

Double Fold Libraries And The Assault On Paper Nicholson Baker

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Library Services in Theory and Context - Michael K. Buckland
2014-05-09

Library Services in Theory and Context provides a theoretical framework for considering the nature of library services. This book is organized into four parts encompassing 16 chapters that focus on the management of library services. The first part presents some basic problems in librarianship, along with the scope and probable nature of appropriate theory. The second part considers the five key aspects and use of library services, including inquiries, retrieval, the process of becoming informed, the demand for library services, and the allocation of resources to and within library services. The third part deals with the connection and extensions of library services, specifically the problem of achieving internal consistency and the generalizability of conceptual framework to information services. The fourth part reconsiders some of the basic conceptual problems in library services. This book will be of great value to school administrators and librarians.

Checkpoint - Nicholson Baker 2005-04-12

From Nicholson Baker, best-selling author of *Vox* and the most original writer of his generation, his most controversial novel yet.

Vandals in the Stacks? - Richard J. Cox 2002

Libraries and archives have violated their public trust, argues Nicholson Baker in his controversial book *Double Fold*, by destroying their paper-

based collections. The present work critiques Mr. Baker's argument, responding point by point. Whether one agrees with Nicholson Baker or not, the other side of the story is offered in this book.

A Box of Matches - Nicholson Baker 2004-03-09

Emmett has a wife and two children, a cat, and a duck, and he wants to know what life is about. Every day he gets up before dawn, makes a cup of coffee in the dark, lights a fire with one wooden match, and thinks. What Emmett thinks about is the subject of this wise and closely observed novel, which covers vast distances while moving no further than Emmett's hearth and home. Nicholson Baker's extraordinary ability to describe and celebrate life in all its rich ordinariness has never been so beautifully achieved.

Vox - Nicholson Baker 2011-08-24

NATIONAL BESTSELLER *Vox* is a novel that remaps the territory of sex—sex solitary and telephonic, lyrical and profane, comfortable and dangerous. It is an erotic classic that places Nicholson Baker firmly in the first rank of major American writers.

Gentleman Spy - Peter Grose 1996

"Grose has produced what must be the most comprehensive account to date of the CIA's deeds and misdeeds during the cold-war years. It makes an absorbing story". -- (London) Sunday Times

Understanding Digital Humanities - D. Berry 2012-02-07

Confronting the digital revolution in academia, this book examines the application of new computational techniques and visualisation technologies in the Arts & Humanities. Uniting differing perspectives, leading and emerging scholars discuss the theoretical and practical challenges that computation raises for these disciplines.

Human Smoke - Nicholson Baker 2009-03-03

A study of the decades leading up to World War II profiles the world leaders, politicians, business people, and others whose personal politics and ideologies provided an inevitable barrier to the peace process and whose actions led to the outbreak of war.

Book Traces - Andrew M. Stauffer 2021-02-05

In most college and university libraries, materials published before 1800 have been moved into special collections, while the post-1923 books remain in general circulation. But books published between these dates are vulnerable to deaccessioning, as libraries increasingly reconfigure access to public-domain texts via digital repositories such as Google Books. Even libraries with strong commitments to their print collections are clearing out the duplicates, assuming that circulating copies of any given nineteenth-century edition are essentially identical to one another. When you look closely, however, you see that they are not. Many nineteenth-century books were donated by alumni or their families decades ago, and many of them bear traces left behind by the people who first owned and used them. In *Book Traces*, Andrew M. Stauffer adopts what he calls "guided serendipity" as a tactic in pursuit of two goals: first, to read nineteenth-century poetry through the clues and objects earlier readers left in their books and, second, to defend the value of keeping the physical volumes on the shelves. Finding in such books of poetry the inscriptions, annotations, and insertions made by their original owners, and using them as exemplary case studies, Stauffer shows how the physical, historical book enables a modern reader to encounter poetry through the eyes of someone for whom it was personal.

A Collaborative Approach to Collection Storage - Willis E. Bridegam 2001

This report offers a case study in the advantages and disadvantages of depository libraries, their economics, and the practical and political

issues associated with their creation. As director of the library at Amherst College, the author played a key role in establishing the initial off-site storage facility, as well as in broadening its service to the Five Colleges, Inc. (Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College, and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst). As libraries change in response to budgetary constraints as well as developments in information technology, the Five College Library Depository model suggests new possibilities for collection management and ways for libraries to reframe their service missions. The questions facing all academic libraries--to what extent can they provide access to materials that they do not own, and which materials must they preserve for future generations--are examined in this report. Contents include: alternatives to open-shelf storage of library materials; continuing net growth of paper collections; off-site storage considerations; establishment of the Amherst College Library Depository; the proposal for a Five-College Library Depository; anticipated implementation and operation; Five-College Collection Management Committee; academic department reactions to the proposed depository; and a national trend toward academic depository libraries. (Contains 34 references.) (AEF)

Double Fold - Nicholson Baker 2002

Since the 1950s, some of the greatest libraries have dismantled much of their collections of original bound newspapers and books, replacing them with microfilmed copies. In this work the real motives behind the dismantling of our heritage is examined.

Burning the Books - Richard Ovenden 2020-10-13

The director of the famed Bodleian Libraries at Oxford narrates the global history of the willful destruction—and surprising survival—of recorded knowledge over the past three millennia. Libraries and archives have been attacked since ancient times but have been especially threatened in the modern era. Today the knowledge they safeguard faces purposeful destruction and willful neglect; deprived of funding, libraries are fighting for their very existence. *Burning the Books* recounts the history that brought us to this point. Richard Ovenden describes the deliberate destruction of knowledge held in libraries and archives from

ancient Alexandria to contemporary Sarajevo, from smashed Assyrian tablets in Iraq to the destroyed immigration documents of the UK Windrush generation. He examines both the motivations for these acts—political, religious, and cultural—and the broader themes that shape this history. He also looks at attempts to prevent and mitigate attacks on knowledge, exploring the efforts of librarians and archivists to preserve information, often risking their own lives in the process. More than simply repositories for knowledge, libraries and archives inspire and inform citizens. In preserving notions of statehood recorded in such historical documents as the Declaration of Independence, libraries support the state itself. By preserving records of citizenship and records of the rights of citizens as enshrined in legal documents such as the Magna Carta and the decisions of the US Supreme Court, they support the rule of law. In *Burning the Books*, Ovenden takes a polemical stance on the social and political importance of the conservation and protection of knowledge, challenging governments in particular, but also society as a whole, to improve public policy and funding for these essential institutions.

House of Holes - Nicholson Baker 2012

Shandee finds a friendly arm at a granite quarry. Ned drops down a hole in a golf course. Luna meets a man made of light bulbs at a tanning parlor. So begins Nicholson Baker's fuse-blowing, sex-positive escapade, *House of Holes*. Baker, the bestselling author of *The Mezzanine*, *Vox*, and *The Fermata*, who 'writes like no one else in America' (*Newsweek*), returns to erotic territory with a gleefully over-the-top novel set in a pleasure resort, where normal rules don't apply. Visitors, pulled in via their drinking straws or the dryers in laundromats, can undergo crotchal transfers . . . make love to trees . . . visit the Groanrooms and the twelve-screen Porndecahedron . . . or pussy-surf the White Lake. It's very expensive, of course, but there are work-study programs. In charge of day-to-day operations is Lila, a former hospital administrator whose breast milk has unusual regenerative properties. Brimful of good-nature, wit, and surreal sexual vocabulary, *House of Holes* is a modern-day Hieronymous Boschian bacchanal that is sure to surprise, amuse, and

arouse.

The Size of Thoughts - Nicholson Baker 2011-08-24

The Size of Thoughts, a collection of essays that have appeared in the *New Yorker* and other publications, includes one never-before-published piece on the world of electronics. The essays celebrate the joy--and exquisite details--of everything from library card catalogs and reading aloud to the significance of wine stains on a tablecloth. Baker turns any subject, from feeding a child to phone sex, into literature with a style that is sparkingly original, frequently beautiful, and always thought-provoking. *The Size of Thoughts*, through its varied forays into the realms of the overlooked, the underfunded, and the wrongfully scrapped, is a funny book by one of the most distinctive stylists and thinkers of our time.

One Great Lie - Deb Caletti 2021-06

Charlotte's dream of a summer writing workshop in Venice with her favorite author brings the chance to investigate the mysterious poet in her family's past, meet fascinating new people, and learn truths about her idol.

A Critique of Modern Textual Criticism - Jerome J. McGann 1983

This work initiated a major shift in literary theory and method when it was first published in 1983. Starting from a critical inquiry into certain specialised issues in the practice of editing, *A Critique of Modern Textual Criticism* gradually unfolds an argument for a general reevaluation of the grounds of literary study as a whole. McGann's point of departure is the controversy he opens with the once-dominant line of traditional textual and editorial scholarships as it evolved through the fundamental work of W.W. Greg, Fredson Bowers and G. Thomas Transelle. In departing from the canonical approach to the technical question of copy-text, McGann argues that theory of text must ground itself in a recovery of the entire productive and reproductive history of the text. His book proposes combining literary criticism and bibliographical scholarship with social, institutional and collaborative models of creation and production.

Books on Fire - Lucien X. Polastron 2007-08-13

Almost as old as the idea of the library is the urge to destroy it. Author

Lucien X. Polastron traces the history of this destruction, examining the causes for these disasters, the treasures that have been lost, and where the surviving books, if any, have ended up. Books on Fire received the 2004 Société des Gens de Lettres Prize for Nonfiction/History in Paris.

Double Fold - Nicholson Baker 2002

Since the 1950s, some of the greatest libraries have dismantled much of their collections of original bound newspapers and books, replacing them with microfilmed copies. In this work the real motives behind the dismantling of our heritage is examined.

Economics in One Lesson - Henry Hazlitt 2010-08-11

With over a million copies sold, *Economics in One Lesson* is an essential guide to the basics of economic theory. A fundamental influence on modern libertarianism, Hazlitt defends capitalism and the free market from economic myths that persist to this day. Considered among the leading economic thinkers of the "Austrian School," which includes Carl Menger, Ludwig von Mises, Friedrich (F.A.) Hayek, and others, Henry Hazlitt (1894-1993), was a libertarian philosopher, an economist, and a journalist. He was the founding vice-president of the Foundation for Economic Education and an early editor of *The Freeman* magazine, an influential libertarian publication. Hazlitt wrote *Economics in One Lesson*, his seminal work, in 1946. Concise and instructive, it is also deceptively prescient and far-reaching in its efforts to disassemble economic fallacies that are so prevalent they have almost become a new orthodoxy. Economic commentators across the political spectrum have credited Hazlitt with foreseeing the collapse of the global economy which occurred more than 50 years after the initial publication of *Economics in One Lesson*. Hazlitt's focus on non-governmental solutions, strong — and strongly reasoned — anti-deficit position, and general emphasis on free markets, economic liberty of individuals, and the dangers of government intervention make *Economics in One Lesson* every bit as relevant and valuable today as it has been since publication.

The Mezzanine - Nicholson Baker 2020-07

An electrifying and hilarious novel about the mundanity of office life, reissued for Granta Editions.

Digital Humanities for Librarians - Emma Annette Wilson 2020-01-15
Digital Humanities For Librarians. Some librarians are born to digital humanities; some aspire to digital humanities; and some have digital humanities thrust upon them. *Digital Humanities For Librarians* is a one-stop resource for librarians and LIS students working in this growing new area of academic librarianship. The book begins by introducing digital humanities, addressing key questions such as, "What is it?", "Who does it?", "How do they do it?", "Why do they do it?", and "How can I do it?". This broad overview is followed by a series of practical chapters answering those questions with step-by-step approaches to both the digital and the human elements of digital humanities librarianship. *Digital Humanities For Librarians* covers a wide range of technologies currently used in the field, from creating digital exhibits, archives, and databases, to digital mapping, text encoding, and computational text analysis (big data for the humanities). However, the book never loses sight of the all-important human component to digital humanities work, and culminates in a series of chapters on management and personnel strategies in this area. These chapters walk readers through approaches to project management, effective collaboration, outreach, the reference interview for digital humanities, sustainability, and data management, making this a valuable resource for administrators as well as librarians directly involved in digital humanities work. There is also a consideration of budgeting questions, including strategies for supporting digital humanities work on a shoestring. Special features include: Case studies of a wide range of projects and management issues Digital instructional documents guiding readers through specific digital technologies and techniques An accompanying website featuring digital humanities tools and resources and digital interviews with librarians and scholars leading the way in digital humanities work across North America, from a range of larger and smaller institutions Whether you are a librarian primarily working in digital humanities for the first time, a student hoping to do so, or a librarian in a cognate area newly-charged with these responsibilities, *Digital Humanities For Librarians* will be with you every step of the way, drawing on the author's experiences and those of a

network of librarians and scholars to give you the practical support and guidance needed to bring your digital humanities initiatives to life.

Ecodefense - Dave Foreman 1993

The Book of R - Tilman M. Davies 2016-07-16

The Book of R is a comprehensive, beginner-friendly guide to R, the world's most popular programming language for statistical analysis. Even if you have no programming experience and little more than a grounding in the basics of mathematics, you'll find everything you need to begin using R effectively for statistical analysis. You'll start with the basics, like how to handle data and write simple programs, before moving on to more advanced topics, like producing statistical summaries of your data and performing statistical tests and modeling. You'll even learn how to create impressive data visualizations with R's basic graphics tools and contributed packages, like ggplot2 and ggvis, as well as interactive 3D visualizations using the rgl package. Dozens of hands-on exercises (with downloadable solutions) take you from theory to practice, as you learn: -The fundamentals of programming in R, including how to write data frames, create functions, and use variables, statements, and loops -Statistical concepts like exploratory data analysis, probabilities, hypothesis tests, and regression modeling, and how to execute them in R -How to access R's thousands of functions, libraries, and data sets -How to draw valid and useful conclusions from your data -How to create publication-quality graphics of your results Combining detailed explanations with real-world examples and exercises, this book will provide you with a solid understanding of both statistics and the depth of R's functionality. Make The Book of R your doorway into the growing world of data analysis.

Sacred Stacks - Nancy Kalikow Maxwell 2006-04-10

Reflects on the spiritual dimensions of libraries and librarianship in a secular world, claiming that libraries will continue to thrive through the digital age via the preservation of culture, the promotion of community, and the provision of sacred space.

Double Fold - Nicholson Baker 2002-08-13

The ostensible purpose of a library is to preserve the printed word. But for fifty years our country's libraries—including the Library of Congress—have been doing just the opposite, destroying hundreds of thousands of historic newspapers and replacing them with microfilm copies that are difficult to read, lack all the color and quality of the original paper and illustrations, and deteriorate with age. With meticulous detective work and Baker's well-known explanatory power, *Double Fold* reveals a secret history of microfilm lobbyists, former CIA agents, and warehouses where priceless archives are destroyed with a machine called a guillotine. Baker argues passionately for preservation, even cashing in his own retirement account to save one important archive—all twenty tons of it. Written the brilliant narrative style that Nicholson Baker fans have come to expect, *Double Fold* is a persuasive and often devastating book that may turn out to be *The Jungle* of the American library system.

A Companion to Digital Humanities - Susan Schreibman 2008-04-15

This Companion offers a thorough, concise overview of the emerging field of humanities computing. Contains 37 original articles written by leaders in the field. Addresses the central concerns shared by those interested in the subject. Major sections focus on the experience of particular disciplines in applying computational methods to research problems; the basic principles of humanities computing; specific applications and methods; and production, dissemination and archiving. Accompanied by a website featuring supplementary materials, standard readings in the field and essays to be included in future editions of the Companion.

The Everlasting Story of Nory - Nicholson Baker 2011-08-24

Our supreme fabulist of the ordinary now turns his attention on a 9-year-old American girl and produces a novel as enchantingly idiosyncratic as any he has written. Nory Winslow wants to be a dentist or a designer of pop-up books. She likes telling stories and inventing dolls. She has nightmares about teeth, which may explain her career choice. She is going to school in England, where she is mocked for her accent and her friendship with an unpopular girl, and she has made it through the year

without crying. Nicholson Baker follows Nory as she interacts with her parents and peers, thinks about God and death-watch beetles, and dreams of cows with pointed teeth. In this precocious child he gives us a heroine as canny and as whimsical as Lewis Carroll's Alice and evokes childhood in all its luminous weirdness.

Room Temperature - Nicholson Baker 2010-10-12

From a New York Times–bestselling and National Book Critics Award–winning author comes a “small masterpiece” of fatherhood, childhood, and bottle-feeding (Publishers Weekly). In a novel Entertainment Weekly called “intensely funny and moving,” Nicholson Baker takes the reader on an intellectual odyssey over the course of the twenty minutes it takes a new father to give his baby daughter her bottle. Through inspired moments of mental flight, Mike’s thoughts on his newfound parenthood lead him back to his own childhood and to reflections on the objects of his youth. From glass peanut butter jars to French horns, from typography to courtship, Baker reveals “some of the tenderest, most delicate interaction between husband and wife, adult and infant, in modern fiction” (Los Angeles Times). “Sparkling . . . frequently hilarious . . . This is a big novel unfolding . . . so subtly that one is scarcely aware of its magnitude until the last page.” —The Boston Globe “A delightful book . . . Every page provokes the shock, or at least the smile, of recognition.” —The Washington Post “A major cosmic drama . . . It is a delightful book . . . a real charmer, a breath of fresh air, a show-stopping coloratura aria made of the quirks of memory and the quiddities of daily life.” —The Sacramento Union “[A] small masterpiece by an extraordinarily gifted . . . writer.” —Publishers Weekly

U and I - Nicholson Baker 1992-02-04

Baker muses on the creative process via his obsession with John Updike.

Literature and Artifacts - George Thomas Tanselle 1998

The fifteen essays collected here form a series of variations on a theme, exploring the interconnections between verbal works and the physical objects—primarily manuscripts and printed books—that transmit them. Verbal works may be intangible, but they generally come to us tied to objects; and the study of such works therefore cannot be separated from

the study of artifacts. The aim of this book is to examine the theory that underlies this observation and the practical implications that follow from it.

Shays’ Settlement in Vermont: A Story of Revolt and Archaeology - Stephen D. Butz 2017

The ruins of Daniel Shays's fortified settlement reveal the hidden story of the famous rebellion. The ruins of Daniel Shays's fortified settlement reveal the hidden story of the famous rebellion. Shays and the Regulators founded the settlement deep in the Vermont wilderness after fleeing the uprising they led in 1787 in Massachusetts. Rediscovered in 1997 and under study since 2013, these remnants divulge secrets of Shays's life that previously remained unknown, including his connection to Millard Filmore and the Anti-Federalist lawyer John Bay. As the leader of the site's first formal study, Stephen D. Butz weaves together the tale of the archaeological investigation, along with Shays's heroic life in the Continental army, his role in the infamous rebellion that bears his name and his influence on American law.

The Readies - Bob Brown 2015-02-13

In 1930, Bob Brown predicted that the printed book was bound for obsolescence. The time has come, he insisted, to rid the reader of the cumbersome book. He invented a machine that would allow one to read books and any text extremely fast and in a hyper abbreviated form. He called these abbreviated texts, with em dashes replacing words: readies. He envisioned sending the condensed texts through wireless networks. The Readies, describes these eponymously named abbreviated texts and his plans for a reading machine, but since he printed only 150 copies, the volume is practically unknown outside of a small circle of scholars. With this new edition, Craig Saper hopes to introduce Bob Brown's Roving Eye Press books to a new generation of readers.

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl (EasyRead Super Large 20pt Edition) - Harriet A. Jacobs 2008-11-05

Books for All Kinds of Readers Read HowYouWant offers the widest selection of on-demand, accessible format editions on the market today. Our 7 different sizes of EasyRead are optimized by increasing the font

size and spacing between the words and the letters. We partner with leading publishers around the globe. Our goal is to have accessible editions simultaneously released with publishers' new books so that all readers can have access to the books they want to read. To find more books in your format visit www.readhowyouwant.com

Reclaiming San Francisco - City Lights Books 1998

Reclaiming San Francisco is an anthology of fresh appraisals of the contrarian spirit of the city—a spirit "resistant to authority or control." The official story of San Francisco is one of progress, development, and growth. But there are other, unofficial, San Francisco stories, often shrouded in myth and in danger of being forgotten, and they are told here: stories of immigrants and minorities, sailors and waterfront workers, and poets, artists, and neighborhood activists—along with the stories of speculators, land-grabbers, and the land itself that need to be told differently. Contributors include historians, geographers, poets, novelists, artists, art historians, photographers, journalists, citizen activists, an architect, and an anthropologist. Passionate about the city, they want San Francisco to be more itself and less like the city of office towers, chain stores, theme parks, and privatized public services and property that appears to be its immediate fate. San Francisco is not alone in being transformed according to the dictates of the global economy. But San Franciscans are unusual in their readiness to confront the corporate agenda for their city.

The Anthologist - Nicholson Baker 2009-09-08

While writing an introduction to a new poetry anthology, Paul Chowder struggles with the end of a relationship, his own stunted career, and the suffering of poets as varied as Tennyson and Roethke.

Baseless - Nicholson Baker 2020-07-21

"Staggeringly good." —Counterpunch A major new work, a hybrid of history, journalism, and memoir, about the modern Freedom of Information Act—FOIA—and the horrifying, decades-old government misdeeds that it is unable to demystify, from one of America's most celebrated writers Eight years ago, while investigating the possibility that the United States had used biological weapons in the Korean War,

Nicholson Baker requested a series of Air Force documents from the early 1950s under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. Years went by, and he got no response. Rather than wait forever, Baker set out to keep a personal journal of what it feels like to try to write about major historical events in a world of pervasive redactions, withheld records, and glacially slow governmental responses. The result is one of the most original and daring works of nonfiction in recent memory, a singular and mesmerizing narrative that tunnels into the history of some of the darkest and most shameful plans and projects of the CIA, the Air Force, and the presidencies of Harry Truman and Dwight Eisenhower. In his lucid and unassuming style, Baker assembles what he learns, piece by piece, about Project Baseless, a crash Pentagon program begun in the early fifties that aimed to achieve "an Air Force-wide combat capability in biological and chemical warfare at the earliest possible date." Along the way, he unearths stories of balloons carrying crop disease, leaflet bombs filled with feathers, suicidal scientists, leaky centrifuges, paranoid political-warfare tacticians, insane experiments on animals and humans, weaponized ticks, ferocious propaganda battles with China, and cover and deception plans meant to trick the Kremlin into ramping up its germ-warfare program. At the same time, Baker tells the stories of the heroic journalists and lawyers who have devoted their energies to wresting documentary evidence from government repositories, and he shares anecdotes from his daily life in Maine feeding his dogs and watching the morning light gather on the horizon. The result is an astonishing and utterly disarming story about waiting, bureaucracy, the horrors of war, and, above all, the cruel secrets that the United States government seems determined to keep forever from its citizens.

The Way the World Works - Nicholson Baker 2012-08-07

Nicholson Baker, who "writes like no one else in America" (Newsweek), here assembles his best short pieces from the last fifteen years. The Way the World Works, Baker's second nonfiction collection, ranges over the map of life to examine what troubles us, what eases our pain, and what brings us joy. Baker moves from political controversy to the intimacy of his own life, from forgotten heroes of pacifism to airplane wings,

telephones, paper mills, David Remnick, Joseph Pulitzer, the OED, and the manufacture of the Venetian gondola. He writes about kite string and about the moment he met his wife, and he surveys our fascination with video games while attempting to beat his teenage son at Modern Warfare 2. In a celebrated essay on Wikipedia, Baker describes his efforts to stem the tide of encyclopedic deletionism; in another, he charts the rise of e-readers; in a third he chronicles his Freedom of Information lawsuit against the San Francisco Public Library. Through all these pieces, many written for *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, and *The American Scholar*, Baker shines the light of an inexpugnable curiosity. *The Way the World Works* is a keen-minded, generous-spirited compendium by a modern American master.

Library: An Unquiet History - Matthew Battles 2011-02-07

"Splendidly articulate, informative and provoking....A book to be savored and gone back to."—*Baltimore Sun* On the survival and destruction of knowledge, from Alexandria to the Internet. Through the ages, libraries have not only accumulated and preserved but also shaped, inspired, and obliterated knowledge. Matthew Battles, a rare books librarian and a gifted narrator, takes us on a spirited foray from Boston to Baghdad, from classical scriptoria to medieval monasteries, from the Vatican to the British Library, from socialist reading rooms and rural home libraries to the Information Age. He explores how libraries are built and how they are destroyed, from the decay of the great Alexandrian library to scroll burnings in ancient China to the destruction of Aztec books by the Spanish—and in our own time, the burning of libraries in Europe and Bosnia. Encyclopedic in its breadth and novelistic in its telling, this volume will occupy a treasured place on the bookshelf next to Baker's *Double Fold*, Basbanes's *A Gentle Madness*, Manguel's *A History of Reading*, and Winchester's *The Professor and the Madman*.

The Mezzanine - Nicholson Baker 2010-07-13

A National Book Critics Circle Award-winner elevates the ordinary events that occur to a man on his lunch hour into "a constant delight" of a novel (*The Boston Globe*). In this startling, witty, and inexhaustibly inventive novel, New York Times–bestselling author Nicholson Baker uses a one-story escalator ride as the occasion for a dazzling reappraisal of everyday objects and rituals. From the humble milk carton to the act of tying one's shoes, *The Mezzanine* at once defamiliarizes the familiar world and endows it with loopy and euphoric poetry. Baker's accounts of the ordinary become extraordinary through his sharp storytelling and his unconventional, conversational style. At first glance, *The Mezzanine* appears to be a book about nothing. In reality, it is a brilliant celebration of things, simultaneously demonstrating the value of reflection and the importance of everyday human experiences. "A very funny book . . . Its 135 pages probably contain more insight into life as we live it today than anything currently on the best-seller list." —*The New York Times* "Captures the spirit of American corporate life and invests it with a passion and sympathy that is entirely unexpected." —*The Seattle Times* "Among the year's best." —*The Boston Globe* "Baker writes with appealing charm . . . [He] clowns and shows off . . . rambles and pounces hard; he says acute things, extravagant things, terribly funny things." —*Los Angeles Times Book Review* "Wonderfully readable, in fact gripping, with surprising bursts of recognition, humor and wonder." —*The Washington Post Book World*

The Fermata - Nicholson Baker 2011-08-24

Having turned phone sex into the subject of an astonishing national bestseller in *Vox*, Baker now outdoes himself with an outrageously arousing, acrobatically stylish "X-rated sci-fi fantasy that leaves *Vox* seeming more like mere fiber-optic foreplay" (*Seattle Times*). "Sparkling."—*San Francisco Chronicle*.