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William Goldbloom Bloch* (bbloch@wheatonma.edu), Department of Mathematics, Wheaton College, Norton, MA 02492. *The topology of Jorge Luis Borges' Library of Babel.*

The Library of Babel is one of Jorge Luis Borges' most famous and most evocative works. A key aspect of the story is that the narrator lives in a Universe composed of hexagonal rooms functioning as a "total" Library. The narrator states his received belief that the Library is a sphere whose consummate center is any hexagon and whose circumference is unattainable. (Many commentators have noted that this echoes an epigram of Pascal.) Late in the story, the narrator adduces a few ideas of his own about the structure of the Library.

In this talk, I will outline some candidate manifolds for Library that satisfy the different beliefs propounded by the narrator. (Received September 18, 2009)