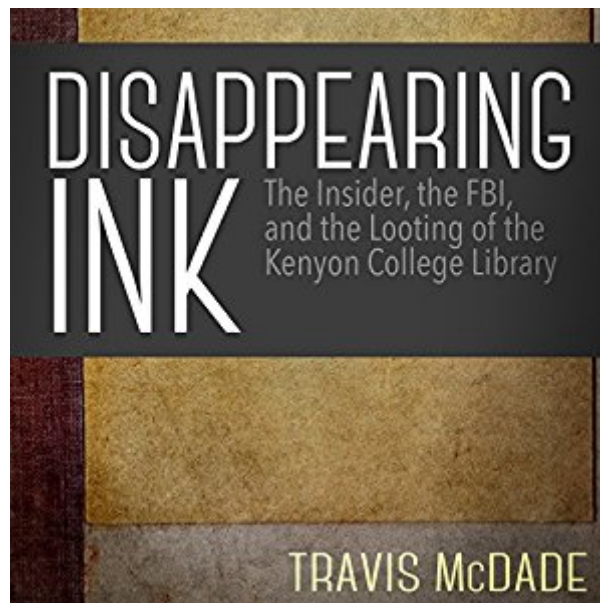




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Disappearing Ink: The Insider, The FBI, And The Looting Of The Kenyon College Library



Synopsis

Like many aspiring writers, David Breithaupt had money problems. But what he also had was unsupervised access to one of the finest special collections libraries in the country. In October 1990, Kenyon College hired David Breithaupt as its library's part-time evening supervisor. In April 2000 he was fired after a Georgia librarian discovered him selling a letter by Flannery O'Connor on eBay, but that was only the tip of the iceberg: for the past 10 years, Breithaupt had been browsing the collection, taking from it whatever rare books, manuscripts, and documents caught his eye - Flannery O'Connor letters, W.H. Auden annotated typescripts, a Thomas Pynchon manuscript, and much, much more. It was a large-scale, long-term pillaging of Kenyon College's most precious works. After he was caught, the American justice system looked like it was about to disappoint the college the way it had countless rare book crime victims before - but Kenyon refused to let this happen.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The Bruno Hauptmann of rare books lives! This is a grim reminder of broken humanity and betrayed trust in an otherwise peaceful college village and a mortal blow to their own "Smithsonian" collection.

I really enjoyed this book. It's well written and on a topic near and dear to my heart.

A fascinating and scary situation. This should be read by everyone involved with libraries and/or with authors' estates.

I really enjoyed reading this book. While a true life account of a crime, it read like a novel.

Well written account of how Kenyon was looted. The lack of punishment and accountability was sad

Usually the books I read on the bus home are just read on the bus. Today when I got home I kept thinking do this, do that, so you can finish that book. I love books about books and true crime.

Jackpot!

So-so interesting story filled with alot of "no action" library types, who in the long run, and through their own disregard for their precious assets; got what they deserved. I kept asking myself, when is somebody going to notice what was going on and take action.

What an exciting story! This should be a movie, it's so incredible.

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