

MVAH Book Club 11/22/22

Ten of us participated in a lively discussion of books we've read, spanning genres from non-fiction to poetry to fiction.

Cher Terry discussed two books by Jane Healey, The Beantown Girls and The Secret Stealers. Both of these works of historical fiction are set in Europe during WWII.

Carol Mattaino gave an overview of Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kinsolver, whose protagonist is a red-haired orphan growing up in southwestern Virginia. Carol highly recommends this book.

Betsy Stephens read One Hundred Saturdays, non-fiction set in New York City in contemporary times, and in Rhodes during WWII. Betsy recommends this book.

Barbara Brennan talked about Mary Oliver's book of poetry, Devotions, which focuses on nature. Barbara recommends Devotions as soothing and calming.

Sarah Tatum read The Un-Remarried Widow, non-fiction, about an Army widow, by Artis Henderson. The setting is in Florida, Pennsylvania and New York. Sarah recommends this book.

Louise McLean discussed a work of fiction, The Marriage Plot, by Jeffrey Eugenides. The main themes concern philosophy and mental health. Louise gives this book a half-hearted recommendation. Louise heartily recommends Barbara Kinsolver's non-fiction work about organic farming in Virginia, Animal, Vegetable, Miracle.

Norma Brodsky talked about The Violin Conspiracy, a mystery by Brendan Slocumb. Mr. Slocumb, who teaches music including in Fairfax County, is himself a musician. Norma definitely recommends this book.

Susan Wuchinich read The Devil's Chessboard about Allen Dulles's tenure as Director of the CIA. Susan recommends this work of non-fiction.

Laurie Tracy discussed Toni Morrison's Song of Solomon, which she liked and recommends. She also highly recommends a recent work of non-fiction, The Nature of Oaks, by Douglas Tallamy.