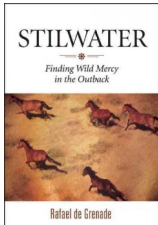


For the Love of Reading

Stilwater: Finding Wild Mercy in the Outback



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De Grenade brings to vivid life a remote cattle range in the far reaches of Australia, just a boat journey away on the Coral Sea from the Indonesian island of Papua New Guinea. Stilwater, this remote ranch bounded by seas on two sides and by the curvy Solomon and Powder Rivers, was until a year before the author's arrival mostly uncared for, its cows and bulls, unbranded and roaming free. Not only free but feral on this ranch of a thousand square miles.

De Grenade, adventurous and stubborn, and an excellent horsewoman left school at age twelve to cattle ranch in Arizona. There she buffed up her horse and animal skills. In her young twenties she asked family members for contacts in Australia, and through them found a distant connection who offered her free room and boarding in exchange for work. At the end of her gig, they gave her an airline ticket and as she wandered around this island between two oceans as she calls Australia, she found a notice to work on Stilwater. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 18, 2014

[Stilwater: Finding Wild Mercy in the Outback](#)

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Limber



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Nature, particularly trees are central to this lovely book of essays. Several of the narratives were unusual enough that I wondered if they had been fictionalized. They seemed more like creative nonfiction than essays. For instance, "Moon Trees" begins with this sentence, "There are cinnabar trees growing on the moon." But soon the world of facts and interesting

ones?becomes paramount.

Did you know that astronaut Stuart Roosa brought lots of tree seeds?katsura, loblolly pine, sycamore, sweet gum, and redbud onto Apollo 14?s moon expedition? Unfortunately, he did not get chosen to land on the moon so he brought these seeds back, and 450 of them were planted and studied by scientists. But they just grew normally like tree seeds that had never left Earth.

However, for a brief while, Roosa got to combine his early career as a forest service Smoke Jumper (saving beautiful trees) and an astronaut whirling through space. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on September 10, 2014

[Limber](#)

[Essays](#)

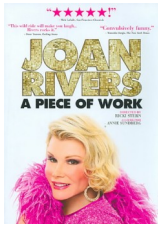
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Joan Rivers 1933 - 2014



[view in catalog](#)

Joan Rivers passed away Thursday September 4, 2014 after suffering complications from surgery. Rivers was perhaps best known for her standup comedy and somewhat caustic wit. In addition to her standup work she has been featured in a number of movies and authored a number of books. The link below will produce a list of the many items in the MCPL collection that highlight her accomplishments

[Joan Rivers](#)

Posted by Keith C. on September 4, 2014

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[Humor](#)

[DVD](#)

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The New York Dog



[view in catalog](#)

There are dog people in this world and then there others! Sorry, cat *afionados*. But for you lovers of all things canine, this new book of photographs with New Yorker's "best friend" stories will charm you. When you think of it, what could be more counterintuitive than a Manhattan or Brooklynite pup? Imagine the crowds (*homo sapien* primarily), the honking horns, lights, and police and fire sirens. It's enough to set even a human howling.

The photos are lovely. They include: an endearing poodle with its mouth open leaning into the wind from a cab window, a Great Dane crossing a car-filled side street, and several mixed breeds running free past colorful graffitied walls. There's even a refreshing series of summer beach scenes with dogs coated in sand or racing into the surf. Famous photographer William Wegman is shown with four of his graceful dog models: Flo, Topper, Candy, and Bobbin. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on August 29, 2014

[The New York Dog](#)

[Animals](#)

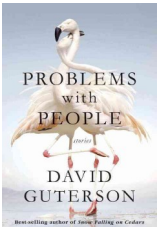
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Problems with People



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This is Guterson's first story collection in nearly twenty years. Ignore the bland title for these stories set in his native Northwest and in foreign countries including Germany, South Africa, and Nepal are muscular, well-written, and anchored with a deep sense of place. An air of melancholy and of possible tragedy hangs over a few of them, especially two of my favorites, 'Pilanesberg' and 'Krassavitseh'.

In 'Pilanesberg' a brother visits his sister in Africa to go wildlife viewing, but you soon discover that the sister has cancer and her favorite thing to do is 'sleep.' They share a wonderful experience viewing big mammals: elephants, tigers, etc. but the trip is marred by the fact that they animals are fenced in, and the couple find themselves at dusk locked in as well. Next follows a humorous and ludicrous conversation with the gatekeeper who says he cannot let them out. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on August 25, 2014

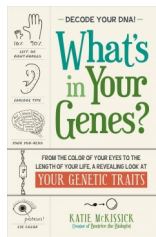
[Problems with People](#)

[Fiction](#)

[Short Stories](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

From the color of Your Eyes to Your Type of Earwax



[view in catalog](#)

If the last thing you learned about genes was Gregor Mendel's pea pod experiments, you might want to try this easy to read science book to get up to speed about many fascinating changes in hereditary theory.

For instance, humans have only 20,000 to 25,000 genes, downgraded from a previous estimate of 100,000. In comparison, a tiny water flea--barely visible to our naked eye--has about 31,000. You've heard the word genome in the news and on PBS. Your genome is your full set of genes. Every cell in your body gets a copy of the full set although each cell cannot read all of them. By the way, the word 'cell' came from Robert Hooke, the first person who saw them in the 1600s. When he first discovered them under a microscope, they reminded him of monks' cells.

Other interesting facts about your genome. The chromosomes scientists have discovered have something to do with either inherited diseases or traits. For instance, chromosome 1 is associated with deafness, schizophrenia and maple syrup disease. (You read that right!) If you have red hair, thank chromosome 2. Blue or green eyes? Chromosome 19 is for you. And yes, previously scientists thought that there were only two possibilities for eye color: brown or blue. Those green eyes, they just tagged as a variant of blue. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on August 21, 2014

[What's in Your Genes?](#)

[Science](#)

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