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Bet You Missed It-What do espionage and kitty cats have in common?

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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**

WHO DOESN'T LOVE AN ANIMAL BOOK? by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

(1) **E. B. White**, *Charlotte's Web* (1952); (2) **Wilfrid Blunt**, *Omar: A Fantasy for Animal Lovers* (1966); (3) **Joy Adamson**, *Born Free* (1960); (4) **Hermann Tirlor**, *A Sloth in the Family* (1963); (5) **Peter Singer**, *Animal Liberation* (1975).

See — **Janet Malcom**, "Five Best," *The Wall Street Journal*, Dec. 8-9, 2013, p. C10.

FROM STETTIN ON THE BALTIC TO TRIESTE ON THE ADRIATIC by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

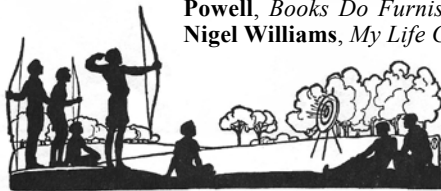
Oh, goody, let's go behind the Iron Curtain. (1) **Milan Kundera**, (1967); (2) **Fazil Iskander**, *Sandro of Chegem* (1973); (3) **Tibor Fischer**, *Under the Frog* (1992); (4) **Peter Schneider**, *The Wall Jumper* (1983); (5) **Eva Hoffman**, *Lost in Translation* (1989).

See — **Philip Sington**, "Five Best," *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 9-10, 2013, p. C10.

NOVELS OF LITERARY LIFE by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Let's read about writer's block. (1) **W.M. Thackeray**, *Pendennis* (1848-1850); (2) **George Gissing**, *New Grub Street* (1891); (3) **George Orwell**, *Keep the Aspidistra Flying* (1936); (4) **Anthony Powell**, *Books Do Furnish a Room* (1971); (5) **Nigel Williams**, *My Life Closed Twice* (1977).

See — **D.J. Taylor**, "Five Best," *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 16-17, 2013, p. C10.



LITERARY MISSING PERSONS by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Five books on missing persons and absent figures: (1) **Virginia Woolf**, *Moments of Being* (1976) (yes, this is a posthumous collection of essays); (2) **Kobo Abe**, *The Woman in the Dunes* (1962); **Edith Wharton** and **Ogden Codman**, *The Decoration of Houses* (1897); **Percival Everett**, *Erasure* (2001); **George Plimpton** and **Jean Stein**, *Edie* (1982) (Oral biography of Warhol Factory Girl Edie Sedgwick. She's missing because she's long dead of an overdose.).

See — **Heidi Julavits**, "Five Best," *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 2-3, 2013, p. C10. (**Julavits** has an interest in the topic, as her fourth novel *The Vanishers* is out in paperback.)

CURTAIN CALL FOR KITTY by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Who says you can't train a cat? **Truman Capote's** novella *Breakfast at Tiffany's* is being brought to the Broadway stage, and there's a key role for a stray cat that **Holly Golightly** refuses to name anything other than "Cat." In Act II, the cat represents **Holly's** spirit and has to scam on cue because they're "independents, both of us."

Of course, many auditioned, but only one was chosen. Some froze in the lights, others clawed the trainer and hissed at the director. Only a gray-striped kitten made a true Broadway exit and won the coveted part.

See — **Stefanie Cohen**, "On Broadway, Cat on a Hot Casting Call," *The Wall Street Journal*, Feb. 15, 2013, p. D7.

ESPIONAGE TALES by Bruce Strauch (The Citadel)

Everyone loves espionage. (1) **Leo Marks**, *Between Silk and Cyanide* (1998) (code breaking); (2) **Pete Earley**, *Family of Spies* (1988) (the American traitor John Walker); (3) **Otto John**, *Twice Through the Lines* (1972); (4) **Dan Raviv** and **Yossi Melman**, *Every Spy a Prince* (1990) (history of Israeli intelligence); (5) **Edward Rice**, *Captain Sir Richard Francis Burton* (1990) (famous translator of *The Arabian Nights*).

See — **William Stevenson**, "Five Best," *The Wall Street Journal*, Dec. 29-30, 2012, p. C10. (**Stevenson** is the author of *Past to Present: A Reporter's Story of War, Spies, People and Politics*).

Future Dates for Charleston Conferences

Preconferences and Vendor Showcase Main Conference

2013 Conference	6 November	7-9 November
2014 Conference	5 November	6-8 November
2015 Conference	4 November	5-7 November

Transformation in Acquisitions from page 1

Transformation in format is not the only change we collectively face. **Nancy Beals** addresses adaptive staffing in response to numerous pressures — changes in format

preferences and budget reductions, of course, but also changes in the library's organization. **Michael Arthur** and **Natasha White** describe success in finding opportunities for major acquisition initiatives despite budget challenges. And not all transformative thinking involves the newest technology, either: **Tiffany Russell** shows that some long-ignored gift books and

community engagement can reinvigorate the library in surprising ways.

Our work is being transformed in profound ways. How will this transformation in acquisitions impact our future? 🐾