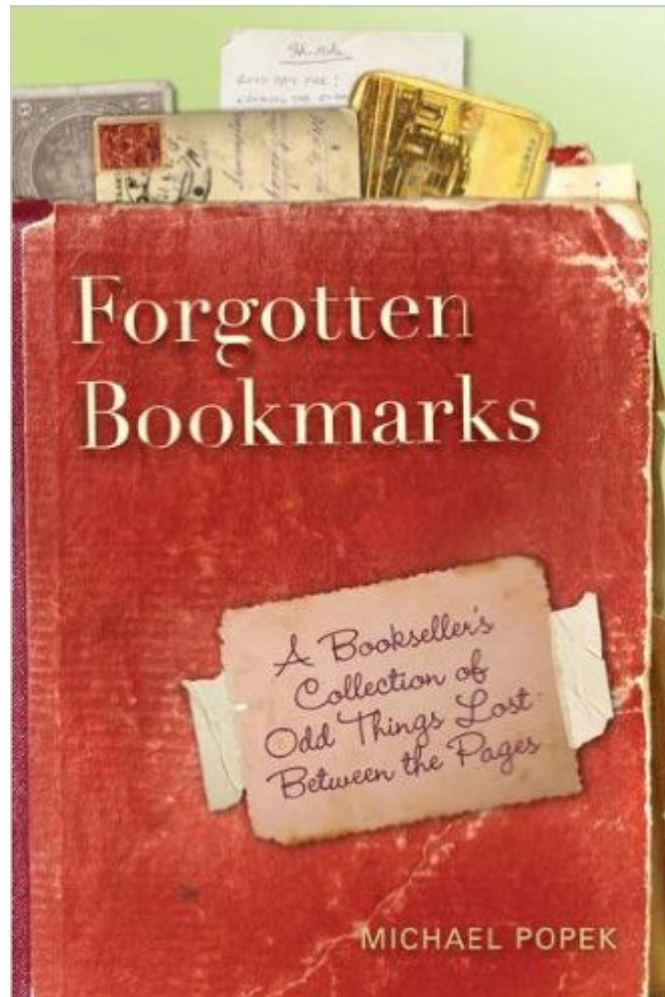


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Forgotten Bookmarks: A Bookseller's Collection Of Odd Things Lost Between The Pages



Synopsis

It's happened to all of us: we're reading a book, something interrupts us, and we grab the closest thing at hand to mark our spot. It could be a train ticket, a letter, an advertisement, a photograph, or a four-leaf clover. Eventually the book finds its way into the world—a library, a flea market, other people's bookshelves, or to a used bookstore. But what becomes of those forgotten bookmarks? What stories could they tell? By day, Michael Popek works in his family's used bookstore. By night, he's the voyeuristic force behind www.forgottenbookmarks.com, where he shares the weird objects he has found among the stacks at his store. *Forgotten Bookmarks* is a scrapbook of Popek's most interesting finds. Sure, there are actual bookmarks, but there are also pictures and ticket stubs, old recipes and notes, valentines, unsent letters, four-leaf clovers, and various sordid, heartbreaking, and bizarre keepsakes. Together this collection of lost treasures offers a glimpse into other readers' lives that they never intended for us to see.

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Customer Reviews

A friend mentioned this book and I impulsively picked up a used copy (warning- the Book forum can be hazardous to your finances) What a treasure! This seemingly simple book with pictures of books and the memorabilia found in them is absolutely fascinating. Normally a book with less than 200 pages, mostly pictures with very little text, would take an hour or so to read but I've spent hours poring over it. As a book lover, I'm fascinated by some of the books that I've never heard of (Bugaboo Bill and other Wonders? Really?) and can't wait to research them. And I wonder what I've

left in books that I've donated (probably boring stuff like business cards and receipts from airport gift shops) But the most fascinating thing is the people behind found objects and their stories. Mr. Popek has researched some of the individuals mentioned in found letters, photos etc and has thoughtfully provided some detail where possible. But in most cases you are left to wonder. Did "Mother" ever give Sonny and Leah her blessing? How long did poor Mr. Groff survive the ministrations of two doctors who, in 1904, didn't recognize the symptoms of congestive heart failure? Fortunately, Popek has already done the work of deciphering handwriting so you can just sit back and enjoy the results. With every item, I found myself creating the stories to make sense of them. An old family portrait found in an old bible is sad; the girl on the cruise ship was a gold digger with her sights set on "Prichard" etc. And some don't take much imagination. My personal favorite is the scathing letter to an ex ("You're downright ugly and you talk funny. ... We won't even go into your sexual perversities- you nasty voyeur!") found in, of all places, "While Waiting. ...

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