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FROM TALK OF THE NATION

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Scarlett O'Hara's Creative Curtainry

2:42 pm

July 6, 2009

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As I've noted before, I'm about to be married into not just a family, but a state. The Sunflower State, that is. Kansas, of the delicious ribs, amber waves of grain, handsome bald men, and sometime NCAA men's basketball champs. Frankly, the whole darn place makes Oz look positively boring. So, from time to time, when I'm not being schooled on various state trivia (motto, "Ad astra per aspera," or, "to the stars, through difficulties"), I am sorting through the bits of Kansas miscellany that show up in my inbox. This story, however, really tickled me -- it appealed to both the imminently Kansan part of me, and the nerdy lit-joke-lover (which, if associated with a state, would probably have to be Massachusetts).

From the *Kansas City Star*:

Four literary themed trucks are part of a new ad campaign for the Johnson County Library. Officials hope the trucks will spark interest and bring even more readers to their doors ... Barkley Advertising Agency, a locally based business, offered its service -- valued at \$33,000 -- free of charge. Company vice-president Tom Demetriou offered the pro bono work because he wanted to remind people of the sanctuary found at libraries, where the community is intrinsically bound by stories. "It's a quiet place, where you can have your thoughts to yourself," Demetriou said. "That is hard to find these days."

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Blog of the Nation is the official blog of the NPR talk show *Talk of the Nation*. For more information about the blog, the show and everything else in between, please be sure to read our show's [Frequently Asked Questions](#) guide and the [discussion rules](#).

The trucks read as follows: Benjamin Button's Diaper Service, Kafka's Pest Control, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde's Pharmacy, and Captain Ahab's Fine Seafood. Which of course *begs* you to think up your own literary truck decals. [Iago's Fine Hankerchiefs!](#) [Mrs. Bennet's Wedding Planning!](#) [Bishop's Lost And Found!](#) (Isn't this THE MOST FUN YOU'VE EVER HAD!?)

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Eric Angevine (Angevine) wrote:
For that matter, Dorothy herself would make a fantastic Life Coach. She can help you find your courage, your heart, your brain and your home. That's full service!
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