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All Things Bright and Beautiful, Trevor Klein, Axiom, 1995, , . Collection of colourful pictures evocative of the Victorian era, suitable for pasting into a scrapbook. Features original scraps from the F Sunman Nostalgia Collection, and includes pictures of cherubs, flowers, fruit, birds, animals, royalty, children and country scenes..

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Sheep May Safely Graze 2 Pianos, Johann Sebastian Bach, Mary Howe, Nov 1, 2007, Music, 7 pages. Duet for 2 pianos This arrangement has been made from a Soprano recitative and Aria from the Birthday Cantata by Bach. The piece has a fresh and pastoral character and the ....

Cantata No. 178: Wo Gott, Der Herr, Nicht Bei Uns Halt, Kalmus ..., Issue 178 Wo Gott, Der Herr, Nicht Bei Uns Halt, Kalmus Edition, , Mar 1, 1985, Music, 50 pages. .

Locust is the story of the Rocky Mountain Locust and how it went from a national disaster to extinct within a few decades. Out of nowhere, the entire middle United States was overrun with locust swarms in the mid-1870s. (For those familiar with Laura Ingalls Wilder, these are the locusts in *On the Banks of Plum Creek*.) This was the first major natural disaster that the country had faced, and everyone was caught off guard. The book covers the attempts at controlling the pest and theorizes how the locusts disappeared so quickly and thoroughly. Also discussed is the author's search for frozen locust remains in mountain glaciers and the history of locust studies in the modern era. Most interesting for me were the author's theories on the role that the locust, which most would consider a useless pest with no redeeming features, played in the ecosystems of the American West.

Apocalyptic Planet is the author's memoir of travelling to various locations that demonstrate ways the Earth could die, such as expanding desert, rising seas, expanding glaciation, volcanoes, and asteroid impacts, among methods. Each chapter takes him to a different place, each one with something to teach him/the reader about the Earth and her moods. The premise was fascinating, but I was underwhelmed by the execution. It was just a little bit too much about him, and not quite enough about the Earth. Still, if you like travel or adventure memoirs, you'll probably want to pick it up.

Detroit City is the Place to Be is part-memoir, part-history, part-survey of modern Detroit. The author, who grew up in the area and still has family in the suburbs, moves back to Detroit and goes about exploring the city. The reader learns about the city's history and about its current decay. But among all the negatives, he also focuses on the positives: the people who are accomplishing good in the face of the the corruption and hopelessness. Detroit is a city of contradictions, and there seems little doubt that it is far away from any kind of true revival of fortunes. Unless attracting large numbers of Europeans who are obsessed with techno and American urban ruins is a sign of success.

His Majesty's Dragon is the first book of an ongoing series set during the Napoleonic Wars in an

alternative universe where dragons exist and are used in combat. Laurence starts off the book as a captain in the Royal Navy with dreams of settling down and starting a family. All this is shattered after he captures a French ship carrying a dragon's egg, which ends up hatching on board. Temeraire, as the dragon is named, bonds with him and Laurence is forced into the Aerial Corps and a life different from any he had ever imagined. But the French want their dragon back, and they may stop at nothing to achieve their goal.

Elegy for Eddie finds Maisie struggling to come to terms with the fact that she has a small fortune. All of her friends try to give her advice, but ultimately it is up to her to sort her life out. Meanwhile, Eddie, a man with some variety of what we'd now call Asperger's, is killed in what is officially an accident, but his friends think it was anything but. Being old neighbors co-workers of her father, they come and ask Maisie to look into things for them.

Better for All the World is a book that tries to be many things but never really succeeds at any of them. As a history of the eugenics movement in the United States, it focuses solely on a few intellectual co-workers based out of Long Island. While they make a nice case study, they never really do much. The real work was being done in hospitals, which feature in the first section and the last. However we never really learn about what was being done and how it affected those who were sterilized. There is also only the tiniest mention of how eugenics tied into discussions on contraception (Margaret Sanger being the 1000-pound elephant in the room) or how the movement focused on racial minorities. Definitely skippable.

A much better book on eugenics is Fatal Misconception about what happened when Americans kicked sterilization out of their country and sent the doctors to the third world instead. Those who like Jodi Picoult will also appreciate Second Glance, in which the sterilization of Abenaki Indians in Vermont plays a key role.

It's fairly common knowledge that Tolkien was Catholic, but not everyone realizes how deeply it affected his life and his works. The impetus for the book was the brouhaha after The Lord of the Rings won a 1996 Waterstones (think British Barnes & Noble) public poll for "Best Book of the 20th Century", which was promptly panned by critics as a travesty. Pearce set out to defend Tolkien and the literary merit of his books, and I think he succeeds.

Paradise Lot is the story of two men (Eric and Jonathan), their Holyoke, Massachusetts, duplex, and the food forest they built there. Those looking for an introduction to permaculture should look elsewhere, because this is much more a memoir than a gardening guide. But it is amazing how much they were able to grow on their 1/10 of an acre, and those with a similar climate to Western Massachusetts should be able to pick up some ideas of what they might be able to grow. I definitely wasn't expecting banana plants to be on that list (I've lived in the Pioneer Valley, it's cold!).

In an Antique Land is really two stories in one book: the author's experiences in rural Egypt as a graduate student and the life of the medieval Indian slave which inspired him to go there. The slave portion gives an to the Indian Ocean trade of the 12th century and the Jewish traders who played important roles in it (the slave's owner was a Tunisian Jew who travelled to Cairo and Aden and as far as Mangalore, India). The memoir portion provides a good view of everyday life in rural 1980s Egypt.

A later trip shows how things changed as workers went abroad as laborers and remittances played an important role in the local economy, only to leave others left behind. You get a good feeling for how Egypt ended up in such a chaotic state -- there are no jobs, and too many educated young men who are forced to put their lives on hold. It's like shaking a Coke can: eventually the pressure becomes too much and it explodes.

This was a very interesting book, even if I didn't always see the connection between the historical narrative and the modern one. It had been on my to-read list since around 2008 and I'm glad I finally picked it up. Highly recommended for people who like travel memoirs and those who want to learn about the Middle East.

The Cardinal is the story of the ecclesiastical career of Stephen Fermoy, a young Irish-American from the Boston suburbs, from his ordination to rise to the Cardinalate (thus becoming "the Cardinal" of the title). He's not perfect, but he tries his hardest and in the end succeeds beyond his wildest dreams. In the process the reader learns a some early 20th century Catholic history, meets quite a few famous faces, and witnesses Stephen's attempts to deal with many of the social issues that still face society today (interfaith marriage, poverty, racism, discrimination, alcoholism, contraception, etc.). This being a 1950s potboiler, there's also a libertine Italian sea captain, a woman to tempt him from his vocation, a little sister who gets "in trouble", and other stock characters and situations that you'd expect from the genre. But that kind of stuff is part of the fun of reading these kind of pulpy novels.

The book on locusts sounds interesting. Even before you mentioned it in the review, the first thing I thought of when I read the title of the book was the locust scene in Laura Ingalls Wilder's *On the Banks of Plum Creek*. Of course, I've read about the locusts in other books too, but that's the one that sticks with me.

*Touch Not the Cat* is one of my favorite Mary Stewart novels, combining the best of her first-person thrillers with an extra touch of ESP. Bryony has long been able to communicate psychically with one of her cousins; it's the Ashley family gift. They are in love, even though she doesn't know which one he is (he knows who she is). After her father is killed in a hit-and-run, she returns to the ancient Ashley family seat to settle his affairs, only to find that someone has been stealing valuable items from the estate. Her attempts to uncover the perpetrators lead her to conclusions she never could have imagined and dangers that could mean the end of both Bryony and her beloved home.

*Will Many Be Saved?* is an explanation of what Vatican II really says about salvation outside of the faith, and how flawed interpretations of this have weakened missionary efforts. After giving a history of the development of the Council's statement on the matter, the author looks at the first three chapters of the Book of Romans, which back it up.

He then focuses on two major post-conciliar theologians who have salvation theories contradict the statement: Karl Rahner and Hans Urs von Balthasar. The thesis is that ideas such as theirs that focus on the idea that all men are saved, in spite of the fact that the Church teaches the opposite, has resulted in a dramatic decrease in missionary activity just when it is most needed. Pope John Paul II started what is called the "New Evangelization", but he author argues that it will take a popular refocusing of the Church's salvation teaching if it is ever truly to be achieved.

Salvation and missions are interesting topics because they are so important but because they are not "PC" do not get the discussion they warrant. If anything, Martin's book is an excellent discussion starter, even if it is a bit dense at the beginning. The part on Romans is what really made things clear for me. Highly recommended for those looking for a detailed take on the current Catholic teaching on salvation.

The Epistles of Ignatius are a series of seven letters written by Ignatius of Antioch on his way to Rome where he knows he will die. Ignatius was the Bishop of Antioch and had turned himself in to spare his flock in the latest round of Christian persecutions. Six of the letters are written to churches in Asia Minor: Ephesus, Magnesia-on-the-Maeander, Tralles, Rome, Philadelphia, and Smyrna, and one is to Polycarp the Bishop of Smyrna, where Ignatius spent some time on his journey (the trek from Antioch to Rome could take a year or more at that time). Part farewell, part instruction, the letters deal with important issues such as the Docetist heresy and the respect due to bishops, but also with more personal matters like trying to keep the Roman church from bribing the right people and keeping him from the martyr's death he so desires. Written approximately in AD 108, there is still much to be gained from Ignatius's writing today.

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