

Morsels for the Mind Book Group

Date: November 29, 2007

Book Title: Middlesex by Jeffrey Eugenides

Hostess: Anne Hill

Food Served: Baklava - from Greek-to-go catering
Spinach - Feta - Artichoke dip with Pita chips and pita bread
Greek recipes followed to make meatballs with cucumber
sauce and snow white almond cookies
Chocolate breasts, penises + vaginas in a silver compote

Book Synopsis: The story of Calliope Stephanides born
and raised as a daughter in Greek-American family,
but identified as a boy as a teenager. He was a
hermaphrodite due to genetics caused by his grandparent
incestuous relationship - Much family history of 80 plus
year traced and information about Greek culture + Detroit

Review: Very positive and noted to be featured in both mens
and women's magazines

Amazon.com "splendourous book"

Seen as a coming of age book depicting the universal struggle of
establishing gender identity in adolescence.

Highlights of Discussion: Many of us were intrigued by the
genetic anomalies of Cal and other hermaphrodite "Mermaid."
They found the history of Detroit from the 1920s through the
1990's interesting. Julie was very familiar with Grosse Pointe
setting wondered how autobiographical it was and of the author
many wondered how same genetic condition - surprised by the Purple

Attendance: Mary, Nancy D., Kara H., Ginny S., Nancy S.,
Anne S. Julie H., Anne Hill

Sandy - absent - not feeling well - Nancy McQuate absent
another activity

Suggestions/Business

21 Books donated to Santa Claus Girls

New books chosen for the next few months
Christmas dinner next week Dec at Seoul Garden