

Book Club Kit

Dear Friends,

In the spring of 2019, Wayne and I took an educational cruise up the Columbia River, the largest river in the Pacific Northwest region of North America. This was not the luxury cruise I had expected. It was more like adult summer camp. No swim deck, no phones, no TV, no Internet, but lots of fun. The idea for *Jingle All the Way* came from that experience!

Wayne and I have traveled up the Amazon River in South America, and several of the experiences mentioned in *Jingle All the Way* are ones we participated in ourselves. Enjoy the photos included in this kit from that very inspirational trip!

Alebbii Maconter



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Everly decides to heed Jack's advice and take a much-needed vacation. Think about a time when you've felt overwhelmed. What, or who, helped you get through?

2. Traditions play an important role in Everly's family, especially during the Christmas season. Are there any holiday traditions in your own family? How have they evolved over the years?

3. Asher initially worries that nothing can come of his feelings for Everly, as they lead separate lives in completely different parts of the world. Do you agree? Why or why not?

4. Everly mentions the struggles she encountered growing up with four siblings. How do you see her opinion of her family shift as the cruise progresses and she and Asher grow closer?

5. Compare and contrast how you think Everly's and Asher's past relationships affect the growing attraction between them. Do you think opposites attract?

6. When Asher shows up at Everly's doorstep and the two reunite, it is clear they are both taking risks to be together. Talk about a risk you may have taken in your own life—what motivated it, and did it ulti-mately pay off?

7. Recall a trip or a memory that has had a lasting effect on you. What about it was life-changing?

8. Consider the last line of the book. Everly is ultimately grateful to Annette, as the cruise brought Asher into her life. Is this journey toward forgiveness something you've ever had to experience with a family member, friend, or colleague? What did you learn?

Eggnog Cocktail

MAKES 1 DRINK

Ingredients

- + ¹/₄ cup raw sugar
- + 4 ounces eggnog
- + 1 ounce Rumchata rum (or

spiced rum)

- + ½ ounce Kahlua liqueur
- + Pinch nutmeg
- + Ice

Directions

Dip the corner of a paper towel in a small amount of the Kahlua, then rub around the rim of a tall glass.

Dip the wet rim into a shallow dish filled with raw sugar.

Pour eggnog, rum, Kahlua, and pinch of nutmeg into the glass; stir gently.

Add ice to fill almost to the top. Top with a dollop of whipped cream and a sprinkle of nutmeg.

Garnish with a cinnamon stick. Serve immediately.



Grandma Ruth's Fudge

MAKES 24 Squares

Ingredients

- + 3 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- +14 ounce can sweetened

condensed milk

- +1 ¹/₂ teaspoon vanilla extract
- +1/8 teaspoon kosher salt

Directions

Line an 8 x 8-inch baking pan with parchment paper so that it hangs over two sides.

In a medium saucepan over medium heat, melt the chocolate chips and sweetened condensed milk together until smooth.

Remove from the heat and stir in vanilla and salt.

Pour into the prepared pan and smooth top with an offset spatula. Cover pan and refrigerate until set, about 3 hours.

Use the parchment paper to lift fudge out of the pan. Cut into squares and serve.



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