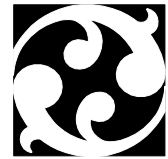




CAMELOT BOOK CLUB



Volume XII Issue 7

Lake Cypress Springs, Texas

July 2009

READERS' CHOICE

For this meeting, we departed from our usual mode of all reading the same book each month. Each member has read a book of her own choosing, then reviewed it for the Club.

Ann Fitzgerald reviewed *The Gathering Storm* by Winston Churchill. Her favorite quote from the book is "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." So true, with similarities present in our country today. Ann enjoyed reading the book, and thinks that if you are a student of history like she is, you will enjoy reading it, too.

Anne Simms' choice was *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrowes. Two ladies who were stopped by German soldiers after curfew had to defend their presence, so they said "a literary society meeting" and thus the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society was born. Anne Simms' description: "a darling and funny book".

Barbara Walton read *The Longest Trip Home* by John Grogan. John was the 4th child of a good, Catholic family, and lied to his mother about his whereabouts, but finally had to admit the truth. Interesting family stories and full of humor.

Sue Ward chose two books: The first, *Losing Mum and Pup*: a memoir by Christopher Buckley. A great book about the author's parents, William F. and Patricia

Buckley. They were interesting persons - he (William F.) loved sailing and loved scaring everyone to death. Christopher writes of neat family adventures. He tried to live up to his father's ideals. The hardest thing he had to do was to prepare a memorial service for his mother, which he did, in the Metropolitan Museum.

Sue also read *The Big Rich*, the fascinating tales of H.L. Hunt and other famous oil-men of Texas. Sue says we'll all love this book.

Tim Latta read *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court* by Jeffrey Toobin. An intimate look at the diverse group of Justices who have served our nation on the Supreme Court over the past two decades.

Dottie Miller chose *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson. It is a thriller, a mystery - a lot of violence against women. The story's heroine is unique - young, has Asperger Syndrome. An intelligently written, unusual book.

Robin Westerheim's choice was *The Reader* by Bernhard Schlink. A fifteen-year-old boy falls in love with Hanna, age 36. The story tells of their relationship; she can't admit she's illiterate, goes from job to job to hide her illiteracy, becomes an SS prison guard in concentration camps. Has a tragic ending. A quick read.

(contd.)

Karen O'Shea reviewed *Giants in the Earth* by the Norwegian author O.E. Rolvaag - a wonderful book about the sobering experiences of the early settlers of South Dakota making it through the tough times – sod houses, walking a mile to get water – the Prairie experience - such a hard life. – Karen's description of her reading of the book - "Little House on the Prairie meets Ingmar Bergman".

Gwen Nelson's book is Jan Karon's *In This Mountain*. This book touches one's heart - talks about how easy it is to thank God when everything is great. But when things went bad for Father Tim he descended into a deep depression. Then, he learned how to thank God for the bad things. Father Tim's experiences reinforce what we know is right. (In her review, Gwen added that this book came into her life after her daughter's death when she really needed to hear its message.)

Peaches loves this book --*Dune* by Frank Hebert. It's all about make-believe - a different world. A wonderful book - you'll enjoy it.

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NEXT MEETING

When? Friday, August 21, 2009, 1:30p.

Where? At Tim Latta's house.

Why? To have fun, and to discuss our selection,
The Big Rich: The Rise and Fall of the Texas Greatest Oil Fortunes
by Bryan Burrough

MEETING NOTES

Your Scribe was the hostess for this month's meeting, and probably had more fun than anyone. (Busy as I was, I didn't take copious notes on the conversations of the day, which at Camelot are always enlightening, informative and interesting.)

We talked about the road signs, our project to re-institute the early-El Dorado custom of putting signs on the trees. Oesch & O'Shea have started the old/new trend along the road - stop by and see.

We welcomed Tim Latta as our guest, as we always do whenever she is in the vicinity. When she heard that a hostess was needed for the August meeting, she volunteered that maybe she could do it, and we quickly said "Fine". At Camelot Book Club, we put our guests to work!

The only member missing was Ann Seher - everyone said how much they missed her and hoped she was feeling better.

We heard an excerpt from The Station by Robert J. Hastings from Anne Simms – a wonderful treatise on relishing the Moment, a motto to which we all ascribe. It describes enjoyment of the journey to the Station and ends with "...Laugh more and cry less. Go barefoot oftener. Eat more ice cream. Ride more merry-go-rounds. Watch more sunsets....The Station will come soon enough."

The treat of our day was an ice-cream pie which is described on next page. Enjoy.

BITS O' BRICKLE ICE CREAM PIE AND SAUCE

Pie: Prepared 9" graham cracker pie shell
½ gallon vanilla ice cream, softened to spoon easily, but not melted
One-half 6 oz. bag (½ cup Bits O'Brickle toffee bits)

Spoon half of softened ice-cream into prepared pie shell. Sprinkle half-bag (½ cup) Bits O' Brickle on top. Heap with remaining ice-cream. Cover and freeze.

Sauce: 1 ½ C sugar
1 C evaporated milk
¼ C butter
¼ C light corn syrup
Dash salt

Combine sugar, milk, butter, syrup & salt. Bring to boil over low heat. (Resist urge to set on High; burns easily). Boil gently 1 minute. Remove from heat and add remaining Bits O' Brickle. Cool, stir, chill.

To Serve: Stir sauce well, then spoon over individual pie wedges. Serves 8.

Note: Remaining sauce may be refrigerated in a tightly covered container for use as a topping.

HOSTESSES COMING UP

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| August: | Tim Latta |
| September: | Ann Fitzgerald |
| October: | Sue Ward |
| November: | Peaches Oakes |
| December: | Robin Westerheim |

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For All Our Houses

Bless this house with love and laughter,
health and happiness ever after.

CAMELOT BOOK CLUB IS GREAT

