

One County, One Book | Ventura County Library

***Barbarian Days* by William Finnegan – Discussion Questions**

- What do you think motivated William to share his life story? How did you respond to William's "voice"?
- What is the William's most admirable quality? Is this someone you would want to know or have known?
- Which places in the book would you most like to visit?
- What aspects of William's story could you most relate to?
- Is there something especially surprising about William's story? What was it and why?
- What gaps do you wish William had filled in? Were there points where you thought he shared too much?
- Think about the other people in the book besides William. How would you feel to have been depicted in this way?
- Is there a lesson that can be taken away from William's life experiences? What is it and why is it important?
- The memoir ended abruptly with William talking about waves. Is there anything else you would have liked to read about at the end?
- After reading *Barbarian Days*, has your interest been piqued about surfing and/or travel? If so, would you consider reading more on these topics in the future or taking part in these activities?