**Why You Should Fall to Your Knees and Worship a Librarian**

Ok, sure. We’ve all got our little preconceived notions about who librarians are and what they do.

Many people think of librarians as diminutive civil servants, scuttling about “Sssh-ing” people and stamping things. Well, think again, buster.

Librarians have degrees. They go to graduate school for Information Science and become masters of data systems and human/computer interaction. Librarians can catalog anything from an onion to a dog’s ear. They could catalog you.

Librarians wield unfathomable power. With a flip of the wrist they can hide your dissertation behind piles of old *Field and Stream* magazines. They can find data for your term paper that you never knew existed. They may even point you toward new and appropriate subject headings.

People become librarians because they know too much. Their knowledge extends beyond mere categories. They cannot be confined to disciplines. Librarians are all-knowing and all-seeing. They bring order to chaos. They bring wisdom and culture to the masses. They preserve every aspect of human knowledge. Librarians rule. And they will kick the crap out of anyone who says otherwise.

*(Used with permission from LibrarianAvengers.org)*

---

**National Library Week**

Celebrate April 12-18, 2009

**Worlds connect @ your library**

---

**Schedule of events**

4/8 - Facebook fan page launch / contest
4/12 - 4/18 National Library Week
4/13 - 4/25 - Spring book sale featuring a silent auction for a set of science encyclopedias
4/14 - National Library Workers’ Day
4/21 - Come and see *Sin City* in the LVC at 6:30

---

*If you appreciate the library staff and student workers, let them know!*
Cool link
from the Reference Desk

Artists in the electronic media and designers of websites are constantly looking for inspiration, and techniques for pursuing their art. One site I’ve come across that dazzles, is SmashingMagazine.com.

It highlights electronic graphic arts, photography and web design. It also has search capabilities for getting to what you want to see quickly.

I recommend it highly!

Matthew Heller, Reference Librarian

ARE YOU A FACEBOOK FAN?

Recently the ODU Library has been exploring social media outlets to connect better with our library community. Using a voluntary paper and email-based survey in February, we discovered most of our patrons who use social media are using Facebook, with Twitter and MySpace following second and third. So like many other organizations and offices on campus, we are creating a “fan page” on Facebook this spring and have already begun posting breaking news items on Twitter as well.

Soon the phrase “Are you an ODU Library Fan on Facebook?” will be everywhere you look! During National Library Week in April, we will be conducting a promotion during which new “fans” will be entered into a contest drawing for fun prizes. Don’t be left out! Become a LIBRARY FAN on Facebook! Keep up with all the library news such as new titles added and database spotlights, events, displays, and promotions the library has to offer! If you want to have an invitation sent to you, please send an email to circulation@ohiodominican.edu and we’ll be happy to set you up!

Did you know...

75 years...that’s how long the Ohio Dominican University Library has been a member of the American Library Association.

The ALA “promotes library service and librarianship.” The stated mission is, “to provide leadership for the development, promotion and improvement of library and information services and the profession of librarianship in order to enhance learning and ensure access to information for all.”

(from the ALA.org website)
Our online library catalog has a new feature called Content Café! Now, after you search for something in the ODU Library Catalog, many of the items in your results will have an image of the item cover so you can see what the cover of the book or movie looks like. If you click on the cover image, another window will open that will provide you with reviews and summaries and much more!

This feature is not available for every item, but we think it offers you a lot of new information about many of the items in our catalog. Feel free to ask at the librarians at the reference desk if you have any questions about this new feature!

**Book Review**

**New Habits: Today’s Women who Choose to Become Nuns**

by Isabel Losada

(ODU Library Call Number 271.9 L8968n)

As a circulation desk student worker it was more a coincidence than anything else when I came across this book. Yes, I am considering a vocation to the religious life: to be a Roman Catholic Sister, although when I came across this book I was actually on duty pulling some books from the stacks for patrons. When I saw the picture on the front of this book, a photo of a religious sister dressed in full habit, grasping ahold of jail bars, I knew I had to at least flip through the book and see if it was of any interest. I began reading the first story of one of the ten Anglican Nuns who were being interviewed and I was hooked. I knew I had to read the entire book.

This book has 195 pages and the chapters are relatively short. To me this is a plus! Being a college student, I only usually have about twenty minutes here and there to pick up a book and read. I hate stopping in the middle of a chapter. The layout of the chapters is quite simple also; each chapter is about one individual novice sister. The length of each chapter is roughly eight pages long, counting front and back as one. Each interviewee states their story, including their background, family life growing up, whether or not they went to church as a child, why they felt called to religious life, if they had a relationship with a man before entering the convent and whether or not it was a physical relationship. The sisters in this book are quite blunt; they say in their interviews openly if they have had sex or not. They are very down to earth. The chapters also include specifics about each of their own orders to which they belong. Finally, yet importantly, each sister gives their opinion on the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and how the vows affect their new lives.

This past Halloween, I had the opportunity to dress up as a religious sister. In a sense, “I came out;” now anyone that may have seen me knows my secret. It was fun though -- trying on the habit for size! It was an interesting experience, walking around campus, going to the doctor’s office, and being out in public wearing a habit. You should try it on sometime, and read this great book! It is an experience and a risk all at the same time that is worthwhile taking. What do you have to lose?

As far as my review for the book itself I rate it as excellent! Yes, it is based on the Anglo-Saxon Catholic Church rather than Roman Catholic, but the sisters’ stories are amazing, each in their own way. If you are considering a vocation to the religious life, or just interested in learning about religious life, this is the book for you. This is a great opportunity to extend your knowledge about religious life vocations.

-Katie Brown, Theology Major, Ohio Dominican University, Class of 2012
The Library

Enter my doors in silence please
With this one thought in mind…
To read, to learn, and feast upon
The fruits you’re sure to find.

Pass not quickly through this room,
But slowly, and with much care,
For in each row, on every shelf,
There’s knowledge hidden there.

Choose at will the book you may
Or whate’er you’d like to read,
And on some pages within its covers
It’s sure to fill your need.

It’s very wise to visit me,
So come whene’er you can
To read, and write, and meditate,
And leave a wiser man.

In honor of
NATIONAL POETRY MONTH,
here are some LIBRARY poems
for you to enjoy.

BOOKS FROM WHERE?
by Gregory K.

This book says the world is flat.
That book says a wolf’s a cat.
That book says a peach is bread.
This book says that green is red.
This book says we drink the air.
That book says a baseball’s square.
That book says the ocean’s dry.
This book says that boys don’t cry.

These books are great, don’t you agree?
I got them from the Library.

MY LIBRARY
by Varda One

It’s only a room with shelves and books,
but it’s far more magical than it looks

It’s a jet on which I soar

to lands that exist no more.

Or a key with which I find
answers to questions crowding my mind.

Building my habit of learning and growing,
asking and researching till I reach knowing.

Here, I’ve been a mermaid and an elf
I’ve even learned to be more myself.

I think that I shall never see
a place that’s been more useful to me.

With encouraging kind friends with wit
Who tell me to dream big and never quit.

It’s only a room with shelves and books,
but it’s far more magical than it looks.

Book Poem

Don’t steal this book my honest lad,
For fifte cents it cost my dad,
And when you die the Lord will say,
Who stold that book away,
And you will say, I do not no,
And he will cast you down below,

By Helen Parsons, she wrote this poem in one of
her grammar books while going to the elementary
school between 1876-1880.

This poem won first prize in a poetry contest
held during National Library Week of 1964.
The author is Larry Leigh.
**The Books That Went To El Salvador**

The ODU Mission Trip to El Salvador was, for many of us, a life-altering experience. The ODU library books that we took provided excellent nighttime reading at the retreat center. Reading about Archbishop Oscar Romero provided tremendous insight into his life and ultimate death as a result of his commitment to the poor and oppressed.

The books provided the alumni and students a better understanding of the church’s moral response to the political oppression of the poor.

The situations in the books came to life as we listened to local people talk about the executions of their family members, viewed the memorial wall of all who were murdered, and saw the site of a massacre that occurred as peasants sought sanctuary in a Dominican church just blocks from the cathedral.

Romero and all who were martyred in pursuit of justice and peace for the poor were vindicated with the historic election that occurred while we were in El Salvador.

It was a privilege to take ODU in our hearts and backpacks on this journey.

--- Sue VanWassenhove, Director of Alumni Relations & Annual Giving

---

**Meet & greet...**

**Andy Webb,**
Periodicals Assistant

A native of Columbus, Andy graduated from The Ohio State University with a B.S. in Cognitive Psychology. His library work experience includes OSU Main Library, Columbus State Community College and Columbus Metropolitan Library.

Outside of Ohio Dominican, Andy enjoys traveling across oceans to foreign places, reading nonfiction, playing basketball, learning new languages and writing. Andy looks forward to learning from the challenges of being Periodicals Assistant.

---

**Fun fact!**

One of the travelers to El Salvador during spring break renewed ODU Library items via BlackBerry.

The ODU library: available any time, any place!

---

fyi... the ODU Library Newsletter is published 5 times per year: Jan/Feb, Mar/Apr, Summer, Sep/Oct, and Nov/Dec.

**Editor:** Cathy Kellum, **Layout & Design:** Bobbi Galvin

**Contributors:** Jim Layden, Cathy Kellum, Andy Webb, Matthew Heller, Katie Brown, Melissa Hill, Mary Ellen George, Matilda Davis-Northrup, Sue VanWassenhove, Bobbi Galvin