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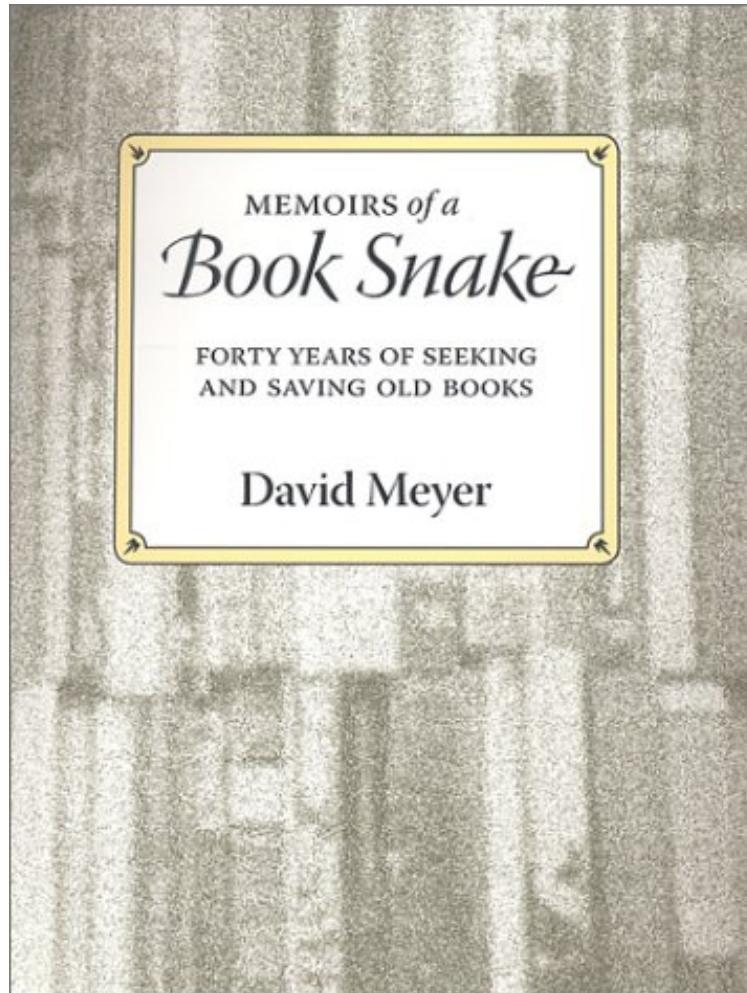
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## **Memoirs of a Book Snake: Forty Years of Seeking and Saving Old Books**

**David Meyer : Memoirs of a Book Snake: Forty Years of Seeking and Saving Old Books** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Memoirs of a Book Snake: Forty Years of Seeking and Saving Old Books*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. For Book Lovers and HuntersBy JtsphoenixWonderful book on David Meyer's life as a book scout or hunter. I loved all the stories of finding these rare and sometimes valuable books that had been lost to the world buried on shelves or forgotten in boxes. Also the way he weaves together the way he finds the book, the value of the book, and how the book relates to himself and what it means to him is done very well.

Looking forward to reading a few more of Mr. Meyer's books.7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Basbanes "Lite"By Richard L. VaughnBasically this is a vanity press offering prepared by the author to cash in on the rare book collecting momentum, earlier stimulated by Nicholas Basbanes. It is essentially a "chapbook". It is about

150 pages, which at it's list price comes to about \$.15 a page or \$.30 for both sides. (Covers included free of charge). It talks little about book collecting or even scouting except for the author's meandering about a few interesting trips and people met along the way. I strongly encourage those interested in book collecting to read ANY of Mr. Basbanes books before purchasing this overpriced narcissistic exercise. 9 of 11 people found the following review helpful. great, but why so short? By mary ann broadus I agree w/ the previous reviewer: this is really a wonderful book but for the asking price, it's too brief. However, for those who love to "book search" it's delightful to read of the author's finds. Highly recommended, elegiac and wry.

Memoirs of a Book Snake: Forty Years of Seeking and Saving Old Books, by Meyer, Daniel

From Publishers Weekly Meyer, mistakenly called a "book snake" by a friend who meant "bookworm," describes countless hours spent sorting through dusty bins, forgotten shelves and packing boxes "hunting" for books. In a highly readable, conversational style, Meyer recounts each find as a first-class adventure. At an auction, he buys a box of books containing a veritable John Steinbeck bonanza: a first edition of *The Grapes of Wrath* and a specially bound, signed limited edition of *East of Eden*. In the same box, purchased for a "buck a book," Meyer found first editions of volumes by Pearl Buck, Somerset Maugham and Aldous Huxley. Meyer tells of travels around the country and to places as distant as Vietnam in search of rare books. Along the way, he meets many characters and has unbelievable luck picking up mint copies of classics. He becomes a collector of the works of Willa Cather and finds his way to her graveside to pay his respects. Among his other treasured finds are first editions of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility* and an inscribed copy of Carl Sandburg's first book, *Chicago Poems*. Raised among bibliophiles, Meyer tells of childhood book quests with his father. He traces the changing face of the rare book business and the disappearance of rare bookstores and antiquarian book departments in mainstream stores like Marshall Fields. Meyer's insistence that this isn't a catalog of prices or a book about the love of reading rings true as the story of his passion for the book and for collecting the bound words of great writers emerges and infuses this charming volume. Illus. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. "In a highly readable, conversational style, Meyer recounts each find as a first-class adventure." -- Publishers Weekly, October 22, 2001 "Memoirs of a Book Snake is a charming, persuasive, and accurate account of what a book scout does. Anyone who has ever practiced this recondite but exciting pastime -- or who might like to -- should find this book a joy." -- -- Larry McMurtry