



A Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries
Vol. 26, No. 4 ☛ Summer, 2010

The Owl

"The Owl of Minerva takes flight only as the dusk begins to fall." — Hegel

Readers' Picks - Summer 2010

By Christopher Poché, Current Periodicals

For me, one of the great benefits of working at the library has been that it has enabled me to remain involved with the UofL Philosophy Department, where I went to graduate school. As a university employee I have taken advantage of the tuition remission benefit and have taken some great classes on Plato, Immanuel Kant, and Ludwig Wittgenstein. And so I have been able to read

or reread some of those great classics of

Western philosophy (Plato's *Republic*,

Kant's *Critique of Pure Reason*,

Wittgenstein's *Philosophical*

Investigations) that I always think

I will get to on my own, but really

need the discipline of a class to

get through. And over the past

academic year, I have had the great

pleasure of teaching an introductory

logic course for the department. (Just

working on campus has made taking on this part-

time job as convenient as it could possibly be.) As I have done

this, I have dipped into the relevant professional literature and so have

been reading books with exciting titles like *The Development of Logic*, *An*

Introduction to Medieval Logic (the second edition!!), and *Critical Reasoning*

in Contemporary Culture. Does this mean that I am recommending these

books as great summer reads? Well, no, not really.

There's not much I can say to recommend the

classics; we have all of Western history

and culture to recommend them. And

the professional literature is just

that, so reader beware!

Yet, in my recent reading I have

found a couple of philosophical

books that I would like to recommend

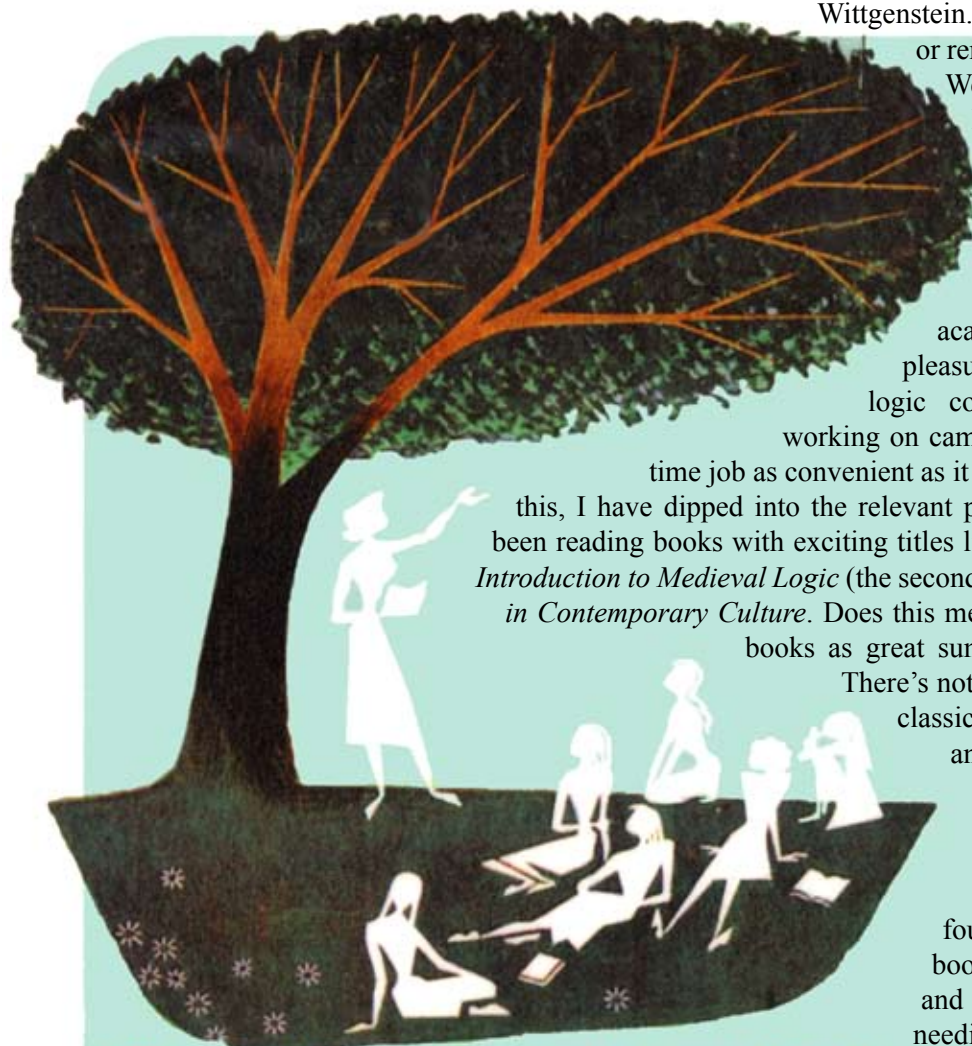
and think people would enjoy without

needing any particular interest or

background in philosophy. Both are by

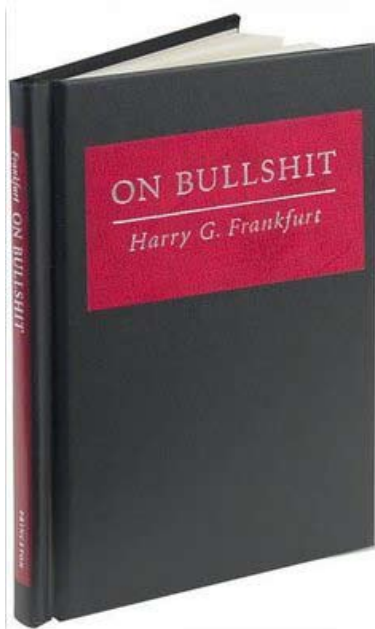
a Princeton philosopher named Harry G.

Frankfurt, and each is really just a standard-



"The world was hers for the reading."

—Betty Smith, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*



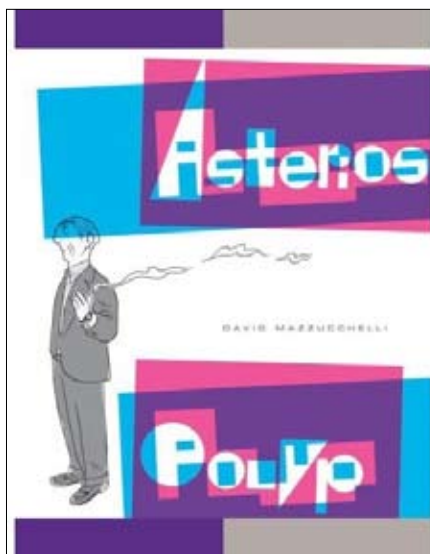
length academic article published in book form. The first is called *On Bullshit*, an essay that has had a curious publishing history on its way to becoming a little gem of a book. The essay was first published in the journal *Raritan* in 1986, republished in Frankfurt's 1988 collection of essays *The Importance of What We Care About* (Ekstrom B29.F6923 1988), and republished again on its own as a book in 2005 (Ekstrom BJ1421.F73 2005). Though the book's inherent worth certainly played a part (at least I hope so), the novelty of a cute little book (it measures 4 ½ by 6 ½ inches like a gift book that you pick up as an impulse buy at the bookstore counter) with a vaguely vulgar title must have contributed to this unassuming essay becoming something quite peculiar: a philosophical bestseller. The little book spent 27 weeks on *The New York Times* nonfiction bestseller list.

The business of publishing aside, what is *On Bullshit* about and why recommend it? Well, Frankfurt himself is provocative in his blunt first sentence: "One of the salient features of our culture is that there is so much bullshit." Frankfurt precisely diagnoses the unease we feel when confronted with all the dubious information that is thrown at us every day. He argues that the kind of propaganda and advertising that befuddles us is properly identified as *bullshit* because its goal is not the communication of true information. He distinguishes between the truth-teller, the liar, and the bullshitter. The truth-teller and the liar are actually both concerned with truth. The truth-teller wants to reveal it, while the liar tries to conceal it. But the bullshitter doesn't really care whether what he says is true or not, only whether it furthers his aims. This is effective philosophy in action. Frankfurt takes a common term that we all use (well, at least the vaguely vulgar amongst us perhaps) and submits it to careful investigation to identify its proper meaning and use. And the result, for me at least, is a clearing of the air. By focusing on the motivation of speakers and writers, Frankfurt offers a third handle of interpretation to get a hold on (over and above the truth or falsity of propositions) as we attempt to understand the world.

Frankfurt followed *On Bullshit* with another essay packaged in a cute little format, but this one has the more austere title of *On Truth* (Ekstrom BD171.F73 2006). Though published second, *On Truth* is more of a prequel to *On Bullshit*, as Frankfurt steps back and asks why the distinctions he makes in the earlier work are important to begin with. He asks not "What is truth?" (a question that has puzzled and tasked philosophers for centuries) but "Why is truth *important*?" Frankfurt provides many answers, showing how a respect for and commitment to truth underlies our practical activities, our relationships, and even our sense of self.

My remaining recommendations perhaps fit the "summer read" mold better than these two philosophical works ...

Asterios Polyp, by David Muzzucchelli (Ekstrom Browsing PN6727.M2476 A77 2009), is one of the best graphic novels I have ever read, right up there with Art Spiegelman's *Maus*. The title character is a supremely cerebral architect who tries to put his life back together after the double blow of his wife leaving him and his New York apartment burning down. He ends up in



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The Owl's purpose is to promote communication among the various libraries in the UofL system.

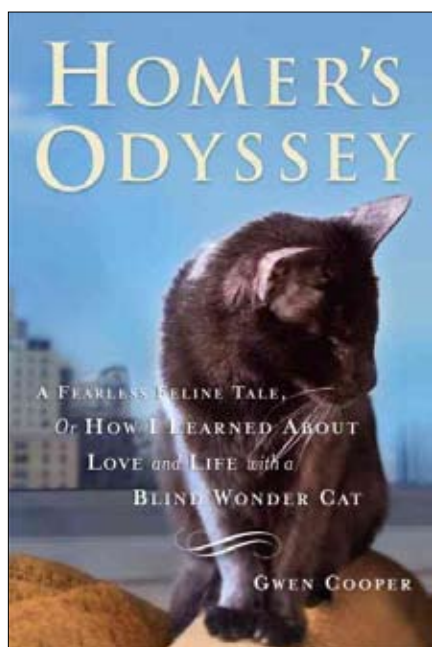
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Opinions expressed in The Owl are not necessarily those of the University Libraries or the University of Louisville.



a small town and leads an improbable life as a car mechanic (he learns all he needs to know at the public library) while living as a boarder in his boss' home. As the reader watches him build interesting new relationships, his past life is told in flashbacks. The formal techniques that serve the storytelling and the book's themes are quite dazzling. Shifting palettes literally color the scenes, each character has their own style of dialogue bubble and font that suit their personality, and at crucial points the characters themselves are drawn in uniquely abstract ways to highlight how their very selves are constructed. For example, Asterios is drawn as a series of sharp geometrical figures to show his rational nature and how it is tested by his circumstances. There is a surprise twist in the end, and it is a testament to the depth and complexity of this graphic novel that the surprise is *not* the fact that the whole story is narrated by Asterios' dead twin brother.

Of course, I have another Beatles-related book to recommend: Peter Ames Carlin's *Paul McCartney: A Life* (Ekstrom Browsing ML410.M115 C37 2009). At 384 pages, this is a breezy but serviceable overview of McCartney's life. As I read more and more of these Beatles biographies (it's becoming one of my favorite pastimes), I realize that the time has come for more specialized approaches to the life and work of these amazing individuals. For McCartney especially, it seems well nigh impossible at this point to write a single book on the man and do justice to his whole life. It is difficult enough to cover just the Beatles years from whatever or whomever's perspective; but for McCartney, there is also the 1970s with Wings, the kind of lost decade of the 1980s that saw some real personal and artistic lows, the busy resurgence of the 1990s as McCartney branched out into classical composition while still going on world tours from time to time, and the late-career artistic revival of the 2000s that proceeded amidst a very public romance, marriage, and divorce. At least until this fall when yet another biography is published (I'll be in line), Carlin's book is the most comprehensive and up-to-date account of McCartney's artistic and personal life. Though the book seems to peter out at the end to become a brief chronicle of seemingly endless and indistinguishable tour dates, album releases, awards ceremonies, etc., the coverage of the Beatle years is quite good, and Carlin shows particular sensitivity to the personal dynamics of the Lennon-McCartney partnership. His insights into how both men used their relationships with women as leverage against each other and the other Beatles are fascinating.

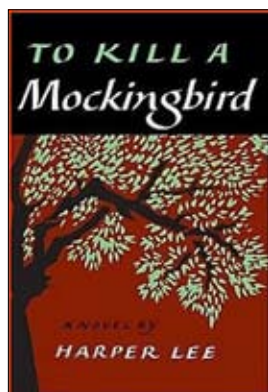
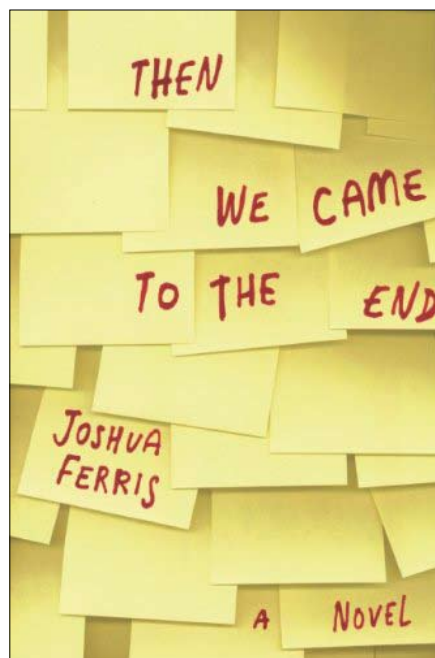


As an ardent feline admirer and cat owner, I enjoy a fluffy read about cats from time to time, though I do not seek these out as often as I do Beatles books. Gwen Cooper's *Homer's Odyssey: A Fearless Feline Tale, or How I Learned About Love and Life with a Blind Wonder Cat* (Ekstrom Browsing SF986.B56 C66 2009) is definitely a fluffy and enjoyable read. Cooper adopted a homeless kitten that had both his eyes surgically removed as a result of a terrible infection. An earnest veterinarian decided not to euthanize the kitten when she was able to convince Cooper to adopt him, arguing that the very young kitten would never miss those eyes and adapt to the world as if he never had them to begin with. This prediction proved to be more correct than vet or new owner could have imagined. Homer, named after the blind Greek poet of adventure and all things vigorous and strong, proves to be more energetic and daring than Cooper's other two cats, seemingly *because* of his lack of sight. Anecdotes about Homer's ability to learn the lay of the land of Cooper's many homes (as a young professional, Cooper moves a lot as she pursues her career) and loving responses to all he meets (human and feline alike) are truly amazing. I especially loved the chapter in which Cooper describes Homer's acrobatic capacity to catch flies and other insects. The quasi-self-help side of the book, hinted at by the

long subtitle, does offer up some interesting insights but can get overly sentimental. I was growing tired of the

book for this reason when the book took a quite unexpected turn. A job opportunity brought Cooper to New York City just months before 9/11. She lived and worked in the financial district just a few blocks away from Ground Zero. The middle of the book becomes an absolutely gripping read as Cooper vividly describes the chaos and confusion of that horrible day. Having fled Manhattan shortly after arriving at work in the morning, she cannot return to her apartment, and her account of her attempts to return to the blocked-off militarized zone of lower Manhattan to save her cats, still in her apartment and facing starvation, is suspenseful and fascinating.

Finally, I end with Joshua Ferris' fine first novel, *Then We Came to the End* (Ekstrom PS3606.E774 T47 2007). This novel about a high-powered advertising agency hitting hard times after the burst of the Internet bubble in the late 1990s is an intelligent and humorous critique of American workplace culture. Its dissections of the petty jealousies and annoyances that come from having to spend so much time with co-workers, people we would not necessarily choose to spend so much time with, are astute and hilarious. But what makes the novel so absorbing is that it has a very warm and tender heart. Beneath the humor is a great sensitivity to the many characters working in the agency, their interrelationships, and their personal lives. About half way through, the book seems to become a different one when it describes the life-threatening illness of one of the central characters, and yet the transition is not so jarring because it is so true to life, as it captures the simple fact that behind our superficial work personas there are real people with real dramas playing out. As a side note, if you are a fan of the television drama series *Mad Men*, you won't be able to help but compare the very laid back office environment of this 1990s ad agency to the more formal one of the 1960s depicted in the show. Such a comparison is striking and indicates how different our culture has become in just fifty years.



That's what I've got this time around. Thanks as always to those of you who contributed to this column. Before I sign off, allow me to plant a seed for the next Readers' Picks column. Are there books that you *re-read* occasionally, regularly, or even obsessively? Are there books that you return to, like you return to your favorite albums or movies? I would like to read about those for our winter picks, when we will all want to cozy up with books like we cozy up with our loved ones. I have been thinking about this angle for a while, but it seems a particularly fortuitous one as this column goes to press (or whatever the online equivalent of "press" is). As I write, *To Kill a Mockingbird* is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary. Press reports about this anniversary have been describing it as our "national book," the one we have most in common. I imagine I am not the only one who loves this novel and returns to it like an old friend.

Shlomo M. ben-Avraham, Law Library

This summer, among several books, I'm reading *Ke Ka'ao o Lā'ieikawai* (The Legend of Laieikawai). This book is the first novel published in the Hawaiian language in the Kingdom of Hawai'i in 1863. The story was collected from oral sources of Hawaiian mythology and written by S.N. Hale'ole and tells the story of a Hawaiian princess of extraordinary beauty who had to be hidden from her father who wanted a "first born" son before he would spare the lives of any daughters. I am reading the Hawaiian language edition. It is, however, available in English if anyone else wants to put on their wish-list. (Ekstrom has a couple editions of the English translation.)

Sheila Birkla, Ekstrom Library

I received a copy of a book called *Brothers and Sisters* by Gregory E. Lang for Christmas and it is great. My sister wrote and added her own things on pages that she remembered as we were growing up...some good/some bad/some too funny.

Scott Campbell, Law Library

I like science fiction and I like books with lots of characters, and I've also always been interested in India. So *River of Gods*, by Ian McDonald (Ekstrom PR6063.C38 R58 2006), was like catnip to me. The novel follows the intersecting paths of eight characters in 2047, the 100th anniversary of India's independence. It's India itself however that emerges as the most interesting character of all, as McDonald extrapolates a society that merges advanced technology with centuries of tradition in a story about a conspiracy involving artificial intelligences that threaten to rival our own. (Bob Roehm in Collection Development says McDonald's new novel *Dervish House*, set in Istanbul of 2027, is also excellent [Ekstrom Browsing PR6063.C38 D46 2010].)

While browsing the Ekstrom stacks, looking for more books by Mr. McDonald, I stumbled onto another author that is fast becoming a favorite. I like reading plays because they are fast reads and going through a couple of them makes me feel like I've really accomplished something. So instead of reading another fat SF novel, I ended up grabbing a bunch of contemporary British plays and therefore discovered the wonderful Martin McDonagh. Mr. McDonagh apparently is the wunderkind of the London theater scene, one time having four plays running on the West End at once. He was also the writer/director of the movie *In Bruges*, which is now on my short list to watch. His plays are a combination of hilariously banal dialogue, wonderfully creative insults and weirdly violent women. The best of the plays that I've read so far is *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* (Ekstrom PR6063.C377 L5 2001), a shockingly violent tale of a gunman so violent that even the IRA doesn't want anything to do with him, and his quest to avenge the death of his cat. It is one of the funniest things I've read in a long time.



And speaking of sociopaths, another recent discovery is the Parker novels written by Donald Westlake (under the pseudonym Richard Stark.) Parker is a professional criminal who plans elaborate heists. Most of the novels follow a similar pattern: Parker comes up with a perfect plan but the job is too big to do by himself, so he hires a team to help him, and inevitably, one of the team members causes problems. At which point, guns come out. Lots and lots of guns. Parker is actually a repellent character and there's not much humor in the books, so I'm not quite sure why I like them. I think it's mostly the satisfaction of watching someone who is good at what he does, and of sharing his frustration when things start to go wrong. The best one I've read so far is *The Score* (Ekstrom PS3573.E9 S36 2001) in which Parker and his gang try to rob every business in a small town. The supporting characters in this one are pretty interesting and the plot twist adds an extra dimension to an already interesting story. A couple interesting notes about the first book in the series, *The Hunter* (Ekstrom PS3573.E9 H8 2008). It's been made into a movie twice: *Point Blank*, starring Lee Marvin, and *Payback*, starring everyone's favorite crazed Australian, Mel Gibson. It's also been adapted into a very good graphic novel (Ekstrom Browsing PN6727.C588 H86 2009). In fact I think the graphic novel is even better than the original.

Rob Detmering, Ekstrom Library

Consider the Lobster and Other Essays, by David Foster Wallace (Ekstrom PS3573.A425635 C66 2005). I'm finally making my way through this outstanding collection of essays from Wallace, a literary giant who left us far too soon. That said, some of the essays here aren't for the faint of heart. "Authority and American Usage" will probably be of interest to anyone who works in a library-it's surely the most entertaining (and longest?) dictionary review of all time. The thing is, Wallace is an absolute genius.

Point Omega, by Don DeLillo (Ekstrom Browsing PS3554.E4425 P65 2010). This is far from DeLillo's best work (if you've never read him, check out *White Noise*, *Libra*, or *Underworld* first), but it's a quick read and certainly worth the time, assuming you're interested in somber meditations on global warfare, 21st-century paranoia, and Hitchcock-inspired modern art. Who isn't?

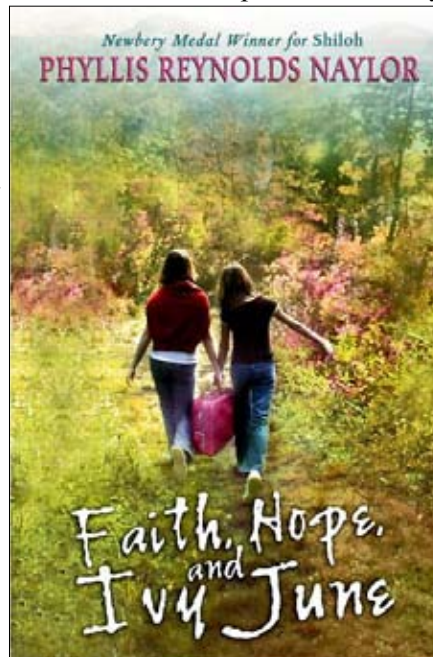
Gail Gilbert, Music Library

I recommend *The Man in the White Sharkskin Suit* by Lucette Lagnado (Ekstrom DS135.E43 M385 2007). The Lagnado family's story stayed with me long after I finished it, and it brought into clearer focus a country and a time that I knew too little about.

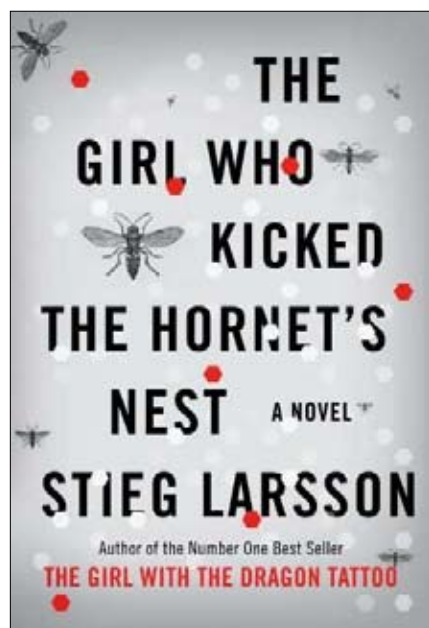
Anna Marie Johnson, Ekstrom Library

The Book Thief, by Markus Zusak (Ekstrom PZ7.Z837 Boo 2006). I loved this book! It takes place in Germany during WWII and is about a girl named Liesel who goes to live with a foster family after her father is taken away for being a communist and her mother can no longer care for her. I fell in love with all the characters: the foster parents, her best friend Rudy, the Jewish man Max that they take in because of a promise her foster father made during WWI. The narrator of the book is Death. It sounds heavy, but it is a very touching story and there are many touches of humor that make it bearable. It's really a book about reading and writing and everyday heroism. Also the books within the book are lovely.

Also, two juvenile books that I gave to my niece for Christmas and sheepishly asked to borrow them back to read! *Faith, Hope and Ivy June* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (Ekstrom Browsing PZ7.N24 Fai 2009). The premise is an exchange program between a Lexington, Kentucky middle school and a companion school in eastern Kentucky. The book is told from Ivy June's perspective (girl from eastern Kentucky) as she visits Lexington and Catherine stays with her, with excerpts from the Catherine's journal of the experience. A nice way to introduce socioeconomic issues to kids that doesn't devolve into stereotyping, despite the eastern Kentucky family being involved in mining. My niece liked this one the better of the two.



When You Reach Me, by Rebecca Stead (Ekstrom Browsing PZ7.S80857 Wh 2009). This book had mystery, humor, and time-travel, making for a very satisfying story. Set in 1970s New York City, Miranda is the sixth-grade daughter of a quirky single mother and has recently gained and lost a best friend. The book pays homage to *A Wrinkle in Time* and the chapters are titled as if they were categories from the \$20,000 Pyramid game show that Miranda's mom is obsessed with winning.

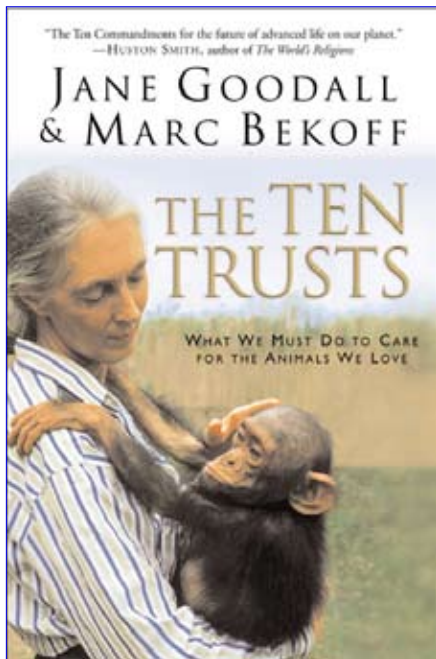


Amy Purcell, Ekstrom Library

Swedish writer Stieg Larsson's books were all published posthumously and have all been best-sellers. I recently finished the last of the trilogy, *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest* (Ekstrom Browsing PT9876.22.A6933 L8413 2010). I borrowed Bill Carner's copy which he pre-ordered from Amazon. Obviously Bill is another Larsson fan. These thrillers are all page-turners. I even saw the fairly recently released movie *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo* in Swedish with English sub-titles (available in the Media Department's collection), and the actors fit the character descriptions to a T. Mikael Blomkvist, a publisher and investigative reporter, and Libeth Salander, a tattooed, pierced, computer hacker/investigator with a photographic memory and no apparent emotions, are the two main characters. The stories are dark and intricate with such rich descriptions you can almost feel the sharp cold wind as you read. *The New York Times* published an article about Larsson, his long-time partner Eva Gabriels-son, and Eva's clashes with Larsson's estranged father and brother who now control the estate. Larsson's life and death are almost as thrilling as his books. The prosecutor in the book had a name I've only seen one other place ... his name was Ekström.

Jamie Saunders, Ekstrom Library

I read more non-fiction books than fiction anymore, especially ones that inspire me and really speak to my soul. One of the most recent is ***Reinventing the Body, Resurrecting the Soul***, by Deepak Chopra. Being a former physician, and now spiritual speaker/writer, Chopra very adeptly describes how we can, and need to, reconnect with our bodies in order to improve our physical and mental health, and with our souls to improve our spiritual selves and our lives in general. Makes so much sense in every way. And, even with the technical and medical terminology used at times, it's an easy yet insightful read.

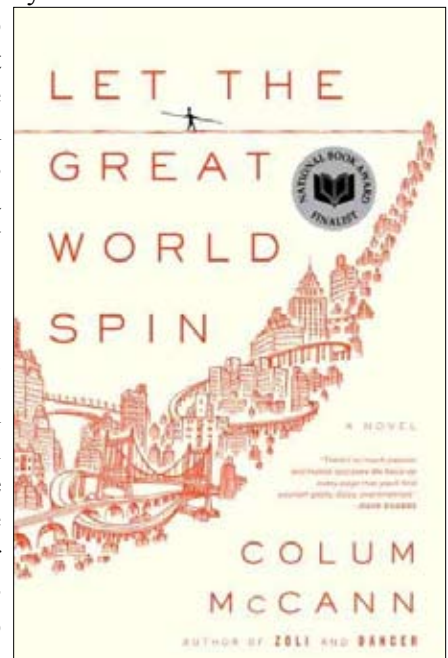


Another book that really touched me and opened up my spiritual senses was ***Spirited: Connect to the Guides All Around You***, by Rebecca Rosen. Even if you're a skeptical type who doesn't buy into those who call themselves "mediums" (as I usually am), the author immediately puts you at ease, and is well-grounded in her gifts (i.e., she's not the celebrity/money-publicity-seeking type). In a warm and conversational style, she explains how to use meditation, journaling, and other introspective rituals not only to connect to the "spirit guides" and energies around you, but to connect with your own inner self as well. Given my own experience with unexplained visions, dreams, and "coincidences" over the years, I found this book to be very enlightening, and just what I needed at this time in my life.

Finally, as someone who has always loved animals, and who seeks to better understand our connection to them, I also recommend ***The Ten Trusts: What We Must Do to Care for the Animals We Love*** by Jane Goodall (Ekstrom QL85.G66 2002) and ***Animal Speak*** by Ted Andrews. Goodall's book is heart-wrenching to read at times, but so very necessary in a world where most animals are seen only as property to be owned or creatures to be hunted. With Andrews' book, the spiritual connection we share with animals is engagingly explored. He details different methods of learning our animal totems (mine are the hawk and bat), and includes a detailed glossary on bird, insect, reptile, and other animal totems/guides. Very well-written and enlightening.

Margo Smith, Ekstrom Library

Let the Great World Spin, by Colum McCann (Ekstrom PR6063.C335 L47 2009). The recurring motif of the novel is Phillipe Petit's tightrope walk between the Twin Towers in 1974. Short stories of eight New Yorkers span the social strata, from prostitutes to an Upper East-side wife and mother. The stories are woven together in a way that underscores the absence of the Towers and the passage of time. The characters are revisited a second time in the years after 1974. An interesting feature of the work is that two stories are devoted to Phillipe Petit's character which describes his plan, technique and his "need" to execute the walk between the Towers. See the following link for the YouTube video of Phillipe Petite on the wire: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IAVj2IVC9ko> .



From the Dean of Libraries . . .

By Diane Nichols, Interim Dean, University of Louisville Libraries

Recently I received a letter from the Chair of the Sci-Tech Division of the Special Library Association (SLA) commending James Manasco and thanking the University Libraries for Manasco's outstanding work in the Association, particularly within the Sci-Tech Division. Professor Manasco received the 2010 SLA Impossible Award, in recognition for his work within the organization. In the letter, Manasco's professional commitment, leadership and engagement were cited as creating a culture of continuous learning through the exchange of innovative ideas, insights and trends. As reported earlier, Professor Manasco was also recognized as a member of the prestigious SLA Fellows class of 2010. Many UofL Libraries faculty members are highly active in national, regional and local professional organizations, so it's great when their contributions are recognized.

Since January, we have been involved in a very labor-intensive and extremely complex project to provide a new service to our users. The WorldCat Local Implementation Group, a team of sixteen led by co-chairs Tyler Goldberg and Anna Marie Johnson, has diligently worked to create the service. As a result of this activity, the University Libraries will launch WorldCat Local, an online "world catalog" that includes books, articles, videos, and other materials held by UofL Libraries and many other local, national, and international libraries. WorldCat Local provides an online search service that allows users to simultaneously search Minerva and the holdings of countless other libraries around the world. Users can search for books and articles at the same time and also place interlibrary loans through WorldCat Local. The new service will also provide many links to full-text information. Classes and online instruction will be available for WorldCat Local. Everyone is invited to stop by the Ekstrom Library Learning Commons for cake at noon on Monday July 19, 2010 to celebrate this new venture.

A great deal of facilities-related activity is occurring in the libraries this summer. A portion of the Ekstrom Learning Commons Computer Lab is being updated with new furnishings to better reflect student needs for both collaborative and individual use. Downtown at the Kornhauser Health Sciences Library, new carpet has been installed in all public areas; a much-needed Leibert unit (HVAC) is being installed in the Art Library, along with new gallery lights in Special Collections and new seating in the Music Library.

The Art Library, Ekstrom Library and Kornhauser Library recently installed digital signage to promote library resources, services, programs, instructional classes, events, facility schedules, directory information and campus-wide emergency alerts.

The Office of Libraries Technologies staff have been extremely busy this summer installing new computers in the Instructional Labs and the Learning Commons in Ekstrom, and upgrading computers in the Music Library. Additional laptops were acquired for the student laptop loaning program for Kornhauser and Ekstrom Libraries.

In April, I attended the annual membership meeting of the Association of Southeast Research Libraries (ASERL) at Georgia Tech University. Research Libraries deans and directors drafted a collaborative journal retention program agreement for ASERL. We also drafted a proposal for southeast region guidelines for management and disposition of federal depository library collections. Claudene Sproles and Angel Clemons will begin collaboration this summer with others in the southeast region on this proposal. In May I attended the annual membership meeting of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). Issues and themes explored included globalization of higher education and research libraries, intellectual properties in a global context, open access publishing, library assessment and shared collections. In June I attended the Federation of Kentucky Academic Libraries Summit (FOKAL). FOKAL deans and directors explored the topic of Information Literacy. Oswald Ratteray of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education shared his expertise on information literacy as a key element in the Middle States accreditation process.

I want to acknowledge and thank Dean Blaine Hudson and the College of Arts & Sciences for their generosity in providing funds to the University Libraries to acquire the [African American Newspapers \(1827-1998\)](#). The collection provides online access to approximately 270 newspapers from more than 35 states. We have also acquired [JSTOR Arts & Sciences Collection VIII](#) with funding provided by the Koster Humanities Endowment, the Woodcock Society and Quest for Excellence funds from A&S.

Library and Department News

Art Library

Summer Intern

The Art Library is lucky to have Ashley Forns as an intern this summer. A Louisvillian now finishing her library degree at IU, Ashley specialized in art librarianship. To earn her four credit hours, she'll be spending 240 hours with us working on, among other things, finding aids, web pages, an exhibit on the history of illustrated books, tutorials and other assignments that will help her when she starts her career.

Ekstrom Library

Office of the Dean

New Hires

Molly O'Brien began working as a Library Specialist in the Music Library, reporting to James Procell, effective June 7, 2010.

Tami Sexton began working as a Library Assistant with Technical Services, effective July 16, 2010. Tami is reporting to Tyler Goldberg. Welcome back Tami!

Resignation

Danny Pruitt, Library Assistant with Circulation in Ekstrom Library, resigned June 18, 2010.

Reference & Information Literacy

Claudene Sproles' and Rob Detmering's article, "Job Seeking in an Academic Environment: A Dual Perspective," was published in *The Southeastern Librarian* 58.1 (Spring 2010), 9-18. and Rob also recently published another article, "Exploring the Political Dimensions of Information Literacy through Popular Film." The article is now in print in *portal: Libraries and the Academy* 10.3 (July 2010), 265-282.

Fannie Cox attended the American Library Association annual conference in Washington, D.C., June 24 – 29.

Special Collections

Kaitlyn Bottom Awarded 2010 Bramson Award

At the North Oldham High School commencement, Bill Carner presented this year's Bramson Award to Kaitlyn Bottom. Stern Bramson was the principal photographer for the Royal Studio collection (<http://digital.library.louisville.edu/collections/royal/>). Stern was a volunteer in Photographic Archives. His family set up the award in his memory. For more information on the Bramson award see http://louisville.libguides.com/content.php?pid=85273&sid=634574&search_terms=bramson.

Rachael Ritter, Rare Books Intern

Rachael Ritter, an undergraduate in the Humanities and Art History departments, interned with Rare Books earlier this



Photo by Mary Ceridan

summer. She researched, designed and executed the Rare Books exhibit “Biblia: a collection of Bibles.” This exhibit features a sampling of the various Biblical and Christian texts from Rare Books, ranging from Gospel books and Bibles to facsimiles of illuminated manuscripts. Some features of the exhibit include a full reproduction of the Gutenberg Bible and an original leaf featuring Jeremiah 31:10- 32:20, and a facsimile of the 1611 King James Bible. Also of interest are the facsimiles of famous Irish texts such as the Book of Kells and the Lindisfarne Gospels, featuring beautifully designed pages with Celtic and Scandinavian-inspired decoration. Several books on display, such as the reproductions of William Tyndale’s gospels, were done by the Lexington, Kentucky printing house Anvil Press in the 1950s, and feature original woodcuts by Victor Hammer.

Kornhauser Library

The Kornhauser Library has a new student, Kelsy June Leffler, who started work on June 28.

Law Library

Library Exchanges

Colleagues from the Law Library and the Kornhauser Health Sciences Library participated in two fun and informative “library exchanges” during late June. On June 22, the Kornhauser folks visited the Law Library, touring the law school and the library. Scott Campbell’s fascinating talk about the life of Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis (in the Handmaker Rare Books Room, where the Brandeis Papers are housed) was the highlight of the visit. On June 29, the Law Library folks traveled to Kornhauser, learning all about the collections and services, and seeing some really scary early medical instruments! In the finest of library traditions, both visits included lots of lovely snacks, along with great conversation.

Thanks to Neal Nixon, whose idea started the planning for the exchanges, and to the many people from both libraries who worked to make both visits so successful!

Art in the Library

Artist Wayne Williams has generously loaned several colorful paintings for exhibit in the Reading Room and elsewhere in the Law Library. Mr. Williams is a retired art instructor at St. Xavier High School in Louisville and is married to Miriam Williams, the library’s Circulation Manager.



Goodbye, Tami. . .

The library said its official goodbye to our trusted friend and colleague, Tami Sexton, on July 9, with a lunch in the library kitchen. Tami began a new position in Ekstrom Library on July 16, working with Tyler Goldberg. We will miss Tami, but we wish her all the best in her new job!

UARC

Sabbatical

Kathie Johnson will not be lazing about from now through December while she is on sabbatical. She will be writing an entry for an encyclopedia of women in the military, two book reviews, and two articles having to do with World War I medical care. Luckily all this work will be broken up by a meeting in Vermont (August), a meeting in Kansas City (September), a week at a Florida beach (September), and a week in Cancun (November).

Farewell Marcy, and Welcome Rachael!

Marcy Warner, who has been scanning materials for Digital Collections since January (mostly thousands of pages of yearbooks, but also the Art Library's woodblock prints and Special Collections' portraits of Civil War generals), will be leaving us at the end of July to take a Teaching Assistant position in the Fine Arts department. She will be teaching Art 101: Drawing and Design.

She will be succeeded by Rachael Ritter, who recently completed an internship in Rare Books.



DigiNews:

Digital Collections Update

By Rachel Howard, Digital Initiatives Librarian

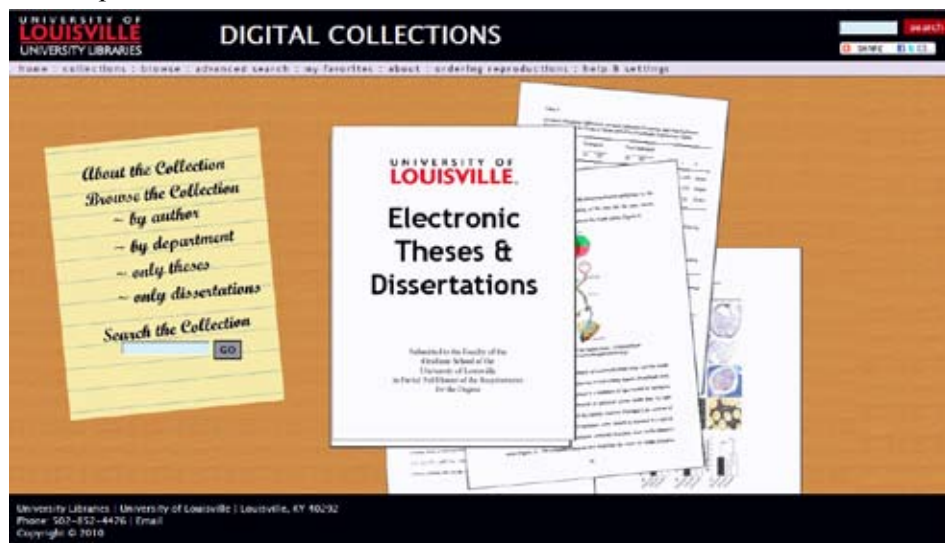
This time last summer, Sarah Frankel and I uploaded 409 electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) into CONTENTdm, making them available in [Digital Collections](#) alongside rare and unique images, documents, and oral histories from the archives and special collections of all six UofL libraries.

Bibliographic information for all UofL theses and dissertations, in all formats, is available in the Libraries catalog, but in 2002, Tyler Goldberg, assisted by Allen Ashman and Sarah Frankel, began building the collection of digitized and born-digital ETDs, providing free online access to their full text using a customized database built by former Office of Libraries Technology programmer Mike Purcell. Once we launched our Digital Collections website in 2007, it made sense to migrate the ETDs into that central location for digital primary source materials rather than maintaining two separate databases. The migration process presented several challenges, not the least of which involved the nearly-simultaneous CONTENTdm upgrade to version 5, but the ETDs have settled into their new home and have grown to include 519 theses and dissertations at the time of this writing, amassing 16,800 views in June 2010 alone.

The University of Louisville also joined the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) within the past year, connecting us to the growing community dedicated to improving access to scholarly works (<http://www.ndltd.org/>).

We are now poised to further our open access efforts. Four library faculty members (Dwayne Buttler, Melissa Laning, Neal Nixon, and myself) have been appointed to a standing committee on Access to UofL Scholarship, chaired by Biology professor Martin Klotz. The committee is investigating issues such as university-wide compliance with mandates to provide open access to federally-funded research; strategies for educating UofL faculty, staff, and students on open access; and the logistics and resources required to provide free online access to scholarly materials. This committee takes up where an earlier university-wide *ad hoc* committee, chaired by Neal Nixon (September - November 2009), left off, as well as the Libraries *ad hoc* committee on institutional repositories, chaired by me (November 2006 - March 2007), the work of which I am happily repurposing.

Whatever the final outcomes of the standing committee may be, we should be proud that the Libraries have been at the forefront of this issue for years. The ETD collection serves as an excellent example of the benefits, to researchers as well as to authors (for whom increased visibility yields increased scholarly impact), of expanding the free online availability of scholarship.



THANK YOU HAPPENINGS

A big shout-out to one of our newest colleagues at Kornhauser - **Jessica Wilson**!! Jessica has only been here a few months, but while she was learning her new job, she also designed four posters for the use in our exhibits and for use at the Flexner Centennial Celebration Symposium, being held next week. I was constantly updating and changing content, and it didn't seem to faze her at all. Jessica is a great addition to the Kornhauser team!!!! ~**Katherine Johnson**

I would like to thank everyone from OLT for all their hard work replacing the laptops and PC's in all of the instructional labs! ~**Josh Whitacre**

I would like to thank Media and all their students, the Dock and all their students, and everyone else in OLT, including our student, Kelli, for all their hard work helping us get all the classroom and lab PCs replaced. ~**Sheila Birkla**

I'd like to thank **Raymond Slaughter** and the courier crew for bringing 35 boxes of Speed Museum books to the Art Library, taking sorted boxes to Ekstrom for processing, and taking other boxes back to the Speed. We appreciate your hard work! ~**Gail Gilbert**

Thank you to **Rob Detmering, Rachael Elrod, Rick Jones, Ben King, Tess Payton, Latisha Reynolds, Michelle Strickland and Josh Whitacre** for representing the University Libraries at the CardsEXPO sessions this year! A huge thank you to our student assistants who accompanied them: **Catherine Christensen, Amanda Cole, Matt Goldberg, Liz Spencer and Sara Wiley**. ~**Justy Engle**

Thanks to **Adam Lawrence** and everyone involved in the recent computer lab upgrades--an outstanding team effort! ~**Rob Detmering**

I would like to thank **Rob Detmering** for showing me the basics of Camtasia. ~**Rachael Elrod**

I'd like to thank **Robin Harris** for organizing the recent Library Exchanges between the Law Library and our colleagues at Kornhauser Health Sciences Library. ~**Virginia Smith**

A hearty thank you to **Andy Clark, Raymond Slaughter and the dock students, the staff of OLT (Sheila Birkla, Calvin Miracle, Jamie Saunders, Mioshi Cobble, Randy Kuehn, Adam Lawrence, Eric Lair, Liren Liu, Weiling Liu, and student helpers) and Media (Trish Blair, Justy Engle, and Tess Payton)** for their hands-on help with the Learning Commons Computer Lab renovation on the 1st floor of Ekstrom. What an amazing effort and a great outcome. Students will really benefit from your hard work! ~**Anna-Marie Johnson**

We want to especially thank **Randy Kuehn** for his expertise and helpful attitude in implementing WorldCat Local. We also want to thank the rest of the WorldCat Local group for their help in this very large project: **Allen Ashman, Angel Clemons, Weiling Liu, Terri Holtze, Rob Detmering, Carrie Daniels, James Procell, Melissa Horrar, Nancy Utterback, Judy Wulff, Rae Helton, Trish Blair, Amy Purcell, Scott Campbell, and David Minton**. ~ **Tyler Goldberg & Anna Marie Johnson**

Many thanks to everyone in OLT, especially **Sheila, Mioshi, Adam, Kelli** (student assistant), and **Antoine** (French intern). Many projects were done. The following is a list of the highlights:

- Ekstrom Learning Commons: 39 network connections rewired and PCs were replaced and the rest of PCs on the first floor were re-imaged and one public scanner was added
- Ekstrom Lab 1 (32 PCs), Lab 2 and Lab 3 (66 laptops) replaced and updated
- Ekstrom Media: 10 laptops were added
- Ekstrom Circulations: one open-book scanner was replaced
- Art Library: all public PCs were upgraded
- Music Library: all public PCs were upgraded

~**Weiling Liu**

Diane P. Nichols
Interim Dean, University Libraries

*cordially invites you and your guest to the
University Libraries Annual Event at the*



**Frazier
International
History Museum**

**Friday, August 13, 2010
6pm-8pm
Dinner 6:30pm**

*829 West Main Street
First Floor*

*RSVP
by August 6, 2010
852-6745*



Library Exhibits

Ekstrom Library

West Wing First Floor Display Cases

Black Poets in Rare Books' poetry broadside collection

&

*Authors' books represented at the 4th Annual Kentucky Women's Book Festival
Summer 2010*



*Robert Doherty photograph
by Henry Chodkowski*

Special Collections

Photographic Archives Gallery

*DOHERTY – Photographic Archives' Founder
Benefactor Friend*

An exhibition of photographs by Robert J. Doherty and images from collections he has established at the University of Louisville Photographic Archives

May 5 - September 24, 2010

Rare Books Kain Gallery

Biblia: A Collection of Bibles

An exhibit to welcome the American Theological Library Association, featuring a sampling of the various Biblical and Christian texts from Rare Books, ranging from Gospel

books and Bibles to facsimiles of illuminated manuscripts. Some items in the exhibit include a full reproduction of the Gutenberg Bible and an original leaf featuring Jeremiah 31:10- 32:20, and a facsimile of the 1611 King James Bible.

June 16 - August 6, 2010

Right: An illuminated page from the Gutenberg Bible ➔



Pool fun at the Louisville Boat Club in the 1920s (Sutcliffe Collection 1991.25.1350 & 1991.25.2162).