

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR WHISTLIN' DIXIE IN A NOR'EASTER

1. Alice, Virginia and Mary Jule try talking Leelee out of moving to Vermont. How blunt should you be with your friends when you see them potentially making a big mistake? Were you frustrated with Leelee when she made her decision to follow Baker up North?

2. Would you move across the country or even out of the country for the person you love? Ponder the thought. If your spouse wanted to pursue a dream that would uproot the family, would you actually leave your comfort zone and move far away from all things familiar?

3. When you hear the term "Southern belle," do you automatically think back to Scarlett O'Hara or does the term still have a place in today's society? What constitutes a Southern belle today? Does it have negative or positive connotations?

4. Friendship is vastly important to Leelee. Why do you think this is true? Virginia, Alice and Mary Jule surprise Leelee by coming to Vermont to help her through her toughest time. What is the most selfless thing you've done for a friend in need? How far would you travel to help a friend?

5. Leelee is surprised by her growing camaraderie with Roberta. Have you ever become close with someone who at first seemed unlikely? Do you make a point to diversify your friendships?

6. How much influence do your friends have over your life? Do you consult them or your husband (or wife) first when making big decisions?

7. When Baker deserts Leelee all she wants to do is come home to Memphis but Kissie talks her into staying put. She tells Leelee, "You can stay in Hell a little while, long as you know you're getting' out." What does she mean by this? Would you have left at that point or stayed put?

8. Leelee and her friends still enjoy their shenanigans together. What is the craziest thing you've ever done with your adult girlfriends? Are you ever too old for pranks?

9. Leelee's friends think she is a doormat because she has a hard time saying no. Do you agree? Are you able to tell someone no and be okay with it?

10. Southerners are often criticized for not saying what's on their mind and Northerners are often accused of being too blunt. Do you agree with this? What are the pros and cons of both sides?

11. What similarities to the Wizard of Oz are there in Whistlin' Dixie in a Nor'easter? Which particular scene has dialogue similar to the movie? What does Leelee discover about herself that symbolizes the wizard inside her?

12. Why did Leelee decide to return home and not stay with Peter?