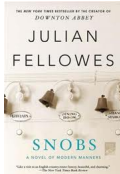


Snobs : a novel

August Books Plus



Whether you're inside enjoying the cool air or outside braving the weather at pool-side, consider that small country across the pond. Yes, England, and we're not talking about the Olympics but a *Downton-Abbey* type novel set in contemporary times. Are the rich really different from you and me? Screenwriter, novelist, and actor, Julian Fellowes tackles this subject in *Snobs*, a novel about a middle-class woman named Edith who would love the wealth and title of the Earl, Charles Broughton, whom she'd love to marry.

Fellowes knows about castles and big estates. He's the son of a diplomat, and he visited many of the estates he writes about. He's also known struggling actors who aren't sure how they will pay next month's rent. As *New York Times* reviewer, Jonathan Ames said, *Snobs* is a "field guide to the behavior of the English aristocracy." Ames also wrote, "When you read a book, you're lost in time. All the more reason to read *Snobs*. It will distract you pleasantly. It's like a visit to an English country estate: breezy, beautiful and charming."

Please join us on August 5th to discuss *Snobs*. The novel's themes of wealth and class are big issues on our side of the Atlantic as well.

Books Plus meets the first Sunday of each month. All are welcome. Join the discussion or simply come to listen.

No registration necessary. **Drop in.**

2 p.m., First Sundays

See the upcoming schedule below.

August 5 -- Snobs by Julian Fellowes

Discussion Leader: Dory Lynch

"Julian Fellowes, the writer of the popular mini-series *Downton Abbey*, penned this comedy of manners about the British aristocracy in the 1990s. "I couldn't put *Snobs* down: Who could resist a great story of a beautiful, ambitious girl on her climb to the turreted top of the castle-hopping set? As witty as he is smart, Julian Fellowes is the Oscar-winning, Oscar Wilde of the minute." - Plum Sykes

September 9 - Loving Frank by Nancy Horan

Discussion Leader: Sarah Bowman (*note second Sunday date to avoid Labor Day weekend*)

"*Loving Frank* is one of those novels that takes over your life. It's mesmerizing and fascinating--filled with complex characters, deep passions, tactile descriptions of astonishing architecture, and the colorful immediacy of daily life a hundred years ago--all gathered into a story that unfolds with riveting urgency." --Lauren Belfer, author of *City of Light*

October 7 - Buddha in the Attic by Julie Otsuka

Discussion Leader: Wendy Rubin

"Poetic . . . Otsuka combines the tragic power of a Greek chorus with the intimacy of a confession. She conjures up the lost voices of a generation of Japanese American women without losing sight of the distinct experience of each. An understated masterpiece." --Jane Ciabattari, San Francisco Chronicle

November 4 - *The Keeper of the Bees* by Gene Stratton-Porter

Discussion Leader: Luann Dillon

Set in Stratton-Porter's beloved California, nature and new friends help WW I veteran Jamie heal his body and spirit. Although almost 90 years old the story of a soldier's wounds, hopelessness, healing and redemption is relevant to today's wounded warriors who face many of the same problems as Jamie faced.

December 2 - Holiday Tea

Please join us for our Annual Holiday Tea and Open House for book lovers and book club members. We'll provide a lovely space to exchange book talk, suggestions of favorites and enjoy holiday refreshments. We'll provide book lists of recommended books and share some excellent resources for helping to choose your next read.

Posted by sbowman on July 27, 2012

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