

# The Island House: A Novel

Nancy Thayer

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*New York Times* bestselling author Nancy Thayer evokes the shimmering seascape of Nantucket in a delightful novel that resonates with the heartache and hope of growing up, growing wise, and the bittersweet choices we must be brave enough to make.

Courtney Hendricks will never forget the magical summers she spent on Nantucket with her college roommate, Robin Vickerey, and Robin's charismatic, turbulent, larger-than-life family, in their gorgeous island house. Now a college English professor in Kansas City, Courtney is determined to experience one more summer in this sun-swept paradise. Her reason for going is personal: Courtney needs to know whether Robin's brother James shares the feelings she's secretly had for him.

Time with the Vickerey family always involves love and laughter, and this season is no different. Vivacious matriarch Susanna Vickerey is celebrating her sixtieth birthday, but beneath the merriment, trouble is brewing. The family patriarch, Dr. Alastair Vickerey, is quiet and detached, while unspoken tension looms over oldest son Henry, a respected young surgeon. Warm and witty Robin, the most grounded of the siblings, is keeping a secret from her parents. Iris, the colorful baby of the brood, remains rudderless and in need of guidance. And the sexy, stunningly handsome, untouchable James—to Courtney's dismay—may be in love with a beautiful and vibrant local artist. As the summer unfolds, a crisis escalates, surprising truths are revealed, and Courtney will at last find out where her heart and her future lie.

Weaving the trials and uncertainty of real life into a tapestry of passion, hope, and courage, *The Island House* is a beautifully told story about the ties that bind us—and how the blessings of love and family heal us in ways we never dream possible.

#### Praise for The Island House

"Thayer's latest should be filed under a Best Beach Reads of 2016 list. . . . The characters are complex and their struggles and concerns feel real. . . . Thayer has a really wonderful ability to showcase the meaning of family."—*RT Reviews* 

"A perfect book to read while sticking your toes in the sand this summer!"—Bookish Devices

"A touching story about friendship, family, and the uncertainty of love."—Bustle

#### **Praise for Nancy Thayer**

#### The Guest Cottage

"A sweet book with romance, laughter, and love after loss . . . Thayer knows her Nantucket history, and it shines in this book."—*RT Book Reviews* 

"It's a pleasant escape to a state of mind in which rebuilding a life is as simple as pitching an umbrella and spreading out a towel."—*Kirkus Reviews* 

#### Nantucket Sisters

"Thayer obviously knows her Nantucket, and the strong sense of place makes this the perfect escapist book for the summer, particularly for fans of Elin Hilderbrand."—*Booklist* 

"Thayer keeps readers on the edge of their seats with her dramatic story spanning the girls' childhood to adulthood. This wonderful beach read packs a punch."—*Library Journal* 

#### Island Girls

"A book to be savored and passed on to the good women in your life."—Susan Wiggs

"Full of emotion and just plain fun, this novel is delightful."—Romance Reviews Today



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