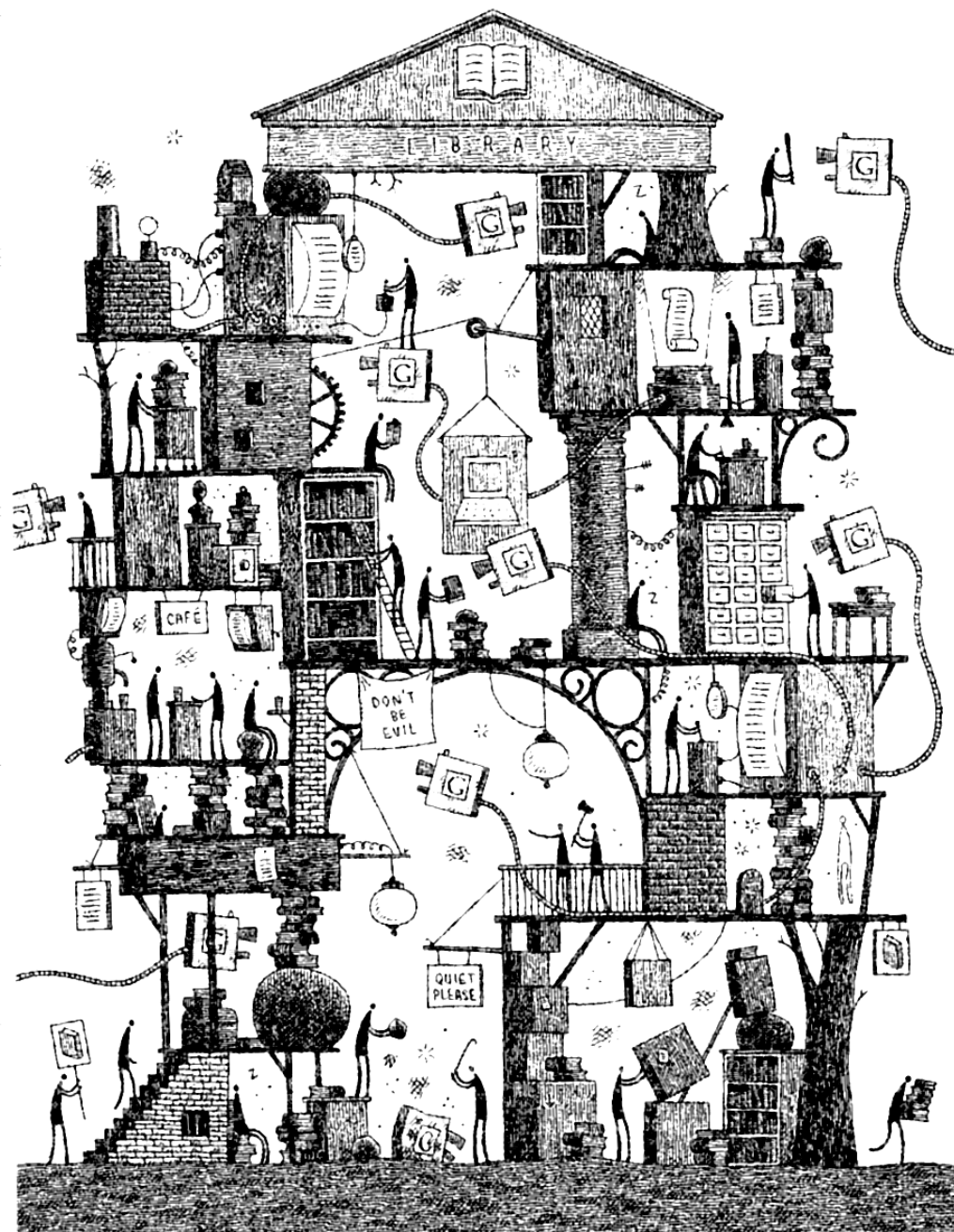


On the road.... (or, where in the heck is Tony Grafton when you need him?)

Merrilee Proffitt and
Jennifer Schaffner
RLG Programs

Digitization and the
Humanities
Chemical Heritage
Foundation, Philadelphia,
PA

Inspiration from
"Future Reading,"
Grafton, *New
Yorker*, November
5, 2007



Digitization and the Humanities, 4 June 2008

On the Road - Proffitt and Schaffner





Digitization and the Humanities, 4 June 2008

On the Road - Proffitt and Schaffner

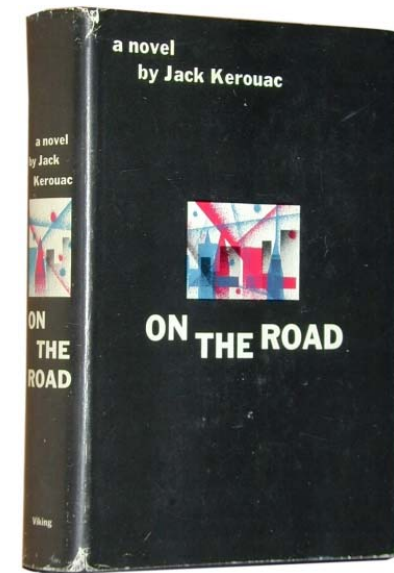
How does digitization matter?

- Ascendance of science
- Digital humanities
- Mobile and ubiquitous computing
- Data deluge / ubiquitous storage

Call for action: gain a collective understanding of impact of technology, needs of scholars. See where the library fits in.

Why digitization in special collections?

- The digital copy and the original travel together
- Both forms are required for excellent scholarship and research



Call for action: document evidence of trends in the use of collections

Licensing



Call to action: Think strategically when acting locally.

What is the impact of digitizing special collections on the collections themselves? On library practices?

- Digitization and organizational changes?
- Local collections and the collective collection?
- Distinctiveness of any particular collection?



Call for action: “Think globally; act locally.”

Risks (but opportunities also lie ahead)



Think and act collectively and strategically

- Effects of licensed digitized primary resources?
- Impact of planning to build and share collections cooperatively?
- Risk of not making decisions in concert (and of not making decisions)?



Back on the road...

