January 2014

From the Nightstand: C. Diana Soares

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Interview conducted by Zachary Mobjrice
C. Diana Soares is Administrative Assistant in the Office for Finance and Administration. She has worked at RWU for fourteen years.

Current Reads: A year ago, Diana joined a book club that has been meeting consecutively for twenty-two years. Most recently, after the club finished Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks, a novel about the first Native American to ever attend Harvard College in 1665, Diana then was inspired to read Brooks' 1994 nonfiction journey through the lives of Islamic women in the Middle East, called Nine Parts of Desire. Diana also has just finished The Husband's Secret by Liane Moriarty, and Me Before You by JoJo Moyes.

Upcoming Reads: Khaled Hosseini’s latest bestseller And the Mountains Echoed. Also on the list are two recent Bill O’Reilly books—Killing Kennedy and Killing Jesus. And because being book club hostess can have its perks, “I have selected The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri as our February read.”

Memorable Reads: The Kite Runner. “I loved how Hosseini told a story that covered loyalty, lies, secrets, and violence in a culture that was foreign to me. Also, I felt it was excellent writing. To have him on campus in 2005 and discuss the book made reading it even more enjoyable, and stand out in my mind.” For nonfiction—Thomas Friedman’s That Used to Be Us is “an amazing book about the decline in our country in terms of infrastructure, education, government, and such.”

Essential Reads: Those that delve into the important political issues of our times. Friedman’s Hot, Flat, and Crowded makes the case for America’s much needed Green Revolution. Salt Sugar Fat by Michael Moss investigates the corruption of the modern food industry.

What are people in the Roger Williams University community reading? The From the Nightstand team asks which books are on people’s nightstands—either being read, or waiting to be read.