



N E W S

::: SEPTEMBER 2001 :::

**27 sep 01**

Jays, if the folks at your library suffered *for years* with dry eyes, sneezing, fatigue, diarrhea and hallucinations, wouldn't you think something was afoot? [Toxic mold perhaps?](#) **JB**

Look Ma! I done read all dem books!

Pretty [impressive list](#) which has the soliciting effect of making me want to stop everything, go home, and read. **JB**

The Library of Congress has incorporated [Today in History](#) as part of their American Memory Historical Collections and the National Digital Library Program. Use the [archive](#) to look for a specific day. **JB**

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**26 sep 01**

I once had a university student ask me, "[Is Canada a country?](#)" **JB**

Tell me, Brave Captain, how does [Nostradamus work?](#) **JB**

Parents that use the Evansville-Vanderburgh Library System as a [babysitting service](#) are going to start paying bigtime: \$50 per hour after the library closes. [[LISNews](#)] **JB**

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**26 sep 01**

"Sure, inalienable rights work in a perfect world but our world isn't perfect anymore. So what do we do now?" [Diatribes on "Daily Show."](#) **JB**

Over the summer, Marylaine Block surveyed about twenty or so blogging librarians. She's written an article on it [here](#). Registration required. **JB**

"They backed her up the first day, but then it became necessary to throw her to the wolves to save themselves." [Follow-up on the librarian from Florida who banned American Pride stickers.](#) **JB**

Dvorak encourages folks to self-educate and [inform themselves by reading web articles](#) with diverse opinions from all over the world. Essentially, I agree, and wish that more instructors would allow students to use online articles and opinion pieces as references. However, the reliability of the

information is not always self-apparent, as Dvorak posits, especially when you're a freshman and in the process of developing critical information literacy skills that are (more often than not) lacking at 18. **JB**

Toronto's **Word on the Street Festival**, scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 30, will feature its first reading by a blind person, Canadian musician Jeff Healey. **CB**

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**25 sep 01**

**Doin' it in the HQ 70's. JB**

A **nationwide poll** conducted last week found more than 7 out of 10 Americans consider themselves very patriotic, a substantial rise from a decade ago. **JB**

I have become so steeped in the reading of **this book**, that for the past two nights, my dreams have become ensconced in a Roszakian architecture of ideas and semblance. I suppose a sign of a good book is one that sits in the arc of the mind like a giant tea bag and bleeds into the normally translucent stream of somnolence its rosehip of pages. **JB**

Short and sweet piece on **Google**, the type that looks and reads like homework. **JB**

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**24 sep 01**

The library might want your old books -- but, then again, **maybe not. JB**

**Not bad indeed!** Modest victory for scholarship as reported by NUblog. **JB**

There's a new biography out on **Kurt Cobain**. Last year, I took a trip to **Powell's** to buy for campus research interests in the areas of psychology, sociology, and recreation. That last one is always fun to select for and it is almost mandatory to have the book in hand when you're buying books on hiking, repelling, snowboarding, bike rides, skateboarding, yoga, etc; thus, the trek to Powell's. At any rate, there's an instructor here who studies and teaches Kurt Cobain, so I bought a couple books on him. I'll be getting this one too. **JB**

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**21 sep 01**

On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog, but **they'll assume you're white. JB**

From today's NYT, Metro Briefing: "Seven small **fires closed the Jersey City Public Library** for a part of Wednesday and yesterday. The fires are believed to have been intentionally set, and several began in the stacks that are generally off-limits to the public. There have been no arrests." **JB**

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**20 sep 01**

Transcript of the [President's Address to the Nation](#).

"And tonight, the United States of America makes the following demands on the Taliban: Deliver to United States authorities all the leaders of al Qaeda who hide in your land. Release all foreign nationals, including American citizens, you have unjustly imprisoned. Protect foreign journalists, diplomats and aid workers in your country. Close immediately and permanently every terrorist training camp in Afghanistan, and hand over every terrorist, and every person in their support structure, to appropriate authorities. Give the United States full access to terrorist training camps, so we can make sure they are no longer operating.

These demands are not open to negotiation or discussion. The Taliban must act, and act immediately. They will hand over the terrorists, or they will share in their fate."  
9:00 P.M. EDT **JB**

The University's Library at Mississippi State is digitizing and conserving a collection of approximately 22,000 pieces of [ragtime, blues, show-tune, and war-song folios](#) from the 1890s to the Great Depression for an online archive. ! [[LISNews](#)] **JB**

[Way to go Marylaine!](#) Neat New Stuff/Ex Libris has won an Ezine-tips online publishing award that looks for great content and good design. **JB**

The Institute of Museum and Library Services requests [stories about libraries and museums](#) that might have responded in some special way, big or small, to the national crisis. [thanks, Jim] **CB**

After finishing [Kitchen Confidential](#) last week, I was hungry for something else, equally good and in the same vein. A friend highly recommended [Down and Out in Paris in London](#) and lent me his thin paperback. After the first few chapters, I went to the stacks to find an older copy, hardback, with pleasing type and roomier pages, so that I could fully enjoy this reading experience.

What a great find. I even transcribed my [favorite passage](#) in a notebook of select passages, phrases, and words I keep. I respected the objectivity and perspicacity Orwell employs throughout, which is hard to do while enduring abject poverty. Most of all, it's a social commentary which promotes compassion and understanding for another person regardless of status. **JB**

Following anti-EU protests last June in Gothenburg, Sweden, a [British librarian](#) is serving a 1-year jail sentence for throwing a stone into the street. **CB**

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**19 sep 01**

During reference conference this morning, we found out that our library will be [networked for wireless users](#) by the end of October. Given the high demand for computers, hopefully this will encourage folks to bring in their own laptops. Space will also be designated outside the library allowing people to hook up. **JB**

Power Reporting is [looking for a smart news librarian or student intern](#) to help add content to their free web site used by several thousand journalists a day as a first stop for research. Responsibilities include: evaluating sites for usefulness, writing short descriptions, assigning categories and ranking, and adding the sites to a database of links. **JB**

I'm sorry I missed David Letterman's reaction last night to Tori Amos singing Tom Waits' *Time*. He skipped on the Top 10 as well. More on the sobering up and [increased sensitivity of American pop culture](#). **JB**

[100 Q & A about Arab Americans](#). **JB**

Show of U.S. pride turns into [sticky issue](#) for librarians at Florida Gulf Coast University. **CB**

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**18 sep 01**

One week after unbelievable tragedy. Denial. Disbelief. Fear. I find myself still struggling to understand, even though, intellectually, I know I never *will*. Hatred. Fanaticism. Incomprehensible that it could exist so strongly and create such a huge tear in the fabric of an entire nation in such a short time.

TV. Replaying scenes of horror over and over. I had to turn it off. Opportunists. Gas prices rising. So-called "relief workers" asking survivors and families searching for loved ones for their social security numbers. Web sites claiming to represent the Red Cross, collecting donations. Some are legitimate. Others aren't.

I find myself thinking, at various times throughout each day, of the indescribable grief and uncertainty that the friends and family of the countless victims must be feeling. Of the terror that must have gone through the minds of those airplane passengers and crew members when they realized what was happening.

I go home every night, and the thing I want most to do is call my mother, to reassure myself that my world hasn't changed forever, that I can recapture a sense of rightness. She passed away almost two years ago. I still feel the void left by her passing...the grief from the events of September 11 will linger for a long while to come.

But there's hope. People coming together. Donating money, time and blood. Messages of concern from friends and strangers around the world.

Cars, windows, people displaying a [placard](#) showing the American flag, with the words "One Nation Indivisible" below it. And this morning, a picture of the earth taken from space, with the words "One Planet Indivisible" below it. Hope.

This morning on my way to work, I saw a hearse being escorted by six policemen on motorcycles, all displaying the American flag. It brought to mind a news report from the previous evening, showing the beginning of a new life in a New York hospital. The mother said, holding her newborn up for the camera, "This is New York's future." The cycle of birth and death, as it should be.

The Canadian news, broadcast daily on C-SPAN since September 11. Last night: Children knocking on a woman's door, delivering teddy bears destined for children in New York who've lost their parents, in the hope that they can provide some small comfort. A Toronto company that makes protective booties for dogs, responding to a call from New York rescue workers and donating what was needed for the rescue dogs. Cash donation boxes at a popular Canadian chain filled to bursting with money destined for disaster relief funds. Caring. Concern. Helping.

This country will go to war, but it will not be done in haste. America's leaders are urging patience. And they're asking us not to let our fear and our rage condemn an entire people for the horrendous acts of a few. Reason.

I, like many others, will continue to struggle with the aftermath of these events, the lingering sense of helplessness, the grief, the uncertainty. The recovery will be slow, but it will come. The leaves are changing color. The air is turning cooler. The warmth of humanity is alive. Peace...eventually. **CB**

**Bush's talk at Islamic Center** yesterday. I spoke with my brother last night and he told me of waiting behind a Muslim woman in the check out line. He said that she looked afraid and kept herself small, arms tight against her, head down, and eyes averted. That even though nobody was giving her any grief, she seemed terrified.

Fear might be the mind killer, but worse is intolerance that kills humanity. **JB**

In regards to 9.11, what are the **implications for an information society**? [Thanks Antony] **JB**

**List of Songs with Questionable Lyrics**. Apparently, Clear Channel radio network has sent out this list recommending the songs not be aired. This is ridiculous bordering on hysteria. **JB**

"Even at this painful time, we must remember that international terrorism cannot be combated by turning our free society into an armed fortress." --Congressman Rush Holt. **More words of support** and courage spoken by those in Congress last week. **JB**

**Afghanistan Maps**, includes thematic, historical, and political. **JB**

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**17 sep 01**

Two artists plan on projecting **Phantom Towers** as an ephemeral monument to the ghost limbs that oriented people to the city and symbolized communications and strength. This speaks volumes for power of place. **[Digital Web] JB**

**Memorials** from around the world. **JB**

**Common Dreams**: no ads, no corporate money, no filtering, and no editing. Staffed by volunteers, this newswire works to bring press releases and progressive views from different sources. **JB**

Lonely Planet has availed its online chapter on **Afghanistan** for free. **JB**

Imagine there's no countries

[It isn't hard to do...](#) **JB**

A [web log about books](#) maintained by at least one Thomas Hardy fan! [Thanks Nick] **JB**

Librarian's Index to the Internet released a special section dealing with the terrorist attacks including a [full resource page](#) surrounding the events of 9.11. Rich. **JB**

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## 14 sep 01

The Young Adult Librarians of The New York Public Library are calling for submissions for a special "[Remember September 11th](#)" edition of WordSmiths, an online poetry journal for teens. [Thanks Carrie] **JB**

With a deep Brooklyn accent he said "[Brother, if you don't mind](#), there is a cloud of glass coming at us, grab my hand, lets get the hell out of here." [PLG listserv] **JB**

[Nostradamus did not predict terrorist attacks](#) on U.S. This one has been spreading around like fire. **JB**

A couple of editorials on Giuliani. One from the [NYT](#), and another from [Salon](#). **JB**

[Speech & Transcript Center](#): A compilation of statements made by public officials and leaders. [Marylaine] **JB**

The [Journalist's Toolbox](#): a comprehensive set of links covering the attacks, logically arranged, intended for media and researchers. One of the best I've seen thus far. [Marylaine] **JB**

The NewsLib listerv for news librarians has set up a page of [queries and responses](#) following the World Trade Center Attack. **JB**

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## 13 sep 01

As I did my desk hours yesterday, I saw many folks [using the computers](#) to read about Tuesday's horrific events. Many of them sat together, some holding hands, reading, clicking through. Absorbing.

I wonder how long it's going to take to fully absorb this. And if that's possible. When I first watched the [coverage](#) early Tuesday morning, standing in front of the television, numb from shock, [my daughter](#) slipped her hand in mine and asked, "How long do World Wars typically last?" Fuck me.

I'm saturated with thoughts of [fireman](#) going back into the destruction to [save their buddies](#), of [passengers attempting to fight back](#), the [palpable evil](#) of those hijackers and horror it must have generated, of people knowing that they were [going to die](#), and the incomprehensible, suffocating panic that would cause someone to [jump out of a tower](#) to sure death.

I suppose some people will process these events via [hate](#) or [profiteering](#). I hope it will be the minority. I hope that people will realize how [precious life is](#), and that maybe a little more [kindness](#) and [compassion](#) will generate. Most importantly, that we'll remember how much we love and [are loved](#). Maybe I'm irrepressibly optimistic or treacherously naive, but I honestly believe that love - in the sense of acceptance, harbor, understanding, patience, respect, and all-encompassing warmth - cures all. I don't think we'll make it, though, at least not in this planet's lifetime.

For now, [help out](#) if you can. **JB**

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**12 sep 01**

[PEACE. STOP TERRORISM.](#) by Kenneth Hung. [[Surfstation](#)] **JB**

Online donations to Red Cross, [here](#) and [here](#). **JB**

Update: "The FAA has mandated that [increased security measures be implemented at airports nationwide](#). Individual airports are in the process of implementing these security measures. As airports meet the new security requirements, scheduled flights to and from those airports will be allowed to resume. It is expected that it will take a few days for schedules to return to normal." **JB**



[Hot lines for relief programs.](#) **JB**

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**11 sep 01**

I'm still in a state of shock and have had a hard time focusing on anything today. My heart, prayers, and best wishes to our brothers and sisters who have been hurt by these incomprehensible attacks. Today, the world is a smaller place.

From [Red Rock Eaters](#):

[People who are safe](#)

[Search for people](#)

[Survivor stories](#)

[Military analysis](#)

More on how you can help from Carole at [Netdiver](#). **JB**

Found while surfing the web: a searchable [Inventory of Canadian Digital Initiatives](#) from the National Library of Canada - also browsable by Dewey Decimal Classification, genre, province, and more. **CB**

Also check out the [Canadian National Site Licensing Project](#) - \$20 million to provide electronic journals to a national consortium of 64 Canadian universities. They've got [2 job openings](#) (deadline Sept. 21). **CB**

Company claims headache-free **plug & surf** networking solution that allows anyone - even visitors - to plug into the 'net. **CB**

Check out the **21st Century Learner Conference** - looking at creating community partnerships for lifelong learning. If only I had a limitless supply of time and money... **CB**

Hancock County Library System (Bay St. Louis, MS) and Providence Public Library (Providence, RI) are among those being honored for a national award from the **Institute of Museum and Library Services** for "exceptional social, economic, or environmental contributions to their communities." The awards will be presented by First Lady Laura Bush in a White House ceremony on September 17. **more info CB**

New York Mayor Guiliani gifted New York's public school classrooms from kindergarten to grade 3 with small lending libraries, but there was a snag: instead of Joan Dash's "We Shall Not Be Moved," about a women's factory strike in 1909, the collections intended for third grade classrooms included a copy of Maya Angelou's "I Shall Not Be Moved," which includes a poem about childhood incest. Apparently a clerical error was responsible for the mistake; the books have now been recalled. Oops! **CB**

The board of the Richland County library system (South Carolina) **voted to install filters** on most of its public computers by the end of this week. "The decision puts the library in compliance with a new state law requiring local libraries to filter 90 percent of their public computers or lose half their state aid [about \$260K]. ...But the closed-door discussion might have violated another law." Just can't win, can ya? **CB**

"In a horrific sequence of destruction, terrorists crashed two planes into the World Trade Center and the twin **110-story towers collapsed** Tuesday morning"... this is gruesomely bone chilling. **More** from the New York Times. **Photos. JB**

It's a very, very **Mad World. JB**

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**10 sep 01**

**Progressive Archivists Caucus:** A listserv for those interested in social responsibility in the context of the archival profession.

Subscribe by sending a blank email to:  
Progarchs-subscribe@topica.com **JB**

The White House spent some time over the weekend to **celebrate reading**. Linton Weeks brings us a report abounding with hackneyed expressions on reading. Score 10 on the corny counter. But a worthwhile read, nonetheless. **JB**

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**07 sep 01**

If you can't ban it, hoard it. Veteran school board member, Mr. Bagwell, will pay library fines for checking out all available copies of *Catcher in the Rye* to ensure that students aren't exposed to such a "**filthy, filthy book**." What an arse. [\[Plastic\]](#) **JB**

Does a web site have a "safe harbor" if people use it to sell stuff that infringes on copyright? Apparently so. [EBay gets important court victory in copyright lawsuit](#). [\[webactivism\]](#) **JB**

**Wikipedia**: intellectual anarchy in the form of an encyclopedia. More [here](#). **JB**

Campus news:

Have hand jobs replaced handshakes on college campuses? Interesting, albeit somewhat disturbing, look at [recreational sex at school](#). Three words: noncommittal, alcohol, and boredom. And elsewhere... GWU will be shutting down residence halls, cancelling classes, and closing up shop during the [anti-globalization protests](#) scheduled for the end of this month. **JB**

I can't put down [this book](#). **JB**

[Drive to Read @ your library](#): Hershey's and ALA team up together to get teens reading. As a librarian, you can be a [sponsor](#). **JB**

How can law librarians adapt to today's rich info-environs? [NEWSCAST](#). [thanks Susannah] **JB**

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**06 sep 01**

African-American and Hispanic children are far less likely to have a computer at home than white children: "*Libraries are the on-ramp to the information highway for these children... [They depend on us](#).*" [\[library geek\]](#) **JB**

Some more internet stats [here](#). This time on teen usage. **JB**

It's a [mad, mad world](#) out there on the Net. [\[webactivism\]](#) **JB**

[Designing clothes to accomodate technology](#). I don't think so... at least not at this point. Besides, how will fashion conscious high-school females successfully show off their nascent cleavage and girly curves? **JB**

ALA's Library History Round Table wants your best [library history essay](#). Deadline: February 1, 2002. \$500 cash award. **JB**

This is the second time [Edna St. Vincent Millay](#) has come up in the past week. The first time, I went up to the stacks to check out some of her poetry. This time, I think I'll read a biography. **JB**

Looking for something else to read? Check out [Rory's Booklist](#) for Progressive Librarians. **JB**

Books currently on The [First Lady's nightstand](#) and children's favs. Heh. **JB**

**Free Pint**: People Interested in Net Tips. Founded in '97 by Special Librarian William Hann. A bimonthly newsletter packed with useful links, site reviews, and more. [thanks Antony] **JB**

**Managing Information**, live since Monday. [thanks Antony] **JB**

This looks interesting:

**Choice and Quality of Life in the Information Society**. Montreal, August 2002.

and so does this:

**Psychology and the Internet**. Farnborough, UK, November 2001. [**Red Rock Eater**]. **JB**

For it's a long-long while  
from May to December  
And the days grow short  
when you reach September...

Wow... it's September already. **JB**

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