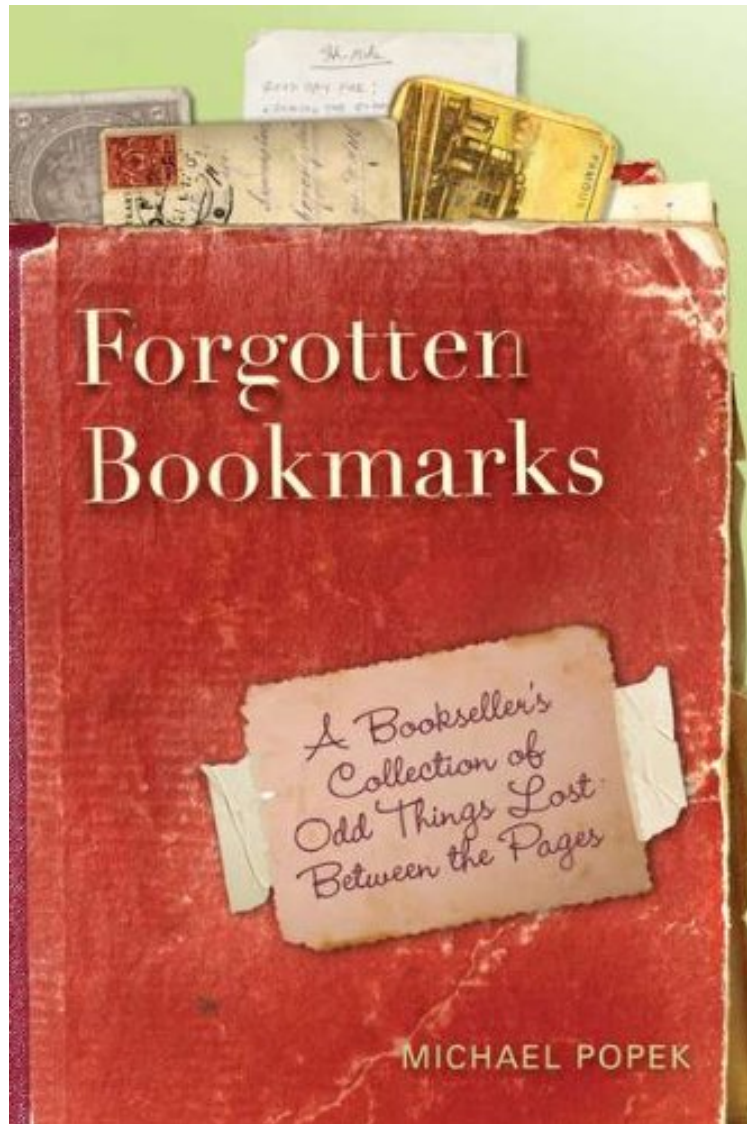


[Free] Forgotten Bookmarks: A Bookseller's Collection of Odd Things Lost Between the Pages

Forgotten Bookmarks: A Bookseller's Collection of Odd Things Lost Between the Pages

Michael Popek

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Michael Popek : Forgotten Bookmarks: A Bookseller's Collection of Odd Things Lost Between the Pages before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Forgotten Bookmarks: A Bookseller's Collection of Odd Things Lost Between the Pages:

19 of 20 people found the following review helpful. Value Added ReadingBy C. EbelingForgotten Bookmarks is a delight for anyone who has found something left behind by the previous owner of a used book. Many years ago, I

began stashing commercial bookmarks found in used copies. When I began buying older hardbound versions of classics to replace crumbling paperbacks from my school days, I found, for instance, a baby's photograph, circa 1930s, in a copy of Robinson Crusoe. It's been fun, and I have "curated" my collection in my book journals, but of late, I haven't found so many treasures. I think it's because Michael Popek, a blogger who manages his family's used book service and store, has gotten there before me. But that's okay because his book, *Forgotten Bookmarks*, shares his finds. The book offers up pictures of the items and the books in which they were found, some of them ironic pairings. There are many letters, for which the author provides typescripts. If it is flat, it has been used as a bookmark and or hidden in a book and accidentally left behind. That would include some banned substances, too. The book is modest in size, and there is no removable dust jacket. That said, the book design is creative and well executed. Popek resists the temptation to overanalyze or clutter the pages with his own text. He leaves us to marvel at how it is we can learn about a complete stranger by the book they have left behind. It is an enriching experience missed by those who read new, audio or e-books exclusively.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Where did i put that letter?? By L. Bosslet I gave this 4 stars because it was a good concept, but I felt like it was like looking at a picture book rather than reading. Nevertheless, it was interesting to see what people leave in their books, eventually forgotten and waiting to be discovered.

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. The *Forgotten Found Again* By Timothy Haugh I have to admit that I'm a bit jealous of Mr. Popek. Tough as it may be in today's economy, running a used bookstore is my dream job. I would love to be able to spend my days in the midst of all those old books, like the ones pictured in *Forgotten Bookmarks*. As a collector, I do get the opportunity to peruse old books. On occasion, I have found a forgotten bookmark or two--pressed flowers and 4-leaf clovers being the most common. But the variety of interesting things Mr. Popek has come across is quite impressive. As you look at the old letters, cards, receipts, tickets and the like, it does make you wonder about the story behind these objects. On the other hand, not knowing the story can be frustrating, as the pictures and letters become mere ciphers. Though beautiful to look at, I found it difficult to read more than a few pages at a time of this book, as these storyless objects would begin to run together if I read too much at one sitting. In fact, I was much more drawn to the books in which the objects were found, pages hiding these small treasures for 100 years or more. Still, if I were in Mr. Popek's position, I expect I would be intrigued by these objects as much as he is. It is nice that we have him to record his finds.

It's happened to all of us: we're reading a book, something interrupts us, and we grab the closest thing at hand to mark our spot. It could be a train ticket, a letter, an advertisement, a photograph, or a four-leaf clover. Eventually the book finds its way into the world--a library, a flea market, other people's bookshelves, or to a used bookstore. But what becomes of those forgotten bookmarks? What stories could they tell?

By day, Michael Popek works in his family's used bookstore. By night, he's the voyeuristic force behind www.forgottenbookmarks.com, where he shares the weird objects he has found among the stacks at his store. *Forgotten Bookmarks* is a scrapbook of Popek's most interesting finds. Sure, there are actual bookmarks, but there are also pictures and ticket stubs, old recipes and notes, valentines, unsent letters, four-leaf clovers, and various sordid, heartbreaking, and bizarre keepsakes. Together this collection of lost treasures offers a glimpse into other readers' lives that they never intended for us to see.

About the Author Michael Popek studied literature at Bennington College before rejoining his family's used-book business. He lives and works in Oneonta, New York, with his wife, dog, and cat.