

## BOOKSHELF

### **Like Cats and Dogs Revealing Your Feline or Canine Self**

Tanya McKinnon, J89, and Gayatri Patnaik  
Andrews McMeel

Tanya McKinnon's master's in cultural anthropology has provided the tools for this unusual look at how human personalities reflect the characteristics of cats and dogs. Whether you're a cat lover, dog lover or fan of both, *Like Cats and Dogs* reveals what these pet choices reveal about our inner nature. McKinnon, a literary agent in New York City, draws on extensive interviews with pet owners to show relationships between personality types and the animals we choose to live with.

### **Changing Places Remaking Institutional Buildings**

Marcia Feuerstein, BSOT 75, Lynda Schneekloth  
and Barbara Campagn, editors  
White Pine Press

Marcia Feuerstein, an architect and assistant professor of architecture at Virginia Tech, has co-edited this collection of essays on the preservation and alternative reuse of large institutional buildings: prisons, hospitals, schools, convents, many of which are abandoned and deteriorating. She presents a variety of possible reuse strategies, ranging from theoretical interpretations and historical documentation to case studies that look at the feasibility of reuse and preservation.

### **Weird and Wonderful The Dime Museum in America**

Andrea Stulman Dennett, J80  
New York University Press

Andrea Stulman Dennett, an adjunct professor at Long Island University, recaptures the ephemeral institution of American culture from the margins of history. In the latter half of the 19th century, dime museums were as popular as movies today: curiosities such as dioramas and panoramas, freaks and magicians, wax works and menageries, obscure relics and stuffed animals attracted spectators. Dennett discusses how this distinctly American entertainment was unprecedented in both the diversity of its amusements and in its democratic appeal, with audiences, traversing the boundaries of ethnicity, gender and class.

### **Cell Count**

Christopher Bursk, A65  
Texas Tech University Press

The author of seven books of poetry and the winner of numerous poetry awards, Christopher Bursk devotes his latest volume of verse to his experiences as a volunteer at the Bucks County

Correctional Facility in Pennsylvania. A college instructor, Bursk writes about struggles to come to terms with his inmate-students, who are much more than the sum of their crimes, and encourages a new awareness of the United States prison system.

### **Constructing the Little House Gender, Culture and Laura Ingalls Wilder**

Ann Romines, G66  
University of Massachusetts Press

With more than 35 million copies in print, the *Little House* series written by Laura Ingalls Wilder and her daughter Rose Wilder Lane, has enjoyed an enduring success. Ann Romines, professor of English at George Washington University, examines the popularity of these books, looking closely at both their content and the creative process from a feminist perspective and drawing on resources of gender studies and cultural studies.

### **Lethal Laws Animal Testing, Human Health and Environmental Policy**

Alix Fano, J96  
Zed Books

Writer and activist Alix Fano challenges the testing of chemicals on animals in what has been called a "grand synthesis of ideas and science and that critically reviews a central dogma in toxicological research." Fano argues that animal testing has been used as an alibi to allow the continued use of thousands of toxic chemicals, and offers a causal link between animal testing and environmental degradation.

### **Cat's Paws and Catapults Mechanical Worlds of Nature and People**

Steven Vogel, A61  
W. W. Norton & Co.

How does a turbojet stack up against muscle as an engine? Why doesn't nature use the metallic materials we find so handy? Does nature, in fact, have some essential superiority to technology? Steven Vogel, James B. Duke Professor of Zoology at Duke University, probes these questions by looking at the way living things work—how they walk, run, fly and grow. This introduction to biomechanics explains why human and natural technologies are sometimes startlingly similar yet at other times amazingly different.