



Readers' Circle

Looking for your group's next title? Try this new release, reviewed by the Burnout Sisters book club of San Diego.



The Hummingbird by Stephen P. Kiernan
(\$25.99; September 8)

The life lessons we discovered in this book were priceless," says Jan Arbuckle, one of the club's members (*middle row, second from left, in blue*). The novel follows Deb Birch, a hospice nurse whose husband is an Iraq war veteran. When she is assigned to the bitter, angry Barclay Reed, who shares stories of his experiences in WWII, her interactions with him help her navigate a difficult new chapter in her marriage. "The characters were drawn with such complexity—they felt like living, breathing humans," Jan says. "And seeing them manage their challenges gave us hope for our own personal issues."

THE BURNOUT SISTERS BOOK CLUB

Founded in 2007

Meetings:

After a fire destroyed their San Diego neighborhood 12 years ago, these neighbors came together to rebuild their lives, and discovered a shared love of reading in the process. Now they gather every other month to discuss their latest title over dinner.

Much-loved book:

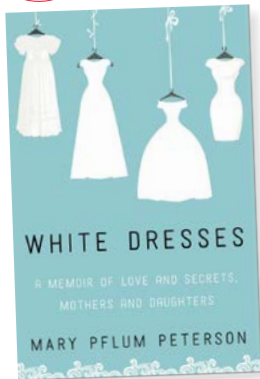
Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand

Favorite memory:

"Our very first meeting. It was the start of our healing," says Jan. "Over the years, we've moved on both physically and emotionally, but not a meeting goes by without someone bringing up a fire-related anecdote. And it's a great comfort to know that everyone else in the room understands."



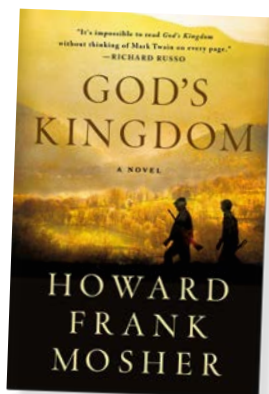
More great books to share



EMOTIONAL MEMOIR

White Dresses by Mary Pflum Peterson (\$16; September 15)

The author takes an honest, heartfelt look at her mother's compulsive hoarding problem, and the family history that preceded it. As she reflects on the difficult relationship she had with her mom (now deceased), Peterson sweeps nothing under the rug, and reveals how a loving mother-daughter bond can survive even the messiest of life's trials.



CLASSIC NEW ENGLAND TALE

God's Kingdom by Howard Frank Mosher (\$26; October 6)

For generations, the Kinneson family has lived in a remote part of Vermont nicknamed "God's Kingdom." Jim Kinneson, a burgeoning writer, grows up chronicling the local legends. Trying to parse fact from fiction, he stumbles on a long-buried story that will change the way he views his beloved town forever.



INSPIRING NONFICTION

Big Magic: Creative Living Beyond Fear by Elizabeth Gilbert (\$25; September 22)

Whatever your artistic pursuit, you'll nod in agreement as Elizabeth Gilbert reflects on the elusive, frustrating and sometimes comically strange process of creativity. Thoughtful and funny, Gilbert makes an excellent case for doing whatever it takes to unlock your inner artist and find more joy in life.



Snap for a chance to win a signed copy of *Big Magic* (get the WD app, page 18). See page 153 for details.