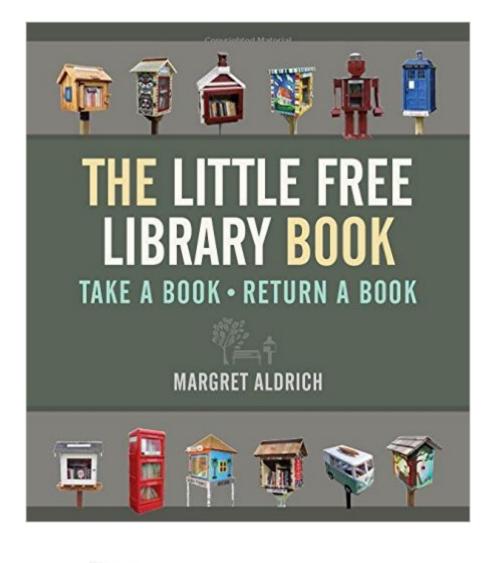
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The Little Free Library Book (Books In Action)





Synopsis

"The Little Free Library is a terrific example of placing books—poetry included—within reach of people in the course of their everyday lives. Free is always a good thing, and the project has a nice give-and-take feel to it. Here's hoping we bump into literature when we turn the next corner—before we have time to resist!"—Billy Collins"Take a book. Return a book." In 2009, Todd Bol built the first Little Free Library as a memorial to his mom. Five years later, this simple idea to promote literacy and encourage community has become a movement. Little Free Libraries—freestanding front-yard book exchanges—now number twenty thousand in seventy countries. The Little Free Library Book tells the history of these charming libraries, gathers quirky and poignant firsthand stories from owners, provides a resource guide for how to best use your Little Free Library, and delights readers with color images of the most creative and inspired LFLs around.Margret Aldrich is a freelance writer and editor. Her articles have appeared in the Utne Reader, Experience Life!, and elsewhere. She lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with her family.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Here is my "little story": Last year, I was walking in my hometown of San Diego, CA. I came upon a cul-de-sac, and saw a tall white post with a cute purple door, and a white Adirondack chair next to it. I hadn't a clue what it was, but thought it was the most adorable scene. I went up to the post, and of course, it was a Little Free Library. I had no idea what it was supposed to be, and thought the

homeowners just had a lovely idea. Then I noticed the LFL website on a post on top, and looked it up as soon as I got home. I was flabbergasted to read about this phenomenon, and was shocked at how many there were around the world. I am an avid, voracious, reader and had never heard of the Little Free Libraries. I felt like I was living under a rock. I looked up all the libraries in San Diego (there are well over fifty), plus others in Los Angeles and Northern California. Now it's my goal to visit as many as I can. I've been to 40 so far (I should have written my own book), and have many more to go, in other states and countries, as well.I love the fact that people are still reading. I thought all everyone did these days was stare at their phones for 24 hours. How fantastic to know that these libraries are there for all neighborhoods, and what a tremendous way to encourage everyone to read. Plus, the creativity shown in building these libraries is incredible. One of my favorites in San Diego is at a house on the beach. The homeowners put a cooler on a post, and put all their books in the cooler. What a great combination of environment and creativity. I love another one where the library is in the shape of a Spanish mission (we have a lot of them in California), with a little bell on the top, and doors made out of wood, with handles of wrought iron.

A marvelous idea. In my travels I seen over 25 of these little libraries, every one of them nicely designed and obviously used. I carry two boxes of books in my travels and stop whenever I see one, load it up with as many as it can carry -- after picking over any that I might want to read. Over the years I've taken about 10 and added about 100 -- many of them review copies from or others. This is a marvelous book describing several of the libraries and stories surrounding them, and many more. They have inspired us to add a free library to George Trakas's environmental sculpture in the Riparian Park at the headquarters of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference in Mahwah, New Jersey. I can hardly wait to see what a great artist comes up with. www.nynjtc.org/ and en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George TrakasRead this great description of an institution for book lovers. You may be inspired to build one yourself. Robert C. RossMay 2015Addendum: Seattle Times book editor Mary Ann Gwinn has just published a marvelous story about one of these libraries:"My spouse gave me a Little Free Library for my birthday. Heâ ™s very handy, and he built a good one â " roomy, sturdy, with a glass window in the door, the better for peering at books. This was a helpful gift designed to solve a problem, but first, a little background. According to the just-published â œThe Little Free Library Bookâ • (Coffee House Press, \$25), there are 25,000 of these structures worldwide, spread across 50 states and 80 countries. The basic definition: â œa box of books, posted in an accessible spot, often in a residential yard near a sidewalk.â • The idea is take a book, leave a book. I need people to take them.

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