

Doug's Reading List 2003 (in parentheses is a rating from 1-10. 1 is worse than awful. 10 is the best ever)

- Jan *Fight Club*, C. Palahniuk – Almost exactly like the movie. Virtually no difference, which was disappointing. (5)
My Losing Season, P. Conroy – nonfiction account of Conroy's senior year at the Citadel. Incredible. (9)
Girl Meets God, L. Winner – traces her journey from Judaism to Christianity with insight and clarity. (8)
- Feb *Bonecrack*, D. Francis – thriller novel with horses as its backdrop. (5)
Blue Shoe, A. Lamott – beautiful writing, wonderful characterization, no plot but who cares? (6)
Roses are Red, J. Patterson – incredibly stupid thriller novel (2)
Violets are Blue, J. Patterson – somehow Patterson gets away with stretching one novel into two. Shameful. (1)
The Second Coming, W. Percy – Percy's themes are extraordinary, weaving Xianity into his characters. (7)
- March *Making a Literary Life*, C. See – a look at a successful novelist and how she does it. Offbeat, witty. (8)
Suttree, C. McCarthy – postmodernism in novel form. I like this book the longer it's been since I read it. (5)
- April *One Door Away from Heaven*, D. Koonz – thriller that has an agenda. A fun read, but not great. (5)
Death in Holy Orders, PD Jakes – set in a seminary setting, this one sounded better than it was. (6)
Castaways of the Flying Dutchman, B. Jacques – the autograph in the front is the best thing about my book. (3)
The Way I Found Her, R. Tremain – See recommended this and she was right. Unusual thriller. (8)
- May *The 10 Commandments*, Douma – read this for my teaching series on same topic. Great on ethics (8)
Sermons on the 10 Commandments, Calvin – Even back in the 1500s, Calvin could bring the heat (6)
Peace Like a River, L. Enger – what is the deal when your dad can do small miracles? Amazing book. (10)
Down to Earth Discipling, S. Morton – a short, practical book on helping people walk with God. (7)
Island of the Aunts, E. Ibbotson – children's book with the premise of kidnapped children cleaning mermaids. (8)
- June *The Dive from Clausen's Pier*, A. Packer – an exploration of love and devotion when the fiance breaks his neck (8)
- July *Sea Biscuit*, L. Hillenbrand – the true story of the horse that beat Man of War. Incredible. (9)
Bobos in Paradise, D. Brooks – a look at the new bourgeois bohemians and their power (they're Boomers). (9)
Engaging God's World, C. Plantinga – Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration as a student (8)
Eve's Revenge, L. Calles Barger – Christian women need to understand the body, not fight against it. (9)
Prague, A. Phillips – an unnecessary jaunt through stupid conversations from boring people (1)
A Short History of Nearly Everything, B. Bryson – fascinating look at nearly everything from a great writer (8)
Remaking the World, H. Petroski – I honestly cannot remember what this book was about. That must be bad. (2)
The Life of a God-Made Man, D. Doriani – not a how-to or just-do-it book, but real principles that have meat. (8)
Hideaway, D. Koonz – thriller that keeps the pages turning. I liked the adopted daughter the best. (7)
The Black Stallion, W. Farley – read this with the kids. Hey, it's a horse book. (6).
- August *Dead Irish*, J. Lescroart – my dad got me started on these thrillers. (6)
The Vig, J. Lescroart – and I like them just fine. (6)
Hard Evidence, J. Lescroart – especially appreciating them (6)
The 13th Juror, J. Lescroart – while I was laid up in bed (6)
Lt. Hornblower, CS Forrester – supposedly great naval novels. I thought it stunk. (3)
Guilt, J. Lescroart – recovering from my August knee surgery. (6)
A Morning for Flamingos, J. K. Burke – Cajun thriller. Unfortunately there is such a thing. (4)
Women in Ministry, D. Doriani – a tough topic handled with grace and truth (7 but 9 if you're into this topic)
The Christmas Doll, E. Woodruff – I took a class where we read novels in different genres (OU Class). (5)
The Demon in the Teahouse, Hoobler – (OU Class) Japanese shogun kid children's novel (5)
- Sept *A Woman Betrayed*, B. Delinski –(OU Class) not much happens, but there is a lot of sex and talking. (5)
A Winter Rose, P. McKillip – (OU Class) Why did I hate this book? Too many reasons to state. (1)
Longing to Know, E. Meek – refreshing look at how we know. Great for epistemology questions. (8)
Ill Met by Moonlight, S. Hoyt – (OU Class) Hoyt tries to imagine what might have inspired Shakespeare. Tries. (4)
- Oct *Same Sex Partnerships?*, J. Stott – in preparation for a talk about homosexuality, this little book helped. (6)
The Book of Romance, T. Nelson – for my teaching on Song of Solomon. Wildly popular but I can't recommend it. (3)
What the Bible Really Says about Homosexuality, Helminiak – the liberal point of view, pro-gay lifestyle (5)
Guns of the South, H. Turtledove – what if the South had won the war? What if they had some serious help? (8)
Straight and Narrow?, T. Schmidt – the best book on homosexuality from a conservative perspective. (7)
How Few Remain, H. Turtledove – the continuation of *Guns of the South*, but it lacks the passion. (5)
A Maiden's Grave, J. Deaver – (OU Class) thriller with kidnapped deaf girls. Mizzou Journalism grad. (8)
- Nov *American Front*, H. Turtledove – I admit it, I want to know what happens with the USA and the CSA. (5)
Boundaries in Dating, Cloud/Townsend – the best book I've read about dating. (8)
Zero at the Bone, Mary Willis Walker – (OU Class). Thriller set in an Austin zoo. Decent once it gets going. (6)
The Lovely Bones, A. Sebald – I was legitimately scared while reading this. Creepy characters and writing. (9)
God of the Fairy Tale, J. Ware – do all stories point to God in some way? What is a eucatastrophe? (8)
Sex According to God, K. Arthur – one of the best books on sex out there, but I found it too late to use for my stuff. (8)
Walk in Hell, H. Turtledove – what can I say, I'm a sucker. I still don't know what happens. Grrr. (6)
- Dec. *The Unexpected Legacy of Divorce*, J. Wallerstein – a must read for anyone who knows children of divorce or for their spouses. (9)
Doomsday Book, C. Willis – Kivrin gets stuck in 1348 as the Black Plague rips through her village. (8)
Promiscuities, N. Wolf – Wolf take an honest at what it take to "become a woman" in our culture. True Xianity would help. (6)
Batman Returns, F. Miller – graphic novel depicting Batman in old age but ready for go time when bad guys take over. (7)
Mudhouse Sabbath, L. Winner – Winner's second book works through ten things that Jews do that Xians should learn from. (8)
The Secret History, D. Tartt – Greek and Latin-laced novel that leaves you wondering about how geeky, smart students kill people (8)