

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.

Lark and Termite

By Jayne Anne Phillips

Knopf, \$24.00, 272 pages

Successfully straddling the fine line that separates non-inspirational and sickly-sweet, Phillips shows the rare ability to make an uplifting novel actually readable with *Lark and Termite*, and not only is it readable, but it is quite delectable. Lark is a

young woman who, through necessity, already has the presence-of-mind of a caring and intelligent mother in her thirties. She looks over Termite, a youth who, even

through the physical limitations he carries – such as the inability to speak, is a quizzical and bright child. A separate story in a separate timeline is also followed, that of Termite’s father and his time spent in the Korean War, and the two eventually intertwine in a crucial way.

Phillips return from a novel-writing hiatus is a success, being the type of read that is at the same time captivating and the type that ultimately changes your outlook on events in your own life, giving you a more optimistic perspective.

