# The DEVIL SPRINGS Book Club Bundle







## MS. SHEPHERD'S PEANUT BUTTER PIE

8 OZ. CREAM CHEESE 1 CUP CRUNCHY PEANUT BUTTER 16 OZ. COOL WHIP 1.5 CUPS POW DERED SUGAR 2 OREO PIE CRUSTS PEANUT BUTTER CUPS

- COMBINE CREAM CHEESE AND PEANUT BUTTER AT MEDIUM SPEED.
- GRADUALLY ADD COOL WHIP AND POWDERED SUGAR.
- SPOON EVENLY INTO BOTH CRUSTS AND TOP WITH CRUMBLED PEANUT BUTTER CUPS
- FREEZE 8 HOURS BEFORE SERVING.



BLESS

DEAR BOOK CLUB COORDINATOR:

INSIDE THIS BOOK CLUB BUNDLE, YOU'LL FIND ALL THE NECESSARY ITEMS NEEDED FOR A SUCCESSFUL MEETING: A SWEET RECIPE FOR PEANUT BUTTER PIE TO MAKE AND SHARE AND A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF DISCUSSION QUESTIONS.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RESERVING THE AUTHOR FAYDRA STRATTON FOR A PERSONAL APPEARANCE OR A VIRTUAL CONFERENCE AT YOUR MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT HER DIRECTLY AT HER WEBSITE: FAYDRASTRATTON.COM.

ENJOY YOUR CLUB MEETING AND THE DISCUSSION OF DEVIL SPRINGS.

## DEVIL SPRINGS BY: FAYDRA STRATTON

#### **ABOUT THE BOOK**

FVP BOOK CLUB

THE DEVIL HAS COME TO DEVIL SPRINGS. EXCEPT HE HASN'T. NOT AT ALL. BUT TRY AND TELL THAT TO MESA CRANE'S GRANDMOTHER, MAYOR AVIS KNELLER. THIS IS NOT THE SENIOR YEAR MESA HAD PICTURED FOR HERSELF. SHE'S USED TO HER GRANDMOTHER'S RESTRICTIVE DRESS CODE AND NO BOYS RULE, BUT THANKS TO SOME SKINNY-DIPPING CHEERLEADERS MAKING SOME QUESTIONABLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS, AVIS IS RATCHETING UP HER EXPECTATIONS AND DECREEING SPIRITUAL WARFARE. MESA IS SICK OF BEING BULLIED INTO FAKE PIETY, BUT DEFYING HER GRANDMOTHER WILL MEAN LOSING THE SMALL FREEDOMS SHE DOES HAVE, INCLUDING HER SPOT ON THE CROSS COUNTRY TEAM. MOST UNFORTUNATE, SINCE SHE'S STARTED TRAINING WITH THE SCHOOL'S BEST (AND OKAY, ADMITTEDLY HOT) ATHLETE, CODY HOWARD. BUT WHEN MESA WON'T GET BAPTIZED—AS GRANDMA AVIS MANDATES—HER ISOLATION BEGINS. THE ACTUAL DEVIL MAY NOT HAVE COME TO DEVIL SPRINGS, BUT JUDGMENT SURE HAS. CAN MESA ENDURE UNTIL GRADUATION? OR WILL SHE FIND THE SWELL OF FAITH SHE NEEDS TO STAND UP TO HER GRANDMOTHER ONCE AND FOR ALL?



### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. THE BOOK OPENS WITH A LINE ABOUT FAMILY LOYALTY. HOW DOES THE THEME OF LOYALTY TO FAMILY, FAITH, AND FRIENDSHIP SHIFT THROUGHOUT THE NOVEL? 2. MESA IS NOT FRIENDS WITH HER BEST FRIEND KENZI'S CHEERLEADER FRIENDS. HAVE YOU EVER HAD A CLOSE FRIEND WHOSE FRIENDS YOU DIDN'T LIKE? HOW DID YOU WORK THROUGH THAT?

3. MESA HAS TO FOLLOW CONSERVATIVE CLOTHING AND STRICTER CELL PHONE RULES THAN HER PEERS. HAVE YOU EVER HAD TO OBEY A RULE THAT DIDN'T SEEM FAIR? IF YOU QUESTION AUTHORITY (AT HOME, A RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION OR SCHOOL) WHAT COULD HAPPEN?

4. AFTER CHURCH MESA NOTES THAT "FELLOWSHIPPING" IS MIXED UP WITH "POLITICKING" FOR AVIS WHO IS ALSO THE MAYOR. THROUGHOUT THE BOOK, AVIS'S RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AFFECT HER TOWN POLICIES. IS IT OKAY FOR CHURCH AND POLITICS TO MIX? WHY OR WHY NOT?

5. AVIS IS OVERTLY JUDGMENTAL, AND IN HER OWN WAY, MESA CAN BE TOO. IDENTIFY AREAS IN THE BOOK WHERE MESA IS JUDGMENTAL. WHEN HAS SHE BEEN RIGHT AND WHEN SHE HAS BEEN WRONG? (WAIT. IS THAT A JUDGMENTAL QUESTION?)

6. MESA IS NAMED AFTER A PLACE SIGNIFICANT TO HER PARENTS. HOW DID YOU GET YOUR NAME?

7. DREW, MESA'S FRIEND AND NEIGHBOR, HAS FRAGILE X SYNDROME. ARE THERE MOMENTS WHEN HER ABLEISM MISGUIDES HER FRIENDSHIP WITH HIM? EXPLAIN. 8. MESA IS MADE FUN OF FOR BEING SO TALL, AND THERE IS A MOMENT IN THE STORY WHEN MESA IS UPSET WITH A STUDENT WHO INSULTS DREW FOR HIS DISABILITY. HAVE YOU EVER EXPERIENCED BULLYING? WHAT DID YOU DO TO DEFEND YOURSELF OR SOMEONE ELSE?

9. MESA IS READY TO GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL AND MAINTAINS A COUNT OF DAYS UNTIL THE FREEDOM SHE EQUATES WITH THIS MILESTONE, BUT SHE RECONSIDERS LEAVING TOWN WHEN SOME OF HER RELATIONSHIPS CHANGE. WHAT DO YOU THINK MESA WILL DO AFTER SHE GRADUATES?

10. TOWARDS THE END OF THE BOOK, MESA IS OSTRACIZED BECAUSE SHE'S MISQUOTED. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN UNFAIRLY MISREPRESENTED? IF SO, HOW DID YOU FEEL? 11. WHEN CODY STOPS TALKING TO MESA, ARE YOU MAD AT HIM? DO YOU THINK THEY ARE A GOOD COUPLE?

12. YANCEY IS AWESOME. YES OR YES? (OKAY, A LITTLE AUTHOR BIAS COMING IN THERE.)

13. WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE MOMENT IN THE BOOK AND WHY?