

Morsels for the Mind Book Group

Date: June 22, 2011

Book Title: The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Setterfield

Hostess: Sandy Oato

Food Served: Hot Cocoa, Iced Orange Pekoe Tea, Pinot Grigio, Malbec, Chicken Salad and Cucumber Sandwiches, Crudites, Fruit bowl, Cadbury Chocolate Sticks, Ginger Cupcakes, English mints.

Book Synopsis: Diane Setterfield's well-written debut novel unfolds as Vida Winters, a famous author, has chosen Margaret Lea, a young, part-time biographer who helps her father run an antique bookstore, to write her biography, the Thirteenth Tale. Multi-layered mystery with themes straight out of Jane Eyre and Wuthering Heights. Interesting twins parallels, family intrigues, complicated relationships and ghosts!

Review: All expressed admiration for Diane Setterfield's expertise in writing her first novel. All enjoyed the book.

Highlights of Discussion: All agreed that Vida Winters was the ghost child but who died in the fire? Some thought it was Angeline, some thought the author left it a mystery. Interesting online interview of the author on Simon and Schuster.com. Great to hear her speaking (in her lovely British accent) about her life and her experiences in writing this book. The hostess read some "Good to Know" bits of information about Diane Setterfield from Barnes and Noble.com and other information about The Thirteenth Tale from Wikipedia.

<i>Attendance: Anne S.</i>	<i>Nancy D.</i>	<i>Nancy M.</i>	<i>Nancy S.</i>
<i>Anne H.</i>	<i>Julie</i>	<i>Laura</i>	<i>Sandy</i>

Suggestions/Business: Next Morsels meeting at Nancy D.'s on July 21 to discuss Mudbound by Hillary Jordan.