

Editor's Shelf

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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

Annerino, John. *Dead in Their Tracks: Crossing America's Desert Borderlands in the New Era*. Tucson: Univ. of Arizona Press, 2009. 320 pp. Illus. with photos. Revised and updated ed. ISBN 978-0-8165-2765-6, \$17.95 (pb).

Dead in Their Tracks is a vivid firsthand account of photojournalist Annerino who said he was compelled to tell the struggles of immigrants who risked their lives in hopes of a better life. He recounts the trip he made with four Mexican nationals through the treacherous southwestern Arizona desert with no marked trails and ground temperatures up to 160 degrees. Readers meet the migrant workers, drug runners, ranchers, and Border Patrol agents of the Southwest.

His research and documentation of the border death toll, both historical and modern, began on October 1, 1987. Annerino writes that "Many of the photos in this book were difficult to take" and frequently brought him to tears. Revised and updated, the new edition of *Dead in Their Tracks* includes compelling stories from after the 1999 publication of the original edition. In addition, more black-and-white photos have been added, as well as a new introduction and afterword. A map of "America's Killing Ground" shows that more than 5,067 people have died in the U.S.–Mexico borderlands since 1994. Other maps include the dangerous and deadly border crossing routes and principal dangers at the U.S.–Mexico border, and the desert searches and rescues. Annerino includes a photo he took of "an open grave for many immigrants who have disappeared without a trace in the drifting sands."

An "In Memoriam" chapter contains the death toll for both immigrants and Border Patrol agents killed in the line of duty. Appendixes list expeditions through the regions, water requirements for crossing the desert, and desert searches and rescues. The volume contains a section of notes, a bibliography, and an index.

Douglass, Frederick, and Davis, Angela Y. *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, Written by Himself: A New Critical Edition by Angela Y. Davis*. San Francisco: City Lights, 2010. 254 pp. Series: Open Media. ISBN 978-0-87286-527-3, \$12.95 (pb).

Along with Douglass's classic memoir—a leading text of the nineteenth-century movement to abolish slavery—editor Davis contributes two lectures written in 1969-1970, when she taught at UCLA and was then imprisoned for her leadership in the Black Power movement. Prefacing those lectures is a statement from her UCLA colleagues that draws parallels between her situation and Douglass's enslavement and freedom struggle. Davis's own lectures explore the philosophy of liberation, Douglass's resistance, religious imagery in his work, feminist perspectives on gender and slavery, and what his writing and activism mean for the activists of the 1960s.

The new edition includes an introduction titled "Pathways to Freedom" from Open Media series editor Gregg Ruggiero, which connects Douglass's struggle to that of Davis in 1970 and Mumia Abu-Jamal today. Davis's own introduction, written in 2009, explores her reading of Douglass's *Narrative* and how it has changed throughout her life. A set of endnotes provides further context for the *Narrative* and the accompanying essays.

Dulemba, Elizabeth O. *Soap, Soap, Soa / Jabón, jabón, jabón*. McHenry, Ill.: Raven Tree Press, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. by the author. ISBN 978-1-934960-62-2, \$16.95.

This English-language edition of the bilingual tale contains embedded Spanish words in red. A Spanish/English vocabulary section is included in the back of the book. The Appalachian Jack Tale has been turned into a modern story set in a small town with a main character named Hugo.

Award-winning illustrator Dulemba has used graphite for the illustrations and digitally rendered them with bright, vivid, happy colors, thus adding a playful energy to this sweet tale.

Geha, Joseph. *Through & Through: Toledo Stories, Second Edition*. Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse Univ. Press, 2009. 184 pp. ISBN 978-0-8156-3210-8, \$19.95 (pb).

The author of this new edition, a collection of interrelated stories originally published in 1990, is winner of a Pushcart Prize and a National Endowment of the Arts Award. Geha was born in Lebanon and grew up in a Lebanese-American community in Toledo, Ohio.

The new edition adds three new stories to the original series of eight vignettes. The stories follow three generations of a family in their new community in the United States comprised of Syrian and Lebanese immigrants. Geha captures the immigrants' way of life,

their struggles to keep their Arab roots alive in a new land, and their sense of humor.

Joyner, Charles. *Down by the Riverside: A South Carolina Slave Community*. Champaign: Univ. of Illinois Press, 2009. 400 pp. 25th anniversary ed. ISBN 978-0-252-07683-1, \$25.00 (pb).

In this 25th anniversary edition of the classic study of slave life in the American South, Joyner reconstructs the daily life of the All Saints Parish, Georgetown District, in the South Carolina low country. Some say that *Down by the Riverside* is one of the finest and most in-depth books ever written about American slavery. A new introduction is included in which Joyner details the process of writing the book, discusses its critical and popular reception, and examines the "path of scholarship" in slave history since the book's first publication in 1984.

The information for the original book came from letters, diaries, and memoirs of plantation owners and their guests; analyses of census and probate records; and slave folklore and oral history.

Joyner is Burroughs Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Southern History and Culture at Coastal Carolina University and past president of the Southern Historical Association. He is the author of *Shared Traditions: Southern History and Folk Cultures* and other works.

Palazeti, Toulla. *A Seed Was Planted/Sembré una semilla*. McHenry, Ill.: Raven Tree Press, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. by Pamela Barcita. Bilingual (English-Spanish) ed. ISBN 978-1-932748-89-5, \$16.95.

The new bilingual edition of this book about a cycle of giving begins when a single seed is planted and the sprouts are passed from one person to the next. Ultimately, the tiny seed that was first planted touches the entire community.

Palazeti is a native of Maryland and a wife, a mother, and a teacher. She said that the young people in her life inspire the stories she writes. Barcita has illustrated more than 20 children's books that include the *Boots the Cat* series and *Ruby Lee the Bumble Bee* series.

Palmore, Erdman B.; Whittington, Frank; and Kunkel, Suzanne, eds. *The International Handbook on Aging: Current Research and Developments*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Praeger, 2009. 700 pp. Third ed. ISBN 978-0-313-35230-0, \$54.95.

The International Handbook on Aging is an invaluable resource. It is in its third edition since most of the material in earlier editions is now out of date. This book was first published in 1980 and the second edition in 1993. The experts on aging who edited this edition led a global team of contributors to examine the top challenges of each nation and what is being done to meet them.

The information in the handbook collects and summarizes educational programs, research in gerontology, and policy initiatives in aging. The data includes all races and ethnic groups in most of the countries. The first edition had chapters on 28 countries. The second included 25 countries. Now, 14 years later, the third edition updates the earlier information and adds new chapters on 47 individual

countries as well as 4 regional areas and a chapter on international nongovernmental organizations dealing with aging.

Polette, Keith. *Isabel and the Hungry Coyote*. McHenry, Ill.: Raven Tree Press, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. by Esther Szegedy. ISBN 978-1-934960-72-1, \$16.95.

This edition of *Isabel and the Hungry Coyote* is in English only, although the previous edition was bilingual. The story will interest a K-3 grade audience. It is about a little girl on her way to Grandma's house with a basket of yummy goodies. A hungry and ferocious wild animal lurks nearby. Yes, this story sounds like "Little Red Riding Hood," doesn't it? But this time the story takes place in the Chihuahuan Desert of the American Southwest and Isabel takes down a rogue coyote with hot chili sauce.

The award-winning author is a specialist in children's literacy, and the illustrator is a self-taught artist living in Hawaii.

Ramos y Sanchez, Raul. *America Libre*. New York: Grand Central Publishing, 2009. 372 pp. ISBN 978-0-446-50775-2, \$13.99 (pb).

America Libre, winner of the 2008 International Latino Book Award for Best Novel, was originally self-published. However, five months after its publication, Grand Central Publishing acquired and repackaged Ramos y Sanchez's debut novel.

This powerful and volatile story takes place during the second decade of the twenty-first century when the immigration crisis reaches the boiling point and violence erupts in cities across the nation. Ramos y Sanchez portrays a hardworking Mexican-American truck driver who, in a period of high unemployment, takes a job with a recycling company that turns out to be a front for an armed resistance movement against anti-immigrant vigilantes and a government that has begun to deport all people of Hispanic descent to remote concentration camps.

The Cuban-born author is founding partner of BRC Marketing, an ad agency established in 1992 with offices in Ohio and California. He is also the host of MyImmigrationStory.com, an online forum for the U.S. immigrant community.

Shaheen, Jack G. *Reel Bad Arabs: How Hollywood Vilifies a People*. Northampton, Mass.: Interlink, 2009. 626 pp. Revised and updated ed. ISBN 978-1-56656-752-7, \$25.00 (pb).

The revised edition of *Reel Bad Arabs* (originally published in 2002) includes a new preface. The author is a former CBS News consultant on Middle East affairs and the world's foremost authority on media images of Arabs and Muslims. He chronicles Hollywood's portrayal, since the earliest films, of Arab people as the villains. Hollywood continues to stereotype and malign Arabs and Muslims in blockbusters today.

Shaheen describes how Jordan's Queen Rania al-Abdullah, aware of how damaging the images are for her people, started to use YouTube to initiate an Arab/American dialogue. She requested that the "insipid portrait that injures Arabs and Muslims" be eradicated. Young filmmakers who are making movies that portray Arabs, Arab

Americans, and Muslims in a more positive way include Annemarie Jacir (*Salt of the Sea*, 2008); Rolla Selbak (*Three Veils*, 2009); and Nabil Abou-Harb (*Arab in America*, 2009).

REISSUES OF OUT-OF-PRINT WORKS

Clare, Eli. *Exile & Pride: Disability, Queerness and Liberation*. Cambridge, Mass.: South End Press, 2009, 1999. 192 pp. New afterword by Dean Spade. ISBN 978-0-89608-788-0, \$16.00 (pb).

This updated tenth-anniversary edition contains a new preface and an afterword. Clare is a poet with cerebral palsy who advocates more exploration of gender identity and disability. He writes about his experiences as a White “gender queer” activist/writer with cerebral palsy.

The mission of this book is to have non-disabled progressive activists add disability to their political agenda. At the same time, he wants disability activists to give up their “single-issue” politics and strategies.

Clare has a BA in Women’s Studies, an MFA in Creative Writing, and several awards for his work that include the Change Award from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. In addition, he is credited with having changed the “landscape of disability politics and queer liberation.”

Jarrar, Randa. *A Map of Home*. New York: Penguin, 2009, 2008. 292 pp. ISBN 978-0-14-311626-4, \$15.00 (pb).

Jarrar’s debut novel, written at the age of 23 and first published in the United States by Other Press, portrays a rebellious girl named Nidali. The child of an Egyptian-Greek mother and a Palestinian father, she has moved to Kuwait, Egypt, and, in her teen years, Texas, with her eccentric middle-class family. Her hot-tempered father has plans for her to become a professor, to focus on her studies rather than on boys.

Jarrar weaves historical events into the lives of Nidali and her family; for instance, Iraq’s invasion of Kuwait in 1990, on Nidali’s thirteenth birthday, drives the family to the United States and ends her peaceful childhood.

This autobiographical novel draws from Jarrar’s own tumultuous childhood. Born in Chicago, she grew up in Kuwait and Egypt and ultimately returned to the United States with her family. She graduated high school and began college at the age of 16 but had a child two years later, raising him as a single mother while finishing her bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

Lapolla, Garibaldi M. *The Grand Gennaro*. Piscataway, N.J.: Rutgers Univ. Press, 2009, 1935. 340 pp. Edited, with an introduction by Steven J. Belluscio. ISBN 978-0-8135-4568-4, \$72.00 (cl); 978-0-8135-4569-1, \$27.95 (pb).

Although well-known and respected by Italian-American literature scholars, Lapolla never received the wider critical attention he deserved. Consequently, his novels went out of print too soon.

The main character of *The Grand Gennaro* is an illiterate Calabrian in southern Italy who owes money to his church and the mayor. He sneaks out of the country and goes to New York without paying his debt and meets an old friend. He steals the man’s money and his life changes for the better, for a while. However, it doesn’t last for long and soon his life spirals out of control into a dark place.

Lapolla was an Italian-American educator and novelist who immigrated to New York in 1890. The volume’s editor, Steven Belluscio, writes a useful biographical and critical introduction. Belluscio teaches English at Borough of Manhattan Community College/CUNY and is the author of *To Be Suddenly White: Literary Realism and Racial Passing*.

Newton, Huey. *To Die for the People*. San Francisco: City Lights, 2009, 1972. 236 pp. Illus. with photos. Edited by Toni Morrison. Foreword by Elaine Brown. ISBN 978-0-87286-529-7, \$16.95 (pb).

This reprint commemorates the 20th anniversary of the death of Huey Newton, founder of the Black Panther Party. This new release of his writings and speeches traces his personal and political thinking and documents the radical changes that took place in the beginning years of the Black Panther Party. This book tells about the internal struggles, rivalries, and contradictions of the party as well as ways to cope with injustices in American society.

David Hilliard, a founding member and former chief of staff of the Black Panther Party, provides a first-hand account of Newton’s violent death, the killing of Fred Hampton, and much more about the inside workings of the Panthers. Elaine Brown, the Party’s first female chair, contributes a moving and powerful foreword.

Ross, Val. *The Road to There: Mapmakers and Their Stories*. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2009, 2003. 146 pp. Illus. ISBN 978-0-88776-933-7, \$15.95 (pb).

The author of this book is an award-winning journalist who died in 2008 in Toronto, where she was an arts reporter at *The Globe and Mail*. *The Road to There*, now in paperback, won the Norma Fleck Award for Canadian Children’s Non-Fiction. This engaging book of world history, suspense, and intrigue guides young readers ages 11 and up through the world of mapmaking. It is beautifully illustrated and well documented. Young people will learn about the men and women who helped people find their way. Some of the characters are adventurers Captain Cook and David Thompson, who mapped territories across North America, and Margaret Geller, who mapped the galaxies. Unknown heroes sewed signposts made of quilts to guide slaves along the Underground Railroad.

NEW VOLUMES IN SERIES

Akashic Noir

Sawhney, Hirsh, ed. *Delhi Noir*. New York: Akashic, 2009. 300 pp. ISBN 978-1-933354-78-1, \$15.95 (pb). Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-7613-4265-6, \$38.60.

This award-winning fiction anthology series first began in 2004 with *Brooklyn Noir*, which remains the best-selling book in the series and is in its sixth printing. Each book is made up of all new stories and represents a distinct neighborhood or location within the featured city. Although this series initially focused on U.S. cities, it has now expanded internationally. Rights have been sold in Korea, Russia, Scandinavia, and India.

Delhi Noir features 14 stories in various New Delhi neighborhoods, from Jantar Mantar and Lodhi Gardens to Gyan Kunj and Rohini, prosperous neighborhoods to impoverished ones. The writers of these stories have diverse backgrounds. They are men and women, gay and straight, Christians, Hindus, Muslim, and Sikhs, Punjabis, Biharis, Bengalis, and Keralites. What the writers have in common is that they do not hesitate to write the truth as they see it about the “uncomfortable underside.”

The authors include award-winning writer Meera Nair, who lived in five different states in India before she came to the United States in 1997. She is the author of *Video: Stories*, and her work has been featured in the *New York Times* and on NPR. Radhika Jha, born in Delhi in 1970, is the author of *Smell* and *The Elephant and the Maruti*. She writes and performs Odissi dance and lives in Tokyo with her husband and two children. Uday Prakash writes poetry, fiction, and journalism; he is also a filmmaker and a translator. Irwin Allan Sealy lives in the foothills of the Himalayas and is the author of the novels *The Trotter-Nama Hero*, *The Everest Hotel*, and *Brainfever Bird and Red*.

Gateway Biographies

Brill, Marlene Targ. *Michelle Obama: From Chicago's South Side to the White House*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2010. 48 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-7613-5033-0, \$26.60.

Young people in grades four through eight will enjoy this easy-to-read series that focuses on the human side of newsworthy and historical people. Quotes and childhood stories of successes and failures, along with inspirational sources and experiences, are part of this series.

Early in her career, Michelle Obama knew that she wanted a profession where she could give back to her community; she found what she was looking for in the public service program for the University of Chicago that she started. As First Lady she brings intelligence, wit, and warmth to her position.

Included in this series are a detailed time line, a glossary, source notes, a selected bibliography, and an index.

Greenwood Biographies

Stout, Mary A. *Geronimo: A Biography*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 140 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-34454-1, \$35.00.

Weinstein, Norman. *Carlos Santana: A Biography*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 128 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-35420-5, \$35.00.

Designed specifically for high school and public libraries, this comprehensive biography series provides an excellent resource for learning about important people in our world. The subjects range from well-known civil rights activists to sports figures, from scientists to icons of contemporary popular culture. Each volume contains factual and in-depth information about the featured subject from birth through adulthood.

Geronimo: A Biography follows the life of the revered Apache spiritual and military leader. Stout conveys Geronimo's intelligence, courage, charisma, and complexity as well as the tragedies that marked his life and that of his people. He led one of the last major independent Indian uprisings and at the same time brought attention to the struggle of Native Americans during westward expansion.

In *Carlos Santana* Weinstein offers a comprehensive look at the legendary guitarist's transitions as he explored a variety of musical styles, including rock, blues, salsa, jazz, and many more. Santana's first gig was at a Tijuana strip club, and later he played regularly in San Francisco before becoming an international superstar. In the 1970s he recorded many hit songs and albums and enjoyed a commercial rebirth in 1999 with *Supernatural*.

Each volume contains a series foreword, an introduction, a time line of the subject's life, a glossary, Internet sources, a selected bibliography, an index, and back-and-white photos.

The Greenwood Histories of the Modern Nations

Cornfield, Justin. *The History of Cambodia*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 170 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-35722-0, \$49.95.

Ziegler, Charles E. *The History of Russia*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 260 pp. Second ed. ISBN 978-0-313-36307-8, \$49.95.

This comprehensive series is an excellent resource for schools and public libraries. The authors offer well-written and concise narrative histories of the world's nations and cover prehistoric times through today, examining political, cultural, philosophical, and religious aspects.

Cornfield notes that even though Cambodia shows a happy and welcoming aspect, it also has a desperately dark side that he conveys through his interviews of Cambodian political figures and their families. He wrote his doctoral thesis on the Cambodian government during the period from 1970 to 1975. Presently he is a teacher of history and international studies at Geelong Grammar School and author of *Encyclopedia of Singapore* (2006) and *The History of Vietnam* (2008), also in this series.

The first edition of Ziegler's *The History of Russia* was acclaimed as a source of information not easily found elsewhere and also for its “clear, balanced, and insightful” style. This second edition moves from the tenth-century founding of Kievan Rus through the czars and the Communist era to the present, with emphasis on the fall of the Soviet Union and the leadership of Mikhail Gorbachev, Boris Yeltsin, and Vladimir Putin. The revised volume contains a new chapter on the last decade, an updated introduction, and an expanded chapter on the Yeltsin era.

Each volume features a time line, biographical sketches of important figures, a glossary, a bibliographic essay, and an index.

Guides to Subcultures and Countercultures

Gitlin, Martin. *The Ku Klux Klan: A Guide to an American Subculture*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 154 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-36576-8, \$35.00.

Issitt, Micah L. *Hippies: A Guide to an American Subculture*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 164 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-36572-0, \$35.00.

This series captures countercultures in American history. It offers a quick but in-depth examination and current perspectives on each group, from Beatniks to flappers, Zoot Suiters to Punks.

The Ku Klux Klan tells the story of America's oldest and largest terrorist organization that at one time had four million members. Philosophies and methods of this secret society are revealed as well as their use of religious symbols, secret codes, and the cloak of anonymity to bind members together in the cause of violent racial warfare.

Features of this volume include a collection of primary sources, with dozens of newspaper, magazine, and Internet reports of Klan-related events and people, and comprehensive collections of photographs on every era of Ku Klux Klan activity from Reconstruction to the civil rights era to the present. A glossary of Klan terminology is included, and the complete index allows readers to find specific names and events in Klan history.

Hippies explores how this counterculture developed and influenced popular culture in America between 1961 and 1972. This volume focuses on the surfacing, growth, and lasting legacy of hippie culture, and it includes clothing, hairstyles, music, attitudes toward sex and drugs, and anti-war, anti-establishment activism and its influence.

Hippies includes a chronology, topical chapters on hippie culture, biographies, primary documents, and a glossary. There are also primary sources, such as excerpts from articles, speeches, original interviews, and Abbie Hoffman's trial interview. Photos by Robert Altman provide a look at the hippies in their heyday.

History Maker Bios

Donaldson, Madeline. *Ruby Bridges*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2010. 48 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-7613-4220-5, \$27.93.

Sutcliffe, Jane. *Sacagawea*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2010. 48 pp. Illus. ISBN 978-0-7613-4222-9, \$27.93.

Waxman, Laura Hamilton. *Anne Frank*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2010. 48 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-7613-4221-2, \$27.93.

Readers at the older elementary level are the audience for the three new volumes of this series. *Ruby Bridges* tells the story of the first African-American student to integrate a school in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1960. The touching photo in the book shows a tiny six-year-old girl surrounded by three big men—federal marshals—as she

walked down the stairs with poise and strength. Young readers will understand more about their world and the inner strength they too have, and that although prejudice does exist, it doesn't mean people are deterred by it. Donaldson depicts Ruby's close family as well. Another girl with inner strength was Anne Frank. This thirteen-year-old Jewish girl wrote her thoughts in her diary during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands, and even in hiding, she continued her studies so that she wouldn't be behind when the war ended. Her example helps readers to appreciate their freedom and education. Another powerful character is Sacagawea, the remarkable woman who helped Lewis and Clark speak to Native Americans in order to get horses and guides for their journey across the American frontier. This volume reveals the known facts about Sacagawea, her contributions, and her strength and courage as she provides an example for young girls today.

The books include informational sidebars, a bibliography, black-and-white and color photos, further reading, web sites, and an index.

Latino Biography Library

Warrick, Karen Clemens. *Sandra Cisneros: Inspiring Latina Author*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2009. 128 pp. ISBN 978-0-7660-3162-3, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Latino Biography Library is designed to meet the growing need for books on important role models in the Latino community. The series is characterized by attractive design, lively text, authoritative research, and informative sidebars, which are good resources for reports and research papers. The audience is primarily middle and junior high school students.

The author describes how Cisneros overcame many hardships and challenges, including poverty and racism, to become a unique voice of Mexican-American literature. *The House on Mango Street* remains a favorite of young readers today, more than 20 years after its release, and has sold over two million copies in English alone. As both a writer and an activist, Cisneros now encourages other women and people of color.

Lifeline Biographies

Doeden, Matt. *Will Smith: Box Office Superstar*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Twenty-First Century Books, 2010. 112 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-7613-4265-6, \$33.26.

Sirvaitis, Karen. *Barack Obama: A Leader in a Time of Change*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Twenty-First Century Books, 2010. 112 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-7613-4235-9, \$33.26.

In partnership with *USA Today*, these engaging biographies for grades six and up feature the world's most compelling people. There are informative and colorful sidebars, along with numerous photos and quotes.

Smith and Obama have much in common besides the obvious; they are smart, charming, and good-looking and come from humble beginnings. They take whatever they're doing seriously and do the work it takes to get the job done.

Smith was born in 1968 and always liked to be the center of attention. His grandmother recognized that and whenever possible got him parts in church plays. The private school he attended stopped at eighth grade, so Smith went to a public high school. After nine years at a mostly White school, he then had to learn to fit in with the African Americans at his new school. He learned to adapt to a new environment and a new audience, skills that helped him throughout his career as a musician, actor, and comedian. While he still raps and acts, he now also produces films, and he and his wife Jada Pinkett raise their three children and work for worthy causes.

Barack Obama: A Leader in a Time of Change traces the president's background as the son of a Kenyan economist and a White anthropologist from Kansas, raised for many years by his White grandparents. Obama possesses all the characteristics we ourselves strive for—"he's smart, but not arrogant; passionate, but not ideological; confident, but open to other points of view; black and proud of it, but not bound or consumed by race."

The first time many people were aware of Obama was in 2004, when the little-known state senator gave a compelling speech at the Democratic National Convention before 20 million viewers. In 2008, only four years later, twice as many people watched him accept the Democratic presidential nomination. In his inaugural address, President Obama said, "We must pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and begin again the work of remaking America." Will Smith and Jada Pinkett were at President Obama's 2009 inauguration and heard him utter those words.

Included in this series are a glossary, source notes, a bibliography and web sites, and an index.

Marco Flamingo

Jarkins, Sheila. *The Adventures of Marco Flamingo Under the Sea/Las aventuras submarinas de Marco Flamingo*. McHenry, Ill.: Raven Tree Press, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. by the author. Bilingual (English-Spanish) ed. ISBN 978-1-934960-66-0, \$16.95.

This book is a great bedtime story, good for reading with the family or alone, or perfect for just looking at the pictures. Although the reading level in English and Spanish is second to third grade, this story will interest children from preschool to the middle elementary years. The big, curious, goofy bird is featured in palettes of pinks and blues that beautifully complement the text.

Monumental Milestones: Great Events of Modern Times

Hinton, KaaVonia. *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas, 1954*. Newark, Del.: Mitchell Lane, 2009. 48 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-58415-738-0, \$21.50.

This series offers middle grade readers fast-paced narratives of defining events in recent history, with appealing design and vivid color photos.

By the time *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas*, reached the Supreme Court, the NAACP had already begun cases against segregated schools in South Carolina, Virginia, Delaware, and Washington, D.C. The author weaves the cases together and describes the people who participated, from the families who sought desegregated schools to their attorney, Thurgood Marshall, who would later be appointed to the Supreme Court.

Hinton, an assistant professor at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, has written other series volumes on African-American history and literature.

Native Trailblazers

Schilling, Vincent. *Native Musicians in the Groove*. Summertown, Tenn.: Book Publishing Co., 2009. 128 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-9779183-4-8, \$9.95 (pb).

This series focuses on the contributions of a number of Native Americans and First Nation Canadians, past and present, who provide inspiration and are role models for readers, middle school age and up. In this volume, ten Native American musicians are showcased; their tribal affiliations include Cree, Navajo, Cherokee, Ojibwe, Dene, Nakota Sioux, Seminole/Aleut, Pascua Yaqui, and Creek/Seminole. Their instruments vary from classical to electric guitar, from piano to drums to voice, and they perform in the genres of folk, country, punk, rock, and more. Since most of the musicians are not well known, the volume provides a valuable introduction to their works.

Race Relations in the United States

McClymer, John F. *Race Relations in the United States, 1900–1920*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 175 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-33935-6, \$49.95.

Students in middle school through college will benefit from using this volume, a thorough and well-organized resource for reports. *Race Relations in the United States, 1900–1920* covers key events, leading voices, race relations by group, legislation, media influences, cultural information, and interactions within groups. Among the dominant topics covered are the hardening of Jim Crow laws, the Great Migration northward, the rebirth of the Ku Klux Klan (along with D.W. Griffith's documentary film on the Klan), race relations in World War I, and the riots following the war that targeted prosperous Black communities in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and elsewhere. Also receiving coverage are immigrants and their descendants from Asia, Mexico, and Eastern and Southern Europe and Native Americans.

The book includes a time line, an overview of the period, encyclopedia-style entries on key events, topical essays, a resource guide,

and more. Historical photos, a selected bibliography, and an index complement the text.

NEW EDITIONS IN OTHER MEDIA

March On! The Day My Brother Martin Changed the World and More Stories About African-American History. New York: Scholastic, 2010. DVD. 69 minutes. Color. Series: Scholastic Storybook Treasures. \$14.95

Four books related to African-American history in general and the civil rights movement in particular are featured in this DVD package for elementary schools. Viewers will see the award-winning illustrations and hear the books read, some by the authors themselves, and special features include interviews with Christine King Farris, author of *March On! The Day My Brother Martin Changed the World* (illustrated by Lynn Whitfield), and Ellen Levine, author of *Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad* (illustrated by Kadir Nelson).

Besides these two titles, the DVD features *Martin's Big Words*, by Doreen Rappaport and illustrated by Bryan Collier, and *Rosa*, by Nikki Giovanni and also illustrated by Collier. Acclaimed poet Giovanni narrates her own book; the other stories are read by professional actors.

Stork, Francisco X. *The Last Summer of the Death Warriors.* New York: Listening Library, 2010. 7 CDs. 8 hours, 18 minutes. Performed by Ryan Gesell. ISBN 978-0-3077-0699-7, \$45.00.

Stork, whose *Marcelo in the Real World* (Scholastic, 2009) garnered significant acclaim and an Odyssey Award for the audiobook version, returns in 2010 with *The Last Summer of the Death Warriors*, the story of a Mexican-American orphan assigned to room in St. Anthony's Orphanage with an Anglo teenager dying of a brain tumor. In a tale based on *Don Quixote*, D.Q., the ill teen, is writing his Death Warrior Manifesto—his plan to embrace life rather than death—and his quest inspires narrator Pancho Sanchez, whose fantasies of revenge for the death of his sister threaten to consume his life. The teenagers' relationship is further complicated when both fall in love with the same girl, Marisol, a hospital volunteer.

Film and television actor Ryan Gesell narrates this novel told in the third person from Pancho's perspective. 🎧