



THE SILVERPINE BAY SERIES

When the Leaves Began to Fall

Book Club Guide

A thoughtful evening in Silverpine Bay

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A novel by Daniela Metcalf

SILVERPINEBAY.COM



A good conversation does not need a perfect table

Use this guide as a menu, not a script. Choose the pieces that fit your group and leave the rest.

HOST IT YOUR WAY

Pick one recipe, pour something warm, and begin with the spoiler-light questions. When everyone is ready, move into the full discussion. End with Gratitude Slips only if the activity suits your group.

SPOILER GUIDE

Pages 5 and 6 discuss major choices, relationship turning points, and the ending. Page 5 begins with two spoiler-light openers for groups that need a gentler start.

WHAT THIS BOOK MAKES ROOM FOR

When the Leaves Began to Fall is about rebuilding when the numbers are real, accepting care without surrendering agency, and learning the difference between being seen and being managed. The romance grows through attention, competence, restraint, and choices that belong to Abby herself.

A few ways to make the room easier

1	Let people pass on any question. A meaningful discussion never requires disclosure.
2	Ask about dietary needs before choosing food. One recipe is enough.
3	Use what you already own. No themed decor or scented products are required.
4	If faith is part of your conversation, make space for different experiences and interpretations.

The goal is not to agree on every character or choice. It is to notice what the story asks us to consider.

The Invitation

Add the details, then send it as a text, email, or printed card.

YOU'RE INVITED TO AN EVENING IN

Silverpine Bay

We will gather around *When the Leaves Began to Fall* by Daniela Metcalf, a story of second chances, honest work, quiet faith, and a love that learns to pay attention.

DATE _____

TIME _____

PLACE _____

RSVP BY _____

WHAT TO BRING _____

SPOILER PLAN _____

We will talk about rebuilding a life when the numbers do not make it easy, the difference between being helped and being rescued, and the kind of love that leaves room for choice.

Menu: _____

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."
ECCLESIASTES 3:1, KJV

The Scripture line is optional. Keep it if it reflects your gathering, or remove it when you copy the invitation.

The Host's Checklist

A calm plan for a gathering that still feels generous.

ONE WEEK BEFORE

- ☐ Send the invitation and confirm the guest count.
- ☐ Ask about food allergies and dietary needs.
- ☐ Choose one menu item, or invite guests to bring something simple.
- ☐ Decide when the conversation will move into spoilers.

TWO DAYS BEFORE

- ☐ Print one guide for the host and extra notes pages if wanted.
- ☐ Set aside pens and small slips of paper for the optional activity.
- ☐ Confirm seating and lighting. Use what you already own.
- ☐ Send a brief reminder with parking or arrival details.

DAY OF

- ☐ Prepare the food and drinks you chose. One offering is enough.
- ☐ Place water, napkins, and pens where people can find them.
- ☐ Keep the guide nearby, but do not worry about covering every question.
- ☐ Give yourself ten quiet minutes before guests arrive.

DURING THE MEETING

- ☐ Allow 20 to 30 minutes for arrivals and conversation.
- ☐ Begin with the spoiler-light openers on page 5.
- ☐ Choose four or five deeper questions based on the room.
- ☐ Close with Gratitude Slips only if the group wants to participate.

ARRIVE	OPEN	DISCUSS	CLOSE
20-30 min	10 min	45-60 min	10 min

A gathering can be memorable without looking staged. The welcome matters more than the theme.

Begin with the life Abby is building

The first two questions are spoiler-light. The guide moves into full Book 1 spoilers after that.

1 A PLACE THAT FEELS POSSIBLE

How strongly did Silverpine Bay make you want to step into the story? Which specific detail created that feeling: the working waterfront, the weather, the shops, the chapel, the people, or something else?

2 PRIVACY OR ISOLATION?

Abby wants a place that does not know who she used to be. When does privacy become refuge, and when can it become another way to disappear? What did Abby need before she could let herself be known?

FULL BOOK 1 SPOILERS BEGIN HERE

Continue when everyone is ready.

3 THE NINETEEN-DOLLAR DAY

Wildflower Haven earns nineteen dollars on opening day while Abby is carrying real rent, overhead, and a daily break-even target. Did that economic realism make her journey more stressful, more credible, or both? How did the numbers change what you wanted for her?

4 STEWARDSHIP AND LEGACY

Abby and Connie do not always agree about what Elsie's garden needs. Is preserving a legacy the same as keeping it unchanged? Where did you see Abby honor what came before while still making the work sustainable and her own?

HOST NOTE | Let silence do some work. A pause often means the question has reached the interesting part.

Love, faith, community, and choice

Choose the questions that feel most alive for your group. You do not need to finish the page.

5

WHEN DID THE ROMANCE FEEL EARNED?

Brad shows care through competence, attention, and restraint: a repaired door, transport crates, remembered details, and the bay windows he sketches without assuming where they belong. Which moment made the relationship feel real to you? Why does leaving Abby room to choose matter?

6

PRESENCE INSTEAD OF ANSWERS

Abby's faith appears in brief prayers, the chapel, and moments when certainty does not arrive. What does faith offer her in the story? Did its quietness make it feel more honest to you?

7

CARE WITHOUT DEMAND

The town offers bread, chairs, repairs, attention, and practical help, often without demanding an explanation. Which act of care worked because it asked for nothing in return? Did any moment come close to crossing a boundary for you?

8

A CHOICE THAT STILL BELONGS TO ABBY

Abby's decision about the lease is made with math, risk, and responsibility in view, not through a magical rescue. What does staying cost her? Could leaving have counted as growth too?

9

WHEN THE LEAVES BEGAN TO FALL

By the end, what has truly fallen away? What remains lost? What has made room for new life without pretending the past never happened?

The Silverpine Bay Menu

Choose one recipe or build the full table. Hospitality does not require doing everything.

NIKKI'S HONEY-LAVENDER OAT LATTE

The one from the video.
Espresso, oat milk, honey, and a gentle lavender note. Warm and floral without becoming perfume.

JONAH'S ROSEMARY OLIVE OIL LOAF

Two loaves, on purpose.
A savory, tender loaf with rosemary and olive oil. Keep one for the table and deliver the second warm.

WHITE BEAN & ROSEMARY SOUP

Dinner for two, plus a mug.
White beans, garlic, rosemary, lemon, and sea salt. Quietly generous and easy to serve.

NIKKI'S MAPLE PECAN PIE

As served at Community Thanksgiving.
Dark maple syrup and toasted pecans. Serves eight, or six if Bill came.

Three easy ways to set the table

LIGHT	Honey-lavender oat lattes + rosemary olive oil loaf
SUPPER	White bean & rosemary soup + rosemary olive oil loaf
FULL TABLE	All four recipes, with help from your guests

FULL RECIPES

Find measurements, instructions, and more recipes in [The Kitchen at silverpinebay.com/kitchen](https://silverpinebay.com/kitchen).

OPTIONAL CLOSING ACTIVITY

Gratitude Slips

Inspired by the cream paper slips Vivi brings to Community Thanksgiving.

THE INVITATION

Invite each person to write one ordinary kindness they noticed this season. Names are optional. Fold the slips and place them in a bowl or jar.

Anyone may share, stay quiet, or take their slip home. Do not require public disclosure. The point is attention, not performance.

ONE ORDINARY KINDNESS I NOTICED THIS SEASON: _____ _____	ONE ORDINARY KINDNESS I NOTICED THIS SEASON: _____ _____
ONE ORDINARY KINDNESS I NOTICED THIS SEASON: _____ _____	ONE ORDINARY KINDNESS I NOTICED THIS SEASON: _____ _____

A quiet take-home practice

ONE THING WORTH TENDING

Choose one ordinary thing worth tending this week: a friendship, a meal, a room, a budget, a prayer, a plant, or a promise to yourself. No announcement is required. Let the attention be enough.

I want to tend: _____

KEEP WHAT STAYS WITH YOU

Notes from the Conversation

A line, a question, a disagreement, or something you want to carry home.

Keep exploring Silverpine Bay

The Welcome Center gathers the places, sounds, recipes, and reader extras from the series.

THE WELCOME CENTER	silverpinebay.com/welcome
THE MAP	silverpinebay.com/map
THE PLAYLIST	silverpinebay.com/listen
THE KITCHEN	silverpinebay.com/kitchen
THE GAZETTE	silverpinebay.com/gazette

A FINAL QUESTION

What is one small choice you can make now that your future self might recognize as a beginning?

Thank you for spending an evening in Silverpine Bay.

Bring only what served the conversation. Leave the rest here.