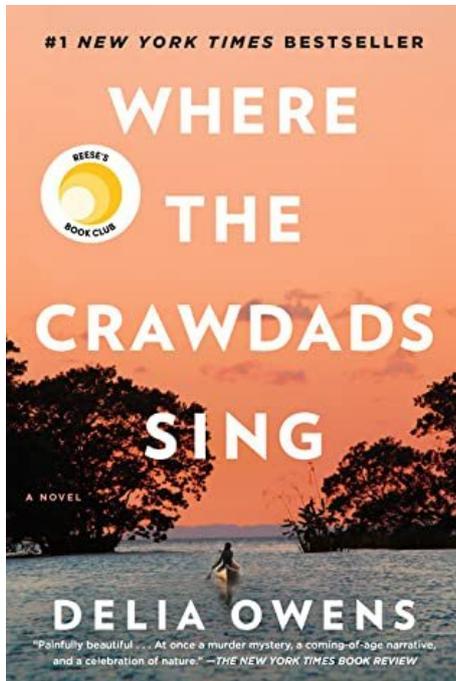


Book Reviews

Book reviews are welcomed from all members, not just those in the Reading Groups. Please email your reviews to Margaret Mason margaret@u3a-llandrindod.org.uk

These following review comes from Karyn Evans.



This month our book was "Where the Crawdads sing" by Delia Owens.

Delia Owens is a zoologist and has written non-fiction books about her life as a wild-life scientist in Africa.

This book is her first novel.

Essentially it is the life story of Kya , 'The Marsh Girl', an abandoned 10 year old, living in the marshlands of the North Carolina coast.

The story is delightful, if on times a little unbelievable. But what makes this book stand out is the way she describes the environment - the flora and fauna of the marshlands.

Her writing is beautiful. It's lyrical: "A great blue heron is the colour of grey mist reflecting in blue water. And like mist she can fade into the backdrop; all of her

disappearing except the concentric circles of her 'Lock and Load' eyes".

This is 1950's and 60's America, with its racial segregation and small town politics.

Kya goes to see her old friend 'Jumpin' to tell him some good news. He and his wife Mabel were her only friends.

"He stared at her. In another time and place, an old black man and a young white woman might have hugged. But not there, not then"

These few words tell the reader so much about Carolina in the 1960's.

This is not a book to be read quickly, but slowly, to become immersed in her wonderful descriptions.

I have been a member of 'The Readers' from the beginning and this is the ONLY time everyone has enjoyed my choice of book. Often I'm the only one who likes my book!!

I really feel this is what a book group is all about; reading books as diverse as its members.

If we all 'sang from the same hymn sheet' wouldn't it be boring?