

**Board Games
Are Just Like Books!
Except for When
They're Not!**

PJ Bentley

West Slope Community Library
Portland, Oregon

Why board games?

Only medium in the collection designed for social interaction.

Align with strategic goals that focus on literacy, families, and community.



Who wants board games?

Parents & Educators

Kids

Hardcore Hobbyists

Casual Players



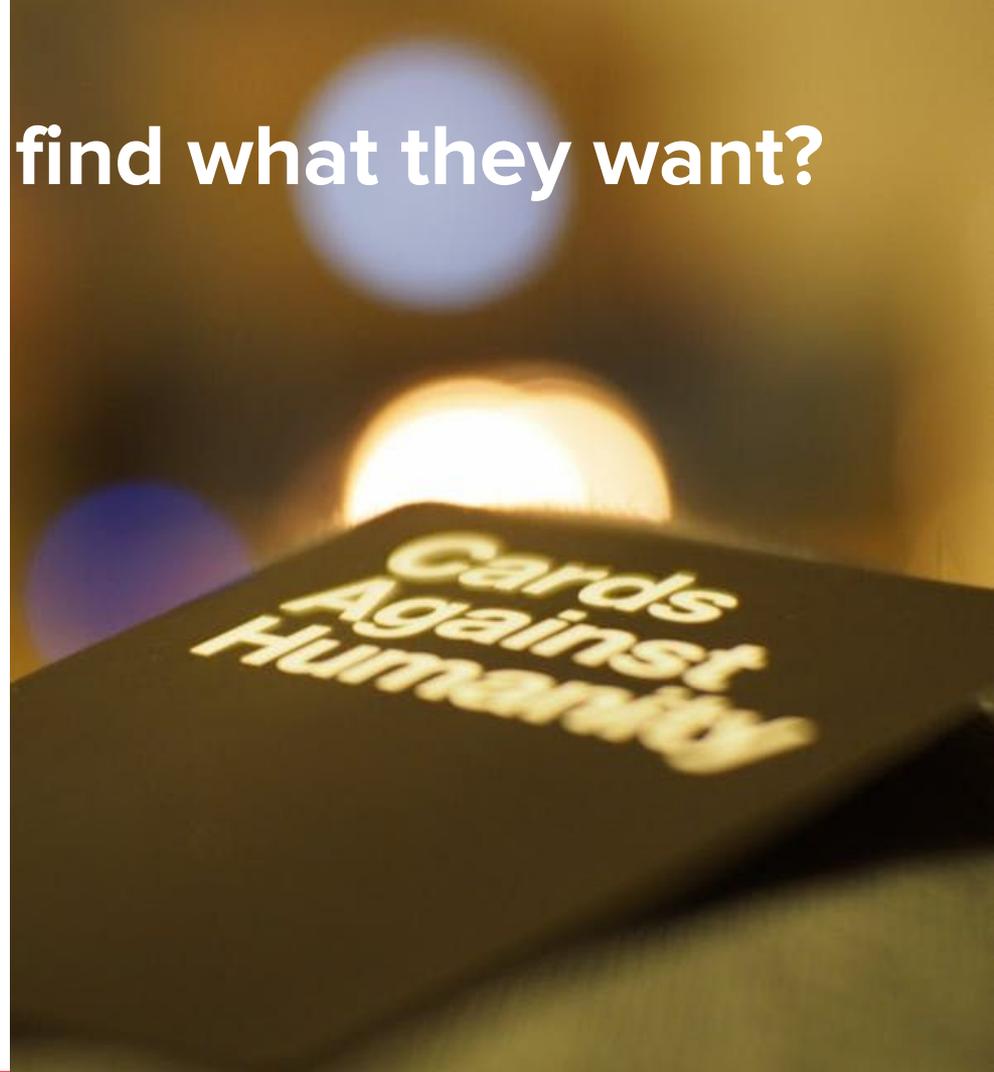
How do we help them find what they want?

Genre headings

Subject headings

Designer & artist info

Publisher info



Genre & Subject Headings

Genre headings bring the collection together.

655 _7 \$aBoard games.\$21cgft

655 _7 \$aPuzzles and games.\$21cgft

655 _7 \$aPuzzles and games†2fast†0 (OCoLC) fst01919958

Genre headings bring the collection together.

Keyword search for:

Search by:

Limit by:

[More Search Options](#)

1 - 10 of 563

per page

Sort:

Page: [1] [2](#) [3](#) ... [57](#) 

Subject headings expose the value of games.

650 _0 \$aMotor ability\$xGames.

650 _0 \$aEye-hand coordination\$xGames.

650 _0 \$aPenguins\$xGames.

Subject headings expose the value of games.

Keyword search for:

Search by:

Limit by:

[More Search Options](#)

1 - 7 of 7 Sort: Page: [1]

1. **Animal upon animal [game] = Tier auf tier = Pyramide d'animaux = Animal sobre animal**
by Miltenberger, Klaus, game designer.

 - Game information and images at BoardGameGeek

System Availability: 0 (of 3)
Current Holds: 0

Description: 1 game (29 wooden animals, 1 die with symbols, 1 instruction book) : wood, color ; in container 22 x 22 x 5 cm


2005

[Add to My List](#)

Subject headings help kids find games.

Keyword search for:

Search by:

Limit by:

[More Search Options](#)

1 - 10 of 25 per page Sort:

Page: [\[1\]](#) [2](#) [3](#) [▶](#)



1. [Hey, that's my fish! \[game\]](#) : a sub-zero game of fishy strategy

System Availability: 2 (of 2)

Current Holds: 0

Description: 1 game (1 rulesheet, 16 penguin pawns, 60 ice floe tiles) ;
in container, 12 x 12 x 4 cm.



2011

Build your own terms!

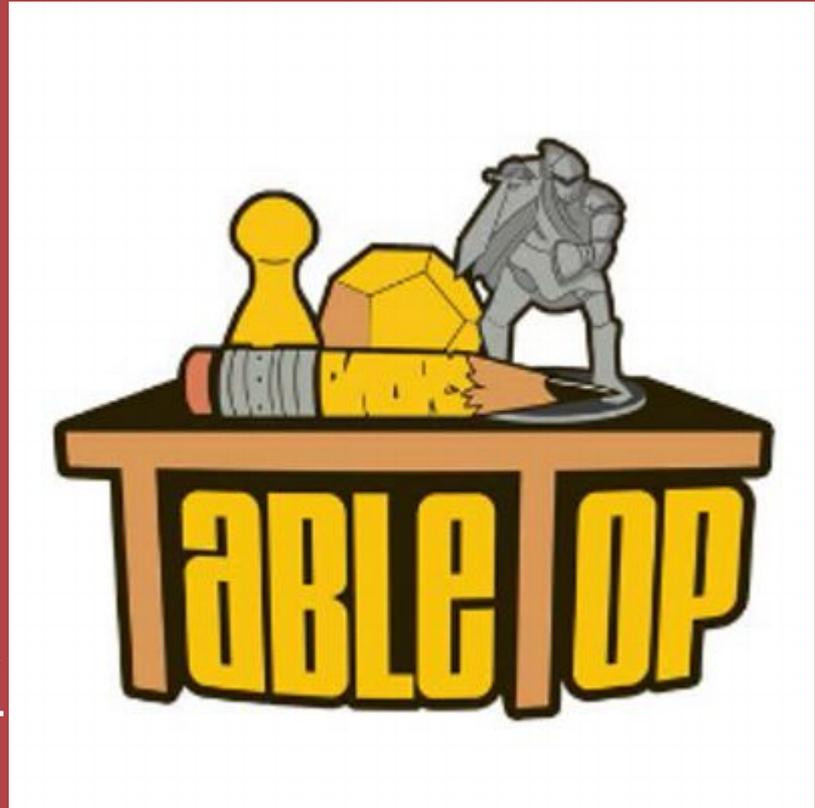
Broader term:

- Tabletop games

Sub-genres:

- Abstract games
- Deck building games

For more terms, see
[“Genre Terms for Tabletop Games”](#)
from University of North Texas.



Game Designers, Artists & Publishers



GAME
DESIGNERS are
like rock stars.

100 1_ \$aFriese, Friedemann, \$edesigner.



1. Friday [game]

by Friese, Friedemann, designer.

System Availability: 0 (of 2)

Current Holds: 0

Description: 1 game (72 playing cards, 3 storage boards and 22 wooden life points) ; in box 13 x 13 x 5 cm. + 1 rule book, 1 supplemental sheet.

[Find It](#)

[Details](#)

[Request It](#)



2012

[Add to My List](#)



ARTISTS &
ILLUSTRATORS
have fans.

700 1_ \$aSobel, Beth, \$eartist.



Board games.
Board games.
Games.

Other Author: O'Malley, Matthew, designer.
Sobel, Beth, artist.
Stonemaier Games.

Notes: Title from container.
For 3 to 7 players.
Duration of play: 25 minutes.
Designed by Ben Rosset & Matthew O'Malley ; art by Beth Sobel.

System Availability: 1

Current Holds: 0

System items in: 1

Medium: [game]



PUBLISHERS
have strong
brands.

264 _1 \$aRoseville, MN :\$bFantasy Flight
Games,\$c[2012].



PUBLISHERS
have strong
brands.

720 1_ \$aBlue Orange Games Co., \$epublisher.

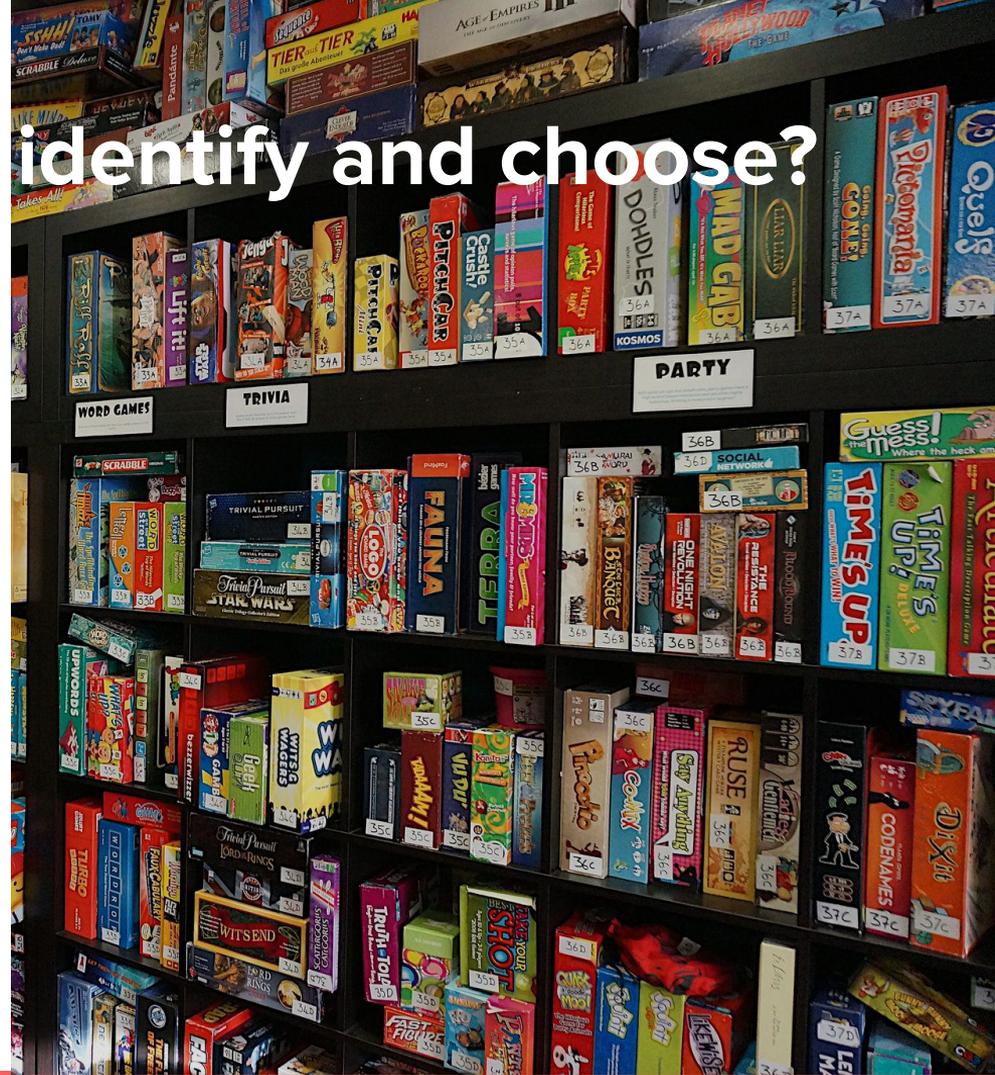
How do we help them identify and choose?

Contents descriptions

Critical game info

Gameplay summaries

Supplementary resources



Describing a Game

All the pieces
(and rulebook!)
equal one game.



Spring
Choose wake-up positions.

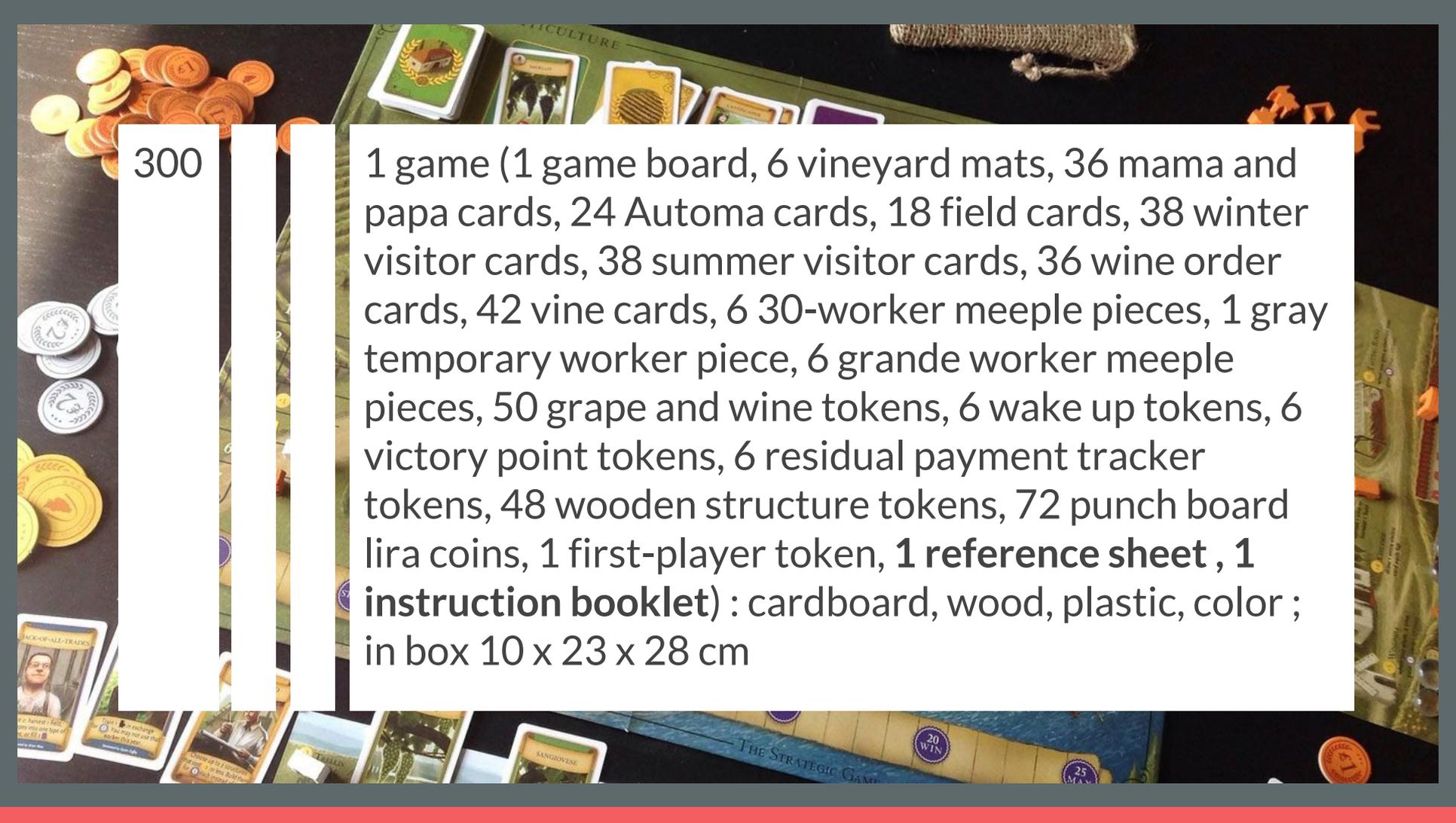
Summer
Worker Placement
2-4 players
5-6 players

Fall
Draw 1 Visitor card

Winter
Worker Placement
2 players
3-4 players
5-6 players

Age grape and wine tokens
Collect residual payments
Discard down to 7 cards
Rotate first player
counter-clockwise

THE STRATEGIC GAME

A top-down view of a board game box and its contents. The box is green and features the word 'AGRICULTURE' at the top. Various cards are visible, including 'Automa cards', 'field cards', 'winter visitor cards', 'summer visitor cards', 'wine order cards', 'vine cards', and '30-worker meeple pieces'. There are also several tokens, including 'grape and wine tokens', 'wake up tokens', 'victory point tokens', 'residual payment tracker tokens', 'wooden structure tokens', 'punch board lira coins', and 'first-player token'. The components are arranged on a dark surface, with some cards and tokens scattered around the box.

300

1 game (1 game board, 6 vineyard mats, 36 mama and papa cards, 24 Automa cards, 18 field cards, 38 winter visitor cards, 38 summer visitor cards, 36 wine order cards, 42 vine cards, 6 30-worker meeple pieces, 1 gray temporary worker piece, 6 grande worker meeple pieces, 50 grape and wine tokens, 6 wake up tokens, 6 victory point tokens, 6 residual payment tracker tokens, 48 wooden structure tokens, 72 punch board lira coins, 1 first-player token, **1 reference sheet** , **1 instruction booklet**) : cardboard, wood, plastic, color ; in box 10 x 23 x 28 cm

CRITICAL GAME INFORMATION
is on the outside of the box.

Playing time, number of
players, and age are important
factors in selecting a game.

Time to Play



1 hour

**Number of
Players**



1 to 6

Player Ages



10+

Critical Game Information

500 ___ \$aFor 1-6 players.

500 ___ \$aPlaying time: 60 minutes.

521 8_ \$aFor ages 10 and up.

GAMEPLAY
matters.

Describe
rules,
mechanics,
setting, and
story
together.



Gameplay Summary

520

—

Players play cards to add evolutionary traits to species to help their species survive in the game's simulated ecosystem. Players must also keep their species fed with food tokens. The player with the most consumed food tokens and most trait cards at the end of the game wins.

BOARDGAMEGEEK.COM
and other online boardgame
resources can **supplement**
shortcomings in ILS, LOC,
RDA, etc.



BOARDGAMEGEEK.COM:

- Can inform local genre headings
- Provides designer, contributor, publication, and version info
- Lists awards for games
- Provides lists of games' components



How do we help them access our games?

Call numbers

Lending details clear
at item-level in ILS

Records only visible for
what can be accessed





1. The grizzled [game] (2015)

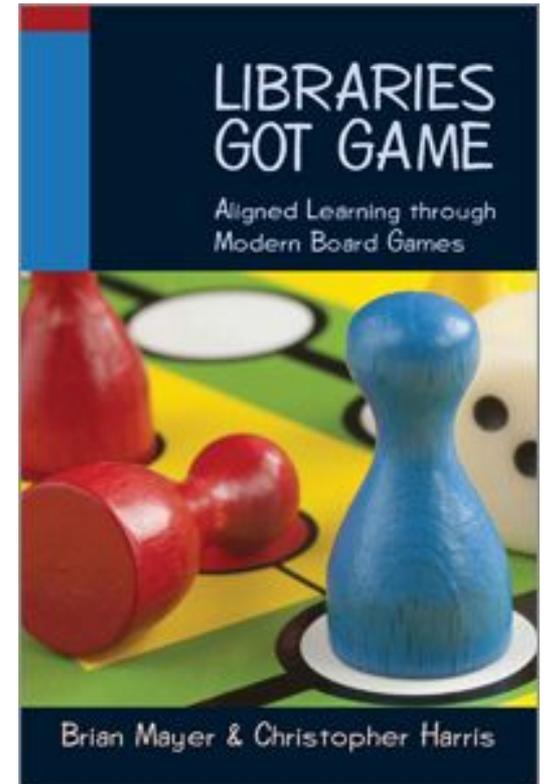
| Call Number | Notes | Status | Circ Date | Type |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|--------|
| Hillsboro Brookwood Library (0 of 1 available) | | | | |
| Board Games | | | | |
| BOARD GAME GRIZZLED | Item Cannot Ship to Another Library | Out (Due: 4/24/2017) | Apr 3 2017 | Realia |
| West Slope Community Library (0 of 1 available) | | | | |
| Board Games | | | | |
| BOARD GAME GRIZZLED | Item Cannot Ship to Another Library | Out (Due: 4/27/2017) | Apr 6 2017 | Realia |

Resources: Libraries & Board Games

Libraries Got Game! by Brian Mayer & Christopher Harris

“Arranging the Pieces: A Survey of Library Practices Related to a Tabletop Game Collection” by Teresa Slobuski, Diane Robson, PJ Bentley in *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice*:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.18438/B84C96>



Resources: Cataloging 3D Objects & Games

“Cataloging Three-Dimensional Objects and Kits with RDA” by Kelley McGrath:

<http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/cat/032812>

“Games Collection Cataloging Workflow” by Cataloging and Metadata Services at Dartmouth College Library:

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~library/catmet/cataloging/games-cataloging-workflow.pdf?mswitch-redirect=classic>

“Cataloging using RDA: board games” by Cataloging and Collection Maintenance at Carleton University Library: <http://accessola2.com/superconference2016/sessions/901BOA%20B.pdf>

“Genre Terms for Tabletop Games” by Diane Robson, Kevin Yanowski, and Catherine Sassen at University of North Texas Libraries:

<https://digital.library.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metadc826647/>

Thank you!

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@pjbntly

Photo credits

Tabletop logo: <http://geekandsundry.com/shows/tabletop/>

Friedemann Friese holding Funkenschlag:

http://boardgame-record.blogspot.tw/2014/11/power-grid-deluxe-europenorth-america.html?fb_comment_id=800114560055167_800307493369207

Herbaceous card art: <http://www.theindiegamereport.com/qplay-thyme-to-talk-herbaceous>

Beth Sobel: <http://www.grand-con.com/guests/>

Takenoko (CC): <https://flic.kr/p/yaqmYy>

Rainer Knizia: <http://www.andhegames.com/blog/how-reiner-knizia-makes-games>

Viticulture game board: <https://www.shutupandsitdown.com/review-viticulture/>

Board game playing time icons: <http://firesidegames.com/games/castle-panic/>

“In boardgame land” board game shelves: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/4nitsirk/23940788925>