

“Book Sourcing Science” Quickstart Guide

Honing in on book profit: An FBA Mastery Report

I'm here to cover one very specific thing: If someone put a gun to my head, put me in front of a table of books, and told me I had to make \$10 in 60 seconds - what books would I look for?

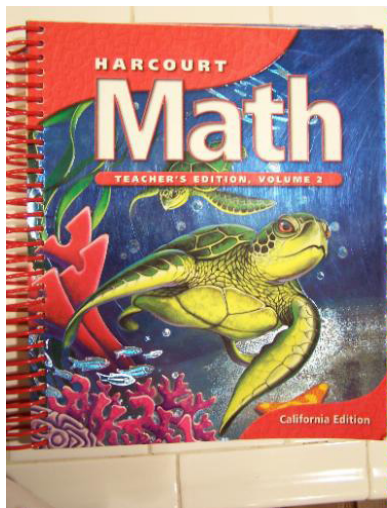
So here it is: The #1 thing I'm looking for in each major book category. If you want a crash course in getting the cream off the top of any book category while sourcing - this is it.

-Peter Valley

Grade school textbooks (not college)

The #1 thing I'm looking for:

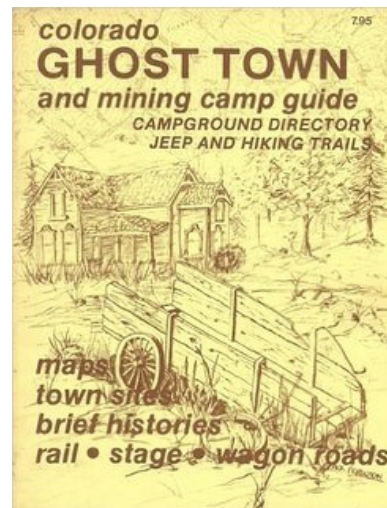
Anything published by Harcourt.



Travel

The #1 thing I'm looking for:

Anything weird - Ghost town guides, rock star gravesite directories, etc.



Religion

The #1 thing I'm looking for:

Anything published by Lifeway.

Business

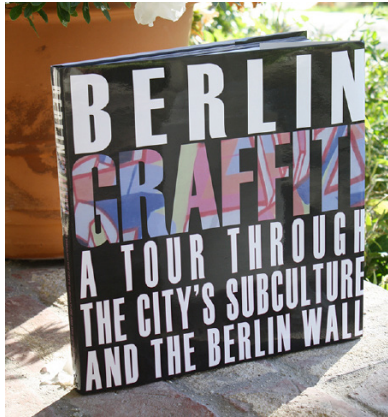
The #1 thing I'm looking for:

Anything published by Harvard Business Press.

Giant coffee table books

The #1 thing I'm looking for:

Anything for a 20-something audience (Graffiti, music, etc)



Selfhelp / psychology

The #1 thing I look for:

Hyper-specific therapies / anything I can't understand.

Parenting

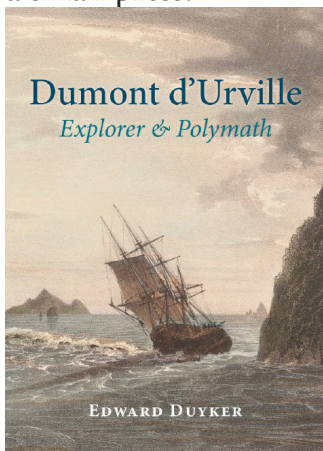
The #1 thing I look for:

Anything about crying (don't ask me why this trick works).

Biographies

The #1 thing I look for:

Anything about someone I've never heard of on a small press.



Childrens books

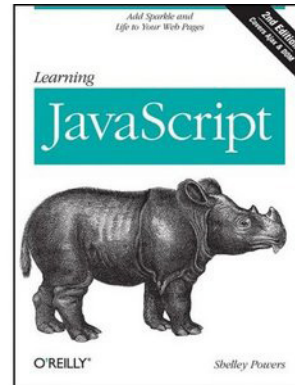
The #1 thing I look for:

Graphic novels / manga that get put here by mistake. (In other words: Almost nothing).

Computer

The #1 thing I look for:

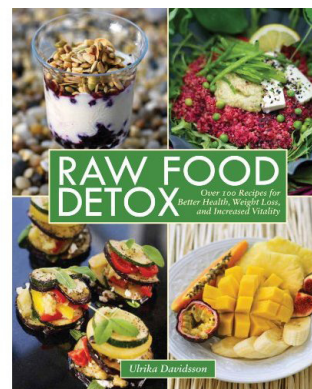
Anything published by O'Reilly Media.



Cookbooks

The #1 thing I look for:

Anything about a truly "fringe" diet (note: Just because you don't practice a diet doesn't make it "fringe.")



Arts & Crafts

The #1 thing I look for:

Anything published by Leisure Arts.

Health & Fitness

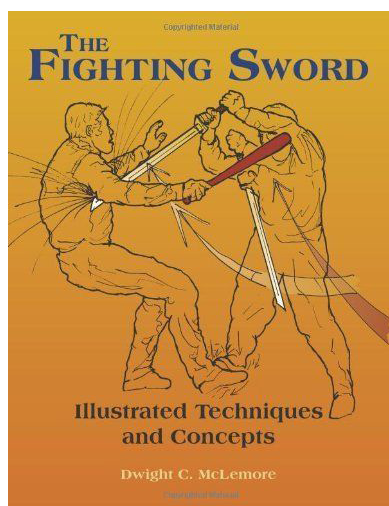
The #1 thing I look for:

Anything about any health or fitness regimen I've never heard of.

Sports

The #1 thing I look for:

Anything about martial arts.



Romance

The #1 (and virtually only) thing I look for:

Christian romance.

Reference

The #1 thing I look for:

Any directory with a year in the title from the last 2 years.

History / Politics / Social Sciences

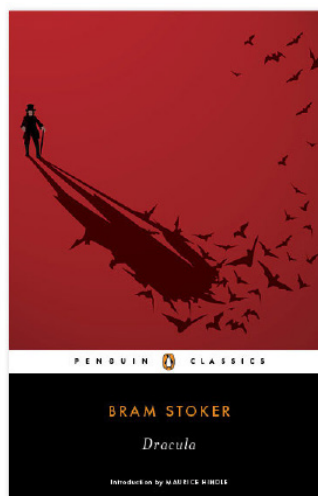
The #1 thing I look for:

Anything published by a university press.

Fiction

The #1 thing I look for:

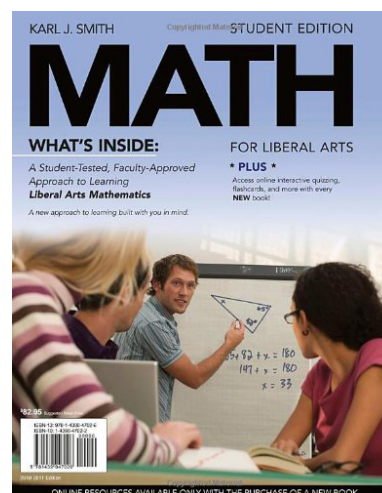
Anything published by Penguin Classics



Textbooks

The #1 thing I look for:

Anything (*anything*) with an aesthetic / graphic design indicating it was published in the last 10 years.



Endnote

I hope you see the patterns here. By and large, you're looking for the weird, the fringe, the niche.

This is a huge subject, and this was just a quick look at the "cream off the top." Get out there, source, and soon you'll have a deep understanding of each category, what to look for and (just as important) what to avoid.

See you in the field. -Peter Valley

