

L.W.A. BOOK CLUB NEWSLETTER

WINTER 19
FINAL ISSUE



dedicated to all the members of the L.W.A.
THANK YOU ALL! - K & D.

ow, I really enjoyed this collection of letters - the sharing of these artists' lives. There were so many parts I loved (and parts that made me cry), but more than anything, it was just how deeply they cared & helped one another.

Some of my favorites:

Page 72 - frustration of the day seeping into the things you love & how you can take a break & be renewed the next day.

Page 77 - "I'll talk to you when you return from the place I can't see" [PAT]

Page 89 - "any decision we make about our own lives after considering the facts is the right decision!" [AUDRE] - K.



Even though we won't have a newsletter, you should still read!

P.S. - Donovan has a blonde look now.



K AND A DARK LIB

L.W.A. BOOK CLUB PICK



← THAT'S NOT REALLY IMPORTANT, BUT I REMEMBER IT VERY VIVIDLY. →

← I brought this book a year ago & never read. Gradually it got then popping up in my life, over & over, so I figured it was time. - D.

I started this book in a park, eating fried chicken from the grocery store. I was instantly a part of Audre & Pat's lives. The book was too short & too, ultimately, sad, but I was thrilled & tantalized by the glimpse of this private world. They felt like my friends. Our world feels like a lesser place without them. - D.

Member reviews came in mixed. It feels like everyone really wanted more. Personally, I think that is a high recommendation for it if you haven't read it. The letters presented are very slice of life and very real. A deeply introspective thought will be bookended by a recipe and a discussion of the weather. I love that sort of thing, but can understand if it felt more like a research text to some. To me, the parts we are missing are the things that I continue to think about. Never did get a beet recipe.

*Donovan

"This was a lovely mentorship/relationship to peek in on. I definitely want to read more of both writers. Bonus points for being short enough to finish in one sitting. Not sure I got a complete sense of the writers' complex identities though." -Member #08645

KATHY + I DISCUSSED THIS BOOK OVER PIE + SODAS AT OUR FAVORITE SPOT. AS MENTIONED, I READ THE BOOK OVER FRIED CHICKEN AND I'M WRITING THIS AFTER DINNER, WITH WINE

Favorite Part:
September 8, 1988

This is not a piece of paper, but my arm extending across all the damn miles between us to hold you and hug you with all the strength, we have had to gain from the pain.

This is my hand reaching inside you to feel the hole that is there.

Right now I feel betrayed by words; there is nothing I can say that says what I feel. -Pat to Audre

"The most profound moment for me came as I was cruising along, enjoying their wonderful company, when suddenly the letters stopped. Just stopped as in never to start again... that sudden silence, final silence..."

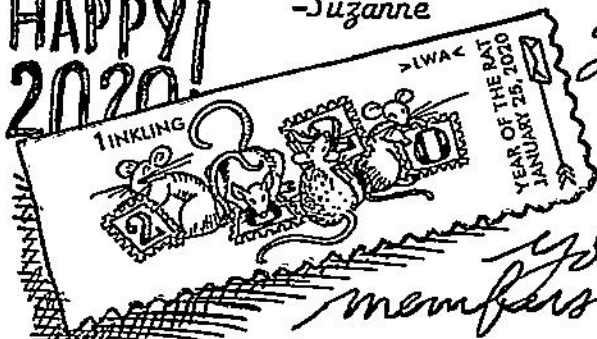
-Mel

"With all their eventful, creative, and intermittent/chronic illnesses, I was always impressed by how Audre Lorde and Pat Parker wrote to encourage each other but also support each other's work, and when needed, their finances." -Margaret

"I was especially impressed with Pat's efforts in adopting children, probably ahead of her time and certainly not seamless back then."

-Suzanne

HAPPY!
2020!



Thank you for your membership!

It took me a long time to put this together. It really shouldn't have, but it did. I almost didn't do it at all. Kathy convinced me that we owed it to you + to ourselves.



- Other books you can keep reading:
- Letters of a Woman Homesteader
by Elinore Pruitt Stewart
 - The Wednesday Letters
by Jason F. Wright
 - Vanessa and Her Sister
by Priya Parmar
 - Keep Me Posted
by Lisa Beazley
 - Code Name Verity
by Elizabeth Wein
 - Lady Susan
by Jane Austen
 - Dept. of Speculation
by Jenny Offill
- And lots of other titles on our Good Reads
<https://www.goodreads.com/group/show/150965-letter-writers-alliance-book-club>