

# 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

Codell, Esmé Raji. *Educating Esmé: Diary of a Teacher's First Year*. Chapel Hill, N.C.: Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2009. 270 pp. Tenth anniversary edition. ISBN 978-1-56512-935-1, \$12.95 (pb).

The new expanded edition of this award-winning book celebrates its ten-year anniversary. *Educating Esmé* is the author's account of her experience as a fifth grade teacher in Chicago's inner city. Through the years she continues to inspire educators, students, parents, and general readers. The latest edition contains a new foreword and also a new guide that offers advice about teaching and practical tips for both beginning and experienced teachers. In addition, new teachers will find a list of resources for their classroom.

In a supplementary online guide Codell shares even more of her down-to-earth approach to life in the classroom.

Delaney, Samuel R. *The Jewel-Hinged Jaw: Notes on the Language of Science Fiction*. Middletown, Conn.: Wesleyan Univ. Press, 2009. 288 pp. Revised ed. Introduction by Matthew Cheney. ISBN 978-0-8195-6883-0, \$27.95 (pb).

This book will introduce a new generation of fans of Delaney's science fiction to his essays. Fourteen essays written from 1966--1976 are included in this volume but are not in chronological order and instead grouped according to topic. Some minor inconsistencies have been fixed, and Delaney has made a few changes in terms of style and analysis. Two new essays are included along with Cheney's introduction to the noted African-American author's life and work.

Delaney, the winner of the Hugo and Nebula awards, currently teaches English and creative writing at Temple University.

Smith, Henrietta M. *The Coretta Scott King Awards, 1970--2009*. Chicago: American Library Association, 2009. 132 pp. Fourth edition. ISBN 978-0-8389-3584-2, \$42.00 (pb).

The fourth edition of this unique series celebrates high quality literature for young readers written and illustrated by African Americans. This new publication coincides with the 40th anniversary of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards. This important book contains comprehensive coverage of award-winning books, updated biographical profiles that introduce creative artists and illustrators, color plates that give a vital sense of the story and art, and a new subject index ideal for curriculum planning. This publication will offer educators the opportunity to share with their students the diversity and rich history of literature.

Also included in this volume are a preface, a history of the awards, and a general index.

### REISSUES OF OUT-OF-PRINT WORKS

Bontemps, Arna. *Drums at Dusk*. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State Univ. Press, 2009, 1939. 226 pp. New introduction by Michael P. Bibler and Jessica Adams. ISBN 978-0-8071-3439-9, \$21.95 (pb).

A new introduction reveals how *Drums at Dusk* still impacts contemporary studies of the Caribbean and the U.S. South and inspires discussion about revolution, race, and nationalism 70 years after its first edition. The setting is in Saint Domingue during the outbreak of the Haitian Revolution in 1791. The story is about love, violence, and race in France's richest colony.

Bontemps, born in Alexandria, Louisiana, and involved with the Harlem Renaissance, was an African-American short story writer, poet, and essayist who frequently worked with Langston Hughes. Among his other books are the novel *Black Thunder* and *Father of the Blues: An Autobiography*, by W.C. Handy, which he edited.

Granfeld, Linda. *Out of Slavery: The Journey to Amazing Grace*. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2009, 1997. 32 pp. Illus. by Janet Wilson. ISBN 978-0-88776-915-3, \$15.95.

Originally titled *Amazing Grace: The Story of the Hymn*, this book was selected as a Best Book in the nonfiction category by the Canadian review journal *Quill & Quire*. The story depicts John Newton, a seafaring trader whose commodities were human beings. During the height of slave trade he encountered a violent storm. Like the biblical Jonah, he prayed for salvation, pleading to God that if he were spared, he would quit the slave trade. Newton was spared and he kept his word, becoming a minister and staunch abolitionist. As a minister, he penned the hymn "Amazing Grace," which was based on his own spiritual revelation and atonement.

Harber, Frances. *The Brothers' Promise*. Morton Grove, Ill.: Albert Whitman, 2009, 1998. 32 pp, Illus. by Thor Wickstrom. ISBN 978-0-8075-0902-9, \$6.99 (pb).

The original story from the Talmud that inspired this book is set in biblical times. Harber's updated narrative is set in Eastern Europe at the turn of the twentieth century and besides being based on the Talmudic tale contains the wisdom and humor of centuries of Jewish folk sayings. In this touching picture book, two brothers are asked to keep a promise to their dying father. After their father dies, there is a great drought and the brothers' crops start to die from lack of rain. The angels in heaven weep with joy when the brothers keep their promise to their late father, and the tears save their crops.

The expressive, vivid, and bold illustrations add to this poignant tale. Young children of all backgrounds will want to hear the story and read it by themselves.

## NEW VOLUMES IN SERIES

### A+ Books

Kras, Sara Louise. *Japan in Colors*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone Press, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-4296-2224-0, \$23.99 (list), \$17.99 (school/library).

Olson, Nathan. *India in Colors*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone Press, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-4296-2223-3, \$23.99 (list), \$17.99 (school/library).

The World of Color series extension is unique and imaginative and designed for children with a reading level of first and second grade. The series introduces readers to the culture and history of countries through vivid two-page color photo spreads with matching text characterized by short and direct sentences.

*Japan in Colors* includes a stark white robot playing a brown violin that can build cars, plant rice, and serve sushi. You might wonder if the robot can build other robots—the answer is yes. *India in Colors* contains a photo of a golden statue of Mohandas Gandhi, the great religious leader who helped India become an independent country through peace and patience.

Each volume in this series contains a map, a flag, pictures of each country's currency, an index, an extended glossary, notes to parents and teachers, and a list of age-appropriate web sites.

### Aftermath of History

Cunningham, Mark E., and Zwier, Lawrence J. *The Aftermath of the French Defeat in Vietnam*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Twenty-First Century Books, 2009. 160 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-8225-9093-4, \$38.60.

Kallen, Stuart A. *The Aftermath of the Sandinista Revolution*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Twenty-First Century Books, 2009. 160 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-8225-9091-1, \$38.60.

Designed for the high school reading and interest level, these series volumes examine world history through the political, economic, and social aftermaths of key events. The books reveal the influence of single events.

In 1945 the people of Vietnam were ready to reconquer their country from the French colonialists. They succeeded in the Indochina War in 1954. Although a peace treaty was signed that year,

the fighting was not over in Vietnam. *The Aftermath of the French Defeat in Vietnam* details how the United States was drawn into the civil war that followed the French defeat, and how Vietnam was ultimately reunited under Communist control.

In *The Aftermath of the Sandinista Revolution* the author tells about how the Sandinistas overthrew the corrupt, U.S.-backed Somoza family dictatorship. Kallen explores how the Sandinistas saw themselves as the inheritors of Augusto Cesar Sandino's resistance to U.S. imperialism in the 1920s and 1930s, as he proclaimed, "Free homeland or death," before dying at the hands of the first Somoza dictator in 1934. This revolution brought attention to global economic and human rights issues and raised questions about the rights of nations to intervene in each other's affairs. This book reveals the truth to young people about what happened during that time in history.

Each volume contains additional facts, mini-biographies of important people, a pronunciation guide, primary source images and quotations, color and black-and-white photos, a time line, a glossary, source notes, a selected bibliography, web sites, and an index.

### The American Girl Collection

Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *Candlelight for Rebecca*. Middleton, Wis.: Pleasant Company, 2009. 86 pp. Illus. by Robert Hunt. ISBN 978-1-59369-525-5, \$12.95 (cl); 978-1-59369-582-8, \$6.95 (pb).

Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *Changes for Rebecca*. Middleton, Wis.: Pleasant Company, 2009. 78 pp. Illus. by Robert Hunt. ISBN 978-1-59369-531-6, \$12.95 (cl); 978-1-59369-530-9, \$6.95 (pb).

Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *Meet Rebecca*. Middleton, Wis.: Pleasant Company, 2009. 86 pp. Illus. by Robert Hunt. ISBN 978-1-59369-521-7, \$12.95 (cl); 978-1-59369-520-0, \$6.95 (pb).

Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *Rebecca and Ana*. Middleton, Wis.: Pleasant Company, 2009. 86 pp. Illus. by Robert Hunt. ISBN 978-1-59369-523-1, \$12.95 (cl); 978-1-59369-522-4, \$6.95 (pb).

Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *Rebecca and the Movies*. Middleton, Wis.: Pleasant Company, 2009. 86 pp. Illus. by Robert Hunt. ISBN 978-1-59369-527-9, \$12.95 (cl); 978-1-59369-526-2, \$6.95 (pb).

Greene, Jacqueline Dembar. *Rebecca to the Rescue*. Middleton, Wis.: Pleasant Company, 2009. 78 pp. Illus. by Robert Hunt. ISBN 978-1-59369-529-3, \$12.95 (cl); 978-1-59369-528-6, \$6.95 (pb).

This series, designed for girls ages eight and up, "celebrates a girl's inner star" and encourages their confidence to strive for their big dreams. All ten "American Girls" are showcased in the beginning of each volume. The six new volumes in this series feature Rebecca Rubin, a Jewish immigrant from Russia in 1914, with stories about her and her family. A color photo gallery presents her family and includes a notation about each one. Even the grouchy neighbor, Mr. Rossi, is included, as are the various other people who appear in the stories.

Rebecca finds a way to raise money to help her cousin Ana and Ana's family escape Russia and come to New York in *Meet Rebecca*, the initial volume in the series. How can Rebecca tell her cousin Ana that she does not want to invite her to perform in her show because

Ana doesn't know English? As in all the volumes, Rebecca and Ana provides a way for Rebecca to grow as a person.

In *Changes for Rebecca* the youngster does not want to have the life that her cousin's family experiences at the factory. She acts to ensure that this does not happen to her, even if it means she puts herself in danger. And in *Candlelight for Rebecca* Rebecca learns about the true meaning of Chanukah.

Cousin Max in *Rebecca and the Movies* creates the opportunity for Rebecca to open up about what she wants to do, even though she knows that her parents will not want her to have an acting career. Rebecca's big brother in *Rebecca to the Rescue* motivates her to grow in ways she didn't know she could, although it causes problems for her cousin.

Each book includes a section of historical information called "Looking Back" and a glossary.

### Chronologies of the American Mosaic

Zhao, Xiaojian. *Asian American Chronology*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 150 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-34875-4, \$85.00.

The history of Asians in America serves as a microcosm for understanding the history of the United States in all its diversity. To that end, Zhao lists events from the eighteenth century to the present, up to the 2008 Olympic games in Beijing.

Along with the text—short entries in chronological order by date and then alphabetically by subject headings—are 20 photos that bring events and people to life. Other features include informational sidebars, a glossary, illustrations, and an extensive bibliography with government reports, census and immigration information, and web sites specific to several Asian subgroups.

### Countries of the World

Dalal, A. Kamala. *Laos*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2009. 64 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-4263-0388-3, \$27.90.

Deckker, Zilah. *Portugal*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2009. 64 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-4263-0390-6, \$27.90.

Philips, Charles. *Sweden*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2009. 64 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-4263-0389-0, \$27.90.

Shields, Sarah. *Turkey*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2009. 64 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-4263-0387-6, \$27.90.

Each volume in this series depicts a major nation and its unique position in the world, with a focus on geography, people and culture, history, government and economy, and nature. In *Laos* students learn that King Fa Ngum founded the Laos Kingdom of Lan Xang in 1353. "Lan Xang" means "a million elephants," which in turn signifies the power of the Laotian state at that time. A mountainous and landlocked country, Laos shares borders with China and Viet-

nam.

*Portugal* describes the country's location at the entire western corner of the Iberian Peninsula. Surfers and other sports enthusiasts are drawn to the western beaches of this country because of their strong winds. In contrast, the beaches of the south have calm clear waters for scuba diving. This country contains cosmopolitan cities and well-known monuments, squares, and barrios along with its popular and religious festivities and rituals. Portugal is also known for its friendly people.

The volumes *Sweden* and *Turkey* show that they are vastly different countries in many ways. Sweden is the third largest country in size in Western Europe but has a population smaller than Belgium's. In 2005, nine million people, 83 percent of the population, lived in urban areas. In Turkey in 2005, 67 percent of a population of 73 million lived in urban areas. When each country's square footage is compared, Turkey has many more people per square foot. Other contrasts include religion—Protestant Christian (Sweden) and Muslim (Turkey)—and economic development. Sweden is among the world's most developed countries. Turkey, a developing nation, is hoping (so far, unsuccessfully) to join the European Union, of which Sweden is a part.

Each volume features "At a Glance" with fast facts, large and small maps, informational sidebars, a glossary, and an extensive bibliography with *National Geographic* articles and web sites. Indexed.

### Culture and Customs of...

Essien, Kwame, and Falola, Toyin. *Culture and Customs of Sudan*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 192 pp. Series: Culture and Customs of Africa. ISBN 978-0-313-34438-1, \$49.95.

Helbig, Adriana; Buranbaeva, Oksana; and Mladineo, Vanja. *Culture and Customs of Ukraine*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 196 pp. Series: Culture and Customs of Europe. ISBN 978-0-313-34363-1, \$49.95.

May, Timothy Michael. *Culture and Customs of Mongolia*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 164 pp. Series: Culture and Customs of Asia. ISBN 978-0-313-33983-7, \$49.95.

Roudik, Peter L. *Culture and Customs of the Caucasus*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 206 pp. Series: Culture and Customs of Europe. ISBN 978-0-313-34885-3, \$49.95.

Torstrick, Rebecca L., and Faier, Elizabeth. *Culture and Customs of the Arab Gulf States*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 178 pp. Series: Culture and Customs of the Middle East. ISBN 978-0-313-33659-1, \$49.95.

The main focus of the Culture and Customs series is contemporary culture and life with some historical context. The books are designed for high school and college students and general readers. An expert, usually from the country, writes each volume.

Each volume begins with a general overview for that region of the world—in the case of these volumes, Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Middle East. The series foreword for *Cultures and Customs of Sudan* states that Africa is the second largest continent after Asia and four times the size of the United States, not including Alaska. The

foreword for *Cultures and Customs of Ukraine* reveals that millions of Americans can trace their roots to Europe. *Culture and Customs of Mongolia* describes Asia's strategic location, the three major wars the United States fought in Central, East, and Southeast Asia, and trade relationships today. *Culture and Customs of the Arab Gulf States* provides culture and customs of the Middle East. The war in Iraq, U.S. interests in the region's oil, the battle for Palestinian independence, and the spread of religious fundamentalist violence and repression are all dealt with in the foreword to this volume.

In *Culture and Customs of Sudan* one learns that there are three main religions in Sudan: Christianity, Islam, and traditional religions. The constitution allows these three religions to exist, although people are not always given the freedom to practice their religion. *Culture and Customs of the Ukraine* explores literary works that have reflected the country's turbulent history, including foreign occupation. Thus, ethnic Ukrainian writers have been greatly influenced by Russian, Polish, German, and Yiddish writers. In contrast, literature in *Culture and Customs of Mongolia* begins with Chinggis Khan. Even though he died illiterate, he mandated that his offspring and descendants be educated. Cinema and performing arts have played an important role in the Caucasus region. Readers learn that the first theaters formed in ancient times in the courts of rulers and were influenced by indigenous and foreign traditions in a region that has long served as a crossroads between Europe and Asia. In the Arab Gulf States the family is the base of society. The older generation receives more respect and holds more authority than younger generations. Family connections are key for daily social life and economic success. Social constraints and hierarchies in this Muslim region are very strong.

Each volume contains a chronology and chapters on land, people, history, religion and worldview, literature, media, cinema, art and architecture/housing, cuisine and dress, gender, marriage and family, social customs and lifestyle, and music and dance. Other features include a glossary, a bibliography, an index, photos, and a country map.

## Fact Finders

Holland, Leslie J. *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" Speech in Translation: What It Really Means*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone Press, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. ISBN 978-1-4296-2793-1, \$23.99 (list), \$17.99 (school/library).

Each book in this series has carefully controlled vocabulary and short and direct sentences that translate the work of a primary source into a language designed for students at the middle elementary level.

This volume goes much further by providing information of interest to young people. Although the format appears informal, it is well organized and helps students to comprehend the information. For example, in Chapter 2, the page on the left-hand side of one page provides definitions of unfamiliar words in Dr. King's speech. On the right-hand side there of the page is a picture of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln's speech is then compared to King's, and the author points out that despite the promises of the Emancipation Proclamation, African Americans still suffered discrimination 100 years later.

Features of this series include color photographs with precise photo-text matches to aid comprehension, clear chapter headings,

a glossary, an index, a time line, fact boxes, a translation guide, and safe web sites at [www.facthound.com](http://www.facthound.com).

## Families of the World

*Families of Guatemala*. Cincinnati: Master Communications, 2009. DVD. 30 minutes. Color. ISBN 978-1-60480-050-0, \$29.95.

*Families of Panama*. Cincinnati: Master Communications, 2009. DVD. 30 minutes. Color. ISBN 978-1-60480-049-4, \$29.95.

*More Families of Mexico*. Cincinnati: Master Communications, 2009. DVD. 30 minutes. Color. ISBN 978-1-60480-071-5, \$29.95.

This award-winning 23-title DVD series has aired on PBS. It provides children at the elementary level with information about other cultures through two representative families from each country. The viewer learns about each family's way of life; how members interact with one another; their communities, schools, and homes; daily life from breakfast to bedtime; and recreational activities.

*Families of Panama* features a nine-year-old boy from Panama City where he lives with his parents, grandparents, and a younger brother. His father is a bank teller and his mother, an industrial engineer. The second featured family presents a nine-year-old girl who lives with her parents and two brothers in a rural village, attends public school, and wants to be a lawyer when she grows up. Her parents take care of a couple who also lives on the same property.

In *Families of Guatemala* students meet seven-year-old Mariaelena who lives with her parents, grandmother, older brother, and younger sister on a mountain farm. She wakes up early to help her family drop off milk and cream at the store before school. The young girl attends a Catholic girls' school in the morning and studies Spanish and physical education. Her mother is a teacher, and her father works on the family farm. In the second featured family students meet Jorge, a nine-year-old boy who is a fraternal twin. He and his brother, Marcos, live in the city. Their father is a doctor, and their mother runs the clinic and pharmacy the family owns.

*More Families of Mexico* features a young girl from Veracruz who lives with her parents and younger sister next door to her grandparents' home. The little girl's family does not have running water in their home. In contrast a young boy also from Veracruz not only has running water but also attends an exclusive private school. His parents own a car and have a maid.

## Fighting Words

Ball, Dewi Ioan, and Porter, Joy. *Competing Voices from Native America*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 442 pp. ISBN 978-1-84645-016-7, \$65.00.

Brawley, Sean; Dixon, Chris; and Trefalt, Beatrice. *Competing Voices from the Pacific War*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 325 pp. ISBN 978-1-84645-010-5, \$65.00.

A unique historical controversy is explored through firsthand accounts such as newspaper articles, contemporary chronicles, excerpts from participants, and letters or memoirs, and other selected sources.

Readers are exposed to a broad range of competing narratives about the past and present. This series for the high school and college levels is designed to promote discussion about the past and cultivate critical thinking.

*Competing Voices from Native America* provides a variety of sources and includes Congressional documents, executive orders, and Indian tribal sources, arranged both thematically and chronologically. Each chapter highlights a conflict or controversy and presents the opposing views of Native Americans and non-Native Americans. Spirituality and human relationships are explored, as well as relationships to nature and land. *Competing Voices from the Pacific War* covers the years from July 1937 to September 1945 and deals briefly with the post-war Allied occupation of Japan. A wide range of primary sources represent the experiences and views of people on all sides, including soldiers, civilians, and leaders. How often are all sides represented, and in their own words? Unfortunately, not often enough, which makes this series a valuable learning source. Indexed.

### Food Culture Around the World

McDonald, Michael R. *Food Culture in Central America*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 170 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-34767-2, \$49.95.

A team of experts provides a deeper understanding and appreciation of the role of food in shaping human culture. The volume for high school, college, and general adult readers begins with a chronology of food-related dates, followed by an overview of the history of the countries of Central America, major foods and ingredients, cooking techniques, typical meals, restaurants, special foods for festivals and holidays, and diet and health. The author interprets food culture broadly, showing how different foods reflect the cultural, economic, and environmental realities of the various countries of the region, with several countries among the poorest of the Western Hemisphere and with indigenous traditions mixing with European and, on the Atlantic Coast, African influences. Also included are a glossary, a bibliography, and illustrations.

### Gateway Biographies

Hill, Anne E. *Tyra Banks: From Supermodel to Role Model*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2009. 48 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-57505-949-5, \$25.26 (list), \$21.95 (school/library).

Tyra Banks is a name familiar to people around the world, but for her middle-grade audience Hill emphasizes the positive effects she has had on her community and society as a whole. By the time Banks was 19 years old, she had become a successful model. She had already started Tyra Girl Corporation and established the Tyra Banks Scholarship for African-American girls at her old high school in Los Angeles, Immaculate Heart. On a broader level, Banks has challenged the dangerous ultra-thin model look by showing her curves rather than concealing them.

Included in this series are important dates, a glossary, source notes, a selected bibliography, further reading, and an index.

### Global Security Watch

Kibaroglu, Mustafa, and Kibaroglu, Aysegul. *Global Security Watch—Turkey: A Reference Handbook*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Praeger, 2009. 218 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-34560-9, \$55.00.

Thomas Fuller, an English clergyman wrote, “Security is the mother of danger and the grandmother of destruction.” This insightful and timely reference book offers material on international security and includes essays on defense and foreign policy strategy, regional security, military history, and terrorism. *Global Security Watch—Turkey: A Reference Handbook* explores why Turkey is an important force in both Europe and the Middle East, and is a crossroads between the two regions. The authors, a young couple who rank as two of the most successful analysts of Turkey’s foreign and security policies, offer a historical overview and insights into issues at the center of Turkish regional and foreign policies, among them the role of Islam within the country and in relation to Turkey’s neighbors, minority ethnic groups such as the Kurds, Turkey’s role in the war in neighboring Iraq, and efforts to join the European Union. Indexed.

### Graphic Flash

Gunderson, J. *Fighting Spirit: On the Field with Jim Thorpe*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone/Stone Arch Books, 2010. 56 pp. Illus. by Claude St. Aubin. ISBN 978-1-4342-1580-2, \$25.32 (list), \$18.99 (school/library).

Miller, Davis. *Fighting Spirit: One Round with Muhammad Ali*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone/Stone Arch Books, 2010. 56 pp. Illus. by Andres Esparza. ISBN 978-1-4342-1578-9, \$25.32 (list), \$18.99 (school/library).

Peters, Stephanie. *Storm of the Century: A Hurricane Katrina Story*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone/Stone Arch Books, 2010. 56 pp. Illus. by Jesus Aburto. ISBN 978-1-4342-1164-4, \$25.32 (list), \$18.99 (school/library).

Stevens, Eric. *Hope! A Story of Change in Obama’s America*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone/Stone Arch Books, 2010. 56 pp. Illus. by Nick Derington. ISBN 978-1-4342-1724-0, \$25.32 (list), \$18.99 (school/library).

Terrell, Brandon. *Dodger Dreams: The Courage of Jackie Robinson*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone/Stone Arch Books, 2010. 56 pp. Illus. by Claude St. Aubin. ISBN 978-1-4342-1579-6, \$25.32 (list), \$18.99 (school/library).

Each of the stories begins with an illustrated showcase of the characters, and the illustrations contribute greatly to understanding the life of each real-life character. Reluctant readers are drawn into the story by fictional characters who come into contact with the historical “great.” Designed for the interest level of grades 3–8 and reading level grades 2–3, this new series offers a unique and compelling approach to biography.

*Fighting Spirit: On the Field with Jim Thorpe* takes place in 1920. The fictional main character, Howard Tucker, is a smart young man who hangs out with the jocks rather than the brainy guys. Ultimate-

ly, he gets advice from football great Jim Thorpe about how to play in the big game. Muhammad Ali is showcased in another fast-paced novel about a sickly teen who only stands only 4'7". When he gets an opportunity to spar with the great boxer, his life changes forever. Hurricane Katrina is featured in *Storm of the Century*. Teenager, Ricky Thompson and his family are forced to leave New Orleans and are barraged with unbelievable roadblocks. Ricky documents everything with his new digital camera and ultimately helps save lives. In *Hope! A Story of Change in Obama's America*, a graffiti-spraying teen in Washington, D.C., who is sentenced to community service on Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, follows other community service workers to the inauguration the next day and realizes he has the power to change lives. Jackie Robinson, the baseball great in *Dodger Dreams: The Courage of Jackie Robinson* inspires a young man to understand that baseball is more than just a game.

Included in each volume is a time line of the featured real-life character, a glossary, discussion questions, and writing prompts.

## Graphic Library

Collins, Terry. *Building the Great Wall of China: An Isabel Soto Adventure*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. by Joe Stanton and Al Milgrom. ISBN 978-1-4296-3411-3, \$26.95 (list), \$19.99 (school/library).

Sohn, Emily. *Investigating Machu Picchu: An Isabel Soto Adventure*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. by Cynthia Martin and Barbara Schulz. ISBN 978-1-4296-3407-6, \$26.95 (list). \$19.99 (school/library).

This new series in graphic novel format is designed for the middle elementary reading level and will interest students up to ninth grade. Readers explore the world with archaeologist Isabel Soto, who narrates each story and is always ready for any challenge. Whether it is a historical event, a paranormal investigation, or a research mission, she finds the answers. A female hero is a positive role model for all the girls reading this series and for the boys, too, because they learn that females are also independent, smart, and creative.

In *Building the Great Wall of China* students learn that the Great Wall is the longest structure on earth made by humans. The fearless archaeologist shares the history and culture behind the Inca city of Machu Picchu in *Investigating Machu Picchu*.

Also included in this series is a section of information about the featured topic, a glossary, further readings, Internet sites, and an index.

## Groundwork Guides

Higgins, Dalton. *Hip Hop World*. Toronto: Groundwood, 2009. 144 pp. ISBN 978-0-88899-910-8, \$18.95 (cl); 978-0-88899-911-5, \$10.00 (pb).

Laxer, James. *Democracy*. Toronto: Groundwood, 2009. 144 pp. ISBN 978-0-88899-912-2, \$18.95 (cl); 978-0-88899-913-9, \$10.00 (pb).

Designed for high school and up, *Hip Hop World* explores the pre-

dominant global youth subculture of this generation. Written by one of Canada's most respected and admired hip-hop journalists, the book discusses the origins and sociopolitical influences of hip-hop music worldwide. Included in this volume is an international hip-hop time line. Chapter one includes a portion of an interview with President Barack Obama, a JayZ fan, by a BET (Black Entertainment Television). In the interview titled "The Audacity of Hip-Hop," President Obama says, "I love the art of hip-hop, I don't always love the message of hip-hop ... sometimes degrading to women ... is always talking about material things." He adds that today's hip-hop is smart and insightful. He stresses that "hip-hop should be a reflection of what can be." In *Democracy* Laxer writes that even those of us who live in developed countries with long democratic traditions cannot take democracy for granted. The book begins with an overview of democracy dating back to ancient Greece. Laxer discusses colonialism, women's suffrage, and the civil rights movement in the United States in terms of how they have shaped today's democracy.

Each series book contains a section for further information, informational sidebars, and an index.

## Historical Guides to Controversial Issues in America

Johnson, John W., and Green, Robert P., Jr. *Affirmative Action*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 200 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-33814-4, \$49.95.

For 40 years affirmative action has been a controversial subject in the United States, one that continues to be so today. Beginning with the administration of Lyndon Johnson, who first proposed the program to address historic discrimination against African Americans, this volume traces the development of affirmative action, its application to other underrepresented groups, major court cases, and the nature of today's controversies. Author Johnson is a professor of history at the University of Northern Iowa specializing in contemporary constitutional issues. Green conducts research and publishes on the history of race relations.

This survey for high school and up includes an affirmative action time line, selected readings on affirmative action, and an index.

## History Maker Bios

Josephson, Judith Pinkerton. *Nelson Mandela*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2009. 48 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-58013-703-4, \$26.60.

Miller, Jennifer A. *Mother Teresa*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2009. 48 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-58013-702-7, \$26.60.

Piehl, Janet. *Harry Houdini*. Minneapolis: Lerner, 2009. 48 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-58013-705-8, \$26.60.

Designed for students from fourth grade up, this series presents the personal backstory of each featured subject. Each biography includes sidebars, a bibliography, black-and-white and color photos of history, cartoon illustrations, further reading, a glossary, an index, maps, a time line, and a list of web sites.

In *Nelson Mandela* the reader learns about his young life in a tiny village in South Africa and that his father was a chief. Leaving his

village in his teens, Mandela became an attorney and fought for freedom. Later in his life he became the first Black president of South Africa. In *Mother Teresa*, the reader learns about Mother Teresa's childhood, including some little-known facts. Agnes, the name she was called before becoming Mother Teresa, grew up in Albania—far from India where she made her home. She lived in the center of the city and poor people would often come to visit. Her family gave money, food, and clothes to the poor because her mother thought it was important to share food with anyone who was hungry.

On the back cover of each volume a question is posed about the featured subject. For the Jewish escape artist Houdini the question is, how long could he hold his breath under water? The answer is at least three minutes, which he did in one of his tricks known as the "Water Torture Cell." For Mandela: "True or False?: Nelson Mandela spent almost three decades in jail before becoming president of South Africa. TRUE!"

### Holidays Around the World

Otto, Carolyn. *Celebrate Chinese New Year with Fireworks, Dragons, and Lanterns*. Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Books, 2009. 32 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-4263-0381-4, \$15.95.

Designed for middle grade readers, this series enables students to learn more about holidays around the world through the perspective of others. The photos are vibrant and colorful and will attract the interest of young readers.

Millions of people each year celebrate Chinese New Year with firecrackers and brightly colored clothing, floats, and banners. Readers will learn the significance of the traditions and be mesmerized by the spectacular illustrations. Readers interested in how to make a lantern, bake fortune cookies, and play traditional holiday games will learn how to do so in this volume.

### In Focus

Werner, Robert J. Bolivia: *A Guide to the People, Politics, and Culture*. Northampton, Mass.: Interlink, 2009. 120 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-1-56656-299-7, \$17.00 (pb).

This authoritative and up-to-date guide informs travelers of the history, people, culture, politics, and economy of Bolivia, as well as where to go and what to see. It provides straightforward information that enlightens and educates. Included are the author's tips how to get the very most out of a visit.

This series also contains facts and figures, a chronology, practical advice, non-tourist travel information, further reading, useful addresses, color and black-and-white photos, and maps.

### Latino Biography Library

Schraff, Anne. *Ellen Ochoa: Astronaut and Inventor*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2009. 128 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-7660-3163-0, \$31.93 (list), \$23.95 (school/library).

Designed for middle and high school, this series seeks to inspire

the growing Latino population by providing quality books about important role models. This volume features Ellen Ochoa, a mission specialist who became the first Latina to enter space. The author writes about the life of this inspirational woman from her childhood in California to her missions in space.

This series is an excellent resource for student reports. Colorful illustrations, lively text, and informational sidebars may encourage reading the book straight through. Also included are a chronology, chapter notes, further reading, Internet addresses, and an index.

### The Music Scene

Tsoukanelis, Erika Alexia. *The Latin Music Scene: The Stars, the Fans, the Music*. Berkeley Heights, N.J.: Enslow, 2009. 48 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-7660-3399-3, \$23.93 (list), \$17.95 (school/library).

The author explores various facets of the fast-growing Latin music industry. Among the topics covered are live music, dance, clothing, stars and their fan clubs, videos and movies, contracts, the recording process, and the major genres such as salsa, merengue, pop, rock, and reggaetón. Major artists ranging from past greats Desi Arnaz, Tito Puente, Celia Cruz, and Selena to today's superstars Enrique Iglesias, Shakira, Juanes, and Manu Chao receive mention rather than full profiles; the emphasis is breadth rather than depth. This readable title represents musicians from all over the Americas, often in their own words, and concludes with a glossary, a time line, endnotes, and an index.

### The NCTE High School Literature Series

Shea, Renee H., and Wilchek, Deborah L. *Zora Neale Hurston in the Classroom: "With a harp and a sword in my hands."* Urbana, Ill.: NCTE, 2009. 113 pp. ISBN 978-0-8141-5975-0, \$18.95 (pb).

At first glance, it's hard to believe that this little book possesses so much useful and valuable information. It includes resources and strategies for helping students to understand Hurston's writing better. Biographical information, critical analysis, teacher-tested activities, writing assignments and student models, discussion strategies, and questions are also included. This volume is a positive addition to any literature class. The book uses a wide range of student-centered activities for teaching Hurston's nonfiction, short stories, and the print and film versions of *Their Eyes Were Watching God*.

The volume contains an annotated bibliography of Hurston's writings, a chronology, and a list of works cited.

### The Penguin Library of American Indian History

Pauketat, Timothy R. *Cahokia: Ancient America's Great City on the Mississippi*. New York: Penguin, 2009. 188 pp. ISBN 978-0-670-02090-4, \$22.95.

Pauketat narrates for general readers the story of this mysterious ancient city and its culture and history, as well as the backstory of the

archaeologists who struggled to uncover long-buried information in the absence of written records. A group of the most accomplished scholars of the American Indians contribute essays on the history of the tribes of the region located in the middle of North America, now called Illinois. Readers learn that a thousand years ago the people of Cahokia created some of the greatest American Indian achievements of the pre-Columbian era, and the building of the city changed the direction of pre-Columbian civilization.

This volume contains notes, an index, and treasure maps of the past.

### Pivotal Moments in History

Cunningham, Mark E., and Zwier, Lawrence J. *The End of the Shoguns and the Birth of Modern Japan*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Twenty-First Century Books, 2009. 160 pp. ISBN 978-0-8225-8747-7, \$38.60.

January, Brendan. *The Arab Conquests of the Middle East*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Twenty-First Century Books, 2009. 160 pp. ISBN 978-0-8225-8744-6, \$38.60.

Johnson, Sylvia A. *The Spanish Conquest of Mexico*. Minneapolis: Lerner/Twenty-First Century Books, 2009. 160 pp. ISBN 978-0-8225-9079-8, \$38.60.

Geared to students at the secondary level, this series provides high-interest titles that are both challenging and accessible. In *The End of the Shoguns and the Birth of Modern Japan* readers learn that Emperor Meiji, who became ruler of Japan in 1868, embraced modern technology and in doing so laid the groundwork for modern Japan. *Arab Conquests of the Middle East*, written by an award-winning author of more than 20 nonfiction books for young readers, introduces what was a new world religion in the seventh century, one that quickly spread across geography and cultures. Another one of the world's pivotal moments is shown in *The Spanish Conquest of Mexico*, which traces the history of the Spanish conquest of Mexico and deals with its impact on the indigenous people of the area and ultimately on the world at large.

This series also includes an epilogue, primary source research, primary documents, a time line, a glossary, a "Who's Who?" source notes, selected bibliography, further reading and web sites, and an index.

### The Pop Lit Book Club

Dong, Lan. *Reading Amy Tan*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 140 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-35546-2, \$40.00.

The author provides a comprehensive overview of Amy Tan's life and works for high school students. Tan's fame and success extend beyond ethnic and gender labels, and her books are widely read in high schools and colleges. Her writing has been translated into many languages.

*Reading Amy Tan* includes analysis and discussion of Tan's novels and other works and also provides up-to-date information regarding her life and much more. The book is divided into several sections that include "Amy Tan: A Writer's Life" and "Amy Tan and the Novel

and Short Story." Several of her novels are analyzed in this book, and there is an extensive bibliography. Indexed.

### Profiles of the Presidents

Nardo, Don. *Barack Obama*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2010. 64 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-7565-4285-6, \$26.65 (list), \$19.99 (school/library).

Middle grade readers who were able to see history in the making during the last presidential election can now find more in-depth information about Barack Obama in this volume, which includes details about the election, his campaign, his first 100 days, the Inaugural address, and much more.

Additional features of this series volume are primary source documents and photos, a glossary with words in bold type throughout the text, photos with captions, maps, a chronology, election results, print and Internet resources, historic sites across the country related to the president, a list of all the U.S. presidents and years in office, and an index.

### Roosevelt High School

Velásquez, Gloria. *Rudy's Memory Walk*. Houston: Piñata Books, 2009. 152 pp. ISBN 978-1-55885-593-9, \$9.95 (pb).

Set in a multiethnic high school, the Roosevelt High novels help young adults tackle life problems and provide positive teen and adult role models who have faced similar situations. This new volume deals with the effects of Alzheimer's, as Rudy copes with his grandmother's illness. Along with keeping up with school and with his friends, Rudy has to put up with having his obnoxious brother in his room, because his Abuela has moved into his brother's room. In addition, he shares caretaking duties with other family members, and it always happens to be his turn when he has a date with his girlfriend.

### Signature Lives

Nardo, Don. *Maya Angelou: Poet, Performer, Activist*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2009. 96 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-1889-9, \$34.65 (list), \$25.99 (school/library).

Stille, Darlene R. *Percy Lavon Julian: Pioneering Chemist*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2009. 96 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-4089-0, \$34.65 (list), \$25.99 (school/library).

The lives of Maya Angelou and Percy L. Julian are prime examples of the resilience and strength of African Americans. Nardo describes Angelou's tumultuous youth, which included poverty, abuse, and teenage pregnancy. Rather than give up under pressure, she became one of the foremost voices of the African-American experience. Through the years, she was a dancer, magazine editor, civil rights worker, actor, and teacher. But, as a poet Angelou continues to inspire young and old throughout the world.

Julian grew up in the South when there was great discrimina-

tion against African Americans. He was denied jobs in chemistry because of his race. Readers learn that through his persistence, he was able to conduct research in his chosen field and create a medical breakthrough. Today he is considered one of the greatest chemists of the twentieth century. Through these two stories readers at the secondary level will be inspired to follow their dreams no matter what.

Also included in each volume are a chronology, additional resources, a glossary, an index, and black-and-white photos.

### Snapshots in History

Cromwell, Sharon. *Dred Scott v. Sandford: A Slave's Case for Freedom and Citizenship*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2009. 96 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-4098-2, \$33.32 (list), \$24.99 (school/library).

Klobuchar, Lisa. *1963 Birmingham Church Bombing: The Ku Klux Klan's History of Terror*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2009. 96 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-4092-0, \$33.32 (list), \$24.99 (school/library).

Readers at the middle school level will enjoy and benefit from this series that combines historical photographs, maps, eyewitness accounts, and other primary source documents. The narrative describes major and often controversial events in United States and world history. Detailed time lines offer the reader a chance to learn about events that have led up to and are related to each book's focus.

In *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, students learn that Dred Scott filed what turned out to be a landmark legal case in 1846. His intention was to free himself and his family from slavery. Although the outcome was not in his favor and angered many Americans, the decision helped push the country into the Civil War and ultimately resolved the slavery issue permanently. *1963 Birmingham Church Bombing* tells of a horrific act of terror by the Ku Klux Klan. The racist organization killed four young African-American girls preparing for the worship service one Sunday morning. This violent act against these young girls added fuel and momentum to the civil rights movement and led to the passage of important federal civil rights laws.

Also included in this series are a select bibliography, historic places, a glossary, an index, and safe web sites at [www.Facthound.com](http://www.Facthound.com).

### Stories from the American Mosaic

Green, Thomas A., ed. *African American Folktales*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 176 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-36295-8, \$49.95.

Especially designed for students and the general reader, each volume contains specific ethnic folktales that took root in the United States. Green offers an explanatory introduction to each tale and has grouped them according to theme. In all, 50 traditional African-American folktales are featured. Although the folktales have been modified from their original forms for today's readers, with redundancies eliminated, and in a few cases racially charged terminology changed, they each retain their unique flavor. The source of each selection is included at the end of the tale. Indexed.

### Term Paper Resource Guides

Lebeau, Patrick Russell. *Term Paper Resource Guide to American Indian History*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 376 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-35271-3, \$65.00.

Neumann, Caryn E. *Term Paper Resource Guide to African American History*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2009. 304 pp. ISBN 978-0-313-35501-1, \$65.00.

*Term Paper Resource Guide to African American History* provides research information in an easy-to-use format. Students can choose from 100 important events: from the expansion of the slave trade to North America in 1581 to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Each event is preceded by a brief summary. Standard and alternative term paper ideas are also provided that include and incorporate the latest in electronic media, such as iTunes and iMovie. The author includes a bibliography of primary and secondary sources, web sites, and multimedia resources.

*Term Paper Resource Guide to African American History* provides similar resources for American Indians. Students learn about the Indians' devastating loss of life because of diseases brought by the people who invaded their land—the European explorers, settlers, and adventurers. Some historians tell about the Indian wars and conflicts; others about diplomacy, treaties, and how the Indians were robbed of their land and natural resources; and still others write about how Indians have rediscovered their customs and practices and the richness of their languages, arts, and oral literary traditions. In extensive primary sources, Indians themselves narrate their personal stories, tribal histories, and much more.

### Women and Religion in the World

Drucker, Malka, ed. *Women and Judaism*. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Praeger, 2009. 256 pp. ISBN 978-0-275-99154-8, \$65.00.

The 14 essays in this volume for adult readers explore how today's Jewish women are taking a more active role in their religion and are becoming full members. Readers learn about the power of women within this patriarchal faith tradition and their work to expand the meaning of Torah beyond the male perspective. Some of the essays describe the creation of new, more inclusive rituals and the increased presence of women spiritual leaders. Readers learn about the first woman rabbi and women Holocaust survivors. Today's Jewish women work to keep their bodies, minds, and spirits alive, and essays on these topics explore sexuality, power, and the vulnerability of women. Indexed.

### World Folklore Series

Galeano, Juan Carlos. *Folktales of the Amazon*. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2009. 128 pp. Trans. from Spanish by Rebecca Morgan and Kenneth Watson. ISBN 978-1-59158-674-6, \$40.00.

Malinowski, Michal, and Pellowski, Anne, ret. *Polish Folktales and Folklore*. Westport, Conn.: Libraries Unlimited, 2009. 220 pp.

ISBN 978-1-59158-723-1, \$40.00.

*Polish Folktales and Folklore* contains more than 50 folktales, from local legends, animal tales, and magic tales to religious legends, stories of demons and supernatural creatures, and humorous tales that exemplify the Polish spirit, character, and sense of humor. This volume also includes information on each tale's history and context, directions for traditional games, crafts, recipes, and color photos that depict the people, the land, and the traditions of Poland.

The author of *Folktales of the Amazon* came to appreciate where he grew up after he moved far away from his birthplace. This ultimately led him to study folktales from places throughout the region. Malinowski taped the 41 stories he gathered from Amazonian fishermen, hunters, lodgers, small plot farm gardeners, and villagers in Venezuela, Guyana, Brazil, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, and Ecuador and reworked them so that they were faithful to their spirit, though different from their original form. The tales convey the bonds people feel with each other, and with animals. Some of the stories are shocking and contain forbidden topics, like cannibalism and psychotropic plants. Included in this volume are a glossary of vernacular and scientific names, a bibliography, an appendix of animals and plants common to Amazonian cuisine, and an index.

## World Religions

Nardo, Don. *Buddhism*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2009. 48 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-4236-8, \$27.99 (list), \$20.99 (school/library).

Nardo, Don. *Christianity*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2009. 48 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-4237-5, \$27.99 (list), \$20.99 (school/library).

Raatma, Lucia. *Islam*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2009. 48 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-4239-9, \$27.99 (list), \$20.99 (school/library).

Rosinsky, Natalie M. *Hinduism*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2009. 48 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-4238-2, \$27.99 (list), \$20.99 (school/library).

Rosinsky, Natalie M. *Judaism*. Minneapolis: Compass Point Books, 2009. 48 pp. ISBN 978-0-7565-4240-5, \$27.99 (list), \$20.99 (school/library).

Through vivid photos, reader-friendly graphics, and lively text, these volumes provide a clear overview of the five major religions for readers at the older elementary and middle school levels.

*Buddhism* and *Christianity* reveal that these two religions were founded about 2,000 years ago; Buddhism is the older by 500 years. Buddhism began in India and eventually spread throughout the world; it follows the teachings of a man called Buddha rather than an "all-powerful god" as in Christianity. Islam began in the seventh century in what is today Saudi Arabia, and it now has over a billion followers. Students learn how this much-discussed religion today fits into the world. The oldest organized religion in the world is Hinduism, which can be traced back to approximately 3,500 B.C.E. Hindus follow a God who has many names and is imagined in many forms. Judaism dates back nearly this long and is the world's oldest monotheistic religion. Both Christianity and Islam drew from the

tenets of Judaism. Jews of the world have strong traditions and a passionate faith in one God.

Also included in this series are a time line, a "Did You Know?" section of facts, a glossary, additional sources, and an index.

## World Vision Early Readers

Konrad, Marla Stewart. *Getting There*. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2009. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-88776-867-5, \$12.95.

Konrad, Marla Stewart. *Mom and Me*. Toronto: Tundra Books, 2009. 24 pp. Illus. with photos. ISBN 978-0-88776-866-8, \$12.95.

This series is designed with young children in mind. The vivid photos, combined with easy-to-read text, reveal how much the world has in common even though people look different from one another, speak different languages, or live in surroundings that are dissimilar. The large, vivid photos in *Getting There* show that everyone is on the move. Starting with their very first steps, everyone uses many modes of transportation—their feet, wheeled vehicles, boats, animals, and machines that fly. *Mom and Me* tells of the many ways mothers relate to their children, from providing their nourishment to the giving out the special hugs that only moms can give.

It is important to note that all royalties from the sales of these books support World Vision's work with children.

## You Choose

Adamson, Heather. *Ancient Egypt*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone Press, 2010. 112 pp. ISBN 978-1-4296-3415-1, \$27.98 (list), \$20.99 (school/library).

Adamson, Heather. *The Civil Rights Movement*. Mankato, Minn.: Capstone Press, 2010. 112 pp. ISBN 978-1-4296-2345-2, \$27.98 (list), \$20.99 (school/library).

Struggling and reluctant middle grade readers will be drawn into the "Choose Your Own Adventure"—style series, but with multiple shorter scenarios. When one path is finished, the reader can choose to go back and read the other for another adventure.

*Ancient Egypt* opens up with "About Your Adventure," which helps to establish what the reader is about to experience, events that actually happened to real people. Readers can travel to Giza and join the pyramid builders in 2550 BCE or maybe join Queen Cleopatra and Mark Antony, or the battle of the Roman dictator Octavian in 31 BCE and more.

*The Civil Rights Movement* starts in the late 1950s, and the author sets the scene to show that African Americans didn't have the same rights as other Americans, especially in the South. Will the participant on this journey help desegregate bus lines as a Freedom Rider or get involved in the Project C protests in Birmingham, Alabama? No matter what choice the reader makes, he or she will learn a lot about the struggle for equal rights.

Included this series is a time line, books for further reading, Internet sites, a glossary, and an index. Other features include a controlled vocabulary, short and direct sentence structure, precise photo-text matches to aid comprehension, and clear chapter headings. 