

POCKET DIARY BOOK CLUB

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

YEAR 2024

25/08/2024 03:00 PM

Edition No. : 40

Venue: Akshat Drama Group Studio

Facilitators: Nidhi & Priya

Written by: Rohan & Samir

Edited by: Nidhi

This edition is wholeheartedly dedicated to rain, gajra, and two women but in the most unromantic manner. Women in an utmost attempt to make the edition a hit meanwhile holding their sarees through single safety-pins drenched under the rain, one battling with the mud, another running & romanticising those heavy droplets as if there's no life tomorrow (Priya), if only Raj Kapoor could see it... minus the umbrella, it was actually barsati (polythene bag)



ସରଳ ପୂର୍ବରୁ ଆରମ୍ଭ by Kundanika Kapadia read by Nija

Vasudha, who got married at 18 and became a mother at 20, dreamt of a world where women are equally liberated just like men. She imagined the world to be a beautiful single piece created by God and then spread into multiple pieces. We need to see each piece connected to another. She imagined a world where truth is not a preconceived notion and everyone has a right to find their truth.

Yaar Papa by Divya Prakash Dubey read by Anagha

The reading started with the story of a person(male) who is an advocate by profession and ambitious. He gets divorced and suddenly the story shifts to two new characters - David and Priya. The scene being read was, David, who silently likes Priya, has decorated a room with balloons, flowers and many other things. He welcomes Priya who is surprised and asks David, for whom he has decorated this. (As if she didn't know it). As if women don't always know things, but want us to say it out loud.

few lines about love:

"...(love) aisi chij hoti hai jis ke bare mein bahut kuchh bola jata Hai Lekin fir vah purani ho jaati hai he

Pyaar karn akaise hai ye toh sab sikha dete hai lekin pyaar ko naya kaise rakhna hai ye koi nahi sikhata

Pyaar ek prarthna Ki tarah hai jo ki chalti hui train ko bhi rok de

Pyaar ho to aisa ho jo aapko light feel karaen..."

Aur Bhi bahut sari line Thi jiske response Mein Sab Ne Kaha..hmm

Once **Anagha** completed reading the paragraph, Srijan shared a story about the same book. He had gifted it to his father, who was always reluctant to read books. Now, a year later his father keeps asking if Shreejat himself has finished reading it. Every now and then his father shares paragraphs of the book. This was very surprising to Srijan and he was happy about the turn of events initiated by the gift.

Rubicon by Tom Holland read by Rohan

Rohan talked about Roman history. Mainly about the power struggle between Octavian and Mark Antony. Octavian was the adopted son of Julius Caesar. It ended with Antony and Cleopatra's death. The latter committed suicide through cobra bite, which was considered an honourable way to take one's life. Everyone found this very interesting

Gautam then talked about the burning of the library of Alexandria.

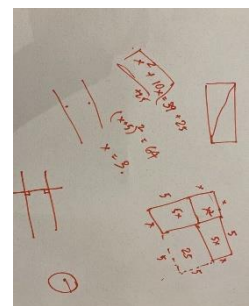
The Elements by Euclid read by Gautam

Gautam talks about this book and shares an interesting fact. It's the second most published book ever. It contains 5 postulates:

- Shortest distance between 2 points is a straight line.
- Two parallel lines will never touch each other.
- A circle can be drawn with any centre and any radius
- All right angles are equal to one another
- If two lines are drawn which intersect a third in such a way that the sum of the inner angles on one side is less than two Right Angles, then the two lines inevitably must intersect each other on that side if extended far enough.

He then goes on to talk about how the gutenber printing press was invented and the effect it had on the world.

In that moment: Nidhi decided if she were to teach her future kids math she'd definitely send x.



Tumhari Aukat Kya Hai by Piyush Mishra read by Srijan

Hamlet mumbai kyu nahi gaya?

Unscripted - book suggestion

A Woman is No Man by Etan Rosenberg read by Jainal

...A story about two women. Isra who's from Palestine and her daughter. The book had some interesting notions about life.

Diya her daughter and Diya's runaway Bua Ji Sara - America

We need stories to protect ourselves from the truth. It is the loneliest people who love books. To be happy is to play safely...

This led to some interesting discussions, and it was a great segway to the next book.

Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse read by Sameer

Sameer ji felt that people would not like this book. Once Sameer ji was done reading it, Nidhi talked about how when Buddha one night just decided to leave his wife, kid, and the kingdom the responsibility of the kingdom fell on his wife. So, his actions came from a place of privilege.



Men without women by Haruki Murakami read by Saurabh

Kafuku is an actor who hires a female driver to drive him around. Kafuku's now dead wife had cheated on him, and he is struggling with feelings of both betrayal and remorse. He talks to the driver and this helps him process his feelings. This reminded me of the movie 'Green book'. While the theme is wildly different, the premise of two very different people forming a bond as they drive was quite similar.

I feel bad about my neck by Nora Ephron read by Aswathy

Aswathy read 'The purple couch' from this book.

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott read by Yatvi

This is a book about 4 sisters. Other members in the room who had read the book, started discussing the relationships of the other sisters, and how they found some of them quite frustrating.

The year of magical thinking by Joan Didion read by Snigdha

Snigdha portrayed the emotions that must have been running through this acclaimed reporter's mind, as she very eloquently put forward her experience following her husband's

untimely death. Gautam said he found the premise of this book very touching and he would love to read it.

The inheritance of loss by Kiran Desai read by Anushri

This book talks about the lives of Sai and Biju. Sai lives in India, whereas Biju is an undocumented worker in the United States.

'सखि, वे मुझसे कहकर जाते' by Maithili Sharangupt read by Nidhi

'सखि, वे मुझसे कहकर जाते' कविता, राष्ट्रकवि मैथिलीशरण गुप्त की रचना है। यह कविता, उनकी पुस्तक यशोधरा में है। इस कविता में यशोधरा के स्वाभिमानि रूप का वर्णन किया गया है

The recitation of this poem by Nidhi was brilliant. Everyone was listening to it intently, captivated. It was a poem about the emotional turmoil felt by Yashodhara, Gautam Buddha who left her and his kid at midnight in search of enlightenment without even informing her about his departure. She wonders if he thought she would have been an obstacle in his journey.

