

The purpose of Editor's Shelf is to highlight the following: new editions of important previously published works; reissues of significant works that had been out of print; U.S. editions of works published elsewhere in English; additional volumes in a publisher's series that *MultiCultural Review* has reviewed; translations; previously published works that have been reissued in a new form, such as audiocassettes, audio CDs, floppy disks, CD-ROM, or DVD; and online reference sources. Paperback reprints are not included unless the reprint contains at least some new material. The initial releases in a publisher's series and works that have undergone major changes in the course of their republication in new edition or new media will receive full-fledged reviews in *MCR*. The Publisher Directory contains addresses and phone numbers of publishers whose works appear in Editor's Shelf.

NEW EDITIONS

Akwesasne Notes, ed. ***Basic Call to Consciousness***. Summertown, Tenn.: Book Publishing Company/Native Voices, 2005. 1-57067-159-1, \$11.95 (pb).

This revised edition, excellent for college classes in history, sociology, religion and anthropology, offers papers from the 1977 conference on "Discrimination Against the Indigenous Populations of the Americas." The conference was hosted by the Non-governmental Organizations of the United Nations and held in Geneva, Switzerland. The conference discussed the rights of Indigenous nations in the Americas and, to a lesser extent, throughout the world. Participants John Mohawk, Chief Oren Lyons, and José Barreiro offer new and updated contributions for this edition. This volume contains expanded endnotes, a bibliography, and an index.

Barrett, Carole A., ed. ***Magill's Choice: American Indian Biographies***. Hackensack, N.J.: Salem, 2005. 540 pp. Rev. ed. ISBN 1-58765-233-1, \$62.00.

This expanded volume, first published in 1999, contains American Indian biographies and will prove a valuable resource for middle school, high school, and college level students.

The table of contents enables easy access to the 562 American Indians featured. Also included is an extensive collection of maps; lists of personages by tribal affiliations, years of birth, and variant names; a chronology of significant events in American Indian history; a subject index; and black-and-white photos of a few key people.

Hayes, Joe. ***A Spoon for Every Bite/Una cuchara para***

cada bocado. El Paso, Tex.: Cinco Puntos Press, 2005. 32 pp. Illus. By Rebecca Leer. Spanish translation by the author. ISBN 0-938317-93-8, \$8.95 (pb).

This charming bilingual middle school folktale from New Mexico, told by the legendary Hayes, won the Land of Enchantment Book Award when it first appeared in English. It is charmingly illustrated by the gifted Rebecca Leer. A rich man becomes poor after he tries to prove to his impoverished neighbors how rich he is by using a new spoon for every bite. But the tables turn and his obsession drives him to poverty. His poor neighbors become—well, not rich, but very comfortable for the first time in their lives.

Children and adults will enjoy this humorous tale from Hispanic traditions about the rich and the poor and misplaced aspirations.

Henderson, Helene, ed. ***Holidays, Festivals and Celebrations of the World Dictionary***. Detroit, Mich.: Omnigraphics, 2005. 906 pp. Illus. ISBN 0-7808-0422-8, \$110.

This massive volume describes 2,500 holidays, festivals, commemorations, holy days, feasts and fasts, and other observances from every part of the world. Students from the very young through the general adult reader will benefit from and enjoy this book. It is an excellent reference tool for everyone.

This third edition adds 500 new entries along with an expanded section on calendar systems and a perpetual calendar. Contact information now includes more web sites and e-mail addresses.

The alphabetized entries provide detailed information such as the observance's name, variant names, and dates or month of the celebration. One or two paragraphs describe origins and background of holidays and special activities, festivals, foods, and other rituals. Entries include the name, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, web site addresses, and e-mail addresses of sponsoring or related organizations and a list of printed sources.

Appendices identify additional sources and provide holiday-related information in a convenient, easy-to-use format. This volume contains three indexes: general, chronological, and special subjects.

Levine, Bruce. ***Half Slave and Half Free: the Roots of Civil War***. New York: Hill and Wang, 2005. 322 pp. ISBN 0-8090-5353-5, \$15.00 (pb).

This revised edition offers an overview of the basic issues

and social changes that caused the Civil War. The information will give middle and high school students and the general reader more understanding about the dynamics of the conflict.

The book is divided into ten chapters, which include subjects such as labor and the slave economy, cultural changes in the antebellum North, the idea and realities of free labor, the role of immigration, and the chain of political events that led to war.

Included in this volume are a new preface, introduction, afterword, and bibliographic essay. Students writing reports will benefit most from this volume.

Partridge, Christopher, ed. ***Introduction to World Religions***. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2005. 495 pp. Third ed. ISBN 0-8006-3714-3, \$45.00.

This third edition is a comprehensive handbook and guide of the past and present religions of the world for students in middle school through college and general readers. The work has been substantially revised and updated, with new maps, charts, and color photos of people, important places, and sacred objects as well as new text. Individual chapters present religions from antiquity, indigenous religions, Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, the Baha'i faith, additional religions of East Asia, and religions in the world today.

This is an excellent up-to-date reference source for students of all ages for learning about religions and writing papers. The consulting editors are professors from around the world who specialize in various aspects of the religions they cover.

Seattle. ***How Can One Sell the Air? Chief Seattle's Vision***. Summertown, Tenn.: Book Publishing Co./Native Voices, 2005. 96 pp. ISBN 1-57067-173-7, \$9.95 (pb).

In this newly expanded volume, elementary and middle school students will learn about Chief Seattle, who lived near the Puget Sound in the Pacific Northwest. Three of his most often quoted speeches are included, among them the title speech and "The Sacred Web of Life." These classic speeches have resonated with the modern-day environmentalist movement.

A new foreword by Marilyn Jones, director of the Suquamish Museum, is included along with an introduction, a conclusion, references, and black-and-white photographs, some of them rare images of nineteenth-century village life.

Valdez, Luis. ***Zoot Suit: A Bilingual Edition***. Houston, Tex.: Arte Público Press, 2005. 169 pp. Spanish translation by Jorge Huerta and Edna Ochoa. ISBN 1-55885-439-8, \$13.95 (pb).

This bilingual edition of *Zoot Suit* combines the original

English version of the critically acclaimed play by Valdez with the Spanish translation. In the 1940s it was the first and only Chicano play to open on Broadway. This play deals with the violence and racism toward young Mexican Americans on the home front during World War II and focuses on the Sleepy Lagoon Murder Trial of 1942 and the Zoot Suit Riots in Los Angeles.

Middle school, high school, college, and general readers will benefit from reading this bilingual edition of the play. It can be used as an opening for classroom discussions about racism and violence against Mexican Americans in our country and is a good choice for Spanish-language classes at the secondary and college level.

Valdez is known as the founder of modern Chicano theater and film in the United States. His association with the United Farm Workers led to the formation of his theater group, which has produced numerous plays. Films on which he collaborated include *The Shrunken Head of Pancho Villa*, *La Bamba*, and more.

The introduction of this book is by Jorge Huerta, Professor of Theatre at the University of California, San Diego and also a critic, director, and author.

REISSUES OF OUT-OF-PRINT WORKS

Feraoun, Mouloud. ***The Poor Man's Son***. Charlottesville: Univ. of Virginia Press, 2005. 192 pp. ISBN 0-08139-2325-5, \$49.50.

This autobiographical novel depicts Feraoun's life growing up in the rugged region of French-controlled Algeria. Most Muslim Berber men of this era had only two prospects, to be a shepherd or emigrate to France as a factory worker. Although Feraoun became a teacher, he remained in the poverty-stricken Kabyle community under colonial rule and endured the ravages of the Second World War.

The Poor Man's Son was first written in 1950 and reissued in 1954. In the first edition, colloquial mannerisms and tenses were omitted. An entire section critical of the Vichy regime and of the professed liberation of North Africa had been removed. This changed the conclusion and the whole point of the book. The new book provides the original 1950 unabridged text of the classic.

Contained in this book are a glossary, an extensive bibliography, and an introduction by James D. Le Sueur, associate professor of history at the University of Nebraska, who is also editor of Feraoun's journal.

Namioka, Lensey. ***Valley of the Broken Cherry Trees***. North Clarendon, Vt.: Tuttle, 2005. 252 pp. ISBN 0-8048-3610-8, \$7.95 (pb).

Namioka, Lensey. ***Village of the Vampire Cat***. North Clarendon, Vt.: Tuttle, 2005. 224 pp. ISBN 0-8048-3611-6, \$7.95 (pb).

Middle grade readers will enjoy these well-paced suspense stories set in medieval Japan, first published in 1980 and 1981. *Valley of the Broken Cherry Trees* is the third of an action-filled six-book series set in sixteenth-century Japan. Zenta and Matsuzo have planned to relax in the beautiful spring, but soon they discover the mutilated cherry trees. The two then decide to investigate the mystery of the cherry trees, and their adventures began.

Village of the Vampire Cat, the fourth book in the series, features the young heroes in their efforts to solve the mystery of who killed four young girls. Like its predecessor, the novel is gripping and well paced. The list of characters at the front of each book makes it easier for young readers to keep track of the many people depicted.

Parsipur, Shahrnush. **Women With Out Men.** New York: The Feminist Press, 2004. 131 pp. Trans. from Farsi by Kamran Talattof and Jocelyn Sharlet. ISBN 155861452-4, \$14.95 (pb).

First published by Syracuse University Press in 1998, this literary work about five women in Iran who try to escape the control and repression of their families and culture will appeal to interested readers at the high school level and up.

In the afterword, students will learn about the difficulties that faced writers because of government censorship and harassment on an international level. Shortly after publication of this novel in her native Iran, Parsipur was imprisoned and at one point forced into exile because of her straightforward portrayal of women's sexuality. The book combines fabulism and realism in its narrative of the five women, who find their way to a "magic garden" where they can be free.

Regier, Willis G., ed. **Masterpieces of American Indian Literature.** Lincoln: Univ. of Nebraska Press, 2005. 623 pp. ISBN 0-8032-8997-9, \$17.95 (pb).

Students in middle school through college will get a good education about American Indian culture with this anthology. It contains five unabridged works created by Indian writers of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The works are: *The Life of Kah-ge-ga-gah-bowh* (1847) by George Copway (Canadian Ojibwe); *The Soul of the Indian* (1911) by Charles Eastman (Sioux); *American Indian Stories* (1921) by Zitkala-Sa (Sioux); *Coyote Stories* (1933) by Mourning Dove (Okanagan); and *Black Elk Speaks* (1932). These classic works speak of identity, family community, caste, gender, nature, the future, the past, solitude, duty, trust, betrayal, leadership, war, and the apocalypse. The volume was originally published in hardcover by MJF Books in 1997. While many of these works are available separately, this is the only anthology that includes all in an unabridged edition, priced attractively.

FIRST U.S. PUBLICATION OF BOOKS PUBLISHED ELSEWHERE IN ENGLISH

Mandelman, Avner. **Talking to the Enemy: Stories.** New York: Seven Stories, 2005. 139 pp. ISBN 1-58322-669-9, \$20.00 (pb).

This book is a collection of nine stories about people living within the violence of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. When first published in Canada by Oberon Press in 1998, it won the Jewish Book Award.

The title story portrays an Israeli soldier whose wife left him and whose son was killed by Arab men. Mandelman explores people's humanity and how they learn to talk to the enemy. Other stories focus on Mickey, a Mossad agent, who in "Pity" botches an attempt to kill a Nazi war criminal in Europe and in "Terror" betrays his younger brother as a child, earning a beating from his father. This U.S. edition contains several stories not in the original edition.

Oguibe, Olu. **The Culture Game.** Minneapolis: Univ. of Minnesota Press, 2003. 204 pp. ISBN 0-8166-4130-7, \$74.95 (cl); 0-8166-4131-5, \$24.95 (pb).

These essays offer an engaging and insightful examination of identity within the politically charged arena of the fine arts world. Oguibe presents his views on the legacy of colonialism on artists from Africa now settled in the United States. He describes how these artists have varying degrees of success in negotiating the often-treacherous channels of artistic commerce and sometimes strike Faustian bargains in the process.

The author also explores the period of the Harlem Renaissance and its relationship to European modernism. He provides extensive analysis of the work of painter Jacob Lawrence and insightful commentary on a younger generation of African-American artists, who, like Lawrence, have also been engaged with the subject of history.

Oguibe speculates on how the memories of certain non-Western cultural traditions are maintained or transformed as new technologies and outside cultural influences become more globally dominant. In addressing this process of change, the author ably demonstrates his awareness of both the importance and vulnerability of knowledge and memory. He raises concerns about the prevalence of digital technology, the divide between those who are connected to it and those who are not, and the consequences of this disparity. He argues compellingly that humanity is best served when every society is empowered through access to the world of digital information technology.

Oguibe represents an important voice of reason within the current discourse on cultural politics. His far-reaching essays represent an important step toward achieving the goal of genuine empowerment and inclusion in the cultural arena.

Steve Tyson
Siena College

Schermbrucker, Reviva. **Lucky Fish**. Johannesburg, South Africa: Jacana Books; dist. by Independent Publishers Group, 2003. 211 pp. ISBN 1-919931-73-2, \$17.00 (pb).

This title, now available in the U.S. through the Independent Publishers Group, depicts the struggles of a middle-class white teenager whose parents are imprisoned for their opposition to the apartheid government. Set in the 1960s, the book follows Stephen over a period of four years as he adjusts to his parents' absence, government restrictions on contacting them, money troubles, inconsistent supervision, and the normal difficulties of growing up. Stephen's friends call him a "lucky fish" because, without parents, he can do what he wants, but he misses them, worries about them, and wonders why they chose politics over taking care of him.

Geared to young adult readers (but probably of more interest to adults), this book is a realistic portrayal of a teenager's state of mind in difficult times, personally and politically. Though somewhat slow paced, it offers insight and subtle humor to the more mature teen able to appreciate it.

TRANSLATIONS

O'Neill, Alexis. **Estela en el mercado de pulgas**. New York: Lee & Low, 2005. 32 pp. Illus. by Enrique O. Sánchez. Spanish translation by Eida de la Vega. ISBN 1-58430-246-1, \$7.95 (pb).

This warm, charming story designed for children six through nine is about a Mexican-American girl named Estela who learns about giving when she attends her first Swap Meet with her father and little brother.

The text and illustrations work well together. O'Neill captures the ambiance of the flea market—the quick pace, setting up goods in the stalls, bartering, talking to customers, and interacting with the other sellers. Sánchez's bold strokes and bright colors show the hustle and bustle of the market. The main characters, painted with sharp, deliberate strokes and vivid colors, stand out while the artist blurs the background.

This is an ideal multicultural story for reading one-on-one or in a classroom setting to encourage discussion about hard work, compassion, and giving to others. Spanish names and expressions, with a pronunciation guide, are featured in the glossary. The English hardcover, entitled *Estela's Swap*, received the Best of Beyond Difference award for 2002 by the Vermont Center for the Book.

NEW VOLUMES IN SERIES

African American Biography Library

Ford, Carin T. **Jackie Robinson**. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2005. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2461-X, 31.93 (list), 23.95 (library).

Hill, Christine M. **Gwendolyn Brooks**. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2005. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2292-7, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (library).

Schraff, Anne. **Rosa Parks: "Tired of Giving In."** Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2005. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2463-6, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (library).

Shichtman, Sandra H. **Colin Powell**. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2005. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2464-4, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (library).

Westen, Robin. **Oprah Winfrey**. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2005. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2462-8, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (library).

This new series written for ages 11 and up offers books filled with color photos. Easy-to-read chapters describe the life of each featured subject. Included in each volume are a chronology, chapter notes, suggestions for further reading, Internet addresses, and an index. Informative sidebars bring more clarity to the topics. For example, in *Colin Powell* a sidebar provides information about the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), the organization Powell first joined in college.

All the people profiled in this series have had a profound effect on our country and the world. They are positive role models for young students. The chapters are organized into clear and concise subjects. For instance, in *Rosa Parks* chapter headings include The Right to Vote, Education and Marriage, The Strength to Work for Freedom, and A Woman of Character. *Gwendolyn Brooks* profiles the first black writer to win a Pulitzer Prize; her poetry told the truth about everyday struggles of African Americans.

Westen selected mesmerizing stories about the much-respected Oprah Winfrey's life and conveys them in an entertaining, accessible style. In *Jackie Robinson*, the reader learns how Robinson became the first African American to play in major league baseball and how all his life he fought hard for respect as a human being.

At Issue

Yuan, Margaret Speaker, ed. **Women in Islam**. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Greenhaven, 2005. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7377-2760-8, \$ 19.95 (pb).

This series on current issues provides students in middle and high school a chance to develop their critical thinking skills. Here, different opinions are offered regarding women's status in Islam. Some scholars say Islam oppresses women, while others believe that Islamic women enjoy high status compared with other religions. This book offers a variety of perspectives about concerns for women in Islam through primary and secondary sources from eyewitnesses, scientific journals, government officials, religious leaders, and others.

There are 16 essays with a variety of perspectives. Some

examples are “The Koran Teaches That Women Have the Same Rights as Men” and its rebuttal. Other essays deal with the imposition of dress codes on women in Iraq and the banning of headscarves in Turkey.

This book not only serves as an excellent research tool but also expands students’ minds. Included are an introduction, extensive bibliographies, and annotated lists of relevant organizations.

Biography

Finkelstein, Norman H. **Ariel Sharon**. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2005. 112 pp. ISBN 0-8225-2370-1, \$27.93 (list), \$20.95 (library).

This series is designed for students in grades six through twelve. Each volume contains a time line, sources, selected bibliography, further reading, web sites and an index. Also included are black-and-white photographs, maps, and sidebars.

Finkelstein—not to be confused with the controversial Norman G. Finkelstein (*The Holocaust Industry: Reflections on the Exploitation of Jewish Suffering* and *Beyond Chutzpah: On the Misuse of Anti-Semitism and the Abuse of History*)—tells the story of the current prime minister of Israel. In doing so, he explores how the ancient and holy city of Jerusalem is important to Jews and Arabs. The author guides the student through Ariel Sharon’s life as a soldier and as prime minister of Israel and his fight for Israel’s right to exist in peace.

Character Values

Schuetz, Sara L. **I Am Tolerant**. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone Press/Pebble Books, 2004. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 0-7368-2573-8, \$15.93.

This photo essay for children at the preschool/primary level is part of a series that includes *I Am Caring*, *I Am Cooperative*, *I Am Generous*, *I Am Honest*, *I Am Patient*, *I Am Patriotic*, *I Am Polite*, *I Am Respectful*, and *I Am Responsible*. In this book, which presumes to “illustrate how children can be tolerant,” the “I” in the title refers to a white boy whose smiling face adorns the title page. The cover photo shows him in the center, with his arms around an Asian-American girl on one side and an African-American boy on the other. This is the type of picture that some might interpret as “we are the world” and others might interpret as “white privilege and colonialist hegemony.”

This tolerant little white boy is shown posed in a number of photos that demonstrate just how tolerant he is, and the interpretive text is didactic. A photo of the boy eating rice with chopsticks while an Asian-American girl looks on is accompanied by this: “I learn about different cultures. I learn about how other people eat.” Other people? Eating rice with chopsticks is hardly exotic; billions of people around the world do it. Some of the other photo-text pairs—like “I

like dogs. My sister likes cats. It is all right that we like different animals” and “I like pizza. My sister likes hot dogs. I am tolerant when I try food that other people like”—are just ridiculous.

The final page reads: “I am tolerant. I listen to new ideas. I accept people who are different from me.” The social construct of “tolerance” assumes that differences—in ethnicity, religion, gender, language, community—are not to be valued and embraced; rather, they are merely given permission to exist, to be accepted, to be put up with, by individuals who are “tolerant.” What an awful thing to foist on little kids.

Beverly Slapin
Oyate, Berkeley, Calif.

Coming to America

Shane, C. J. **The Italians**. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Greenhaven, 2005. 208 pp. ISBN 0-7377-2765-9, \$34.95.

Written with older elementary and middle school students in mind, this new volume in the now five-book series (not to be confused with the Barron’s series by the same name) discusses the important part that Italian immigrants have had in shaping the history of the United States.

This book is divided into four chapters that consist of separate essays about the specifics of their immigration, life in America, assimilation, and profiles of some well-known Italians. Some of the famous Americans of Italian heritage profiled are film director Martin Scorsese, the Andretti family of race car champions, and the legislator and vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro.

Also included are a foreword, a comprehensive introduction, a chronology, and a bibliography. This book is an accessible research tool for secondary students.

Contemporary Issues

Burns, Kate, ed. **Guys & Lesbians**. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Greenhaven, 2005. 191 pp. ISBN 0-7377-2457-9, \$23.70.

This series is suitable for high school students and general readers. Each day, new headlines in the local and national media address gay and lesbian issues. For example, on February 26, 2004, editorial cartoonist Chris Britt published an image that was reproduced in over one hundred American newspapers. President George W. Bush sits in his Oval Office with an American flag displayed behind him. The president grins and holds a copy of the United States Constitution with the famous preamble displayed, “We the People of the United States....” Bush has scribbled “EXCEPT GAYS” and underlined it three times. Many other documents are included in this collection of commentaries from across the political spectrum.

A variety of topics are explored: Gay and Lesbians in History; Gay and Lesbian Families; Legal and Policy Issues Confronting Gays and Lesbians; Cultural, Religious and Moral

Issues; and Personal Narratives. Each commentary is introduced with a brief summary.

This volume also includes a foreword, an introduction, a list of organizations to contact, an in-depth bibliography, and an index.

Culture and Customs of Europe

Killinger, Charles. *Culture and Customs of Italy*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2005. 246 pp. ISBN 0-313-32489-1, \$49.95.

Written for high school students and the general reader, this new volume in a now three-book series is an in-depth overview of Italy and Italians. After a brief consideration of the land, people, and history of Italy, the book focuses on religion; marriage, gender, and family; holidays and festivals; food; sports and leisure; literature; visual and performing arts; and media.

The author takes the reader on an in-depth journey through Italy to explore who the people are through their culture, customs, and art. After reading this book, students will understand the contributions of Americans of Italian heritage and how they helped shape the popular culture of the United States.

The volume is organized by chapters and contains a series foreword, a preface, a detailed chronology, a glossary, maps, a bibliography, an index, and black-and-white photos throughout.

Current Controversies

Einfeld, Jann, ed. *Afghanistan*. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Greenhaven, 2005. 224 pp. ISBN 0-7377-2471-4, \$ 23.70.

Gerdes, Louise I., ed. *Immigration*. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Greenhaven, 2005. 224 pp. ISBN 0-7377-2780-2, \$23.70.

This multibook series provides information for young adults about today's most important social and political issues. Each volume offers in-depth discussions of all sides of the debate through a collection of primary sources, mostly newspaper articles and commentaries in popular magazines. Some of the discussions are polished and logical and others emotionally charged. The information will give students a more solid understanding about the controversies from all sides. These volumes are an excellent source to gather information for projects, reports, and debates.

Immigration discusses how the war on terrorism has reopened the debate on immigration, both legal and illegal. The authors in this anthology present both sides on the impact of immigration, the treatment of immigrants, and how legal and illegal immigration should be managed.

In the 32 essays of the *Afghanistan* anthology, the scholars, journalists, politicians, and warlords debate the progress and prospects of the Afghan people as they work toward rebuilding their country, although they are still plagued by

drugs, corruption, and terror.

Both volumes include a list of organizations to contact, extensive book and periodical bibliographies, and a comprehensive index. These two volumes are excellent tools for reports and debate preparation.

Exploring Social Issues Through Literature

Wilson, Charles E. Jr. *Race and Racism in Literature*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2005. 154 pp. ISBN 0-313-32820-X, \$49.95.

This volume, appropriate for high school students and up, explores how racial issues have been dealt with in novels typically read by high school and undergraduate students. The novels explored are from various historical periods and cultural perspectives. They include experiences of Native Americans, African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Italian Americans, Jewish Americans, and Jewish Arabs.

The volume begins with an essay on race and racism in literature. Twelve novels are discussed through plot summary, historical background, literary analysis, and a bibliography. The novels include *The House on Mango Street*, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, *Ceremony*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Native Son*, and *Fox Girl*.

Also included are a foreword, an introduction, a selected bibliography, and an index.

The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Regional Cultures

Busby, Mark, ed. *The Southwest*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2004. 469 pp. ISBN 0-313-32805-6, \$89.95.

Goggans, Jan and DiFranco, Aaron, eds. *The Pacific Region*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2004. 475 pp. ISBN 0-313-33043-3, \$89.95.

Mark, Rebecca and Vaughn, John, eds. *The South*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2004. 532 pp. ISBN 0-313-32734-3, \$89.95.

Marzec, Robert P., ed. *The Mid-Atlantic Region*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2004. 469 pp. ISBN 0-313-32954-0, \$89.95.

Newby, Rick, ed. *The Rocky Mountain Region*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2004. 472 pp. ISBN 0-313-32817-X, \$89.95.

Rees, Amanda, ed. *The Great Plains Region*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2004. 484 pp. ISBN 0-313-32733-5, \$89.95.

Slade, Joseph W. and Lee, Judith Yaross, eds. *The Midwest*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2004. 584 pp. ISBN 0-313-32493-X, \$89.95.

Sletcher, Michael, ed. **New England**. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2004. 463 pp. ISBN 0-313-32753-X, \$99.95.

Set: 8 vols. 3,200 pp. ISBN 0-313-33266-5, \$699.95.

This set for students at the high school and college levels presents the cultures of Americans living in all 50 states, divided into eight general regions. Each volume offers signed articles, from 10 to 30 pages in length, on 13 aspects of "culture." These are, in order of presentation, architecture, art, ecology and environment, ethnicity, fashion, film and theater, folklore, language, literature, music, religion, and sports and recreation. The chapters address their subjects in chronological fashion, beginning with the indigenous peoples of the region pre-contact; passing through the colonial period, the nineteenth century (pre- and post-Civil War, where relevant), and the twentieth century; and ending with the current state of that aspect of culture. In addition to the culture of Native Americans, the contributions of African Americans and immigrant groups prominent in each region receive attention. Each volume begins with the same introduction by William Ferris, the consulting editor for the entire series, followed by an introduction to the individual volume, authored by its editor(s). Following the main text are a time line, notes, a bibliography, an index, and notes on contributors. Given that the books are more handbooks with essays summarizing the information rather than a traditional encyclopedia with discrete entries, the index is particularly useful.

Chapters on art, film and theater, literature, and music reflect the preferences of their authors. For example, the volume on the South briefly mentions the controversies surrounding the rapper 2 Live Crew but names no other prominent hip hop artist, even though producers such as Master P (from New Orleans) and groups such as OutKast (Atlanta) have contributed much to this genre. The authors of these chapters include not only works produced by people from the region but also works by outsiders that depict the region. Thus, the essay on film and theater in the Rocky Mountain region highlights Michael Moore's (from Michigan) *Bowling for Columbine* as well as the *South Park* television series created by two graduates of Columbine High School.

The essays themselves tend to be dry and packed with information to the point of exhausting the reader. However, they do have the advantage of placing the information in a larger context, something traditional encyclopedias rarely do. A more serious quibble is the lack of visuals, save for a few small black-and-white photos in each chapter. Especially in the chapters on architecture, art, and fashion, photos and reproductions would have added significantly to the value of the reference source.

Lyn Miller-Lachmann

History Makers

Burns, Kate, ed. **Gay Rights Activists**. Farmington Hills,

Mich.: Greenhaven, 2005. 111 pp. ISBN 1-59018-599-4, \$28.70.

This collective biography gives students at the secondary level, along with the general reader, up-to-date information about gay rights and advocates for those rights.

Burns examines the efforts of activists Harry Hay, De Martin, Harvey Milk, Audre Lorde, Larry Kramer, Urvashi Vaid, and more, who fought for civil rights, acceptance, and understanding for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and transgender people. These overviews are informative, enlightening, and well documented and include primary and secondary source quotations.

The volume also contains a foreword, an introduction, notes, further reading, works consulted, and an index. This volume is a valuable source for research projects and reports.

Immigrants in America

Martin, Jennifer C. **The Korean Americans**. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Lucent, 2005. 112 pp. ISBN 1-59018-079-8, \$28.70.

This now seven-book series offers upper elementary through high school students a look into the lives of immigrants moving to the United States. Each volume helps the reader understand why immigrants left their homeland to relocate in America, what their trip was like crossing the seas, their challenges in the United States, and how they adjusted. After learning more about the people behind the faces, students will be more inclined to respect and empathize with new immigrants rather than look at them as strangers.

Many Koreans immigrated to the United States in the early twentieth century because they wanted to escape poverty and life under Japanese rule. They hoped to find freedom and independence and maybe even wealth. However, at first it rarely worked out that way, because many Koreans experienced discrimination and little opportunity. Martin attributes their later success to increased immigration after 1965 and the strength of Korean-American community life, which has allowed the immigrants to start businesses with funds raised within the community.

Because of the many primary source quotations, comprehensive sidebars, maps, photos, source notes, and bibliographies, this book is ideal for student research. Indexed.

Just the Facts Biographies

Darby, Jean. **Martin Luther King, Jr.** Minneapolis: Lerner, 2005. 112 pp. ISBN 0-8225-2471-6, \$25.26.

Hart, Philip S. **Bessie Coleman**. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2005. 112 pp. ISBN 0-8225-2469-4, \$25.26.

This series is written for third grade through middle school and encourages students to stand up for what they

believe. The small books are packed with not only inspiration but also well-documented information. Each volume includes a table of contents with topics specific to the featured person, time lines, black-and-white photos, glossaries, fast facts, sidebars, selected bibliographies, further reading, web sites, and an index.

In *Bessie Coleman*, students learn that aviation was not open to women in 1910. Coleman did not let that stop her. In 1995 the U.S. Postal Service honored her with a stamp for her role in African-American history.

Another respected and well-known American is Martin Luther King, Jr. The reader will learn little-known facts about King, such as that he started college at 15 years of age because he was so smart. Most people know that he stood up for what he believed no matter what and felt strongly that “the movement should not use violent methods, even to gain right or moral goals.”

Latino Biography Library

Ford, Carin T. *Roberto Clemente: Baseball Legend*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2005. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2485-7, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (library).

Lee, Sally. *Gloria Estefan: Superstar of Song*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2005. 128 pp. ISBN 0-7660-2490-3, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (library).

This excellent new series, written for ages 11 and up, includes full-color photos, a chronology, chapter notes, informative sidebars, a reading list, Internet addresses, and an index.

The opening chapter of the Estefan biography begins when her tour bus was hit by an out-of-control tractor-trailer. She could barely move her legs. The chapter is entitled “A Haunting Fear of Gloria Estefan”; she had constant fears that something like this would happen. Lee captures the singer’s inner strength and strong character as she moved past this big hurdle in her career and personal life. Students will want to read this book straight through and will come to admire this extraordinary human being.

Equally gripping is Ford’s biography of Clemente. The author captures the Puerto Rican baseball player’s essence from the first chapter called “The Dream” to the last, which describes his legacy following the tragic plane crash that took his life while he was flying relief supplies to victims of a Nicaraguan earthquake. His life was short, but his heart and spirit were big.

Both books include a bibliography and an index. A special feature in *Gloria Estefan* is a discography of the artist’s albums and selected songs and a videography of her tours.

Modern Nations of the World

Miller, Debra A. *Libya*. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Lucent, 2005. 112 pp. ISBN 1-59018-443-2, \$28.70.

This new volume in the now 65-book series is designed for students in upper elementary through high school. Each book contains an expansive and objective overview of the featured country. The chapters include history, geography, culture, and politics. Topics are dealt with impartially.

Students will learn that Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi encourages Islamic women to become educated and join the work force and guarantees them equal treatment under the law. Many women have taken advantage of their new freedoms. However, rural women have been slow to educate their daughters and work outside the home. Instead, they continue to follow traditional roles. Aisha Qaddafi, the only living daughter of the Libyan leader, has a law degree and has been sent by her father to represent him with foreign leaders. The author speculates as to whether Qaddafi will select his daughter to succeed him as Libya’s head of state, even though he also has two sons.

The introduction provides an overview for students that will help with research projects. Descriptive chapter headings add to the book’s ease of use. There are quotations from primary and secondary sources, black-and-white and color photos, maps, sidebars, facts about the featured country, a chronology, suggestions for further reading, notes, and an index.

Native America: Yesterday and Today

Mann, Barbara Alice. *George Washington’s War on Native America*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood/Praeger, 2005. 316 pp. ISBN 0-275-98177-0, \$49.95.

After reading this book, older high school and college students will have a different perspective about the Revolutionary War. Most historians write that the Revolutionary War was fought between the colonists and the British along the northern Atlantic seacoast and that the Iroquois were allies of the British.

Through Mann’s well-documented and well-researched book, a different story emerges. She writes that the Iroquois were not allied with anyone, but working on their own to prevent settlers from invading the Old Northwest. The goal of George Washington and associated settler militias was to break the Iroquois League. Washington authorized rampages to cause their starvation. Mann argues that George Washington, known as the “Father of our Country,” was at the center of the genocide of the Indians in order to take control of the land that these Indians fought for and won.

This scholarly yet readable volume also includes a series foreword, a table of contents, an introduction, extensive notes, a bibliography, and an index.

The Papers of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Carson, Clayborne S., ed. *The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Volume V: Threshold of a New Decade, January 1959–December 1960*. Berkeley: Univ. of

California Press, 2005. 673 pp. ISBN 0-520-24239-4, \$50.00.

This important collection of primary documents is the fifth volume of the planned 14-volume series. Through reading his significant correspondence, sermons, speeches, published writings, and unpublished manuscripts in 1959 and 1960, a pivotal period of his career, the reader gets a glimpse into the life of a man who changed the world. The extensive introduction provides valuable information about King and his involvement in the civil rights movement and how he fit into the larger context of the fifties.

The large black-and-white photos are of King at various times in his life, often with other prominent people.

Portraits of Black Americans Portraits of World Leaders

Hinman, Bonnie. ***A Stranger in My Own House: The Story of W. E. B. Du Bois***. Greensboro, N.C.: Morgan Reynolds, 2005. 176 pp. ISBN 1-931798-45-1, \$24.95.

Miller, Calvin Craig. ***Roy Wilkins: Leader of the NAACP***. Greensboro, N.C.: Morgan Reynolds, 2005. 176 pp. ISBN 1-931798-49-4, \$24.95.

Rice, Earle, Jr. ***Empire in the East: The Story of Genghis Khan***. Greensboro, N.C.: Morgan Reynolds, 2005. 160 pp. ISBN 1-931798-62-4, \$24.95.

These new nonfiction publications for intermediate readers profile three men who had great courage and strong convictions about what they believed.

Rice's biography of Genghis Khan, who was born in 1162, tells of a man of great achievements and courageous leadership. Although his childhood was filled with danger and deprivation, he developed courage and resourcefulness in order to survive. Later in life he became Genghis Khan, "ruler of the world." The tone of Rice's book is generally positive, though he addresses the brutal methods his subject used, typical of warfare at the time.

Du Bois and Wilkins, both powerful leaders who fought for equality and against oppression, were strong forces in the NAACP. When Du Bois, one of the founding members of the NAACP, resigned as editor of its publication, *Crisis*, Wilkins replaced him.

The authors consider their subjects in the context of their historical era. Hinman focuses mainly on the early half of the twentieth century. In 1919, for example, Dubois held a series of Pan-African Congresses in support of advocating the liberation of blacks around the world. Miller's setting is the last half of the century. During its most turbulent years, Wilkins was active in the civil rights movement.

Each volume contains a time line, a map, black-and-white and color pictures, sources, a bibliography, web sites, and an index. With much detail and a generally dry writing style, these volumes are best suited to student reports and research papers.

Profiles in History

Phibbs, Cheryl Fisher. ***Pioneers of Human Rights***. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Greenhaven, 2005. 240 pp. ISBN 0-7377-2146-4, \$34.95.

This volume for middle and high school students presents profiles of leading figures who stand out in history's most important periods and movements. The human rights activists in this volume include Frederick Douglass, Mohandas Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, Henry Wu, Susan B. Anthony, Martin Luther King Jr., Eleanor Roosevelt, Iqbal Masih, and others. There are six chapters in all. Two examine the lives and work of Gandhi and Mandela in depth. The other subjects have shorter biographies grouped into thematic chapters—Freedom Fighters, Champions of the Oppressed, Exposing Human Rights Abuses, and Human Rights at Work (presenting workplace activists such as Pakistani activist Masih, who fought for the rights of child laborers and was assassinated at the age of 12).

Speeches and writings of prominent individuals, excerpted here, allow them to relate their ideas and motivations in their own words. Other features include an in-depth introduction, bibliographies, an index, and an extensive further research section that consists of books, periodicals, and web sites.

Rough Guides

The Rough Guide to Bottleneck Blues. CD: 60 minutes. London: World Music Network, 2005. \$14.98.

The Rough Guide to Celia Cruz. CD: 60 minutes. London: World Music Network, 2005. \$14.98.

The Rough Guide to the Music of Sudan. CD: 60 minutes. London: World Music Network, 2005. \$14.98.

The Rough Guide to the Music of the Andes: Bolivia. CD. 60 minutes. London: World Music Network, 2005. \$14.98.

The Rough Guide to the Music of the Sahara. CD: 60 minutes. London: World Music Network, 2005. \$14.98.

Three of the five CDs fall into the most common type from this valuable and well-established series. They are surveys of a country or region—in this case, Bolivia, the Sahara, and Sudan—that give a taste of the variety of music produced in that region. Another features the work of a single performer, Latin music star Celia Cruz. The last one focuses on a genre, the Bottleneck Blues, and the legendary musicians who created it.

Bolivia features nationally known folkloric artists Luzmilia Carpio and Los Kjarkas. *Sahara* includes the desert blues of BBC award-winner Tinariwen. Legend Mohammed

Ward, dubbed “the golden throat,” is featured on the *Sudan* album along with Abdel Aziz El Mubarak, an international star.

The *Celia Cruz* album presents the Queen of Salsa. The late Cruz was the winner of 10 Grammys in a career that spanned seven decades. *Bottleneck Blues* covers a little-known genre that developed at the turn of the last century. The mesmerizing sound of a bottleneck slide across guitar strings is said to be synonymous with the Delta blues. *Bottleneck Blues* features legends like Blind Willie Johnson, one of the greatest bottleneck slide guitarists, and twelve-string guitar genius Blind Willie McTell.

Each CD has a booklet that contains an overview essay on the genre or performer and a biographical paragraph on the artist for each track. The CD for Celia Cruz has a longer biography, along with more musical analysis and background for each section.

Visual Geography Series

Behnke, Alison. *Syria in Pictures*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2005. 80 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 0-8225-2396-5, \$27.93 (list), \$20.93 (library).

Goldstein, Margaret J. *Bulgaria in Pictures*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2005. 80 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 0-8225-3057-0, \$27.93 (list), \$20.93 (library).

Zuehike, Jeffrey. *Jordan in Pictures*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2005. 80 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 0-88225-1173-8, \$27.93 (list), \$20.93 (library).

This newly revised and redesigned series is for readers at the middle and high school level. The outstanding features include an appealing layout, detailed sidebars, and vivid full-color photos. The books in this series are written from an adult viewpoint and have a standard organization, with chapters on the land, history and government, the people, cultural life, and the economy.

Bulgaria in Pictures takes the readers on an in-depth journey to Bulgaria. The country has a population of approximately 7.5 million people and lies on the Balkan Peninsula of southeastern Europe. After World War II, the Communist Party took power, and the country became part of the Soviet bloc. However, since the fall of Communism, Bulgaria is thriving and now has many publishing houses, art museums, and historical sites.

Jordan in Pictures gives students an inside view into this country and its people. For example, King Hussein I, educated in Great Britain, was criticized for his ties to Britain. His country saw the new young monarch as a threat to Arab nationalism.

In *Syria in Pictures* the reader will find that Syria has a diverse heritage made up of Arab and Kurdish ethnic groups and Islamic, Jewish, and Christian regions. Rather than national loyalty, many Syrians are likely to be more devoted

to their families or religious groups. This has sometimes led to deep conflicts within the country.

New features in this series will enable students to learn more about the individual countries and write better research papers and reports. The features include up-to-date text and statistics and current maps. By going to the series web site, students can get up-to-the minute geographic, demographic, cultural, and economic information and late-breaking news. Also included in each volume is an introduction that provides an overview of the featured country; a list of famous people and sights to see; an annotated bibliography; a glossary; updated reading lists; web sites; the country's flag; the national anthem; a time line; and more.

What Makes Me a...

Petrini, Catherine M. *What Makes Me a Muslim?* Farmington Hills, Mich.: Kidhaven, 2005. 48 pp. ISBN 0-7377-2265-7, \$23.70.

Geared to elementary and middle school students, this new series offers practical discussions of major religions of the world. Each compact volume studies the origins of a specific religion, its core beliefs, important rituals or customs and their meanings, holidays, and present-day changes and challenges.

Students will learn that Islam is the fastest-growing religion and consists of 1.2 billion Muslims in countries throughout the world. The book is divided into five succinct, easy-to-read chapters, which include a historical overview of the religion, basic beliefs and practices, holidays, and challenges the Muslim community faces today.

Also included in this volume are full-color artwork, photos, sidebars, a 12-month time line of Muslim celebrations, a glossary, and an index. The section on further exploration includes books, videos/DVDs, and web sites.

World History Series

Uschan, Michael V. *The Holocaust*. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Lucent, 2005. 112 pp. ISBN 1-59018-252-9, \$28.70.

This comprehensive, well-documented series of significant historical events is appropriate for older elementary and middle school students. Each volume is written in clear, concise language with quotations from primary sources. The series is designed to help students understand that the past does affect the future. For example, our forefathers did not invent democracy but adapted democratic ideas that originated from ancient Greece.

The stark black-and-white cover of *The Holocaust* sets the scene for that time in history, the unspeakable torture and murder of innocent people during Hitler's regime. He murdered 11 million people because of their religion, ethnic origin, and political views; over half of the people were Jewish. Former journalist and award-winning writer Uschan provides

the reader with thorough coverage about the Holocaust and includes quotes from people who were there.

The detailed, easy-to-read time line includes events not often mentioned in other publications for this age group, such as the revolt of 600 Jews and Soviet prisoners of war in Sobibor on October 14, 1943. Earlier that year, Jews in the Warsaw ghetto started to resist the Germans. Each of the eight chapters is divided in an easy-to-understand format that contains information about life in Jewish ghettos and death in concentration camps, fighting back, bringing Nazi war criminals to justice, and much more.

The volume also includes a foreword, an introduction, notes, suggestions for further reading, works consulted, and an index.

World of Art

Rolling, James Haywood, Jr. ***Come Look with Me: Discovering African American Art for Children.*** New York: Lickle, 2005. 32 pp. ISBN 1-89067407-9, \$15.95.

No child is too young to look at art and have dialogues about it with other children and adults. This volume in the nine-book series introduces children of all ages to 12 classic works of African-American art, including paintings by Romare Bearden, Clementine Hunter, and Jacob Lawrence. Each picture has a set of questions that attempts to stimulate responses from the child. There are no right or wrong answers to any of the questions.

This book may be shared with one child or a group of children in a classroom setting. It is an interactive way of viewing art. Children are encouraged to explore the art and then discuss their responses, which encourages the child's innate curiosity.

NEW EDITIONS IN OTHER MEDIA

Allende, Isabel. ***Daughter of Fortune.*** New York: HarperAudio, 2005. 11 compact discs; 13 hours. Unabridged. Performed by Blair Brown. ISBN 0-06-083387-4, \$39.95.

International bestselling author and gifted storyteller Allende writes a historical novel about an unconventional woman who not only survives an era of violence, passion, and adventure but finds inner happiness, too. The setting of this well-written novel is mostly in and around San Francisco during the Gold Rush days of 1849. The story starts in Chile when Eliza, only a baby at that time, is discovered by Rose in a soap crate wrapped in a man's sweater and left in a British garden in Valparaiso. Rose, a spinster, insists that she and her brother Jonathan adopt the child and raise her as the daughter of the house. Eliza grows into a powerful and unique young woman who transforms herself in ways she had not anticipated after she leaves home to find her lover.

Allende, born in Peru and raised in Chile, was initially trained in journalism, which is evident in her writing. Through her research for *Daughter of Fortune*, she found a dramatic difference in American historians' version of the

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Gold Rush days. She writes the novel from a non-American perspective, documented by letters Chilean miners wrote to their families. Allende found that everything changed nine days after gold was discovered and the United States won the war against Mexico. Up until that time California and several other territories had belonged to Mexico and many Hispanics, Chileans, Peruvians, and Chinese had worked in the mines. However, after the war, white settlers took over, and people of color were expelled from San Francisco; most lost everything. Historians do not tell that story, but rather a more glamorized version of the Gold Rush.

Brown, who has received five Emmy nominations for her role in *The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd*, ably reads the story.

Allende, Isabel. ***Forest of the Pygmies***. New York: HarperAudio, 2005. 6 compact discs; 6? hours. Unabridged. Performed by Blair Brown. ISBN 0-06-078600-0, \$29.95.

The third and final installment of Allende's young adult trilogy is best appreciated after reading the first two books, *City of the Beasts* and *Kingdom of the Golden Dragon*. The story finds 18-year-old Alexander Cold; his grandmother Kate Cold, a journalist for International Geographic Magazine; their 15-year-old friend, the Brazilian Nadia Santos; and two photographers on a safari in Kenya to view endangered African elephants. On their journey they discover corruption, slavery, and poaching.

A sorceress in Nairobi warns the crew of impending danger. But they ignore her warning and take a detour to search for missing missionaries in the jungle. On their way, they discover captured pygmies (Efe people) and try to free them.

The tale is bursting with action, tension, suspense and magical realism, the battle of good versus evil, and memorable characters and creatures.

Allende, Isabel. ***Zorro***. New York: HarperAudio, 2005. 13 compact discs; 15 hours. Unabridged. Performed by Blair Brown. ISBN 0-06-078959-X, \$39.95.

The Zorro legend, which first debuted in 1919, has made a dramatic comeback in Allende's hands. Her version focuses more on his personal history, as is typical of her historical novels *Portrait of Sepia* (2001) and *Daughter of Fortune* (1999). *Zorro* is both entertaining and serious literature.

Although Diego de la Vega was born to an aristocratic Spanish father and a Shoshone warrior in eighteenth-century California, he learns about injustice early. This ultimately leads him to the development of his secret alter ego, Zorro, and his empathy for the underdog.

Hillerman, Tony. ***The Leaphorn & Chee Novels***. New York: HarperAudio, 2005. 8 compact discs; 9 hours. Abridged. Read by the author. ISBN 0-06-079281-7, \$29.95.

This audio version includes three mystery stories of the great master of suspense, *Skinwalkers*, *A Thief of Time*, and *Coyote Waits*. The characters Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn (now retired) and Sgt. Jim Chee, both of the Navajo Tribal Police, are the writer's favorites, and both appear in these novels.

Leaphorn is based on a young Hutchinson County, Texas, sheriff Hillerman met in 1948 as a young crime reporter through his newspaper in the high plains of the Panhandle. When the author added the Navajo culture and religious characteristics to this smart, honest, wise, and humane man, he became the character beloved by Hillerman's fans.

Several books later, Jim Chee emerged. Hillerman felt he needed a younger and less sophisticated fellow for the plot of *People Darkness* to make sense. Hillerman said, "Chee is a mixture of a couple of hundred of those idealistic, romantic, reckless youngsters I had been lecturing to at the University of New Mexico..."

Included on the CD are selections from his autobiography, *Seldom Disappointed*, as well as abridged versions of his most popular novels. The bestselling author is the former president of Mystery Writers of America. His awards include Edgar and Grand Master Awards, the Center for the American Indians Ambassador Award, and the Silver Spur Award for the bestselling novel set in the West.

Ramos, Jorge. ***Dying to Cross***. New York: HarperAudio, 2005. 5 compact discs; 5 hours. Unabridged. Read by Jonathan Davis. ISBN 0-06-079232-9, \$29.95.

This audio version will inform listeners of the present state of immigration policies between the United States and Mexico. Emmy Award-winning journalist Ramos reported the story about 73 people from Mexico who were left without water and food to die in a tightly sealed trailer truck on May 13, 2003, in Victoria, Texas on their way to Houston. In his 2005 book (also available in Spanish) and in this unabridged audio version Ramos tries to understand and explain how something so inhumane could happen in the twenty-first century. The Mexicans' only crime was that they were trying to make a better life for themselves and their families. He interviews survivors and victims' families who had the courage to share their stories. Ramos examines the political implications of the incident on both U.S. and Mexican immigration policies and speaks of the urgent need for immigration reform.

Winchester, Simon. ***Outposts: Journeys to the Surviving Relics of the British Empire***. New York: HarperAudio, 2005. 6 compact discs; 7 hours. Abridged. Read by the author. ISBN 0-06-079718-5, \$29.95.

This updated story (published in book form in 2004 as a new edition to the 1986 title *The Sun Never Sets: Travels to the Remaining Outposts of the British Empire*) and the condensed audio version is about the author, who traveled 100,000 miles back and forth from Antarctica to the Caribbean and

from the Mediterranean to the South Pacific to find out what still existed of the British Empire. Readers will find this tale compelling and amusing. Winchester's reading adds to the wry humor.

Winchester had been a geologist at Oxford and worked in Africa and on offshore oil rigs before becoming a full-time correspondent and writer. He is the author of the bestsellers *The Professor and the Madman*, *The Map that Changed the World*, and *Krakatoa*.

MISCELLANEOUS

365 Days of Black History Engagement Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3047-8, \$14.99.

Romare Bearden Engagement Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3036-2, \$14.99.

African American Art Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3069-9, \$13.99.

African Masks Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3136-9, \$13.99.

Basquiat Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3181-4, \$13.99.

Betye Saar Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3172-5, \$13.99.

Black Ball: The Negro Baseball Leagues Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3183-0, \$13.99.

Jacob Lawrence Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3003-6, \$13.99.

A Journey into 365 Days of Black History Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3066-4, \$13.99.

Romare Bearden Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3060-5, \$13.99.

Shan Kelly Cecilio Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3090-7, \$13.99.

Women of the African Ark Wall Calendar. Petaluma, Calif.: Pomegranate, 2005. ISBN 0-7649-3084-2, \$13.99.

African and African-American art and history are the focus of this annual series of attractive and informative calendars and datebooks published by the art book and gift product manufacturer Pomegranate Communications. The 365 Days of Black History engagement calendar is chock-full

of information about key dates and events important to the black people of Africa, the Americas, and elsewhere. Facing each calendar page are photos of important people in black history or reproductions of the works of black artists. The Romare Bearden engagement calendar presents several dozen of his works in full color along with a one-page biographical introduction on the first page.

The African American Art wall calendar features works in the collection of the Michael Rosenfeld Gallery in New York City. The artists included are Eldzier Cortor, Robert Duncanson, Romare Bearden, Betye Saar, Alma Thomas, John Biggers, Hughie Lee-Smith, Henry Ossawa Tanner, Archibald J. Motley Jr., Norman Lewis, Charles White, and Horace Pippin. Of this group, only Bearden and Saar have wall calendars with their works alone. Black Ball and A Journey into 365 Days of Black History feature photos (black-and-white in the former, a mixture of black-and-white and color in the latter) that illustrate key historical moments, events, and people. Those who grace the pages of A Journey into 365 Days of Black History are some of the lesser-known figures who nonetheless had an impact on their given professions, among them pioneering sportswriter Sam Lacy, French Olympic skater Surya Bonaly, and three singers—Sissieretta Jones, Jerry Butler, and Dorothy Maynor.

In addition to the well-known African-American artists Basquiat, Bearden, Lawrence, and Saar, the calendar set includes the works of Bahamian artist Cecilio, whose vibrant illustrations of dancers in various poses and from various traditions has attracted an international following. The traditional arts of Africa receive their due in African Masks, from the collection of the Brooklyn Museum, and in Women of the African Ark, a collection of 24 extensively captioned photographs of women from the Ndebele, Pokot, Karo, Hamar, Barabig, Eulani, Eanti, Wodaabe, and Surma traditions by

Carol Beckwith and Angela Fisher. 

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