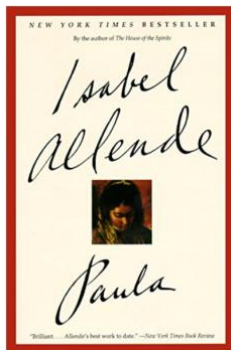




Another Installment of Sorting While Sheltering

After sorting through the hundreds of books in the house, I had my mom pull out some of her favorites. My mom is a voracious reader and loves a range of genres. Below is a list of her top picks. We found after talking through her choices that most of them inspired her because they are stories of people who have faced adversity and triumphed. Good reads for these times. We were both crying by the end!

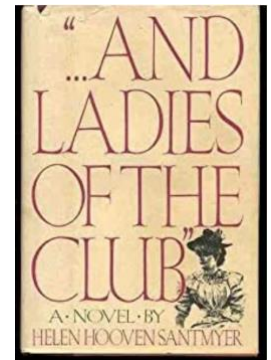


Paula by Isabel Allende

I like her non-fiction. And this one is beautiful. It is the story of her daughter dying in a hospital in Spain. Isabel sat by her bedside and wrote every day. She tells the story of her life. The day Paula dies her daughter-in-law has a baby. Very poignant. "This is a family that hangs tough."

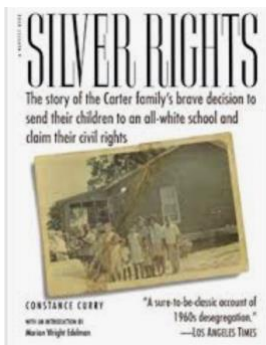
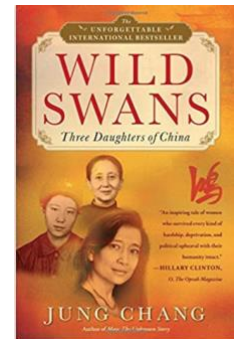
“And Ladies of the Club” by Helen Hooven Santmyer

Long story about a small town in Ohio. So very much like the town I grew up in...talks about the library and my mother was on the library board. All the people are so believable having grown up in a small town in Ohio. Takes you through all the ages. The story of our family.



Wild Swans: Three Daughters of China by Jung Chang

Three generations of women in China. The oldest generation is old China, the women has her feet bound, the second generation gets caught in Mao's revolution and the third generation gets out. It is a fascinating history told through these women's lives.

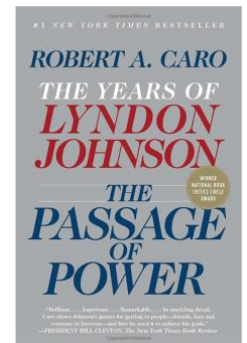


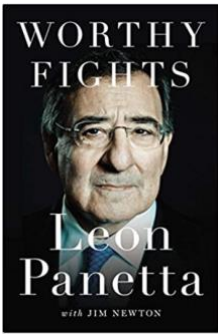
Silver Rights by Constance Curry

African American woman who lived in the south and picked cotton for a living. Her children were some of the first kids to integrate the schools. I heard her speak and it was beautiful. She dressed the kids up and sent them off and then threw herself on the bed and prayed. Brave, brave woman.

The Years of Lyndon Johnson: The Passage of Power by Robert A. Caro

This is very well written. He was a democrat who did a lot of good things. He did a very good job after Kennedy died. Reassured the nation and stepped right into the job. Johnson had the muscle in congress to get bills passed. He came from nothing and really understood the American poor. Well worth reading.



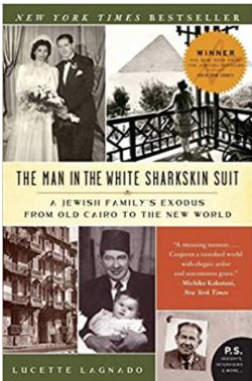
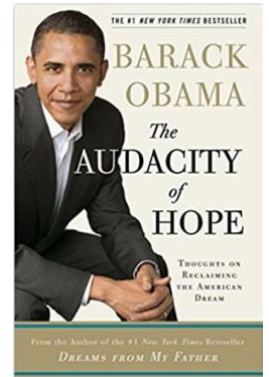


Worthy Fights by Leon Panetta

His parents were immigrants from Italy who opened a restaurant and eventually did well enough to buy a farm. Typical American story...he was very bright. He is still alive and they still call on him. A very inspiring story. He really rose to the pinnacle and yet very humble.

The Audacity of Hope by Barack Obama

He was trained as a top notch lawyer and could have gone on to clerk for the supreme court or made big bucks at a law firm. He chose to go into community organizing and went door to door in Chicago. And we know where he went from there.



The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit by Lucette Lagnado

This is a story about a wealthy upperclass man who knew the King of Egypt. He is forced to leave Cairo and start all over in the US. He wears his white sharkskin suit as a reminder of his former life. Beautiful story of Cairo and of a lost world.

When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice for Difficult Times by Pema Chodron

Gives good perspective on life and how to look at things. A book to pick up and read some of it at a time.

