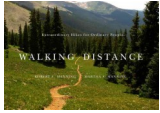


Information, Answers & Reviews

Afoot and Lighthearted



[view in catalog](#)

It's spring, the weather is warming fast, and when you can't go hiking, what could be better than reading about the world's best walks? In *Walking Distance* you'll find trails you may never be lucky enough to traverse yourself, but you can still image and enjoy the photographs. The locations are gorgeous: Peru, New Zealand, Australia, the Alps, Alaska, and Sweden among others. The book also shares many inspiring quotes such as this one from Thoreau, "It is a great art to saunter." Walt Whitman wrote in a poem, "Afoot and lighthearted / I take to the open road," which I used above for the blog title.

Also included is a history of walking where the authors describe how the Romantic writers adopted walking and hiking enthusiastically as Europe turned increasingly polluted and gritty due to the Industrial Revolution. Did you know that it's estimated that Wordsworth walked over 180,000 miles in his lifetime? Dickens, too, spent no less than four hours on most days walking - this is how he filled his novels with such interesting characters and authentic details. [Read more](#)

Posted by Dory L. on May 21, 2013

[Walking Distance : extraordinary hikes for ordinary people](#)

[For the Love of Reading](#)

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Superman Found Dead



[view in catalog](#)

Superman found Dead! I missed the headline blazing across newspapers all over the country. I'm not surprised, I was less than four years old in June of 1959 when George Reeves, the actor who starred as both Superman and reporter Clark Kent, was found in his bedroom, dead, apparently of a self inflicted gunshot wound. At four I wasn't interested in such things as Superman. At six and seven that changed and I was hooked on the television series "[The Adventures of Superman](#)." At some point after that age I found out that George Reeves, Superman, was dead. What I didn't know until much later in my life was that there were in fact many questions about the death of actor George Reeves. Enough questions to make one wonder did the actor really kill himself or was he killed? [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on May 20, 2013

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[Garbage! Water! Or Why I Love Non-fiction](#)



[GARBOLGY](#)
Do They Love After with You?



I read a lot of narrative non-fiction - historical, microhistory, natural sciences, travel, and environmental. I read these to be better informed, but also for pleasure so my ultimate test for a narrative non-fiction book is whether it would have made a better magazine article. I hate finishing something that I think was interesting, but could have been boiled down into a 20 page magazine article with the same impact. I've recently read two non-fiction books passed the magazine article test and then some.

[The Big Thirst: The Marvels, Mysteries & Madness Shaping the New Era of Water](#) by Charles Fishman isn't about how to make changes in your lifestyle with regards to water conservation. It isn't a how-to book for urban or rural planners. It is a book that will challenge what you think you know about water from the big picture including where it comes from and what do we really mean by "clean". This book will also identify our emotional connection with water and will put those assumptions to the test. Near the end of the book, an economist presents a model for future water use that makes sense for both dry places like Las Vegas and Australia should also be considered for wetter places like Atlanta and even Bloomington. There are pages and pages of research, calculations and notes at the end, but the book was captivating, accessible and provides much food for thought. [Read more](#)

Posted by sbowman on May 16, 2013

[Nonfiction](#)

[Science & Nature](#)

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Schrodinger's Cat is not dead; Schrodinger's Cat is not alive. It is missing



[view in catalog](#)

Everything is interconnected, therefore if the case you are working on isn't getting anywhere, follow the first person you see who seems to know where they are going and the likelihood is you will arrive at the place you need to be. This is the philosophy of 'Dirk Gently' a short run BBC Four series based on the book "Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency" by Douglas Adams. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on May 13, 2013

[Dirk Gently \[TV program\]. Pilot 2010 and Series 2012](#)

[Comedy](#)

[Drama](#)

[DVD](#)

[Science Fiction](#)

[Sights and Sounds](#)

[Information, Answers & Reviews](#)

[Keith C.'s blog](#)[Log in](#) to post comments

The Murdoch Mysteries - It Never Snows in Toronto



Recently I've begun watching a CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation) series called [The Murdoch Mysteries](#). The program set in 1890's Toronto Canada features a young detective by the name of William Murdoch. Like Sherlock Holmes Murdoch is ahead of his time. He applies not only skill, but also new discoveries in science to his investigations. The mysteries are as good as any that have come out of the BBC and the show doesn't take itself too seriously. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on May 9, 2013

[Drama](#)

[Crime](#)

[Television](#)

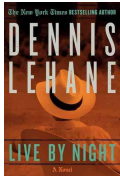
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2013 Edgar Awards



The Edgar Awards were announced last week and because I am not normally a mystery reader, I usually only give a cursory glance at the winners. But this year, not only are there several winners and nominees that are pretty high on my to-read list, but I've even read one of the winners.

The Mystery Writers of America present the Edgar Award to the best mystery books every year in a few different categories. This year there looks like many good choices. Who knows, maybe I'll be a mystery reader yet! Check out the entire list of winners and nominees at the [Edgar Award website](#).

Best Novel: ***Live by Night*** by Dennis Lehane

Best First Novel: ***The Expats*** by Chris Pavone

Best Paperback Original: ***The Last Policeman: A Novel*** by Ben H. Winters

Best Fact Crime: ***Midnight in Peking: How the Murder of a Young Englishwoman Haunted the Last Days of Old China*** by Paul French

Best Juvenile: ***The Quick Fix*** by Jack D. Ferraiolo

Best Young Adult: ***Code Name Verity*** by Elizabeth Wein

Posted by sbowman on May 9, 2013

[Award Winner](#)

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