reading, and characters to love. I will be preordering the next in this series as soon as it's listed. If you are new to KWH's books, while her books are all favorites of mine, I would suggest starting with *Dear Carolina*, then reading *Lies and Other Acts of Love* (which is probably still my favorite—so incredibly good!), and then moving on to this series. I think reading them this way gives

a real taste for the flavor of her writing, and all of them are perfect escape reads with added depth. I absolutely love this author!

This book is EVERYTHING you want in a beach / summer read! It's a funny, heartwarming, gutwrenching, and beautifully written story about motherhood, sisterhood, family... and leaves you wanting more! Which is awesome, since the second book in the series is coming next year! Run out and pick it up for your mama for Mother's Day, or for yourself!

I was looking for something light hearted and non political to read. This was perfect! It dealt with complex issues and complex people but it was a fun read and very enjoyable. Can't wait for the next book in this series!

Just finished Slightly South of Simple in a day. Loved it loved it loved it. I am a huge fan of southern fiction. I've read all of Dorothea Benton Frank's books, all of Mary Kay Andrews, Mary Alice Monroe and Wendy Wax as well of tons of others. I lived in the lowcountry of Georgia and of course have visited many beaches from the NC coast to the Florida coast and along the gulf coast. Your writing takes me right back to the area. I can almost smell the marshes and the saltwater. I can't wait until the next book. In the meantime, I will read your other two. You are definitely on my fave author list..."and the best part is you are a born and bred Tarheel. I love the Tarheels. Keep up the good work. You've got your newest fan.

Loved the book, did not want it to end.

Because this story evolves around one of the greatest tragedies this country has ever endured, these characters became real to me the moment I got to know them. Reading how they handled their grief put a true prospective on how families came together during such a tumultuous time. And now several years later, you are able to read how affected they were. I have never written a review before but this author was able to touch my soul with her characterization of each daughter and their mother. Kristy Wolfson Harvey is an excellent storyteller and I look forward to her future works.

First time reading this author. She knocked it out of the park!(so much so I looked forward to reading her two other books, so I ordered them from .) A story of three sisters, and their mother who all come together over the summer. Like real life, each come with baggage(or should I say real life

issues?) There are differences of opinion, hurts, but also a lot of love and forgiveness. Even secrets. I thoroughly enjoyed this book, and loquat an introduction to this author! Thank you Ms. Harvey for the hours of enjoyment. I have ordered your other two books, and can't wait! The title rings so true... (Life is..) Slightly South of Simple!

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