



## The Southern Side of Paradise

*Kristy Woodson Harvey*

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**The Southern Side of Paradise** Kristy Woodson Harvey

**From internationally bestselling author and “rising star of Southern fiction” (Mary Alice Monroe, *New York Times* bestselling author) Kristy Woodson Harvey comes the third novel in her Peachtree Bluff series, in which a secret threatens the tight-knit bond between a trio of sisters and their mother.**

With the man of her dreams back in her life and all three of her daughters happy, Ansley Murphy should be content. But she can’t help but feel like it’s all a little too good to be true.

Meanwhile, youngest daughter and actress Emerson, who is recently engaged and has just landed the role of a lifetime, seemingly has the world by the tail. Only, something she can’t quite put her finger on is worrying her—and it has nothing to do with her recent health scare.

When two new women arrive in Peachtree Bluff—one who has the potential to wreck Ansley’s happiness and one who could tear Emerson’s world apart—everything is put in perspective. And after secrets that were never meant to be told come to light, the powerful bond between the Murphy sisters and their mother comes crumbling down, testing their devotion to each other and forcing them to evaluate the meaning of family.

With Kristy Woodson Harvey’s signature charm, wit, and heart, *The Southern Side of Paradise* is another masterful Peachtree Bluff novel that proves she is a “Southern writer with staying power” (*Booklist*).

## The Southern Side of Paradise Details

Date : Expected publication: May 7th 2019 by Gallery Books

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Author : Kristy Woodson Harvey

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## From Reader Review The Southern Side of Paradise for online ebook

### Dorothy Schwab says

How does the state mineral of Georgia land a role in The Southern Side of Paradise?

The Southern Side of Paradise is #3 in Kristy Woodson Harvey's Peachtree Bluff Series. Ansley and her three grown daughters, Caroline, Sloane, and Emerson, the Starlite Sisters, by several twists of fate, now live on the waterfront in the "southern paradise" of Georgia called Peachtree Bluff. Ansley's mom, Grammy, always said, " ...life is nothing but one big surprise after another," and in this peach of a story, the surprises AND the family secrets just keep on coming!

From the Twin Towers on 9/11 and the streets of Manhattan, to the movie studios of LA and stardom; and even farther to the battlefields of Iraq- this family's journey covers a lot of territory, both in distance and in time invested in relationships over the years.

Word of small town dramas don't take long to spread and this holds true for Peachtree Bluff. You will meet and grow to love Carter, Jack, Mark, Kyle, James, and Adam. Statements like, " I'm their father, and I'm dating their mother; Do you remember the night Peachtree High won state? The best part of life is the surprises, the reinvention of yourself , " will connect the guys with their gals and the reader's heart strings.

The staurolite plays a special part in the love story of the Starlite sisters of Peachtree Bluff. Staurolite is a special mineral found in Georgia; as special as the "little girls building castles on the southern side of paradise; the Starlite sisters."

I highly recommend The Southern Side of Paradise! As a special treat, read book #1 Slightly South of Simple, and book #2 The Secret to Southern Charm. Then you'll know why Kristy Woodson Harvey and her charming characters are considered such a Southern prize.

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### Stephanie says

**My full review to come prior to publication on May 7, 2019 here and on my blog but here are some quick thoughts!**

*The Southern Side of Paradise* is the last book in the Peachtree Bluff series by Kristy Woodson Harvey, and I just LOVED every single bit of it. It's told from Emerson and Ansley's point of views this time (we hear from sisters Caroline and Sloane in the first two books), and both are going through so much in this book! It picks up where book two left off, so I was already anxiously awaiting to see where the story was going to go and wow, I was not disappointed.

I laughed, I cried, I even got frustrated with some of the characters but Kristy does such a wonderful job making you feel like you are part of the character's lives, friends or family even, that it is just so easy to get caught up in their emotions and care so deeply about what is going on with them. As much as I wanted to read this book, I was sad since it is the last book and I knew I'd be saying bye to characters whom I'd grown to love so much and a place, Peachtree Bluff, that felt so much like home.

Everyone, this series is just amazing and will forever be on my list of favorites...favorite series, favorite characters, favorite setting, and favorite author...it just has it all! I cannot recommend you pick up a copy of *The Southern Side of Paradise* more or that you read the other books in the series, *Slightly South of Simple* and *The Secret to Southern Charm*!

**Thanks to Gallery Books and Kristy Woodson Harvey for the review copy. All opinions are my own.**

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### **Jessica Claypoole says**

I fell in love with Peachtree Bluff in Harvey's *Slightly South of Simple*. I found the Series when the 2nd book, *The Secret to Southern Charm* came out. I had just got back into reading and the cover drew me in. I am a sucker for books on the low country and what looks to be a beach read. I saw it was the second in a series therefore my adventures began in Caroline's world and continued to book 2 with Sloane's story.

I could not wait to get my hands on the 3rd and final installment in the Peachtree Bluff series. I had the pleasure of obtaining an egalley in exchange for an honest review. Kristy Woodson Harvey does not disappoint in *The Southern Side of Paradise*. She shows the inner struggles of woman and how they can overcome almost anything. Each book takes on the story of one of the Murphy sisters and their mother Ansley. Though their worlds may seem perfect on the outside they are anything but that. *The Southern Side of Paradise* is youngest daughter Emerson's story. Are the glitz and glamour of her Hollywood life too much for her? Are there skeletons in her closet? Emerson has secrets of her own and she is afraid for them to come out. Could secrets from the past coming crashing down and ruin everything for the Murphy women? You will have to read on and find out. At times I found Emerson to be a little whiney like a teenager but that did not take away from the story.

I am happy with the ending that Harvey chose for the Murphy women. I am sad to see them go but I look forward to the next world that Harvey will create. I give *The Southern Side of Paradise* a solid 4.5???'s! My recommendation is read on!

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### **Donna Hines says**

Sweet Georgia Peaches Kristy is at it again with *The Southern Side of Paradise*.

This beautiful rendition involves a family in which it's not all it's cracked up to be on the outside but full of love and warmth and humility inwardly.

Ansley Murphy should be happy but she feels something is missing. Unless you consider the fact that she's under stress for her youngest daughter's wedding and her health scare.

Perhaps her life is simply too good to be true.

Or perhaps she just needs to live and learn.

Secrets are meant to be revealed and time has a funny way of doing just that to those who need to learn their personal lessons.

Bring in two women who arrive at Peachtree Bluff who have the power to tear their world apart.

This powerful family bond and the love between them is what is the central focus of Harvey's work.

Ps. For my book bloggers/reviewers check author's note you may just be surprised to find your name

mentioned.

As a newbie to reviewing at the start of 2018; I can't imagine my name ever in print. What an honor it would be especially as the top 40 USA reviewer at Goodreads providing in 2018 1,026 free reviews and close to 300 ARC donated copies to two separate libraries in providing my community (6)authors for face time book club discussions; all while below poverty and now dealing with my own battle against the cancer monster while praying for living wages to escape extreme poverty with my three teens. For all the beautiful bloggers and reviewers who were mentioned-- Congratulations ((hugs))

I'm just honored at this point to be upright and able to receive such blessings as these ARC's are truly priceless to those who love the art of reading and reviewing.

#dreams

Thank you to Kristy, the publisher, NetGalley, and Aldiko for this ARC in exchange for this honest review.

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### **Tamara says**

Full review to come soon.

Quick thoughts:

I've been on pins and needles waiting for Emerson's story for around a year and yet, I almost didn't want to read her story since I knew this would be the end of the series.

Peachtree Bluff may be fictional, but I can see it in my mind's eye perfectly. It's the kind of place that summer would seem never-ending and you could feel good about your children growing up in.

The main story is told from Emerson and Ansley's POV, but don't think for a minute that Caroline and Sloane are silent (or don't have their own things going on). Caroline, for me, has really grown on me (and grown in her storyline) as the books were published and in SSOP, she really shined.

There were times I really felt for Emerson (she had A LOT thrown at her in this book) and there were times she needed to take 10 deep breaths before speaking at least 1 time in the book. However, I'm giving her a pass because she was dealing with A LOT and I know where she was coming from was a place of confusion and wanting to know that she was always going to be loved.

In the end, the charm is thick in The Southern Side of Paradise and we could all stand a trip to Peachtree Bluff to renew our spirits.

1 thing that really tickled me was knowing that one of Kristy's fave books got a major shout-out in this book. I love when authors work some personal details into their character's lives :)

RECOMMENDED.

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### **Kelly says**

I was sad to see this third and last book in the Peachtree Bluff series end. I loved how all of the story lines wrapped. The author does a great job developing complex characters who struggle with real life situations

throughout the series. The situations they are in aren't solved with a simple as "follow your heart", making the characters and their lives feel authentic. I loved the theme of second chances, and not being afraid to try again. I really loved this book!

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### **Judy Collins says**

A favorite Southern author, Kristy Woodson Harvey delivers a bittersweet heartwarming conclusion to her popular Peachtree Bluff trilogy with **THE SOUTHERN SIDE OF PARADISE**. (what a knock out cover). Fans will be excited for this final book in the series, yet will miss all the fabulous characters (male and female).

My "favorite book" of the series with some shockers you do not see coming! An avid Jack fan and delighted for a happy ending! Top Books of 2019. Five stars +

Things get heated as secrets from the past come to the surface with this lovable cast of characters: **Mother Ansley and daughters Caroline, Sloane, and Emerson.**

Emerson takes center stage as she faces whether to marry her childhood sweetheart and be pulled back to Peachtree Bluff, choose her career, or possibly another love interest. *Being true to one's self is an ongoing theme.*

While there are two weddings to plan, some unexpected characters from the past surface, causing further complications.

Will Jack and Ansley finally get their second chance and happily ever after, and will all the girls understand the choices made out of love?

**Set in the charming** historic Southern town, Kristy Woodson Harvey delivers top-notch storytelling, with fully developed characters for a multi-generational and inspiring story of love, hope, family, and forgiveness.

I am a huge Ansley/Jack fan and could not imagine how this would wind up. Kristy once again exceeded all expectations! Some Ah....moments.

**Kristy's Ansley reminds me** of Wendy Wax's (Ten Beach Road) character: Madeline Singer. Both are mothers and grandmothers. Both have put their family first throughout their lives. However, however, now late in life, they are finally getting their second chance for happiness with the men they love. Since I am in this age group, I adore these two authors, series, and characters!

I have read all of **Kristy's books** since her first, and knew then she would be a star! As I have mentioned in the past, "think" . . . Emily Giffin, Dorothea Benton Frank, Mary Kay Andrews, Mary Alice Monroe, Wendy Wax, Karen White, and Patti Callahan Henry— combined with Kristy's own unique, charming signature style.

**With her winning savvy style**, her passion, and love of family, community, and the South —resonate throughout each page. What a perfect beach read and furthermore a "must-read" summer series. *Do not leave for vacation without it.*

**Stay Tuned for More:** April 22-May 7: A book giveaway contest. A complete three book paperback set of Peachtree Bluff Series. (more details to follow).

Very excited to announce the upcoming **Q&A Elevator Ride Interview with Author Kristy Woodson Harvey**, coming May 8! Lots of fun facts from this extraordinary author.

I highly recommend each of her books. One of the top Southern Contemporary authors out today!

PS, Thank you, Kristy, for including me in your acknowledgments. *Honored, flattered, and humbled.* As always, a delight to receive an early reading copy thanks to Gallery Books, Kristy, and NetGalley.

JDCMustReadBooks

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### **Marisa says**

I loved this series and am sad to see it end. This installment in THE PEACHTREE BLUFF series ended and wrapped up storylines perfectly. It had everything: family secrets, sisterly love, mother-daughter drama, following your heart and second chances

Couldnt put this one down and wlll miss all these characters!!

Cant wait to share with readers in May !

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### **Robin Reading says**

***The Southern Side of Paradise*** is the third book in the *Peachtree Bluff* series. Those following the series by now are more than familiar with Ansley Murphy and her three adult daughters Caroline, Sloane and Emerson. As the second book in the series closed, Emerson has made a major announcement. All the while, Ansley has been drawing close to a former love, Jack, but they share a secret that could destroy the warm bond shared between Ansley and her daughters.

Emerson, the youngest and an actress, has just gotten engaged. Meanwhile, she has gotten the role she's been dreaming on. But things just are not quite right, and this includes a major health scare.

This was a very emotional read, but it certainly had its light moments, and I appreciate when the tension was lifted, because I was able to laugh aloud. I love the way these books were structured. Ansley is the principle character, and in the first book we got Caroline's point of view, in the second, Sloane's and in this one, Emerson's. Although Emerson is now engaged, she faces some difficult choices and very deep emotions.

Ansley and Jack have come a long way from the first book. But it is Ansley's unselfishness and her motherly love that could still possibly be the undoing of everything good that she deserves.

I adored this family. I absolutely loved the conclusion. Things were wrapped up very nicely for Ansley and her daughters. There were no loose ends and everyone involved has plenty to look forward to. I just found Kristy Woodson Harvey when I got this review copy, so I had the opportunity to read all three books on

succession.

The previous two titles are *Simply South of Simple* and *The Secret to Southern Charm*. I highly applaud Ms. Woodson and definitely recommend this entire series. Although the backstory is clearly relayed, and this could indeed serve as a standalone novel, I do think the experience would be accentuated by reading it in order.

Many thanks to Gallery Books and to NetGalley for this ARC to review in exchange for my honest opinion.

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### **Carmen Blankenship says**

Kristy Woodson Harvey is such a talent. It's nearly impossible to believe she's so young. She reminds me of the Reese Witherspoon of the publishing world.

The Southern Side of Paradise is the final installment of The Peach Tree Bluff series. It's sad to let these characters go because I've grown fond of them. This book focuses on Emerson. The youngest of the sisters. She has hard choices to make, impossible really.

All the sisters' and their mother Ansleys stories and secrets are laid bare and resolved, just like I hope a good series will end. I'm jealous of those who get to start from the beginning and experience it the first time.

A forever fan you have found in me Kristy. You've been added to the ranks of Dorothea Benton Frank and Mary Alice Monroe.

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### **Lori Boyd says**

When I received this book, I must have been living under a rock and did not know this was a series! I just adored the cover! This is the third and final installment in the Peachtree Bluff series. Reading a book in a series out of order, is like meeting a new friend. You find out all about their present, and get glimpses into their past. Once you become better friends, this is when you find the hidden pieces.

This was a quick read during a cold month. What better time to read about warm weather and family! Being the youngest of 3 girls, I am a sucker for stories like this. The author does a wonderful job of filling in all the pieces of the previous books without it being redundant. I did not feel lost at all. But, I now need to get the other books and read them to find all the pieces. Reading this story is like sitting down with a friend over a great cup of coffee! The characters are all likeable, realistic and flawed. The writing flows easily from one family member to another.

Thanks to Ms. Harvey and #TallPoppyWriters for this ARC. All opinions are my own!

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### **Diane says**

The Southern Side of Paradise by author Kristy Woodson Harvey is like having a delightful visit with family and friends! I was very happy to read this book in the Peachtree Bluff series about the Murphy women. Even though this is the third book in the series, it can be read as a stand alone book without confusion. Ansley is a devoted mother with three independent daughters. Caroline, Sloane, and Emerson each have had some life changing decisions to make and all the girls ended up coming home to Georgia in the previous books. Ansley always puts her daughters first in her life which causes a few problems now that she has reconnected with one of the loves in her life, Jack. The story unfolds with so much emotion between the sisters and Ansley gets caught in the middle when old secrets are exposed.

Publication Date: May 7, 2019

Thank you to NetGalley and the publisher for the opportunity to read and review this book.

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### **Betty says**

What a wonderful series finale! I enjoyed every moment of this wonderful book.

Review coming closer to publication date.

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### **Julie says**

I loved this book. This book is extremely relatable. It picked up perfectly from where the other book ended but at the same time you could seamlessly read this book first as well. I loved the characters because they are realistic. Anyone of them could be someone you know, a family member, a friend, a coworker. The complexity of their relationships were just so accurate. This family struggles with so many of the same issues we ourselves struggle with everyday.

This book is about a mother and her three daughters. the relationship between each of these characters is so unique in each individual way. The relationship between the sisters is just as unique. None of these relationships are perfect, nor are they without the mayhem we often have in our own families. The family secrets and animosity run deep and help reveal each characters flaws as well as their deep bonds and love for one another. It reveals a true sense of family, the good, the bad and the ugly. It is not your typical fairy tail but when you finish the book you are left feeling good and wanting more!! I highly recommend this book and I personally cannot wait for Kristy's next book!! She is by far one of my favorite authors!!

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