

CAMELOT BOOK CLUB



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July 2010

READER'S CHOICE

For this month's meeting Camelot used its alternate format, that of each member reading her own book selection and giving a brief overview of it.

Ann Seher read *Term Limits* by Vince Flynn. It is a political mystery in which an assassin killed people in Congress who would vote opposite to their way of thinking. Ann said it had many characters in it; she took notes to be able to identify them.

The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein was **Gwen Nelson**'s choice. It is a captivating look at the absurdities of life as only a dog can tell it. Enzo, the dog tells his master, Dennis, his observations on life. You know, sometimes a dog looks at you and wants so much to tell you something. Well, Enzo does, and his insights are life-enriching and funny.

Sue Ward reviewed *13 Days to Glory* by Lon Tinkle. It is the history of the Alamo - full of fascinating facts about the siege. The story of the total dedication of the men who fought so hard for this piece of land called Texas is amazing, and Sue encouraged us all to read it.

Abigail and John by Edith Gelles is the book **Anne Simms** chose. It is a portrait of the beautiful marriage of John and Abigail Adams, and depicted by many letters to each other that they wrote during their extended time apart. They both sacrificed so much so that John Adams could devote himself to help administer the affairs of State in the founding of the Republic.

Dottie Miller read *Food Rules* by Michael Pollan. It is a humorous look at some of the dietary blunders and poor food choices that people make every day. Dottie gave some examples: Avoid foods that have some form of sugar listed among the top 3 ingredients; Shop the edges of the supermarket, and stay out of the middle; Buy your snacks at the farmers' market; It's not food if it arrived through the window of your car.

Life with Father by Clarence Day was **Robin Westerheim**'s selection. It is about a father, blustery, loud, with a bigger-than-life personality. It was written by his son, who saw the generous, loving father under all the swagger. Robin said it was a funny, easy read.

Your scribe, **Margaret Oesch**, read *Cutting for Stone* by Abraham Verghese.. It is a brilliant novel set in Ethiopia. It begins with the birth of identical twin boys, whose mother is Sister Mary Praise Joseph, and the father, a gifted surgeon, Dr. Thomas Stone. There aren't enough words to describe the wonder of this fascinating story, as it explores birth and life, relationships, everyone trying to fix what is broken. The author fashions such compelling characters that linger on well after one is finished with the book.

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NEXT MEETING

When? Friday, August 20, 2010, 1:30p.m. Where? At Robin Westerheim's house

Why? To have fun, and to discuss

Theodore Roosevelt by Henry Pringle

MEETING NOTES

We met at Ann Seher's house, and we started the meeting by each giving a snippet of activities since we last met. Gwen reported a tooth repaired and a vicious sting by a ground bee which doesn't want to go away. Peaches said the doctors can't find anything wrong with her and she'll be 91 soon! Margaret described the coming of Hurricane Alex to a beach cabin at Surfside, Texas while they were with family... very windy, exciting and fun. Sue invited us all to a production of the Prairie Home Companion, Texas style, at their lake-house, to be put on by their grand-children. The date is Wednesday, July 28th at 7:00 p.m. You won't want to miss this. Please RSVP. Anne Simms was glad to say that she and Mike sold their Plano house. Kind of sad, though, since they had lived there for 35 years and raised their two daughters there. So, packing up was bitter-sweet. **Dottie** described the recent visit of Troy's brother, who has been very ill and now is doing better. He brought his children with him for the 3-day visit. Robin was happy to tell of her grandson Jackson's visit over the Fourth of July. He's now two years old, and is doing so well after his precarious entrance into the world. Ann Seher said her health problems continue. But it sure didn't stop her from hosting our meeting in her usual gracious manner, and serving, with daughter Christine's help, a tasty and unusual "Fruit Pizza". Everyone liked it a lot.

A Thought for Your Day Friendship is a gift to the soul.

HOSTESSES

September Karen O'Shea
October Sue Ward
November Peaches Oakes
December Barbara Walton

CAMELOT BOOK CLUB IS GREAT

