



Bookclub-in-a-Box Discusses Someone Knows My Name (The Book of Negroes) by Lawrence Hill (Book Club in a Box: The Complete Package for Readers and Leaders)

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The history and terror of black slavery has been well documented in literature and film. Lawrence Hill's new book doesn't lessen the awfulness of the times, but adds a unique human dimension. Hill has created an uplifting and highly educational story about a shameful part of history. The Book of Negroes is sold in the United States under the title, Someone Knows My Name. Aminata Diallo was born free in Africa in the eighteenth century. She had a rich and lovely childhood until the day she was captured by slave traders and marched off to the coast in chains. Along with thousands of others, Aminata was destined for North America as a slave to white owners. She was eleven years old. Hill tracks Aminata's story through the circle of her life. We travel with her to South Carolina, New York, Nova Scotia, London (England), and even to Freetown in Sierra Leone. Each step of the way, we learn about the horrors and immorality of slavery. As we look at and listen to these diminished people, we observe how they courageously work at overcoming the psychological hardships and limitations imposed by their imprisonment. Bookclub-in-a-Box discusses the different facets of this novel. Identity is an important part of the characters and the title of the book. The finger of blame and responsibility for the terrible tragedy of human slavery points in many directions. North American black history includes a look at Black Loyalists and their journey to Nova Scotia, Canada. Freetown, Sierra Leone was the creation of British Abolitionists who wanted to bring the slaves home to Africa. Every Bookclub-in-a-Box discussion guide includes complete coverage of the themes and symbols, writing style and interesting background information on the novel and the author.

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Editorial Review

Review

Bookclub-in-a-Box encourages thoughtful analysis; its mandate speaks of an effort to offer insightful and thought-provoking resources for group study. Its initiative honors the love of books ... and offers guides, rather than parameters. On paper, Bookclub-in-a-Box crafts resources for gratifying skill development ... [while giving] a creative hug and license to enjoy the process. --Open Book Toronto - Hilary Fair May 2010

About the Author

Marilyn Herbert, the creator of Bookclub-in-a-Box, is a teacher, librarian, speaker and writer. Bookclub-in-a-Box has over forty published discussion guides for contemporary fiction. They are ideal for book club members, teachers, students and all readers.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Wanda Leopard:

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