

CAMELOT BOOK CLUB

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A CHRISTMAS MEMORY

By Truman Capote

The Story: “This soothing bit of classic Americana is as warming on a cold winter night as a steaming cup of hot, mulled cider in front of a crackling fire... The touching and refreshing friendship between Buddy and his “friend” is not only delightful but something to cherish as one teaches the other of the old timeless traditions of the past and the new wonders of the future. Buddy’s total acceptance of his “friend” and her somewhat offbeat perspective on life and the changing world around them is what drives this story throughout its moments of childlike magic to its ultimate bittersweet conclusion. The belief in love and the bond that can exist between two people of completely different generations and the hope that wherever we go and however many miles may come between us, that bond can never be broken is the foremost message of this tale. Given the events of recent months, a story like this helps to heal as well as entertain and is more than just another book to be put away on the shelf. ‘A Christmas Memory’ is a gift to be read again and again, ... and to be welcomed into home and hearth as a dear, old friend unexpectedly visiting on a chilly Christmas morning.”

(Your Scribe’s note: The above is adapted from a reader’s online review.)

Camelot’s Discussion of the Book

Buddy was an odd boy and his old “friend” was eccentric, too.

A lot of people in the family lived in the house - all relatives.

It was interesting where Buddy and his “friend” went to get whiskey with which to make their fruitcakes. Mr. Haha was scary, and generous since he didn’t charge them for the liquor, but instead told them to give him a fruitcake.

Truman Capote wrote a lot of books. He seemed also to be an odd person, with feminine mannerisms.

The illustrations were so wonderfully done.

A memorable quote: after a perfect day; “As for me, I could leave the world with today in my eyes.”

NEXT MEETING

When? Friday, January 21, 2011, 1:30p.m.

Where? At Dotty Miller’s house

Why? To have fun, and to discuss

Each reader’s choice

CAMELOT COMMENTS

- Loved the book -- read it twice, savored the words. Perfect choice for Christmas.
- Loved the book - would like to have a copy with the illustrations so we can enjoy it every Christmas.
- I echo that others have said -- and a wonderful choice for this busy season, nice and short.
- Loved it, too, especially the artist's illustrations.
- Wonderful. It was great. Short and sweet.
- Loved the book - it reminded me of an old friend I had when I was little.
- I very much enjoyed the book. The descriptions are just wonderful - made me think I was in Alabama.
- Enjoyed the book - glad I chose it.
- Really loved the book. Can't imagine anyone not liking it.
- It was a sweet, sentimental look at an unusual friendship. A nice Christmas read.

MEETING NOTES

Our meeting was at Barbara's house, which looked so beautiful with wonderful Christmas decor and Barbara's special touches all around. Each of us talked about Christmas memories and plans for this year's celebrations with our families. It was interesting that two of us told of the opening of presents with chaos all around, and the others said their opening of presents was organized and done one-on-one so each giver and recipient could relish each person's reactions at the gift-opening time.

We were moved by Barbara's reading of a touching piece of writing from "Ben" who gave a different perspective on the loss of a loved one, and from Gwen, who read "A Christmas Cup of Tea".

We all had such a good time - we'll probably do it again next month. (You can bet on it.)

Hostess sign-up List for 2011

January	Dottie Miller
February	
March	Ann Seher
April	
May	Anne Simms

Please note: we need a February hostess.

CAMELOT BOOK CLUB IS GREAT

