

T I M O T H Y
M C S W E E N E Y
IS THE KITCHEN SINK.



The annual Believer Visual Issue is here. Inside its pages, Norwegian "seed vault" artist Dyveke Sanne discusses her work, Sheila Heti talks with Frank Stella, and Lawrence Weschler revisits Hockney and Irwin. Also included: an 800-square-inch poster by Robyn O'Neil.

SELECTIONS FROM
MY 2008 FALL CATALOG.

BY AMY HALLORAN

**Beet Peelings
and Other Scraps
I Feel Guilty for Composting
Instead of Eating**

A green testimony to the compulsive resilience of the human spirit.

The Pickle Jar

A collection of poems as I face the threat of disposing either:

- a) Myself
- b) Thirteen jars of pickle juice, full of onion rings and perfectly good spices that only have a touch of their flavor sucked out by the vinegar. This vital text includes, but is not limited to, musings on mustard seeds, allspice berries, and black peppercorns. Said spices have all gone pale thanks to that vinegar

leeching the very life right out of them. But they still have some spunk left, right? Some value lingers, even in remnants, right? As you read, these queries will become yours, too. Or I will refund your money. Unless I am dead.

**The Fan Blades
Need Cleaning:
I Wonder Whose
Job That Is**

A contemplative guide to contemplating, or considering contemplating, jobs you don't really want to do right now, or possibly ever, and kind of hate your mate for making necessary, as in, "If she didn't sweep so much she wouldn't kick dust up onto the fan blades and they could always keep turning, cutting the air into neat little slices without someone like me, apparently, having to get up on a neck-breaking ladder to clean them." A stunning treatise on the solace of blame.

Liver Sandwich

How to assess yourself as a sandwich on the menu God writes, and (here's the helpful part) how much it will cost you to buy a different description! This is a title we're sure will hit the bestseller list, and nestle right between the food-philosophy hits *Make My Own Mayo* and *Easy-as-Pie Breads for Hard-to-Swallow Lives*.

Loose Alliances

A map for navigating your way through a nonprofit or possibly even very costly phase of life into an immediate and luxurious retirement. Great hostess gift.

Berry Stew

Continuing the lessons of *All I Ever Learned Was in Kindergarten*, this companion kitchen volume features recipes for everything from apple salad to plastic zebra burgers (hint: serve them raw—never

microwaved), and comes with a special appendix on how to remove shattered McDonald's toys from the works of the dishwasher and dispose of them before the children get home from school.

OTHER McSWEENEY'S FEATURES:

Selections From My 2008 Fall Catalog By Amy Halloran
Noted Post-Marxist Sociologist, Philosopher, and Cultural Critic Slavoj Žižek Welcomes You to the Gym By Evan Johnston
Fire: The Next Sharp Stick? By John Hodgman
Shakespeare Wrote for Money: An Introduction By Sarah Vowell
Q&A With the Head of My Carpool By Jon Methven

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[Memories of Amanda Davis](#)

- Red dot denotes content that is new today.
- Black dot denotes newish content.

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THE CONVERGENCES CONTEST

ABOUT *WHAT IS THE WHAT*

ABOUT *BOWL OF CHERRIES*

ABOUT *COMEDY BY THE NUMBERS*

ABOUT JOHN BRANDON'S *ARKANSAS*

ABOUT MICHAEL CHABON'S *MAPS AND LEGENDS*

ABOUT *UNDERGROUND AMERICA*

ABOUT DEB OLIN UNFERTH'S *VACATION*

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STEPHEN ELLIOTT'S POKER REPORT

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL