

POCKET DIARY BOOK CLUB

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

In book club edition **48**, we played an interesting game where each attendee described themselves as a colour. Going forward in this edition MOM I will associate each person to their chosen colour.

1. **Samir** (Mr Orange) read **Aghori: An Untold Story** by **Mayur Kalbag**.

- The author is a motivational speaker who follows a guru/Swami and practises martial arts.
- The fear that is prevalent in the Kotisuya and its rumours that surround it
- The main character of the book meets a young boy, Rahasya, who talks about his village house share a bullock cart ride.
- The book and **Mr Orange** have a sense of humour his voice carries a smile and the room often breaks into laughter.
- Chapter 2 is a narration of the first encounter with Aghori and the Oom pinch mark they imprinted on the protagonist.

2. **Akanksha** (Ms Purple) read **Butter: A Novel of Food and Murder** by **Asako Yuzuki**

- Genre : suspense
- It is a gripping Japanese murder mystery.
- It's the story of a woman who has killed three people.
- The book highlights the biasness of media coverage, how it shapes the society's perspective and how the media may not always be right.
- **Ms purple** then discussed the modern take on feminism.
- The dialogues are thought provoking, as they describe the power play between the journalist with modern feminist ideas and the accused murderer, who is very confident but has conservative ideals about the roles and duties of females.
- 'A good amount' in the book is described through food analogies.

3. **Rohan** (Mr Yellow) read **Arctic Dreams** by **Barry Lopez**

- The author has the heart of a scientist and pen of a poet.
- The book describes the far north.
- Mr Yellow talked about the solar mirage and shared a picture of the mirage with the book club.
- The book is extremely technical with degrees and jargons .
- I applaud the reader for having such passion for science.

4. **Pankaj** (Mr Pink) read **Rusty** by **Ruskin Bond**

- The book has great visualisation.

- The character of Rusty was based on Bond himself as a teenager. Rusty lived such a tragic and cheerful life.
 - The Chapter names are very interesting.
 - **Mr Pink** had not completed reading the book, but it sounded entrancing.
5. **Aswathi** (Ms Maroon) read **Indian blue**
- She got the book from a New Delhi exhibition that focused on the colour blue.
 - Blue represents both power and calm.
 - Ms Maroon is a great orator. The entire room fell silent to listen to her read.
 - The book was passed around in the club for everyone to take a peek at the beautiful exhibition and Mesmerising shades of blue.
6. **Gautam** (Mr Purple) read **Superheavy: Making and Breaking the Periodic Table** by Dr **Kit Chapman**
- After element 82 Lead the elements do not have stable isotopes.
 - Mr Purple passionately talked about alpha decay chains.
 - He explained the discovery of nuclear fission and the Manhattan project.
 - The Transferrmium Wars were the disputes between American scientists and Soviet scientists as to which had first isolated these elements.
 - Reads about spontaneous fusion, Russia way of proving new elements.
7. **Kundan** (Mr Blue) read the iconic **Rashmi Rathi** Poem by **Ramdhari Singh Dinkar**
- It was the part of Mahabharat where Sri Krishna goes to convince Duryodhan to avoid the war.
 - Mr Blue mesmerised the whole book club with his impeccable delivery of the poem.
 - We then talked about the importance of Padhya kavita, how they are easy to remember and learn.
 - Poems carry stories that are passed from generation to generation.
8. **Yogesh** (Mr Brown) read **The Money Trap** by **Alok Sama**
- Author was the alongside SoftBank's iconic founder Masayoshi Son.
 - The book talks about the guy at the top of the corporate ladder, how he sees the world.
 - Mr Brown described the author's heartfelt relationship with his son and the trust he places in his son's judgement.
 - It feels like a sneak peek into The world of the top 1%.
 - The book club broke into a discussion about Alibaba and Yahoo.
9. **Anushree** read **Migrations** by **Charlotte McConaghy**
- She read a small excerpt.
 - The line : 'I didn't belong, and so I wandered' carried such a powerful feeling of both loneliness and the restlessness of being stuck in one place .
 - It's a very well written book on tragedy.
 - The story is about Franny Stone as she follows the last Arctic terns in their final migration to Antarctica.

10. **Nirja** (Ms Velvet) read **1984** by **George Orwell**

- The book absorbed her in its amazing world building.
- It is set in a place where violence is entertainment and grotesque things have become the norm.
- The book club then fell into a discussion of how we, as a society, are not accommodating to different views and perspectives.
- 1984 is a timeless classic that is relevant even in today's politics.
- A cool fact is that, the book has been labelled too Leftist in the Right countries and too Right in the Left countries.
- The book paints a dystopian society where the past is changeable by the people in power today.