April 2008

Bet You Missed It -- Press Clippings -- In the News -- Carefully Selected by Your Crack Staff of News Sleuths

Bruce Strauch
The Citadel

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg>

Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Strauch, Bruce (2008) "Bet You Missed It -- Press Clippings -- In the News -- Carefully Selected by Your Crack Staff of News Sleuths,"
Against the Grain: Vol. 20: Iss. 2, Article 33.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.2760>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.

Bet You Missed It

Press Clippings — In the News — Carefully Selected by Your Crack Staff of News Sleuths

Column Editor: **Bruce Strauch** (The Citadel)

Editor's Note: Hey, are y'all reading this? If you know of an article that should be called to *Against the Grain's* attention ... send an email to <kstrauch@comcast.net>. We're listening! — **KS**

WHITHER PARADISE by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Top reading picks on folks searching for Eden: (1) *The Malay Archipelago* by **Alfred Russel Wallace**, 1869; (2) *Tristes Tropiques* by **Claude Lévi-Strauss**, 1955; (3) *Walden* by **Henry David Thoreau**, 1854 (with honorable mentions for American works *Typee* by **Herman Melville** and *The Blithedale Romance* by **Nathaniel Hawthorne**); (4) *Wild America* by **Roger Tory Peterson**; (5) *Paradise Lost* by **John Milton**, 1667.

See — **Jonathan Rosen**, "Five Best: The search for Eden can be found in these books," *The Wall Street Journal*, March 29-30, 2008, p. W10.

REINVENTING YOUR CAREER by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

In a changing Britain, business studies are now the most popular undergraduate course at university. But a British management guru is still something unusual.

Charles Handy came from a background of Anglo-Irish parentage, boarding school and classics at **Oxford**. He went to work for **Shell** as an economist though he had not studied the subject. But it was that amateurish Britain of the 1950s where such niceties didn't matter.

Fatigued with the corporate grind, **Handy** became a management professor at the new **London Business School** and invented the concept of the "portfolio life" — people in modern economies breaking with corporate loyalty and putting together a collection of different jobs, clients and types of work. He did studies showing mid-career changes giving folks a new lease on life and found management wisdom in the classics.

See — **Adrian Wooldridge** reviewing *A Business Guru's Portfolio Life*, by **Charles Handy**, *The Wall Street Journal*, March 19, 2008, p. D10.

AT THE MOVIES by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Three top picks for theatrical alienation devices — distancing the viewer intentionally: (1) "Our Town" (1940) where time and space are in flux; (2) "The Stunt Man" (1980) a movie about making a movie where you don't know which you're watching; (3) "Tristram Shandy: A Cock and Bull Story" (2005) a movie about making a movie of **Laurence Stern's** 18th-century comic novel.

I'm not sure I understand the "alienation" jargon, but why was "Pulp Fiction" not on the list?

See — **Morgenstern's Picks**, "A Little Distance," *The Wall Street Journal*, March 22-23, 2008, p. W3.

THEY WERE DRINKING WHAT? by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Mary McCarthy's famous 1963 novel, *The Group*, has a wedding brunch where the heroine, a fresh Vassar grad enthralled her Prohibition era guests with a bootleg "Jersey Lightning" punch. And gives the recipe: a third each of Jersey applejack, maple syrup and lemon juice, topped with soda water.

Her new husband holds forth on the difference between Pernod, absinthe, arrack, and anisette. The girls are enthralled and cry in unison: "Where did you get this *man*?"

See — **Eric Felten**, "How's Your Drink?" *The Wall Street Journal*, March 22-23, 2008, p. W4.

TWO MATING BUGS GRACE THE COVER by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

From an interview with **Mary Roach**, author of *Bonk*, a new book on sex and science:

"You interviewed lots of sex researchers. What kinds of people choose that profession?"

"People who have the good sense to pick a really interesting topic."

See — **Cynthia Crossen**, "Just Asking Mary Roach," *The Wall Street Journal*, March 22-23, 2008, p. W2.

GOLF IN ITS COSMIC DIMENSIONS by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Five top picks for golf reading: (1) *The Golf Omnibus* by **P.G. Wodehouse**; (2) *Golf Dreams* by **John Updike**; (3) *The Greatest Game Ever Played* by **Mark Frost**; (4) *The Rules of the Green: A History of the Rules of Golf* by **Kenneth G. Chapman**; (5) *Dead Solid Perfect* by **Dan Jenkins**.

See — "John Paul Newport's Favorites," *The Wall Street Journal*, March 22-23, 2008, p. W9.

EXCEL SPREAD SHEET ROMANCE by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

A woman of a certain age becomes deluged with suitors when she finds that the way to an older man's heart is through his computer. Business titans are used to having tech support at work and are helpless with personal computers. Dinner table intimacy is easily established by explaining the use of a flash drive and downloading camera photos.

She also warns that older men have a limited shelf life. "If they haven't called in a while, you are far more likely to find them showing up in the obituary columns than in bed with another woman."

See — **Andree Aelion Brooks**, "Playing the Field," *The Wall Street Journal*, March 22-23, 2008, p. R10.