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From Your Editor

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Against the Grain

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From your editor

It’s another beautiful fall here in Charleston and, believe me, it’ll be “beautifuler” still once we get this issue to press and the Charleston Conference over with! Heck, I’m doing this while my in-laws are cleaning up my house and, I’m sure, wondering what the —— I’m up to.

We recently read the favorable Bill Katz review of Against the Grain in Library Journal (September 15, reprinted on this page) and are ecstatic. I want to thank all of the Editors and the Advertisers and YOU too, the Subscribers for helping Against the Grain get better and better.

Let’s keep it up. On page 38 of this issue, I’ve included a volunteer form for Against the Grain editors. I hope ALL of you want to help next year. How about it?

About the Charleston Conference, we have about 270 registrants and they are coming in every day. Looks like we’ll have a GREAT group, not to mention all the speakers. And we have also learned that Library Journal and Publishers Weekly are sending reporters to cover this year’s conference. Isn’t that fantastic?

Hope to see you all soon.

I’d better be getting back to my in-laws so here’s the quote for this issue: I always wanted to be somebody, but I should have been more specific. — Lily Tomlin & Jane Wagner

Library Journal’s Review of Against the Grain


Any librarian trying to keep up with publishing can’t afford to miss this. Edited by the head of collection development at the College of Charleston, the 40-50 pages offer a practical, entertaining view of the passing scene. There’s gossip about firms and people—which is more than your standard library-based periodical. The short pieces are loaded with jargon-free information of value, e.g., a report on The Book World Thesaurus, “designed to erase writer’s block and improve writing quality”; data on ACQNET; a fine piece on censorship by Barry Fast, “Vendor-Library Relations”; and an interview with Fred Gullette. There are several pages of abstracts of articles one is likely to have missed in cruising the literature. The subtitle of the magazine is “Linking Publishers, Vendors, and Librarians”; the link is forged with style and awareness of what we all need to know. Highly recommended. Sample.—BK

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