

**Morning Book Club Meeting Minutes  
October 25th, 2023**

**October Meeting:** Wednesday, October 25th, 2023 at the Callander Bay Heritage Museum and Alex Dufresne Art Gallery

**October Book:** *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt

**November Meeting:** Wednesday, November 29th, 2023 at the Museum

**November Book:** *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee

Updates:

- The J.O.Y. Band presents Musical Memories of the War Years, Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00pm @ Trinity United Church, Sing-along @1:30pm
- Food pantry outside of the Library, allows easy access, donations of non-perishable items can be put in the bin.

**Upcoming Library Events:**

- All regular scheduled programs continue
- Library is looking for input for Technology Lessons
- Need to bring suggestions for 2024 to next book club meeting

**Upcoming Books:**

November: *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee

December: *The House in the Cerulean Sea* by TJ Klune \*Location to be determined.

\**Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese – Can't pick this book until May 2024 at the earliest, be we will leave on the list so we don't forget!

**October Book Reviews:**

**Book *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt**

Discussion:

6.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I seem to have issues with books that come highly recommended.</li><li>• I read this book over the summer, and I didn't take notes.</li><li>• It was kind of predictable.</li><li>• The octopus story was fascinating, but maybe a bit far-fetched.</li><li>• I did like that the ending was happy but not forced.</li></ul>
7.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I thought the beginning was stupid and I wasn't sure what was the point of the story.</li><li>• I didn't get into it enough to want to learn more about octopus.</li><li>• It was the only book that I read over the summer, it wasn't bad for a summer read.</li></ul>
7.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I found the beginning slow, but as I got into it, it improved.</li><li>• It made me want to learn more about octopus.</li><li>• I liked the characters and the warmth of the story.</li><li>• I like the character Tova.</li><li>• It was a good summer read.</li></ul>

6.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I think there was a good story in there, but it was poorly executed.</li> <li>• There were comments in there that not necessary.</li> <li>• The octopus part felt contrived.</li> <li>• You could tell that her it was her first book.</li> </ul>
7.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I enjoyed it, it was easy to relate to the characters.</li> <li>• I like Marcelus because I liked him, I wanted to believe the farfetched parts of the story.</li> <li>• I liked Tova's resilience and could relate to her.</li> <li>• It was a comfortable story for me.</li> </ul>
6.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After spending time recently in Victoria, the setting of the story was familiar.</li> <li>• I liked Marcelus and it was his character that made me keep reading the story, I really wanted to learn more about octopuses.</li> <li>• The other characters were humdrum, lack of depth to the characters.</li> <li>• It read more like a harlequin romance and I struggled to keep reading it.</li> <li>• There really wasn't much of mystery.</li> <li>• They didn't learn anything from keeping Marcelus captive, it was a juvenile outlook on nature, there was a lack of compassion for the animal.</li> </ul>
3.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I before I review...I read all the summer reads on display in the library...I didn't like this story.</li> <li>• I was disappointed that I didn't learn more about the octopuses.</li> </ul>
7.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I just picked the book up yesterday.</li> <li>• I'm only about ½ through it, I'm enjoying what I am reading.</li> <li>• I'm enjoying learning about the octopuses.</li> <li>• I will finish it.</li> </ul>
6.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I read <i>Octopus</i> by Jennifer A. Mather, Roland C. Anderson, and James B. Wood about three years ago and it was interesting.</li> <li>• I seems like young authors, all go to the same place to learn how to write a story.</li> <li>• The idea that the octopus could understand English was difficult.</li> <li>• I liked the inky bits on the pages that show when the octopus was telling his story.</li> <li>• I'm tired of books with so many coincidences.</li> <li>• It was shallow, I started skipping pages and I didn't understand why she sold her house.</li> <li>• I was disappointed because the idea of the story was very interesting.</li> </ul>
7.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I enjoyed this story as a light read, the story didn't drag.</li> <li>• I like the Tova character.</li> <li>• It was a light read and I read a little bit each night.</li> <li>• I liked that it had a good ending.</li> </ul>
8.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambitious, I appreciated that it was about grief and aging.</li> <li>• I have been struggling about rating the book, so I did some research as I find the rating so subjective and I needed a system for myself, so I found a list.</li> <li>• I find as I get older I don't have the emotional stamina to read about difficult topics and I prefer not to read about them.</li> <li>• Marcelus was the entertainment and he was tool to link the different aspects.</li> <li>• It did make me want to learn more about octopuses.</li> </ul>

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The cover art on the book made me want to read it.</li><li>• My mother had a friend named Tova, who was a wonderful person and reading this book reminded me of her and I had really positive associations while I read this book.</li></ul> |
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