



A Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries
Vol. 28, No. 4 ♦ Summer, 2012

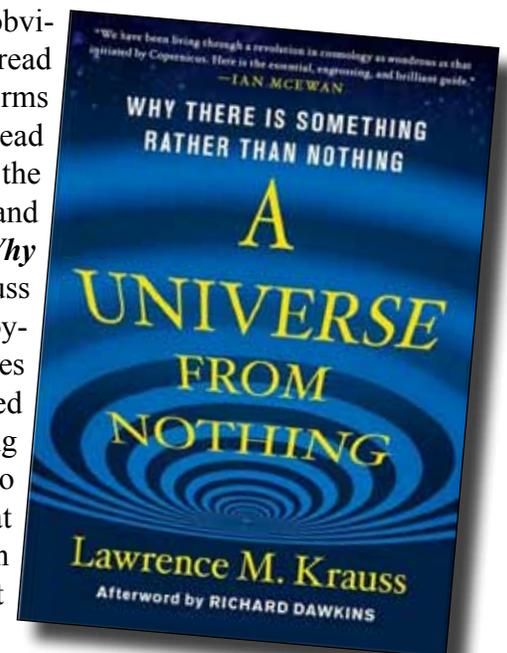
The Owl

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



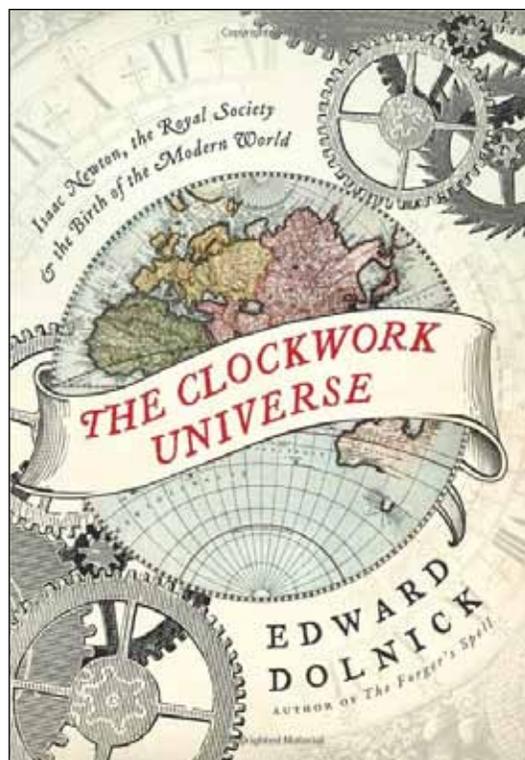
Written and compiled by Christopher Poché, Ekstrom Library

What does it mean to read a book? Like many fundamental questions, this one is deceptively simple. At first, it appears quite ridiculous to ask it in the first place, but the moment one tries to formulate an answer one finds it difficult to do so; or, at least, the answer is not perfectly obvious and immediately one starts asking a quite different question: *why* read a book? I don't really intend to open that big philosophical can of worms here, only to report that such questions did start to roll around in my head as I went about making good on a promise to myself and to you from the previous Winter Readers' Picks column to expand my usual parameters and read some books on science. My first pick—*A Universe from Nothing: Why There Is Something Rather Than Nothing* by Lawrence Maxwell Krauss (Ekstrom Browsing QB981.K773 2012)—was a bewildering but still enjoyable reading experience. I, um, "read" this book. At the minimum, my eyes passed over each page of it, and my mind in some basic way processed the words and sentences (and the illustrations, too). I remember reading the first sixty pages rather quickly in one sitting, but only by letting so many ideas and concepts wash over me without much understanding at all. Knowing that I am a novice, I allowed myself to just plow through in the hope that I would get something out of it in the end. What I got was an introduction to the mind-boggling fields of contemporary cos-



mology and quantum physics and how scientists go about their work. Krauss was compelled to write this book after a video recording of a lecture he gave became something of a YouTube hit. Nearly 1.5 million views for a talk on science is pretty impressive. Though it may step on Rob Detmering's new "Not Books" territory to do so, I would recommend checking out this video before checking out the book (see <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ImvIS8PLIo>). It's a very entertaining summary of the book, and Krauss is a witty and lively speaker. For myself, I found that my comprehension of the book was stronger than I had thought as I followed his talk very easily. Your reading of the book might be more profitable if you warm yourself up with the talk first.

I had a much easier time with Edward Dolnick's *The Clockwork Universe: Isaac Newton, the Royal Society and the Birth of the Modern World* (Ekstrom Browsing Q127.E8 D65 2011) because this history of science emphasized the *history* part much more than the *science* part. Dolnick does provide some detail about the experiments and the mathematics that famous scientists such as Galileo, Kepler, and Newton used to overthrow the Ptolemaic view of the universe in favor of the Copernican, but the main focus of this book is on the general worldview these scientists had and how revolutionary it was. As the title suggests, their view is of a universe of order and beauty governed by predictable and immutable laws. Thanks to them, this is not such an unfamiliar idea nowadays, but what is especially interesting to learn from Dolnick's book is just how amazingly unexpected it is that such a viewpoint should develop in the chaotic and superstitious world of the 17th century. This was a time when almost everyone saw the inscrutable and unpredictable hand of God or the Devil in everyday occurrences, when plague and fire could destroy a city in a short period of time, and when the simplest diseases could be fatal since no one knew that it is a good idea to bathe more than once a year. In Dolnick's picture of the unpleasant realities of 17th century life, I was really struck by one detail. In that time, being wealthy was actually something



of a curse when it came to healthcare. The wealthy could afford doctors, but doctors were quacks. (Think of Steve Martin as the medieval barber of York from *SNL* and you'll have pretty much the right idea.) For example, King Charles II of England suffered a stroke but was essentially tortured to death by his doctors. In treating him, they bled him, gave him an enema and sneezing powder, rubbed an ointment of pigeon dung and powdered pearls on his skin, and seared his head and feet with red-hot irons. In an understatement of macabre humor, Dolnick writes "nothing worked" and the king died four days after his stroke. Quite a twist from our day in which income disparity and access to healthcare are key issues.

As for my more standard reading, inspired by the recent impressionism show at the Speed Museum, I read Ross King's *The Judgment of Paris: The Revolutionary Decade that Gave the World Impressionism*

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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.

(Art Library ND547.K47 2006). This book is structured around the careers of two very different artists in Second Empire France of the 1860s: Ernest Meissonier and Edouard Manet. Meissonier was the most famous painter in all of Europe in the 18th century, and his paintings sold for record-breaking sums, but he is nearly forgotten today. He was a champion of the academic style of painting that showcased highly polished works focusing on elevated subjects from history, religion, and mythology. By contrast, Manet's still well-known work is a precursor to impressionism in its emphasis on subjects derived from everyday contemporary life and its free and sketchy handling of paint, which to contemporary viewers indicated not a stylistic choice but just an inability to paint properly. Ross tells his story year by year, focusing on the annual Salon art exhibition, the prestigious government-run art show that made or broke artists' reputations and livelihoods at the time. Year after year, works by Meissonier and other academic painters were praised, while works by Manet, if they were even accepted, were ridiculed. Seeing the disastrous reception of Manet's work while taking inspiration from his subjects and styles, the budding impressionists made the bold decision to exhibit their paintings independently, opening the door for the unconventional art that today ranks as the most popular in the world.

As always, thanks to everyone who contributed this time around, especially those contributing for the first time. Good to hear from you all!

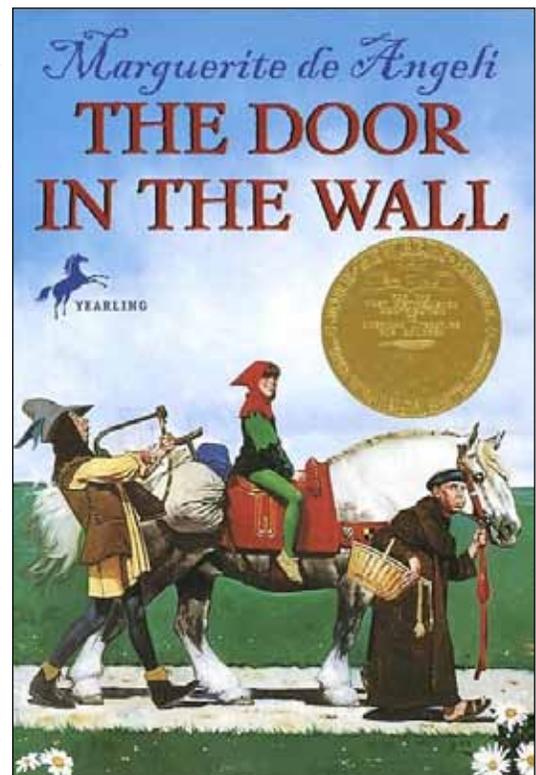
James Adler, Kornhauser Library

Sometime around the middle of May, I lost my home Internet connection to a lightning strike. I have yet to get it fixed, so I've found lots of time for doing what I often used to do before the Internet became a primary fixture in our daily lives – namely read books. Over the last month or so, the books I've been reading have dealt with medieval subjects, with plenty of knights, maidens, castles, chivalry, tournaments, yeomanry, sieges, villainy, and so forth. I started off with three children's books, two of which were re-reads, and the other new to me.

First, *The Door in the Wall*, by Marguerite De Angeli (Ekstrom Stacks PZ7.D35 Do 1949), in which young Robin, a lad who dreams of making his way through feats of arms, loses his ability to walk and finds that there are other means of obtaining honor. It's a quick read, with lots of colorful descriptions, and a few exciting scenes, all tied up with a positive message.

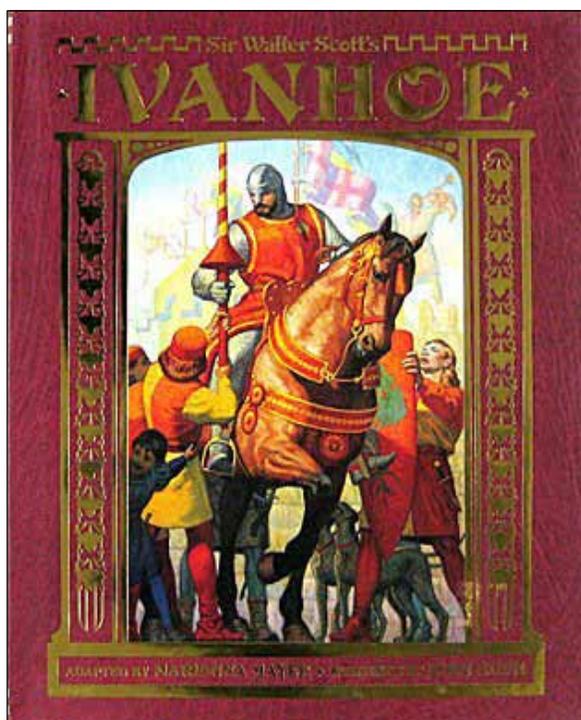
Next in line was *Adam of the Road*, by Elizabeth Gray (Ekstrom Stacks PZ7.v746 Ad 1942), in which a lad of the 13th century who dreams of making his way through a life of minstrelsy, loses his father and his dog and sets off on a journey across the English countryside in search of them. I read and enjoyed both of these books when I first discovered them some 35 years ago, and it was a pleasure to reacquaint myself with them.

The third in this trio is Howard Pyle's magnificently titled *Otto of the Silver Hand* (Ekstrom Stacks PS2670. O85 1957), and it's my favorite of the three. Whereas the previous two books take a more optimistic and cheerful approach to things, Otto's world (13th century Germany) is much darker, full of cruelty, misery and squalor. Yet the finer virtues are not unknown. Sadly, however, acquiring these virtues comes at great



cost. Otto's father is a robber baron whose impetuous rapine brings tragedy upon himself and his house, though, in the end, there is redemption. Written in Pyle's elegant faux archaic language, and illustrated with his great evocative woodcuts, I enjoyed this book considerably, though I'm not sure how much the average modern child would.

Though he's forever remembered as the creator of Sherlock Holmes, Arthur Conan Doyle considered his best character to be Sir Nigel Loring and his best book to be *The White Company* (Ekstrom Stacks PR4622.W482 1955). Set in the latter period of the Hundred Years' War, the book revolves around the adventures of a band of English "free companions" (i.e. mercenaries) and their quest for chivalric honor and riches. I found the book extremely entertaining, and I can almost guarantee that the members of Monty Python wore out their copies of this book. Okay, it's not as funny as *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, nor was it intended to be, but there are some surprisingly funny moments, it reads easily, has memorable characters, and certainly deserves a better treatment than I'm giving it here. It would make a great movie, which I would undoubtedly hate, but the raw material is prime.



Then there's *Ivanhoe* (Ekstrom Stacks PR5318.A1 1952). King Richard the Lionhearted is out of the country, perhaps imprisoned or dead, and Prince John rules England in his absence, with the country slowly becoming a tinderbox, as tensions between the Normans and Saxons become increasingly heated. Stepping into this fray is a mysterious "Disinherited Knight" and an equally mysterious "Black Knight" who set themselves in opposition to Prince John's schemes. Throw in Robin Hood, some splendid antagonists (notably the haughty Templar, Brian de Bois-Guilbert), and a beautiful and noble Jewish maiden, Rebecca, too unfortunately contemned, as according to the customs of the time, and you've got a ripping good yarn! 'Twas the first of Sir Walter Scott that I've read, and it won't be the last. Nearly 200 years old, they don't write 'em (and for the most part, they don't read 'em either) like this anymore. Just damn fine, really. I always had some aversion to this book, but to my loss, as it turns out. Still, better late than never, and it's likely I enjoyed it more at this time of life than if I'd read it in my youth. The writing is fine, the characterization superb, the repartee witty,

or in turns, wise, and the story engrossing. By St. Dunstan's Fountain! It's a champion! There was much opportunity for honor and advancement within it. The ending was a bit anti-climactic, but forgivable. It's always a small excitement to discover something of value that one's overlooked for many years.

Ah! More Walter Scott—*The Talisman* (Ekstrom Stacks PR 5327.T3 1943) this time. Richard the Lionhearted is in the Holy Land leading a crusade whilst his fellow potentates tire of the campaign and plot against him. He finds assistance from an unlikely source, and honor is retained! Not quite up to the level of *Ivanhoe*, but still enjoyable, and gets better as it proceeds.

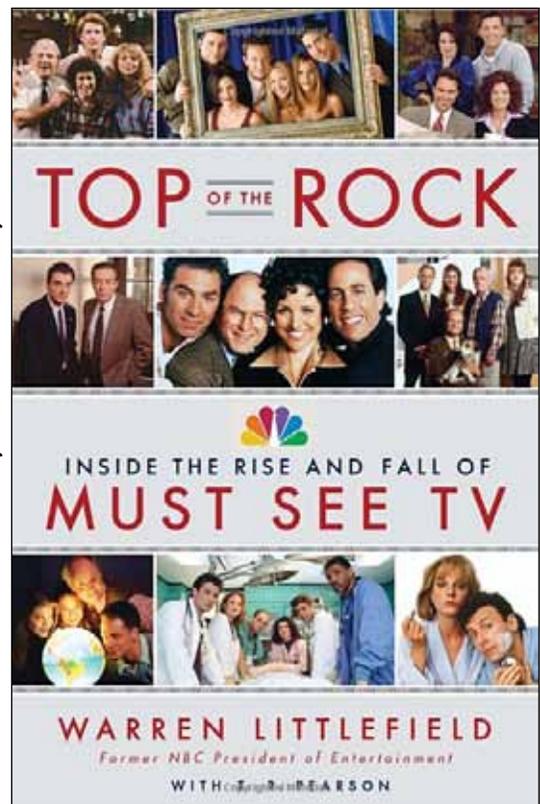
Still more Scott—now with *Quentin Durward* (Ekstrom Stacks PR5321.A1 1967). The setting shifts to France, with intrigue between the courts of the king of a loosely unified France: Louis XI and Charles, proud Duke of Burgundy, with the titular Quentin Durward playing the role of pawn. But Durward has his

own interests in mind, namely his own honor, and the heart and hand of the beautiful Isabelle, Countess of Croye. But take heed! The brutal and debauched William de la Marck, Wild Boar of the Ardennes also desires said fair maiden! By my halidome! Virtue must yet prevail!

In the queue: *Sir Nigel*, the prequel/sequel to *The White Company*, Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Black Arrow*, a couple of titles by H. Rider Haggard, namely, *Eric Brighteyes*, a Viking tale, and *The Brethren*, a tale of the Crusades. As if that's not enough, there's *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, in which Mark Twain skewers most adroitly the conceit of chivalry. Last, but not least, and unrelated to Knights, (though I'm sure he enjoyed some of the titles listed above), is *Dandelion Wine*, by the late Ray Bradbury, one of my favorite writers as a kid. I still love a lot of his stuff.

Rob Detmering, Ekstrom Library

I haven't been reading a lot lately (so much guilt!), although I'm trying to catch up with much of the rest of the reference department on the *Song of Ice and Fire* series. I'm currently reading *Top of the Rock: The Rise and Fall of Must See TV*, by Warren Littlefield and T.R. Pearson (Ekstrom Browsing PN1992.92.N37 L58 2012). It's essentially an oral history of NBC's dominance of the 1980s and 1990s tv schedule (the era of *Cheers*, *Seinfeld*, *ER*, etc.), with commentary from executives, performers, producers, and other NBC insiders. Littlefield, the head of NBC Entertainment during the "Must See TV" period, is the primary voice. If you can get past his massive ego and obvious false modesty, the book offers some good stories about the inner workings of the tv industry. So far, I've been really engaged with the parts focusing on the writing process and all the different voices that contribute to the final product of a scripted show.



Mark Dickson, Music Library

Currently reading:

The Intellectual Devotional: American History: Revive Your Mind, Complete Your Education, and Converse Confidently about Our Nation's Past, by David S. Kidder, Noah D. Oppenheim (Ekstrom Stacks E169.1.K485 2007). I LOVE this series.

I have been reading this volume since last year. I have the next two in the series waiting when I finish this one in about 120 days. One-page meditations on a single subject each night before I go to sleep.

National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America, by Jon L. Dunn and Jonathan Alderfer. [Mark refers here to the 5th edition published in 2006, which the Libraries do not hold. The National Geographic Society has subsequently split this book into two books according to regions, and the Libraries do hold these: *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of Eastern Northern America* (Ekstrom Stacks QL683.E27 N38 2008) and *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of Western Northern America* (Ekstrom Stacks QL683.W4 N38 2008). - ed.] I got tired of listening to bird songs and not knowing one from the other. This treatment gives all the details of physiology, range, and song type by breed. I just wish it was easier to filter the birds that are native to Kentucky.

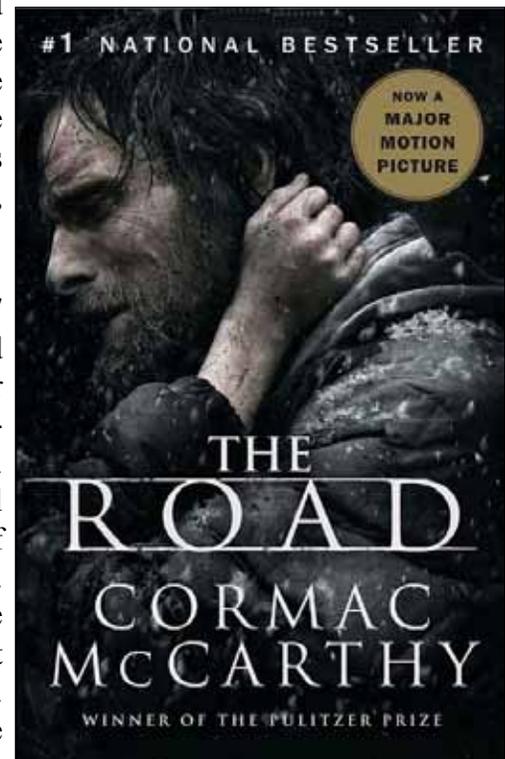
The Last Stand: Custer, Sitting Bull, and the Battle of the Little Bighorn, by Nathaniel Philbrick (Ekstrom

Browsing and Stacks E83.876.P47 2010). I am intrigued by studies of Native American culture and appalled by the American government's history of displacement, warfare, and genocide against them. The story of Custer's defeat at the hands of Sitting Bull's soldiers promises to be an epic tale that became the defining event in both men's lives.

Finished:

The Hunger Games and ***Catching Fire*** by Suzanne Collins (first and second books in *The Hunger Games* trilogy; Ekstrom Kindles and Browsing PZ7.Z6837 Hun 2008 and PZ7.Z6837 Hun 2009, respectively). I wanted to be ahead of the story before I saw the movie. Put simply, I have enjoyed these books like I enjoyed the Harry Potter books. I devour the adventure and forgive the occasional awkward character development. This series is good stuff and even my son, reading this in high school, became enthralled.

The Road, by Cormac McCarthy (Ekstrom Stacks PS3563.C337 R63 2006). I saw the movie first because I was impatient. But read the book first if you can. A powerful story told without chapter markings, just a day-after-day journal of events. The nameless father and son travel through a purgatorial post-apocalyptic America. On a journey of hope to the coast to survive, they experience a full gamut of humans devolving into a feral state. The thin carapace of cultural morality is nearly gone and sometimes completely gone. The relationship of the father and son is deep and complex. The last couple of pages made me cry openly. It fits on the shelf next to Camus' *The Plague* and Saramago's *Blindness* in my library. For graphic novel fans, *The Walking Dead* touches on some of the same themes with Rick and his son Carl.

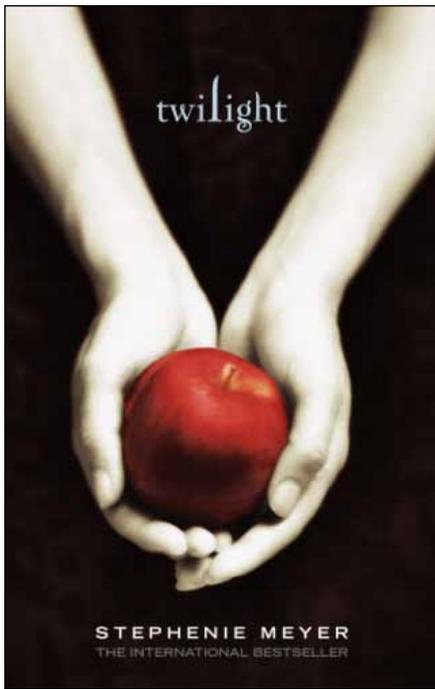


Colleen Eubank, Ekstrom Library

I'd like to recommend the children's book, ***Peek-A Who?*** by Nina Laden (no UofL holdings – see <http://www.amazon.com/Peek-Who-Nina-Laden/dp/0811826023>). I could easily recite the text of the book from memory in less than a sentence, but it's more a game than a book for young kids. It uses the concept of Peek-A Boo, rhyming variants, and die-cut windows to show kids a hint of the illustration on the next page so they have fun guessing what's next. We read this book an average of four thousand times a day but it's the only book they have the attention span and excitement to read repetitively.

Matt Goldberg, Ekstrom Library

Twilight, by Stephenie Meyer (Ekstrom Kindles, Browsing, and Stacks PZ7 .M57188 Tw 2005). I know, I know. You saw the *Twilight* title, and said to yourself, “how could noted gentleman and scholar, Matthew Goldberg (Media Resources), be compelled to do a Reader's Pick on a book that according to Wikipedia can best be classified as a vampire-themed fantasy romance novel?” Well that story my friends, is a tale of how reading one book cost me an hour of my time, and nearly cost me my immortal soul. My journey to reading *Twilight* began innocently enough, as an agreement between fellow Ekstrom Library denizen Josh Whitacre (Reference Dept.) and I, in which each of us would read a classic of American literature. After passing on such masterpieces as *The Last of the Mohicans*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, and *The Sun Also Rises*, I settled on the slightly more readable *Twilight* series, because hey, 117 million copies sold worldwide as



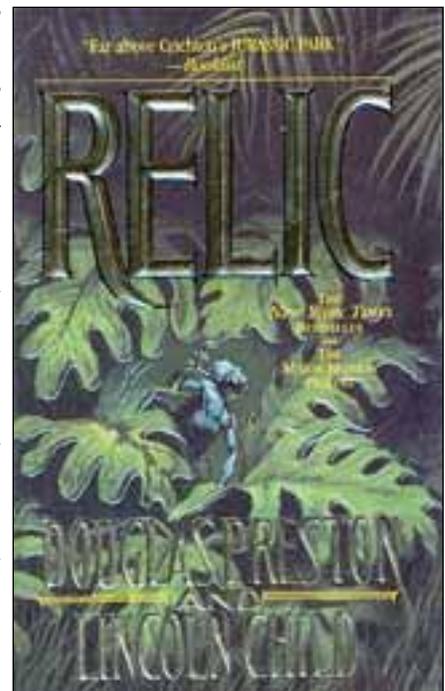
of 2010, means the books have to be ok, right? For those of you who have not had a chance to read any of Stephenie Meyer's series, it is about the forbidden love between immortal vampire Edward Cullen and high school loner, and mortal, Bella Swan. Their romance, and the subsequent trials and travails of the couple as they try to make a cross-species, cross-generational (he's 104, she's 17) and star-crossed relationship survive the pitfalls of high school, consumes the rest of the 544 page book. I will not give a bland summation of the book exactly, but I will comment (as per Reader Pick's guidelines) as to why I think my review is interesting and important for this month's *Owl*. Well, my fellow library compatriots, I reviewed this book for one simple reason: to warn you that reading it is dangerous to your health! Scoff as you may, but within the first hour after reading *Twilight* I began to notice strange changes in my mood and behavior. I was consumed by the idea that I needed to become more like Edward Cullen, and as I went through my work day I would consult *Twilight* in order to know how a vampire would act in certain situations. How would Edward process a Kindle request I wondered? Can he attend meetings before nightfall? Would Edward eat the chicken nuggets I bring for lunch, if he only drinks blood?

These were the weighty questions I pondered. By night I found myself sleeping bat-like, hanging by my feet, in the dark and forbidding recesses of the Robotic Retrieval System. I could feel myself transforming into a vampire, solely because I read *Twilight*. Once I realized that this book was the cause of my distress, and to save myself and my soul, I returned it to the Circulation Desk, before I was charged late fees. And that, my library brethren, is why you should read some other book with your free summer reading time, because reading *Twilight* may cause you to change into a library vampire.

Tyler Goldberg, Vivian Harrison, and Nancy Utterback

After years of reading the Summer Readers' picks, and feeling as though we shouldn't admit what we read because it never seems to reach the level of other contributors' scholarly picks, the three of us would like to share the common authors we all enjoy. We have each read every book written by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child in the series featuring Aloysius Pendergast. Pendergast is a unique protagonist, quirky and interesting. (For those of you unfamiliar with this very interesting character, please see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aloysius_Pendergast).

The first book in this series, *The Relic* (no UofL holdings), remains one of our favorites. (If you have seen the movie, *The Relic*, it doesn't even mention Pendergast, so we don't consider it a good adaptation of the book.) Other favorites are *Wheel of Darkness*, *Cabinet of Curiosities*, and *Still Life with Crows* (we each have our own favorites). There are eleven novels in the Pendergast series, with the twelfth one due out in December 2012. Some of them stand alone, while others are part of trilogies. Many of the Pendergast books end in cliff-hangers, and it makes the most sense to read them in order. Of course, anyone who reads them is left to ponder whether Pendergast's brother survived his fall into the volcano; did Constance really throw her baby over the balcony of the cruise ship (or as we suspect, he is being raised as the next Dalai Lama);



how could anyone clean and dust all the artifacts in Pendergast’s house; and just how old are some of these characters really?! Preston and Child aren’t sentimental. They kill off main characters, which annoys us, and the plots could be thought by some to be a bit far-fetched. However, the series is a guilty pleasure of ours, and has led to many speculative conversations about future plots. Books by Preston and Child are found in the library under PS3566.R3982.

We also read other authors that are seldom read in book clubs. Tyler enjoys Clive Cussler, Louise Penny, Janet Evanovich, Ted Bell, and Carolyn Hart. Vivian enjoys Haruki Murakami, Anne Tyler, and Tom Robbins. Nancy enjoys Robin Cook, Patricia Cornwell, Sue Grafton, Clive Cussler, and Kathy Reichs.

Ben King, Ekstrom Library

I read *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World that Can’t Stop Talking*, by Susan Cain (Ekstrom Browsing BF698.35.I59 C35 2012). The author makes many good points, such as how many schools are set up for children to work in groups with several desks clustered together. Not that this is always bad, but it is not necessarily the best learning environment for every child. She talks about how some kids who really have great ideas do not speak up in a group because one person is dominating the discussion. She also makes a great point about how many inventors and writers were introverts. That is why they were able to write and invent what they did. They were thoughtful and focused their mind on it. She also talks about how sometimes the most assertive, gregarious person is not always the one who is saying something really worthwhile. She speaks of her grandfather who, even though he gave sermons for 62 years, “spoke so eloquently the language of quiet.” She said what he really loved to do was sit at his tiny kitchen table in his small apartment, sipping Lipton tea, eating marble cake, and reading. I found it to be a refreshing book in an increasingly noisy world.

Anna Marie Johnson (Ekstrom Library)

I have spent the last six months reading the *Song of Ice and Fire* series by George R. R. Martin (check it out on our Kindles!). Now, 5000 pages later, I’m a little lost without my daily dose of the goings on in Westeros and surrounding lands. I like that the books are studies in character and that the plot is really secondary in some sense. I like that characters are allowed to change, that Martin will kill off a main character just to keep you on your toes, and that the world he has created is so rich in depth. I use phrases from the book in my daily speech—that’s how involved you get after that many pages. Now, I sit on my hands, amusing myself with other books, until such time as Martin feels like releasing another volume.

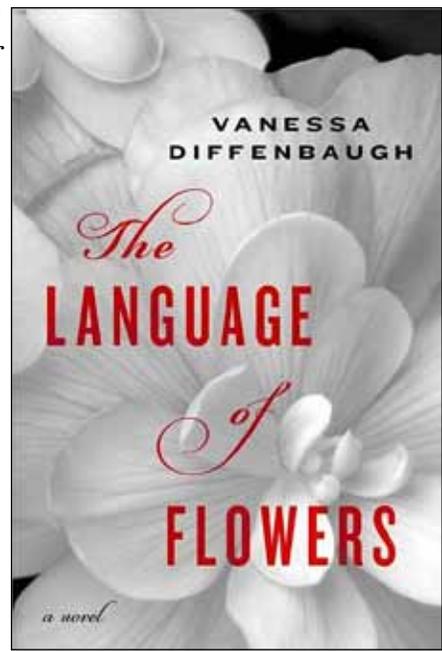
So, to round out my picks (because the above is really just one big book in my mind), I will go with some children’s books that I’ve read recently to my two older kids. *Misty of Chincoteague*, by Marguerite Henry (Ekstrom Stacks PZ10.3.H43 Mg 2000), is a sweet little story about a brother and a sister and having your heart set on something and the ability to let things go when that is what is best for someone else. I guess I’d never read Lois Lenski’s *Strawberry Girl* (Ekstrom Stacks PZ7.L54 St 1980) growing up, even though it was chosen for Newberry medal in 1946. It is the quintessential farmer versus herder story, set in Florida. It’s a good read aloud if you enjoy doing accents. (Which I do. Not that I do them well, but my six- and



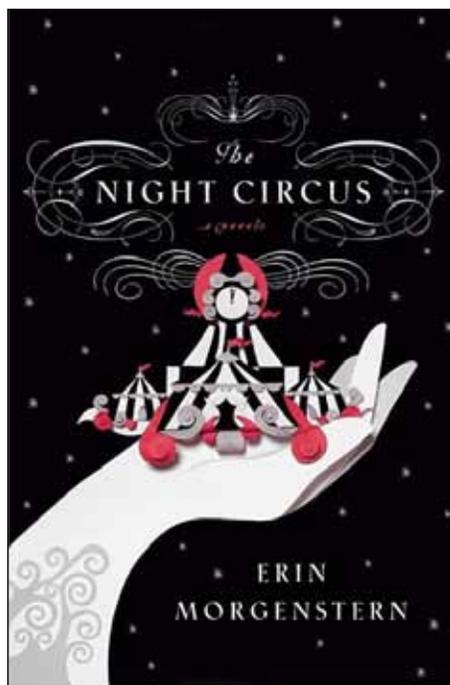
nine-year old are a fairly forgiving audience). John Fitzgerald's *The Great Brain* (Ekstrom Stacks PZ7.F57535 Gr 1967) and *More Adventures of The Great Brain* (no UofL holdings) chronicle the adventures of two brothers, Tom and John Fitzgerald, in a small Utah town in the late 19th century, which my two children thought were too funny, proving that children's adventures always have a sense of timelessness about them.

Amy Purcell, Ekstrom Library

The Language of Flowers, by Vanessa Diffenbaugh (Ekstrom Browsing PS3604.I2255 L36 2011). This is a *New York Times* bestselling debut novel. The story is about a troubled young woman, Victoria, who grew up in the foster-care system. She has trouble trusting anyone and is bounced around from place to place. The one place where Victoria felt comfortable was the home of a woman who owned and ran a vineyard. It is here that she learned the Victorian language of flowers for romantic expression. Victoria (Is the name a coincidence? I think not.) has

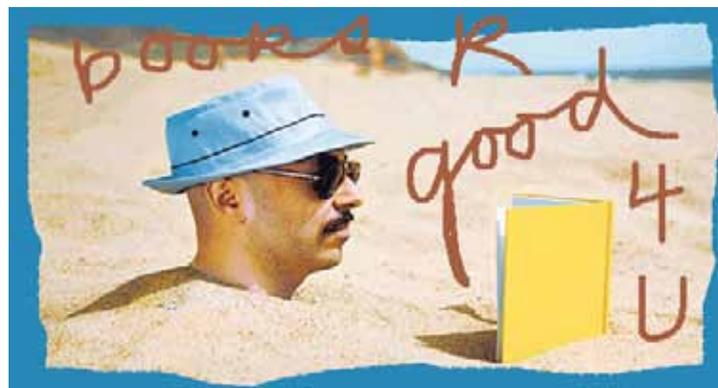


a knack for arranging flowers and her creations become well-known for providing comfort and she is much sought after for her “flower therapy.” She also uses flowers to communicate in her own rocky romantic relationship.



The Night Circus, by Erin Morgenstern (Ekstrom Browsing PS3613. O74875 N54 2010), is also a debut novel. It is a magical story set at the turn of the 19th century of a circus created as a platform for a competition that two master illusionists set between their two students. The competitors have been training all their lives and initially are unaware of each other. The circus arrives suddenly but people seem to know it will be there. It is only open at night. There are many tents; some are of acts, like the illusionist's tent or the acrobats' tent but others are like stepping into an enchanting other-world, like the tent where everything is colorless and covered in ice crystals. One has a ladder with platforms and is surrounded in billowing clouds. You climb the ladder and jump off to land in a soft cloud. Another tent is filled with bottles of various sizes. Each bottle contains a scent that brings a memory when you

smell it. The descriptions of characters, setting and magic allow you to become totally immersed in the story. Very different. I liked it!



Library and Department News

Ekstrom Library

Office of the Dean

Personnel News

Resignation

Effective May 8, 2012, **Ania Rodriguez** resigned her position as Secretary, Office of the Dean.

On Leave

James Manasco, Head, Collection Development, will be on leave from July 25, 2012 through September 3, 2012. James and his wife Melanie are adopting three children: Kayden, age 6; Jayden, age 4; and Taytaum, age 3. Congratulations to the Manasco family!

Temporary Hire

Effective May 15, 2012, **Erea Marshall** returned as a casual temporary, Office of the Dean, reporting to Jessie Roth.

Reference and Information Literacy

Faculty Presentations

Toccarra Porter presented June 8 at the KLA Library Instruction Roundtable Retreat at Transylvania University in leading the closing Reflection Conversation. Rob Detmering and Anna Marie Johnson presented “Learning and Teaching from Research Narratives” at the same retreat.

Toccarra also conducted 12 small group research sessions from May 21-June 7. One of the students commented at the end of the session: “Toccarra, this could be the start of a beautiful friendship.” Toccarra notes that for her this comment symbolizes the authentic impact that happens when paths are created by professors to help librarians connect with students.

Mike Wilson was an invited speaker at the American Society for Engineering Education’s Engineering Libraries Division conference in San Antonio, Texas and gave a presentation entitled: “Chat Widgetry Communication Exchange and Addenda.”

Rob Detmering presented “Teaching to Technology? Working Out the (e)Bugs in Library Instruction and System Navigation” at the Ex Libris Bluegrass Users Group (eBUG) Conference, Somerset Community College, Somerset, Kentucky, June 1, 2012. You can view his presentation here: <http://prezi.com/kyyjonclibpw/teaching-to-technology-working-out-the-ebugs-in-library-instruction-and-system-navigation/>

Fannie Cox attended ALA and also presented at a peer-sharing on May 24 about her trip to Ghana last October, representing the University of Louisville Libraries in an effort to explore international collaboration between universities in northern Ghana and the University of Louisville.

Latisha Reynolds attended ALA as an officer of the Residency Interest Group (RIG). She participated in several meetings, and also represented the RIG at the Association Options Fair. She also worked on a committee at ALA to plan the upcoming National Conference of African American Librarians which will be held in August 2013.

Kornhauser Library

Kornhauser bid farewell to three employees since April:



Dean Bob Fox, Judy Wulff and Neal Nixon

Judy Wulff retired April 16. There was a small reception in her honor on April 13 at Kornhauser. When asked, she said she planned to read, travel and eat good food.

Jessica Wilson headed off to greener pastures the first week in May. She will be working for her hometown newspaper in Cambridge, Ohio. We wish her well, but miss her a lot!

Jill Sherman's last day was May 24. She is now the Head of the Sullivan Institute of Design and Technology Library. Everyone at Kornhauser is proud of this step

forward in Jill's career.

Anthony Iles and his wife Suzanne are expecting a baby boy in September. Anthony already has the baby's baseball glove on order!

Weiss Dedication

The Weiss Family Reading Room on the third floor of Kornhauser was dedicated with a short program and ribbon-cutting on June 18 at 11:00 a.m. Drs. Morris and Terry Weiss and about 30 guests enjoyed a small reception after the dedication.



Dr. Morris Weiss greeting the guests at the dedication of the Weiss Family Reading Room.

UARC

Kathie Johnson's Visit to the Big Apple

One of my favorite places to visit is New York City and I plan to do this on a regular basis. I was able to travel there for a long weekend, June 9-12, with a friend. We had a great time and crammed a lot into our four days, including tours of Greenwich Village, the United Nations, and Lincoln Center; seeing one off-Broadway show (*The Fantasticks*); eating wonderful meals (one at the famed Russian Tea Room); and visiting museums and the New York Public Library (of course!). I came home happy, with sore feet and a few achy muscles. I would not want to live there, but I sure do like to visit and feel the pulsating beat of the Big Apple.





By Brittney Thompson, Student Assistant

Batman

For a lot of us, July 20 is a big deal, marking the supposed/rumored end of Christopher Nolan's *The Dark Knight* film series. While waiting for its theatrical release, might I recommend taking a refresher course on the "trilogy" thus far, starting with *Batman Begins*. Christopher Nolan's (*The Prestige*, *Inception*, *Memento*) Batman directorial debut stars Christian Bale, Michael Caine, Katie Holmes, Morgan Freeman, and Gary Oldman—actors whose stunning performances breathe so much life and character into their roles that having another cast for this movie would be unthinkable. Bale stars as the enigmatic and eponymous Bat-

man/Bruce Wayne in this first film depicting Wayne's journey, trials and tribulations – from orphaned rich boy to the grown, dark superhero that we all know and love.

Caine stars as Alfred, the butler, who has cared for the budding superhero since childhood. Along with Alfred and Morgan Freeman's Lucius Fox and Gary Oldman's Sgt. James Gordon, Wayne seemingly cannot fail. Katie Holmes portrays heroine and love interest, Rachel Dawes, so as to add more heart to the plot and appeal across the large spectrum of audiences. As an added bonus, Nolan presents to us Liam Neeson in a supporting role as Bruce Wayne's martial arts trainer and battalion mentor.

Through pulse-quickening and explosive cinematography, audiences are given a two hour-plus thrill ride packed with action, drama, and perhaps justice. *Batman Begins* has a running time of 2 hours and 20 minutes and a PG-13 rating. The SGA collection has one copy.

Following *Batman Begins*, Nolan gives us *The Dark Knight* in which many previous actors reprise their awesome roles. The late Heath Ledger, in his legendary performance as the nefarious and maniacal Joker, and Aaron Eckhart as District Attorney Harvey Dent are added to the casting bill. Christian Bale returns as the caped crusader who must deal with crime and calamity once more in the midst of taking down a mob and crime lord. What happens when Batman is challenged to reveal his identity by the new antagonist in the series, lest innocent civilians be murdered one by one by the Joker? With major plot and character twists, better cinematography than before, and cooler technology presented to Wayne than in the last film, *The Dark Knight* does nothing else but live up to the expectations of Batman fans everywhere and keeps us anticipating more. The running time for this film is 153 minutes and has a PG-13 rating. The SGA collection has one copy.

DigiNews

Digital Collections Update

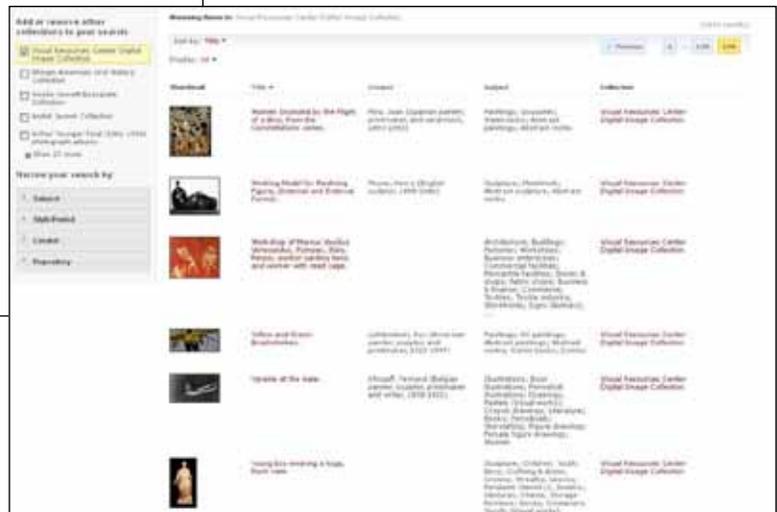
By Rachel Howard, Digital Initiatives Librarian

Our newest digital collection, the [Visual Resources Center Digital Image Collection](#), differs in several key ways from all of our other collections.

First, it is a fulfillment of the promise of “other campus units” listed in the tagline on the [Digital Collections home page](#): “The University of Louisville Digital Collections include rare and unique images, documents, and oral histories from our archives, special collections, and other campus units.” Although the [Ghost Signs of Louisville collection](#) is a collaborative venture with the Department of Fine Arts, and the [Electronic Theses and Dissertations](#) represent collaboration with the Graduate School and academic departments, this is the first digital collection to include materials not ultimately under the libraries’ stewardship.



Secondly, this digital collection is the first to include materials with copyright status that does not permit us to make them freely available worldwide. Everything else we have included on the website can be accessed by anyone anywhere



with an Internet connection (although they do need to contact us for higher-resolution files suitable for republication, and for permission to do so). Not only do the materials in the VRC collection not belong to the libraries, they don’t belong to the VRC either. They have been scanned from a

variety of resources, including but not limited to books, magazines, journals, postcards, current slides in the VRC, and slides from faculty personal collections. The metadata records credit copyright owners and photographers, and the need to log in as a UofL student or employee in order to connect to any version of the images larger than a thumbnail protects these materials from uses beyond the educational and scholarly purposes covered by [fair use](#).

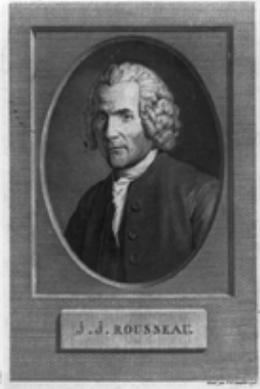
Finally, the VRC collection required some modifications to our [data dictionary](#). While some of the search fields are consistent with those in the other digital collections and utilize the same controlled vocabularies, others, such as Style/Period, Theme, Material, and Technique, were derived from the recommendations in the [Visual Resource Association \(VRA\) Core Metadata Schema](#) and incorporate terms from the [Getty Art and Architecture Thesaurus \(AAT\)](#).

The extensive metadata for each of the 2,676 (and growing) items in the VRC collection may mean that they turn up in your searches more often than you’d like. If you find that your search results are being overwhelmed by VRC materials (or anything else), here’s a tip: limit your search by using facets (the gray boxes at lower left), or exclude the problematic collection from your search results by unchecking the appropriate yellow box in the upper left.

Library Exhibits

Ekstrom Library

First Floor, West Wing Display Cases



*A Tricentennial Tribute
Jean-Jacques Rousseau —
Citizen of Geneva
(1712-1778)*

Kain Gallery, Rare Books
*Edgar Rice Burroughs Centennial
Celebration 2012
August – October 2012*



Edgar Rice Burroughs (1912 - 2012) surrounded by his characters in a portrait by Al Williamson



Photographic Archives Gallery
*Open Walls –
An exhibit of UofL staff and faculty art
July 9 – 19, 2012*



Valley of the Fallen by Reginald Bruce, College of Business

Music Library

First Floor

*Works of Esa-Pekka Salonen, Winner of the 2012
Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition*

Third Floor

Music Therapy @ UofL – 10 Years and Counting

Esa-Pekka Salonen photo by Stefan Bremer



THANK YOU HAPPENINGS



Thank you to all who helped to make the 6th Annual Kentucky Women's Book Festival a success! **Dean Fox** allowed the festival to be held in Ekstrom Library at no cost. **Raymond Slaughter and his students** did a significant amount of set-up. **Erea Marshall, Andy Clark and Josh Whitacre** assisted with securing the rooms, and **Cate Fosl** opened The Braden Institute for a session. **Trish Blair, Clinton McKay, Ashley McKenzie and Ashley Triplett** offered their technical assistance. **Betty Joyce Graves and Sarah Frankel** from Technical Services, and **Courtney Glasker** from the Law Library, served as volunteers. And **Earl Murphy and Ekstrom's custodial staff** made sure the facilities looked sharp!

— *Robin Harris, Virginia Mattingly & Amy Purcell, KWBF Planning Committee*

Thank you to **Clinton McKay** for noticing that my monitor was acting wacky, finding me a new one, and installing it (complete with correctly arranging at least 14 post-it notes!!) in the space of just a few minutes. Now THAT is service!

— *Anna Marie Johnson*

Many thanks to **Vida Vaughn** for teaching my neurology clerkship class while I was on vacation.

— *Elizabeth Smigielski*

Thanks to **Carol Brinkman, Felix Garza, John Chenault and Vida Vaughn** for staffing information table during the School of Dentistry new student resource fair.

— *Elizabeth Smigielski*

Thank you to **John Burton, Clinton McKay and everyone on the dock** for their assistance with a late shipment of computers that were delivered on an extremely hot day. Thanks to all of you, everything was delivered and put away before we left for the day. Thank you to everyone who helped. Way to go, guys and gals!

— *Sheila Birkla*

Much appreciation to **Vanessa Carroll and Sheila Birkla** for a rush replacement of my hard drive, and also to Sheila for reinstalling my display fonts, without which this issue of *The Owl* would be a lot plainer!

— *Bob Roehm*

