WHAT’S MY STORY?

I’M A BOOK HOLLOWED OUT TO CARRY DRUG PARAPHERNALIA.

Some people checked into the Lexington Narcotic Farm voluntarily between 1935 and 1974. The legal system incarcerated others there. Anyone who tried to enter the drug rehabilitation facility was subjected to a thorough search. During these intake procedures, facility personnel confiscated items like this paperback edition of “The Cross of Lassitude” hollowed out to carry “the works”—drug paraphernalia. Among its contents are syringes, an eyedropper, cotton, and a needle. The facility both treated and researched drug addiction, and its patients ran the gamut from well-known jazz musicians to addicted doctors to street junkies. The Narcotics Farm closed amid scandal and shifts in research and treatment.

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