



Picture This

By Jacqueline Sheehan
ISBN: 9780062101532

Introduction

The poignant and unforgettable sequel to the beloved bestseller *Lost & Found*; a marvelous tale of life-altering surprises and unanticipated guests

Peaks Island, Maine, vibrates with its own special magic, a unique flow to life that knits together the small community that calls it home. The people, the animals, and even the houses have a charm and personality all their own. Just ask Rocky Pelligrino. Devastated by her husband Bob's sudden death, she found hope thanks to a relentlessly loyal black Lab named Cooper. Warm friends and a new job as the island's animal control warden have helped Rocky chart a course toward a promising future. She's even ready to try love again with Hill, the gentle and patient archery instructor. And there is an old house haunted by lost love and forgotten secrets that speaks to her soul.

But a phone call from a troubled young woman looking for her biological father shakes Rocky's newfound joy. Could this young girl hold a tendril of the man who was the love of her life? Or could the girl's appearance throw Rocky's world into chaos . . . and shatter her heart again?

Questions for Discussion

1. Rocky is caught between wanting to start a new relationship with Hill and grieving the sudden death of her husband. Does it seem unimaginable to fall in love again after the death of a spouse, or would it feel like a second chance?
2. Rocky is instantly drawn to Natalie in a way that seems to defy her psychological knowledge. What is it that pulls Rocky to the wayward girl?
3. How does Natalie's background influence her behaviors with Rocky and with others on Peaks Island?
4. The house that Rocky buys is brimming with personality. The house makes a wish when Rocky first stands in front of it. "Give me one more go at it." How does Rocky's decision at the end of the book answer this wish?
5. How does Cooper respond to Natalie? If not for Melissa's photo, would anyone be able to detect his hesitation with Natalie? How is the micro detection of the camera like Cooper's perception of the world? What can the camera see that the naked eye cannot?
6. Tess and her granddaughter Daniel are extremely close. Aside from sharing synesthesia (even though Tess loses hers after surgery), how else are their sensibilities similar?
7. Natalie picks Daniel, the most tender spirit on the island, to include in her plan of revenge. Are there any other reasons why Natalie picks the child?
8. Melissa is immediately suspicious of Natalie. How can teenagers see each other so clearly?
9. In this story, who are the Tzadikim nistarim?

About the Author

Jacqueline is an author of four novels, including *Picture This* which will be published May 22, 2012. Jacqueline Sheehan, Ph.D., is a fiction writer and essayist. She is also a psychologist. She is a New Englander through and through, but spent twenty years living in the western states of Oregon, California, and New Mexico doing a variety of things, including house painting, freelance photography, newspaper writing, clerking in a health food store, and directing a traveling troupe of high school puppeteers.

Her first novel, *Truth*, was published in 2003 by Free Press of Simon and Schuster. Her second novel, *Lost & Found*, was published 2007 by Avon, Harper Collins. *Lost & Found* has been on the *New York Times* Bestseller List and has been optioned for film by Katherine Heigl, star of *Grey's Anatomy*. Her third novel, *Now & Then*, was published in July 2009 by Avon, Harper Collins. She has published travel articles (Winter in Soviet Georgia), short stories (most recently in the *Berkshire Review*), and numerous essays and radio pieces. In 2005, she was the editor of the anthology *Women Writing in Prison*. This anthology is the culmination of eight years of writing workshops sponsored by Voices from Inside, an advocacy group for incarcerated women.

Jacqueline teaches workshops at Grub Street in Boston and Writers in Progress in Florence, Massachusetts.