

CAMELOT BOOK CLUB

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Lake Cypress Springs, Texas



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SPOKEN from the HEART

By Laura Bush

"... Laura starts her book by relating her childhood in Midland, Texas. Her parents loved children, but her mother had several miscarriages, so Laura was the only child. She was much loved and grew up in a strong, supportive family. ... She loves to read, she likes to travel, take care of her home, and loves her country. Within this book, she has given us a piece of herself.

"She had a normal lively childhood. When she was a young teen, she was driving her friend to a movie, missed a stop sign and had a collision. One of her good friends died in the crash, and this changed Laura. No one spoke about the death, ever. In her book, Laura recommends that everyone face their demons and stand up to them. She wishes she had visited the family, but no one thought it a good idea. This life altering event was faced alone. She went to college, graduated and met George. They fell in love quickly and married. In a few years, twins came along, and Laura's life was complete.

"All this time her life was private, and then George entered the political world and it changed. She was able to maintain some of her privacy but much of her life was there for all to see. She discusses her travels as the President's First Lady, her life as a wife and all that entails. (She details the many trips they embarked on and the multitude of occasions when they visited dignitaries.) She does discuss George Bush's propensity for alcohol, and his decision to stop drinking after a 40th birthday party get-away. He is a man of great discipline, she says, and he found exercise and athletics a joy. One of her happiest days was the day they moved back to their ranch as private citizens. She talks about her life now. Taking her mom to Target to Christmas shop. The life of a women who has seen the world and much prefers home."

...Kudos to Laura for a story well told.

(Your Scribe's note: the above is quoted from readers' online comments.)

CAMELOT'S DISCUSSION of the BOOK

Most were very enthusiastic about Laura's book. We are impressed by their normalcy - people just like us! --- So sad that Laura's mother couldn't have more babies that survived. ---It was neat how the elder Bushes went to live in West Texas, being from Maine. --- We were all impressed by the extent of the entertaining George and Laura had to do - 200 events in the White House alone, not

to mention the out-of-country events. ---Laura was so calm under the pressure of 9/11. She must have been so fearful for George's safety.

The mention of 9/11 brought remembrances of what each of us was doing when the planes hit the towers in New York. Everyone remembers her own particular whereabouts and what she was doing at such a tumultuous time. These recollections led to a discussion of what each was doing when hearing the news of the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

NEXT MEETING

When? Friday, July 16, 2010, 1:30p.m.
Where? At Ann Seher's house
Why? To have fun, and to discuss "Reader's Choice" (each member selects her own book to review)

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CAMELOT COMMENTS

- Loved the book. I feel like they are just like us. We could easily be friends with George and Laura.
- Loved every bit of it. Amused by her telling of going down to Turtle Creek to play like hippies.
- Good book. I could relate with her telling of her annual trips with friends where they picked up on their long-time friendships as if they'd never been apart. (Page 267)
- I didn't like it as much as everyone else. Busy, busy, busy.
- It was a joy to read about her normal life to get to know her so well.
- A nice book. I loved reading about the so-public life of this so-private person. She is very deserving of our respect and admiration for her devotion to family and country, and for all the humanitarian causes she contributed her time and talents to while she was First Lady.

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MEETING NOTES

Our meeting was at Gwen Nelson's house. We loved seeing the birds (big blue jays) flitting around in the trees right outside the window.

We welcomed a guest, Terry Moore, who with her husband, John, recently moved to El Dorado Bay. She became Camelot's newest member.

After our book discussion and catching up on the news of the day, Gwen served a most decadent dessert - "Death By Chocolate". It was unbelievably good. Recipe follows.

A Chuckle for Your Day

The Usher

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely. "The front row, please," she answered.

"You really don't want to do that," the usher said. "The pastor is really boring."

"Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired. "No." he said.

"I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly.

"Do you know who I am?" he asked. "No." she said.

"Good," he answered.

DEATH by CHOCOLATE

1 box of Brownie Mix

2 chocolate Mousse, prepared as directed on box

2 pints whipping cream (10 oz.)

¹/₂ cup Kahlua liqueur (optional)

Heath bar pieces

Bake brownies. Put half of brownies (broken up) in a truffle bowl. Pour Kahlua over brownies. Pour mousse (1 box) over brownies; then, spread whipping cream over mousse. Repeat the layers again. Top with Heath bar pieces. Keep refrigerated. Serves 20.

HOSTESSES

				July		Ann Seh	er			
				Augu	st	Robin W	esterhein			
				Septer	tember Karen O'Shea					
			Octob	er	Sue Ward					
			Nover	mber	Peaches Oakes					
	Decer			nber	Barbara '	Walton				
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