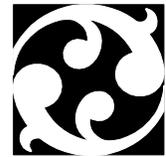




# CAMELOT BOOK CLUB



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## ***THE GUERNSEY LITERARY and POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY***

by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows

This book takes place in England during the mid 1940's when the country was recovering from the effects of long war years. The central character of the novel is Juliet, a thirty-something single Londoner who has had some success writing a humorous newspaper column and is now looking for a book subject. Through chance and a mutual love of the power of literature Juliet begins corresponding with a group of diverse people on the British island of Guernsey who used books and the fellowship they found discussing them to help them get through the hideous occupation of their island by the Germans. Her life changes as she receives more and more letters from the Guernsey Islanders, and she decides that she just might have to pay them a visit. ...Each member of the cast of the book has his or her own unique voice. Some of their stories are tragic; some are funny. While you will learn a little of what happened to Guernsey during World War II, you will learn much more about love and friendship.

(Your Scribe's note: The above synopsis is adapted from online readers' comments.)

### CAMELOT'S COMMENTS on the book

- ✓ Loved the part where they were all having dinner when the book-club was formed.
- ✓ Fascinated by Isola and her phrenology.
- ✓ Juliet's letters were so witty.
- ✓ Found out that Guernsey Island is so close to France.
- ✓ How sad that the Islanders had to send their children away to protect them from the German occupation.
- ✓ Interesting to note that Charles Lamb and his sister Mary wrote synopses of Shakespeare's plays.
- ✓ An interesting quote on grief from the writer Seneca: "Light griefs are loquacious, but the great are dumb."
- ✓ Loved the book - the characters are so charming.

### NEXT MEETING

**When?** Friday, April 16. 2010, 1:30p.m.

**Where?** At Dotty Miller's house

**Why?** To have fun, and to discuss

*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*

The story of how Henrietta died at a young age, and her cells were preserved in a laboratory setting to benefit disease research.

by Rebecca Skloot

**Future Meeting Note:** The May meeting will be at Anne Simms' house and

her selection for discussion is *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout.

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### **MEETING NOTES**

It was a typical Camelot afternoon - a bunch of friends catching up on each other's news, and then a nice discussion of the book we read. **Barbara** Walton served delicious coconut pie and chocolate pie - some of everybody's favorites. She had cute little decor items around - bunnies & colored eggs - she and her house are all ready for Easter. And her news was that she entertained 4 little 5-year-old girls with a slumber-party at her house. **Gwen** Nelson brought the exquisitely crafted quilt which she is making for her grand-daughter on her wedding day next month- it has specially-prepared photos incorporated into it, and charming, tiny ruffled borders around each. We got a **Luann** update from **Anne** Simms and **Sue** Ward, who had lunch with Luann and found her to be all excited about her new project of opening a *Patina Green* store and restaurant in McKinney with her daughter and son-in-law, coming June 1<sup>st</sup>. Peggy/**Margaret** was prompted to give the ongoing Gene medical report on his distressing claudication – still looking for answers.

**Sue** is excited about her & Don's upcoming trip to Captiva, and also gave us an update about their talented granddaughter's performance in "*Cat in a Hat*".

**Robin** Westerheim gave us news about their newlywed son and daughter-in-law, the veterinarian, who loves cats. **Karen** O'Shea is looking forward to a trip to Argentina soon. **Dottie** Miller showed us how her Kindle works - she can even download books from the library and other features -- fascinating – we may all have to get one. **Peaches** Oakes tuned in about that time and said she couldn't really read the Club's book selections, but she was so happy to be with all of us "young people" – it is fun and makes her feel good. Well, she makes us feel good, too. And, so does Camelot Book Club.

### Quote of the Day

Yesterday is history,  
Tomorrow is a mystery,  
Today is a gift.  
That's why it's called: The Present.

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CAMELOT BOOK CLUB IS GREAT

