

Editor's Shelf

editor's shelf

by Kathryn Mora

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

Biolsi, Thomas. *Deadliest Enemies: Law and Race Relations On and Off the Rosebud Reservation*. Minneapolis: Univ. of Minnesota Press, 2007. 280 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-8166-4971-6, \$20.00 (pb).

For this revised and expanded paperback edition (originally published in 2001 by University of California Press), Biolsi has written a new in-depth introduction that explores the problems faced by Native Americans as the result of white privilege. He blames federal laws and their interpretation by the courts for the history of racial tension between Indians and non-Indians on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. *Deadliest Enemies* gives the reader insight into racial conflicts in South Dakota and the United States as a whole. The author argues that white people should be held accountable for the benefits of their racial privilege at the expense of Native Americans.

Also included in this volume are a list of maps and tables, a conclusion, references, and an index. Personal names have been omitted in the sources in order to protect the privacy of individuals.

Huggins, Nathan Irvin. *Harlem Renaissance*. New York: Oxford Univ. Press, 2007. 348 pp. Updated edition. Foreword by Arnold Rampersad. ISBN-13 978-0-19-506336-3, \$19.95 (pb).

The original edition of this revised and updated work was first published in 1971 by Oxford University Press and was a finalist for the 1972 National Book Award. Reissued as a paperback in 1973, it was an outstanding guide that enlightened readers about the artistic, cultural, and social revival of Harlem in the 1920s.

Huggins skillfully blends history, literature, music, psychology, and the folklore of this era. The essays of Alain Locke, James Weldon Johnson, and W. E. B. DuBois and the poetry of Claude McKay, Countee Cullen, and Langston Hughes are included in this volume.

Huggins, author of several books, was the W.E.B. DuBois Professor of History and Afro American Studies and the director of the DuBois Institute at Harvard University until his death in 1989.

Noted biographer Rampersad, who teaches at Stanford University, wrote the new foreword for this volume. He is the author of several books, including *The Life of Langston Hughes*. Indexed.

Margulies, Joseph. *Guantánamo and the Abuse of Presidential Power*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2007. 342 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-7432-8686-2, \$15.00 (pb).

The detention system, established by the Bush Administration at Guantánamo Bay Naval Station in Cuba, is the primary subject of this expanded edition, which includes a new afterword by the author.

According to Margulies, an attorney with the MacArthur Justice Center and a law professor at Northwestern University Law School in Chicago, this detention system is like no other in our nation's history. He follows the development of the Guantánamo Bay prison from 2002 to the present. In what some call "the ideal interrogation chamber," prisoners—most of them captured during the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan in 2001 that followed the September 11 terrorist attacks—are held without charges in maximum security. Margulies refers to the prisons as "prisons beyond the law" because the administration claims the right to hold people indefinitely without charges or access to counsel and without benefit of the Geneva Convention. Firsthand accounts of military personnel, interviews of the prisoners, an updated bibliography, and an index are included in this new volume.

Rozema, Vicki. *Footsteps of the Cherokees: A Guide to the Eastern Homelands of the Cherokee Nation*. Winston-Salem, N.C.: John F. Blair Publisher, 2007. 396 pp. Second edition. ISBN-13 978-0-89587-346-0, \$21.95 (pb).

First published in 1995, this updated edition is an award-winning guide that reveals the rich heritage of the Cherokees. The book is divided into two sections. The first section, the overview, traces the history of the Cherokees from their prehistoric ancestors to their interaction and conflict with the white explorers and settlers. The second section focuses on the 19 sites named after

central locations. Great hunting grounds of the tribes, battle-grounds, sacred lands, homelands, birthplaces, and burial sites are included in this volume.

The new edition covers 190 Cherokee sites in five southeastern states—Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama—along with the border areas of Kentucky and Virginia. For the second edition, Rozema revisited each site and verified all driving directions. The number of roads that had changed or been renamed, the number of interstate exits that had been renumbered, and the numerous road signs lost or added since the first edition surprised her. Because the addition of several sites in the Fort Payne, Alabama, area the author reworked the directions to local sites and developed a mini driving tour of Fort Payne.

New phone numbers, hours, and web site addresses have also been added. The National Park Service has designated many of the sites as official stops on the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail since the first edition. Descriptions and new images of these sites have been included.

The volume contains an updated bibliography and an index.

REISSUES OF OUT-OF-PRINT BOOKS

Canetti, Veza. *The Tortoises*. New York: New Directions, 2007, 1999. 244 pp. Trans. from German by Ian Mitchell. ISBN-13 978-0-8112-1696-8, \$14.95 (pb).

First published in 1999, this novel is about how the Nazis came to power and how they were able to retain their power. Some say that the story is a slightly disguised autobiography of the life of the author and her husband, the 1981 Nobel Laureate Elias Canetti.

The story features Eva and Andreas Kain, Jewish intellectuals living in Nazi-occupied Austria. They have applied for visas to leave the country but in the meantime are being tormented by a band of Brown Shirts who have moved into their villa. Canetti focuses on the ordinary people of the surrounding community and the daily indignities of occupation in order to show the brutality and horror of Nazi rule. The title, for instance, comes from one Nazi official's practice of branding tortoises with swastikas to celebrate the Anschluss.

Included in this volume is a postscript with biographical information about the author.

Espinoza, Conrado. *Under the Texas Sun/El sol de Texas*. Houston, Tex.: Arte Público Press, 2007, 1926. 257 pp. Trans. from Spanish by Ethraim Cash Branner. Bilingual (English-Spanish) ed. Introduction by John Pluecker. Series: Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage. ISBN-13 978-1-55885-480-2, \$15.95 (pb).

Originally published in 1926 in Spanish in San Antonio, Texas, this is the first novel to document Mexican immigration to the United States. It is now available in a bilingual edition with an English translation.

The Garcías and the Quijanos come to the United States in the

early twentieth century, hoping to return to Mexico one day with enough money to buy land. However, their dreams are shattered, and they learn the hard truth about immigrant life. Unscrupulous work contractors and foremen take advantage of them and their ignorance of English. They are forced to pick cotton in the fields, build the Southwest railroad system, and work in Gulf Coast oil refineries. Their wages cannot even cover their expenses for goods bought at company stores and fees paid to agents.

The author originally worked in the educational system in Mexico before he went into exile in the United States. He was a journalist for newspapers such as *La Opinión* in Los Angeles and *La Prensa* in San Antonio. In 1930 he returned to Mexico and founded a school in the state of Sinaloa; he lived there until he died in 1977 at the age of 80. The translator is a published poet, screenwriter, and author of novels for adults and young readers

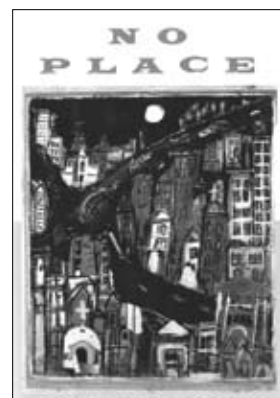
Haugaard, Kay. *No Place*. Minneapolis: Milkweed Editions, 2007, 1998. 188 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-57131-675-2, \$6.95 (pb).

The novel for middle-grade readers, which first appeared from the same publisher in 1998, was inspired by a class project to create a neighborhood park. The project led to the creation of Estrella Children's Park in central Los Angeles. However, the actual characters and events in this book are fictional. The principal character is a Mexican-American sixth grader, Arturo, who is trying to avoid the temptations of the streets that have already claimed his older brother. Haugaard offers an inspirational story for young people who want to turn their ideas into reality. This novel will motivate students to overcome obstacles by working hard and using their talents. Rather than giving up, Arturo and his multiethnic classmates believe in the possibility of change and take action, the key ingredient to change.

This novel contains an epilogue detailing the real-life events that inspired *No Place*. The author learned about Estrella Children's Park from articles in the *Los Angeles Times* and through stories and scrapbooks of people involved with the project. Today, the endowment fund under the ownership of the corporation set up by the children and their teachers pays for refurbishing the equipment and maintaining any landscape costs. The California Community Foundation, a philanthropic organization, manages the park without charge, and a resident in the neighborhood maintains the park along with a professional landscaping service.

Langan, Paul and Blackwell, D. M. *Blood Is Thicker*. New York: Scholastic, 2007, 2002. 156 pp. Series: Bluford High. ISBN-13 978-0-439-90489-6, \$3.99 (pb).

Schraff, Anne. *Until We Meet Again*. New York: Scholastic, 2007, 2002. 144 pp. Series: Bluford High. ISBN-13 978-0-439-



90488-9, \$3.99 (pb).

These young adult novels were initially published by Townsend Press in 2002 and acquired by Scholastic, which has been bringing them out in attractive new editions with photorealistic covers.

Blood Is Thicker tells the story of athlete and star student Hakeem Randall and his family, who move to Detroit after his father becomes ill and can no longer work. This companion to *Until We Meet Again* follows Hakeem after the move. Far from Bluford High, Hakeem and his family adjust to his father's grueling chemotherapy treatments and the uncertainty of his recovery. Hakeem must share a bedroom with a cousin whose interests and attitudes are the opposite of his own. Hakeem knows his cousin is sneaking out at night and getting into trouble, but he doesn't know what to say to his cousin or his cousin's parents. In addition, there's a girl Hakeem likes, but he also wants to remain true to Darcy Wills, his girlfriend at Bluford High.

Until We Meet Again presents Darcy's side of the story, how she is affected when Hakeem moves away and when a new person comes into her life. This sequel to *A Matter of Trust* continues to follow conflicts within the Wills family, as Darcy's father returns home to try and patch up the marriage after leaving the family several months earlier.

Taibo, Paco Ignacio, II. *The Shadow of the Shadow*. El Paso, Tex.: Cinco Puntos Press, 2006, 1991. 232 pp. Trans. from Spanish by William I. Neuman. ISBN-13 978-1-933693-00-2, \$13.95 (pb).

Cinco Puntos Press has reissued one of Taibo's best-known historical mysteries, the story of four domino-playing friends who investigate a series of bizarre deaths occurring around them. Among the victims are local police and military officials and a Dutch businessman. Journalist Pioquinto Manterola, poet Fermín Valencia, lawyer Alberto Verdugo, and labor organizer Tomás Wong are old friends whose observations of the curious events eventually put them in grave danger, as they uncover a plot involving corrupt government officials and ruthless oilmen from the United States.

Set in Mexico City in 1922, Taibo's novel addresses the descent of the PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party) into corruption following the Mexican Revolution, continued labor strife, racism directed at the country's Asian immigrant population, and growing U.S. imperialism. At the same time, the characters' relationships and quirky personalities, as well as Taibo's perfect pacing, make this an exciting read as well as astute historical and social commentary.

Lyn Miller-Lachmann

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

Tatchell, Jo. *Nabeel's Song: A Family Story of Survival in Iraq*. New York: Doubleday, 2007, 2006. 346 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-385-52121-5, \$23.95.

This title, first published in Great Britain by Hodder & Stoughton in 2006, is a moving narrative of the life of one of Iraq's most celebrated poets, written by a journalist and close friend of Nabeel Yasin. Tatchell, who spent many years in the Middle East, documents the life of Yasin and his family from before Saddam Hussein's dictatorship through Yasin's persecution by Saddam's forces and his escape from Iraq, to his continued struggle for human rights in his country. This most famous and talented poet of Iraq was forced to flee Iraq in the winter of 1979 with his wife and young son in order to avoid further beatings from the Ba'ath Party, headed by the country's new dictator. Yasin was declared an enemy of the state and faced execution had he stayed in Iraq.

Nabeel's Song is divided into two parts. The first book covers the period from summer 1954 to December 1980. The second part details the poet's life in exile from September 1980 to July 2004. Yasin, his wife, and his two sons have lived in the U.K. since 1990.

This volume contains a prologue, an epilogue, and acknowledgments, but no index.

NEW VOLUMES IN SERIES

2 x 2

Ding Ling and Lu Hsun. *The Power of Weakness: Stories of the Chinese Revolution*. New York: Feminist Press at the City University of New York, 2007. 156 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-55861-548-9, \$12.95 (pb).

Head, Bessie and Ngugi Wa Thiong'o. *To Stir the Heart: Four African Stories*. New York: Feminist Press at the City University of New York, 2007. 120 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-55861-547-2, \$12.95 (pb).

The mission of this series is to promote the voices of women throughout the world. Over the past 36 years, Feminist Press has published more than 250 critically acclaimed works by and about women and about issues essential to women's existence. The two latest volumes will appeal to people who are interested in world literature, feminism and politics, and Chinese and African history. *The Power of Weakness* answers the question "How Do You Write about a Revolution?" Hsun and Ling wrote essays and short stories in the 1920s and 1930s, about Japanese occupation and the Chinese Revolution as it unfolded. Both Hsun and Ling wrote about everyday occurrences and the perspectives of ordinary people.

To Stir the Heart explores African cultures, addressing themes of tradition and modernity, colonialism and independence. The stories are connected by depictions of women who fight to survive and to be heard as individuals. Bessie Head was born in South Africa in 1937 and died in exile in Botswana in 1986; her stories capture the experiences of women living in southern Africa, dealing with racial and gender discrimination. Although Ngugi, from Kenya, is a male author, he has written extensively about the oppression of women in his country.

Each volume contains its own in-depth introduction, providing

background for each of the stories.

America Debates

Ambrosek, Renée. *America Debates United States Policy on Immigration*. New York: Rosen, 2008. 64 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-4042-1924-3, \$29.25.

Written for students at the middle school level, this series deals with a variety of current topics such as civil liberties and terrorism, genetic DNA testing, stem cell research, and more. *America Debates United States Policy on Immigration* offers an in-depth discussion of immigration, a politically volatile topic that has dominated the headlines in recent months. The book is divided into five chapters: "What Is Immigration?" "The Economic Debate," "The Debate on Social Services," "Global Policy, Our Security and Our Borders," and "The Political Future of the Immigration Debate." The author provides arguments on both sides of the issue, allowing students to come to their own conclusions. Following the main text are a time line, a glossary, a bibliography, lists of other resources, and an index.

Biographies

Mortensen, Lori. *George Washington Carver: Teacher, Scientist, and Inventor*. Minneapolis: Picture Window Books, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. by Niamh O'Connor. ISBN-13 978-1-4048-3725-6, \$23.93 (list), \$17.95 (school/library).

Slade, Suzanne. *Cesar Chavez: Champion and Voice of Farmworkers*. Minneapolis: Picture Window Books, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. by Jeffrey Thompson. ISBN-13 978-1-4048-3724-9, \$23.93 (list), \$17.95 (school/library).

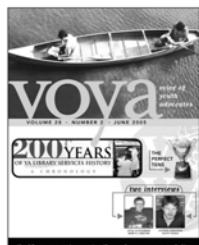
Slade, Suzanne. *Sojourner Truth: Preacher for Freedom and Equality*. Minneapolis: Picture Window Books, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. by Natascha Alex Blanks. ISBN-13 978-1-4048-3726-3, \$23.93 (list), \$17.95 (school/library).

This outstanding picture book series for primary-grade readers depicts the lives of famous Americans through lively text and bold, colorful illustrations. The three new biographies are written in a kid-friendly style with large type, easy-to-read sentences, and an uncluttered format.

The young student will not only learn but will also be inspired by the featured person in each biography. In *George Washington Carver*, they will find out that he loved plants from a young age. After gaining his freedom at the end of the Civil War, he became a teacher and later a scientist in the South. He discovered more than 300 uses for the peanut. *Cesar Chavez: Champion and Voice of Farmworkers* shows how Chavez fought to start the National Farm Workers Association in order to make life better for migrant farm workers. In *Sojourner Truth: Preacher for Freedom and Equality*, the student reads about how she escaped from slavery and fought for the rights of all people.

In addition, the series offers a glossary, books to read and Internet information, a bibliography, and a section with interesting facts on each featured subject. Readers learn, for example, that Chavez attended more than 30 schools as a child and that more

VOICE OF YOUTH ADVOCATES



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than 35,000 people honored him after his death. The book on Carver notes that he loved painting pictures of plants and won first place in a statewide art contest.

Caedman Essentials

Hughes, Langston. *Essential Hughes*. New York: Harper Audio/Caedmon, 2007. One CD. 60 minutes. Read by the author. ISBN-13 978-0-06-133694-2, \$12.95.

Although he died in 1967, Hughes comes to life again through this CD recording of him reading of almost two dozen of his poems. In addition, the poet provides commentary and reflection. Considered one of the greatest American poets of the twentieth century, he was also a gifted novelist and playwright and a prominent figure in the Harlem Renaissance. The poems include “One Way Ticket,” “The Negro Speaks of Rivers,” “Puzzled,” “Trumpet Player,” “Merry-Go-Round,” “Ku Klux Klan Mulatto,” and “Dinner Guest: Me.”

Celebrate Holidays

Jeffrey, Laura S. *Celebrate Ramadan*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2008. 112 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-7660-2774-9, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Jeffrey, Laura S. *Celebrate Tet*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2008. 104 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-7660-2775-6, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Plum-Ucci, Carol. *Celebrate Diwali*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2008. 128 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-7660-2778-7, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

This easy-to-read series will enlighten students in grades five and up about holidays with which they may be unfamiliar. The readers might be surprised to find out that some of their classmates practice Ramadan, a month-long Muslim observance that involves fasting from sunrise to sunset. Jeffrey’s sensitive coverage of Ramadan will help readers take the first step toward acceptance of people who have different beliefs and practices and who have suffered from prejudice in recent years. Beyond describing the holiday, *Celebrate Ramadan* will educate readers about one of the world’s largest religions. In *Celebrate Tet*, students will learn that in Vietnamese culture all birthdays are celebrated on the same day. Diwali is known as “Holiday of Light” and is the most important festival to people of the Hindu faith, as shown in the volume on this holiday. Plum-Ucci writes about the myths and rich history behind Diwali in clear, concise language for students to comprehend and enjoy.

These slender books with full-color illustration also include dishes from the featured religion, a glossary, chapter notes, further reading, Internet addresses, and an index.

Celebrating the Jewish Year

Steinberg, Paul. *Celebrating the Jewish Year: The Winter Holidays: Hanukkah, Tu b'Shevat, Purim*. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 2007. 258 pp. Edited by Janet Greenstein Potter. ISBN 978-0-8276-0849-8, \$22.00 (pb).

The second volume in this series offers readings on three of the most joyous holidays of the Jewish calendar. In contrast to the fall holidays Rosh Hashonah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot and the spring holidays Passover and Shavuot, the winter holidays are considered “minor,” meaning they do not appear in the Torah but are rooted in the historical experiences of the Jewish people. Nonetheless, in their celebration of Jewish resistance to oppression (Hanukkah and Purim) and the natural environment (Tu b'Shevat), the winter holidays are significant to Jewish life today.

The readings explore aspects of each holiday. There are passages from Jewish texts—the section on Tu b'Shevat, for instance, features selections from the Torah on ecological sustainability—and modern writings by Theodor Herzl, Martin Buber, Lawrence Kushner, and others. Other readings explore ways in which the holidays have been celebrated throughout history and in Jewish communities around the world today. A useful chart presents the various elements of the Tu b'Shevat Seder. Families seeking to initiate or deepen their observances of these holidays will find plenty of advice and historical and textual perspectives to make these days meaningful. Back matter includes a glossary, biographies of the Jewish writers featured in the text, and an index.

Coping in a Changing World

Orr, Tamara. *Avian Flu*. New York: Rosen, 2007. 112 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-4042-0950-3, \$31.95 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Students in grades seven and up will be fascinated by the well-researched information and personal stories of subjects in this series, which includes titles such as *Body Piercing and Tattooing*, *HIV/AIDS*, and *Suicide*. Each volume contains a guide that differentiates myths from facts and offers suggestions to help identify at-risk behaviors and symptoms, in-depth checklists, and important concepts. Also featured are a glossary, where to go for help, reading lists, source notes, and an index.

Students will learn in *Avian Flu* that birds infected with the Type A influenza virus are said to have avian flu, which can also infect human beings. Orr traces the illness’s origins in East and Southeast Asia and tells the stories of people who have fallen ill. However, she also cautions against prejudice and panic, pointing out that while a large number of birds have this virus, the number of human cases is relatively low.

Culture and Customs of Africa

Adekunle, Julius O. *Culture and Customs of Rwanda*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2007. 166 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-313-33177-0, \$49.95.

This volume offers high school and adult readers a well-balanced picture of Rwanda. The traditionally pastoral and agricultural nation has been dominated by two colonial powers, the Germans and Belgians. However, Rwanda remains a country with rich culture and customs in spite of the political turmoil and ethnic violence of recent decades. Since Rwanda has only a few ethnic groups and for the most part they have lived together in harmony through the years, the author expresses hope for the country's future despite the horrors of the past. Included in this volume are chapters focusing on the strong family and roles of women, the arts and oral cultures, celebrations, food, and clothing.

A series foreword, a chronology, a glossary, a bibliography, and an index round out this title.

The Eight Ball Club

Pugin-Rodas, M. C. *Ocean of Fire*. Fairfax, Va.: ESOL Publishing, 2007. 144 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-9793761-2-2, \$18.95 (pb).

Geared to teenagers, this easy reader offers multilingual and multicultural characters and settings. It is also developmentally appropriate for ESOL readers. The main characters are eight high school students from diverse backgrounds who become entrapped inside the magma chamber of a volcano. To survive, they must work together using their unique talents. This lively story is filled with adventure, humor, and the sweetness of young love. Readers will understand the importance of teamwork without feeling preached to by adults.

Included are vocabulary words in bold print, key academic science words, a glossary, and illustrations. The text reads at an intermediate language level for English language learners.

FAQ: Teen Life

Meyer, Jared. *Frequently Asked Questions About Being an Immigrant Teen*. New York: Rosen, 2008. 64 pp. ISBN=13 978-1-4042-1079-0, \$29.25.

With its clear, concise, and straightforward writing style, this series is designed for readers at the secondary level. The books help answer questions teens might have on a variety of different subjects, such as staying fit, stuttering, testicular cancer, coping when a friend dies, and more. *Being an Immigrant Teen* is a useful resource for both the immigrant teens and students who already live in the United States. U.S.-born teenagers will better understand how it feels for an immigrant teen to move to strange new surroundings, far from his or her native country. The author encourages those who are already here to help newcomers feel more comfortable. At the same time, immigrant teenagers will be able to compare their experiences to those of the young people profiled in the book. There is advice on how to adapt to new ways while keeping one's heritage, and how to weather the inevitable cultural misunderstandings.

Frequently asked questions include "What Is My Cultural Identity?" "What Challenges Will I Face?" and "How Do I Deal

with Culture Clash?" Also included are color photos, a glossary, a bibliography, other resources, and an index.

Global Connections

Dell, Pamela. *Teens in Nigeria*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-3306-9, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

Donovan, Sandy. *Teens in South Korea*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-3297-0, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

Seidman, David. *Teens in Iran*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-3300-7, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

Shea, Kitty. *Teens in Canada*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-3303-8, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

Somervill, Barbara A. *Teens in Egypt*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-3294-9, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

Willingham, Elizabeth. *Teens in England*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-2061-8, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

This series for the intermediate grades presents new cultures through information about the daily life and traditions of teens around the world. Readers will learn about a typical school day and what other young teens do for fun. The books are ideal for student reports as well as reading for enjoyment.

Readers find out that teens in Nigeria come from many different cultures and religions. The book emphasizes the teenagers' interest in education as a means of attaining a better life for themselves, their families and communities, and their country. South Korean teens are involved with both ancient traditions and modern technology. However, they are also concerned with education and spend a lot of time in school and studying. Teens in Iran live with many restrictions in their life, and teens in Canada live in a multicultural nation in the second largest land area in the world. Most, however, live within the hundred miles north of the border with the United States. Today, a growing number of Egyptian teens live in a world of high-rise malls, cell phones, and modern conveniences. English teens inhabit a variety of different places, from the countryside to the city of London. Education is important to young people in England because many plan to attend competitive universities. Others over the age of 16 have already completed their education and have entered the workforce full time.

Teen-focused text and translations of interviews with young people abroad add interest. Other features of this series include statistics, maps, facts at a glance, historical time lines, a glossary, additional resources, source notes, and an index.

In the News

Hall, Linley Erin. *Starvation in Africa*. New York: Rosen, 2007. 64 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-4042-0976-3, \$27.25 (list), \$20.95 (school/library).

Xavier, John. *Darfur: African Genocide*. New York: Rosen, 2008. 64 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-4042-1912-0, \$27.25 (list), \$20.95 (school/library).

This well-organized, easy-to-read historical series is designed for grades seven to twelve. It gives a truthful, balanced overview of subjects in the news, such as athletes and drugs, the spread of nuclear weapons, the economics of fuel, and much more. These two new volumes deal with starvation in Africa and the African genocide. Hunger and famine, caused by a variety of environmental, social, and economic factors, have plagued Africa for many years. *Starvation in Africa* examines the history, causes, and solutions for these problems. In *Darfur: African Genocide*, the author writes about the people of Darfur, who have been attacked by the Sudanese army and the militias supported by Sudan's government. Most of the six million inhabitants of this remote area live in small towns, and most farm or herd in order to survive. According to the author, attacks on the villages have killed from 200,000 to 500,000 people since 2003.

These volumes also contain color photos, a glossary, readings and online sources for more information, and an index.

Life Around the World

Adamson, Heather. *Clothes in Many Cultures*. Minneapolis: Capstone, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-1-4296-0018-7, \$19.93 (list), \$14.95 (school/library).

Adamson, Heather. *Families in Many Cultures*. Minneapolis: Capstone, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-1-4296-0019-4, \$19.93 (list), \$14.95 (school/library).

Adamson, Heather. *Homes in Many Cultures*. Minneapolis: Capstone, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-1-4296-0020-0, \$19.93 (list), \$14.95 (school/library).

Adamson, Heather. *School in Many Cultures*. Minneapolis: Capstone, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-1-4296-0021-7, \$19.93 (list), \$14.95 (school/library).

Large, glossy color photos and bold text expertly showcase the life of people in different cultures around the world for students in primary grades. Children will have an opportunity to see how other people live and dress, to meet their families, and to go inside their homes and schools. Young students will learn about people's similarities and differences. Each book gives the young reader an opportunity to accept and respect the differences of people. *Clothes in Many Cultures* showcases what people wear and why. For instance, women wear sheer saronglike long dresses in Kenya in order to keep cool. *Families in Many Cultures* shows children

with their parents and grandparents. In Israel family members who live far away gather to have a meal together, and in Mauritania they meet to celebrate holidays together. *Homes* presents a variety of styles of homes from adobe in the deserts of the United States, to stilt homes above rivers in the south of Chile, to apartment buildings in Australia. Finally, readers learn about schoolchildren in Columbia, a girl from India who lives in the United States, and children from France who are studying castles.

The volumes conclude with a glossary, Internet sites, a list of books, and an index. Controlled vocabulary, short and direct sentence structure, and precise photo-text matching help children understand what they are reading.

Literary Greats

Levy, Debbie. *Richard Wright: A Biography*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Twenty-First Century Books, 2008. 160 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-8225-6793-6, \$33.26.

Written for students at the secondary level, this series offers straightforward biographies that trace the journey of the U.S.'s most influential writers. Levy narrates the life of Richard Wright, the acclaimed African-American author. Young people will be inspired by his story and at the same time feel the pain he endured because of his race. By his late thirties, Wright had already written two bestselling books, *Native Son* and *Black Boy*. The biography discusses the books' critical reception, their impact, and Wright's difficult and tragic life; he died in 1960 at the age of 52 after years of health problems.

The special features of this book include prints, sidebars with historical and cultural information related to Wright's work, a bibliography, black-and-white photos, web sites, source notes, and an index.

National Geographic Investigates

Gruber, Beth. *Ancient Iraq: Archaeology Unlocks the Secrets of Iraq's Past*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2007. 64 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-0-7922-5382-2, \$17.95.

Sherrow, Victoria. *Ancient Africa: Archaeology Unlocks the Secrets of Africa's Past*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2007. 64 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-0-7922-5384-6, \$17.95.

This outstanding series introduces young people to how archaeologists unearth new information and how this information is interpreted. The volumes include in-depth, well-researched facts, stunning photographs and illustrations, and sidebars with interviews and discussions of recent archaeological finds. As the history of the earliest civilizations are revealed, archaeologists understand more how the pieces of the puzzle fit together for all societies. We all are connected to one another. *Ancient Iraq* shows how archaeologists have searched Iraq for years, discovering more about the past of this ancient country, which is thought to be the

site of the earliest civilization. *Ancient Africa* covers areas from Benin to Mali and from the empire of Ghana to Songhai. The ancient treasures help scientists to understand better the history of Africa and the interaction between its ancient civilizations and the rest of the world.

Following the text are a list of web sources for primary documents, further reading, and an index.

Native America; Yesterday and Today

Johansen, Bruce E. *The Praeger Handbook on Contemporary Issues in Native America*. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood/Praeger, 2007. 2 vols., 464 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-275-99138-8, \$125.00.

This well-written, extensively researched two-volume set is designed for the college/university level reader. Students will learn about the issues facing American Indians and gain new perspectives about the history of the Americas' first human inhabitants.

This two-volume guide provides detailed information about the resurgence of Native American issues throughout North America. The first volume deals with the legal, cultural, and environmental dimensions of this resurgence. The second volume focuses on the revival of Native American languages, ethnic identities, and economies. Included are personal profiles of important people such as Sheila Watt-Cloutier, a leader of the Inuit, who confronted toxic chemicals and global warming. Ernest Benedict and Ray Fadden helped to cultivate pride among Mohawk children. Struggles over Indian mascots, establishment of multicultural urban centers, and uranium mining among the Navajo are also covered, along with background information on present-day controversies that are often neglected by the news media. For example, the books describe the struggle to recover Native American trust funds and discusses whether gambling is an answer to poverty. While gambling has created an upper class at the large casinos, such as the Pequots' Foxwoods near Ledyard, Connecticut, and the Oneidas' lands in upstate New York, wealthy beneficiaries have hired police to force antigambling traditionalists from their homes. People have died over this issue.

Each book has its own introduction and comprehensive index. Volume one contains a foreword by Philip J. Deloria, a noted author and a history professor at the University of Michigan; a preface; an introduction; and a dedication on the passing of Vine Deloria, Jr.—Philip's father—who is considered the most influential American Indian writer of the past century. Volume two features a selected bibliography.

Newsmakers

Broyles, Matthew. *Mahmoud Ahmadinejad: President of Iran*. New York: Rosen, 2008. 112 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-4042-1900-7, \$31.95 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Hart, Joyce. *Kim Jong Il: Leader of North Korea*. New York: Rosen, 2008. 112 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-4042-1901-4, \$31.95 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Rosenberg, Aaron. *Vladimir Putin: President of Russia*. New York: Rosen, 2008. 112 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-4042-1903-8, \$31.95 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Wolny, Philip. *Hamid Karzai: President of Afghanistan*. New York: Rosen, 2008. 112 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-4042-1902-1, \$31.95 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Each of the volumes in this series about world figures begins with a key moment in the person's life or in current news. The books are written to appeal to teenagers and are especially useful for writing reports and as a starting point for further research.

Mahmoud Ahmadinejad begins with the September 2006 showdown at the United Nations General Assembly in New York City, calling it "nuclear weapons and the fate of the world." It profiles Ahmadinejad and the effect he is having on Iran and on the Middle East. In *Kim Jong Il* students learn of his birth during a time of great political changes in North Korea and the role of his father, Kim Il Sung, in carrying out those changes. The biography provides an overview of ancient and early modern Korea, the country in the nineteenth century, and events in the first half of the twentieth century, during the time when Japan occupied Korea and, later, when Russia expanded its influence on the northern part of the Korean peninsula. *Vladimir Putin* describes the rise of a powerful man and the ups and downs of political life in a country undergoing massive change after the fall of communism. For instance, Rosenberg describes the time when Putin was offered a post as deputy to the chief of the presidential administration; shortly afterward, the administration reorganized and the position was eliminated. In *Hamid Karzai*, the author begins with an attempt on the life of the president of Afghanistan. On September 16, 2004, a missile shot by the Taliban just missed the helicopter he was riding in on his way to a school opening in Gardez in southeastern Afghanistan. Karzai's courage and the difficulties of uniting his war-torn country are themes of this book.

Each volume contains, a time line, a glossary, a section of readings and web sites for more information, and an index.

On My Own Folklore

Krensky, Stephen. *Anansi and the Box of Stories*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Millbrook, 2008. 48 pp. Illus. by Jeni Reeves. ISBN-13 0-8225-6741-7, \$25.26.

Lowery, Linda and Keep, Richard. *The Tale of La Llorona*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Millbrook, 2008. 48 pp. Illus. by Janice Lee Porter. ISBN-13 978-0-8225-6278-5, \$25.26.

Schram, Peninnah. *The Magic Pomegranate*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Millbrook, 2008. 48 pp. Illus. by Melanie Hall. ISBN-13 978-0-8225-6742-4, \$25.26.

Wang Ping. *The Dragon Emperor*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Millbrook, 2008. 48 pp. Illus. by Tang Ge. ISBN-13 978-0-8225-6740-0, \$25.26.

These lively, fast-paced classic folktales, in a format that is easy

to read, will appeal to young readers in grades two through five. Colorful illustrations matched to the text and a glossary also assist new readers in developing their skills. The West African tales in *Anansi and the Box of Stories* will mesmerize and intrigue youngsters and the vivid illustrations are a strength of this volume. Young people will like the sky god character, Nyame, who owns all the stories in the world and keeps them in a box in his kingdom in the clouds. Anansi has different ideas and thinks the stories should be shared with everyone—and the story unfolds. In *The Dragon Emperor*, adapted by the noted Chinese-American poet Wang Ping, the emperor is about to become a powerful ruler until Chi You attempts to overthrow him. Each story has suspense and conflict, just the right ingredients to keep the interest of young readers. The Mexican folktale *La Llorona* is rendered as a scary ghost tale. The Jewish folktale *The Magic Pomegranate* is about a contest between three brothers.

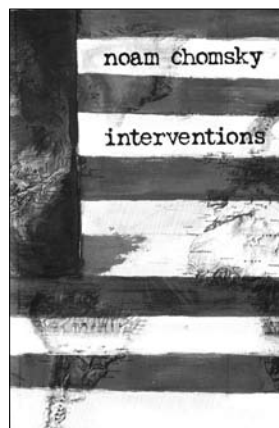
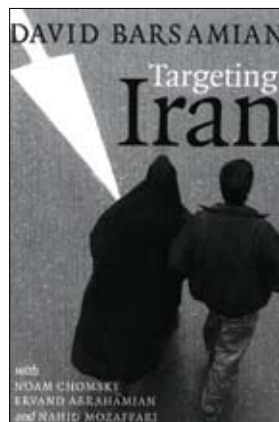
Open Media Series

Barsamian, David, with Shirin Ebadi, Noam Chomsky, Ervand Abrahamian, and Nahid Mozaffari. *Targeting Iran*. San Francisco: City Lights, 2007. 206 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-87286-458-0, \$11.95 (pb).

Chomsky, Noam. *Interventions*. San Francisco: City Lights, 2007. 234 pp. Edited with an introduction by Greg Ruggiero. ISBN-13 978-0-87286-483-2, \$15.95 (pb).

The Open Media Series encourages readers to use their rights to strive for justice, human rights, and democracy, and to insist on media reforms in the United States. *Targeting Iran* includes essays by four outstanding writers, among them Noam Chomsky, author of the best seller *9-11*. The mission of this volume is to encourage United States citizens to become informed.

Interventions is comprised of essays written by Chomsky. Each is about 1,000 words and distributed by the *New York Times* Syndicate as op-eds. They have been widely picked up by the international press, but much less in the United States. Greg Ruggiero, the editor of this volume, notes that the mainstream media are not willing to publish these political essays inside the United States, but they do market them outside. For example, Chomsky's columns have appeared in the mainstream British press, which includes the *International Herald Tribune* and the *Guardian*, but not in the United States. Chomsky argues that the freedom to challenge power



also implies the responsibility to use this freedom.

Signature Lives

Haugen, Brenda. *Cesar Chavez: Crusader for Social Change*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 112 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-1877-5, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

This award-winning series, designed for students in grades five through seven, profiles outstanding people who have changed the world, such as Aristotle, Isaac Newton, Elizabeth Dole, and Amy Tan.

Haugen reveals how the then 25-year-old Chavez's first meeting with Fred Ross changed his life. The community organizer Ross helped catapult him into his lifelong battle to improve the lives of Mexican Americans, specifically migrant farm workers. Haugen, an acclaimed journalist, brings this civil rights leader to life through her rich accounts of Chavez's activities and the people with whom he worked.

The attractive volume contains a time line, maps, black-and-white and color photos, historic places, charts, web sites, a glossary, source notes, a select bibliography, and an index.

Snapshots in History

Anderson, Dale. *Freedom Rides: Campaign for Equality*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-3333-5, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

Davis, Barbara J. *The National Grape Boycott: A Victory for Farmworkers*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-2454-8, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

Doak, Robin S. *The March on Washington: Uniting Against Racism*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-3339-7, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

Ouellette, Jeannine. *A Day Without Immigrants: Rallying Behind America's Newcomers*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 96 pp. ISBN-13 978-7565-2498-2, \$31.93 (list); \$23.95 (school/library).

The compelling narratives in this series are designed for readers at the middle school level. They bring historical events alive and allow the readers to experience firsthand accounts through the lively text, quotes, photos, and time lines.

Freedom Rides educates young students about how African-American and white civil rights activists left from Washington, D.C. in May 1961 on buses to the South. They wanted to test the U.S. Supreme Court decision stating that interstate bus stations should be integrated. Another important march is the subject of *The National Grape Boycott*, when César Chávez led a contingent on March 17, 1966, from Delano, California, to Sacramento to protest the bad conditions of the farm workers. On August 28, 1963, *The March on Washington* brought attention to the unfair

treatment of African Americans, as a quarter of a million American of all races, ages, and religions gathered in front of the Lincoln Memorial to hear Martin Luther King Jr. and others speak about segregation and inequality. Finally, *A Day Without Immigrants* describes the general strike and rallies by immigrants and their supporters on May 1, 2006, which sought to change people's views on immigration laws and the rights of immigrants.

Touchdown Editions


Berman, Ron. *All the Right Moves: The Najee McGreen Story*. La Jolla, Calif.: Scobre Press, 2006. 66 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 1-933423-62-5, \$9.95 (pb).

Older elementary and secondary students will learn in this series of profiles of "extraordinary" ordinary people that it is never too early or late to "make it big." This book showcases 18-year-old Najee McGreen, who has accomplished more than some do in a lifetime. Some say that he will be a future icon.

The New York City native, born and raised in Brooklyn, attends Johns Hopkins University as a pre-med student. He plans to combined medicine and technology in order to make the world a better place. Already he is a chess champion, a web designer, and an award-winning business owner. McGreen excels in athletics, too. He is a role model for young people, showing that with an education, determination, and a willingness to work hard, dreams can be realized.

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★ "Curtis's talent for dealing with painful periods of history with grace and sensitivity is as strong as ever." — *School Library Journal*, starred review

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Trailblazer Biographies

Brill, Marlene Targ. *Marshall "Major" Taylor: World Champion Cyclist, 1899-1901*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Twenty-First Century Books, 2008. 112 pp. ISBN-13 978-0-8225-6610-6, \$31.93.

The subject of this inspirational book is an African-American bicyclist, one of the greatest riders in the early years of the sport. Taylor did not allow anything to get in his way of becoming a world champion three years in a row. Young people will also learn about his struggles in the last years of his life and his death at the age of 53 in a Chicago charity ward. Even so, people still remember and respect Taylor for his accomplishments. In 1984 Indianapolis named its new bicycle-racing track after Taylor, and in 1992 a made-for-television movie, *Tracks of Glory*, highlighted Taylor's Australian tours.

An author's note, a time line, "Bicycle Talk," source notes, a selected bibliography, and an index are included.

Understanding Differences

Schaefer, Lola M. *Some Kids Are Blind*. Minneapolis: Capstone Press, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-1-4296-0810-7, \$17.26 (list), \$12.95 (school/library).

Schaefer, Lola M. *Some Kids Are Deaf*. Minneapolis: Capstone Press, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-1-4296-0811-4, \$17.26 (list), \$12.95 (school/library).

Schaefer, Lola M. *Some Kids Use Wheelchairs*. Minneapolis: Capstone Press, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-1-4296-0812-1, \$17.26 (list), \$12.95 (school/library).

Schaefer, Lola M. *Some Kids Wear Leg Braces*.

Minneapolis: Capstone Press, 2008. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN-13 978-1-4296-0813-8, \$17.26 (list), \$12.95 (school/library).

To help beginning readers in prekindergarten to second grade read and learn how it feels for someone to live with a disability, Capstone Press adheres to the research guidelines of experts. The text is bold, and the vocabulary is carefully controlled; the sentences have short and direct structure, and the photo-text matches assist comprehension. These revised and updated volumes help young children understand at an early age to appreciate differences rather than ridicule those who are different. In *Some Kids Are Blind*, readers are exposed to Braille and how it assists a blind child. Sign language, cochlear implants, captions and more are dealt with in *Some Kids Are Deaf*. The young reader learns why a child can't walk in *Some Kids Use Wheelchairs*. How children walk with leg braces is addressed in *Some Kids Wear Leg Braces*.

These volumes also contain a glossary, a bibliography, Internet sites, and an index.

We the People

Haugen, Brenda. *The Holocaust Museum*. Mankato, Minn.: Compass Point Books, 2008. 48 pp. Illus. ISBN-13 978-0-7565-3357-1, \$25.26 (list), \$18.95 (school/library).

This series, geared to the middle grades, explores every era of U.S. history and examines key events that have shaped our nation. Each volume provides maps, a time line, historic sites, a glossary, and an index. *The Holocaust Museum* shows how the horrors of the Holocaust changed the world. In the late 1970s leaders of the U.S.

government made plans for a memorial to the millions of people who were murdered and in 1993 it was completed. The museum honors those who were killed with an education center for people of all ages. Haugen takes the reader on a brief tour of the museum and its exhibits while giving an overview of the Holocaust and the various efforts afterward to educate the world so it wouldn't happen again.

You Choose

Lassieur, Allison. *The Underground Railroad*. Minneapolis: Capstone Press, 2008. 112 pp. ISBN-13 978-1-4296-0164-1, \$27.93 (list), \$20.95 (school/library).

Designed for elementary and middle school students, this series offers a unique interactive experience. The student gets a chance to make several choices throughout the book and realize the consequences. For example, the reader can choose to be a young enslaved person and try to escape with his/her father or he/she can choose to stay on the plantation and help his/her mother. Going with the father can lead to getting caught and sold or even dying in the wilderness. But maybe the escape will be successful and lead to freedom. In other scenarios, the reader takes on the role of a slave catcher or an abolitionist who runs a station on the Underground Railroad. This format gives the student a chance to experience what happened to real people during the era of the Underground Railroad. This is a more interesting way to learn about history than standard textbook approaches.

The book concludes with a time line, a bibliography, Internet sites, a glossary, and an index. 📖

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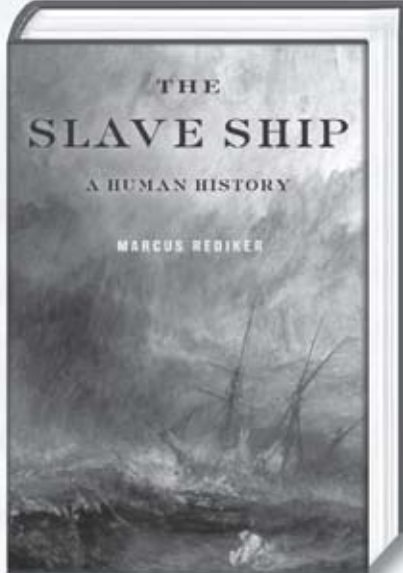
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