

The Return of the Sorority Blog

Summer Reading [from the President's periodic blog]

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I count it as a credit to the Hattiesburg Public Schools that I kick into Summer Reading mode every June. If I don't have a stack of to-be-read volumes on my shelf by the end of May I tend to get a little panicky.

I confess that most of this summer's selections fall short of qualifying as great literature. Mostly, I ripped through an odd assortment of mysteries, booklist blockbusters and cheap purchases from the Barnes & Noble remainder trough that have kept me deliciously engaged while on the road. I got around to reading *Love in the Time of Cholera* and wished I had not waited so long to enjoy Marquez' timeless prose.

My favorite so far (we still have several weeks until school starts) is an interesting non-fiction piece about a woman who sold all her worldly goods, purchased a trawler, learned to sail it, then headed out to sea. The title, *The Cure for Anything Is Salt Water: How I Threw My Life Overboard and Found Happiness at Sea*, pretty much sums up the plot. Most memorable was the opening quote from Isak Dinesen:

"The cure for anything is salt water: sweat, tears...and the sea."

Is this the best we expect from you, Dr. Saunders? Is there nothing of interest happening in the entire Southern Miss world? Is there nothing new, different, or innovative from the new provost? How about the new deans? What is being worked on for the fall semester? What about the idea of Southern Miss faculty teaching Southern Miss courses at area junior colleges and community colleges? That sounds new and very different. What about structural changes in the university? What about any of the construction projects in the works? It seems a blog post about anything like this would be of more interest to your potential readers. It is doubtful the stakeholders of Southern Miss find it appealing that you consider yourself on summer vacation.