COMMENTS from 2016- Dramatic Author Presentations

Comments from Dramatic Author Presentation and Book Launching Community Event, held at Big Sur Grange #742- Dec 10th, 2016, Big Sur, CA

"LaVerne, your presentation was everything I hoped it would be: the true voice of the characters and the truth about the times they lived in. The room was full of such amazing witnesses and activists. I was honored to be invited." DW

"Thank you for bringing this issue [dissolving racism] to the community. Much needed! There is always room for EMPATHY and compassion for all those opposed as well as those living in fear and innocence."

"Thanks for your heartfelt sharing. Living in our little bubble, it is easy to forget about racial conflict. I so appreciate your unique perspective." SJ

"The singing accompanying the slides made both (drama and slides) more effective and very effective. You may have seen the tears streaming down my face. I was glad I was in the front row of singing so I could watch the slides at the same time. I enjoyed and thought your presentation was timely."

"I'm so glad I got to be part of your wonderful presentation. I'm sure your book will do well. Ou must be very proud of it." EM

"I am so proud of you. Your courageous Heart and your willingness to "get out there" and be seen and illuminate others in the process, is profound and so needed in our world. I am honored to be your friend." JG

"I loved the author event. I was impressed with the high quality of your presentation." DM

"Loved your unique presentation of your book, Laverne. So much more than just talking about it. I can't wait to read it. Thank you." MAJ

"Thank you for sharing your courage. I appreciated the acting/re-enacting of the story. I think the discussion is key as it allowed others to have a voice to share and feel part of the never-ending Civil Rights Movement."

"Fear is the root of hatred-pain-intolerance. Pity the people who were turned out by their "tribe" to feel powerless and vulnerable. Not the way we of color were raised. "DM

Comments from Berkeley CalRTA, Division 49 on 10/26/2016, held at Berkeley North Branch Public Library, Berkeley, CA

"Thank you for your riveting presentation. It was carefully prepared and clearly given. Very well done. I certainly appreciate your efforts and enthusiasm." C. Weber

"Thank you for the presentation and for setting it in 1954. I grew up in Topeka."

"Wonderful engaging presentation! I hope you are doing it at elementary schools. Thank you!"

J.E. Sells

"Thanks for your great presentation! There is nothing like dramatization. Have you gone to the Berkeley schools? My old school, Malcolm X on Ashby would love to see/hear you." B. Foster

"Powerful experience to watch you act out your experiences. Keep up the acting and presenting. Thanks for coming."

"Thank you for sharing your personal experiences. I, a white child, have a very strong memory of my 1st time seeing black people. I was shocked and full of loud questions, which my grandparents shut down fast. We were driving in Waterbury, Conn. They closed the car windows and told me to be quiet. They gave me no explanation and I was in trouble. I think you and I must have that questioning child in common."

"Very interesting. We have all learned much too gradually."

"Appreciate your personal experience."

"Thank you for sharing a painful experience."

"Thank you for the presentation. I encourage you to continue and hope that each time someone will shift audience focus to present work to be done. I am a grandmother in a multi-racial family who sees a need for descendants of Europe to legitimize our presence on stolen land."