



A Newsletter for Employees of the University of Louisville Libraries

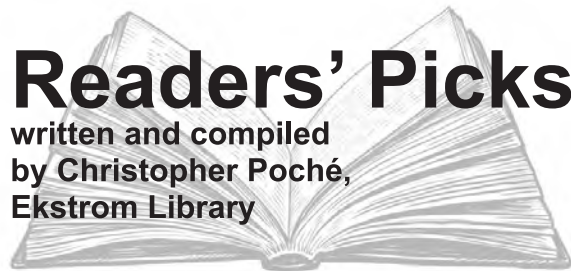
Vol. 37, No. 3 ♣ 2021

The Owl

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

Readers' Picks

written and compiled
by Christopher Poché,
Ekstrom Library



something to do with it, though I cannot exactly remember. What I never forgot, however, is the image from the first chapter of Herriot with his shirt off and his arm fully inserted inside a cow to assist a calving. That striking image was nonetheless not enough to compel ten-year-old me to read all four hundred plus pages of Herriot's book. I read maybe two or three more chapters and then cribbed from the book jacket to fake my way through the report. I used the word "heartwarming" a lot and that seemed to be enough to get me a good grade on my report.

In my college years I picked the book up again and read it through to the end. The image of the calving was still visceral and was reinforced by many similar scenes throughout the book. And I decided to read it once again this summer when I saw that the BBC had made a miniseries based on the book. I would not describe the book as "heartwarming" now, though there are some sweet, funny, and charming incidents that might fit that description. But overall the book is not so soft as that. This is, after all, the memoir of a country vet, and for every cute story about a pampered and overfed pet dog, there are two or more about a difficult calving, a horse with a broken leg, or a cow with mastitis (a painful inflammation of the udders) or an intestinal torsion. Still, Herriot spares his readers any particularly graphic description of animal suffering, and the stories he tells are the ones that have happy outcomes. Nonetheless, the reader becomes well aware of the specter of the butcher and the knacker.

All Creatures Great and Small is the first book I can recall writing about. My fourth-grade class had to do book reports, and somehow I chose James Herriot's memoir of his life and work as a veterinarian in the small village of Darrowby in the Yorkshire dales in the 1930s. My mother loved Herriot's books and had many of them on our library shelves, so I suppose that must have had



What impressed me this time around is that *All Creatures Great and Small* manages to be a compelling read with minimal narrative development. The book is a series of vignettes that adds up to a picture of a whole life, not just Herriot's but also the village of Darrowby. Indeed, the book is as much about the people of this village as it is about its animals. Perhaps the most significant "conflict" is between Herriot and the farmers, who view him with suspicion and believe their collective wisdom, accumulated from tradition and experience, is superior to his science (*hmm ...*).

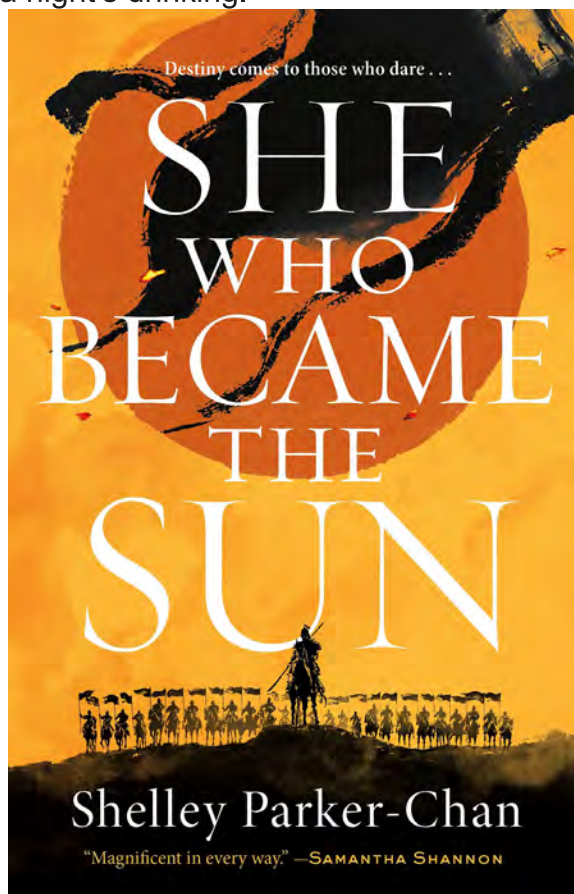
The book's narrative is perhaps the most interesting point of comparison with the recent television adaptation. The BBC series takes some of the most memorable animal stories and uses them as scaffolding for a love story that is decidedly undramatic in the book. Helen Alderson, Herriot's future wife, is not introduced until the fortieth of the book's sixty-seven chapters and then appears in maybe a half dozen or so of those remaining. But in the television series, we meet her in the first episode, and the last episode ends with Helen leaving another man at the altar and facing an uncertain future, though any television viewer familiar with the old "will they or won't they" trope has no doubt about it even if they are hooked for the next series. In the book, the other man is mentioned only in passing, and the greatest drama for Herriot in securing Helen's hand is spending an awkward, largely conversation-less evening with Helen's doubtful father. Herriot wins the father's approval by helping him to bed after a night's drinking.

Different media have different demands, and I enjoyed both versions of *All Creatures Great and Small*. It is just worth remembering the subtler textures that books tend to offer.

Lauren Bickel, Archives & Special Collections

She Who Became the Sun by Shelley Parker-Chan is a recent epic fantasy retelling of the fall of the Yuan dynasty and the founding of the Ming dynasty in fourteenth-century China. That makes it sound kind of dry, but it's a riveting read. It's a story about people trapped by their circumstances and social positions fighting for agency in their own lives and the prices they pay to attain it. The characterization is brilliant, the plot is twisty, and the fantasy elements work well. The first in a series, it's beautifully written, perfectly paced, and incredibly queer.

God's Red Son: The Ghost Dance Religion and the Making of Modern America by Louis S. Warren is a rethinking of the Ghost Dance movement on Indian reservations in the 1890s, which ultimately led to the massacre at Wounded Knee Creek. From the pub-



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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.

lisher's description: "To this day, the Ghost Dance remains widely mischaracterized as a primitive and failed effort by Indian militants to resist American conquest and return to traditional ways. In fact, followers of the Ghost Dance sought to thrive in modern America by working for wages, farming the land, and educating their children, tenets that helped the religion endure for decades after Wounded Knee." It's a well-researched and readable view of a time of major transition for Native people in the U.S. and explains a lot about the relationship between the U.S. government and Native communities today.

Mark Dickson, Music Library

Original Jethro Tull: The Glory Years, 1968-1980 by Gary Parker

I am a longtime fan of the band Jethro Tull, and this book focuses on the period I enjoy most. I am about halfway through and have learned so much I didn't know before.

Uzumaki written and illustrated by Junji Ito

I recently discovered my youngest son owns the omnibus edition of this manga, which I am now reading. It's much more in-depth and even more creepy and surreal than the film adapted from it. Good stuff from an author who was nominated for an Eisner Award in the category of "Best U.S. Edition of Foreign Material" in 2003.

I saw the 2000 horror film first as a result of reading a list of influential Japanese horror films. It looked interesting and was somehow available to me via streaming. The story was creepy and surreal but not jump-scary or gory. More like Lovecraft. Apparently, there are a tv series and a live-action film being developed for the next couple of years.

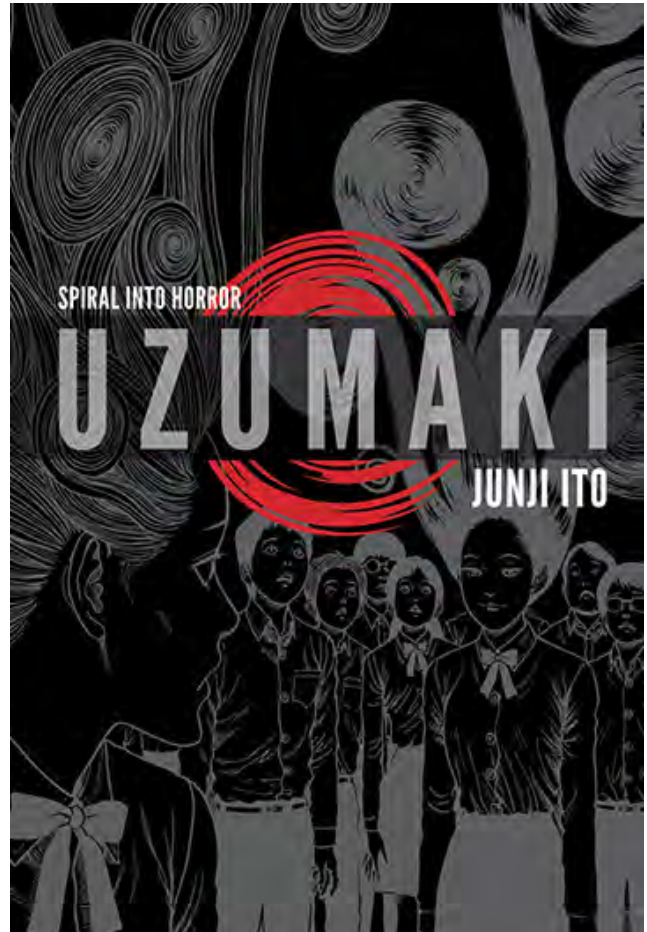
Alyse Giannotti, Ekstrom Library

A Generation of Sociopaths: How the Baby Boomers Betrayed America by Bruce Cannon Gibney

Just started this but really enjoying it so far.

Matthew Goldberg, Ekstrom Library

I don't think I often deviate from recommending works of military history for the Readers' Picks column—so why start now? Over the past year I taught American Military History I and II (1600-1877 and 1877-present) here at UofL and did quite a bit of reading to prep for the classes. Of the books I read (or re-read in one case), I have three to recommend. The first, ***The Last Valley: Dien Bien Phu and the French Defeat in Vietnam*** by Martin Windrow, is a magisterial account of that 1954 battle. It shines as a brilliant tactical and personal history, does a great job of placing the battle in the wider post-WWII breakdown of colonialism, and perhaps more importantly from an American perspective, gives a much more nuanced picture of the causes of American intervention *during* and after the battle, which would eventually contribute to America's own conflict in Vietnam in the next decade. My second recommendation was read over two blissful weeks in Upstate New York (which may have had some influence on why I enjoyed it so much): ***Nomonhan: Japan***



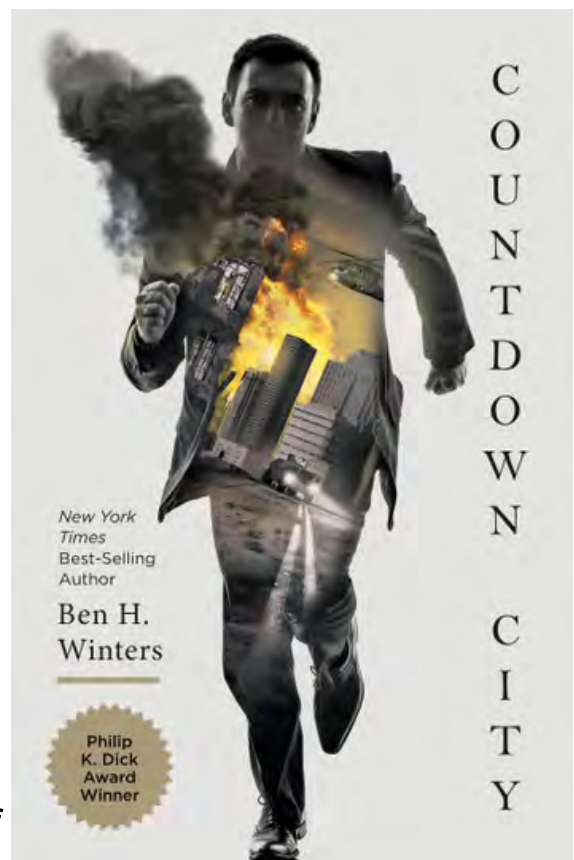
Against Russia, 1939. Alvin Coox's work is a behemoth, clocking in just shy of 1,300 pages and details a little-known boundary dispute that spiraled into a huge battle between the Soviet Union and Imperial Japan months before the outbreak of WWII in Europe. The product of a lifetime of study, the book is an incredibly detailed history that will likely remain the standard work on the battle for some time. As a tactical and operational history, it's simply unrivaled. The last book I'm recommending is an old favorite of mine, which I re-read in preparation for lectures this fall. Fred Anderson's ***Crucible of War: The Seven Years' War and the Fate of Empire in British North America, 1754-1766*** is another massive masterpiece, north of nine hundred engrossing pages. Anderson has the rare ability among military historians to bring events to life through an exciting narrative account while also buttressing that prose with brilliant historical analysis. The Seven Years' War (or the French and Indian War in American parlance) was a transformative moment in the life of the Anglo-American colonies. Just twelve years after the peace treaty that ended the war, Americans fought their British cousins at Lexington and Concord. Anderson's work brings the conflict to life, while showing that it was the widespread, and often negative, interactions between British military leadership and their colonial American "allies" that helped to poison the well and sow the seeds of the American Revolution so soon after their great triumph of empire.

Erin Gow, Law Library

I finally got around to reading ***Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West*** by Dee Brown this year, followed immediately by ***The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present*** by David Treuer. I learned a lot from both books and especially recommend *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee*, which provides modern first-hand insight into Native life in the U.S., which was conspicuously lacking from Brown's work. *The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee* includes historical context from the earliest settlement of people in North America all the way through to the present. The writing is accessible and a great starting point for those who may not know much about American Indian history or contemporary issues but are interested in learning more.

Angie Kennedy, Ekstrom Library

Science fiction has never been my go-to genre for pleasure reading, but the *Shelf Awareness* newsletter has never done me wrong in its recommendations. (Do yourself a favor and subscribe to their daily newsletter at shelf-awareness.com if you haven't already.) In mid-July, thanks to the title being optioned for the small screen by Fox, the newsletter revisited the 2012 novel ***The Last Policeman***, the first in a trilogy of the same name by Ben H. Winters. We are introduced to Detective Henry "Hank" Palace of the Concord, New Hampshire, Police Department, who is investigating the death of an insurance company employee whose body is found in the men's room of a fast-food restaurant. His fellow detectives write it off as a suicide. After all, the world is going to be destroyed by a six-mile-wide asteroid in six months anyway, and self-inflicted deaths are happening at an alarming rate. But Hank's not buying it and is determined to solve the mystery even as society begins to unravel like Rivers Cuomo's sweater all around him. The subsequent books, ***Countdown City*** and ***World of***

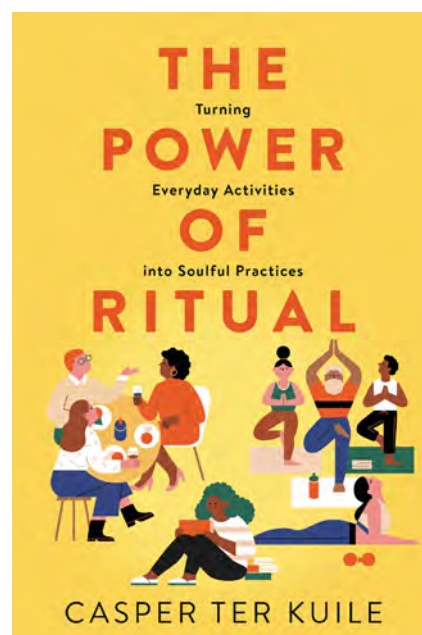


Trouble, demonstrate what a complete breakdown of civilization might look like when everyone knows when The End is coming. Hank knows and accepts what's coming, but it doesn't stop him from trying to do his job in the time he's got left. Given the weight of all the events that have occurred over the last eighteen months, this series really got me thinking about those happenings and my reaction to them. After I finished the third book, I couldn't help but ask myself some hard questions about my personal priorities and what I'd do myself if I knew for sure that The End was near. If you pick up this trilogy, I'd be interested to know what your thoughts are in that vein!

Ansley Stuart, Kornhauser Library

The Power of Ritual: Turning Everyday Activities into Soulful Practices by Casper ter Kuile

While the title makes this seem like a how-to book, it is really more of a study of how rituals and practices play a large part in our emotional, spiritual, and personal needs. Western civilization seems to be shifting away from religion but is finding what past generations took from religion, such as community and meaning, and now finding it in other aspects of life, such as CrossFit or support groups meeting for a meal. This efficacious book has the reader think differently about current day sanctity and reflection.



The Secret Lives of Church Ladies by Deesha Philyaw

From the publisher's description: "*The Secret Lives of Church Ladies* explores the raw and tender places where black women and girls dare to follow their desires and pursue a momentary reprieve from being good. The nine stories in this collection feature four generations of characters grappling with who they want to be in the world, caught as they are between the church's double standards and their own needs and passions." It is easy to become immersed in this book due to its characters and easy readability with the short story format.

Amy Purcell, Archives & Special Collections

The Once and Future Witches by Alix E. Harrow

I was in search of a 'witchy' audiobook and found *The Once and Future Witches*. The story is set in the fictitious town of New Salem in the late 1800s. I began noticing some familiar names, places and even a newspaper that made me think the fictitious town was in Kentucky. It turns out that Alix Harrow lives

in Berea, Kentucky! James Juniper, Agnes Amaranth and Beatrice Belladonna are three (witch) sisters who are fighting along with the suffragettes for the power to vote. This sounds like a good choice for the next Kentucky Women's Book Festival! ☺

This Is How It Always Is by Laurie Frankel

This is a story of a family with four boys, until the youngest, Claude, wants to grow up to be a girl. The parents and other sons are open and accepting, yet secretive. It's so hard to know what is right! I enjoyed the story and also learned a few things.

Library and Department News

ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Article published

["Reflections on Active Collecting During Difficult Times" by Kyna Herzinger and Rebecca Pattillo](#)

"At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Archives and Special Collections Library at the University of Louisville launched a project to collect the experiences of those living through what many saw as history in the making. Just weeks later, in the wake of the police killings of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd, activists and citizens took to Louisville's streets to protest racial injustice, again marking an unequivocally historical moment. Instead of collecting protestors' experiences, Archives and Special Collections began to consider the practicalities and the ethics of active collecting. These historical events occurred in succession, but the conversations around the movement for racial justice reframed our efforts as archivists to document pandemic experiences. This article explores the implications of active collecting and concludes that active collecting needs a framework of support. We briefly review the COVID-19 project we launched at the University of Louisville and assess its outcomes. We then use this project as a reflection on the role of active collecting as reframed by the lens of the movement for racial justice, and we propose that the scaffolding of this framework be formed by three important features: critical reflection, institutional affirmation, and an ethic of care."

ART LIBRARY

Kentucky Refugee Ministries Artwork



Bridwell Art Library is once again partnering with the Kentucky Refugee Ministries to showcase refugee artwork.

This year, we are displaying the work of Huda Aldayyeni, a young artist living in Louisville, Kentucky who is originally from Iraq.

Huda says "I am originally from Iraq and I currently live in Louisville. I do art for fun and because it makes me happy. Painting and drawing are my favorite. I use art to relieve my stress and anxiety and to give me the energy to get back up and fight in life."



Above right: *Freedom*, 2020

"This piece was made with oil paint on canvas. Painting gives me the freedom of my own thoughts and helps me relax and release stress. Mostly because oil paint takes a long time to dry so I can really take my time and enjoy it. I love this piece because it was made at 2 am in the morning when I was feeling very down so I decided to paint a bird wishing I could fly away at that moment."

Left: *Thank god*, 2020

"This piece was created with acrylic paint on canvas. I used different colors for the background and let it dry first then



sketched the phrase “Thank god” in Arabic and painted it black with acrylic paint. My mom inspired me in the making of this piece, to “Thank god” that I have her and to show appreciation for what she’s done for me.”

Art Room 102C Renovations

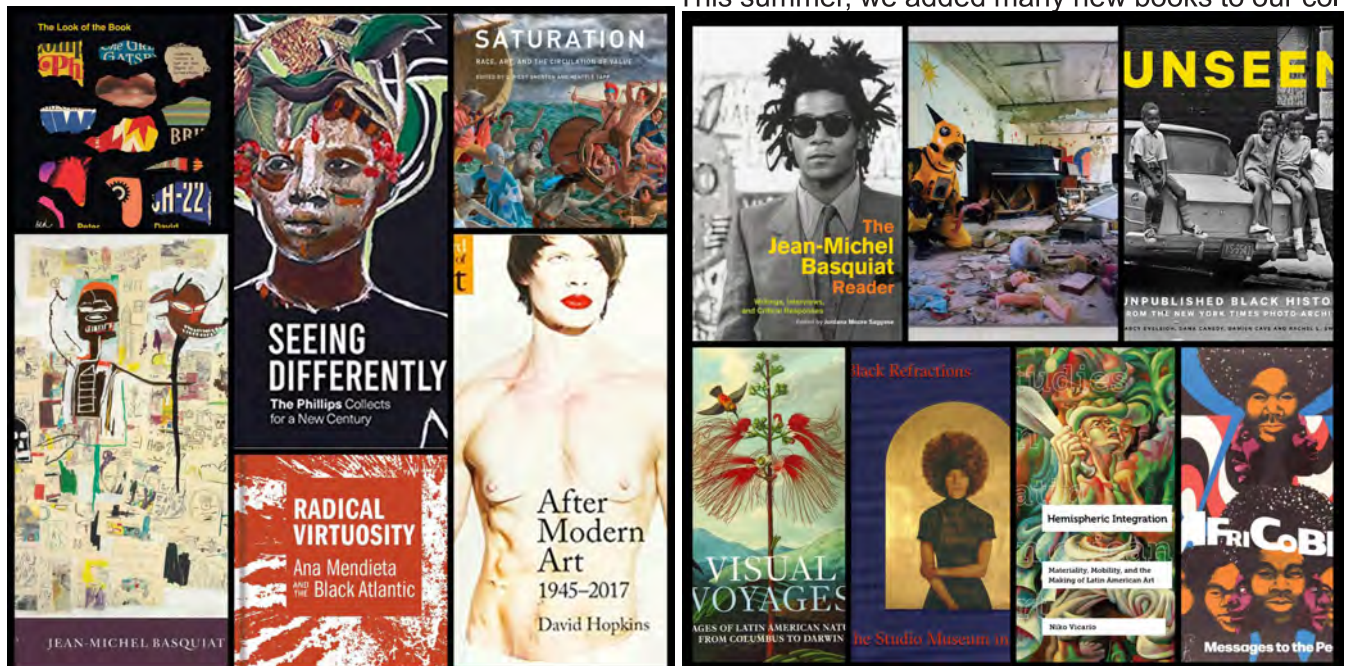
Thanks to the generosity of our donors Guy and Libbye Montgomery, we were able to purchase new furniture for Art 102C. The new tables and chairs are on casters and can be configured in multiple ways. Along with the new technology (TV monitor, iMac, web camera, and freestanding podium) installed in 2020, this room is posed to accommodate the diverse needs of art faculty and students.

The Art Library’s 102C room is reserved for University of Louisville students and employees for collaborative study, research, and instruction.



New Books

This summer, we added many new books to our col-



lection. Here are some of the highlights!

And here's the link to our New Books List: <https://uofl.worldcat.org/profiles/uoflartlib/lists/3914580>

EKSTROM LIBRARY

Office of Libraries Technology

Ask OLT

OLT’s pilot project, Ask OLT, is a new channel of the online chat software used for Ask a Librarian. This provides another way to reach OLT with computer-related issues. The chat box is displayed on the OLT Helpdesk page at <https://helpdesk.library.louisville.edu>. If you see the button with “Ask OLT” on it, someone is monitoring it.

PC/Laptop Replacement

Coming soon, OLT will work with individuals who will receive a PC upgrade or laptop replacement. This project involves the Art, Ekstrom, and Music Libraries, as well as Archives and Special Collections. Stay tuned for more detailed information.

Technical Services

No Major Changes This Fall

Fall 2021 in Technical Services has not seen any big changes. Everyone is back in the office full time. Due to budget constraints the number of new materials has been less than in years past. However, the department continues to receive donations and to catalog donations from the Art library. The third-floor transfer/weeding project is progressing, but there is still quite a way to go.

Annual Report

Tyler Goldberg submitted our annual report for fiscal year 2020-21, and it is impressive. To the print collections we added 3708 monographic volumes, 233 print serial volumes, and 152 volumes to the Barbara S. Miller Multicultural Children's Literature Collection. As for non-print materials we added 225 DVDs, 54 computer files, 127 Kanopy (streaming video) titles, and 68 eBooks. From February 2021 through June 2021 we participated in community discussions, informal office hours, and webinars in preparation for the transition to the modernized WMS Discovery interface ("V2"). We also tested and provided feedback on V2 in preparation for this transition, which happened in August 2021.

A Blast from the Past!

According to Tyler, at one time Technical Services had its very own departmental newsletter, *News from Down Under*, edited by Dave Meyer, whom many may remember. It ran from March 1985 to October 1988 and the title was chosen in a contest. Apparently, the winner denied submitting the title. The newsletter was informative, with unexpected bursts of humor, and included the introduction of NOTIS and information on training on Freestyle word processing (does anyone even remember this?). The newsletter shows the clear progression of technological change in a matter of a few years. It was also interesting to learn that the department once had a reading table. If you worked in Tech Services during these years, but have gone on to other departments, we have details about your time in the basement! Tyler is still deciding what to do with this gem--bind, digitize, or leave it in the drawer where she found it!

KORNHAUSER LIBRARY

New Website

Kornhauser's new website is up. Special thanks to David King, Kornhauser Library Technology Librarian, for all his hard work on the webpage design.

Little Free Library

The Kornhauser Library now has a Little Free Library, located in the lobby of the HSC Commons building, to the right of the elevators. We welcome anyone to borrow a book or leave a book!



LAW LIBRARY

Supreme Court Display

The library currently has a display of US Supreme Court briefs from the Department of Homeland Security v. Regents of the University of California in the library's reading room on the first floor. Anyone can stop by to see the exhibit when the library is open to the public (Monday-Saturday until 6pm). Find out more in this blog post by Scott Campbell: <https://library.louisville.edu/law/blog/home/From-the-Briefs-Collection-of-the-University-of-Louisville-Law-Library>.

New Video Tour

A new video tour is available this fall to introduce students and the public to the law library: <https://spark.adobe.com/video/oR39xMAUDwiH0>.

New Employee Spotlight

Dani LaPreze

Preferred nickname: No nickname, just Dani

UofL position and department: Clinical Librarian at Kornhauser Health Sciences Library

Hometown: I claim San Antonio as my hometown, though I moved from there to a small town called Sheldon in Missouri when I was in middle school. But Texas has always been home.

Schools Attended: My undergrad was all over the place. I started at the University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri, then transferred to the University of Texas at San Antonio, and finally finished online with Southern New Hampshire University. Both of my master's degrees were done online through Texas Woman's University.

Significant Other/Family Members: My dog Charlie (a Shiba Inu) is my only significant other right now. My mom and dad live outside Kansas City, Missouri, and I have a younger sister who lives in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Hobbies/Activities: Traveling is my favorite thing to do. I love going on road trips or to new and exciting places and learning about different cultures and how other people live. I've been to 13 different countries and have a long list of new places to tick off!

Pets: Charlie, but I don't think she knows she's a "pet"

Unusual previous positions: I sold vacuum cleaners door-to-door for about a month many, MANY years ago.

Zodiac sign: Leo

Favorite Books: All of them! Most recently I've been reading *Shantaram*, by Gregory David Roberts.

Favorite Movies: *Forrest Gump*, *Back to the Future*, *A League of Their Own*

Favorite Food/recipe/recommended restaurant: My favorite food is Mac & Cheese, though I try not to eat it too often. Not sure about giving any restaurant recommendations since I've been in Louisville for less than a month, but I'm totally open to suggestions, so send them my way!

Favorite Vacation Spot: It would be a toss-up between Koh Rong Sanloem, Cambodia and Ko Phi Phi, Thailand.

Favorite Quote: "Die with memories, not dreams" – Anonymous

I loved this one so much I got it tattooed on my arm. It reminds me to make the most out of any situation I'm in. I don't want to ever be thinking "Gah! I wish would have done that."

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself: I honestly can't think of anything else. But I'm an open book and love to chat, so if I missed something or you want to know more, just ask away!



Dani at Machu Picchu in Peru, 2019

Library Exhibits



Never Meet A Stranger
Photography by West of Ninth



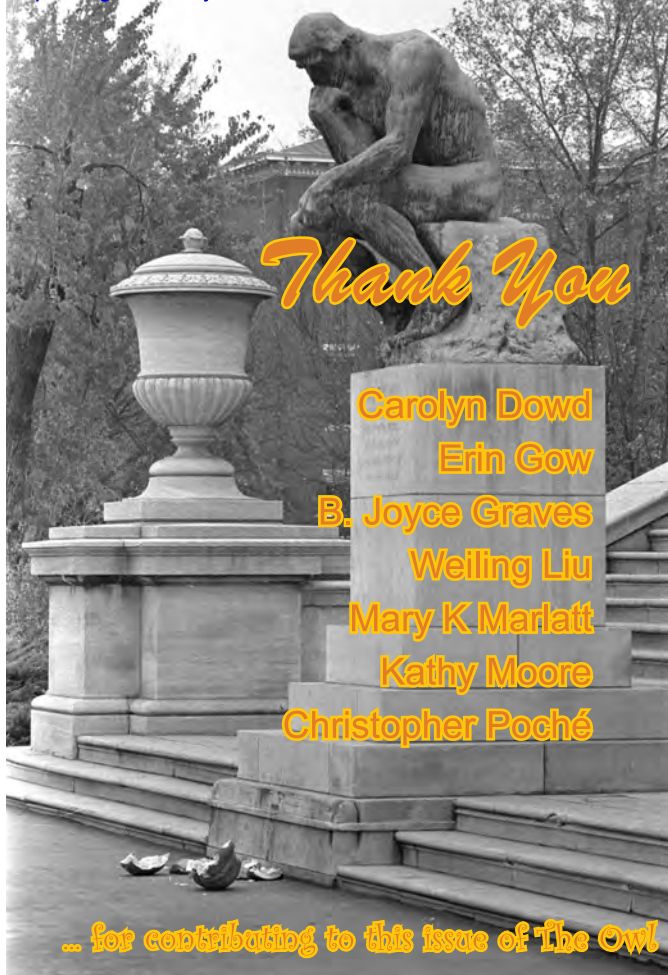
Photographic Archives Gallery
Archives & Special Collections
Ekstrom Library, Lower Level 17

October 7 - December 17, 2021



**The Power of Activism and the Vote:
African American Women and Suffrage in
Louisville**

<https://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm/ref/collection/uofl/id/908>



<https://digital.library.louisville.edu/cdm/ref/collection/cs/id/833>

Ekstrom Library,
1st floor, West
Through
December 9, 2021

