

## Recommended Readings . . .

### Titles and Authors

- *North and South* Eliz Gaskell
- *Remarkable Creatures* Tracey Chevalier
- *Mill on the Floss* George Eliot
- *Silas Marner*
- *The Cave* Jose Saramago
- *Blindness*
- *The Face of a Stranger* Anne Perry
- *Aubrey-Maturin (Sea Stories)* Patrick O'Brian
- *The Map that Changed the World* Simon Winchester

### Authors

- Nadine Gordimer
- P.D. James
- Josephine Tey
- Barbara Pym
- Barbara Kingsolver
- Anita Brookner
- Dorothy L. Sayers (mysteries, *Strong Poison*, etc.)
- Jan Karon
- Jacqueline Winspear
- Alexander McCall Smith
- Laurie R. King

From an individual participant:

*Tom Jones*, by Henry Fielding. A riot from beginning to end. Was an excellent movie, with Albert Finney. Also *Joseph Andrews*, by the same author. Just as funny.

*Don Quixote*, by Miguel de Cervantes. Of course! One adventure after another, seemingly without end. Warning: it's a long read.

*Gargantua and Pantagruel*. "Outrageous" is the only way I can describe this farce. You won't believe the language! Written in the 1500's. Here's an excerpt (paraphrased), which never fails to elicit "ughh" from people to whom I tell this anecdote about a little boy with terrible table manners, who "emptied his nostrils into his soup"!

*Gulliver's Travels*, by Jonathan Swift, who was apparently normal when he began writing this book (the first Journey was made into a film for children, by Paramount Pictures, as their answer to Disney's *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* -1939), but who was at least "close" to insane by the time he completed the fourth Journey, an unbelievable piece of satiric writing.

*Pickwick Papers*, by Charles Dickens. I didn't know that Dickens had any humor in him until a friend of mine told me to read this book, which I found to be quite droll. It was his first published novel.

*The Complete Short Stories of Mark Twain*. He was the writer of the funniest stories I have ever read. However, in spite of laughing out loud on numerous occasions, strangely enough, I found it hard reading. They wrote differently in the 1800's!