The Arkansas Center for the Book at the Arkansas State Library encourages Arkansans to read and discuss *The Homecoming of Samuel Lake* by author Jenny Wingfield in book clubs and libraries during the next year.

To kick off the program, the author will visit Arkansas from October 5-9 for readings and book signings.

Every first Sunday in June, members of the Moses clan gather for an annual reunion at a sprawling hundred-acre farm in Arkansas.

And every year, Samuel Lake, a vibrant and committed young preacher, brings his beloved wife, Willadee Moses, and their three children back for the festivities. In the midst of it all, Samuel and Willadee’s outspoken eleven-year-old daughter, Swan, is a bright light. Her high spirits and fearlessness have alternately seduced and bedeviled three generations of the family. But just as the reunion is getting under way, tragedy strikes, jolting the family to their core and setting the stage for a summer of crisis and profound change.

With the clear-eyed wisdom that illuminates the most tragic—and triumphant—aspects of human nature, Jenny Wingfield has created an enduring work of fiction.

Jenny Wingfield is a native of Fountain Hill, Ark. The daughter of a Methodist minister, she grew up “pretty much all over Louisiana”, attending nine schools in twelve years.

After earning her B.A. in English and French at Southern State College (now SAU) in Magnolia, she taught in the Hope and Ashdown, Ark. public schools.

Wingfield broke into freelancing by writing celebrity articles for *Scene Magazine, Music City News,* and *The Saturday Evening Post.* Several years later, she shifted lanes, tackling screenwriting. Her film credits include *The Man In The Moon* (Reese Witherspoon’s debut movie), *The Outsider* (starring Naomi Watts), Hallmark Hall of Fame’s *A Dog Named Christmas* (winner of the 2010 Genesis Award), and several Disney animation projects.

“Raw, dark, and powerful . . . Southern Gothic at its best. The Homecoming of Samuel Lake puts one in mind of Erskine Caldwell and Flannery O’Connor.”—Fannie Flagg

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