THE RING OF KERRY IRISH DANCERS
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
October 26, 2022 7:30pm
The Second Mrs. Astor by Shana Abe

OPEN: Tom (socializing until 7:40 pm and everyone has signed in)

ORIENTATION: Everyone is muted except *Sonja, Marilyn, and Tom* ***Procedures*** ... Unmute when recognized and called upon to speak. Raise your hand high enough to be seen.

OPENING REMARKS: *Marilyn O.*
Introduce topic of book and author's writing style.
Background about the author Shana Abe.

QUESTIONS:

- What are some of the characteristics that make this book appropriate for the RKIDS Book Discussion?
- At the beginning of this story Madelaine is a sheltered 17-year-old socialite who has just graduated from finishing school. By the end of the novel, just 2 years later, her world is radically different. How? Has she handled the transition well? Did her age affect her actions?
- If this story took place in today's time frame would her story be somewhat different?
- Compare Madelaine's relationship with the press to those of Princess Diana in a more modern setting. How did both of these young women in a setting of constant scrutiny react? How did Vincent treat Madelaine? Justified? Was their relationship always a hopeless cause?
- Where did Madelaine's emotional support come from? Did Madelaine's grief force her to grow as a human being, shrink, or both? (cite examples)
- Do you think the world is ready for another TITANIC movie but with different story line and characters?
- What did you like best about this author's writing style? What did you not like about the authors writing style?

REMINDER OF THE NEXT BOOK DISCUSSIONS: *Marilyn.....*
THE THREE GOOD FRIDAYS *(an autobiography) by William Morrison*
November 30th, 2022

HOW THE IRISH WON THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION *by Phillip Thomas Tucker*
(January*)*

**** DON'T FORGET WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH FOR THE *CELTIC WORLD* AT 7:30PM. ** No book discussion or Celtic World lectures in December.**