

The **American Library Association (ALA)** announces the publication in Spanish of its popular wallet-sized "Quotable Facts About America's Libraries." Available from the ALA Public Information Office, the piece was compiled with assistance from the ALA Office for Research & Statistics, the ALA Washington Office, and the Library Research Service at Colorado State Library. The new version was developed in response to the increasing need to have materials available for the growing Spanish-speaking populations that libraries serve.

"Quotable Facts" is available in quantities of 100 for \$25 plus shipping and handling. To order hard copies, please contact the ALA Public Information Office at (800) 545-2433, ext. 5041, or e-mail pio@ala.org. The Spanish-language publication is also available for free downloading in PDF format from the ALA web site at www.ala.org/ala/pio/campaign/whatsnew/quotablefactsesp.htm.

The **American Library Association Public Programs Office** and National Video Resources have selected over 200 libraries in 44 states to receive the Human Rights Video Project grant. The project's goal is to award a total of 300 grants to public libraries by the end of 2004. Supported by a major grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Ford Foundation, participating libraries will receive packages of 12 videos and supporting material on human rights topics. Fifty of these libraries will also receive \$750 each to present public programs on human rights topics in partnership with a nonprofit community activist organization.

A panel of librarians, filmmakers, and human rights professionals selected the video collection, which covers topics such as globalization and labor rights, landmines, the prison industry in the United States, sexual violence in war, police brutality, disability rights, rights to education, justice for torture victims, the policies of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), post-apartheid South Africa, Israel and the Palestinians, AIDS in Africa, and U.S. immigration and political asylum. Some titles in the package are "Behind the Labels" (Witness Films, 2001), "Every Mother's Son" (Filmmakers Library, 2003), "Calling the Ghosts" (Women Make Movies, 1996), and "Well-Founded Fear" (The Epidavros Project, 2000).

For more information about the Human Rights Video Project and to view a complete list of the videos and the libraries selected to receive them, please visit www.humanrightsproject.org.

In December 2004, the **Association of Educational Publishers (AEP)** inducted three new members into its Educational Publishers Hall of Fame. The three new inductees are Joan Ganz Cooney, creator of the acclaimed children's television program "Sesame Street"; Joan Irwin, for

13 years the director of publications for the International Reading Association; and Tom Snyder, founder in 1980 of the pioneering educational software development company Tom Snyder Productions. Cooney, Irwin, and Snyder were honored at the AEP's ninth annual Hall of Fame induction ceremony on December 2 at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City.

Capstone Press, a publisher of easy-to-read children's nonfiction books, is pleased to announce that its interactive web site, www.capstonepress.com, is the winner of the Association of Educational Publishers' 2004 Beacon Award for Excellence in Education Marketing in the Web site/E-commerce category. The Beacon Award is presented to publishers whose products exemplify the "highest standard of excellence" in education marketing.

Capstone's redesigned web site includes many customer-friendly features, such as online ordering, the ability to save multiple booklists, an advanced search engine, and live customer service. More than 1,900 titles in subject areas across the curriculum are featured.

The **Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP)** announced the winners of the 2004 Américas Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature. The award is given annually in recognition of U.S. works of fiction, poetry, folklore, or nonfiction published in the previous year in English or Spanish that authentically and engagingly portray Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos. By linking the Americas, the award reaches beyond geographic borders, focusing instead on cultural heritages within the hemisphere. Award winners, honorable mentions, and commended books are selected for their distinctive literary quality; cultural contextualization; exceptional integration of text, illustration, and design; and potential for classroom use. The winning books were honored at a ceremony at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., on September 25, 2004.

The Américas Award winners are *Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book*, written and illustrated by Yuyi Morales (Chronicle Books) and *The Meaning of Consuelo* by Judith Ortiz Cofer (Farrar, Straus & Giroux). The two honorable mentions are *Cuba 15* by Nancy Osa (Delacorte) and *Harvesting Hope: The Story of César Chávez*, written by Kathleen Krull and illustrated by Yuyi Morales (Harcourt). Five books appeared on the commended list: *The Afterlife* by Gary Soto (Harcourt); *The Journey of Tunuri and the Blue Deer*, written by James Endredy and illustrated by María Hernández de la Cruz and Casimiro de la Cruz López (Inner Traditions/Bear Cub Books); *Little Blue House* by Sandra Comino (Groundwood); *Murals: Walls That Sing* by George Ancona (Marshall Cavendish); and *Xochitl and the Flowers*, written by Jorge Argueta and illustrated by Carl Angel

(Children's Book Press).

For more information, contact the Americas Award coordinator, Julie Kline, CLASP Committee of Teaching and Outreach, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, P. O. Box 413, Milwaukee, WI 53201; phone: (414) 229-5986; e-mail: jkline@uwm.edu; web site: www.uwm.edu/Dept/CLACS.outreach/americas.html.

Copper Canyon Press is pleased to announce the launch of *Poems Aloud*, an international program designed for readers to read and listen to poems in personal settings with family and friends. As part of the global celebration of Pablo Neruda's hundredth birthday in July 2004, the first phase of *Poems Aloud* featured six titles by the Chilean poet and Nobel Laureate.

Poems Aloud began modestly and has developed over three years into an innovative large-scale program. In 2001, during a series of in-house manuscript readings, Copper Canyon staff were struck by the pleasure and power of the experience of reading poems out loud. They decided to "go public." In 2002, readers were invited to participate in a pilot version of *Poems Aloud*, and over 300 groups responded. Participants, ranging in age from five to 91, met in intimate circles and public forums from Seattle, Washington, to Copenhagen, Denmark.

The current *Poems Aloud* program uses technology to reach a wide range of people and encourages readers to establish groups under their own guidelines. Through the Copper Canyon web site, www.coppercanyonpress.org, readers can register a group, purchase books at a discount, and submit questions or feedback. They can also access an array of free resource materials such as author biographies, photos, and interviews to enhance their reading experience. For example, the web site features an extensive biography of Neruda as well as in-depth interviews with the poet and several of his translators.

Poems Aloud is made possible by the generous support of the Allen Foundation for the Arts, Bloomfield Family Foundation, Lannan Foundation, and the Howard S. Whitney Foundation, as well as the Seattle area public radio station KUOW 94.9 and many individual contributions.

Corwin Press is pleased to announce that its 10-book collection, *What Every Teacher Should Know* by Donna Walker Tilesen, has received the Distinguished Achievement Award for Excellence in Educational Publishing in the Professional Development Handbook category from the Association of Educational Publishers (AEP). With this award, presented at the 41st annual AEP convention in Alexandria, Virginia, in June 2004, *What Every Teacher Should Know* has earned the right to display the Lamp for Learning logo.

The best-selling slipcased collection offers a complete training curriculum for teachers covering all required essentials for teacher hiring, mentoring, and support. Each volume contains assessment pre-tests and post-tests, resources, and content about urban and diverse learners, making this training program ideal for preparing teachers for today's challeng-

ing classrooms, particularly in urban areas. The collection addresses all requirements of No Child Left Behind legislation. For more information on the collection and the award, contact Corwin Press, 2455 Teller Rd., Thousand Oaks, CA 91320; phone: (805) 499-9734; web site: www.corwinpress.com.

The **Cultural Access Group (CAG)** is pleased to announce that the *2004 Multicultural Kids Study*, a joint project of Nickelodeon and CAG, is ready for delivery. In addition, CAG has partnered with Interviewing Service of America (ISA) to produce the first ever *Asian Market Report*, available in fall 2004. The reports may be downloaded in PDF format from the CAG web site, www.accesscag.com. For paper copies of the reports, e-mail info@accesscag.com.

Since 1986, CAG has been at the forefront of tracking America's increasing ethnic diversity through research, analyses, and consulting. The services of CAG, a leader of multicultural marketing research in the United States, have been utilized by more than 200 blue chip clients seeking consumer intelligence about the growing multicultural and multilingual markets that are the emerging majority in the United States.

Readers of *MultiCultural Review* are invited to visit one of the fastest growing ethnically oriented counseling web sites on the Internet, **EthnicCounselors.com**. EthnicCounselors.com provides its members with quick and easy access to a growing national database of ethnic psychologists, psychiatrists, marriage and family counselors, licensed professional counselors, and clinical social workers who have the skills, language(s), expertise, and experience to supervise, consult, counsel, train, and teach. The site also provides a dynamic online community that allows members to chat, network, use message boards, post, and review classified ads, listings of upcoming events, and articles. For more information, visit www.ethniccounselors.com.

Just Us Books, a premier publisher of Black-interest books for young people [see feature article in the Fall 2004 issue of *MultiCultural Review*], has created a new imprint that will republish out-of-print classic titles. The imprint is named Sankofa Books; in the Akan language of Ghana, "sankofa" means "go back and fetch it."

The first books scheduled for release under the Sankofa imprint are *Freedom Rides: Journey to Justice* and *Harlem Renaissance* by James Haskins; Camille Yarbrough's first chapter book *Tamika and the Wisdom Rings*; and the first two titles in Robert Miller's Reflections of a Black Cowboy series for middle grade readers. These books are scheduled for fall 2004, to be followed in spring 2005 by Rosa Guy's young adult novels *Ruby*, *New Guys Around the Block*, and *I Heard a Bird Sing* and the final two titles in Miller's series.

The creation of this new imprint, the first for Just Us Books, was inspired by the company's successful spring 2004 republication of Haskins's 1993 title *The March on Washington*. For more information on Just Us Books and the Sankofa imprint, contact Katura Hudson, Just Us Books, 356 Glenwood Ave., 3rd Floor, East Orange, NJ 07017; phone:

(973) 676-4345; web site: www.justusbooks.com.

Kang & Lee Advertising, a leading Asian-American marketing, consulting, and communications agency, announces the relaunch of its agency web site, www.kanglee.com. The newly redesigned web site now offers a comprehensive profile of the Asian-American market. In addition to providing a full introduction to Kang & Lee's background, capabilities, client work, and industry awards, the site contains a section titled "Asian American Market," which invites visitors to access several detailed online presentations about marketing to Asian Americans. These include an introduction to the market featuring current demographic data and language/cultural information, profiles of Asian media in the United States, and market research on Asian Americans' travel behavior, home ownership, shopping preferences, and health issues.

The **Latin American Video Archives (LAVA)** announces the release of its 2004 catalog, which contains more than 300 films and videos produced in Latin America. These videos focus on a variety of topics, including the African and Jewish diasporas, immigration, human rights, women's studies, religion, the arts, urban life, sports, and "video in the villages." Special sections of the catalog feature classic cinema, works of noted filmmakers such as Gloria Rolando from Cuba and the Jewish-Argentine Daniel Burman, and films from Chile. Most of the films contain English subtitles; a few are Spanish-only.

The catalog, which contains extensive descriptions and excerpts from reviews, is available free of charge. Its offerings are a fraction of the films available for purchase through the LAVA web site, www.latinamericanvideo.org. For more information, or to order the catalog, contact Latin American Video Archives, 124 Washington Place, New York, NY 10014; phone: (212) 243-4804; e-mail: info@lavideo.org.

Marking its first anniversary in July 2004, the **Latinidad** newsletter is helping more Latino voices be heard by spotlighting places for Latino writers to get published. The cre-

ation of former Simon & Schuster editor Marcela Landres, *Latinidad* addresses the industry-wide need to connect Latino writers to agents and editors.

Latinidad is a free e-mail newsletter that features interviews with editors seeking Latino writers, calls for submissions from agents, and announcements about writing contests, jobs, and conferences. Many of these listings are exclusive to the newsletter.

To subscribe to the newsletter, visit the web site, www.marcelalandres.com, and click on "Newsletter." Past issues may be found by visiting <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/marcelalandres/>. Visitors to the web site may also obtain a free report entitled "Ten Tips to Publishing Success for Latino Writers" by sending an e-mail to marcelalandres@yahoo.com with the words "Ten Tips" in the subject line.

Libraries Unlimited, leading publisher of resources for library, information, and education professionals, celebrated its fortieth anniversary at the American Library Association meeting in Orlando, Florida, in June 2004.

Founded in 1964 by educator and scholar Dr. Bodhan S. Wynar, Libraries Unlimited continues to publish essential textbooks, reference works, handbooks, and professional guides. In 2001, the publisher became an imprint of the Greenwood Publishing Group and moved its headquarters from Colorado to Westport, Connecticut. For more information and to obtain a free catalog, contact Libraries Unlimited, 88 Post Road West, P. O. Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881-5007; phone: (203) 226-3571; web site: www.lu.com.

Multicultural Marketing Resources, Inc. (MMR) announces the launch of *Multicultural Travel News*, an online newsletter that advises leisure travelers about sights, attractions, and events with multicultural markets (Hispanic/Latino, African-American, Asian-American, and women's markets) as a focus and informs business travelers about multicultural leisure activities and events at their destination. Business and leisure travelers as well as travel industry professionals will find *Multicultural Travel News* to be an informative and valuable resource.

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1. Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions State don Form 3541	1,394	1,399	E. Free Distribution Outside the Mail	0	0
2. Paid In-County Subscriptions	N/A	N/A	F. Total Free Distribution	0	0
3. Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution	666	1706	G. Total Distribution	2,060	3,105
			H. Copies not Distributed	952	1,395
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16. Publication of Statement of Ownership will be printed in the December issue of this publication. 17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager or Owner: Owner/Publisher: Todd Goldman, The Goldman Group, Inc. 11/14/04. I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete.

Multicultural Travel News was inaugurated in 2003 as a featured page within MMR's printed bimonthly newsletter, *Multicultural Marketing News*. *Multicultural Travel News* will now be sent as a stand-alone e-newsletter to subscribers while continuing to appear in the printed newsletter. Selected back issues of the printed newsletter are available at www.multicultural.com.

Recent issues of *Multicultural Travel News* have profiled the African-American Cultural Complex in Raleigh, North Carolina, and the African American Heritage Celebration in Pinellas County, Florida; evaluated multicultural itinerary brochures at Convention and Visitors Bureaus in major U.S. cities; and explored sites of African-American interest in Paris.

Subscriptions to the online *Multicultural Travel News* are free. E-mail Lisa Skriloff, lisa@multicultural.com or visit the MMR web site, www.multicultural.com.

MMR also announces the publication of the 2004-2005 edition of *The Source Book of Multicultural Experts* (ISBN 0-9666315-6-0). Published in a convenient desktop handbook size, this volume serves as a tool for both journalists and marketing executives. More than 200 companies and organizations are listed with full contact information and, for many, a description of services. Selected sections of the new edition are available, along with an order form, at www.multicultural.com/experts. The volume sells for \$59.95 plus \$3.50 shipping/handling and \$5.17 tax for New York State addresses, but is provided free of charge to journalists seeking to expand their source lists or research a particular article. To order a copy, mail a check, payable to Multicultural Marketing Resources to MMR, 286 Spring St., Suite 201, New York 10013. Credit card payment is accepted by phone, (212) 242-3351; for more information, e-mail Melanie@multicultural.com.

Deaf or hard-of-hearing college graduates with a bachelor's degree are invited to apply to the Professional Fellowship Program at the **National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID)**, a college of Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). This program offers a master's degree in a professional or technical field—for free. Fellowship recipients receive a full tuition waiver, free housing in a residence hall, and a \$15,000 annual stipend as compensation for a career-related part-time job.

Deaf and hard-of-hearing graduate students who apply must be U.S. citizens and be accepted into a two- to three-year master's degree program at RIT to be eligible for this fellowship. An application and other required materials are due to the Professional Fellowship Program selection committee by February 15, 2005, for admission the following fall.

For more information or application materials, contact NTID Office of Outreach and Transition Services, (585) 475-2087 (voice/TTY) or e-mail ambnes@rit.edu.

NTID is the first and largest technical college in the world for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. One of eight colleges of RIT, NTID offers educational programs and access and support services to 1,100 students from around the world who study, live, and socialize with 14,000 hearing stu-

dents on RIT's campus in Rochester, New York.

Ocean Press, an Australia-based publisher of books on globalization and popular movements worldwide, announces its "new look" web site at www.oceanbooks.com.au. The web site features the latest news from the publisher, current projects, new releases, and a complete backlist. A "shopping cart" system assures easy purchase and shipment of books to anywhere in the world, and those who order directly from the site will receive a 10% solidarity discount.

Raven Tree Press is pleased to announce that *Oh, Crumps!;/Ay, caramba!* placed as both a finalist and winner of an honorable mention in the category of children's picture books in the prestigious *ForeWord Magazine* Book of the Year Award competition. *ForeWord*, an independent review magazine, featured finalists in over 30 literary categories at a special event held at BookExpo America in Chicago in June 2004.

Written by first-time picture book author Lee Bock and illustrated by Morgan Midgett, *Oh, Crumps!;/Ay, caramba!* was also chosen as a Children's BookSense '76 Pick by independent booksellers across the United States and was listed as a 2004 Cooperative Children's Book Center "Choice."

Ringling Rocks Foundation has awarded \$50,000 in grants for its 2004 Discretionary Fund Grant Program to thirteen organizations around the world whose work incorporates the mission of conserving indigenous healing practices, educating young people to continue the vitality of these practices, and informing the public at large about these traditions.

This year Ringling Rocks Foundation received 61 applications from organizations located throughout the world. Deciding which organizations were to receive the grants was very difficult. The board, made up of two elders from the Navajo nation and three Ringling Rocks staff members, awarded \$500–\$5,000 grants to the following organizations:

- American Indian College Fund (United States)
- American Indian Institute (United States)
- Boys and Girls Clubs of White Earth Reservation (United States)
- Brave Heart Society (United States)
- Marion Institute for the Educational Training of Bilingual Teachers in the Peruvian Amazon (Peru)
- Native American Youth Enrichment Program (United States)
- Oasis Reiti (Guatemala)
- Pine Tree Native Center of Brant (Canada)
- Rajarata Praja Kendraya (Sri Lanka)
- Red Feather Development Group (United States)
- Selu Circle (United States)
- Tewa Women United (United States)
- Ujima Enterprises (United States & Ghana)

Among the projects supported are the building of a permanent healing sweat-lodge in Guatemala; providing tradition-oriented summer camps for Native American youth; bringing together Native American elders and youth across

America to pass along wisdom, stories and traditions; assisting black youth in Chicago to travel back to Ghana to explore their history, culture, and traditions; helping to revive, teach, and preserve Tewa birthing traditions; and promoting and financing ritual dance in Sri Lanka.

Organizations interested in applying for the 2005 grants should contact the Ringing Rocks Foundation office at (928) 282-1298 or visit the Ringing Rocks Foundation web site at www.ringingrocks.org. The 2005 grant cycle begins in December 2004, with awards announced in June 2005.

SAGE Publications announces that its reference encyclopedias will now be electronically published by the Gale Virtual Reference Library. The Gale Virtual Reference Library platform allows librarians to create customized online reference collections available 24 hours a day. The SAGE Reference titles will join many acclaimed encyclopedias, dictionaries, and almanacs from dozens of publishers on this platform. The platform allows multidisciplinary research with cross-searching capability for ease of use. Among the first SAGE Reference titles to be available through Gale Virtual Reference Library are *Encyclopedia of Terrorism* and *The Handbook of Death and Dying*, both of which were named Outstanding Reference Sources of 2004 by the Reference and User Services Association, a division of the American Library Association.

For more information about SAGE Reference titles, visit the publisher's web site, www.sagepub.com. For information about the Gale Virtual Reference Library, visit its web site, www.gale.com.


SAGE has also developed a new online search platform for its journals in both the social sciences and scientific/technical/medical fields. This platform, developed in conjunction with Stanford University's HighWire Press, provides institutions with premier search technology, toll-free linking features, a social science specific taxonomy, and enhanced subscription options for journal collections. Not only will SAGE become the publisher with the largest number of journals hosted by HighWire, but it will also be adding the most substantial collection of social science titles, including many major society journals.

This fall, the **University of Michigan Press** began an important new distribution partnership with the prestigious British publisher Pluto Press. Pluto is one of the United Kingdom's most distinguished independent publishers, committed to producing the best in critical writing across the social sciences and humanities, with a spotlight on Middle East politics and terrorism. The University of Michigan's relationship is part of the Ann Arbor-based publisher's new focus on offering important and time-

ly books on topics of regional, political, and international interest. Currently, Pluto Press, which until this fall was distributed by Stylus Publishing, publishes more than 70 titles a year and has a backlist of more than 400 titles. For more information, contact the University of Michigan Press, 839 Greene St., Ann Arbor, MI 48014-3209; phone: (734) 764-4388; web site: www.press.umich.edu.


Verticalibros, LLC, an international media publishing and distribution company, announced in spring 2004 that it has acquired the iLeón name and certain other assets of iLeón from Brooks Capital Groups, an asset management company in Philadelphia. As a division of Verticalibros, iLeón will reestablish itself as a leader in the global distribution and sales of Spanish-language books and other materials to libraries, schools, universities, and other institutions. Former iLeón founder Reuben E. Katz, who left the company in 2002 after a four-year tenure, was instrumental in the acquisition. He now serves as the CEO of Verticalibros.

Katz is also affiliated with Media Source, which owns and operates Junior Library Guild; iLeón's close affiliation with Media Source will afford the reconstituted company the full support of a business with 75 years of experience in providing new-release hardcover children's books to libraries at a discount.

The company will operate from Verticalibros offices in La Jolla, California; Dublin, Ohio; New York City; Tampa, Florida; Mexico City; and Tijuana, Mexico. For more information on iLeón and Verticalibros, call (858) 688-6106 or visit the new iLeón web site, www.ileon.com. 

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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

Flake, Sharon J. ***Begging for Change***. New York: Hyperion/Jump at the Sun, 2004. 252 pp. ISBN 0-7868-1405-5, \$5.99 (pb).

Flake, Sharon J. ***Money Hungry***. New York: Hyperion/Jump at the Sun, 2004. 202 pp. ISBN 0-7868-1503-5, \$5.99 (pb).

Flake, Sharon J. ***The Skin I'm In***. New York: Hyperion/Jump at the Sun, 2004. 176 pp. ISBN 0-7868-1307-5, \$5.99 (pb).

Boxed set of three books: ISBN 0-7868-5164-3, \$17.99 (pb).

This set collects three young adult novels about teenage African-American girls struggling with difficult situations. The 1998 novel *The Skin I'm In* (Flake's first) is narrated by 13-year-old Maleeka Madison, an intelligent middle school student who feels that she is unpopular because she is too tall, skinny, and dark-skinned. Maleeka's father has died in an accident, and she has had to work to keep together her family and support her grieving mother. To fit in, she offers to do schoolwork for Charlese, the toughest girl in her grade, and falls in with her disrespectful crowd. A new and unconventional English teacher, Miss Saunders, tries to encourage Maleeka's gift for writing, as she creates an imagined diary for a young slave girl on the way to America. Out of fear, Maleeka goes along with Charlese's plan to take revenge on Miss Saunders for a failing grade by vandalizing her classroom. In the end, though, Maleeka is able to break free of Charlese's influence, feel better about herself, and develop her relationship with a smart, cute, and upstanding boy named Caleb.

Money Hungry is narrated by Raspberry Hill, a 13-year-old girl who, after a period of homelessness, now lives in a run-down housing project with her mother. Determined to have

more security in her life, Raspberry becomes obsessed with making money any way she legally can. Her mother tries to move the two of them to a nicer home in a development, but the residents there, who are opposed to Section 8 housing, manage to block them from moving. The 2004 book *Begging for Change* is a sequel to *Money Hungry*. It takes place one year later, when Raspberry must make some difficult choices after the return into her life of her drug-addicted father. All three of these novels feature realistic narration and situations, and young readers should be able to relate to these characters and their struggles to do what is right.

Griffin, John Howard. ***Black Like Me***. San Antonio, Texas: Wings Press, 2004. 256 pp. ISBN 0-930324-72-2, \$24.95 (cl); 0-930324-73-0, \$29.95 (library binding).

In 1959 Griffin, a white novelist and essayist, undertook a project to try to experience life as a black man in the segregated South. After receiving injections from dermatologists and applying dye to his skin, he spent about a month in living in New Orleans and traveling about Mississippi and Alabama (and at one point shining shoes). His experiences become known in 1960 through a series of articles and interviews, and for a time he became a noted (and, in some quarters, a hated) figure in the controversy over race relations. This book, in the form of a diary from that period, first appeared in 1961.

Various types of discrimination Griffin encounters, such as having to walk across town to find a bathroom he can use, do not generally exist anymore, and some of the language he uses (referring to "Negroes," for example) is now dated. It is also true that some of Griffin's imaginings about what was in the minds and hearts of the black people he encountered don't seem to be well supported by the limited experiences he had. But this is still a powerful document of the pervasiveness of segregation in that time and place and a dramatic demonstration of the way that skin color instantly affects the way a person is regarded. This edition includes a foreword by Studs Terkel; epilogues from 1976 and 1979 by Griffin (who died in 1980); photographs from his month as a black man; and a 2004 afterword by Robert Bonazzi, who authored a 1997 book on Griffin and the writing of *Black Like Me*. The title of the book comes from a Langston Hughes poem ("Night coming tenderly/Black like me"). That phrase and the idea of posing as someone from another race remain fairly well known in our culture; it is interesting to learn in detail how it all really happened.

Jiang, Ji-Li. ***The Magical Monkey King: Mischief in Heaven***. Fremont, Calif.: Shen's Books, 2004. 124 pp. Illus. by Youshan Tang. ISBN 1-885008-24-4, \$14.95 (cl); ISBN 1-885008-25-2, \$6.95 (pb).