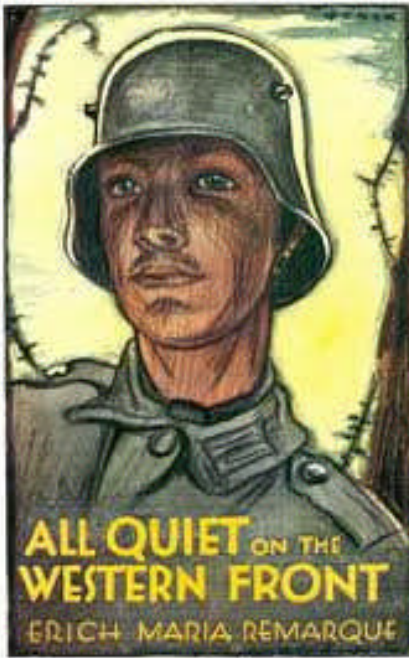


**THROOP BOOK GROUP – August – September 2011**

The Throop Book Group is an eclectic group that meets at 4:00 PM on Thursdays at John and Ann Hunnewell's house, 171 Melrose Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016

If you have any questions, contact **Jim Bys** (626)574-5667 or [jimbys@charter.net](mailto:jimbys@charter.net)

We will be reading **ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT** by Erich Maria Remarque on August 11, 18. The following book will be **MOBY DICK** by Herman Melville. On September 22 **LETTERS FROM THE EARTH** by Mark Twain.



**ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT**  
by Erich Maria Remarque  
August 11, 18

Paul Baumer enlisted with his classmates in the German army of World War I. Youthful, enthusiastic, they become soldiers. But despite what they have learned, they break into pieces under the first bombardment in the trenches. And as horrible war plods on year after year, Paul holds fast to a single vow: to fight against the principles of hate that meaninglessly pits young men of the same generation but different uniforms against each other--if only he can come out of the war alive.

"The world has a great writer in Erich Maria Remarque. He is a craftsman of unquestionably first track, a man who can bend language to his will. Whether he writes of men or of inanimate nature, his touch is sensitive, firm, and sure."  
THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

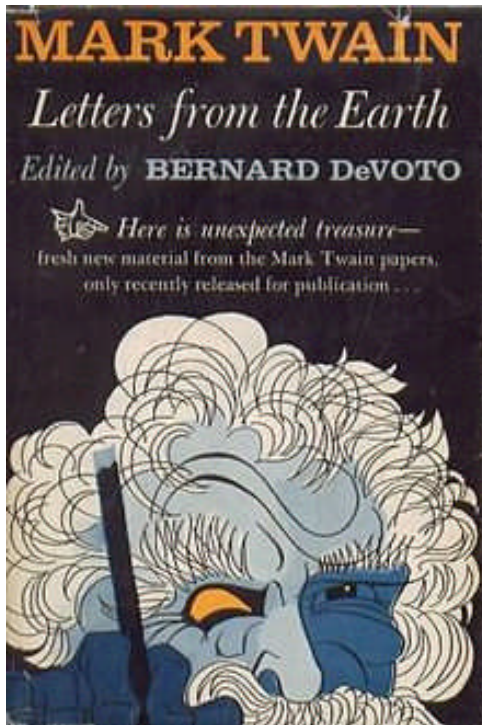
**MOBY DICK**  
by Herman Melville  
Aug. 25, Sept. 1, 8, 15

Forget everything you have heard or think you know about this book. What it decidedly is not is the story of a one-legged madman pursuing a whale for revenge.

.....  
MOBY-DICK is as weird and far-ranging as Scripture, and stakes out the same territory, namely heaven, hell, earth, mortality, joy, flesh, eternity, the soul. Ahab is no more mad than Edmund in KING LEAR: the real madman of MOBY-DICK is Melville himself. But he can only have been unhinged by an angel, so sweeping is the power of his imagination.

Review by Mulcahey





**LETTERS FROM THE EARTH**  
by Mark Twain.  
September 22

Mark Twain's *Letters from the Earth* is a brilliant and incredibly imaginative take on the story of the Bible itself. Starting with the creation of the Earth, Twain's fresh view on the most basic of Biblical doctrine is objectively approached from the perspective of one without any preconceived religious notions. Composed of prominent figures including Satan himself, the story weaves together a fresh, new slant on God and man. With his sharp wit, Twain examines Heaven and Earth, and characterizes humanity in such an acute manner, that what he purports unanticipatedly seems obvious. After reading this book, you will never look at the Bible or mankind the same.

Review submitted by Janet Schmehl.

"If Christ were here there is one thing he would not be -- a Christian."