

Small Wonder

Barbara Kingsolver

A discussion guide for the Simple Scrapper Book Club.

QUOTE // Small Wonder, p6 - "I navigate life using stories where I find them, and I hold tight to the ones that tell me new kinds of truth."

QUESTION // Q1. What is the role of stories in your scrapbooking? Why do you learn telling them on your pages?

QUOTE // Small Wonder, p15 - "We see so much, understand so little, and are simultaneous told so much about What We Think, as a populace polled minute by minute, that it all begins to feel like an extraneous effort to listen at all to our hearts."

QUESTION // Q2. This was written 15 years ago. How has the pace of information impacted your scrapbooking over the years?

QUOTE // Small Wonder, p19 - "It's the same struggle for each of us, and the same path out: the utterly simple, infinitely wise, and ultimately defiant act of loving one thing and then another, loving our way back to life."

QUESTION // Q3. How is scrapbooking a way of loving your life?

QUOTE // Knowing Our Place, p31 - "I have places where all my stories begin."

QUOTE // Knowing Our Place, p37 - "I have my ostensible claim, but the truth is, these places own me: They hold my history, my passions, and my capacity for honest work."

QUESTION // Q4. Are there particularly places in your life that flood your mind with stories to tell?

QUOTE // Called Out, p92 - "The flowers will go on mystifying us, answering to a clock that ticks so slowly we won't live long enough to hear it."

QUESTION // Q5. How important is legacy to you as a memory keeper?

QUOTE // Lily's Chickens, p123 - "I'm not up for a guilt trip, just an adventure in bearable lightness."

QUESTION // Q6. What does "simplicity" mean to you when it comes to both your life and your scrapbooking?

REFERENCE // In "Letter to a Daughter at Thirteen", the author shares lessons learned in the form of a letter. Then in "Letter to My Mother" she shares one side of an intersecting story.

QUESTION // Q7. How can you apply these techniques to your projects?

QUOTE // Flying, p186 - "This is what changed for us that day: not what we know, but how we feel."

QUESTION // Q8. Were you a scrapbooker in 2001. If so, did 9/11 change how you view or approach your hobby?

QUOTE // Flying, p191 - "If it could have been me... what would I want to have written in stone?"

QUESTION // Q9. How do you want to be remembered?

QUOTE // What Good is a Story?, p210 - "If it can tell me something I didn't already know, or maybe suspected but never framed quite that way, or never before had sock me so divinely in the solar plexus, that was a story worth the read."