

BOOK CLUB



Twilight saga is a great read



HERE is the latest book review from the Evening Telegraph's book club. We have teamed up with the Bodecia Book Club and will be reviewing a different book each month. The club is supported by Northamptonshire Libraries, which helps reading groups across the county by supplying books. The review is of *Breaking Dawn* by Stephanie Meyer. Find out more about Bodecia Book Club at www.bodeciabookclub.co.uk

IDIDN'T know what the Twilight frenzy and hype was all about until I started to catch up with the films, and after watching the last one I really needed to know what happens so set out to buy a copy of the book and to persuade the other book club members to take up and read the hefty 750 pages that make up the final instalment of the Twilight saga.

I was hooked and my husband even bought me a Twilight t-shirt! After reading the book it then took a few months to get the books at the library so that the Bodecia Book Club could all read it. I read it twice!

My hairdresser had gushed about the Twilight books and how she had been hypnotised into the world of vampires, and more specifically, Edward.

"He had the most beautiful soul, more beautiful than his brilliant mind or his incomparable face or his glorious body" gushed not my friend but Bella in the book.

Not only does Edward

refrain from biting his beloved, he refuses to go past first base with her lest those pesky bloodsucking urges be unleashed.

So for three volumes the couple's physical interaction is limited to kissing, face-stroking and declarations of everlasting love. Barbara Cartland would surely approve.

We thought that *Breaking Dawn* loses some of the romantic magic of *Twilight*. Meyer writes about furniture-wrecking sex with the decorum of a Victorian schoolmistress. It seems all the sexual tension and passion between Edward and Bella after they had done the deed seems to have dulled, which for a group of middle age women was a bit of a let down.

Bella's love for Edward is very visible, we thought, as she so much wanted to keep his baby, even if this killed her. The book pours out his emotions and you can really feel it.

Breaking Dawn is probably the most emotional book

of the series.

If you are going to read this book, you should not do so before reading the others. Although many of us had watched the films we would have loved to have read the books all together.

The ending was a bit of a let down as it does end happily for everyone. We wanted to leave it open so that we can still read more about the characters, in particular little Renesmee.

The book is made up from three parts, giving Bella's perspective at the beginning then switching to Jacob's then back to Bella.

High points of the book were the wedding and the feeling of the loyalty between not just families but also friends.

The low point was the unbelievable way that Bella's dad Charlie simply accepted that Bella was different without asking many questions. He was convinced by Jacob that it was a "need to know" basis, yet he is the chief of police so surely it must be in

his blood to get to the bottom of a mystery.

Jacob finally lets go of Bella in this book, which we all agreed was welcome as there was only so much puppy dog one could take.

All in all most of us enjoyed the book and felt although it was weighty, it didn't feel like a long read.

Someone from the group summarised the book as High School Musical meets Dracula.

It was a very good read and we can't wait until the film, which will be in two parts, comes out next November.

In the meantime it gives us the opportunity to read all the books again.

■ The book club members are now reading is *The Blue Handbag* by Fiona Robyn.



We want to know what you think about our reading club

If you are reading this month's book or have read any of our previous books, get in touch with your own review. Send your thoughts to Joni Ager at the Evening Telegraph, Newspaper House, Ise Park, Rothwell Road, Kettering, NN16 8GA. You