Accidental Book Burning

(On April Fools’ Day, 2016, the University of the Philippines Faculty Center was razed by fire. And according to the Philippine Daily Inquirer, the “students and faculty said that personal properties and rare books that were burned have been rendered as 'incalculable' losses.”)

Its initial spark all the way from the Royal Library of Alexandria, Egypt of 270s AD, that bibliophobe fire’s a violent slap in the face of our complacency: we passed our days settled in the seeming permanence of our books, memorabilia, etcetera.

Not that we never thought such, combustible.

It’s just that...

The thin wooden walls seemed insulant enough, and conflagration, remote.

Now resignedly we mourn as we scavenge and ford through the ashen detritus.