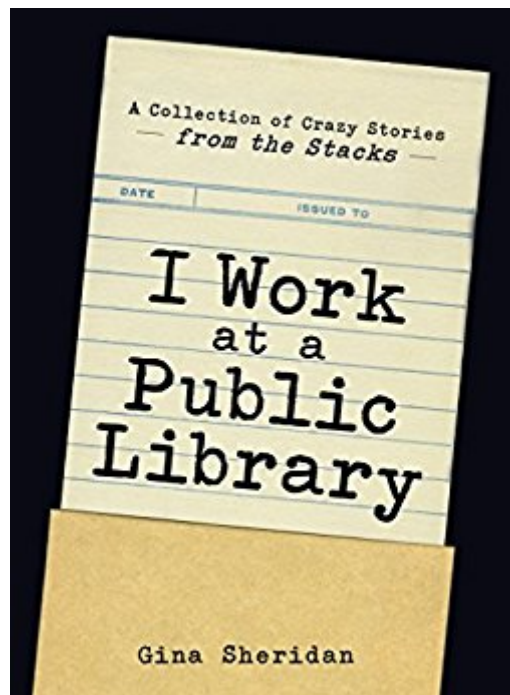




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# I Work At A Public Library: A Collection Of Crazy Stories From The Stacks



## Synopsis

Straight from the library--the strange and bizarre, ready to be checked out! From a patron's missing wetsuit to the scent of crab cakes wafting through the stacks, *I Work at a Public Library* showcases the oddities that have come across Gina Sheridan's circulation desk. Throughout these pages, she catalogs her encounters with local eccentrics as well as the questions that plague her, such as, "What is the standard length of eyebrow hairs?" Whether she's helping someone scan his face onto an online dating site or explaining why the library doesn't have any dragon autobiographies, Sheridan's bizarre tales prove that she's truly seen it all. Stacked high with hundreds of strange-but-true stories, *I Work at a Public Library* celebrates librarians and the unforgettable patrons that roam the stacks every day.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I've gotten a bit cynical in my old age and don't laugh as much as I should unless real people are involved. But this book is officially one I cannot read while sitting next to my sleeping child or she WILL be woken up by my laughter. I am giggling so hard over here. I knew it was gonna be good

based on your blog but this is priceless! I am going to read it every time I feel blue. This is my new zoloft. I love this book!

Book #68 Read in 2014! *I Work at a Public Library* by Gina Sheridan This was a cute, quick read. In this book, librarians tell their stranger-than-fiction stories of what library patrons ask for, request of them or do in the library. Some are laugh out loud stories, some are disturbing and some are heartwarming. Anyone who is a library lover will enjoy this book. <http://melissasbookpicks.blogspot.com>

Do you want to know what it's like to work at a public library? Read this book. You'll get a real taste of what it's like to be at the center of most cities' de facto mental hospital dayrooms--the public computer banks of public libraries. You'll also get a sample of why library work is rewarding.

Gina Sheridan, a librarian in St. Louis, began gathering funny stories about her experiences as a librarian, and touched a nerve with other librarians (and library lovers!) at her blog, <http://iworkatapubliclibrary.com/>. Now she has compiled her stories in book form, in *I Work at a Public Library*. In this short collection of brief anecdotes, Sheridan tells of her encounters with cute kids, ignorant adults (always treated respectfully), appreciative patrons, and the occasional animal. The questions she gets are brilliant in their cluelessness. The lack of ability to function and think independently displayed by some patrons is remarkable. But she also has plenty of stories that confirm appreciation for and the indispensability of public libraries. I love my library and the librarians I have gotten to know there. If you feel the same way about your library, you'll enjoy this light-hearted inside look at a public library. Thanks to NetGalley and the publisher for the complimentary electronic review copy!

*I Work at a Public Library* is, as subtitled, a collection of crazy stories from the stacks, written and curated by librarian Gina Sheridan, based on her blog <http://iworkatapubliclibrary.com/>. With chapters organised using the Dewey Decimal system, Gina Sheridan shares the amusing, touching and just plain weird experiences she, and others, have encountered in their work as a librarian. The anecdotes are gleaned from overheard conversations, patron questions, observations and encounters with the people of all ages who visit the library for all sorts of reasons, sometimes not meaning to be there at all. This short book is sure to raise a smile and a little consternation, from any one who has spent anytime in a library. "Adult patron to librarian: 'I was told to read three books. I

think one is small and blue. Can you tell me which ones they are?â •

There may be only three jobs in society that provide a completely unfiltered view of the general public in all its glory and ignominy: policeman, doctor, and evidently, public librarian. Gina Sheridan is the latter of the three, and in her debut book she holds a mirror to society from her vantage point on the world as it shuffles through the stacks on a quest for knowledge. For a book topic that sounds dry, the prose is surprisingly entertaining. Why? Because people are entertaining - like the gentleman that wanted Mrs. Sheridan to diagnose his rash, so he would know what to Google. She's got a great tale to tell, and it's all in alphabetical order. Buy a copy so you don't have to worry about late fees.

This book will make you laugh out loud with anecdotes about crazy people and funny kids and misunderstandings. It will also touch your heart with stories of connection and meaning that happen when librarians take the time to listen and help patrons. My favorite story was near to the last, so be sure to read to the end. It's a quick read, maybe an hour.

I love books about books and I love libraries, so I jumped at the chance to receive an ARC of this title from the publisher in exchange for an honest review. Comprised of several hundred short, humorous anecdotes collected by the authorâ "a librarian from St. Louisâ "this book proves the point that librarians do not simply spend their days reading! Instead, theyâ "re fielding questions such as âœWhere are the autobiographies of dragons?â • This book is a nice, light read that can definitely be completed in one sitting and would make a great present for the bookloverâ "or librarian!â "on your gift list.

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