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Letters to the Editor

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Send ideas by **July 31, 2012**, to any of the Conference Directors listed above.

Or to: Katina Strauch, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409 • 843-723-3536 (voice) • 843-805-7918 (fax) 843-509-2848 (cell) • <kstrauch@comcast.net> • <http://www.katina.info/conference> 🐾

Letters to the Editor

Send letters to <kstrauch@comcast.net>, phone or fax 843-723-3536, or snail mail: **Against the Grain**, MSC 98, The Citadel, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the **ATG Homepage** at <http://www.against-the-grain.com>.



Dear Editor:

I enjoyed reading the piece by **Laura Harris** (Joining the Dark Side, *ATG v.24#2*, April 2012). Early in my career, I had a similar experience: I had never considered working for a vendor but received an unexpected — and interesting — job offer from one. For 15 years, it was a largely wonderful experience. I agree with **Ms. Harris** when she says, “I’d like to encourage people to reconsider this attitude [of shunning that career path].” So, it perplexes me that the title of her column refers to “the Dark Side.” Why should anyone be attracted to a career in something that **Harris** — and others — refer to as the Dark Side?

Please, please think about removing this terminology from your lexicon. It only perpetuates the myth that vendors = evil capitalists. As **Harris** demonstrates so eloquently, many library vendors, in an effort to serve their customers more effectively, hire librarians for their skills, expertise, and familiarity with the very problems they are trying to solve. That doesn’t make them dark at all in my book!

Katy Ginanni <ksginanni@email.wcu.edu>

Dear Editor:

After reading this person’s comment, I’m not sure I’m the appropriate person to respond — I may be remembering incorrectly, but I don’t think that I chose the title of this piece (nor do I think I have privileges within the WordPress site to do so).

I do think the commenter makes a good point, however, and if it is possible to change the name of the piece, perhaps it could be something like, “Descending from the Ivory Tower?”

Thanks, **Laura Harris**, Springshare <laura@springshare.com>

Dear Editor:

Wow! I thought “dark side” was common parlance in the library community and surely not something that would trouble anyone. In any case, I dug back through my correspondence with Laura and found that I misconstrued the first heading on her article draft as a title for the entire piece.

So, my apologies to **Laura** — and my heartfelt hope that nobody seriously believes that our commercial colleagues have abandoned the Jedi.

Forrest Link, The College of New Jersey <linkf@tcnj.edu>

Dear Editor:

With so many astute **ATG** readers, you may have already gotten a note about this, but just in case you haven’t... **Corey Seeman’s** last name is misspelled in the Table of Contents in the April 2012 issue. It is spelled correctly in his article and profile. Thanks!

Leah Hinds, Charleston Conference www.katina.info/conference

Editor’s Note: Thank you for bringing this to our attention **Leah**. And our sincere apologies to **Corey** and all our **ATG** readers for the mistake. — **Yr. Ed.** 🐾