

## ***It Itches: A Stash of Knitting Cartoons*** Franklin Habit

***It Itches: A Stash of Knitting Cartoons*** by Franklin Habit (Interweave Press, \$12.95) is an affectionate, humorous celebration of every aspect of knitting and other fabulous fiber crafts —from buying (and hiding) massive quantities of yarn to wrestling with projects that go seriously awry to prescriptions for alleviating the stress brought on by holiday knitting to wreaking revenge on recipients of handknits who stuff them into the back of the bottom drawer. *It Itches* is the first of its kind to mix cartoon humor with short essays on knitting.

Franklin Habit is known for his witty writing and his *New Yorker*-style cartoons about knitting and life. His cartoons address the undeniable urge to purchase yarn, the (mostly) friendly rivalry between knitters, and the expression of love through yarn and needles. The book includes seventy-five cartoons, deftly rendered in pen and ink with watercolor wash, in addition to humorous short essays on various themes of the knitting life.

These irresistible cartoons will delight anyone who loves playing with yarn and needles.

**IT ITCHES: A STASH OF KNITTING CARTOONS**  
**Franklin Habit**  
Interweave Press • October 2008 • \$12.95  
6 x 6 • hardbound • 112 pages • 75 illustrations  
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Where is Franklin?  
Find him on book tour  
this fall

### **YARNCON CHICAGO**

Saturday, October 4, 2008  
Pulaski Park Fieldhouse  
[www.yarncon.com](http://www.yarncon.com)

### **NEW YORK STATE SHEEP AND WOOL FESTIVAL**

October 18 & 19, 2008  
6550 Spring Brook Ave.  
Rhinebeck, NY 12572  
[www.sheepandwool.com](http://www.sheepandwool.com)

### **LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM**

Thursday, November 13, 2008  
at 6:30 pm  
I Knit London  
106 Lower Marsh  
Waterloo, London, SE1 7AB  
[www.iknit.org.uk](http://www.iknit.org.uk)

More locations and dates  
TBA!

See more at  
[www.ItItchesBook.com](http://www.ItItchesBook.com)

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**About the author:** Franklin Habit is a writer, illustrator, photographer, and proprietor of the popular knitting blog, *The Panopticon*. What began as a project diary is now one of the most popular knitting blogs on the Internet, with mentions in publications as diverse as *Knit 1* and *The Advocate*. On an average day, upwards of 2,000 readers worldwide tune in for a mix of essays, cartoons, and the continuing adventures of Dolores the Sheep. In response

to reader demand, *The Panopticon* spawned its own online shop in October 2005.

Franklin's first piece of knitting—a vaguely rectangular six-foot scarf—was produced during his student days at Harvard University in the 1990s. Until the widespread revival of the craft, he stitched in solitude, turning out a small but steady stream of mittens, scarves, and hats for startled friends and relations.

Franklin's publishing experience includes writing lifestyles features for the *Boston Phoenix*, reading his own essays for the knitting podcast *Cast On*, and writing for *Yarn Market News*. He contributed to the premier issue of *MenKnit*, an online magazine for male knitters ([menknit.net](http://menknit.net)) and designed (and earned) the Gold Medal for the 2006 Knitting Olympics organized by Stephanie Pearl-McPhee, the Yarn Harlot. He has recently embarked on a photography project entitled "1,000 Knitters," a long-term project to (surprise!) photograph a thousand knitters. These days, Franklin knits and spins in Chicago, Illinois, sharing a small apartment with an Ashford spinning wheel and colony of sock yarn that multiplies alarmingly whenever his back is turned.

### **About Interweave**

Interweave, a unit of Aspire Media, is one of the nation's largest and most respected arts and craft media companies, with businesses in magazine and book publishing, online media, television and video programming, directories, and events. The Interweave Publishing Group features 18 subscription magazines and many more special interest newsstand publications sold on newsstands nationwide. Interweave has more than 250 books in print and annually publishes about 40 how-to books on the same subjects as the company's magazines. Additionally, Interweave produces several major events for fiber and bead, gem, and jewelry making enthusiasts and has an extensive Internet network of more than 30 websites and daily e-mail newsletters. Interweave is the proud sponsor of three craft television series airing on PBS: *Quilting Arts TV*, a fresh, contemporary quilting program, *Beads, Baubles, & Jewels*, public television's only how-to program for beading and jewelry making enthusiasts, and public television's newest show for knitting and crochet enthusiasts, *Knitting Daily TV*.

Linda Ligon founded the company in the 1970s when she began publishing *Handwoven* and *Spin-Off* magazines. Since then, the company has grown to employ more than 100 people throughout the country, with corporate headquarters located in Loveland, Colorado and other offices in New York, New York, Malvern, Pennsylvania, Santa Fe, New Mexico, San Diego, California and Stow, Massachusetts. For more information on Interweave, visit [www.interweave.com](http://www.interweave.com) or call (970) 669-7672.

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