

BOOKSHELF

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BOOKSHELF

In 2010, I changed residences and cursed myself for the immense number of boxes that I schlepped to my new digs. Having some sort of martyr complex, I dragged nearly every one of them up the stairs myself instead of getting professional help. I swore I'd never do that again. There were so many books, they were totally disorganized, and they came from every stage of my life, from childhood through college to the present. I didn't even know what books I had anymore. They were just dead weight, ornaments for shelves, vestiges from a life I once had as a reader. I tried to go through all of them with an eye towards purging, but instead became lost in the details. My bookshelf was a scrapbook. It wasn't only the titles that told the story of my obsessions and passing interests; it was the sundry stuff I'd left in the books. Airline tickets, photographs, ID cards, postcards, playing cards, napkins, notes, receipts.

BOOKSHELF was born out of an attempt to clear my shelves, to take stock of what I had with an eye towards pruning. Unfortunately, the story just got more complicated. After looking through 247 books and publishing the stories and reviews of them in the first issue of BOOKSHELF, I managed only to rid myself of a handful of titles.

In 2013, I moved again. Just like before, I packed boxes and boxes of books, wondering which ones I might be able to do without. Examining each one, forcing a decision of whether to keep it or give it away, resulted in this second issue of BOOKSHELF.

—Lisa Anne Auerbach

Jesus Pure & Simple

by *Wayne Cordeiro*

I got this book for free when I subscribed to some evangelical Christian magazine. They sent me the book before sending along the magazine, not sure how Jesus that is. The book is printed on super white paper that makes it look like a self-published book. Looks very readable but I didn't get very far because I am possessed by the devil. GA

A Machine Knitter's Guide to Creating Fabrics

by *Susanna E. Lewis & Julia Weissman*

This is an amazingly technical book, most of which I don't really understand very well. Seems that every time I try to do something funky with my knitting machine I just get a tangled mass of frustration, but it's nice to know that there are people out there that can make pretty crazy looking knitted fabric. K

Under the Banner of Heaven

by *Jon Krakauer*

I went through a short phase when I was obsessed with Mormons. This book came out during that time so I devoured it. I saw a copy of this at the thrift shop the other day and wondered if my friend had read it. I hadn't seen my copy of the

book in awhile and for a moment debated whether or not I should get this one at the shop. I didn't, and I forgot about it. That night, my friend was looking at the books on my shelves and pulled this one out. Well, you can imagine my surprise! Psychic connection! K

Heels on Wheels: A lady's guide to owning and riding a bike

by *Katie Dailey*

This is a very cute book about the practicalities of bicycling. I think I got it as a gift. It is very sweet, but doesn't have a lot of new information in it. Makes a great gift for a lady who has just gotten her first 2-wheeled buddy, so I'll give it to her! GA

The Barbarian Nurseries

by *Héctor Tobar*

This was a First Year Book at school so I got a copy and started reading it. Unfortunately I found the book to be for the most part unreadable even though interesting. Just didn't like the writing style, seemed bad, but I'm not sure I'm the best judge of that. GA

Knit to Fit

by *Ida Riley Duncan*

I have two copies of this book, but this version is an older one, second printing from 1963. It's a really good practical book for designing sweaters, very nuts and bolts, and Duncan is one of those no-nonsense knit-

BOOKSHELF

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ting broads that really knows what she's talking about. Inside the book is a 4"x5" transparency of Sharon sitting on Daniel's lap in my old kitchen, and snapshots of me in a pink dress on my way to Dave and Stephanie's wedding, a sunset with a digital date of May 12, 1994, my mother and I in the backyard in South Pas after my knee surgery, and Mitchell eating dinner with his shirt off. K

Amy Vanderbilt's Complete Book of Etiquette: A Guide to Gracious Living
by Amy Vanderbilt

I simply love this book and kept it in my car for ready reference. While I was recently out of town, two of my car windows were smashed in and my roommate Michael was kind enough to take care of the vehicle, including removing the things of value stored in the car. The etiquette book is a remnant from a time when people took the trouble to write thank you notes and set the dining table in a particular way. I have a nostalgia for a past I never knew. This book was written in 1952, and this particular printing is from 1958. K

Better Homes & Gardens Sewing Book

This 1961 book teaches garment sewing. With a lot of information about working from and altering patterns, it seems like a good old-school source. Will I ever make another garment? Who knows. Better keep it around. K

Tribal & Village Rugs: The Definitive Guide to Design, Pattern and Motif

by Peter F. Stone

This is a very beautifully illustrated sourcebook for patterns of rugs from various regions, including color palettes and symbols in designs. Very specific about where and when these patterns come from. A rich resource for someone interested in such things. It's not knitting, but it's related. K

Sportswear in Vogue Since 1910

by Charlie Lee-Potter

People used to look fabulous while exercising, and plenty of custom fashions allowed for full movement that could go from the courts to the ballroom and beyond. Whether for driving cars, playing tennis, doing acrobatics, playing tennis, shooting guns, or riding horses, sporting clothing used to have a lot of glamour. Granted, this is all from the pages of Vogue, so likely everyone didn't look like these hot supermodels while they sweat it out. K

Needlework In America: History, Designs, and Techniques

by Virginia Churchill Bath

A mostly black and white tome about coverlets, quilts, lace and other textiles used in the home from the old days. This book is fine, but it's not the best. GA

How to Make an Amish Quilt

by Rachel and Kenneth Pellman

Will I ever make an Amish quilt? I picked this book off my shelf and thought "never" but then inside was a cut out template for a quilt top I'd made in the "Drunkard's Path" pattern. I finished the top, but it's only halfway quilted. Perhaps the pattern is from this book? There are a lot of classic designs in here and pretty pictures. Also inside is a pink piece of torn paper with the name "James Welling" written on it. I have no idea what that's about. GA

Talking Leaves: How to Identify American Trees

by Julius King

This small book from 1934 presents drawings of leaves over grids divided into squares representing one inch each. It's a sweet and lovely identification guide for trees that grow primarily in the eastern United States. The only tree in this book that I might see here in California is the Horse-Chestnut, which grows everywhere in the country. This book makes me feel sad. I grew up in the woods in Illinois and I miss those trees every day. Most of the trees growing here in Los Angeles are not so nice. K

Tourist Map of Norway

Folding map of Norway, 1952. Nice black and white pictures of Norwegians and visitors enjoying the beauty of the countryside and Norwegian towns. The front cover features an image of three people on a boat in a fjord. Two women in suit jackets flank a man wearing short shorts, a scarf around his neck and a woolen cap worn pushed to the back of his head. What is going on in that fjord? K

Andy Warhol: Portraits of the 70's

I bought this book when I was in high school or maybe college. It was probably on sale and should have been because it's pretty bad. But it was all the Warhol I had when I was young and I loved it. I don't love it anymore, but I'll bring it to school and put it in the office and perhaps one of my students will see in this work what I once saw. O

Church Builder: The Roe Messner Story

by Doug Wead and Bill Wead

This is a book about an architect who designs megachurches and was also once married to Tammy Faye. Also a guy who went to jail for fraud, but I think this book was published before then. It's in large print so idiots and blind people can read it, but I haven't read it yet, it just seems depressing. K

Amok Fifth Dispatch

edited by Stuart Swezey

This book is a little like BOOKSHELF, if I had only interesting books and if I were more organized. The Fifth Dispatch

(were there four previously?) is organized by topics, familiar to those who frequented Amok when it was in Los Feliz, and even more extensive. Reviews of books about everything that is intriguing. The Occult, Mayhem, Baudrillard, NAM-BLA. Curiosity knows no bounds, and if you're looking to find a book on a very specific topic, this book might be better than that dang internet. K

Snow Crystals

by W.A. Bentley and W.J. Humphreys

Yes, this book is amazing, a gorgeous study of snowflakes. When I was a kid my mother used to leave my microscope out overnight during the winter so I could look at the flakes close up. This is a whole book of photographs by guys who did this with large format cameras in the early 1930's in Vermont. Tucked inside are photographs of my ACL surgery. They must have been taken by the surgeon and they are totally disgusting. K

Hollywood Lolitas

by Marianne Sinclair

It's about young ladies and girls in film who sport a come hither look. I think I got this at the South Pasadena Public Library. I used to buy a lot of things there that cost less than 50 cents. Most were probably worth only 10. GA

Jane McElheney

by Theresa Pendlebury

A catalog from a 1991 show at Tom Solomon's Garage by Theresa who worked at the slide library at Art Center when I was a student there. She made curious objects out of black lace and crochet under an assumed name. K

Vacillations

by Daniel Marlos

A monthly three year calendar 1998-2000 featuring triplex images from his series of vacillations. This one is number 31 of 37 copies and features an original print of Mr. Giovanni Jance. K

Revolution on Paper: Mexican Prints 1910-1960

by Dawn Ades and Alison McClean

Some amazing images of posters and prints including many integrating text with image in exciting ways. Good for the office. O

Gomorroh

by Roberto Saviano

This is the book that the film is based on, about the crime syndicate in Naples. It is a fucked up intense account, and for some reason there is a map of the Tatra in Poland and a tract by Jeni stuck in the pages. K

Capitalism in Question (Because It is)

Exhibition catalog from show at Pitzer in 2010. I'll take it to the office. O

Bicycle Gangs of New York

by Cheryl Dunn

I guess this is an artist book about bikes in NYC. Photos of bikes and graffiti and cool looking people and more bikes and people riding bikes and bikes locked up and streets and one guy on a unicycle. O

Bicycling and the Law

by Bob Mionske, JD

This is one of those books that seems like a good idea to have on the bookshelf. Answers legal questions about bicycling. Unfortunately it covers the whole US and laws are always changing, so it's not extremely helpful. The internet probably does a better job with this. Still, I'm glad it exists. K

Paul for Everyone: The Pastoral Letters

by N.T. Wright

This mysteriously showed up in my mailbox. The return address was a bookshop in Ohio that also, on the same day, sent me a book I had ordered used from Amazon called *The Philosophy of Punk*. There was no note and no invoice. Obviously I didn't order this book. Maybe they just send a Christian book to everyone who orders something from the darker side? GA

Never Let Me Go

by Kazuo Ishiguro

In Bookshelf #1 I noted that *The Velveteen Rabbit* "is the saddest children's book ever written." *Never Let Me Go* is just as sad, and it's for grown-ups. K

Postville: A Clash of Cultures in Heartland America

by Stephen G. Bloom

This is a really intense book about Hasidic Jews running slaughterhouses and meatpacking facilities in Iowa. It's a culture clash! And not a pretty one. This book is not great for vegetarians or self-hating Jews. Get rid of it! GA

When Santa Claus Came to Town with Solvognen

This seems to be a children's book with photographs of multiple Santas. It was published by Konsthall Oslo and maybe I got it there. It was originally published in Danish in 1975 and seems to be a political parable though I have not read it so not completely sure what it is. Intriguing! K

Revenge of the Middle-Aged Woman

by Elizabeth Buchan

Hannukkah Book Club 2007 from Alice. I started reading this but I was not amused. I think I'm having trouble being a middle-aged woman. GA

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

by Roald Dahl

I love this book and I love that it made me want to read all of Roald Dahl's books,

which at the Deerfield Public Library included one called "Switch Bitch" in the adult section. Not adult like porn-adult, just adult as in not the kids reading section. This copy includes a torn piece of a newspaper that includes two comic strips and the horoscope for January 9, 1986 that advise Scorpios to "Pursue the object of your affection." It may be the Doonesbury strip that I was interested in saving, the subject of which is making television sets into urinals so men can piss on mass culture. K

Grimm's Fairy Tales

by Brothers Grimm

This book reminds me that I need to be reading more fairy tales. Just getting as far as the Table of Contents is inspiring. The Goose Girl, The White Snake, The Frog Prince, The Pink, The Queen Bee, The Salad. How can there be a fairy tale about a salad? I can't wait until bedtime to find out! Inside, postcards from Anna sent to me at my freshman year dorm. K

The Anatomy of Disgust

by William Ian Miller

This is a book about things that are gross and why they are gross. Shit, bad breath, greasy hair and the generally icky aspects of being human are discussed in a decorous prose. K

The Story of Crass

by George Berger

I bought this book as research for the course on punk I'm teaching this fall. I read the first chapter or maybe a bit further and it's interesting. I didn't know about Crass's crossover with the art and film world in the 70's. Actually I didn't know anything about Crass outside of their logo which appears on many jackets. I listened to them once in the eighties and was like, oh, whatever, and that was that, but now I'm learning more and the world makes a bit more sense. K

Rubbish: The Archaeology of Garbage

by William Rathje & Cullen Murphy

Who doesn't appreciate trash? This is an exciting and depressing book about all the junk we throw away, including a huge section about disposable diapers. There is a bookmark that looks like a test strip of a cloud photograph. This book is a bit of a downer. GA

Harm

by Hillary Gravendyk

I don't have a lot of books on poetry because I am not a huge fan of poetry, but I am a fan of my friends, and I like Hillary and her poetry is pretty great. Smart and dark and a bit off-kilter. Inside there is a receipt for the book, which cost 15.95 from a place called Omnidawn and they spelled my name LIAS which I quite like. K

Winter in the Blood

by James Welch

I think Aunt Alice loaned me this book and I neither read it nor gave it back. I'll try harder to do both. K

The Abortion

by Richard Brautigan

I didn't know that Brautigan was a California hippie when I first read his work when I was a child in Illinois. My mother was a fan, and because I read everything on her bookshelves, I also became a fan and learned a lot about the adult world from his writing. I think this copy of *The Abortion* was purchased much later, I don't think I stole it from my mother. Inside is a postcard from Rob Fish sent to me when I lived on Third Street in 1991. K

Lemon

by Lawrence Krauser

I think I got this book for free. I have not read it. Is it worth reading? Maybe I'll take a chance. K

The Baffler Number Five

I was thinking about assigning Steve Albini's "The Problem with Music" to my class this semester. I got a bootleg copy of a PDF from Best of the Baffler online but it might be better to make a copy of this from the original version. However, I might break the spine and most likely that the digital generation of kids doesn't really care whether or not it's from a vintage source or a reprint. Also, this might be a good opportunity to talk about that. The Age of Mechanical Reproduction becomes The Age of Digital Reproduction and suddenly nothing really matters at all. K (if only for reasons of nostalgia)

Not Ready to Make Nice: The Guerrilla Girls In the Art World and Beyond

A very short book about the work of the Guerrilla Girls that I got at their exhibition at Columbia College. Some of it's a little hokey, but the underlying reality is fucked up. Ladies in the art world have it rough. K

Group Work

edited by Temporary Services

I like this book so much that I read it, gave it away, and then re-purchased it at the zine fest from Marc last year. It has interviews with everyone who is cool and works with other people, including the awesome AA Bronson. Inside, stuff from the zine fest in Chicago and also the bookkeeping bookmark of Half Letter Press which seems like something Marc should have kept. I could give this one away and buy it again, but I think I'll hang on to it. If you want it, just buy it from Half Letter. K!

My Mirage

by Jim Shaw

When I was a very young lady, I saw this project at a museum, maybe in New

York, and I was Blown The Fuck Away. I was like, whoa, What is This? The guy was funny as shit, could draw like a sharp shooter, was a vicious observer and critic of teenage angst and life, and the whole collection looked like it had been made by a bunch of different people in a bunch of different styles. All of that, PLUS, one of the drawings used on a Bongwater album? As in BONGWATER MY FAVORITE BAND? I was 20, whatever, but I loved what I loved, and when this book came out, like two decades later, I had to have it. Amazing. Jim Shaw = Rad. K

Anna Gaskell: by proxy

I'm not sure what's going on with this series of photos but it's creepy and dark and I could probably read the introduction and find out more, but instead I'll bring it to my office and maybe one of my students will be interested enough to do an oral presentation about the work and clue me in on it. O

Dem weißen Häschen Zwischen die Ohren

Rattelschneck

Olav Westphalen gave me this book of drawings. I think Rattelschneck was him and a friend. I don't speak German but the drawings are very silly and sweet, and I think they are probably also funny for people who understand the language. It's from 1994. K

Werewolf Express

This is a "zine" made on the occasion of an exhibition at Yerba Buena and it has contributions from a lot of really good writers and an aesthetic that is very cut and paste. You would think that it was made a long time ago because it looks sort of pre-computer, but it's from 2005, when "pre-computer" was a style choice. Also, very witchy! K

A Treasury of Jewish Folklore

edited by Nathan Ausubel

I must have bought this book awhile ago since there is a photograph from a photo booth of Dan and I looking very young tucked inside the table of contents. I probably wanted to know more about the folklore of my people, but I haven't really read it and frankly it seems possible to learn more about Jews from watching Woody Allen movies or Seinfeld. These stories from the Orthodox condition about rabbis and farmers don't have much to do with my modern condition. GA

Vestments for All Seasons

by Barbara Dee Baumgarten

I have never made a vestment, but this book provides details on how I might do this someday if I go into the clergy or want to look like I am in the clergy. K

Selbuvtotter: Biography of a Knitting Tradition

by Terri Shea

Norwegian folk knitting patterns for mittens and gloves. K

A New Look at Needlepoint: The Complete Guide to Canvas Embroidery

by Carol Cheney Rome and Georgia French Devlin

This really is a new look at needlepoint! I will probably never make anything out of needlepoint though and if I do, I will look online for inspiration and stitch advice. The most interesting thing in this book is a photograph of a needlepoint Republican elephant. It's a black and white image, but likely the original was red, white, and blue. With its hard plastic canvas and unwavering commitment to the grid, needlepoint is a conservative craft. GA

Situationist International Anthology

edited and translated by Ken Knabb

One of those books which holds a permanent spot on my shelf and in my brain, though I've actually not read the entire thing. Clipped article from the New York Times in this book tells of a 17 year old girl who was charged with planning a "Columbine-style rampage killing." The article says the plot was "fueled by anger against 'preppies, minorities and jocks'" and says the plan included taking drugs on the roof and shooting themselves after shooting as many as possible. This is a rare case of a female being involved in a plan for a mass shooting, but this doesn't explain why I kept this clipping in the SI book. K

The Pattern Library

edited by Amy Carroll

This is a very slim volume of stitch patterns reproduced in color, with directions. Another good resource in my overwhelming library of knitting books. K

The Sporting Scene

Time Life Books

This is a volume from what I suspect is a series of books about sewing from Time Life in 1975. The cover is made of orange corduroy which has some dust settled into it that's a bit icky. The first few pages contain some amazing photographs of people wearing sporty clothing in a photo studio, but most of the book is nuts and bolts information about how to sew clothing for active use. This book came out before most of the fibers we now associate with sporty clothing was invented so there is no gore-tex or microfiber. I'm not sure how useful the book is now. GA

The Ultimate Quilting Book

by Maggi McCormick Gordon

I love the words "Ultimate" and "Quilting" together. Makes it sound like an extreme sport. This is one of those thick

glossy books that I probably picked up in the cheap section of Crown Books or somewhere like that years ago. It has really great photos of a lot of different kinds of quilts, plus basic instructions for making quilts. Inside is some graph paper and a brochure from a quilt show at the Art Institute of Chicago. K

The Blood Oranges

by John Hawkes

I don't know if I read this or not but there is an eight of clubs from a deck of "fly the friendly skies of United" deck in there. Remember when there were free decks of cards on airplanes and when "the friendly skies" ad campaign didn't seem completely cynical? K

The Cyclist

by Viken Berberian

I am pretty sure I started reading this book, but not confident that I ever finished reading it. There was a of stuff between the pages. A receipt from the post office in 2006, showing that I sent a lot of very inexpensive packages to various places. From the zip codes it seems that most things went to LA or NY. Also a wrapper for NordicWave Superwash wool in color number 526 "Fire Engine" (I made an asymmetrical sweater out of that yarn). An unfinished crossword puzzle and the entire page it came from in the New York Times from July 26, 2006, where there is a big article about the announcement by Tate Modern to build a crazy looking 11 story addition. K

The Art of the Personal Essay: An Anthology from the Classical Era to the Present

selected and with an introduction by Phillip Lopate

This is a really great book and one to return to again and again. It's easy to think that the past was a boring time full of boring people, mostly because everything was either black and white or painted and drawn, sometimes on the walls of caves. But pick up this book and suddenly the past has the same crazy bullshit soap opera insanity as the present. This, of course, terrifying and comforting, at the same time. In this book is the essay "Hateful Things" from my hero from antiquity, Sei Shonagon. In a list of things hateful, she writes, "A man who has nothing in particular to recommend him discusses all sorts of subjects at random as though he knew everything." And, "An admirer has come on a clandestine visit, but a dog catches sight of him and starts barking. One feels like killing the beast." Her hatred of dogs and babies is refreshingly contemporary and relatable. The book is nearly 800 pages long and there is plenty more opinionated bitchiness and pissed off charm. K

Waiting for Godot

by *Samuel Beckett*

I don't really read plays and I don't know where this book came from. I know I have actually read this play, but I think that was back in high school and I don't think it was this exact book. I suppose it's not the worst thing to have a play on the bookshelf and this one seems like a good one to have. K

Human Oddities

by *Noria Jablonski*

I met Noria somewhere, maybe at Headlands. She was cool and I bought her book. Inside is a photograph I found on the street that is of a Nike shoe on a shoebox. The photo has a digital date stamp of October 15, 2006. I did read most of this book and now it's time to let someone else read it. GA

Walking on Water: Reading, Writing and Revolution

by *Derrick Jensen*

I believe that a student recommended this book to me. I am going to try to read it, it looks pretty interesting. K

The Rules of Attraction, American Psycho, Imperial Bedrooms. The Informers, Less Than Zero (2 copies)

by *Bret Easton Ellis*

Say what you will about Bret Easton Ellis, I don't care. I really like his writing and I'm keeping all of these books. Someday I will give my second copy of *Less Than Zero* to a special person, but that time has not yet come. There is almost nothing tucked away in these books, except in *The Rules of Attraction* there is a sheet from a prescription pad from my old doctor that has what appears to be a phone number on it. I stopped going to this doctor because every time she had me in the stirrups to do a pap smear, she would ask me about my sexual history and then tell me that she was a virgin. It was just really weird and uncomfortable and kind of made me feel like a slut, which I am not. K

The Silver Concubine

by *Hal G. Evarts*

I am not sure why I have this book. Maybe it was a gift, and maybe part of that gift was the black and white photo tucked inside of 8 old men in suits standing outside in front of a brick building. Most of their feet are cut off by the framing of the photograph, which appears to have been made (judging from their outfits) in the early 1960's. It is most likely that all of these men are now dead. The Silver Concubine seems to be about sex and violence in a mining town. This is a first (and perhaps only) edition, dated 1962. K

The Jews in Pompeii, Herclaneum, Stabiae and in the Cities of Campania Felix

by *Carlo Giordana and Isidoro Kahn*

This book was purchased in Italy. "The

story of the Jews in Italy is one of the most interesting chapters in the history of the people of Israel in exile." Inside, a postcard of a sculpture of Hercules looking super buff. Probably not Jewish. K

Viennese Actionism Günter Brus Otto Muehl Hermann Nitsch Rudolf Schwarzkogler

Centro Andaluz de Arte Contemporáneo

This is one of the best books I have seen about this chapter of art insanity in Austria. I had on my shelf at school and one of my students was making a scan from it and the spine started breaking which makes me crazy. I figured I should just get a new copy for the students to enjoy, but when I looked online they were selling for \$700 and I was shocked. Seems the price has come down, just found one for \$170 but still. How to reconcile this: Can students look at something without destroying it? And if a book falls apart, does it matter? At least the knowledge gets out instead of getting moldy on the shelf. K

Freud for Beginners

text by *Richard Appignanesi*

illustrations by *Oscar Zarate*

In 1979, this book cost \$2.95. It's in the style of a comic book, and it's very educational. I think I also had Marx for Beginners, from the same series. It smells a little musty, like the house where I grew up. K

The Lonely Days Were Sundays

by *Eli N. Evans*

This is a book about the experience of Jewish people in the American South. I remember going to summer camp in North Carolina and people saying that they had never met a Jew before. I read this entire book and I don't remember much about it. Maybe my Aunt would like it. She lives in the South. But she has a lot of books! K

Uniforms of the Civil War In Color

by *Philip Haythornthwaite*

I was researching Civil War uniforms for a project once and got this book. I love books like these though I will never be a Civil War reenactor. It's just good to know what kind of outfits people were wearing at a specific time and place and then it's possible to integrate some part of it into a contemporary outfit when feeling inclined to reference the Civil War. Inside is a photograph of me and my ex-husband at a party celebrating our engagement. He looks a bit miserable. I am not scanning this photo for this publication. I wonder if it ended up inside of the Civil War book as a joke. K

Fragments of an Anarchist Anthropology

by *David Graeber*

Sweet compact book outlining thoughts about anarchism and its relationship to anthropology. Graeber spent some time researching in Madagascar and this ex-

perience informs his political ideas. K

NASA Photography Index

In 1987, this book of available NASA images was published. Photographs, at the time, were available as 4"x5" color transparencies or 8"x10" glossy b&w prints. The book is divided into sections. The first few pages show reproductions of popular general interest space images, like space shuttles, the moon landing, and various planets. The rest of the book gives short descriptions followed by image numbers. The largest section of the book is called "Major Launches." Although it's interesting as a historical document, it's probably useless given the internet. GA

Renovating Marriage: Toward New Sexual Life-Styles

edited by *Roger W. Libby and Robert N. Whitehurst*

I got this book from the Los Angeles City College Library discard stack. It might have been free or maybe fifty cents. It's a collection of scholarly essays about marriage and possibilities. Titles include, "Is Monogamy Outdated?" "Some Personal and Social Characteristics of Mate-Sharing Swingers," "Group Sex and Sexually Free Marriages," "Beyond Jealousy and Possessiveness," and "Being in Bed Naked With You is the Most Important Thing in My Life." I love that it was at one time part of the LACC Library, but also sad that it's no longer available for students to peruse. Maybe I can donate it back? K

Official Lawn Bowls Almanac and Tactics and Techniques

American Lawn Bowls Association

Lawn bowling is a very fun sport, mostly because it's lovely to stand around wearing all white with a bunch of older people on a very nice green lawn, just rolling balls around, like there's no other cares in the world. K

The Comfortable House: North American Suburban Architecture 1890-1930

by *Alan Gowans*

A book about comfortable houses with pictures and information about various comfortable styles. Somehow got water damaged, was I reading it in the bathtub? K

Treehouses: The Art and Craft of Living Out on a Limb

by *Peter Nelson*

Seriously, who doesn't want to live in a treehouse? Lots of photographs of treehouses make me feel a bit emotional and almost weepy. I just love the woods so much. A "how-to" section in the center of the book features planning information and photographs of a group of dudes erecting a treehouse, including one dude who wears rainbow suspenders and another who wears only short cutoff denim shorts, hiking boots, and a ridiculous-

ly colored bandana over his long, wavy blonde hair. Meow! K

The Apex Treasury of Underground Comics

edited by Don Donahue and Susan Goodrick

I think this guy named Alexander gave me this book when I was 17 years old. It was already a decade old book by then, but the content is timeless. R. Crumb, Zippy the Pinhead, Art Spiegelman, Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers. Classics. K

Bondage

Laura Manson Stansfield Photocollection

I doubt Laura Manson Stansfield is a real person (a photograph of “her” in the front is credited to “Robert Mapple-syrup”), but these black and white images of bondage appear to be the real deal. Damsels in distress with a lot of clothes-line. A couple pages were marked with colorful strips of flowered fabric. K

Learning the Tarot

by Joan Bunning

I would like to learn about how to read tarot cards, and this book is helpful, but there is just an overwhelming amount to learn overall about these mystifying images. K

The Marriage Plot

by Jeffrey Eugenides

Not my favorite book by him, but decent. I read it, do I need to keep it? I don't think I'll read it again. GA

A People's History of the United States

by Howard Zinn

Classic history book with a different perspective from most traditional tales of America. It was the textbook for a course I took at Boston University taught by the author. It was a very popular course and everyone really fawned over Zinn. I was suspicious at the time. I liked to be contrary to public opinion. Also, I have never really trusted those in power, or charismatic leaders, even those who are actually amazing people. In the years since reading the book and having Zinn as a professor, I have embraced this text. K

Chicago's Famous Buildings: A Photographic Guide

edited by Arthur Siegel

McCormick Place from 1970 is the most recent building included in this beautifully designed book of incredible buildings. Although the book bills itself as a “photographic guide,” the image of McCormick place is a drawing, since the building wasn't completed when the book was finished in 1969. The rest of the buildings are shown in lovely black and white images, and most also have floorplans. Red is used throughout as a graphic accent. The cover is a stark black and white collection of trapezoids, and the book opens to red endpages covered in a floral

woven design that looks like it might be by Louis Sullivan. Everyone who knows me knows how much I dislike architects and architecture, but I have a deep and true love for the buildings of Chicago. K

Hidden Images: Games of Perception, Anamorphic Art, Illusion From the Renaissance to the Present

text by Fred Leeman

This book includes a piece of reflective mylar to roll into a cylinder in order to look at paintings that were made in the round, stretched out and distorted. It is incredible that these exist, how on earth do you make such a thing? I loved this book as a child. It has one of my “Holly Hobby” bookplates in it.

Beavis and Butthead: This Book Sucks

created by Mike Judge

This book does not suck. K

Church and State

by Ryllis Alexander Goslin

This short book from 1937 was discarded by the LACC Library and contains a lot of confusing infographics about numbers of people involved in wars and states and religions. An informative chart on page 23 “A Comparison Between National Socialism and Christianity” (published by a Nazi neo-pagan organization) cites Nazis as having “Joy in Living” while Christians have “fear of life.” K

Los Angeles Apartments

by Edward Ruscha

Not to be confused with *Some Los Angeles Apartments* from 1965, this book includes drawings and photographs of Los Angeles apartments and other vernacular architecture by Ruscha and photographs of some “architectural” LA apartments designed by Neutra and Schindler (among others) and photographed by Julius Schulman. Frankly I don't understand why these photographs are in the book at all, but I didn't read the entire introduction. I am looking for a place to live and I really don't like apartment buildings, even the architectural gems. But it would be nice to live in a place that was photographed by Ruscha in 1965 and put the photograph on the wall in the living room. K

Rosemarie Trockel Post-Menopause

exhibition catalogue

I am asked often to comment on how my work relates to that of Rosemarie Trockel. We both use knitting. There is not a lot of historical precedent for knitting in the contemporary art context, so I understand why people like to ask me about her work. Inside the book is a work print of reactive targets placed in a lentil field in Idaho. When reactive targets are shot, they explode, which makes them good for long distance target shooting. K

Claire McCardell:

Redefining Modernism

by Kohle Yohannan and Nancy Wolf

Designer McCardell made some super simple and often sporty dresses and other sensible clothing. Very American and incredibly chic. Inspiring. K

The Bomb and The General

by Umberto Eco and Eugenio Carmi

If Umberto Eco were to write a children's book, what would it be? This is a story about atomic bombs and what happens when the atoms that make them explode walk out of the bombs and prevent worldwide destruction. Then the general gets a job working at hotel. Carmi's illustrations consist of collages using fabric, lace, vintage illustrations and watercolor. K

Everyone Poops

by Taro Gomi

Another classic from the children's section of my shelf. 1993 Japanese book explains that poops happen across species. Some walk and poop and some poop in a special place. Some have big poops and some have small ones. Lively illustrations of animals and shit. Not only does everyone poop, everyone loves to read about pooping! K

Silent Miaow: A Manual for Kittens, Strays, and Homeless Cats

translated from the Feline and Edited by Paul W. Gallico. Picture story by Suzanne Szasz

This book is genius. Written by a cat, it describes her story of taking over a family and becoming a beloved house cat. Chapters about dealing with women and children, going to the vet, putting up with Christmas, and begging at the table follow this initial tale. Heavily illustrated with photographs of a cat named “Cica,” who may or may not be the author of this manuscript, which was left on the doorstep of the translator under mysterious circumstances. I love this book. K

Designer Machine Knitting

by Vanessa Keegan

Patterns for making ugly sweaters and dresses using a knitting machine. I don't know why I would ever make anything in this book but it's always nice to see what other people are doing with their knitting machines. K

Coming of Age in Samoa

by Margaret Mead

I think I had to read this in anthropology class in college. At the time it was a classic. Is it still a classic? GA

Depths of the Earth: Caves and Cavers of the United States

by William R. Halliday, M.D.

This book was withdrawn from the Pasadena Public Library, which is a real disservice to the people of Pasadena. This book is a fascinating collection of stories

IN THE BOOKS ON THE BOOKSHELF

1. Religious tract from **The New Games Book** edited by Andrew Fluegelman
2. Name from **How to Make an Amish Quilt** by Rachel and Kenneth Pellman
3. Business card from **Historic Costume for the Stage** by Lucy Barton
4. Photograph from **The Silver Concubine** by Hal G. Evarts
5. Photobooth photographs from **A Treasury of Jewish Folklore** edited by Nathan Ausubel
6. Ship people from **When Two or More are Gathered Together** by Neal Slavin
7. Comic strip from **Willy Wonka** by Roald Dahl.
8. Toast from **Photographic Materials and Processes** by Leslie Stroebel, John Compton, Ira Current, and Richard Zakia
9. Drunkard's Path template from **How to Make an Amish Quilt** by Rachel and Kenneth Pellman
10. Note from **Trails of the Angeles** by John W. Robinson
11. South Pas porch snapshot from **The Martha Stewart Cookbook** by Martha Stewart
12. Returned letter from **Gather Beneath the Banner: Political and Religious Banners of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union 1877-1932** by Wendy Harker and Max Allen
13. 3D cat from **Historic Costume for the Stage**
14. Rules from **Gomorroh** by Roberto Saviano
15. Crossword from **The Cyclist** by Viken Berberian
16. Snapshot of me and Ron from **Depths of the Earth: Caves and Cavers of the United States** by William R. Halliday, M.D
17. Newspaper article from **Situationist International Anthology** edited and translated by Ken Knabb
18. PO Receipt from **The Cyclist**
19. Canadian \$1 and \$2 bills from **Blurring of Art and Life** by Allan Kaprow
20. Dave Muller from **Plato's Cave** by Mike Kelley
21. Postcard from **Miss Lonelyhearts** by Nathanael West
22. 8 of Clubs from **The Blood Oranges** by John Hawkes
23. Religious tract from **The New Games Book**
24. Postcard from **Grimm's Fairy Tales** by Brothers Grimm
25. Bookmark from **Wanderlust** by Rebecca Solnit
26. Medical photograph from **Snow Crystals** by W.A. Bentley
27. Drug box from **In Search of Lost Time** by Marcel Proust
28. Receipt from **Groupwork** by Temporary Services
29. Ski Pass from **Trails of the Angeles**
30. Business card from **Historic Costume for the Stage**
31. Bank receipt from **In Search of Lost Time**
32. Sky from **Rubbish: The Archaeology of Garbage** by William Rathje & Cullen Murphy
33. Found photograph from **Human Oddities** by Noria Jablonski
34. Sept 12 from **Jewish Cookery**
35. Tomatoes from the shelf between **Darkness** and **Wanderlust**
36. To See Every Bird from **To See Every Bird on Earth** by Dan Koepfel
37. Unwritten note from **Waiting for Godot** by Samuel Beckett
38. Receipt from **Historic Costume for the Stage**
39. Recipe pages from **Jewish Cookery**
40. Panorama of the Tatra from **Gomorroh**

taking place below the surface of the earth, written by a Seattle chest surgeon. K

The Best American Nonrequired Reading 2002

edited by Dave Eggers

This is a totally fun collection of articles from magazines that you might have missed during the year. Somehow I used to have time to read *The New Yorker* every week and it wasn't enough, so I bought books like this one. These days I can hardly find the time to read the table of contents of anything. Where does the time go? K

Weave Your Own Tweeds

by Roger Millen

This slight, 28 page book, bound with rusty staples, dates from 1948. It was acquired by Scripps College's Denison Library in 1950, checked out exactly one time, by a Mrs. Stewart, until February 17, 1950 renewed until July 26, 1951, and then withdrawn from the library at some point after this. The book includes plans for building a loom "especially suitable for weaving tweeds" and a card with 14 yarn samples. The book is not for a beginning weaver. I don't weave at all. K

The Complete Spinning Book

by Candace Crockett

1977 was a great year for clothing, and the men and women shown spinning in this book are amazingly well-dressed and have great hair. It's a good resource book for spinning — lively, informative, and well-illustrated. Even has some rhymes. K

Knitting Masterpieces

by Ruth Herring and Karen Manners

One of my favorite knitting books. It consists of patterns and charts to make garments that have famous paintings knit right in. Gauguin, Toulouse-Lautrec, Mondrian, and Monet are among the lucky artists featured in this book, their paintings knit into oversized 80's style sweaters. Tim Rice, lyricist known for his writing in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, is in here smoking a brown cigarette (small cigar?) while modeling a sweater based on a painting by the nineteenth century Japanese painter Shunkosai Hokushu. Of course there is a pattern for the Mona Lisa. K

The Celtic Collection Pacific Coast Highway

by Alice Starmore

Starmore makes patterns for complicated, multi-colored sweaters that are very tasteful and sometimes quite nice. I was given a bunch of books from the library at school. Someone had passed away and the library didn't want to incorporate all of these knitting books into the collection, so I got lucky and received a lot of books, including several by Starmore.

It's probably also how I ended up with that book about weaving tweeds that was withdrawn from Scripps. K

The Joys of Yiddish

by Leo Rosten

I love this book and it's one I haven't been able to find for awhile on my shelf even though I have looked many times. Sometimes it's easier to just look something up online, rather than find a certain book, but in this case the websites about Yiddish just aren't as good as this classic. You try to explain "alter kocker" to a gentile friend with the help of the internet, forget it. Even a word like "shlep." It's rolls off the tongue so naturally, but what exactly does it mean? Language can be tough to explain, even if you know exactly what it means, and this book is the key to understanding. I am so happy that it turned up on the shelf. Where has it been hiding????? K

Music for Chameleons

by Truman Capote

I read this awhile ago. Should I be keeping a bunch of old novels that I'll probably never read again? There's an idea I have that a bookshelf should be balanced. There should be novels on there because I believe in stories, even if I won't ever read them again. I can't live with a bookshelf that only holds reference and nonfiction. It's not a full life. K

The Overcoat and other Tales of Good and Evil

by Nicolai V. Gogol

This is the kind of book I should be reading more often. K

Lady Chatterley's Lover

by D.H. Lawrence

Classic dirty book and it really is pretty sexy. I read it a long time ago, can't remember it exactly but I think she has an affair with the gardener and there are some super hot scenes. This copy is "in its original unexpurgated edition." K

Soap Recipes

by Elaine C. White

In this book is a recipe for coleslaw from *The Pantry*. I have made a lot of soap, but I don't think I have used any of the recipes in this book. I think I bought it used and obviously someone has used it to make soap from because some of the pages are soaked with oil and it smells a little funny. K

When Two or More are Gathered Together

by Neal Slavin

The print quality is not great, but the images in this book are really fantastic. Slavin photographed all sorts of groups, from a billiard club in New York City to a rodeo corporation in Texas. It's of course fascinating to see the variety and just super fun. Inside this book is a small B&W

print of the crew of the Staten Island Ferry, looks like a press image. K

To See Every Bird on Earth

by Dan Koeppel

Fascinating book about birds and a man who watches them written by my friend Dan. I learned so much about the culture of bird watchers from this book and also a lot about Dan's father who is one of the people who was a Big Lister and saw many many birds. The book is signed to me and includes an invitation to the reading at Dutton's in Brentwood, which is now defunct. K

The Natural Soap Book

by Susan Miller Cavitch

When I made a lot of soap, this is the book I used to use for recipes. Super clear and they always worked out well. I used to say that once you use homemade soap, you'd never go back to buying it at the store. But then I got really busy and didn't have time to make it anymore and now I buy soap again. Maybe it's time to get the soap molds out and order some fat. K

Favorite Torte and Cake Recipes

by Rose Oller Harbaugh and Mary Adams

The first line in this book from 1951 is "Every woman can know the joy of making a perfect cake." Yes! I have used this book successfully to bake a few amazing cakes. The best recipe I have made in here is the Walnut Torte. It is out of control and includes just eggs (8 of them!), walnuts, sugar, graham-cracker crumbs, and an orange. So light and fluffy. Also, great illustrations in this book. K

The Jewish Holiday Kitchen

by Joan Nathan

This is my go-to book for Jewish holiday cooking, which is not something that happens on every Jewish holiday, but maybe every few years I'll make some latkes or horoset, and this is the book I'll consult. What's nice about this book is that it includes recipes from various ethnicities of Jew, so there's some Middle East dishes as well as some more familiar (to me) Eastern Euro ones. K

Jewish Cookery in accordance with Jewish Dietary Laws

by Leah W. Leonard

Susan Lutz gave me this book of recipes for traditional Jewish foods. It's from 1949 and refers in the introduction to cooking as the eighth art. I'm not sure what the other seven are. It also speaks of the possibility of an "ingenious person" inventing a special dish to celebrate the downfall of Hitler. Their point about hamantaschen as associated with Purim and the defeat of Haman is well-taken, but, alas, in the 65 years since this book was published, I don't think anyone has come up with a recipe to commemorate the end of Hitler. Perhaps if some-

CD Rack

I've realized that I have the same problem with CDs that I do with books. With everything digital nowadays, if I want to hear a song, I just look it up on YouTube. I no longer have a stereo that takes CDs, only a computer and a separate turntable in my studio. I have a limited number of CDs ripped on my hard drive. I listen to them over and over until I can't stand them anymore. Mostly I just listen to the radio, on the internet or in the car. I have lost the patience for connoisseurship, I just listen to sounds that fill up the air or correspond to my mood. I listen to three categories of music: Angry, Mellow, and Hyper. That means Britney Spears, old Bowie, and Burzum. But I have so many options on my CD rack, so it's worth taking the time to see what's available.

Led Zeppelin

Led Zeppelin

One of the greatest albums ever. Even on CD it is great. English dudes singing their hearts and ripping it on the guitars and drums. K

Soulfly

Soulfly

"This album is dedicated to God." I'm interested theoretically in Christian rock, but there is limited space on my CD rack and my hard drive is nearly full. GA

Home for the Holidays: Holiday Disc 2002

From my friend Rick who I went to RIT with, this homemade CD was the 7th holiday compilation he made with his wife, now ex-wife. I've never listened to it and I've never heard of any of the artists on the CD except for Bjork. Worth a listen at least, but when I tried to play it, the sound was all fuzzy and weird. Gives me an excuse to throw it away. Sorry, Rick. T

Meddle

Pink Floyd

This CD is so thick that I couldn't eject it from my new external CD drive after I listened to it. So I listened to it again. It's a psychedelic journey which I enjoyed going on, but I'm afraid one day it will get stuck forever in the CD drive and I'll never be able to listen to anything else again. I had to stick a knitting needle in there to pry it out. K

Nail

Scraping Foetus Off The Wheel

This is literally one of the first five CDs I ever owned. Maybe one of the first two. My mother needed to photograph a CD for a slide show she was making before we even had a CD player, but knowing that eventually we would get one, she asked me to pick out two CDs at the store and I think I got this and Talking Heads '77. There was not a large selection at the time. I loved this CD a lot once I was able to listen to it at home, but I haven't heard it in decades. It reminds me that I used to drive in cars with 8 track tape players, then recorded songs from the radio onto cassettes and then lived through CDs and into digital music files. With every new advance in technology, the music seems to get more and more generic and ster-

ile. Pressing down play and record at the same time, trying not to miss the opening chords of a favorite song on the radio but usually missing them anyhow is a far cry from downloading some shit to listen to. I am trying not to be too nostalgic, but this CD really brings it all back. K

Hell on Earth

In Cold Blood

Self righteous, maybe environmentalist, dude-hardcore metal. A little bit of Pantera mixed with just generic 90's hardcore, which, because I grew up on 80's hardcore, I always thought was just derivative and dumb. This record is fine, and maybe when I'm really old, I'll be psyched to have it around because at some point perhaps I won't remember when the 80's ended and the 90's began. K

Sunrise on the Sufferbus

Masters of Reality

I have no recollection of this CD and no idea why I have it. There is a price tag of 5.99 on it. Maybe it belongs to someone else. GA

The Cost of Stale Living

Sys

I have a vague recollection of the name of this CD. Looking at the pictures on the sleeve, I realized that I skied with one of the band members in Wisconsin. He was a sweet guy and a game, but not super amazing, skier and now I think we are friends on Facebook. Do I really need to keep every CD given to me by someone who is in a band? It's kind of a sweet CD, but I think it's time to move on. GA

Tiger Beat

The Bangs

I've just never been into girl bands. This one seems pretty good, if you like this kind of thing. GA

Still Ignorant (1987-1997)

I am pretty into listening to this, I'm totally keeping it! K

L'ecole du Micro D'argent

lam

I remember liking this CD when I got it. A French pro-skier told me about it and I thought it was cool to have some French

hip hop. Now it sounds pretty dated and not so good, but it's still nice to have some French hip hop in the collection, even if it's lame French hip hop. Maybe someday I'll have a French dinner party or something. K

Floodland

The Sisters of Mercy

Such an amazing CD. I don't know why I haven't listened to this for so many years, it is just so good. K

Back in Black

Whodini

Weren't these guys super popular once? I think I got this when I was going to college in Boston. It has that going-to-college-in-Boston vibe. "I'm a ho, you know I'm a ho." Keep it around for that college-in-Boston themed party. K

Swagger

Flogging Molly

This is Irish-style jiggish style music but reinterpreted to be a little bit punk. Not my thing. GA

Everything

Bangles

Terribly dull pop music. Sounds like they are falling asleep while singing. Sorry to be mean about it. GA

Fight for Justice

Warzone

I used to love hardcore. That was in the eighties. Now when I hear it, I'm just like, really? Again? This CD is from 1997, and the liner notes say these guys were there "since the beginning." East Coast Hardcore, whatever. Dudes being dudes for dudes. A real bro-down. I'm falling asleep. GA

Bathory

Bathory

This CD was kicking around in my car for awhile. I think I bought it at the record store in Claremont. It's a classic scary Scandinavian metal album and the drummer went on to direct a Lady Gaga video. K

one would come up with one, then we wouldn't have so many Holocaust deniers out there. But seriously, who would want to eat a Hitler casserole or cookie? I've used this book as reference for some Jew staples like borscht, and once I tried making bagels but they fell apart so I did something wrong I'm sure. There is an entire chapter about Organ Meats which I have never consulted. K

Real Bread: A fearless guide to making it

by *Maggie Baylis and Coralie Castle*

A very handy book of recipes that is falling apart. I've made a lot of breads from recipes in this book and they are always good. In recent years, most of the breads I've baked have been a wheat/rye mix, but finding this book reminds me that it's probably time to mix it up and make something different. K

Vegan Brunch

by *Isa Chandra Moskowitz*

I've never actually used this book, I'm not sure I ever even opened it before. But it looks good. Handy when vegans are coming over for pancakes. Lots of photos. Honestly I'm not sure why the publisher felt they needed to put the author on the cover of this book. She does not look very comfortable in the photograph. K

The Real Food Daily Cookbook

by *Ann Gentry*

The truth is, I rarely use cookbooks. This one has a lot of good looking recipes, but I haven't made very many of them. The soups sound delicious, this winter I'm going to try some of these recipes out. K

The Martha Stewart Cookbook

by *Martha Stewart*

Say what you will about Martha Stewart, but this is a really solid cookbook. I mostly use it around Thanksgiving when I have to make cranberry sauce (there are 5 recipes) and mashed potatoes. This book convinced me that the magical ingredient for mashed potatoes is cream cheese. Is it really worth keeping an entire cookbook just for a couple recipes? K

Tanzania Cook Book

by *Eva Sarakikya*

My cousin Kaya brought me this book from Tanzania. There are some vegetables in here that I have never heard of and quite a few recipes using peanuts. A handy post-it note in the front says that "bamia" is okra and "bringal" is eggplant, but other vegetables remain a mystery. There is a lot of meat in this cookbook, too. I have made a few dishes from these recipes, but not a lot. It is a slim book, so I will keep it on the shelf. You never know when someone might throw a Tanzania themed potluck. K

Perfect Endings: Chocolate Dessert and

Beverage Cook Book

by *Nestles*

My mother gave me this cookbook which revolves around Nestles chocolate. I make Nestles Toll House cookies a lot, but I don't always use Nestles chocolate chips, so it's good to have this book as reference even though at this point I pretty much know the recipe. I haven't made anything else in this book. I love chocolate. K

Vegan Cupcakes Take Over the World

by *Isa Chandra Moskowitz and Terry Hope Romero*

My old neighbor was in publishing and gave me all of the Isa Chandra Moskowitz books, which is why I have so many even though I rarely use them. I have made more vegan cupcake recipes than any other of hers. They are great when you are vegan, but the minute you start eating eggs and butter again, this book stays on the shelf. Good to have around for when vegans visit. K

German Home Cooking

by *Dr. August Oetker Bielefeld*

A German brought me this book, which is filled with the most disgusting and unappetizing recipes I have ever seen. The photos are enough to make my stomach turn. There are pictures of cubes of pink meat piled in bowls, brown greasy meat accessorized with pineapple slices, deviled eggs that have some sort of unidentified meat component, otherwise OK looking salads with giant silvery fish on them, and vegetables bleached from over-boiling. All written by someone who is a chemist. It's pretty nasty. K

Appetite for Reduction

by *Isa Chandra Moskowitz with Matthew Ruscigno, MPH, RD*

I bought this vegan diet book because my buddy Matt is the nutritionist for this book. He wrote an intro and I think he figured out what kind of nutrients the various recipes have in them. I've never made anything from the book. If Matt comes to visit my kitchen, I want to make sure it's on the shelf! K

An Alphabet for Gourmets

by *MFK Fisher*

Fanciful, lovely book about food and other matters of the heart. K

Betty Crocker's Cooky Book

I love this book! My mother had it when I was young and we made so many great cookies from the recipes. I found this current copy at a thrift store. It's still the best Cooky Book ever written. K

The Victory Garden Cookbook

by *Marian Morash*

Before the internet, when I picked up a vegetable somewhere that I didn't know what to do with, I consulted this handy book. It's full of recipes that include vege-

tables (though not a vegetarian cookbook by any means) and it has basic instructions on how to get any vegetable cooked using a variety of methods- how long to steam, bake or boil. I really like this cookbook a lot, but I suspect it's outlived its usefulness for me. GA

Babel Tower

by *A.S. Byatt*

I haven't read this book, and I'm not sure where it came from. For some reason, it has a pile of black and white negatives taken on my wedding day ten years ago. Daniel took the pictures, and I saw them at the time, but I'm not sure we ever made any prints, and now of course it's too late for that. I'll keep them in the book and I'll keep the book. K

Mummies of Short Cave Kentucky and the Great Catacomb Mystery

by *Angelo I. George*

Mummies in a Kentucky cave? Yes! This book recounts the story. Printed by George Publishing Company, which I'm betting is the author's own imprint, the book looks as if it was written on a typewriter and then printed and stapled. Very rare, I'm sure. K

Ecology of Fear: Los Angeles and the Imagination of Disaster

by *Mike Davis*

I read *City of Quartz* when I first got to LA and then I wanted to read all of Mike Davis's other books. I think I read about half of this one. It made me a bit paranoid about my choice of cities, but it is also totally fascinating. K

Hitch 22

by *Christopher Hitchens*

There is a note from last Christmas from a friend in here who I haven't yet written back to but have been meaning to get in touch with. Keeping up friendships can be difficult when times are busy and I just need to make more time for it. Hitchens is a great writer and amazing character but I prefer him in shorter bursts. This book is a lot of Hitchens. K

Max Shulman's Guided Tour of Campus Humor

by *Max Shulman*

This is a collection of "humor" from 65 college humor magazines. The book was published in 1955 and is a good example of how humor changes over decades. I haven't read all 500 pages, but what I have read is not very funny. GA

Construction of Hoover Dam

A historic account, prepared in cooperation with the Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation

It is simply mind-blowing to read about how Hoover Dam was built to stop the river that was responsible for creating the Grand Canyon. How do small people build such a large object to harness

a great natural power? This small 50 page booklet gives some insight into the process. I had no idea that, among other aspects of this project, giant refrigeration units had to be built to chill water so that the concrete could be set in sections. If they hadn't done this, the concrete would still be cooling off today! Who knew? K

Through the Flower

by *Judy Chicago*

This book was withdrawn from the Los Angeles Public Library and I probably got it at one of those sales for pretty cheap. I saw *The Dinner Party* in Chicago when I was around 12 and I hated it and by extension hated feminism and everything it stood for. Mostly what turned me was the film that accompanied the exhibition. Yeah, I thought the plates were gross, but the film, which I recall as a document showing a bunch of dumpy women in some cabin in the woods embroidering, was what really made me scared. I like the woods and I do like embroidering, and my work clothes are also not glamorous, but as a 12 year old, I didn't want to be connected to that vibe. I am still not a fan of vagina paintings, nor do I like penis paintings, but I do like obelisks and caves. Anyhow this is Judy's story, and she is very chatty and gives the reader a lot of information that's really quite personal. I appreciate that she's not pretentious. I met her a couple of years ago, and she was wearing glittery keds and seemed like someone's kooky aunt. Wild. K

Sunkist Orange Recipes for Year Round Freshness!

by *California Fruit Growers Exchange*

I love the illustrations! Would I make any of the recipes? Doubtful. Amazing how many of the recipes include sugar. This book is from 1940 and I wonder what oranges tasted like back then. Before all these crazy hybrids, they may not have been as sweet as they are today. K

Gossamer Webs: The History and Techniques of Orenburg Lace Shawls

by *Galina Khmeleva and Carol R. Noble*

I didn't know anything about these shawls before I saw this book. They seem to be much like the Shetland shawls, although the fiber is different. Orenburg shawls are traditionally made with down from goats that has been combed out, plied with silk. K

Historic Costume for the Stage

by *Lucy Barton*

Very detailed book about traditional clothing from long ago. Notes on patterns, colors, fabric, and what kind of haircuts and shoes to wear to appear to be living in a different era. A beautiful 3-D cat holiday card from Dana and Nelson was tucked inside, along with the receipt, from a bookstore in San Francisco. K

The Complete Encyclopedia of Needlework

by *Thérèse de Dillmont*

Although it has a contemporary looking cover in pastel colors, do not be fooled. The Complete Encyclopedia of Needlework was first published in 1884, and it is hardcore. The needlework that it is detailed inside is done with such fine threads and is so perfect. Just reading about it made my eyes hurt. There is a short chapter about mending, which, if done perfectly, will return the torn garment back to a state of absolute newness. K

Consider the Lobster and Other Essays

by *David Foster Wallace*

I am a big fan of these essays, and, after reading the first one in this book, the one about the AVN Awards, I am bummed that I didn't get a chance to meet David Foster Wallace in Vegas. I am not sure if I was at that awards show or not. He mentions Jim Buck winning an award, and I know I would have voted for him, but I don't remember a 12 year old boy onstage accepting the award for him, and I'm not sure if I actually had a chance to meet Jim Buck in person ever, though I do recall doing a phone interview with him and of course I saw all of his films at the time, which I think might have been only two. K

Concrete Pipe Drainage Structures for Highways and Railroads

prepared and edited by *M.W. Loving*

"William C. Reilly" is stamped on the first page of this, and of a small pamphlet tucked inside, titled "Tentative Standard Specifications for Reinforced Concrete Water Pipe — Noncylinder Type, Not Prestressed." Also tucked in this book is a very long article from the Los Angeles Times on July 18, 1976. "Collapse of Teton Dam: How Disaster Happened." On the other side of that article is a piece about a kidnapping of 26 children on a school bus. The children were then put into a truck trailer that had been buried underground. The bus driver and some of the larger students managed to dig themselves out after 17 hours of captivity. I don't know what happened to the kidnapper since the stories continue on pages that were not kept in this book. I do have the whole story about the dam collapse, but for some reason I don't find it quite as compelling. K

Everything that Rises Must Converge

by *Flannery O'Connor*

I first knew the title of this book as a club song that my roommate Dana used to play in the mid-eighties. I picked up the book because of the song. It's an admirable grouping of words. The book is full of southern-style melodrama, and stories that leave the reader feeling drained. In a good way. K

Fast Food Nation

by *Eric Schlosser*

When I read this, I stopped eating meat for the second time. (*The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair made me stop eating meat the first time.) The food industry is a nasty place. K

The Way We Eat Why Our Food Choices Matter

by *Peter Singer and Jim Mason*

The title pretty much explains what this book is about. If you spend way too much money on humanely produced, environmentally sound food, and you need to explain your point of view to your suspicious parents, you can find a lot of talking points in this book. A little dry, but full of information! K

The New Games Book

edited by *Andrew Fluegelman*

Anna and Jane gave me this book as a joke when I graduated from high school, but since then it gained a special place on my bookshelf. The idea of transforming playground games into events emphasizing participation over competition continues to inspire and inform me. The games in here are ridiculous — Bug Tug, Amoeba Race, Aura, Fraha — and I haven't played any of them in decades. Maybe it's time to stop fretting so much and start playing! K

Second Skin

by *David Wilkey*

Amazing British Wet and Messy photo book, though *Second Skin* is more wet than messy. Throughout the book, women get drenched in their street clothes. Most of the action takes place in pools, showers, and waterfalls, though a final bathtub/boudoir pictorial shows a lady in business clothing and glasses stripping down to white lace underwear while pouring water on herself from a decorative pitcher. Very naughty. K

Dirt: A Social History as Seen Through the Uses and Abuses of Dirt

by *Terence McLaughlin*

This is a photocopy of a book I wanted to read when I was in grad school and obsessed with filth. It's an evocative history of human waste and other sorts of non-cleanliness. What I remember most from reading it is the idea of the stench of cities with open sewers, livestock, and people who did not bathe. It's unimaginable how dirty the world once was. Mindblowing. K

Whitewater Tales of Terror: Don't Get off The Interstate

by *William Nealy*

I bought this book of whitewater rafting comics when I was a counselor at Camp Winding Gap and went rafting in North Carolina. It's a humorous look at the characters and situations involved with river rafting. I thought it was the funni-

est book I'd ever seen in my life. It introduced me to the idea that duct tape is an all-purpose tool that can fix anything. Also, just that you can make a book about a tiny niche community of insiders, using humor derived from this closed situation, but make it accessible and funny to a wider audience. I never wanted to be a river rafting rat or guide, but I appreciate this book as evidence of someone else's obsession. Published in 1983, I probably picked it up soon after that, and 30 years later it's still funny. Is humor standing still?

Knitting Around or Knitting Without a License

by *Elizabeth Zimmermann*

Another knitting classic by the queen of knitting. Masterful Zimmermann shares secrets, patterns, anecdotes and sketches of kittens and European landscapes in this wide-ranging book. There are more digressions than patterns, but you can learn to make a bunch of things from this book, including dickeys, yoked sweaters, and mittens. She is a knitting hero! K

Gather Beneath the Banner: Political and Religious Banners of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union 1877-1932

by *Wendy Harker and Max Allen*

Exhibition catalog for a show I did not see at The Museum for Textiles in Toronto. Amazing stitched banners about God and not drinking. Form is inspiring. Less so the content. Inside is a letter to Morgan Beeby postmarked September 4, 2007 and returned to me on September 9, 2007. Morgan was hiking the PCT and must have hiked past Estacada, Oregon before this letter arrived for him. K

Elmer Batters: from the tip of the toes to the top of the hose

edited by *Eric Kroll*

An inspiring master of foot and leg photography, Batters' territory was consistently specific. Uncaring about cooch or titties, this man's lens was hose-focused, toe-attuned, and responded with passion to seamed stockings, garter belts, and an elegant spread of flexible toes. Though the later images in this collection include nip and pink, likely to placate audience desires, it is only the hooves and gams that resonate with erotic mystery. K

The Hermès Scarf: History & Mystique

by *Nadine Coleno*

Some fancy wardrobe items become luxury goods because they have a good marketing team, but some are actually really interesting, well-made objects that have a history of craftsmanship and artistry. Until I got this book, I figured the Hermès scarf was just a bunch of hype, but then I learned a bit about how they make these things and I was pretty impressed. I learned to silkscreen a one color t-shirt and it looks shitty, and these are multiple

passes of color screened on silk, and I can only imagine it can't be easy. I am not into the horse-y thing that seems to dominate many of the designs, all that saddle bullshit is a bit too rich for my blood, but from time to time there is a design that's actually really cool. I have aspirations to make a scarf someday which is why I bought this book, but I haven't done it yet. K

Justine, Philosophy in the Bedroom, and Other Writings

by *The Marquis de Sade*

A Tower Records bookcover, from the days when there was a Tower Records and also the days that businesses gave out bookcovers, graces the cover of this thick tome. Janet Jackson and Iggy Pop are on the front. I probably wanted to be able to read this book on an airplane without the scrutiny of fellow passengers — you know how it can be when you're reading some dirty fucked up book and the perv next you is all hot and bothered. Gross. Better to have them think I'm just reading something about pop music. I guess this is why people get Kindles nowadays. For peaceful and judgement-free reading in public. K

Metalion: The Slayer Mag Diaries

by *Jon Kristiansen*

The history of Slayer Mag is also a history of metal logos and zine design. Great hand drawn page borders and interviews with every metal dog worth talking about, plus reviews of shows, tapes, albums, whatever. There is more than a share of nostalgia tinged throughout this book, for pre-internet learning, for cassettes, for international mail. A really lovely historical document. K

The Picture of Dorian Gray

by *Oscar Wilde*

Purchased for a dollar (I'm not sure where or when), this book has a large gray stain on the back page. What a crazy story! I have always been a big fan of the Ivan Albright painting at the Art Institute of Chicago, so grotesque and creepy, so of course I also enjoyed this book. K

Valie Export

2003 exhibition catalog

This work just looks so amazing and fresh and lively and sexy and rad and like it was made yesterday and not when I was still in diapers. K

L.A. On Paper 2: Fantastic Matter of Fact

Three Day Weekend

Exhibition catalog from a show in Vienna in 1998, organized by Dave Muller and featuring a "younger group of emerging Los Angeles artists." 15 years after this exhibition, most of these artists have gone from "emerging" to "emerged." Wow we're old now. K

Photographic Materials and Processes

by *Leslie Stroebel, John Compton, Ira Current, and Richard Zakia*

When I was at R.I.T., the M&P course taught by one of the authors of this book was the course that everyone loved to hate. It was math and chemistry and science and we were a bunch of students who wanted to believe in magic. I secretly loved the course, and I still refer to this book now and then when I need information or to try to impress a student. Even so, I'm not exactly sure what a D Log H curve is. K

Sentrumskartboka Oslo

This is a very detailed street atlas of Oslo, which is actually a fairly easy city to walk around. I love a street atlas and in this day and age of the smartphone, they are an increasing rarity. K

The Machine

by *K.G. Pontus Hultén*

This is a 1968 catalog from MOMA that has a metal cover. This book belonged to my grandparents and I always loved it, mostly because of the cover. When my grandmother gave it to me a few years ago, I finally looked inside. It's pretty great! K

She Who Casts the Darkest Shadow on our Dreams

by *Matt Greene*

This is an exhibition catalog that I forgot I had. The pages are falling out. The work is dark and magical and orgiastic. K

Encyclopaedia of Typefaces

by *Jaspert, Berry and Johnson*

Great reference of typefaces, showing the entire alphabet. Helpful in a different way than it is to see fonts on the computer. Includes some typeface history. Intriguing! K

No Logo

by *Naomi Klein*

This is one of those books that everyone should read. Just the sadness of capitalism, the fucked up sweatshops, the corporate coffee shop putting everyone else out of business, how branding sucks, etc. Read this and weep. No kidding. If you want to borrow it, I think I might have two copies. K

K = Keep
GA = Give Away
T = Trash
O = Bring to the office





NEUROMANCER WILLIAM GIBSON
DOCTOR FAUSTUS
THE GODFATHER
MARIO PIZZO

A HARBINGER WORKS
A STAGGING CLINIC
DAVE EGGERS

Life of Pi
HART KUNZRU TRANSMISSION

THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD
THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD
THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD

THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD
CORRECTION
REFRAMING PHOTOGRAPHY
RAYMOND CARVER WHERE I'M CALLING FROM

DIAN HANSON'S: THE HISTORY OF MEN'S MAGAZINES
VASCHE

SOME ONE LIKE YOU
ROALD DAHL



THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD

LIVING AS FORM
CREATIVE THE BOOKS



THE BOYS OF YIDDISH
LEO MORTEN
SCAR LOVER
HARRY CRENS



THE GOD DELUSION RICHARD DAWKINS
THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD
THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD
THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD
THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD

THE LOOM OF RUIN
MCPHETERS
RAY BRADBURY
Zen in the Art of Writing