

Against the Grain

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

Bruce Strauch

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Bet You Missed It

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

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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**

SHARING THE LITERARY WEALTH

Big time novelist **David Baldacci** (38 books) has given \$1 million to the Mark Twain House in Hartford, Conn. It will support writing programs and appearances by authors.

See — **The Associated Press**, "Novelist Baldacci gifts \$1m to Twain home," *The Post & Courier*, July 15, 2019, p.B3.

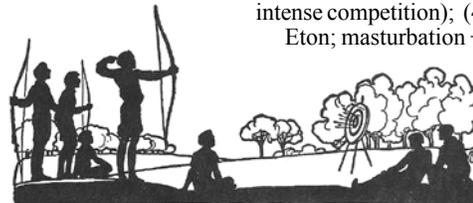
OBITS OF NOTE

Judith Krantz (1928-2019) worked for 27 years for women's magazines. She began to find her way in a *Cosmopolitan* article "The Myth of the Multiple Orgasm." She was 50 when *Scruples* hit the best-seller list in 1978. Her second, *Princess Daisy*, sold for \$3.2 million, the then highest price ever for a novel. Sex and shopping were her themes, and she sold more than 85 million copies worldwide.

Charles Reich (1928-2019) was a **Yale Law School** professor who found fame with his 1970 hippie utopia manifesto *The Greening of America* — inspired by his 1967 immersion in the Summer of Love. He sold two million copies, and his lectures became packed.

He was also mercilessly ridiculed — and there was much to ridicule. Bellbottoms "give the ankles a special freedom" and "invite dancing in the street." He left **Yale** in 1974 and lived in obscurity in San Francisco.

See — *The Week*, July 5-12, 2019, p.35.



DREARY PATH TO LITERARY FAME

Herman Melville descended from two grandfathers that were heroes of the Revolution and wealthy. His father squandered the wealth, leaving **Melville** to toil at crummy jobs. He ran away to sea at 21, deserted and signed onto other ships, lived among the Polynesians. He came away with an awe at the swim naked lifestyle and a hatred of missionaries who were destroying the island lifestyle.

He wrote *Typee* and *Omoo* which were bowdlerized but published by **George Putnam**. Even in that form they were condemned by **Horace Greeley** as "hankering for loose company." Yet they were well received.

He married an heiress and lived on her father's money while he wrote a series of failed books including *Moby Dick*, which was blasted by ministers for indecency and because everyone dies.

He eked out a living as a customs inspector and died with *Billy Budd* unfinished.

See — **William Vollman**, "Melville's Lost Paradise," *Smithsonian*, July/August, 2019, p.92.

LET'S READ BOARDING SCHOOL NOVELS

Rudyard Kipling, *Stalky & Co.* (1899) (**Kipling** savages Brit boarding school system); (2) **Alec Waugh**, *The Loom of Youth* (1917)(written at 17, scandalized society with themes of sports obsession and homosexuality); (3) **Josephine Tey**, *Miss Pym Disposes* (1947) (murder of a girl in an atmosphere of intense competition); (4) **David Benedictus**, *The Fourth of June* (1962) (set at Eton; masturbation + homosexuality + bishop peeping at girls undressing); (5) **Sheila Kohler**, *Cracks* (1999) (set in S. Africa; reunion of girls' swim team; collective memory of year a foreign girl disappeared).

See — **H.S. Cross**, "Five Best," *The Wall Street Journal*, Aug. 3-4, 2019, p.C10 (**Cross** is the author of the recent novel *Grievous*).

The image shows three documents related to the publication 'Against the Grain'. On the left is a 'Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation' form for the year 2019. In the center is a table with columns for 'All Periodicals Publications Except Registered Publications' and 'Registered Publications', listing various categories and their circulation figures. On the right is another 'Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation' form, also for 2019.

Category	All Periodicals Publications Except Registered Publications	Registered Publications
Total	2,745	2,116
Print	2,745	2,116
Digital	0	0
Total (Print + Digital)	2,745	2,116
Print	2,745	2,116
Digital	0	0
Total (Print + Digital)	2,745	2,116
Total	2,745	2,116
Print	2,745	2,116
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