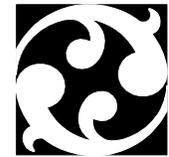




CAMELOT BOOK CLUB



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Lake Cypress Springs, Texas

January 2011

IT'S READERS' CHOICE TIME at CAMELOT BOOK CLUB

Our meetings have a different slant when each of us reviews a book of her own choice instead of discussing one book selection for the month. We use this alternate format in January and July of each year.

Sue Ward reviewed *Decision Points* by George W. Bush. He had so many crises to deal with: the tragedy of 9/11, the Iran conflict, Afghanistan, Katrina. He always behaved in a statesman-like manner, not worrying about his own popularity, but putting the good of the country in first place. He was the right President at the right time.

Anne Simms chose Flannery O'Connor's *The Complete Stories*. The author is a Southern lady from Georgia, and her stories are off the wall, with strange endings. We had a laugh about "A Good Man is Hard to Find".

Dune was the choice of **Peaches Oakes**. It is a great book, a classic, one she read and enjoyed a long time ago.

Jan Karon's *In the Company of Others* was **Gwen Nelson's** choice. Gwen likes the author's work, and never read one of hers that she didn't like. This book has a lot of Gaelic language. And, it's hard to get into.

Our voracious reader, **Dottie Miller**, read four or five books; her favorite was probably *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand. It is the true story of a veteran of World War II who survived against incredible odds. She loved the book.

Barbara Walton read *The Girl Who Played with Fire* by Larsson. It had tattoos, bisexual references, but was a good and honest portrayal.

Your scribe, **Margaret Oesch**, reviewed *Traveling Mercies; Some Thoughts on Faith* by Anne Lamott. This is a book by a quirky, out-of-the-box thinker, a very enjoyable read, as it encompasses concepts that we believe in, but which are expressed in different ways. Author Lamott has a Christian faith that was rescued from her tumultuous life of an unbeliever. It is fascinating to follow her through this transformation, and to try to keep up with her thoughts along the way, accompanied by her endearing adolescent son, Sam.

NEXT MEETING

When? Friday, February 18, 2011, 1:30p.m.

Where? At ? Please note, we need a February hostess

Why? To have fun, and to discuss

Let's Take the Long Way Home:

A Memoir of Friendship by Gail Caldwell

MEETING NOTES

Our meeting was at Dottie's wonderful house, with only seven of us there. We were all interested in hearing each member talk about her current selection. We decided we liked the format of having each person choose her own book, and will use this format each January and July, as before.

Dottie served the most wonderful warm, schmoozy chocolate dessert with ice-cream atop. We gave her an A+. AND she is willing to share her recipe with us. (See the next page.) ---Her beautiful Siamese cat hung out with us, and before the meeting was over, the black fluffy dog Buddy ran in and seemed glad to share his home with us. Camelot Book Club is fun.

PROFILE

by the newest member of Camelot Book Club

My favorite drink is: **totally dependent on the time of day - from a cup of coffee to a glass of wine.**

I wish I could sing like: **Barbra Streisand.**

My favorite movies are: **most any non-violent, girly movie. Preferably in an historical setting like "Pride and Prejudice".**

My favorite television show is: **"The Good Wife".**

My hobbies are: **grandchildren, sewing, painting, reading.**

I have a phobia about: **SNAKES.**

My friends like me because: **I am interested in them.**

My ideal vacation is: **one that combines learning and relaxing, preferably near the water.**

Nobody knows I: **(I don't think I have any deep, hidden secrets.)**

The person who influenced my life the most was: **my grandmother.**

Behind my back, people say: **(I can only hope they say nice things.)**

My mother always told me: **to wear clean underwear, but every girl's mother told them that.**

The best day of my life: **is tomorrow or maybe today.**

If I could have anyone to dinner, it would be: **my whole family - husband, children and grandchildren.**

When I've had a bad day, I relax by: **I put my feet up, grab a glass of wine and chat with my husband.**

I regret: **I don't have time for regrets.**

If I could change one thing about myself, it would be: **that I would love to exercise.**

My pet peeve is: **bad table manners.**

My epitaph should read: **She came. She Saw. She loved.**

If I had one message to give to the youth, it would be: **You only go through this life once. Enjoy, love and laugh.**

If I could change one thing about our society, it would be: **Stop and enjoy your neighbor.**

If I had to pick one word to describe myself, it would be: **Loving.**

Suzanne Tuite

Thomas' Fudge Pie

You'll be sorry you asked after you see the ingredients

This is from Patty Thomas

2 sticks of butter

½ c flour

½ c cocoa

2 c sugar

4 eggs, slightly beaten

Melt butter and add the rest of the ingredients.

Bake at 350° for 25 minutes.

You want the center to still be soft.

Easy, easy, easy.

CAMELOT'S BOOK SELECTIONS of 2010

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|-----------|---|
| January | <i>Miracle at Philadelphia</i> by Catherine Drinker Bowen |
| February | Reader's Choice |
| March | <i>The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society</i> -Shaffer & Barrows |
| April | <i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i> by Rebecca Skloot |
| May | <i>Olive Kitteridge</i> by Elizabeth Strout |
| June | <i>Spoken from the Heart</i> by Laura Bush |
| July | Reader's Choice |
| August | <i>Theodore Roosevelt</i> by Henry Pringle |
| September | <i>The Heretic's Daughter</i> by Kathleen Kent |
| October | <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee |
| November | <i>Sacred: a Novel</i> by Dennis Lehane |
| December | <i>A Christmas Memory</i> by Truman Capote |

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

- When in doubt, just take the next small step.
- Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
- Get rid of anything that isn't useful, beautiful or joyful.
- No one is in charge of your happiness but you.

CAMELOT BOOK CLUB IS GREAT

