



## Summary

Welcome to Maple Bay, Nova Scotia. For nearly a century, people have ventured to the idyllic seaside town of Maple Bay in search of a legendary lost pirate treasure, but locals know there's more than just gold buried in the sand. As the paths of three strangers converge in Maple Bay, the truth is about to be blown wide open. But not before the bodies start to pile up. Peter Barnett is rapidly approaching forty with little to show for it when a mysterious letter invites him to Maple Bay and the mansion his estranged family has called home for generations. Seventeen-year-old Dandy Feltzen is isolated and adrift following the death of her beloved grandfather, until his final request and a tantalizing clue sets her on a mission to solve the mystery he spent his entire life chasing. Cass Jones has given up on her dream of being a successful author when an unexpected opportunity lands in her lap: a housesitting gig in remote Maple Bay, where she stumbles on the perfect subject matter for her breakout book—and the handsome sailor who might be just the person to help her research it. Peter, Dandy, and Cass have never met, but they're on a collision course with each other and the mystery that has defined Maple Bay for two centuries, and none of them are prepared for the shocking truths that may or may not still be buried there.



## About the author

Tom Ryan is an internationally best selling, award winning author, screenwriter and producer. His adult mystery debut **THE TREASURE HUNTERS CLUB** (2024) was an instant USA Today, Globe & Mail, and Toronto Star bestseller. His YA mystery **KEEP THIS TO YOURSELF** (2019) was the winner of the 2020 ITW Thriller Award for Best YA Thriller, the 2020 Arthur Ellis Award for Best YA Crime Book, and the 2021 Ann Connor Brimer Award. His followup YA mystery **I HOPE YOU'RE LISTENING** (2020) was the winner of the 2021 Lambda "Lammy" Award for Best LGBTQ Mystery.

Tom, his husband and their dog live in Nova Scotia.

Courtesy of the author's website

## Discussion Questions

- Would you recommend this book to someone? Why or why not (or with what caveats)?
- What kind of reader would most enjoy this book?
- Did you find the author's writing style easy to read or hard to read? Why? How long did it take you to get into the book?
- Who was your favorite character? What character did you identify with the most? Were there any characters that you disliked? Why?
- Did any part of this book strike a particular emotion in you? Which part and what emotion did the book make you feel?
- What surprised you the most about the book?
- Was there any part of the plot or aspects of the characters that frustrated or upset you? If so, why?
- How thought-provoking did you find the book?
- Did the book change your opinion about anything, or did you learn something new from it? If so, what? Did you highlight or bookmark any passages from the book?
- Did you have a favorite quote or quotes? If so, share which and why?
- From your point of view, what were the central themes of the book? How well do you think the author did at exploring them?
- Compare this book to other books you have read by the same author, or other books you have read covering the same or similar themes. How are they the same or different?
- How would you adapt this book into a movie? Who would you cast in the leading roles?