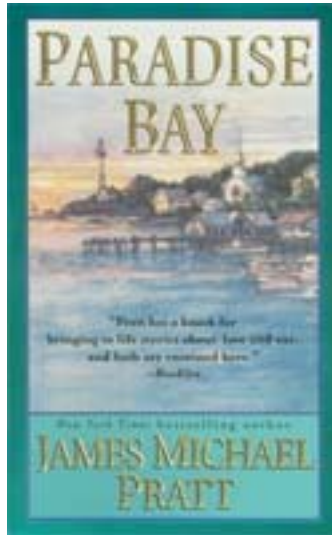


Reader's Group Guide  
to  
*PARADISE BAY*



*James Michael Pratt*

With Pratt's fourth novel he departs from the World War Two theme yet keeps a tone that readers of his previous love story trio will recognize. What is that tone? What are some elements to the story reminiscent of the three prior novels?

1. Pratt created a setting close to the area he grew up in. Paradise Bay is a fictional town located where? What are the town's characteristics and appeal?
2. The manuscript was written under the title: *The Piano Man*. Why would the author see it as his working title?
3. The main characters are?
4. The time periods the story takes place are present day and:
5. What conclusions does the author draw from the days of youth of Levi Harper verses growing up in today's world?
6. Two parallel love stories become clear. Who are the protagonists in each?
7. Pratt has created parallel love stories in each novel. Why do you think he does it and under what motives do the modern lovers of Paradise Bay seem to be operating? Why does each recognize real love?
8. What moral dilemma did Levi Harper face when he was to be married?
9. What outcome did his decision create?

For his wife-to-be, Carol?

Future son Jack?

Family and friends of Paradise Bay?

Jenna?

What would you have done? Why? Does it matter?

What role does Albert play for Levi? Why is he important to Levi?

10. What two characters saved Levi from the morgue in Vietnam? Who is Ringo?
11. Though the real Ron Ringo was too young for Vietnam he was a Marine rifleman and is today a Navy Chaplain assigned to the USMC. What are some of the duties you believe a Chaplain carries and are they important to our military men and women? Why?
12. Do you believe in coincidences? Levi saving Tran An and the child Lin An in Vietnam? Tran An saving Jack then and later? Jack Santos finding his father and meeting Lin An?
13. What is the true meaning of music to Levi Harper? To Lin An? To Jack? To others?
14. What emotions and qualities of the human spirit are most pronounced by the end of the book?