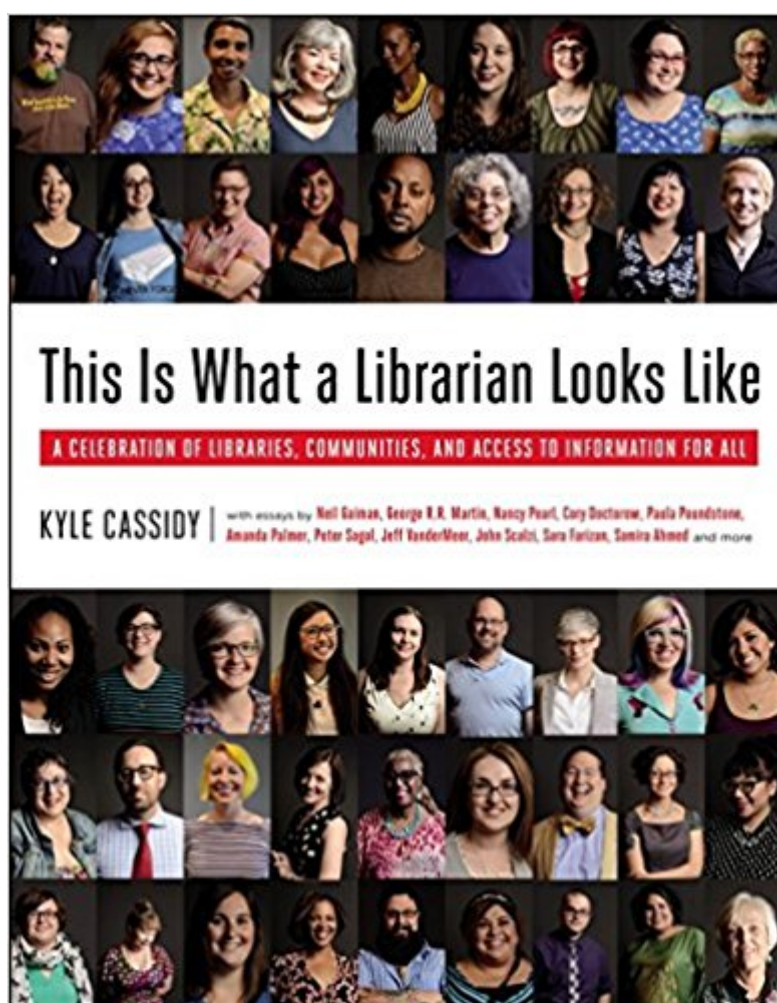


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This Is What A Librarian Looks Like: A Celebration Of Libraries, Communities, And Access To Information



Synopsis

In 2014, author and photographer Kyle Cassidy published a photo essay on Slate.com called "This is What A Librarian Looks Like," a montage of portraits and a tribute to librarians. Since then, Cassidy has made it his mission to remind us of how essential librarians and libraries are to our communities. His subjects are men and women of all ages, backgrounds, and personal style—from pink hair and leather jackets to button-downs and blazers. In short, not necessarily what one thinks a librarian looks like. The nearly 220 librarians photographed also share their personal thoughts on what it means to be a librarian. This is What A Librarian Looks Like also includes original essay by some of our most beloved writers, journalists, and commentators including Neil Gaiman, George R.R. Martin, Nancy Pearl, Cory Doctorow, Paula Poundstone, Amanda Palmer, Peter Sagal, Jeff VanderMeer, John Scalzi, Sara Farizan, Amy Dickinson, and others. Cassidy also profiles a handful of especially influential librarians and libraries.

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Customer Reviews

Kyle Cassidy is an author and photographer whose work includes the forthcoming *Where I Write: Fantasy & Science Fiction Authors in Their Creative Spaces*. His work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Vanity Fair*, the *Sunday Times* of London, *Marie Claire*, *NPR* and elsewhere. He lives in Philadelphia, PA.

I will admit that I am a little partial to this book because I'm one of the librarians featured in it, BUT that is not the only reason by a long shot! Kyle Cassidy has done an insanely impressive job compiling the essence and passion of librarianship into one beautiful coffee table book. Over 300 librarians from all over the world are featured and all have a gorgeous photo accompanied by a quote or statement on what being a librarian means to them. Some are wordy and eloquent, some are moving, and others are passionate pleas. Also included are mini essays from Kyle about different libraries and librarians, as well as essays from bestselling authors like Neil Gaiman, John Scalzi, George R. R. Martin touting how libraries and librarians have helped their lives. A wonderful book that deserves a spot in every personal and public library. What an honor to have even been involved in this.

I have thoroughly enjoyed this book. As a child I spent many hours in the library waiting for a ride home. Libraries and Librarians are the keepers of a magical land of information. It is such a safe place to roam. This is an inspiring book. In this day of information overload, librarians are our guides in navigating the vast sea of information available via many sources. This is a great present for the librarians in your life.

Kyle did a fantastic job with this book. It is beautiful and the words of so many fantastic people are presented in such a way that makes us all remember back to the libraries and librarians of our own lives.

I am totally biased as I'm one of the many librarians featured in the book, but I can say in an unbiased way that Kyle Cassidy is one of the most talented photographers of our day and one of the nicest people I've ever had the chance to meet. This book distills the essence of learning, intellectual freedom, and privacy (AKA libraries) into its purest form. You'll find over 300 librarians from all over describing their passion for our work in our own words. But you'll also find essays from hella badass authors like George R. R. Martin, Neil Gaiman, and more. I'm honored to have been included and will continue to find inspiration from my colleagues in this book every day.

If you like libraries, frequent libraries, or work in a library, you will enjoy this book. It has more pictures than text, but has some essays by a variety of writers. It really does show the diversity of library workers in age, ethnicity and personal style. I just wish there was more representation of public libraries - it seemed very focused on academic and school libraries.

What a fantastic book! Kyle has done a terrific job!! Cues into our collective nostalgia for our childhood libraries while highlighting all our modern day libraries do for us now! Not just story time and lending books libraries are active participants in our communities. They serve a much needed function and we must keep them open and vital when politicians see them as easy financial prey.

This book is a wonderful view of what being a librarian is all about. It demolishes the stereotype of what a librarian looks like and does. As a librarian, I highly recommend it. Excellent!

Kyle does an amazing job capturing the spirit of librarians: folks who care deeply about their communities, who fight for access to information and resources, who stand up to injustice, and who are a diverse and beautiful group of people.

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