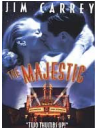


Information, Answers & Reviews

The Majestic



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Set during the McCarthy hearings of the late 50?s *The Majestic* tells the story of a blacklisted screen writer named Peter Appleton (Jim Carrey) who, after freeing himself from a car wreck, finds himself in a small town devoid of his memory. He encounters an older man who mistakenly believes Peter is his long lost son. Peter, having no reason to doubt the man, believes this must be who he is and so settles himself down in the town [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on September 16, 2014

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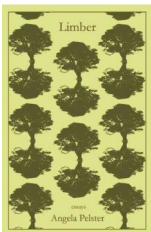
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Limber



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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

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Cocoanuts and the Marx Brothers



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Cocoanuts was the first feature film starring the four Marx Brothers: Groucho, Chico, Harpo and Zeppo. It may also have the distinction of being the first true movie musical, that is, a movie where the musical numbers were meant to be part of the story telling process rather than a performance for audience within the movie. It wasn't that the studio didn't plan to have a band playing with the musical scenes. A band was hired for the first day of shooting. Apparently they were to follow the actors around ready to play whenever someone was tempted to burst into song, but the director soon realized there was no reason to have them around and that they would distract from the plot of the movie; something that the Marx Brothers were already managing to do pretty well on their own. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on September 10, 2014

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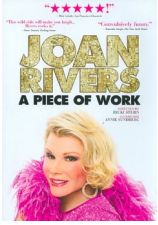
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Joan Rivers 1933 - 2014



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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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Babylon 5



Opening - Season One: It was the dawn of the third age of mankind, ten years after

the Earth-Minbari War. The Babylon Project was a dream given form. Its goal: to prevent another war by creating a place where humans and aliens could work out their differences peacefully. It's a port of call, home away from home for diplomats, hustlers, entrepreneurs, and wanderers. Humans and aliens wrapped in two million, five hundred thousand tons of spinning metal, all alone in the night. It can be a dangerous place, but it's our last, best hope for peace. This is the story of the last of the Babylon stations. The year is 2258. The name of the place is Babylon 5.

Babylon 5, created by J. Michael Straczynski, came to our Televisions in the early 1990's, about the same time as Star Trek's *Deep Space Nine*. The two are often compared. Fans of each have called one a "rip-off" of the other. The truth is they were both developed and planned independently of each other. Babylon 5 did something that was amazing at the time; it got Trekkers and Trekkies alike talking about a new show. Some of them even thought this new series was better than Star Trek. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on September 4, 2014

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The New York Dog



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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

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