



## **Casanova Was a Librarian: A Light-Hearted Look at the Profession**

*Kathleen Low*

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What do Casanova, Pope Pius XI, Benjamin Franklin and first lady Laura Bush have in common? At one time, all were members of the librarian profession. While librarians are often stereotyped as quiet, shy ladies who wear their gray hair in a dignified bun, that doesn't reflect the variety and diversity of today's library professionals. As of 2004, 159,000 people in the United States held the job of librarian. Although only 18 percent of that number was male, the median age for librarians was a young 47--far from the gray-haired, bun-wearing ladies of our imaginations! From pick-up lines to bumper stickers, this volume takes a light-hearted look at the many facets of the librarian occupation. Beginning with statistics, it enumerates gender divisions, personality types, salaries and educational requirements for various types of librarians including public, academic, school and special librarians. Other topics include specific occupational health risks, job-related recreation and novelty gifts for library professionals. Instances of librarians found in prose, poetry, film and musicals are also discussed.

## **Casanova Was a Librarian: A Light-Hearted Look at the Profession Details**

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Author : Kathleen Low

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## **From Reader Review Casanova Was a Librarian: A Light-Hearted Look at the Profession for online ebook**

### **Colleen McClowry says**

a well-rounded overview of the profession for those who know little about it

best part = the librarian pick-up lines

"I'd catalog you under Desirable!"

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### **Maria says**

One paragraph on Casanova?!?

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### **Heather says**

Touches on a little bit of everything about librarians. Very fun book with many little known facts. Good book for skimming and finding what's interesting to you.

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### **Ellen says**

Some interesting information, but some of it was repetitive, and the organization of the book seems fairly disjointed (oddly enough.) It sometimes read like an advertisement for different librarian products. These things, along with some errors (eg: Longfellow died in 1882, but then went on to be a librarian from 1929 through 1935? Wait, what? See page 9.) led me to become disenchanted with this book. A good concept, but unfortunately the end result left me wanting.

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### **Christie says**

This book is a cute little book full of librarian trivia, history, and fun. There are librarian poems, songs (who knew there were so many pop/rock songs about libraries and librarians), and pick-up lines. It was quite fun reading all the funny anecdotes from yesteryear and realizing that very few things have changed about libraries in over a hundred years (though thank god for the Internet, makes it much easier to answer random reference questions over the phone). It was also very awesome to read about all the famous people who got their start in libraries.

This book was very close to getting 4 stars. I was very entertained by it, however the author's strong contempt for library assistants, library pages, and really anyone who worked in a library without being educated as a librarian made me knock the book down a star. She talks about how library assistants cause

more work for librarians and how they cannot answer patron's questions as well as librarians can and that only library assistants work at the circulation desk because librarians cannot be bothered with such menial tasks. In the interest of full disclosure, I am a library assistant and this may color my perception of the book a bit. I sincerely hope that when I do get my MLIS that I will not be so pompous and won't forget that its the support staff that make it possible for the librarians to do their jobs. I am glad that the librarians I know are not nearly as stuck up about their titles as this lady is. (Also, with all her education you would think she would not make nearly as many grammatical errors as she did in this book. I'm just saying.)

Genre Bingo: Nonfiction

Paranormal Scavenger Hunt: Librarian

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### **David Kealii says**

This is a great introduction to the library profession! Filled with humor, Low makes great use of jokes and original source material from the late 1800's and 1900's to highlight how the profession has both changed and remained the same.

This should be required reading at MLIS orientations.

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### **Adriana says**

A random listing of librarian related items and facts that is presented with such dryness that it completely undermines the author's claims that librarians are not the boring people they're thought to be.

I know several librarians of varying ages; they are fun, outgoing people that deserve a better representation than this black and white listing of outdated facts.

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### **Emeli says**

Highly amusing and very informative. Who knew you could play library science jeopardy?

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