

BOOKS ARE OUR FRIENDS

Very often we turn to our friends for the solution of problems that baffle us. We seek their advice, we ask their opinion about matters that, alone, we cannot tackle. We go to them for comfort. But in the absence of friends, books may serve as a fine substitute.

In books, literature particularly, we find solace for our worries. Good books offer safe and wholesome entertainment. Their authors may instruct us with their own experience, that they may reach us who belong to an age distant from their own, and give us a part of the wisdom of the ages that in their lifetime have acquired. Some books evoke laughter; others draw tears; still others arouse thought. They all divert our minds from the sad realities that surround us. Books make us forget our own cares, and after reading, we acquire balance, relief, and time to consider our own problems with some degree of serenity.

Books are our friends. We should get better acquainted with them. They have no substitutes.

Questions:

- 1. In what ways are books like our friends?
- 2. What does the writer think we should do about books?
- 3. Do you love reading books?
- 4. What kind of books do you read?