This report will focus on preparations and announcements for future meetings. We will move to this briefer “flash” format in future mailings.

Thus, our last meeting saw this writer promulgating a revised club selection procedure for requested approval by the group. This being granted, he launched into his own two book recommendations for our November 2nd meeting.

My goal was to promote two books (of different genre) that express the heart of my deepest desires, i.e. noticing, understanding, and appreciating nature in all its varied manifestations. I suggested that future volunteer selectors likewise chose book subjects and genres that express the heart of their deep desires (whatever they may be).

This selection approach emphasizes each member’s personal choice of books that touch their heart and simultaneously serve to promote civil and considered discussion within our group. I am suggesting that our group dynamics (personal sharing) may be as important (or more important) than the luminous literary masterpieces we may discover.

To illustrate this approach, I recommended these two book alternatives:
1) **RED: Passion and Patience in the Desert**, by Terry Tempest Williams
2) **THE MOON BEFORE MORNING**, by W.S. Merwin

   These are both highly acclaimed, award-winning authors:
   TTW is a Utah-born woman, naturalist, lyric writer, and fierce environmental activist. W.S.M. is a former U.S. Poet Laureate, raised near my hometown of Summit, N.J., educated at Harvard, and living in Maui (raising a favored species of palm tree).

   When presented with this choice, the group chose **RED**, which will therefore be our next great read.

Fast forward to this world’s fast changing commercial dynamics in the book trade. The Book Worm cannot provide either book. They are unavailable from their jobber that offers standard discounts and a return policy for unsold books. Thus your purchase does not include preferential treatment for our local, independent bookstore. So be it. You may order **RED** from your choice of online book vendors, find a library copy, or borrow one from Terry Haney (who has read it). Having raised his hand first as a prospective book selector, he will be the next volunteer books presenter at our Wednesday, November 2 meeting. Who would like to be to become the next volunteer book selector?

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