

FB&C Collegiate Book-Collecting Championship
SECOND PLACE—\$1,000
& EDITOR'S CHOICE SCHOLARSHIP
TO THE RARE BOOK SCHOOL

William Miglore

RAY BRADBURY COLLECTION
AMHERST COLLEGE

On the Web

It's hard for me to imagine what it was like before the Internet. Abebooks started me collecting in 1996.

Favorite Book

I found a favorite early, and I'm keeping it for life. It's *Tom's Midnight Garden* by Philippa Pearce. I first read it in third grade, and I've read it at least ten times since. It's a simple book that falls back on a lot of clichés, but they're good clichés. It's a beautifully constructed novel.

Most Recent Purchase

Just today I drove out to a little bookstore with a friend of mine, and the guy there was so nice that I had to buy something. I picked up a reading copy of *Laughter in the Dark*. I've been eying a first edition online, and I'm thinking about starting a Nabokov collection.

On Vladimir Nabokov

Right now, I'm trying to immerse myself in him. I'm struggling through *Ada*. It's very fat and heavy and almost 600 pages. I'm on page fifty or sixty, just slogging through it. Its late Nabokov, after he realized he was an important guy. It may or may not be self-indulgent, but at the level of sentences, there's a lot to love.

The Lecture Circuit

I can give pretty good lectures on Ray Bradbury's books and Truman Capote's books. I can also give a three-hour talk on Fleetwood Mac.

"I don't think most of my friends knew anything about collecting or regarded it at all until they got to know me. I'm still a bit embarrassed to bring it up in conversation, but a lot of my friends have started collecting. I'm making it the cool thing to do, one person at a time."

