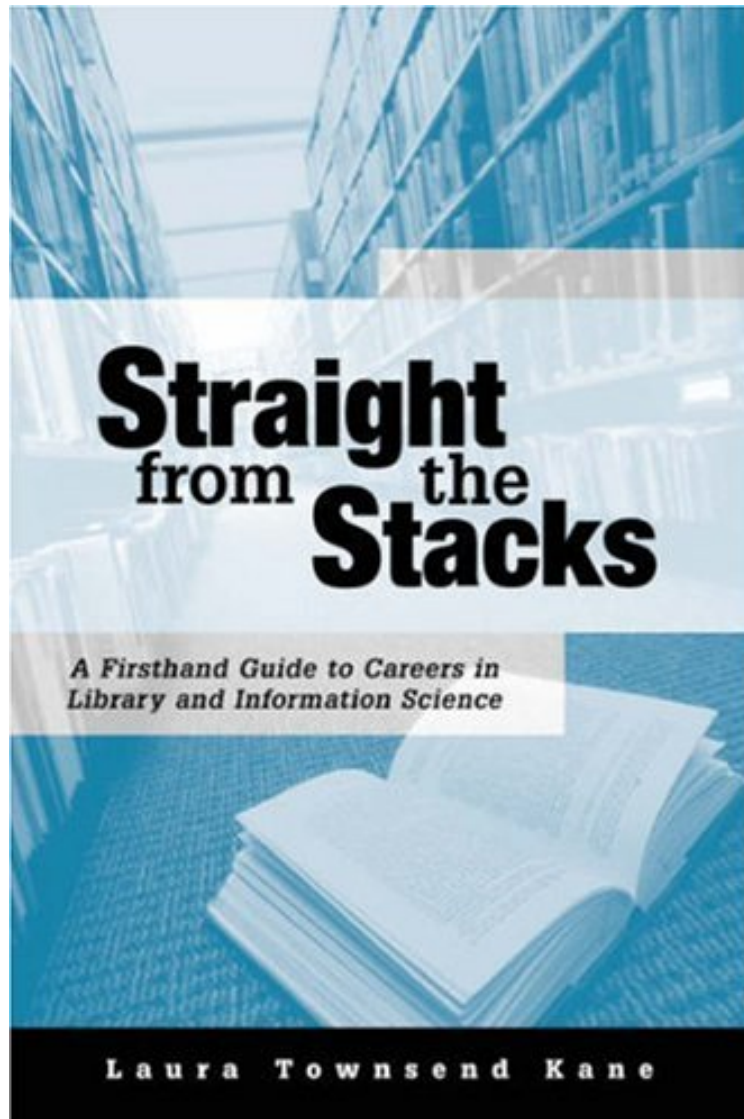


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Straight from the Stacks: A Firsthand Guide to Careers in Library and Information Science

Laura Townsend Kane

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Laura Townsend Kane : Straight from the Stacks: A Firsthand Guide to Careers in Library and Information Science before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Straight from the Stacks: A Firsthand Guide to Careers in Library and Information Science:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Informative, but dry.By Robert BeveridgeLaura Townsend Kane,

Straight from the Stacks: A Firsthand Guide to Careers in Library Science (American Library Association, 2003) Straightforward, if somewhat dry, book about, as the subtitle tells you, careers in library science. Each chapter covers a different area of the field, giving an overview, interviews with prominent members of the field, and a short section of recommended qualifications. It's very informative, but there's no sense of flair, of style, to make the average reader want to read about this stuff, much less get excited about it. The enthusiasm of the interviewees is obvious from their words, but still somehow comes across as flat. Worthwhile as a reference book, but pick it up from the library to give it a once-over before buying it outright. ** 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Nice Overview of JobsBy ButterscotchThis book profiles librarians in various work areas - public, academic, nontraditional, and management, among others. The librarians that were profiled talk about their jobs and various duties, and the education and experience that led them into their current position. I found it especially helpful that the author asked each librarian how they keep up with continuing education; regardless of the field they were in most librarians had similar responses (conferences and online discussion groups). This would be a good book not only for a library student but also library professionals who might be contemplating a career change. There are enough profiles here to read them through easily and see which types of librarianship you identify with.8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Very informative with great personal experiencesBy M. KruegerI have been wondering what it is like to be a librarian, and I wanted to know the diversity of the job. This book covers exactly that, as advertised. One of the things I really liked about the book was at the end of each chapter there was a brief synopsis of specific duties and requirements to specialize in that particular field. The personal stories were the most informative and interesting. This is a great book for beginners like me, and, I suspect, it would be interesting for experienced librarians as well.

For library students, paraprofessionals, and librarians who are wondering if they have their ladder against the right wall, *Straight from the stacks* fills the need for an up-to-date resource that uncovers the amazing and varied jobs available in the library field. Encompassing both traditional and nontraditional career paths in libraries, this comprehensive and engaging guide makes it easy to get a grip on these and other information science career path questions. Organized by type of institution including public, school, academic, nontraditional, medical/law, and library administration. Kane covers the many areas of librarianship and typical jobs in each environment and provides practical answers to the common questions: Should I move ahead for that MLIS? Where can I go with this advanced degree in library science? What else is out there? Am I on the right career path? What experience and training do I need? Tracing career paths, everyday duties, and qualities for succeeding, this useful overview offers anyone entering the profession inspiration as well as hard-hitting career-building information.

From BooklistThis guide endeavors to educate readers about employment opportunities in library and information science and to familiarize current librarians with other career choices in their profession. This goal is achieved through firsthand accounts from more than 30 librarians working in disparate areas. Chapters are divided by type of institution: public, school, academic, nontraditional, medical, and law libraries. The personal accounts contain a photo, title and place of employment, and a narrative in which participants talk openly about their jobs, offering an inside glimpse of what the work is really like. At the end of each chapter, the author provides sample job descriptions that recap each job's environment, responsibilities, and education requirements. The personal accounts, integral to the book's appeal, do not disappoint; they are frank and engaging and should provide a new understanding of and appreciation for librarianship. RBBCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved