

Sacramento Book Review



Below is a clipping of your book review that appeared in the January 09 issue of the *Sacramento Book Review*. Thank you for sending us the book.

Classics for Pleasure

By Michael Dirda

Harvest Books, \$15.00, 352 pages

Originally released last year in hardcover, *Classics for Pleasure* is one of the classic books about books, written by book lovers. Dirda is a Pulitzer Prize winning critic for the *Washington Post Book World* and has several collections of literary criticism and wrote *Book by Book: Notes on Reading and Life*, a collection of quotes and excerpts from some of his favorite books that provide valuable life lessons. *Classics for Pleasure* is a collection of short essays about great literary works that Dirda feels the label of “classic” may deter casual readers. The essays are humorous, concise, and compelling for follow-up reading. Most areas of reading are covered, in eleven well-named categories - from “Travelers Tales” (Jules Verne and Thomas More) to “Realms of Adventure” (Rudyard Kipling and Dashiell Hammett). Anyone considered a well-rounded reader would enjoy perusing this book; and most likely find several new titles to add to the pile on their nightstand.

