

MAHU FIRE Book Group Guide

As the third book in the series, MAHU FIRE carries Honolulu homicide detective Kimo Kanapa'aka forward in his coming out process. Here are a few questions to consider when reading and discussing this book.

Discussion question 1: Do you think that Kimo and Mike make a good couple? Both work in traditionally very macho fields, and both are relatively new to same-sex relationships. Do you think this relationship can last?

Discussion question 2: What did you think of Jeff and Sheila White? Did you find them believable characters? How do you think the pressures on them caused them to act in the way that they do?

Discussion question 3: The two people who die in MAHU FIRE aren't drawn very deeply as characters, because they aren't killed for who they are, but for the causes that they represent. Did you want to know more about them as people, or did you accept that they died because of the larger forces around them?

Discussion question 4: All the information on how to build a bomb came from public sources. Did you find it realistic? Can you imagine any of your neighbors building bombs in their back sheds?

Discussion question 5: Did you anticipate that the climactic action would involve fire—either because of the title of the book, or Mike's profession as an arson investigator? Did the fire provide a satisfying conclusion to the many threads throughout the book, including Kimo's relationship with his family and with Mike?