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

Bruce Strauch
The Citadel
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.


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.


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 space are in flux; (2) “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?


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 enthralls 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?”


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?”

“How’s Your Drink?”


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


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.”