

Ditching Dewey:

How to Make Searching Your Collection Engaging, Not Enraging

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Head of Reference

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Reference Assistant



Cumberland
Public Library

Information, Entertainment, Community

Cumberland, Rhode Island

Spread the Word!

#Takebackthestacks

Who We Are

Melissa Chiavaroli

**Head of
Reference**

**(Also Creator
of the
Browse
Method)**

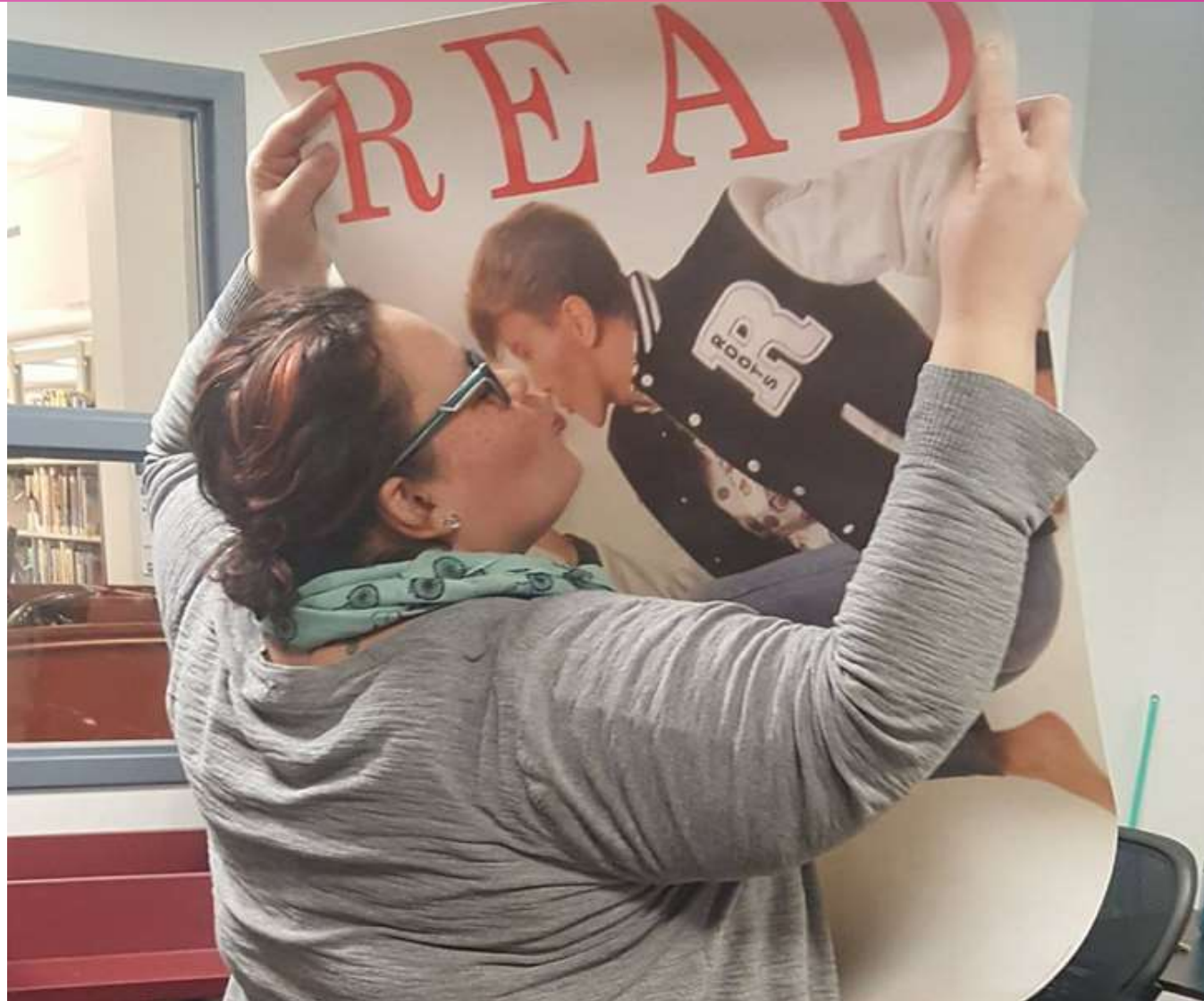


Who We Are

Danielle Skeldon

**Reference
Assistant
and
Budding
Librarian**

**(Also
responsible for
fun and
games.)**



What Is It?

The Browse Method



The Benefits

Increased Everything!

C3

**Customer-Centered
Classification System**



MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Increased Productivity

Shelving	475%
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Item Retrieval	346%
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Circulation Rose Exponentially!

The Benefits

Easier Collection Maintenance



The Benefits

It's Customizable!



The Benefits Happy Patrons!



The Benefits Low-Cost!



Why We Ditched Dewey

And you may want to too!



Patrons HATE Dewey

They tell us EVERY. DAY.

Where is
this?

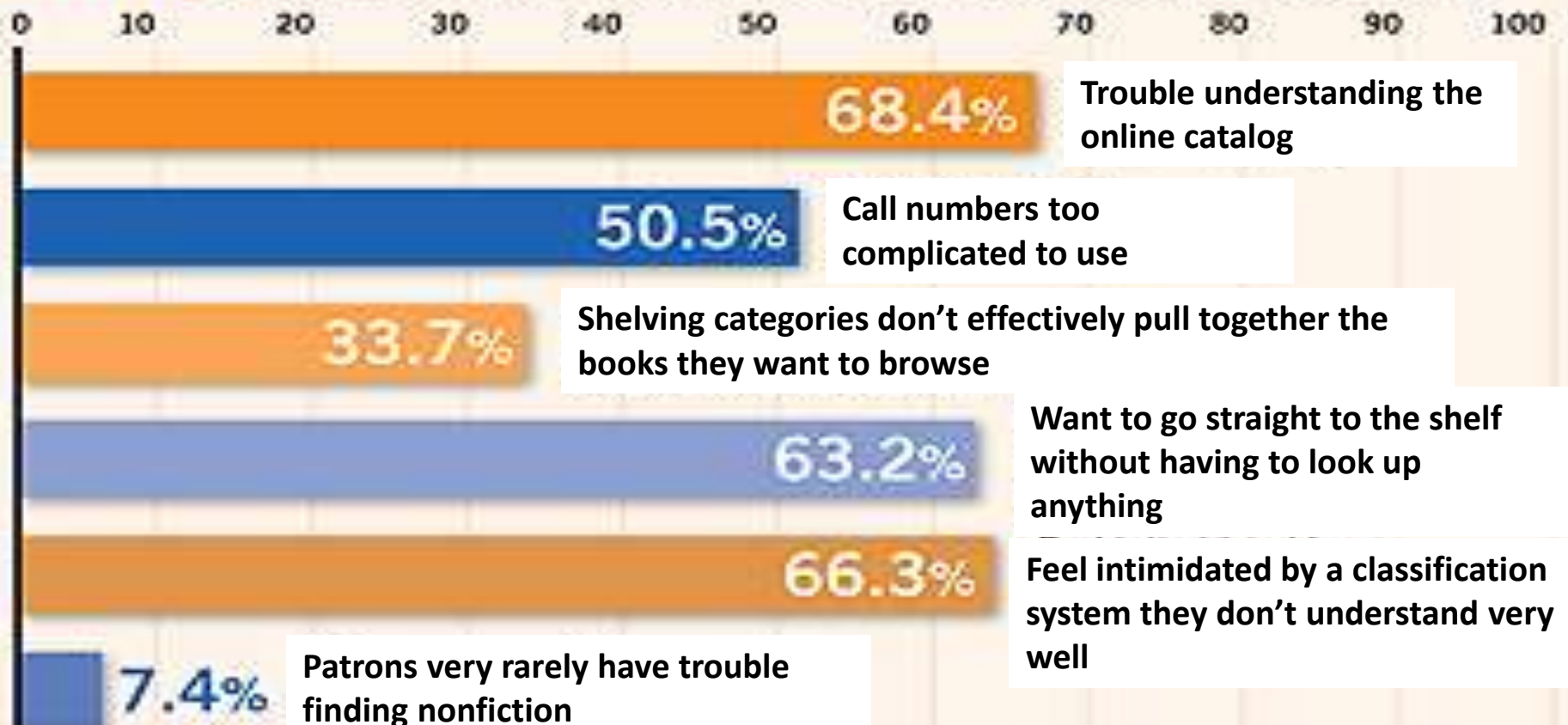
What does
this even
mean?

Where can I find
other books like
this? Why are they in
so many different
places? Are you sure
this is all you have?

I don't understand
how this works. I am
just going to order it
on Amazon.

They Clearly Say the System Is A Problem

TABLE 1 WHY PATRONS HAVE TROUBLE FINDING NONFICTION



SOURCE: ONLINE SURVEY CONDUCTED BY BARBARA FISTER. 2009

Dewey Is NOT Working Anymore

Here is why

Today

- Phones access millions of pieces of information in microseconds
- Items can be digitally scanned and sent to millions of people in milliseconds

1876

DEWEY IMPLEMENTED

- Alexander Graham Bell made the first phone call
- Thomas Edison received a patent for the mimeograph machine

MOST IMPORTANTLY...

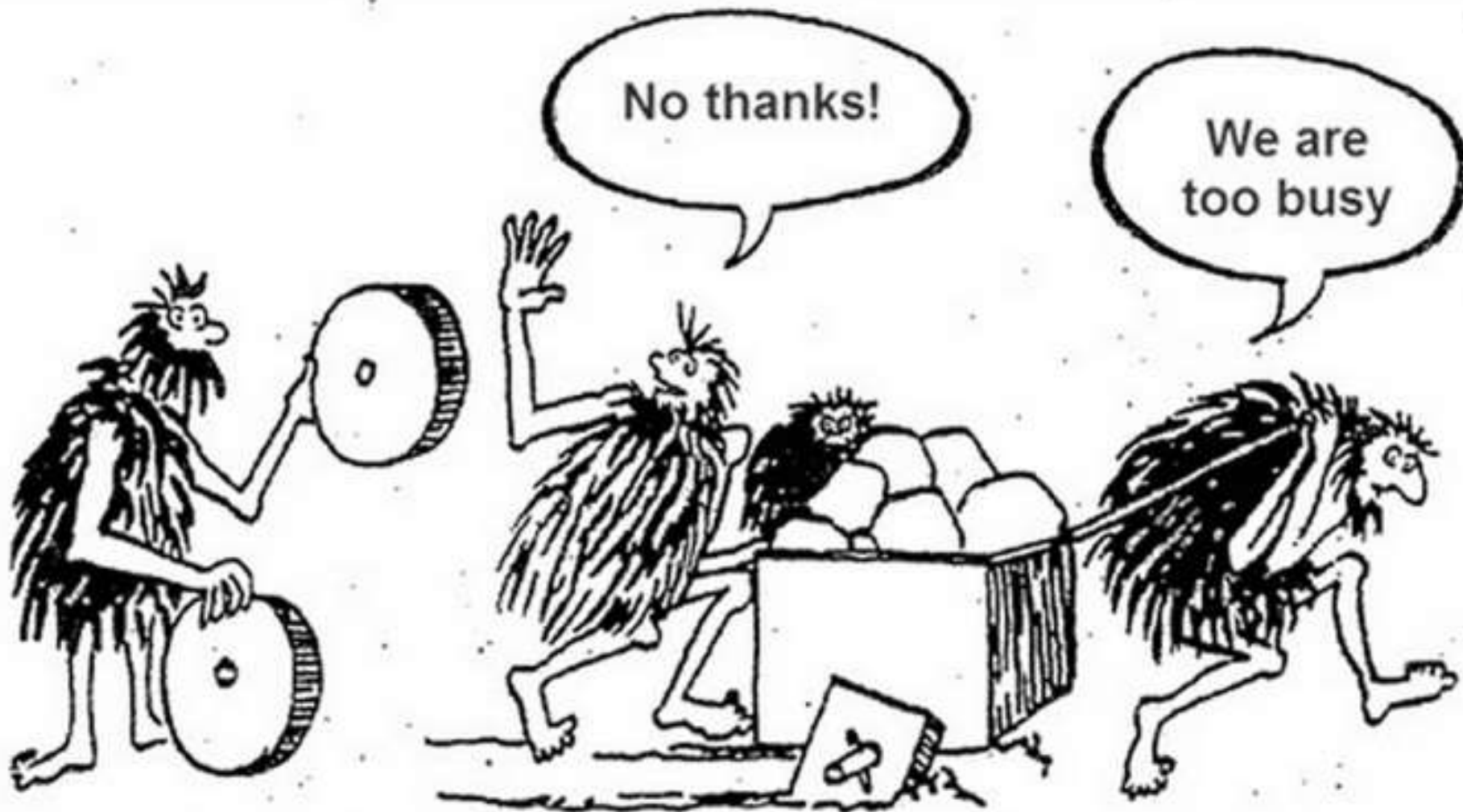
**THE STACKS WERE CLOSED
WHEN DEWEY WAS IMPLEMENTED!!!**



These Libraries Were Leaders in the Effort to #takebackthestacks!

- Maricopa Library District (Arizona): BISAC at all 19 locations!
- Rangeview Library District (Colorado)
- Darien Public Library (Connecticut)
- Nyack Public Library (New York)
- Groveland Library (Massachusetts)
- Markham Public Library (Ontario, Canada)

We Must Stop Reinventing the Wheel!

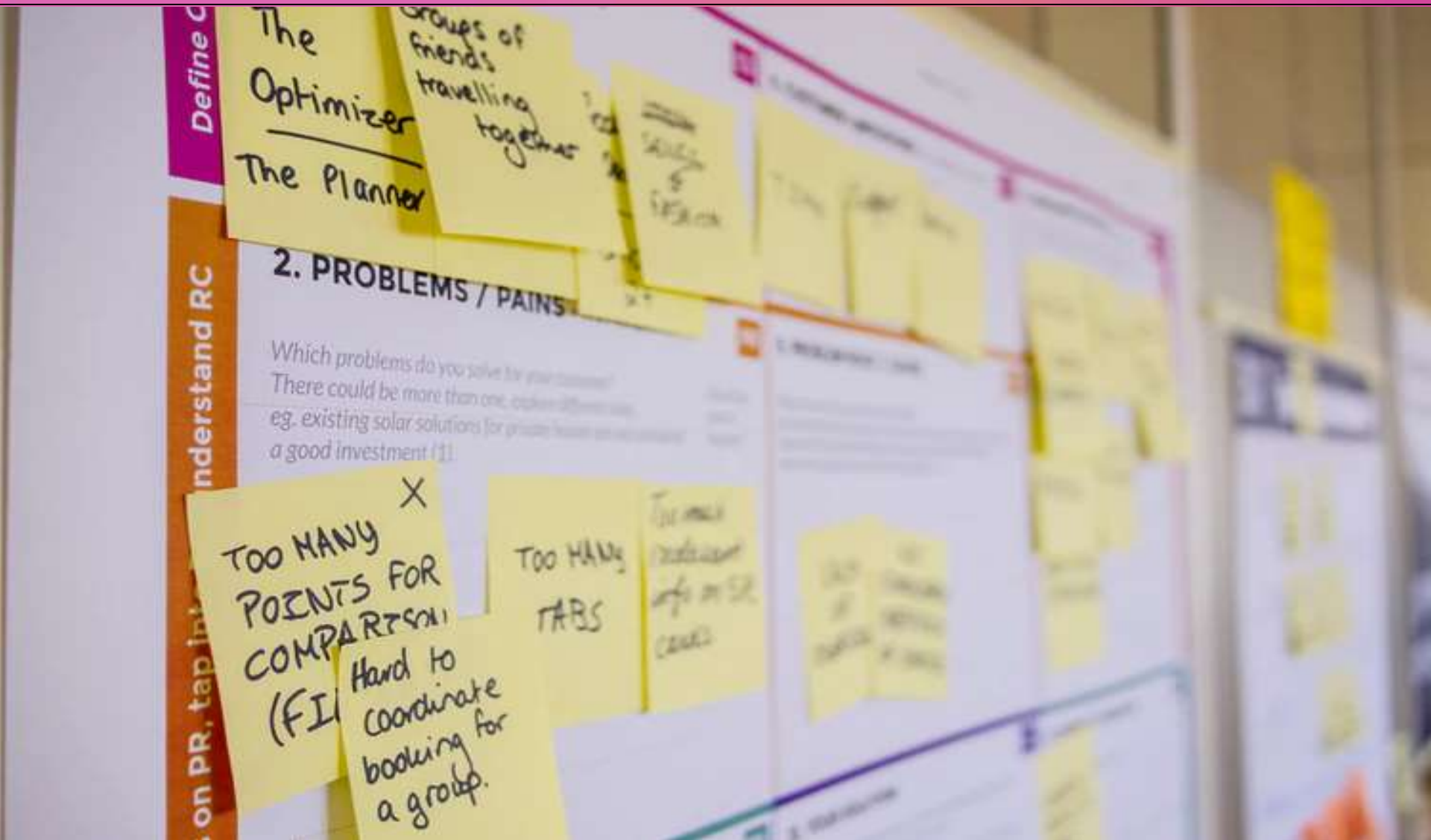


So, What Now?

THE
STRUGGLE
IS
REAL



We Saw What Worked, What Didn't, and What Hadn't Been Tried.



WHAT WE CAME UP WITH



Call Numbers ARE Important!

**We are NOT
getting rid of call
numbers!!!**

Main Category	Includes These BISAC Categories		
General Info	Ready Reference	Library & Info Science	
Mind & Body	Psychology	Self-Help	Philosophy
	Body, Mind, & Spirit	Bibles	Religion
	Family & Relationships	Health & Fitness	Fashion & Beauty
Home	Gardening	Pets	Antiques & Collectibles
	House & Home	Entertaining	Cooking
	Crafts & Hobbies		
Art & Literature	Photography	Art	Design
	Architecture	Language Arts	Literary Criticism
	Literary Collections	Poetry	Drama
Entertainment	Humor	Performing Arts	Music
	Games	Sports & Recreation	
Education, Career, & Technology	Study Aides	College Planning & Life	Education
	Career	Business & Economics	Law
	Computers	Tech & Engineering	
Science	Mathematics	Transportation	Medical
	Science	Nature	Sustainable Living
People & Places	True Crime	Foreign Language Study	Travel
	Social Science	Political Science	Genealogy
	Political Biographies		
History	Military History & Warfare	History	

The major categories

CATEGORY	CALL NUMBERS
General Info	0000-0500
Mind & Body	0501-1999
Home	2000-2999
Art & Literature	3000-3999
Entertainment	4000-4999
Education, Career, & Technology	5000-6499
Science	6500-7499
People & Places	8000-8999
History	9000-9999

Patrons Can Now Find Books in 3 Easy Ways

- Numerical Call # from the catalog record using a 4-digit finder 0000-9999

Call No. 092 8021 PEOPLE & PLACES Organized Crime BRE

- Clearly identified categories for browsing
- Color coded plain English labels



**You CAN Make This Work in
Your Library Too!**



The Technical Aspects



Cost



SPINE LABELS

Ordered from Uline

Uline Mini Printer Labels - White Paper, 1 x 2 1/8"



Mini direct thermal labels provide excellent printability.

- Compatible with all [Dymo](#), CoStar and Seiko label printers.
- No ribbons required.

WHITE PAPER LABELS

MODEL NO.	SIZE W x H	RECOMMENDED USES	LABELS/ ROLL	ROLLS/ CASE	PRICE PER ROLL			ADD TO CART		
					2	10	20+			
S-10770	1 x 2 1/8"	Multi-Purpose	500	6	\$13 per roll			<input type="text" value="2"/>	rolls	ADD

<https://www.uline.com/Product/Detail/S-10770/Dymo-Labelwriters-and-Labels/Uline-Mini-Printer-Labels-White-Paper-1-x-2-1-8>

TINTED LABEL PROTECTORS



Demco® Color-tinted Glossy Label Protectors

Color-Tinted Label Protectors 2" x 3" ~~Blue~~ 250/Roll
Item #: WS12803620

★★★★★ 4.5 (59)

[Write a review](#)

\$20.59

[Reset Options](#)

2" x 3" ▼

Select Color



Quantity Pricing Discount:

1+	4+
\$20.59	\$19.79

(Wo)Man Hours



Buy-In Your Staff



Buy-In Your Board



Buy-In

Your Community



The Physical Work of Changing Your Collection



Weed until it hurts
And then weed some more



Our Collection

22,500

+ 5,600 ACQUIRED

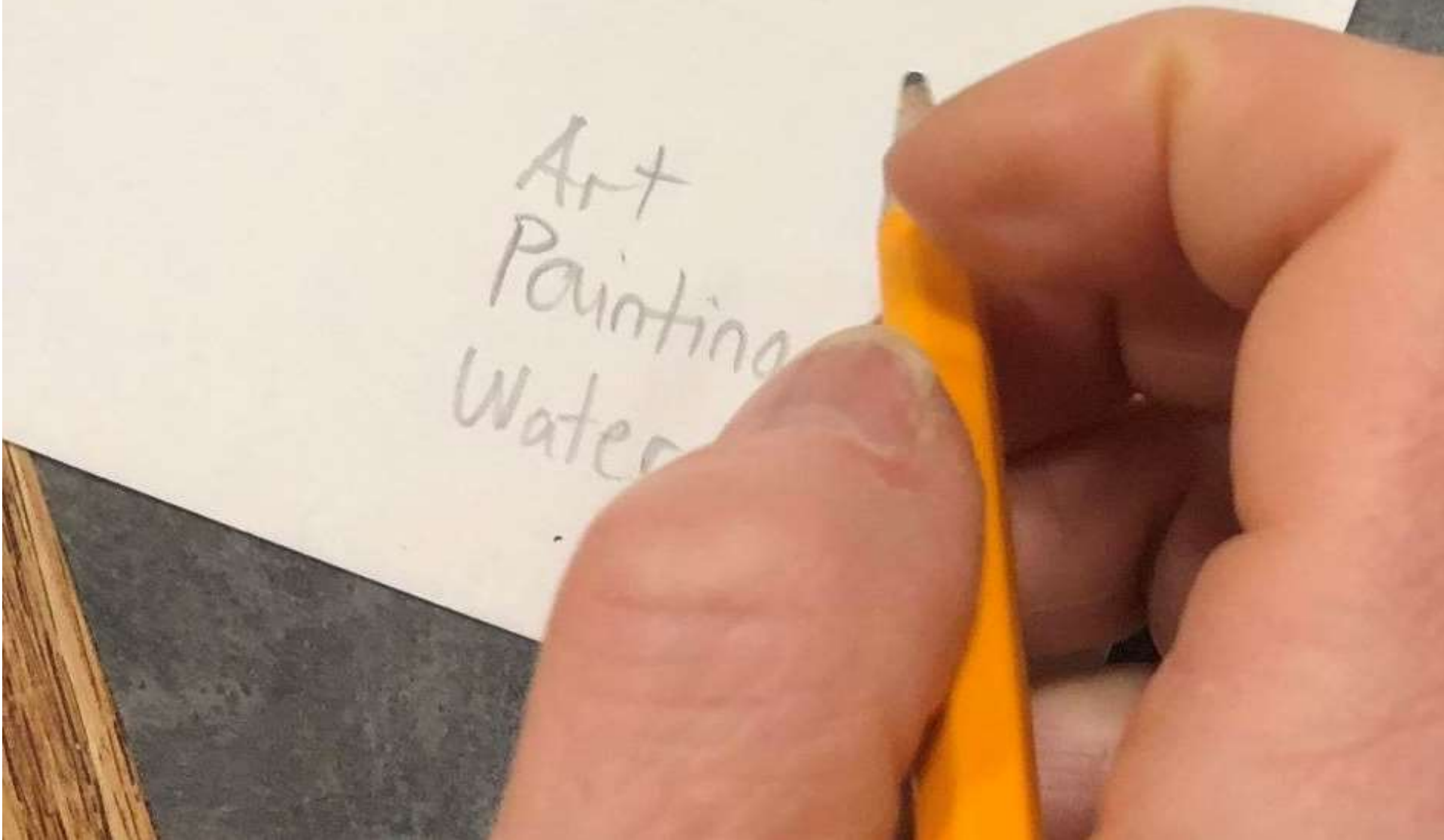
28,100 TOTAL BOOKS

- 20,900 BOOKS WHEN READY TO LABEL

7,200 # OF BOOKS WEEDED PRIOR TO MOVING
SYSTEM

Pre-label Your Books

Art
Painting
Water



The Layout

TRUE CRIME					
CALL #				CALL #	
8000	TRUE CRIME			8018	con artists
8001	Criminology			8019	white collar crime
8002	Law Enforcement			8020	organized crime
		abuse of power		8021	heists
		racial profiling		8022	hate crime
8003	prison life			8023	gang crime
					assassins (not related
8004	death penalty debate			8024	to organized crime)
8005	Forensic Psychology			8025	espionage
8006	Forensic Anthropology			8026	kidnapping
8016	art theft			8027	murder-general
8017	counterfeiting/forgers			8028	murder serial killers

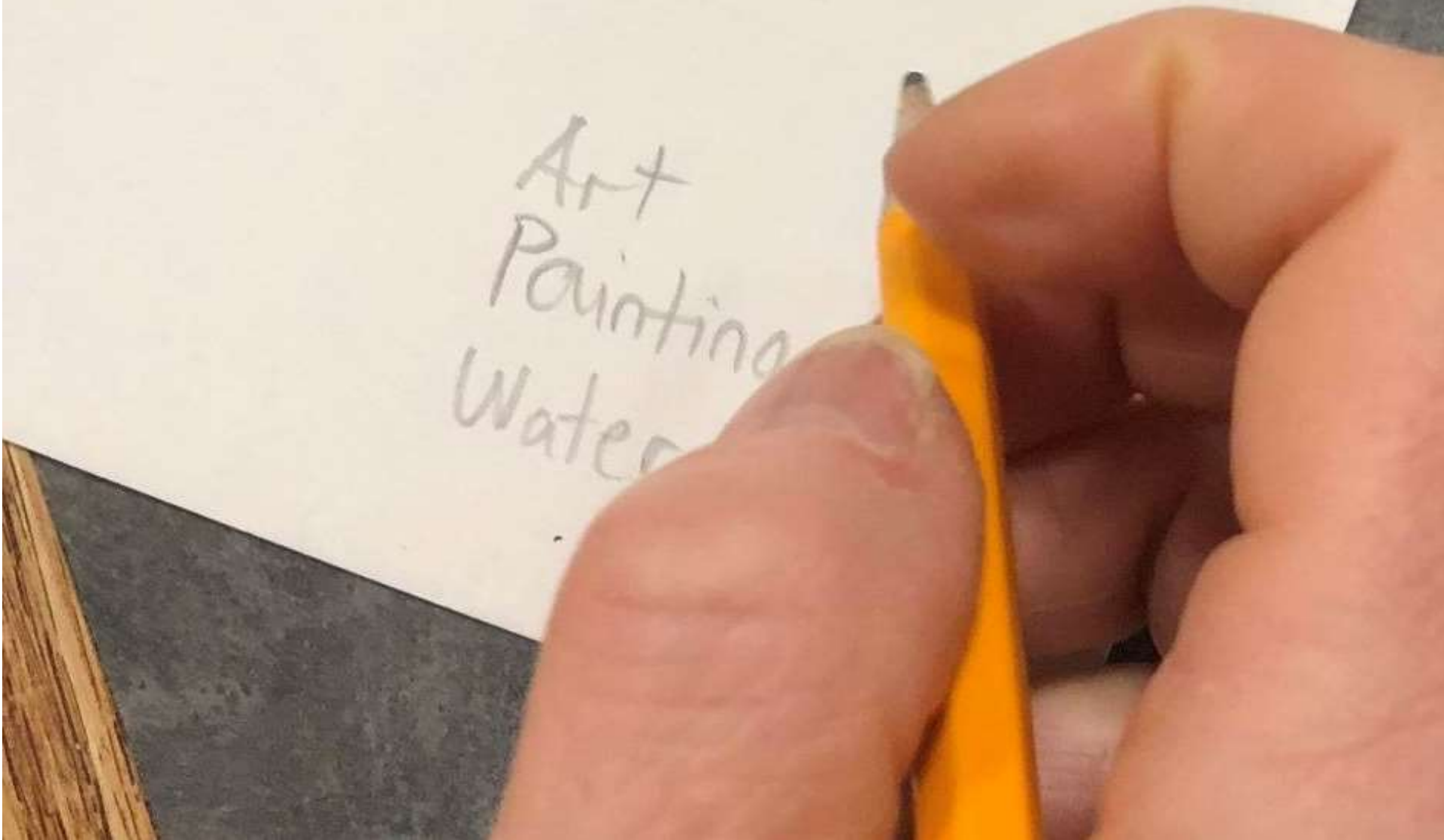
NOTE: The next section (Foreign Languages) will begin at 8050

Make sure you prepare your staff for the task!



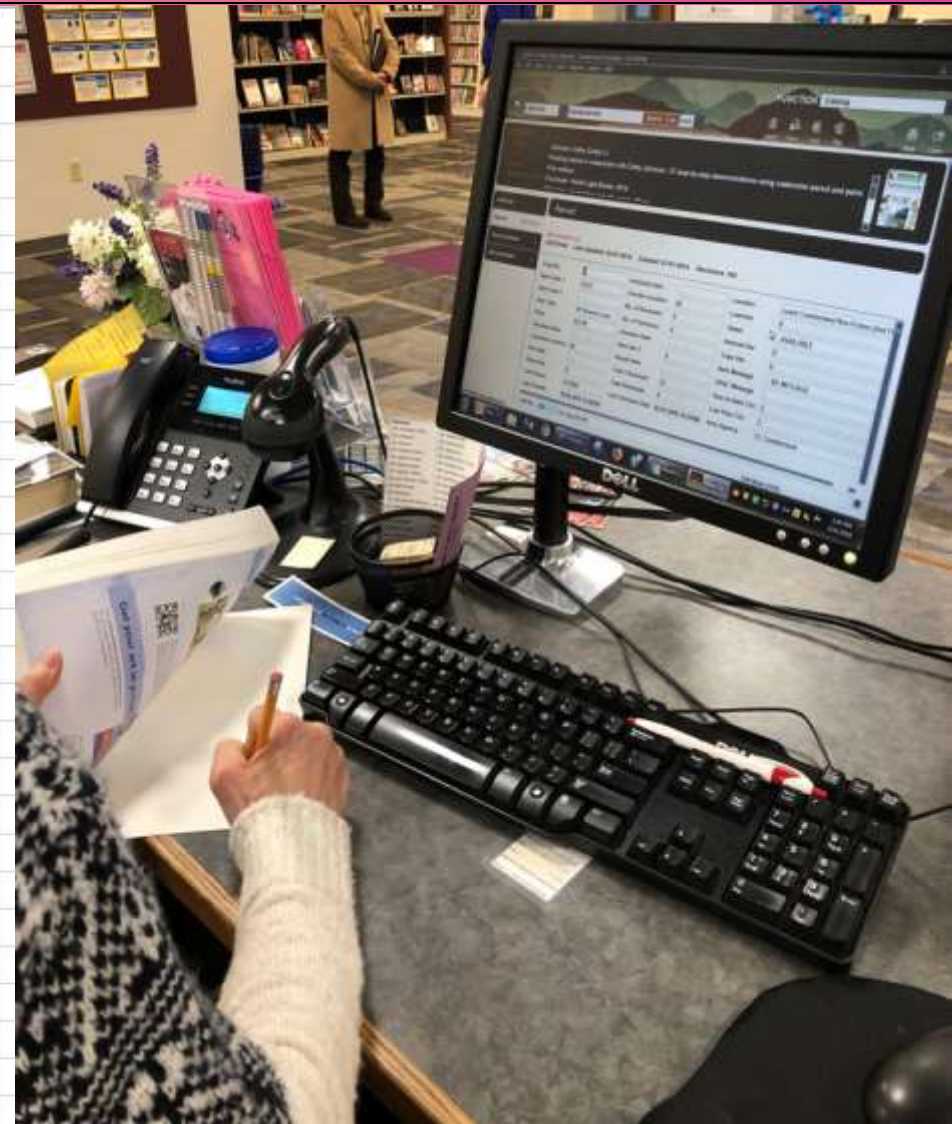
Pre-label Your Books

Art
Painting
Water

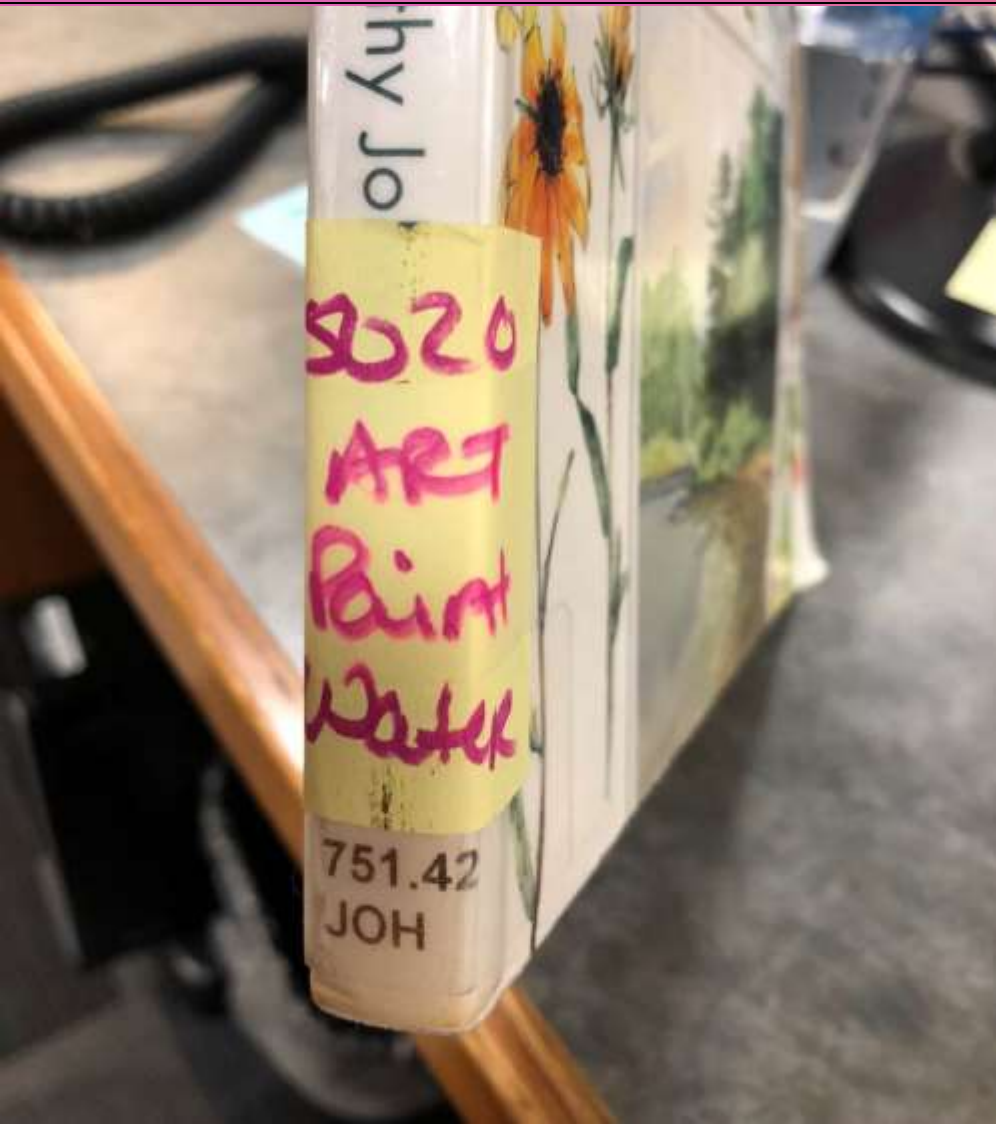


Staging Step 1&2

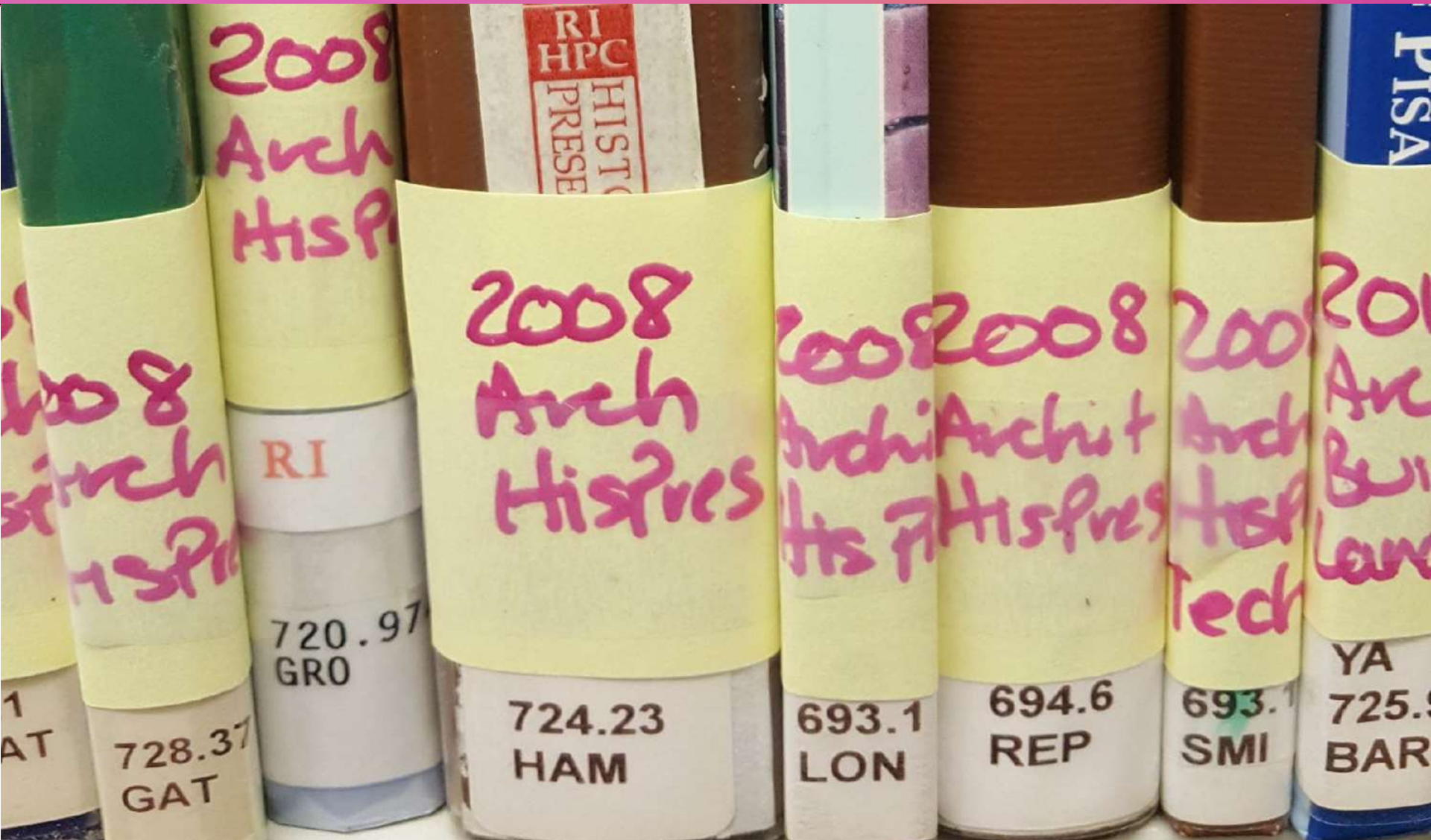
HOUSE & HOME				
CALL #				
2600	HOUSE & HOME			
2601	Cleaning, Caretaking & Organizing			
	Clutter removal			
2603	Interior Design			
	Decorating			
	Homemade Decorating			
	Furniture			
	Textiles- Upholstery			
	Feng Shui			
2606	House Plans			
2610	Remodeling & Renovation			0
	Contracting Out			
	Bedroom			
	Bathroom			
	Kitchen			
	Outdoor & Recreational Areas			
2613	Home Repair			
	Hand Tools			
	Power Tools			
2616	Carpentry			
2619	Roofing & Vinyl			
2622	Electrical			
2625	Masonry			
2628	Plumbing			
2632	Heating			
2635	HVAC			
2638	Security			



Staging Step 3&4



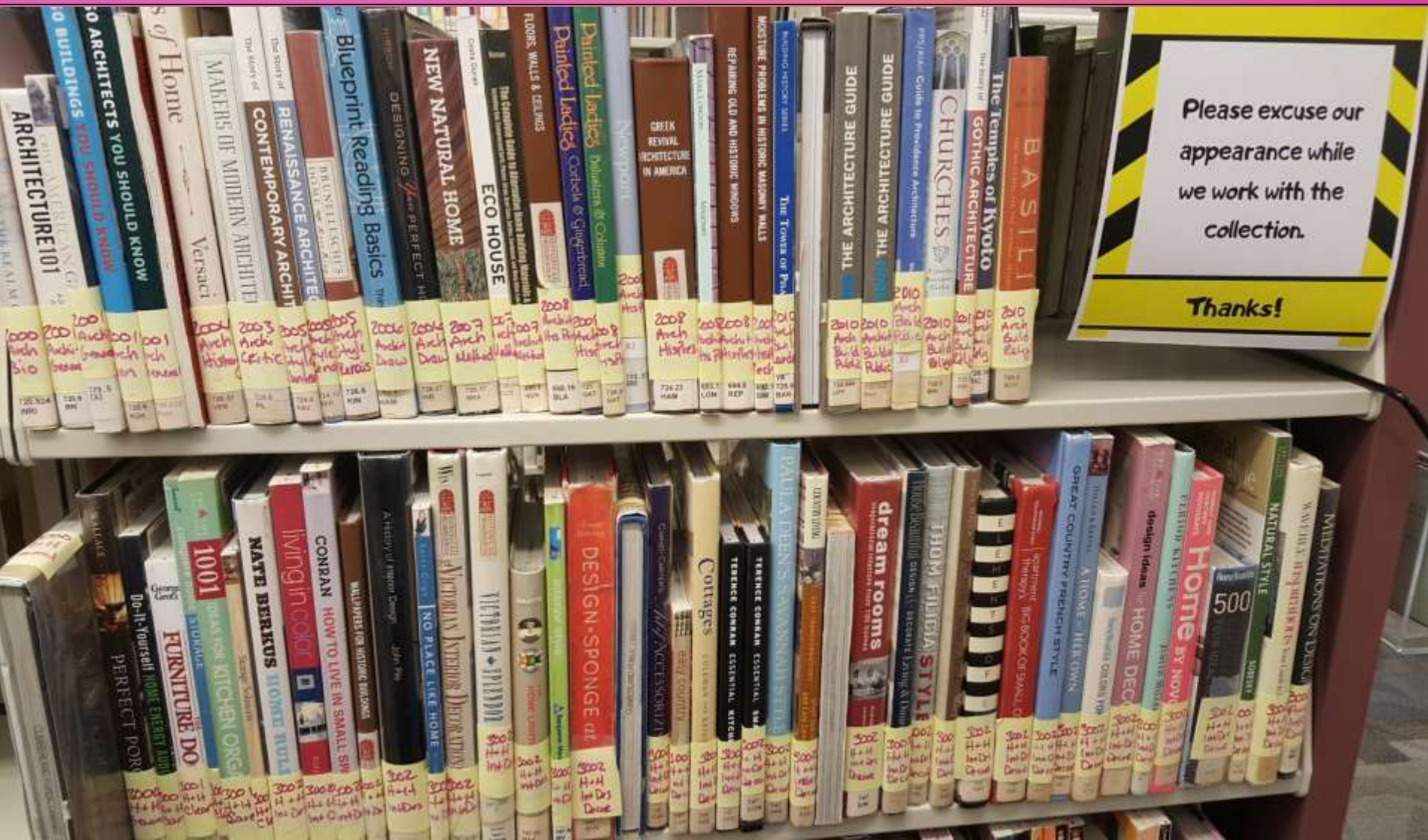
More Staging



Staging Your Items



Staging Your Items



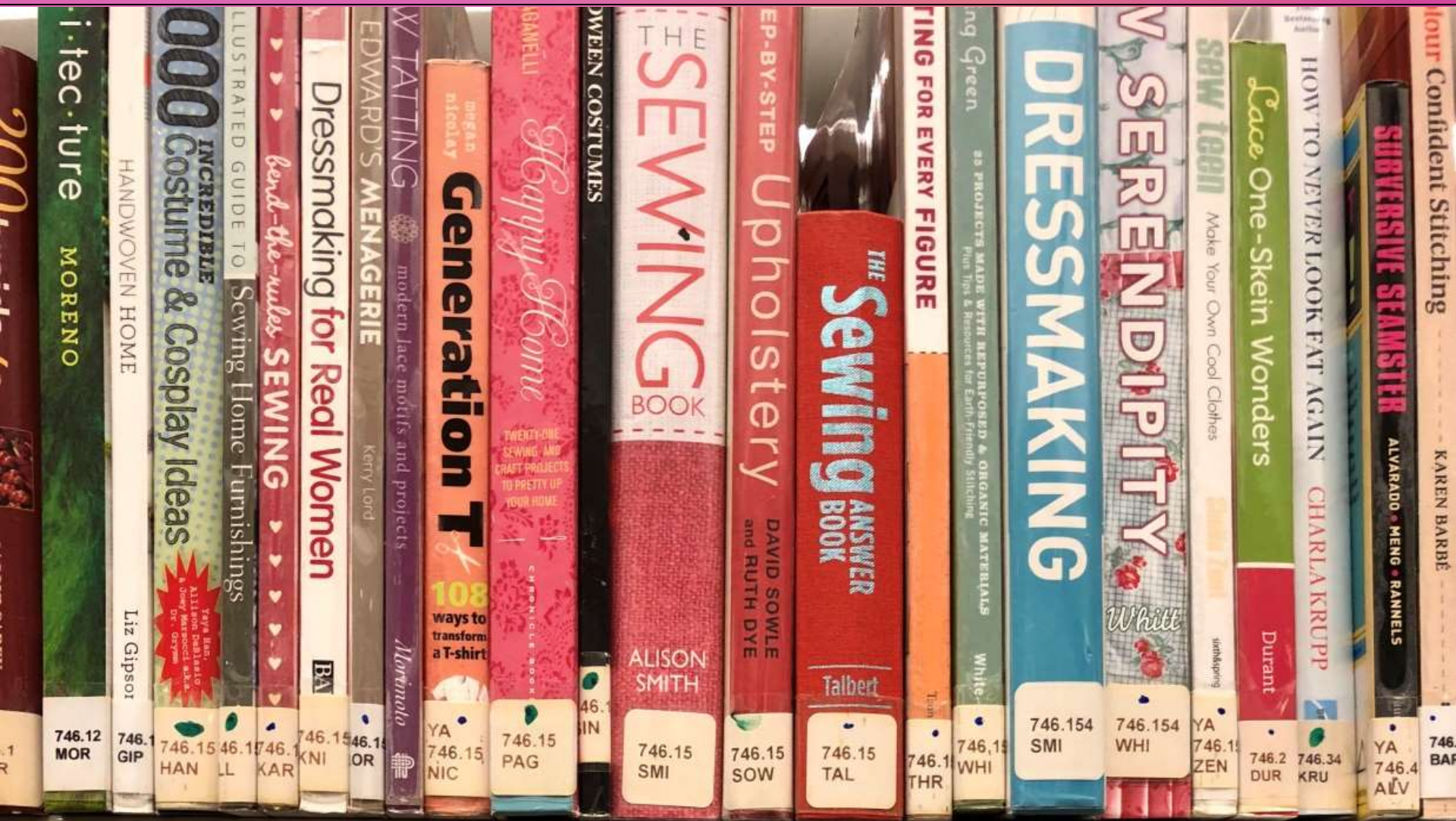
Finishing Staging



Please excuse our
appearance while
we work with our
collection.
Thank You!



Finishing Staging



A few notes about this phase

- It does not matter that my 4745 does not match your 4745. it matters that the patron can walk in and feel comfortable using the system
- You may want to use a test area (or even a small multimedia collection) to work out the details of what works for you.

A Few Notes About This Phase



We pulled out our graphic novels and made them a featured collection. You may or may not want to do this. That is the beauty of a method vs. system. Make it work for your community.

THE MOVE

You're Almost There!!!



Moving Time! 😊



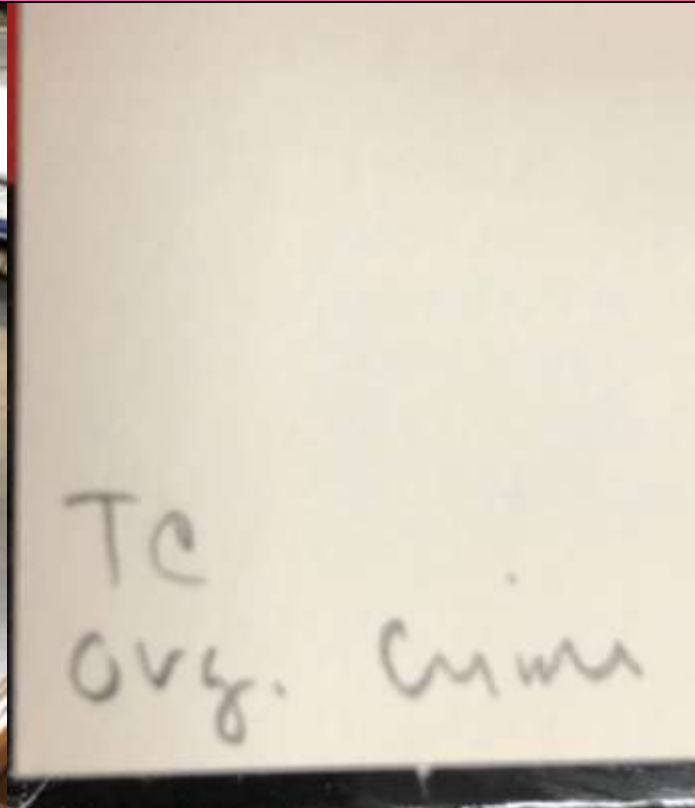
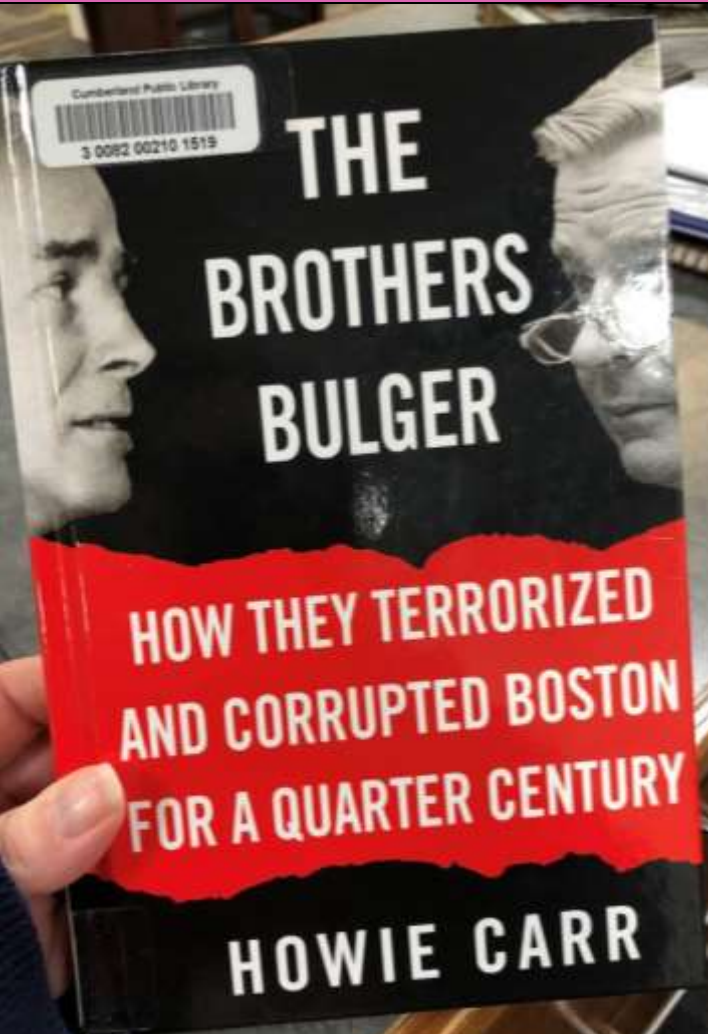
Moving Time! 😊



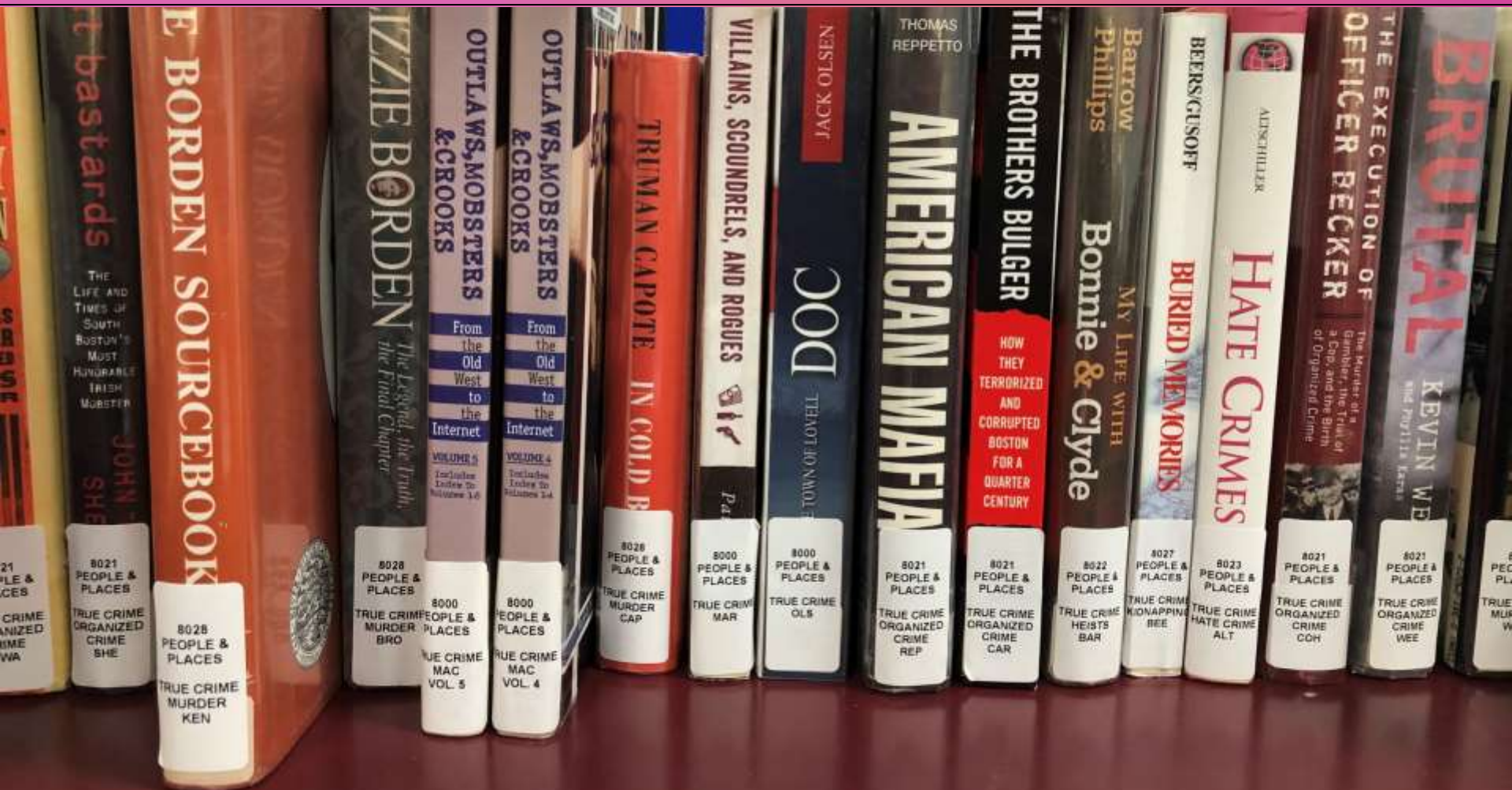
Moving Time! 😊



The Final Labeling Process



Preventing errors before they happen



Check it once, Check it twice!



Changing Your ILS

File Edit View Go Tools Reports Admin Help


sierra

FUNCTION Search / Holds

Browse b BARCODE 30082002275164 Search +

Insert Save View Edit Export Print Close

Author Breslin, Jimmy.
 Title The good rat : a true story / Jimmy Breslin.
 Edition First edition.
 Publication Info. New York : Ecco, [2008]
 Publication Info. ©2008
 Description 270 pages ; 22 cm
 Description text txt rdacontent



Summary

Record i62343051

Item-Level Holds 0

Bib-Level Holds 0

Record

Not checked out and OFFICE

i62343051 Last Updated: 03-15-2018 Created: 03-17-2008 Revisions: 45

Copy No.	1	Inventory Date	- -	Location	cuanf Cumberland Non-Fiction (2nd Floor)
Item Code 1	10121	Checkin Location	12	Loanrule	0
Item Code 2	- ---	No. of Renewals	0	Status	f OFFICE
Item Type	95 Normal Loan	No. of Overdues	0	Internal Use	0
Price	\$24.95	Overdue Date	- - :	Copy Use	0
Checkout Date	- - :	Item Use 3	0	Item Message	- NO MESSAGE
Checkout Location	12	Recall Date	- -	OPAC Message	-
Due Date	- -	Total Checkouts	13	Year-to-Date Circ	0
Patron No.	0	Total Renewals	1	Last Year Circ	0
Last Patron	1769526	Last Checkout Date	11-17-2013 01:54PM	Item Agency	12 Cumberland
Last Checkin	11-23-2013 03:27PM				

Call No. 092 8021 PEOPLE & PLACES Organized Crime BRE

Call No. 099 364.106/BRE

Barcode 30082002275164

Changing Your ILS

Call No.	092	8021 PEOPLE & PLACES Organized Crime BRE
Call No.	099	364.106/BRE

Final Labels



A Finished Shelf



Go to our website for more information & updates!

<http://cumberlandlibrary.org/browse-method>



Cumberland Public Library
Your Window to Information, Entertainment, Community

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Search the Catalog



[Home](#) [About the Library](#) [Events](#) [Entertainment & Research](#) [Kids](#) [Teens](#) [Adults](#)

[Home](#) » [About the Library](#)

Browse Method

THE BROWSE METHOD!

The Cumberland Public Library is pleased to offer a new organization system for adult nonfiction sections (for free!) to libraries that wish to use a more patron-friendly shelving method.

- You are only changing a call #, so it can be used with any ILS and consortium
- The method is completely ready to implement in your library!
- Ditch Dewey (or LC) for good! The new call # will begin with a 4-digit finder number. No more decimals, no more having books on the same topic in several sections of the collection, or even the same title on two different places on the same shelf.
- Spine labels will use plain English (or language of your choice) and color coding for patron accessibility. They will feel empowered to browse your collection and feel confident that they will find what they need without having to search out a librarian (which they may not want to

About the Library

- ▶ [Information](#)
- ▶ [Friends of the Library](#)
- [Letterboxing at the Library](#)
- [Donate to the Library](#)
- [Social Networking Policy](#)
- [Browse Method](#)

A Special Note

- This method was never intended for school, special, academic, or historical libraries as is. We would love if it could be modified for that, but please be aware that we never intended this to be a one fix solution across the library spectrum- just for adult nonfiction public library collections.
- We cannot stress enough the importance of moving into new systems- but they have to be designed for the needs of that demographic. Our children's department head has expressed an interest in incorporating this in her department, but we would first need to adapt it for that collection's needs.

People who feel empowered in their library LOVE their library



Need more convincing?

Because the profession demands it

Ranganathan's five laws: Original vs. new conceptions

	Ranganathan's Original Conception	New Conceptions in the Current Environment		
First Law	Books are for use.	E-books are for reading.	Netflix is for watching.	Blackboard is for studying.
Second Law	Every person his or her book.	Every listener her iTunes.	Every artist his Photoshop.	Every student her EasyBib.
Third Law	Every book its reader.	Every blog its reader.	Every Google Map, its traveler.	Every digital repository its researcher.
Fourth Law	Save the time of the reader.	Save the time of the listener.	Save the time of the traveler.	Save the time of the researcher.
Fifth Law	A library is a growing organism.			

Special Thanks To...

- Our awesome Administration who saw the value in this project and not only let us run with it, but is now making it possible to provide it to the profession at large.
- My staff and colleagues who have been patient through this whole process and put up with odd questions and have embraced this HUGE new idea! Now, they are implementing it with me like the superstars they are.

Questions & Discussion

Now It's Your Turn



