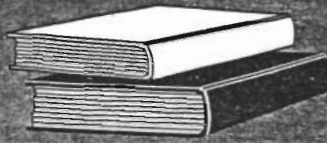
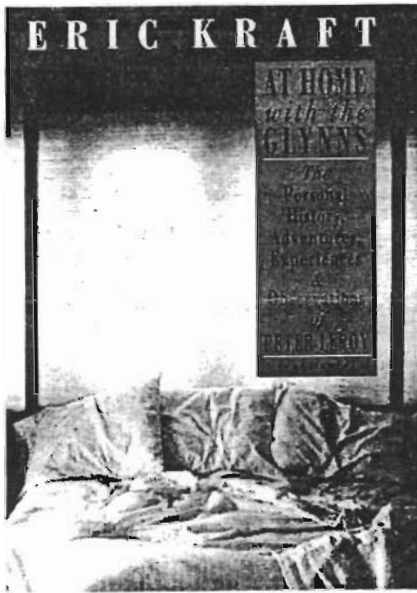


# BOOKENDS

By Ian Luna



*At Home with the Glynn*  
Eric Kraft  
Crown, \$20.00



In this latest chapter in the "personal history, adventures, experiences, and observations" of boy-philosopher Peter Leroy, our young hero finds himself *At Home with the Glynn* in more ways than one.

Pushing 12, and still a nominal member of the "Captain Kangaroo" set, Peter is firmly and comfortably

ensconced in the bosom of one of the most eccentric families in his late 1950s Babington, Long Island orbit. An eager apprentice

to painter Andy Glynn and a confidant to his poet wife Rosetta, Pete is blissfully unaware that their alluring teenage twins, Margot and Martha, have been meticulously planning his seduction for over a year (they even engineered Peter's easy relationship with their folks). The lascivious twins eventually complete the task the evening he escorts them to a movie at the off-limits Fine Arts Theatre. After some naughty role-playing on the walk home, they entice Peter into their bed — and allow for his return many "scented nights" hence.

A master at his Kraft (my apologies), the author knows how best to exploit the gamy centerpiece of this hilarious coming-of-age tale. Through the beguiling voice of his alter-ego, Kraft handles Peter and the twins' *folie à trois* with an uncommon restraint that leaves most everything to the imagination. His customary use of digressions and conceits to break up the narrative do not vitiate, but subtly reinforce the comic impact of the book's main event. Case in point, a seemingly arbitrary description early in the story of an experiment involving the nimble rolling of peas with middle fingers on a cafeteria tabletop reveals itself to be a harbinger of untold earthly delights.

*At Home with the Glynn* is the sixth book in the series and does not really require the contextual settings of the previous volumes. For those uninitiated into this most amusing experiment in contemporary literature, PICADOR USA has reprinted in paperback previous books in the Peter Leroy saga: *Little Follies* (\$13), *What A Piece of Work I Am* (\$11) and *Where Do You Stop?* (\$10). *Little Follies* is as good a place to start as any as the nine novellas in it constitute Pete's earliest trips down memory lane.