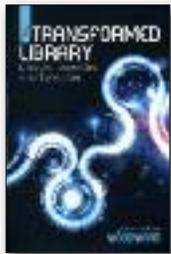


This practical guide is for library students, public librarians, high school librarians, anyone wanting to update their RA knowledge, and members of the general public looking for guidance in the genre. Interested readers might also want to go to the Horror Writers Association blog, which has recently added a Young Adult Fiction section: <http://www.horror.org/yahorror/>.

This title is available through the ALA store in print, as an e-book, or as a print/e-book bundle.

Spratford ends with some practical advice: "You do not need to like horror books to help horror readers. You simply need to understand the genre and be able to use the tools" (150). They are certainly words of wisdom for anyone doing readers' advisory in any genre.

Reviewed by Brian Rountree (brountree@RRC.CA), who teaches courses in the Library and Information Technology Program at Red River College in Winnipeg, Manitoba. In his youth, Brian enjoyed all things Lovecraftian.



The Transformed Library: E-Books, Expertise, and Evolution

Jeannette Woodward. Chicago, IL: ALA Editions, 2013. xiii, 131 pp., US \$55 (paper), US \$44 (e-book), US \$64 (both). ISBN: 978-0-8389-1164-8 (paper), 978-0-8389-9628-7 (PDF), 978-0-8389-9629-4 (ePub), 978-0-8389-9630-0 (Kindle)

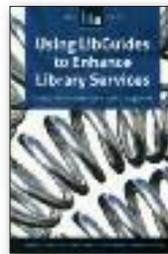
This is a short book on a broad (and somewhat unfocused) topic. The author divides it into nine chapters: the introduction of e-books; the strained relationship between libraries and e-publishers; various "threats" to libraries (outsourcing and staffing); the place of libraries on the Web; the (physical) library as place; library careers; and separate chapters on "survival strategies" for public, academic, and school libraries. E-books, or e-resources and the Web generally, may be seen as a thread through the various subtopics, but sometimes the association is thin and the book has a "so, what's going on in libraries these days?" feel about it, and the observations and conclusions may seem obvious.

On the other hand, the value of the book is its conciseness, and it might be valuable reading not so much for librarians and staff, but for the boards or university administrations that they report to. The powers that be of your school, public, or academic library may be familiar with your own institution's

specific concerns, but seeing that those are real concerns in the broader environment in which all libraries operate might be a useful validation, and help ensure continued support for your programs or your library generally.

The writing is clean and clear throughout the book, and it is generally free of jargon. There is good basic research, and each chapter ends with a list of resources for further reading.

Reviewed by Wayne Jones (wayne.jones@carleton.ca), Associate University Librarian (Collections and Library Development) at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario.



Using LibGuides to Enhance Library Services

Aaron W. Dobbs, Ryan L. Sittler, and Douglas Cook (eds). Chicago, IL: American Library Association, 2013. 328 pp., softcover, US \$65. ISBN 978-1-55570-880-1

Whether searching through a card catalogue or "flipping" through pages on an iPad, research aids fulfill their role in improving the discoverability of information. Editors Aaron W. Dobbs, Ryan L. Sittler, and Douglas Cook, University of Pennsylvania librarians with an instructional technology/information literacy background, present the reader with a compilation of essays discussing helpful tips on creating, implementing, and maintaining LibGuides, a web-content management system dedicated to improving "patrons' experience in finding information" (ix). Organized into five parts and fourteen chapters, each of which represents an individual essay, *Using LibGuides to Enhance Library Service* is in and of itself a LibGuide, providing a one-stop-shopping experience for anyone who may be considering adding this tool to their library websites.

In lieu of launching into the LibGuides setup process at the outset, the editors take a step back and begin with an introductory chapter on the history of library guides. Contributed by a digital resources and reference librarian, the chapter informs the reader of the origin of the concept of library guides (i.e., LibGuides) along with an overall perception of the "use and usability of guides on the web" (5). In addition, this chapter and many subsequent ones contain brief definitions of terms highlighted by the contributor, along with case studies and ample screenshots where concepts mentioned are applied to real-life examples.

With so many decisions regarding the acquisition of library resources dependent on budgetary constraints, the editors quite cleverly insert an essay that presents an evidence-based case as to why LibGuides hold such value. Be it from students, faculty, investors, or the community at large, receiving acceptance and buy-in from all parties is essential for determining a LibGuide's success. This serves as an interesting lead-in to the following two chapters, which offer strategies and techniques for creating LibGuides.

Training is a necessity with any endeavour, and the editors certainly heed this wisdom, including a chapter devoted to the process of developing LibGuides training material. The authors of this chapter advocate a blended learning approach, promoting "use of multiple instructional formats such as face-to-face and online activities" (85). The authors are cognisant of time constraints, geographic barriers, etc., that may prevent in-person learning; their flexible learning approach, adapted from the American Society for Training and Development, offers the best of both worlds, presenting opportunities and challenges associated with in-person and online training. By including a chapter on training before launching into four chapters on LibGuide creation, the editors once again adhere to a logical sequence: training must take place before creation can begin.

Once a LibGuide has been launched, it can serve as a powerful teaching tool. The editors thus include an entire chapter dedicated to the teaching-learning

process, including several case studies in which LibGuides have been successfully implemented at various institutions. In order to maintain a stronghold among numerous other library resources competing for a client's attention, LibGuides must be regularly updated. As such, no less than four chapters are devoted to maximizing LibGuide usage, from adding statistical programs that track queries to considerations of QR codes and other techniques to transform the LibGuide into a suitable mobile-optimized environment.

Although written and compiled by academic librarians, this book will appeal to librarians in any setting, especially its showcase of exemplary LibGuides, from a number of disciplines. Being marketed as a guide to LibGuides, different sections and chapters will appeal to different readers, which is likely the intent of this collaboration. As the book is published in both print and PDF (e-book format), readers will appreciate its portability, as they will be able to consult passages from this book on a mobile device. The only suggestion that the authors may wish to consider would be a companion website, which would allow more interactivity with the material presented in some of the chapters, particularly those pertaining to LibGuide creation.

Reviewed by Marcus Vaska (mmvaska@ucalgary.ca), Librarian, Knowledge Resource Service (KRS), University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta.



The Future is Now: Responses to the Canadian Library Human Resources Study (2012)

Editors:

Kathleen De Long and Allison Sivak

Contributors:

Alvin Schrader, Deborah Hicks, Donna C. Chan, Marianne Sorensen, Lyn Currie and Carol Shepstone, Islay McGlynn and Joan Cherry

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CANADIAN LIBRARY HUMAN RESOURCE STUDY
ÉTUDE SUR LES RESSOURCES HUMAINES DANS
LES BIBLIOTHÈQUES CANADIENNES



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