

Editor's Shelf

editor's shelf

Editor's Shelf highlights new editions of important previously published works; reissues of significant works that have been out of print; U.S. editions of works published elsewhere in English; new series; additional entries in published series that *MultiCultural Review* has reviewed; translations of previously published works that have been reissued in a new form (i.e., audiobooks on cassette or CD, CD-ROM, or DVD); and other online reference sources. Paperback reprints are not included unless the reprint contains new material. The initial releases in a publisher's series and works that have undergone major changes or rewrites before being republished as new editions or new media will receive full-fledged reviews in *MCR*. Readers will find the addresses and phone numbers for publishers whose work appears here in the Publisher Directory.

NEW EDITIONS

Bailey, Richard. *Neither Carpetbaggers nor Scalawags: Black Officeholders During the Reconstruction of Alabama, 1867–1878, Revised Fifth Edition*. Montgomery, AL: NewSouth Books, 2010, ©1991. 428p. \$29.95 pb. 978-1-58838-189-7. Photos. Charts. Source Notes. Biblio. Appendix. Index.

Alabama's antebellum reconstruction opened up unparalleled opportunities for free blacks and former slaves to achieve education, to work for wages, to worship freely, to marry and raise families, and to engage in the political process. Bailey chronicles the oft-misunderstood role that African American officeholders played in post-war Alabama. The author opens his narrative with a description of the devastated state in 1865, with many blacks remaining on their plantations for various reasons. Historic photos punctuate the account, bringing more life to an already lively history. Dividing his book into two parts, *The Fork in the Road* and *The Road Not Taken*, Bailey portrays a state challenged by whites' determination to lead blacks in the face of African American resolve to become part of the political process as voters and ascending leaders.

Youth Communication: True Stories by Teens

Depression, Anger, Sadness: Teens Write About Facing Difficult Emotions, Second, Expanded Edition. Al Desetta, Ed. New York: Youth Communication, 2009. 136 pp. \$16.95 pb. ISBN 978-1-933939-79-7. Illus. Discussion Guide.

Growing Up Girl: Young Women Write About Their Lives, Second, Expanded Edition. Andrea Estepa, Ed. New York: Youth Communication, 2009. 138 pp. \$16.95 pb. ISBN 978-1-933939-92-3. Illus. Discussion Guide.

Keeping It Real: Teens Write About Peer Pressure, Second, Expanded Edition. Al Desetta, Ed. New York: Youth Communication, 2009.

136 pp. \$16.95 pb. ISBN 978-1-933939-76-1. Illus. Discussion Guide.

My Secret Addiction: Teens Write About Cutting, Second, Expanded Edition. Al Desetta, Ed. New York: Youth Communication, 2009. 136 pp. \$16.95 pb. ISBN 978-1-933939-78-8. Illus. Discussion Guide.

Out with It: Gay and Straight Teens Write About Homosexuality, Second, Expanded Edition. Al Desetta, Ed. New York: Youth Communication, 2009. 136 pp. \$16.95 pb. ISBN 978-1-933939-72-9. Illus. Discussion Guide.

Sticks and Stones: Teens Write About Bullying, Second, Expanded Edition. Hope Venderberg, Ed. New York: Youth Communication, 2009. 136 pp. \$16.95 pb. ISBN 978-1-933939-82-6. Illus. Discussion Guide.

These five "second, expanded editions" pick up where their first publications left off but add more essays, alter the format slightly, and add selected chapters from related titles in the *The Bluford Series*. Work that appears in this series is the result of teen participation in Youth Communication's nonprofit journalism program that enables adolescent writers to be published in books, magazines, and on the Web. Current teen work has been added to each book along with a new introduction and new sections that help teens get more out of the books, explain how the books can be used in staff training, and offer teacher guides that assist in using the books in group sessions. Paperback format and new covers will attract teens to each title. Several author biographies will show current teen readers the directions that the original authors have taken. Find out more about Youth Communication at <http://www.youthcomm.org>.

NEW EDITIONS IN OTHER MEDIA

Early Life, Life Series 7. Produced by Television Trust for the Entertainment (TVE). Steve Bradshaw, Series Editor and Producer. Oley, PA: 2009 [Bullfrog Films, P.O. Box 149, Oley, PA 19547; (800) 543-3764; life@bullfrogfilms.com; <http://www.bullfrogfilms.com>]. Grades 7–12, College, Adult. Includes audio descriptions for the visually impaired and subtitles. Study resources at <http://www.fullfrogfilms.com/catalog/etmd.html>.

1, *The Mayor's Dream*. Written and directed by Steve Bradshaw. 25 min. Color. DVD, \$195. ISBN 1-59458-908-9. VHS, \$195. ISBN 1-59458-907-0.

2, *Kibera Kids*. Directed and edited by Alex Gabbay. 25 min. Color. DVD, \$195. ISBN 1-59458-910-0. VHS, \$195. ISBN 1-59458-909-7.

3, *My First Day at School*. Directed by Subina Shrestha. 25 min. Color. DVD, \$195. ISBN 1-59458-912-7. VHS, \$195. ISBN 1-59458-911-9.

Recent research in behavioral and neuroscience reveal how children think and are irrevocably shaped during their early years. These films explore the argument for using what has been learned about early childhood development to increase the potential for millions of children worldwide. *The Mayor's Dream* is to give every child a better start. Viewers travel to the Andes, where Mayor Amilcar Huanchuari works to ward off violence and help children achieve prosperity through early childhood brain stimulation. Labs in Boston, Massachusetts, seek to determine whether science is on the Mayor's side. In *Kimera Kids*, youth navigate the often-violent streets of Kibera, one of the largest slums in sub-Saharan Africa, to make their way to school, where educators and caring adults help to offer a stimulating and safe haven in preschools. *My First Day at School* takes viewers to Chiang Mai, Thailand, where three children approach their first day with trepidation and hope in a country that is actively developing an education policy that will meet the needs of a globalized economy.

This series joins six others that discuss globalization and the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals. Further information can be found on the distributor's Web site.

REISSUE IN A NEW FORMAT

Audio

Myers, Walter Dean. *Riot*. Read by a full cast. New York: Listening Library, 2009. Unabridged, 2 hrs., 36 mi. 3 CDs, \$28.95. ISBN 978-0-3075-8338-3.

Myers's chronicle of the 1863 race riots in New York City is brought to life by a full cast of voices to portray an event seldom-covered in history classes. The riots were in reaction to the military draft enacted by President Abraham Lincoln that conscripted recent Irish immigrants and persons of color and allowed the wealthy to escape military service in the Union armies by making a payment of \$300. The author adds commentary into the audio version of his original novel that was written in screenplay format. A time line is also added to guide the reader in the course of events, and an author interview provides depth to the presentation.

NEW SERIES

Comprendiendo las diferencias / Understanding Differences

Rustad, Martha E. H. *Algunos niños Tienen autism / Some Kids Have Autism*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2009. 24 pp. \$17.32. ISBN 978-1-4296-4593-5. Photos. Glossary. Web Sites. Index.

Schaefer, Lola M. *Algunas niños son ciegos / Some Kids Are Blind*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2009. 24 pp. \$17.32. ISBN 978-1-4296-4590-4. Photos. Glossary. Web Sites. Index.

_____. *Algunas niños son sordos / Some Kids Are Deaf*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2009. 24 pp. \$17.32. ISBN 978-1-4296-4591-1. Photos. Glossary. Web Sites. Index.

_____. *Algunos niños usan sillas de ruedas / Some Kids use Wheelchairs*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2009. 24 pp. \$17.32. ISBN 978-1-4296-4592-8. Photos. Glossary. Web Sites. Index.

The books in this bilingual series for emergent readers in grades PreK–2 introduce special needs children using a two-page format that features a color photo on the left side that supports and clarifies the English/Spanish narrative on the right. Repetition of words and phrases aid learning, and the glossary defines subject-specific words.

The publisher statement on the title page of each entry explains that this set “supports national state standards related to individual development and identity, a visit to <http://www.facthound.com> will lead students to Web sites that provide more detail on each subject. The bilingual format will aid ELL students as well as English-speaking children learning Spanish.

My Family

Schuette, Sarah L. *Adoptive Families*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2010. 24 pp. \$18.65. ISBN 978-1-4296-3977-4. Illus. Glossary. Further Reading. Index.

_____. *Blended Families*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2010. 24 pp. \$18.65. ISBN 978-1-4296-3978-1. Illus. Glossary. Further Reading. Index.

_____. *Foster Families*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2010. 24 pp. \$18.65. ISBN 978-1-4296-3979-8. Illus. Glossary. Further Reading. Index.

_____. *Single Parent Families*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2010. 24 pp. \$18.65. ISBN 978-1-4296-3980-4. Illus. Glossary. Further Reading. Index.

Each book in this series for emergent readers in grades K–1 features two-page spreads comprising a full-color photo on the left-hand page that helps to support the text on the right. Repetition and short, direct sentences aid in comprehension, and basic research tools such as a glossary, index, and suggested reading start the young reader on the road to good skills. “Facthound,” the publisher's Web-based resource at <http://www.facthound.com>, suggests other Web sites for more information at the click of a mouse. With a new generation of young readers who have been born clicking, this feature is sure to spark further research.

Pop Culture Revolutions

Gilbert, Sara. *Play It Loud! The Rebellious History of Music*. Mankato, MN: Compass Point Books/Capstone Press, 2010. \$31.99 (Library Binding). 64 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-4243-6. Illus. Photos. Charts. Chronology. Glossary. Further Reading. Biblio. Index.

Gilbert provides a musical history that emphasizes musicians' refusals to conform to norms when creating innovative music and stretching limits of artistic expression. Names like Bob Dylan and Sean Combs will be familiar to today's teens, but they might find surprising that Johnny Cash and Bill Haley and the Comets also were considered ground-breakers of their time. Brief, almost staccato chapters highlight topics that range from jazz to hip-hop and mosh pits, emphasizing music's connection to political and cultural change along the way. Gilbert's time line begins with Gregorian chants in 600 AD and ends with the record-setting number of downloads of Michael Jackson's music following his death in 2009.

This book joins other series entries on video games, comic books, and banned books. Middle schoolers will be engaged by the colorful design and the notion of rebellious history.

Profiles in Fashion

Branscomb, Leslie Wolf. *Marc Jacobs*. Greensboro, SC: Morgan Reynolds, 2011. 112 pp. \$28.95 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-1-59935-153-7. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Biblio. Web Sites. Index.

Freistadt, Margo. *Kate Spade*. Greensboro, SC: Morgan Reynolds, 2011. 112 pp. \$28.95 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-1-59935-154-4. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Biblio. Web Sites. Index.

Petrillo, Lisa. *Isaac Mizrahi*. Greensboro, SC: Morgan Reynolds, 2011. 112 pp. \$28.95 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-1-59935-152-0. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Biblio. Web Sites. Index.

_____. *Vera Wang*. Greensboro, SC: Morgan Reynolds, 2011. 112 pp. \$28.95 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-1-59935-150-6. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Biblio. Web Sites. Index.

Sapet, Kerrily. *Jimmy Choo*. Greensboro, SC: Morgan Reynolds, 2011. 112 pp. \$28.95 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-1-59935-151-3. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Biblio. Web Sites. Index.

Capitalizing on young adult passion for pop culture fashion, these biographies provide personal glimpses of five talented and successful designers, putting a “face” to the name and a personal story to the fashion legend. Marc Jacobs, whose designs have captured the interest of celebrities such as Jennifer Lopez, Victoria Beckham, and even hip-hop star Sean Combs, is uncomfortable with his star status. Jacobs describes an awkward childhood before moving to New York to live with his grandmother, where he was finally able to come out as a teenager. After attending the Parsons School of Design, he met Robert Duffy, and his career embarked on steady rise to the top of the New York fashion world. Drugs and alcohol play a part in his story, but his business partner Duffy remained his stalwart support.

Kate Spade, denizen of the fashion accessory market, developed a sense of style by dressing “differently.” Vintage clothing that harked back to her mother’s era helped her to establish an identity. A job in New York at *Mademoiselle* placed her as the assistant fashion editor in charge of accessories and living with her husband-to-be Andy Spade, a top advertising exec whom she met while attending Arizona State University. Acting on her business dream, she set out to make handbags that she would want to own. Today Kate Spade on a bag spells success in many ways.

Isaac Mizrahi recognized right away that he was different from the rest: glitter, dazzle, and glam took the place of bicycles and baseball mitts. His mother lovingly encouraged his dreams, giving him the tools to enable his talent to emerge by taking him shopping, exposing him to designer labels, and opening him to the arts. Spinal meningitis isolated him from other children but opened the world of daytime television and old movies, which later inspired him. Religion also played a strong role in his youth, and the yeshiva, or religious school, showed no patience with nonconformity. A sympathetic teacher, however, recognized his discontent and encouraged him to audition for Manhattan’s High School of the Performing Arts. At thirteen, he was accepted to this prestigious school that changed his life.

Vera Wang comes from a family of wealth and privilege, growing up in the most select areas of New York and Paris and constantly exposing her to the best in style and art. Jimmy Choo is a natural. Growing up in Penang, Malaysia, he planned to follow in his shoe-

maker father’s footsteps. But by also emulating his father’s approach to his work, Choo puts his stamp on shoemaking by turning it into art, crating elegant, expensive, beautiful, and unique designs. His company offers ready-to-wear shoes and stylish accessories worn by celebrities no less than First Lady Michele Obama.

These stories of going from rags to riches or from wealth to fashion celebrity or being different to someone who’s work is the object of everyone’s desire are illustrated with exciting, behind-the-scenes photos and archival images, with each image bringing vividly to life an aspect mentioned in the narratives. Although there is some repetition throughout each book, young fashionistas will not be disappointed. Meeting the page requirement for some biography reports, these titles will fulfill curricular needs as well as satisfy the desire to know more about the designers behind the names.

Supreme Court Justices

Branscomb, Leslie Wolf. *Earl Warren*. Greensboro, NC: Morgan Reynolds, 2011. 112 pp. \$28.95 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-1-59935-158-2. Illus. Selected Cases. Chronology. Source Notes. Biblio. Web sites. Glossary. Index.

Corrigan, Jim. *John Marshall*. Greensboro, NC: Morgan Reynolds, 2011. 112 pp. \$28.95 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-1-59935-135-9. Illus. Selected Cases. Chronology. Source Notes. Biblio. Web Sites. Index.

Shichtman, Sandra H. *Sonia Sotomayor*. Greensboro, NC: Morgan Reynolds, 2011. 112 pp. \$28.95 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-1-59935-156-8. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Biblio. Web Sites. Index.

Whitelaw, Nancy. *Thurgood Marshall*. Greensboro, NC: Morgan Reynolds, 2011. 112 pp. \$28.95 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-1-59935-157-5. Illus. Selected Cases. Chronology. Source Notes. Biblio. Web Sites. Glossary. Index.

From a publisher noted for its insightful and high-quality biographies comes this series on current and past Supreme Court Justices. Each title is lavishly illustrated with color photos and reprints that personalize each judge’s life through the images that influenced their careers and in turn the nation’s legal system. Personal information on each justice described also vividly portrays the events that most affected their lives. Sonia Sotomayor, one of the more current justices profiled, is portrayed against the background of her Puerto Rican birth, life in the projects of the Bronx, and strong family belief that education was the key to success in the United States. Ample historical detail turns these biographies into history lessons. For example, John Marshall was born into an era of westward expansion and encroachment of Native American territories. His father, a land surveyor for an English lord, and mother, Mary Randolph Keith, stressed education for both the boys and girls of their large family.

Key Court cases are discussed, clearly pointing out the individual justices’ impact on the decisions and their effect on the nation. Earl Warren, a justice both revered and despised, is talked about in relation to his role in the civil rights case of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* (1954) and *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966), which resulted in law enforcement officers’ mandate to inform suspects of their rights under the law at the time of arrest. Warren, as head of the commission bearing his name, led the investigation into the assassination of

President John F. Kennedy. As the first African American Supreme Court justice, Thurgood Marshall's tenure on the court also touched *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*, and he was a strong voice on the court for social justice.

Although some court cases are cited inconsistently across the books, the series is a solid and thorough addition to the classroom or library. With photos or illustrations on nearly every page, the books are certain to engage young adult readers.

Terrorism

Bedell, J. M. *Combatting Terrorism*. Mankato, MN: Compass Point Books/Capstone Press, 2009. 48 pp. \$27.99 (Library binding). ISBN 978-0-7565-4309-9. Illus. Glossary. Further Reading. Web Sites. Biblio. Index.

Burgan, Michael. *Terrorist Groups*. Mankato, MN: Compass Point Books/Capstone Press, 2009. 48 pp. \$27.99 (Library binding). ISBN 978-0-7565-4311-2. Illus. Glossary. Further Reading. Web Sites. Biblio. Index.

Nardo, Don. *The History of Terrorism*. Mankato, MN: Compass Point Books/Capstone Press, 2009. 48 pp. \$27.99 (Library binding). ISBN 978-0-7565-4310-5. Illus. Glossary. Further Reading. Web Sites. Biblio. Index.

Tougas, Shelley. *What Makes a Terrorist?* Mankato, MN: Compass Point Books/Capstone Press, 2009. 48 pp. \$27.99 (Library binding). ISBN 978-0-7565-4312-9. Illus. Glossary. Further Reading. Web Sites. Biblio. Index.

In the ever-pressing attempt to understand, dissect, and rationalize the concept of terrorism throughout human history, this series selects four aspects for discussion. Brief chapters, amply illustrated with images, charts, and sidebars, help readers to explore the causes, history, and participants in the fear and violence that characterizes terrorism. *Combating Terrorism* speaks from the point of view of those who work to battle terrorism, whether covertly or in open combat. Sidebars add depth to the information provided in the text, including a chart of antiterrorism organizations around the world.

Terrorist Groups begins with a definition of terrorism, flanked by the iconic photo of the Twin Towers on September 11. The scope of coverage, however, is not limited to terrorism associated with that horrific date but also extends to the Irish Republican Army, Irgun, Fatah, Abul Nidal, ETA (a Spanish terrorist group), and Hezbollah, among other organizations. Disturbing photographs enhance text throughout. *The History of Terrorism* cites the nebulous definition of the word "terror," which derives from the Latin, "to frighten." Maximilian Robespierre used this definition to justify the use of fear and violence, stating during the French Revolution, "Terror is nothing other than justice, prompt, severe, and inflexible." The time line for this book begins with the reign of Assyrian kings from 883–859 BC to 2009, citing the fact that Osama bin Laden remains at large. The cover photo for *What Makes a Terrorist?* chillingly portrays children bearing guns, proudly asserting their association with a unnamed group. Qualities that characterize the terrorist are summarized, and a chart compares several well-known terrorists, from Timothy McVeigh to North Korea's Kim Hyun Hee.

These books are quite brief and do not offer any depth to their narrative, but they are starting points for student reports and would work with reluctant readers.

NEW VOLUMES IN SERIES

The Ilan Stavans Library of Latino Civilization

Border Culture. Ilan Stavans, Ed. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood/ABC-CLIO, 2010. 222 pp. \$55. ISBN 978-0-313-35820-3. Illus. Biblio. Source Notes. Index.

César Chávez. Ilan Stavans, Ed. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood/ABC-CLIO, 2010. 168 pp. \$55. ISBN 978-0-313-35824-1. Illus. Biblio. Source Notes. Index.

Quinceañera. Ilan Stavans, Ed. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood/ABC-CLIO, 2010. 168 pp. \$55. ISBN 978-0-313-35824-1. Illus. Biblio. Source Notes. Index.

Telenovelas. Ilan Stavans, Ed. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood/ABC-CLIO, 2010. 225 pp. \$55. ISBN 978-0-313-35892-1. Illus. Biblio. Index.

Soap operas, coming-of-age celebrations, a noted civil rights hero, and a discussion of immigration as a culture are the heady topics for these new entries in a series designed to explore "all the facets of Hispanic civilization in the United States, with its ramifications in the Americas, the Caribbean Basin, and the Iberian Peninsula," according to the series foreword. These books are text heavy, with few, if any, illustrations to break up the narrative, and the series is targeted to the high school or college researcher. Peer-review essays, interviews, and reviews written by some of the leading scholars in the nation combine in a rich and broad discussion of selected topics.

Border Culture is broken into two sections, Considerations and Testimonies, each with seven articles. The first section considers socio-economic and political issues, and the second offers personal accounts of lives affected by the border debate. *César Chávez* likewise is broken into two parts, Considerations, which offers six essays on the labor activist's multifaceted life and ideals, and Voices, which also provides six articles that describe the Chicano movement and lasting effects. A look into the Latino coming-of-age ritual in the tradition of the debutante ball, *Quinceañera* informs readers in two sections, *Preparativos* (Preparations) and *Testimonios*. Essays here come from noted academics and celebrated authors (Judith Ortiz-Cofer and Julia Alvarez), as well as a seamstress from Amsterdam, who seeks to preserve the culture in the traditional *quinceañera* gowns she creates. Both the mass and the fiesta are described in detail through these pieces. *Telenovelas* discusses the tradition of Spanish-language soap operas. The first section, Panoramas, opens with seven articles that trace the history, pros and cons, social imagery, and cultural significance of the *telenovela*, and Case Studies offers three essays on how soap operas enable viewers to relate to social situations and develop a cultural identity, how struggle in the Mexican soap opera reflects conflict between men and women, and an examination of three Mexican *telenovelas* as cultural and commercial products.

Each title in this series is somewhat dry, with limited illustration to break up the text. Forthcoming titles will examine Mexican cuisine and *fútbol* (soccer).

Meet Our New Student

Koosman, Melissa. *Going to School Around the World*. Newark, DE: Mitchell Lane, 2010. 64 pp. \$21.50. ISBN 978-1-58415-782-3. Illus. Maps. Further Reading. Works Consulted. Web Sites. Glossary. Index.

McManus, Lori. *Meet Our New Student from Japan*. Newark, DE: Mitchell Lane, 2010. 64 pp. \$21.50. ISBN 978-1-58415-780-9. Illus. Maps. Charts. Further Reading. Works Consulted. Web Sites. Glossary. Index.

These two series additions join other titles on students from Australia, Haiti, Korea, and other nations in an attempt to familiarize young readers in grades two through four with cultures and learning around the world. Although *Japan* focuses solely on a student from one nation, *Going to School Around the World* introduces young learners from Costa Rica, Turkey, Finland, Kenya, Thailand, Russia, Senegal, and, curiously, Rural Alaska. These titles seek to ease the transition to American classrooms for new students from foreign lands by introducing prospective classmates to information on the lands from which their new friends hail through geography, language, dress, history, food, and customs. Each title provides directions to a craft or activity from that nation.

Wildly colorful and necessarily brief, these books offer little depth but will surely help American students make connections with foreign students new to their classrooms.

Multicultural Literature

Angel, Anne. *A Reader's Guide to Sandra Cisneros's A House on Mango Street*. Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow Publishers, 2010. 128 pp. \$31.93 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-0-7660-3167-8. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Glossary. Biblio. Further Reading. Web Sites. Index.

Jones, Jen. *A Reader's Guide to Gary Soto's Taking Sides*. Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow Publishers, 2010. 128 pp. \$31.93 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-0-7660-3168-5. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Glossary. Biblio. Further Reading. Web Sites. Index.

Litwin, Laura Baskes. *A Readers Guide to Zora Neale Hurston's Their Eyes Were Watching God*. Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow Publishers, 2010. 128 pp. \$31.93 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-0-7660-3164-7. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Glossary. Biblio. Further Reading. Web Sites. Index.

Schroeder, Heather Lee. *A Reader's Guide to Marjane Satrapi's Persepolis*. Berkeley Heights, NJ: Enslow Publishers, 2010. 128 pp. \$31.93 (Library Binding). ISBN 978-0-7660-3166-1. Illus. Chronology. Source Notes. Glossary. Biblio. Further Reading. Web Sites. Index.

These guides to selected multicultural works of fiction are geared to the high school student engaged in the study of great literature classics in the classroom. Their work is considered in the context of each author's biographical background, and links are established between life events and the authors' writing. Literary devices and techniques are explained in relationship to the work being discussed.

Sandra Cisneros, the child of Mexican immigrants who became naturalized American citizens, grew up in an ethnically diverse community of Chicago that became the setting for *A House on Mango Street*. Her school experiences were less-than satisfying, a reflection of her teachers' inability to relate to or value the home lives of poorer students. Her parents' insistence on rising above their poorer circumstances and belief in betterment enabled her to hope for college as a way out of the racism and prejudice that she encountered throughout her childhood. Her search for place and self-esteem are part of the autobiographical foundation for her work.

Persepolis by Marjane Strapi is also an autobiographical glimpse into the author's childhood, however, her work is based on experiences in Iran. The guide to her graphic novel includes a glossary of related terms and an in-depth discussion of the graphic novel format. Angel also provides a chapter on the relationship between Islam and Iran, helping readers to better understand the story's cultural and religious background. Chapters on dramatic devices, themes, characters, and critical context round out this comprehensive guide.

Similarly the guide to Zora Neale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were on God* begins by grounding the work in the author's youth before launching the literary discussion. A plot summary and analysis precedes various character discussions and chapters on primary and secondary themes in the novel. Unlike other series titles, Litwin includes book reviews, both positive and negative, that were curiously split along racial lines: whites liked the book but African American readers did not. Hurston's other work is briefly discussed before a chapter on the author's legacy, breaking new ground rejoicing folk traditions and honoring African American folklore.

Gary Soto's *Taking Sides* celebrates the triumph of the underdog, as the first chapter in Jones's reader's guide discusses. She immediately launches the reader into a discussion of symbol and symbolism in the book while also providing biographical background on the author. Themes, dramatic devices, and character discussions focus on their connection to Soto's life. Sidebars highlight various aspects of the author's childhood and work.

Among other books in this series are *A Reader's Guide to Amy Tan's The Joy Luck Club*, *A Reader's Guide to Richard Wright's Black Boy*, and *A Reader's Guide to Chinua Achebe's Things Fall Apart*.

Oxford Histories

Bloxham, David. *The Final Solution: A Genocide*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009. 416 pp. \$29.95 pb. ISBN 978-0-19-955034-0. Illus. Maps. Glossary. Source Notes. Biblio. Index.

Broadening his perspective beyond Nazi Germany, Bloxham considers an entire continent from the late-nineteenth century onward in this history of genocide and ethnic cleansing. He opens with an introduction that suggests the Holocaust be covered as an international history. Photos and illustrations punctuate an otherwise dense text to provide a human face to this scholarly and detailed examination. End notes are extensive, and a detailed index leads the reader to specific topics, from anti-Semitism in various nations to the USSR or Kaiser Wilhem. The author is an expert on the history of genocide and the punishment of genocide.

REISSUES OF OUT-OF-PRINT WORK

Byrd, Lee Merrill. *Juanito Counts to Ten / Johnny cuenta hasta diez: A Bilingual Counting Book*. Illus. by Francisco Delgado. El Paso, TX: Cinco Puntos Press, 2010, ©2005. 32 pp. \$6.95 pb. ISBN 978-1-933693-12-5.

Inspired by her four-year-old grandchild Johnny, Byrd decided to write this book that portrays his happiness and exuberance and also teaches counting to ten in an entertaining way. Delgado's use of primary colors helps the words and numbers to jump off the page. Young English learners will find the images and warm, family story just plain fun.

TRANSLATIONS OF PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED WORK INTO ENGLISH

García Lorca, Federico. *In Search of Duende*. Prose selections trans. by Christopher Maurer; poems trans. by Norman di Giovanni, et al. New York: New Directions Publishing, 2010, ©1998, 1975. 113 pp. \$9.95 pb. ISBN 978-0-8112-1855-9.

This bilingual edition is part of the *Pearls* series of translated short masterpieces by authors of note. García Lorca, called Spain's most famous poet, explores the meaning of *duende*, or the dark part of the soul, through its expression in art, dance, music, and the bullfight. Spanish verse appears opposite the translation into English, but the prose works appear only in translation. Maurer's preface offers further meaning to definition of *duende* as "irrationality, earthiness, a heightened awareness of death, and a dash of the diabolical" while also giving background to García Lorca's writing life. Notes on the translations conclude this introduction to the writer's work for English-speaking readers.

Marías, Javier. *Bad Nature, or With Elvis in Mexico*. Trans. by Esther Allen. New York: New Directions Publishing, 2010, ©1996. 58 pp. \$9.95 pb. ISBN 978-0-8112-1858-0.

This brief novel, part of the *Pearls* series that offers translations of short works by Spanish authors, follows the travails of a Spanish worker in Hollywood who has become a translator and is sent to Mexico to work as part of the crew for Elvis's latest movie. Ruibérez helps the movie's star emulate a Castilian accent for the film, but when an incident in a bar tests his skills and obligations as Elvis's intermediary, he wonders just what he has gotten himself into. 🎬