

Mary Baldwin College Alumnae/i Book Club

December 2008

What we are reading in
2008:

May 1: *Devil in the White
City* by Erik Larson

June 5: *Eat, Pray, Love* by
Elizabeth Gilbert

July 3: *Daughter of Destiny:
An Autobiography* by Benazir
Bhutto

Aug 7: *Pillars of the Earth*
by Ken Follet

Sept 4: *The Book Thief* by
Markus Zusak

Oct 2: *Midnight in the
Garden of Good and Evil* by
John Berendt

Nov 6: *The Shadow of the
Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafon

Dec 4: *The Next Thing on
My List* by Jill Smolinski

Jan 1: *How My Magic
Refrigerator Sent Me To
Paris Free. 7 Rules To Make
Dreams Come True* by Lolly
Anderson

Feb 5: *Water for Elephants*
by Sara Gruen

Mar 5: *The Thirteenth Tale*
By Diane Setterfield

It's Book-Picking Time!!!

Our current list of books to read runs out in March 2009. I welcome all book suggestions!! Please send me the names of the books or just genres that you would like to see us read in 2009.

We are on the MBC website!!
www.mbc.edu/alumnae

Join us online!!
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MBCAlumBookClub>

If you are in the Richmond, VA area we would love for you to join us! All meeting times are 7pm and last approximately 1 hour.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Theresa Cash Lewis '99 at pinkferrets@gmail.com or the Alumnae/i office at 1-800-763-7359.



Your Guide to the Classics: *The Bostonians*

This brilliant satire of the women's rights movement in America is the story of the ravishing inspirational speaker Verena Tarrant and the bitter struggle between two distant cousins who seek to control her. Will the privileged Boston feminist Olive Chancellor succeed in turning her beloved ward into a celebrated activist and lifetime companion? Or will Basil Ransom, a conservative southern lawyer, steal Verena's heart and remove her from the limelight?

Biography

Henry James (1843-1916), born in New York City, was the son of noted religious philosopher Henry James, Sr., and brother of eminent psychologist and philosopher William James. He spent his early life in America and studied in Geneva, London and Paris during his adolescence to gain the worldly experience so prized by his father. He lived in Newport, went briefly to Harvard Law School, and in 1864 began to contribute both criticism and tales to magazines. In 1869, and then in 1872-74, he paid visits to Europe and began his first novel, *Roderick Hudson*. Late in 1875 he settled in Paris, where he met Turgenev, Flaubert, and Zola, and wrote *The American* (1877). In December 1876 he moved to London, where two years later he achieved international fame with *Daisy Miller*. Other famous works include *Washington Square* (1880), *The Portrait of a Lady* (1881), *The Princess Casamassima* (1886), *The Aspern Papers* (1888), *The Turn of the Screw* (1898), and three large novels of the new century, *The Wings of the Dove* (1902), *The Ambassadors* (1903) and *The Golden Bowl* (1904). In 1905 he revisited the United States and wrote *The American Scene* (1907). During his career, he also wrote many works of criticism and travel. Although old and ailing, he threw himself into war work in 1914, and in 1915, a few months before his death, he became a British subject. In 1916 King George V conferred the Order of Merit on him. He died in London in February 1916.