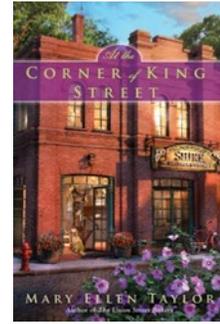


## *A Mary Ellen Taylor Reading Group Guide*

### **Discussion Questions for AT THE CORNER OF KING STREET**



- ◆ The novel alternates between the eighteenth century and the present time. Does this enhance the storytelling? How do the historical passages shed new light on the contemporary story?
- ◆ Toward the beginning of the novel, Addie says of Shire Architecture Salvage, “For every item we were a second chance for some kind of life.” How does the salvage shop represent the Shire family, past and present? Why do Grace and Addie gravitate toward this business?
- ◆ Why didn’t Addie tell Scott about her past? Was she right to keep it from him? How might their relationship have changed if she’d been open about her family early on?
- ◆ Grace tells Addie, “I’ll smash this life to bits. No Shire woman gets a free ride.” Do you think she’s justified in demanding that Addie step in? Are we bonded to our family even if they’ve caused us pain?
- ◆ How is Grace different from Addie? Why does she believe she failed her family—and why does she think Addie can prevail?
- ◆ The characters create their own modern-day witch bottles, filling them with their hopes and dream. What would you put in your witch bottle?
- ◆ Was Scott’s interfering in Carrie’s custody warranted? What would you have done in his situation? What about in Addie’s or Janet’s case?
- ◆ Do you think the curse was real? And has it been broken now that Addie and Janet have mended their relationship?
- ◆ Do you think one’s centuries-old family history can affect future generations? How so?
- ◆ What do you make of the ending? How do you see the story continuing?

*Please visit Mary Ellen at her site, Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest.*

**AT THE CORNER OF KING STREET, An Alexandria Novel by Mary Ellen Taylor**  
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