

About My Husband's Under Here Somewhere

Peter the Great maintained a human zoo of freakish oddities and also enjoyed excising his subjects' teeth, and then saved them. The hapless Collyer brothers crammed their Manhattan brownstone to the brim and accidentally entombed themselves within it. Howard Hughes, unable to part with his shorn locks and nail clippings stored them all for "safekeeping." Intent upon staving off death, Sarah Winchester feverishly constructed room after room to create a vast mansion.

Eccentricity, wealth and death aside, what these people have in common is way too much stuff!

Morbidly fascinating tales of hoarders and collectors abound as our acquisitive culture is examined. A professional clutter-buster and a mental health nurse offer funny and compassionate commentary on hoarders who amass animals and collectors who spin out of control. The science behind hoarding—including its link with Obsessive-Compulsive disorders—as well as promising forms of treatment add to the mix. Musings on the spiritual ramifications of rampant materialism culminates the reader's trek.