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2018

I've been racing to get this month's newsletter out before the East Sacramento Garden Tour. It's coming up fast on Mother's Day Weekend -- next weekend as I write this!

Spring is the best garden season in California, everything is green and blooming. Plus it's for a great cause, supporting education at a local school.

So how can you beat that? Well you can because it's also on Mother's Day weekend! So Moms, and if you're planning for a lovely day with your own Mom, definitely put it on your calendar and be there!



My Life as a Book Magnet

I have conversations with people all the time about where I get my books. I get them from thrift stores, yard sales, eBay and sometimes people just give them to me. If making things out of books wasn't my job, I think I would be rightly called a Book Hoarder. But hey, I make things out of books! And being someone always on the lookout for inexpensive books, quite a few come my way.

This is the only time you get to stroll through beautiful private gardens, and they even have a home that's a bit of a celebrity if you saw the movie *Lady Bird*. So don't wait, be sure to get your tickets. And of course stop by and say Hi at the My Booklandia booth at the David Lubin school. It's the starting point for the garden tour.

For information and their website just click [here](#).

EVENTS

May 12 - 13, 2018
 Mother's Day Weekend
 10am - 4pm
 David Lubin Elementary
 3535 M Street
 Sacramento CA

June 2-3, 2018
 9:30am - 4:30pm
 59th Annual Kiwanis Art
 Fiesta
 Pavilions Shopping
 Center
 563 Pavilions Lane
 Sacramento, CA

July 8, 2018
 Square Tomatoes Davis
 Craft & Vintage Fair
 Sunday, 11am - 4pm
 Central Park
 3rd and C Streets
 Davis, CA

August 12, 2018
 Square Tomatoes Davis
 Craft & Vintage Fair
 Sunday, 11am - 4pm
 Central Park
 3rd and C Streets
 Davis, CA

August 26, 2018
 Sacramento Jewish Food
 Faire
 Carmichael, CA

September 15, 2018
 (TENTATIVE)

So back to this particular story. I live in the foothills of the Sierras and there's a Facebook group for locals. Everything from recommendations to who does reliable chainsaw repairs to mountain lion trailcam photos and road conditions. Something for everyone. On this particular occasion someone posted that they had some old books and wondered if anyone was interested. Well, of course I was. I and a few others posted. I said that I'd make things out of them so if someone wanted to read them they could skip me by. Someone else contacted me and said they had a few books that were old, and they were going to throw them away, but saw my post and wanted to give them to me.

Okay, sure. We don't know each other so we meet up in the parking lot of the local convenience store and she hands me some books. She said they had been in her family for years and if I had any use for them I was welcome to them. I said yes and she handed me a about a half dozen very old volumes in sorry repair. I just took a quick glance at them, and happened to notice they were held together with a combination of masking tape and scotch tape and in pretty sorry shape. But I wanted to get home and get a closer look.

I was pretty excited to look them over, more from curiosity than anything. They were in such bad shape that I didn't know what I could do with them, but better me than a landfill. So when I examined them I was totally surprised -- in a good way. Three of the books were printed in the 1750s and are actually rare. They're in poor shape so not worth a whole lot. If they were rebound they would be. I'm not a bookbinder so I'm going to keep my eyes and ears open for someone that is. I'd love to see them find a new home where they could be appreciated for what they are.

And the titles? You probably wouldn't recognize them all, but they include *The Works of Virgil* in three volumes published in 1763. I love the old English writing. I hope you can see at least a peek at the writing in the photo.

Benicia Fine Arts and
Crafts Festival
Downtown Benicia, CA

September 23, 2018
(TENTATIVE)
Square Tomatoes Davis
Craft & Vintage Fair
Sunday, 11am - 4pm
Central Park
3rd and C Streets
Davis, CA

October 6, 2018
(TENTATIVE)
Bella Vista Craft Fair
Bella Vista High School

October 26-28, 2018
Sacramento Arts Festival
Sacramento Convention
Center
Sacramento, CA

November 18, 2018
Rancho Solano Holiday
Boutique
The Clubhouse
Rancho Solano Golf
Course
Fairfield, CA

“Sometimes, you
read a book and
it fills you with
this weird
evangelical zeal,
and you become
convinced that
the shattered
world will never
be put back
together unless
and until all
living humans
read the book.”
– John Green, *The
Fault in Our
Stars*

GOT FEEDBACK?

Before and After



This is my own version of a makeover. Book stack to... You fill in the blank. In this case it's definitely a book planter. I've been making a lot of book planters lately. I have a feeling there are quite a few ending up as teacher and librarian gifts. Some I know of for sure.

One of the things I love to share on Instagram are my before and after shots of books and the things they become. This is one of my most recent ones created as a gift. It's her three favorite books and I'm shipping it off today. I kind of think I love it! What do you think?

Do you know how to get your own favorite books crafted into a planter? It's simple. You can send me copies of your favorite books, in hardcover. Or I can see if I have them in my own stock, or if not I can locate copies and order them. Once I have the books in hand it only takes about seven business days before your book planter is sent your way. Easy peasy.

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FUN BOOK FACTS

Do you know which book is known as the earliest literary work?

The Epic of Gilgamesh, an epic poem, was recovered from a flooded temple in Mesopotamia. Paper didn't exist when it was written and the entire poem is inscribed on 12 tables. If you want to read it for yourself and learn more click [here!](#)

The Largest Book?

You'd never guess, because it's really a very small but much loved children's book, *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry.

I'd love to hear from you. If there's anything you want to add, questions you'd like to ask, photos or reviews you'd like to submit, just drop me an email!

The book was published in Brazil and measures, when open, 3.08 meters wide by 2.01 meters high.

What do you call that pile of books you accumulate with the best intentions of reading?

The Japanese word Tsundoku means "to let reading materials pile up in one's home and never read them". Of course we always intend to read them, right? And now it's called your TBR list -- To Be Read!

I'd love to know what's on your TBR list -- send me an email and let me know!



Comments or feedback on this newsletter?

I'd love to hear from you. Click [here](#) to send me a quick email.

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