

"These pages shimmer with a deep understanding and appreciation of libraries. Wilson's deft handling of the challenges of the fast-paced information age is especially remarkable and will leave a lasting impression. Immensely provocative and as compelling as a good mystery, this book makes it clear why organizations love libraries with leaders who deliver."

—Tania Bardyn, *NEW YORK TIMES*

"As I read this powerful new biography and thought of my years working at UW Libraries, I found myself remembering Suzy Kassem's words in *Rise Up and Salute the Sun*. Betsy Wilson always encouraged me to 'find treasures in places I did not want to search . . . hear wisdom from tongues I did not want to listen to . . . find beauty where I did not want to look . . . and learn so much from journeys I did not want to take.' She cleared roads for all of us and allowed me to embark on one of the most amazing journeys of my life, for which I am eternally grateful."

—Sheryl Stiefel, *FOREWORD*

"The astute, affectionate, and often startling *Looking for Betsy Wilson* is the first biography of this remarkable library leader. . . . The book highlights her strategic risk-taking and generosity of spirit, rendering Wilson's achievements all the more extraordinary. . . . The result is a thorough and illuminating portrait of an academic librarian with a record of distinctive accomplishments in library technology and management, of leadership in areas of critical importance across the higher education library community, and of professional contributions that have powerfully influenced and improved library services and development."

—Denise Pan, *CHOICE*

"As accessible and insightful as its subject, *Looking for Betsy Wilson* tells the story of the award-winning library leader and her rapid rise in the profession. Interwoven throughout are her passions for opera, ballet, and theater. Perhaps less well known is her membership in the Suzzallo branch of the Leontetti Syndicate. Betsy Wilson is an amazing leader, a wise mentor, and the kind of dear friend who comes along maybe once in a lifetime!"

—Paul Constantine, *NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS*

"*Looking for Betsy Wilson* is a book filled with empathy, wisdom, and sharp insight. It is one you'll reference whenever you are facing a challenging new situation or seeking a nuanced approach to the trickiest of problems. You'll want to keep this book at hand in your office so you can reference her wisdom whenever needed."

—Lauren Pressley, *LIBRARY JOURNAL*

"I especially appreciated the chapter toward the end of the book that highlights Wilson's work with the UW Press. Her enthusiasm, intellectual curiosity, and engagement with the work of bookmaking were transformative. Wilson's investment in new forms of scholarship led to the press's first open-access books, and her advocacy raised the press's profile on campus and in the community. Any university press would be fortunate to have the support of such a visionary leader—and booklover!"

—Nicole Mitchell, *PUBLISHERS WEEKLY*

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Looking for Betsy Wilson



LOOKING FOR Betsy Wilson



THE LIBRARIES, THE PRESS,
A CHARM OF HUMMINGBIRDS,
AND I

"A fascinating portrait of an inspiring leader and a true friend."

—Linda Ambre, *SEATTLE TIMES*

"I was delighted to explore Wilson's life and work. Whether you're a longtime Wilson enthusiast or new to the field, you're in for a treat. . . . We can be grateful that she has given us her time and so many valuable insights into the possibilities of our work in academic libraries!"

—Sarah Leadley,
EMERALD CITY BOOK REVIEW

"I was drawn in from the very first pages by Betsy Wilson's kindness, generosity, and strength. She has been a model for women library leaders for decades, illustrating that empathy and care stand as equal pillars alongside fiscal responsibility and political prowess in university and library leadership. Her legacy will live long in US libraries through the many library workers she has inspired and supported."

—Annie Downey, *TACOMA NEWS-TRIBUNE*