

Dear Farmgirl Sisters,

I've been an insatiable reader from the moment I checked out my very first Dr. Seuss book from the public library. As a child and teenager, I had a pretty impressive set of best friends: Laura Ingalls, Jo March, Bilbo Baggins, and Scarlett O'Hara (to name a few). The characters I encountered between those pages became real to me; I truly considered them all **my friends**.

Maybe it was the same for you? Maybe you were the kid who read everything you could lay your hands on, the kid who read by flashlight under the covers, or the kid who was told to, "Put down that book and go outside to get some fresh air!" Maybe that **love of books** carried on throughout your childhood into adolescence and on into motherhood; maybe you were the mom who figured out how to read a book while balancing a baby on one hip and stirring a stew with the other? Maybe you still count a hot cup of tea, a comfy chair, and a quiet hour with a good book as the ideal way to spend a Saturday night?

If so, you're somebody I want to know!

As a lifelong voracious reader, I made writing my profession. Now, I'm thrilled and grateful *Mary Jane's Farm* and Kensington Publishing have asked me to serve as the moderator of the brand new **Farmgirl Book Club**! Over the next year, we're going to read some truly wonderful books together. Here's how it will work...

In each issue of *Mary Jane's Farm*, we'll suggest several outstanding, carefully chosen books that coincide with a different theme (starting this issue with Southern fiction). We'll present two main selections and up to three alternate titles. It'll be up to you to decide which book(s) you'd like to try. You can read them all or just one. With so many terrific titles to choose from, you're sure to find something you'll love and want to talk about—and that's where the fun really begins!

Next, convene with your Farmgirl Sisters via our Facebook group and talk about what you're reading. We'll discuss the characters you can't get enough of, the villains you love to hate, the plot twists you never saw coming, and so much more. We'll have special events, a giveaway or two, and maybe even some live chats with a few of the authors who wrote the books! Join us:

www.facebook.com/groups/FarmgirlBookClub

Our new Farmgirl Book Club will be full of surprises, and most importantly, chocked-full of great stories to capture your imagination, tug at your heartstrings, allow you to travel the world without leaving your chair, and introduce you to characters who'll feel like friends. I'm hoping you'll join us; **let's explore outstanding books together.**

I can't wait to meet you, Farmgirl! This is going to be **so much fun!**

Happy reading,



Marie Bostwick

Marie Bostwick is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of the Cobbled Court Quilts series as well as standalone novels about family and friendship, such as *The Promise Girls* and *The Second Sister*. Her next novel, *Just In Time*, goes on sale March 27, 2018. For more information about Marie, her novels, quilting and contests, visit www.MarieBostwick.com.