



Disappearing Ink: The Insider, the FBI, and the Looting of the Kenyon College Library

By Associate Professor of Library Administration and Curator of Law Rare Books Travis McDade

Diversion Publishing, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. annotated edition. 216 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.Like many aspiring writers, David Breithaupt had money problems. But what he also had was unsupervised access to one of the finest special collections libraries in the country. In October 1990 Kenyon College hired David Breithaupt as its library's part-time evening supervisor. In April 2000 he was fired after a Georgia librarian discovered him selling a letter by Flannery O'Connor on eBay, but that was only the tip of the iceberg: for the past ten years, Breithaupt had been browsing the collection, taking from it whatever rare books, manuscripts, and documents caught his eye—Flannery O'Connor letters, W.H. Auden annotated typescripts, a Thomas Pynchon manuscript, and much, much more. It was a large-scale, long-term pillaging of Kenyon College's most precious works. After he was caught, the American justice system looked like it was about to disappoint the college the way it had countless rare book crime victims before—but Kenyon refused to let this happen.



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