



BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP 10/14/2022

League members offered analysis of the following books at our October 14 book group.

1. **“River of the Gods: Genius, Courage, and Betrayal in the Search for the Source of the Nile”** by Candice Millard (2022). The author relates the story of explorers who raced to find the source of the White Nile River. If you enjoy history and adventure, in books that read like a novel, this is a book for you! The following three books by the same author were also recommended:
2. **“A Hero of the Empire”** by Candice Millard (2017) Story of Churchill and the Boar War
3. **“The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey”** by Candice Millard (2006) When Roosevelt lost an election, he seeks solace in adventure.
4. **“Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President”** by Candice Millard (2012) The assassination of U.S. President Garfield
5. **“American Made: What Happens to People When Work Disappears”** by Farah Stockman (2021) Author covers the lives of three Ohio factory workers when their factory closes. Discusses how, in America, work is intertwined with identity, self-esteem and connection to community. Excellent book!
6. **“My Father’s Paradise: A son searches for his family’s past”** by Ariel Sabar (2009) In a secluded part of Iraq, a group of Kurdish Jews descended from the Lost Tribes of Israel, lived for 2000 years speaking Aramaic. A son explores his father’s past and connection to this group.
7. **“Gunfight: My Battle Against the Industry that Radicalized America ”** by Ryan Busey (2021) The author, a gun enthusiast, details the change in the NRA over the last 40 years. Our reader said the book gave her an understanding of people who are part of gun culture. Highly recommended.
8. **“Why We Did It: A Travelogue from the Republican Road to Hell”** by Tim Miller (2022) A satirical look at what animates/motivates people who provide assistance to those whose values they don’t believe in. Dollars, power and glory make it hard to leave. A dark tale...

9. **“Anxious People: a novel”** by Fredrik Bachman (2021) A heartwarming novel about a bank robber, hostages, and a bank with no money, by the author of Ove.
10. **“The Bullet that Missed”** by Richard Osman (2022) Third book of The Thursday Murder Club series. A group of retirees get together to solve crimes. Light and entertaining.
11. **“Women in White Coats: How the First Women Doctors Changed the World of Medicine ”** by Olivia Campbell (2022) The story of three Victorian women doctors who struggle against male bias endemic in the medical establishment.
12. **“The Doctors Blackwell”** by Janice P. Nimura (2022) The story of two sisters who pioneered women in medicine.
13. **“A Little History of Philosophy”** by Nigil Warburton The author, a philosopher, reviews the main ideas of 40 important philosophers starting with the Greeks. Each is summarized in 2-4 pages. Recommended for those seeking to gain a larger perspective on the big questions and how we got to the settled answers we live with every day. Note there are other areas covered with this approach such as “A Little History of Economics”, ...the World, ...Science, and ...Religion, to name a few.
14. **“Sisters in Spirit: Haudenosaunee (Iroquois) Influence on Early American Feminists”** by Sally Roesch Wagner (2001) The author explores the materials (articles, first hand experiences) and information available to early feminists /suffragettes about women’s equality in the Iroquois culture that informed their quest for women’s rights.
15. **“Holding the Line: Inside the Nation's Preeminent US Attorney's Office and Its Battle with the Trump Justice Department”** by Geoffrey Berman (2022) Berman shows how he tried to fortify the Southern District against interference by the Trump administration. Fast read, as each chapter covers a separate case.
- 16.
17. **“This is Happiness”** by Niall Williams (2021) Fiction This Irish author pens an enchanting book about a fictional town in Ireland and a 17- year- old boy. Highly recommended and re- recommended!