



We Review the
Best of the Latest
Books

ISSN 1934-6557

SirReadaLot.org | 1289 Fordham Blvd, Suite 500 | Chapel Hill
NC 27514 | USA

ph 9199292249 | fx 9199321508 | www.sirreadalot.org

January 2021

January 2021

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| January 2021 | 1 |
| Phone Photography for Everybody: Still Life Techniques for iPhone, Android & All Smartphones by Beth Alesse (Phone Photography for Everybody Series: Amherst Media, Inc.) | 2 |
| Telling Stories That Matter: Memoirs and Essays by Marvin R. O'Connell, edited by William G. Schmitt, with a foreword by Wilson D. Miscamble, C.S.C. & an afterword by David Solomon (St Augustine's Press) | 3 |
| Manhattan's Hotel des Artistes: America's Paris on West 67 th Street by Robert Hudovernik (Schiffer Publishing)..... | 5 |
| Leading for All: How to Create Truly Inclusive and Excellent Schools, 1 st edition by Jennifer Spencer-Iiams & Josh Flosi, with a foreword by Paula Kluth (Corwin) | 6 |
| India: Continuity and Change in the Twenty-First Century, 1 st edition by John Harris, Craig Jeffrey & Trent Brown (Polity Press)..... | 8 |
| Black Firsts: 500 Years of Trailblazing Achievements and Ground-Breaking Events, 4 th edition by Jessie Carney Smith Ph.D. (Visible Ink Press) | 10 |
| W.E.B. Du Bois: The Lost and the Found, 1 st edition by Elvira Basevich (Black Lives Series: Polity Press)..... | 12 |
| Custer: From the Civil War's Boy General to the Battle of the Little Bighorn by Ted Behncke & Gary Bloomfield (Casemate) | 13 |
| Eat, Drink & Be Married designed by Nicole LaRue (Gibbs Smith) | 15 |
| Every Landlord's Tax Deduction Guide, 17 th edition by Stephen Fishman J.D. (Nolo) | 15 |
| Research Handbook on Transnational Environmental Law edited by Veerle Heyvaert & Leslie-Anne Duvic-Paoli (Research Handbooks in Environmental Law Series: Edward Elgar Publishing) | 17 |

| | |
|---|----|
| The World Encyclopedia of Animals: A Reference and Identification Guide to 840 of the Most Significant Amphibians, Reptiles and Mammals by Tom Jackson (Lorenz Books) ... | 18 |
| Secrets of the Druids: From Indo-European Origins to Modern Practices by Teresa Cross, with a foreword by Stephen E. Flowers Ph.D. (Inner Traditions) | 19 |
| A Black Theology of Liberation: 50 th Anniversary edition by James H. Cone, with a foreword by Peter J. Paris & an afterword by Kelly Brown Douglas (Orbis Books) | 21 |
| The Welsh Methodist Society: The Early Societies in South-west Wales 1737–1750 by Eryn M. White (University of Wales Press)..... | 23 |
| Herbarium: The Quest to Preserve and Classify the World's Plants by Barbara M. Thiers (Timber Press) | 25 |
| Lectures on Quantum Field Theory, 2 nd edition by Ashok Das (World Scientific)..... | 27 |
| Sport and Recreation in Canadian History edited by Carly Adams (Human Kinetics) | 28 |
| Bibliography | 32 |

Art & Photography / Photography / Phone

Phone Photography for Everybody: Still Life Techniques for iPhone, Android & All Smartphones by Beth Alesse (Phone Photography for Everybody Series: Amherst Media, Inc.)

Still life images are an immense part of our daily media creations.

Whether readers are professionals or just someone with a phone in their pocket, they use the iPhone as the go-to tool to document things, make remembrances, create product shots for Amazon and Ebay, record their lives, and – make art. With **Phone Photography for Everybody**, they can create still life images that are stunning and unique using the camera in their pocket and a few simple apps.

With **Phone Photography for Everybody**, readers learn to use this sophisticated and everyday pocket tool, the iPhone, to transform their still lifes. They use apps to bring their images to the elevated status of art and professional imagery. **Phone Photography for Everybody** shows readers how to make gorgeous still lifes with their innate camera and phone apps, then press further to basic equipment, lenses, and easy app use, and finally to use inspiring software that is in the realm of the professional photographer and designer. These tools and their imagination can help them create traditional still lifes or push them to the brink of new and edgy graphic styles. Practical advice is given on subject choices, file management, image stabilizing, and cloud storage. Over sixty still

life images by the author, Beth Alesse, illustrate the use of apps, layers, styles, and composition.

Alesse is an author, photographer, graphic artist, and editor. In addition to writing, she curates image collections to present in books and media productions. She holds degrees in art and education, and has a broad background in graphic arts, linguistics, and visual and digital media. Alesse in [Phone Photography for Everybody](#) shows readers how to:

- Identify the perfect still life subjects.
- Implement artistic shooting techniques.
- Use apps to add finesse to their still life images.

Any smartphone can be used for most of the still life photography techniques in [Phone Photography for Everybody](#). Readers start with whatever equipment they have and grow from there.

Still life subjects can be everyday items such as tools, articles of clothing, nuts and bolts, candy, gathered flowers, vegetables, or merchandise. Or they can include unique items, such as, one-of-a-kind curiosities, heirlooms, and natural history finds. Still life photographs can be fascinating and revealing, beautiful or alarming, traditional or trendy in style. This book shows how to make successful and intriguing images with techniques that range from shooting to composing to app use, including filters, layering, and masking.

Everybody can make still life images with their vision and personal sense of creativity using their smartphone cameras or tablets. With [Phone Photography for Everybody](#) photographer/artist Alesse leads readers through techniques and applications that will inspire and guide them into creating their own stunning still life images.

Biographies & Memoirs / Religion & Spirituality

[**Telling Stories That Matter**](#): Memoirs and Essays by Marvin R. O'Connell, edited by William G. Schmitt, with a foreword by Wilson D. Miscamble, C.S.C. & an afterword by David Solomon (St Augustine's Press)

The late historian Marvin O'Connell left a legacy of brilliant prose and pictures of the past, and in [Telling Stories That Matter](#) readers at last have access to O'Connell's own story. Fr. Wilson (Bill) D. Miscamble, author of the foreword, a noted historian and scholar in his own right, attributes to O'Connell the title 'Master' above all on account of his

ability to know what matters and then write about it “in the way that all great stories are told.”

Rev. Marvin R. O'Connell (1930-2016), a priest of the Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis, was a towering figure in historical scholarship who wrote ten books and countless articles. He helped shape many minds as a professor at two Catholic universities – the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul and the University of Notre Dame in South Bend. The editor William G. Schmitt is an editor, independent journalist and multimedia consultant who also teaches writing at Holy Cross College, Notre Dame.

In addition to his status as *histor* (giver of history), O'Connell was a long-time professor and chair of the history department at the University of Notre Dame.

O'Connell was not a man who 'genuflected in hagiography.' Rather, in the manner he lived faithfully yet soberly under the shining shadow of the Golden Dome, O'Connell told stories in the manner they were lived and with all the accompanying faults and triumphs.

In Miscamble's thorough introduction of O'Connell, he writes that the latter “utilized his striking talents as a historian as an integral part of his fundamental vocation as a priest.” O'Connell once described the historian as a veritable 'midwife to our faith,' who must capture, as best as evidence will allow, the truth of the past. This position lends itself to the structure of [Telling Stories That Matter](#). The first part is the sadly incomplete memoirs of Fr. O'Connell, wherein readers meet the historian and move with eagerness and confidence into the essays that follow. Highlights of these collected essays include thoughts on Cardinal Newman, Belloc, the Spanish Inquisition, and the historical perspective of evangelization in the United States and modernism at large. What one reads are stories that might have been lost but are preserved in what can with all moral certainty be called truthfulness. As his friend Ralph McInerney once qualified him, O'Connell combined compassion and judgment such that his histories were always primarily stories and, as readers well know, stories have layers and threads and are not told simply for their conclusions.

This artful combination of memoir and selected essays reawakens our memory of Father O'Connell in all his immense personal charm, intellectual energy, rich erudition, keen wit, and steadfast dedication to his interlocking callings as priest and historian. – J. Philip Gleason, Emeritus Professor, History Department, University of Notre Dame

The work of a master historian, these memoirs and essays are reliable in recounting what happened, insightful in judging how and why, and eloquent in presenting it all with a flair and wit rarely equaled in historical writing. Moreover, they come forth from a Catholic faith so deep and secure that it need not be imposed on the reader. Rather, they do what good historical writing does, placing the reader into a past that can be seen and felt, recognized and understood. Whether it be his colorful accounts of the

tumultuous life and times of Thomas More, or the valiant struggles of Newman and the Oxford Movement, or his own seminary training and teaching in St. Paul, or his fortunes as a graduate student at Notre Dame under the tutelage of the eminent Monsignor Phillip Hughes – whatever the topic, reading O'Connell's history gives one the gift of being able to say, I remember that happening and I wasn't even there! – Michael J. Baxter, Director of Catholic Studies, Regis University in Denver

O'Connell was a master story teller. He was not, however, just a story teller. He was painstakingly rigorous in what and how he taught. His stories always perfectly illustrated a point, but they were never a substitution for the truth – rather an illustration of it. – Bradley Birzer, Russell Amos Kirk Chair in American Studies, Hillsdale College

Schmitt, Miscamble and Solomon in [Telling Stories That Matter](#) do posterity a service by giving readers this man and his masterful engagement of history. These friends of O'Connell deem the historian's passion for truth-in-context to be foundational for shaping stories that matter, including his own.

Culture / Art / History

[Manhattan's Hotel des Artistes](#): America's Paris on West 67th Street by Robert Hudovernik (Schiffer Publishing)

[Manhattan's Hotel des Artistes](#) is the untold story of the artists, returning from stints in Paris in the early 1900s, who convinced Manhattan businessmen to invest in an arts colony on West 67th Street.

Readers are invited on a tour of the north-light studios, salon ballroom, and iconic café where America's great painters, sculptors, writers, illustrators, actors, and dancers created a beehive of creativity. In addition to stories of select artists, a directory lists the names of the hundreds of tenants who populated the building from 1917 to 2020 – an 'army of artists' whose work collectively changed the world. [Manhattan's Hotel des Artistes](#) is a find for creatives, historians, and the network of artists with ties to the landmark Hotel des Artistes.

Author Robert Hudovernik studied drawing with renowned Wisconsin surrealist painter John Wilde, and figurative expressionist David Staff. He taught drawing, design, photography, and art history at the University of Wisconsin, and life drawing at the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design.

This book is a celebration of the American spirit that the Hotel des Artistes exemplifies, as seen through the creatives who lived there and contributed so much to our national cultural identity. It explores a new aspect of our American art heritage - the nation's premier art colony and its legacy. As author Robert Hudovernik says, it's the story of an

"army of artists" who changed the world. – Nils Hanson, former archivist, Ziegfeld Club of New York

Well researched, this book is a treasure trove for creatives, historians and the large network of artists and their families with ties to this landmark hotel.

More than 600 archival color and black-and-white photos take readers inside the magnificent Hotel des Artistes on Manhattan's West Side in [Manhattan's Hotel des Artistes](#).

Education & Teaching / K-12 / Guides

[Leading for All](#): How to Create Truly Inclusive and Excellent Schools, 1st edition by Jennifer Spencer-Iiams & Josh Flosi, with a foreword by Paula Kluth (Corwin)

Research has shown that inclusive education results in better academic outcomes for all students, not just those identified with disabilities, by promoting self-efficacy, improving social and emotional health, and consistently implementing research-based instructional strategies. Still, many schools rely on deeply ingrained, segregated practices that fail to serve all students.

But many educators and school leaders want to create inclusive and excellent educational experiences for all students, but they do not always know how to proceed. [Leading for All](#) provides a model, stories, strategies, and clear evidence that it can be done effectively.

[Leading for All](#) is a practical guide that provides a pathway for educators to develop a more inclusive school community from start to finish. The authors share lessons learned from years building district schools where all students are served in their neighborhood school and in classrooms with their general education peers.

Authors are Dr. Jennifer Spencer-Iiams and Dr. Josh Flosi. Spencer-Iiams is the Assistant Superintendent for Student Services in the West Linn-Wilsonville School District in Oregon. She has served as an adjunct professor in the area of Special Education and in Emerging Bilingual Education. Flosi has been an educator for 25 years in public, private, and international schools. He currently leads Student Support Services at the International School of Tanganyika, an inclusive school in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Before that, he spent 10 years as a building administrator and then Assistant Director of Student Services in the West Linn-Wilsonville School District near Portland. He has also been an adjunct professor in a teacher preparation program.

[Leading for All](#) includes:

- Three focus areas to guide change: Creating Inclusive Cultures, Improving Instructional Practices, and Increasing Student Voice.
- 7 Components of inclusive and equitable learning communities.
- Supporting resources for promoting inclusion throughout the school day, including co-curricular activities and transportation.
- Stories of real students and teachers and the actions that impacted their success.

Paula Kluth in the foreword says that over the years she has spent as an inclusion facilitator, teacher educator, university professor, and advocate, she has met countless educators who want to create truly inclusive schools, but they don't have mentors to get them started and help them over the barriers they find along the way. When she picked up [Leading for All](#) and read the first few pages, she started thinking of those educators. As she read the first chapter and then the second, she started calling some of them she knew personally. She couldn't wait to tell them: "Your mentors have arrived!"

Spencer-Iiams and Flosi don't just explore the 'why' and 'how' of inclusion in [Leading for All](#). They discuss what inclusion actually means and help readers understand why discussions on disability can't take place outside of those related to school culture, equity, and student agency. There is plenty of practical advice in this text as well, and readers will be adding many a sticky note to the chapters on teaching strategies and behavior support. For leaders, however, the most earmarked section will be the one on 'leadership moves,' as it is filled with creative ideas and thoughtful, change-related questions. Kluth's favorite chapter is the last one, because it challenges readers to look forward and to realize that what is progressive today will not be so tomorrow. To serve all students well, it is indeed critical to always be asking, "What's next?"

Administrators and advocates alike have had plenty of helpful 'how to' articles and texts they could access on the topic, but they have never before had a K-12 story like [Leading for All](#) to use as a guide and as a reminder of all that is possible for all of students. So, she says, the next time she is at a conference or visiting a school and she is asked, "Is anyone actually doing this?" she will be sharing [Leading for All](#) so the hopeful questioner can take from it what she did – yes, it's happening in Spencer-Iiams and Flosi's district, and it can happen everywhere.

Jennifer Spencer-Iiams and Josh Flosi's journey through inclusion is quite remarkable. They chart a path we should all embrace and share the context and tools to support us effectively. They present a great shared text for teacher teams considering shifts to more inclusive practices. – Peter Dillon, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, Berkshire Hills Regional School District and Shaker Mountain School Union, MA

This is a clear guide for principals, central office leaders, parents, and special education advocacy groups to use while implementing changes that foster a more inclusive environment for special education students on campus and in the community. – Dr. Anthony Mays, Senior Director of Schools Division with the Harris County Department of Education

[Leading for All](#) provides a clear framework that all educators should use to improve inclusive practices. The authors have a clear vision for transformational change that will create inclusive school communities which starts at the classroom level. – Ronald D. Wahlen, Director of Digital Teaching and Learning

[Leading for All](#) is a very readable book that integrates a wide-range of current knowledge as to how to create an inclusive learning environment for all students, not just special education students. The authors take us along on their journey, recognizing that this magnitude of change is not easy but is a moral imperative, and provide us with the information to undertake such change. – Linda R. Vogel, Professor and Program Coordinator

[Leading for All](#) is the book the field of inclusive education has waited for. The book is a clear and readable guide for those, whether they are principals, leaders, or parents, who want to create more equitable, responsive and inclusive educational experiences for their students.

Geography / Politics / International / India

[India](#): Continuity and Change in the Twenty-First Century, 1st edition by John Harriss, Craig Jeffrey & Trent Brown (Polity Press)

India has been catapulted to the center of world attention. Its rapidly growing economy, new geopolitical confidence, and global cultural influence have ensured that people across the world recognize India as one of the main sites of social dynamism in the early twenty-first century.

In [India](#), research leaders John Harriss, Craig Jeffrey and Trent Brown explore in depth the economic, social, and political changes occurring in India today, and their implications for the people of India and the world. Harriss is Professor Emeritus of International Studies at Simon Fraser University; Jeffrey is Director of the Australia India Institute and Professor of Geography at the University of Melbourne; and Brown is DECRA Research Fellow in the School of Geography at the University of Melbourne.

Each of [India](#)'s fourteen chapters seeks to answer a key question: Is India's democracy under threat? Can India's growth be sustained? How are youth changing India? Drawing on a wealth of scholarly and popular material as well as their own experience researching the country during this period of major transformation, the authors draw

readers into key debates about economic growth, poverty, environmental justice, the character of Indian democracy, rights and social movements, gender, caste, education, and foreign policy. India, they conclude in [India](#), has undergone some extraordinary and positive changes since the early 1990s but deeply worrying threats remain: increasing authoritarianism, growing inequality, entrenched poverty, and environmental vulnerability. How India responds to these crucial challenges will shape the world's largest democracy for years to come.

[India](#) has its origins in an earlier book that Harriss and Jeffrey wrote, with Stuart Corbridge, called *India Today: Economy, Politics and Society*. They say that since they wrote that book, there has been a great deal of change in India. Some of it has been associated with the achievement of an absolute majority in the Indian parliament for the first time by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the political party that is a part of the wider movement of Hindu nationalism; but there have been changes too that are the outcomes of much longer running trends in India's economy and in Indian society. At the same time there are sometimes surprising indications of continuity from the past – in social relationships. India has, in many ways, defied the expectations of theorists of 'modernization'. When they were asked to 'update' *India Today*, they say they found themselves writing a largely new book. It was difficult to draw a line and to stop writing because of the flurry of policy innovation that has followed from the re-election in April-May of this year, with an increased majority, of the BJP government led by Narendra Modi.

So [India](#) became a new book, rather than a second edition of *India Today*.

Brown, Jeffrey's colleague in the Australia India Institute at the University of Melbourne, agreed to join Harriss and Jeffrey in writing the new book, bringing his experience of research on civil society organizations and rural development. None of them is an Indian citizen, so they write as sympathetic outsiders, with the disadvantages as well as possible advantages that this status brings. The authors bring to the book the experience of having lived, worked and carried out research in different parts of India. They were able to draw extensively on the excellent research of large numbers of Indian scholars, and in regard to current and recent events, on the work of the many outstanding independent journalists and commentators in the country.

A further reason for their decision to write a new book rather than 'updating' *India Today* is that there is such a large volume of new research and analysis that has been published over the last ten years, both dealing specifically with India, and with the wider questions that are addressed in [India](#), such as the patterns and determinants of economic growth or trends in democratic politics.

[India](#), like *India Today*, is organized around a series of questions, about the Indian economy, politics and society. Each of the chapters can be read independently, and

they can be read in any order. This means that there is, necessarily, some overlap in their contents – though they have aimed to reduce this to a minimum. At the same time, the book as a whole does offer a coherent argument about the changes that have come about in India over the last decade in particular.

*As a book that covers a tremendous range of issues and refuses to fall for easy explanatory traps, **India: Continuity and Change in the 21st Century** offers an original, unique and comprehensive coverage of the economy, society and politics in 21st century India.* – Philippa Williams, Queen Mary University of London

This book asks some of the most compelling questions about politics, society and the economy in contemporary India, and offers answers with historical depth, a comprehensive engagement with the latest scholarship on the subject, and nuanced analysis. An indispensable guide to understanding the multiple complexities of India today. – Niraja Gopal Jayal, Jawaharlal Nehru University

A crisply written account of key issues in the study of contemporary India. It will be an invaluable resource for scholars and students alike. – Rob Jenkins, City University of New York

Careful readers will note that there is some tension in [India](#), reflecting the fact that the three authors are not entirely of one mind in their views of the extent and significance of the changes that are associated especially with the dominance that the Bharatiya Janata Party has established in Indian politics. This is a strength of the text, because it is far too soon to reach a final judgment on contemporary events, and they have set out evidence and arguments on the basis of which readers can form their own assessments. [India](#) is, unashamedly, an academic book, yet one that – like *India Today* – will be read and referred to by general readers as well as by their colleagues and by students.

History / African-American Studies

[Black Firsts](#): 500 Years of Trailblazing Achievements and Ground-Breaking Events, 4th edition by Jessie Carney Smith Ph.D. (Visible Ink Press)

The first African American president, U.S. senator, and the first black lawyer in the Department of Education. The first black chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff and the first African American commissioned officer in the Marine Corps. The first black professors in a variety of fields. The first African American advertising agency. The first African American Olympian. The first black pilot for a scheduled commercial airline. The first recorded slave revolt in North America. The first African American cookbook writer.

The author of [Black Firsts](#) is Jessie Carney Smith. Distinguished in the library profession and recognized educator, author and scholar, Smith is dean of the library and holds the Camille Cosby Distinguished Chair in the Humanities at Fisk University in Nashville.

Change, progress, and pioneers. Hard-won victories. Barrier-breaking triumphs. Society-changing feats. Inspirational people. Remarkable people, places, and events in black history are gathered in [Black Firsts](#). Updated regularly since it first published in 1994, this new 4th edition is the first in nine years and adds hundreds of new stories, bringing readers up-to-date accounts of change, progress, and pioneers. The new edition collects and celebrates the thousands of world-moving people with hard-to-find facts and accomplishments that have helped shape society and culture.

Readers can revel in the renowned and lesser-known, barrier-breaking trailblazers in all fields – arts, entertainment, business, civil rights, education, government, invention, journalism, religion, science, sports, and music. [Black Firsts](#) bears witness to the long and complex history of African Americans.

Expanded, updated, and revised, [Black Firsts](#) collects more than 500 all-new achievements and previously unearthed firsts. This massive tome proves that African American accomplishments are wide-ranging and ongoing, documenting thousands of personal victories and triumphs.

Praise for the previous edition ...

The third edition of this invaluable resource of African American achievements updates the previous edition. Recommended for anyone from elementary-school age to adults who are interested in African American history. – Booklist

In the new book [Black Firsts](#) by Jessie Carney Smith, you'll find information on tens of thousands of folks who've gone before you – in a good way. – Bookworm Sez

[Black Firsts](#) is a book full of hope. – Chicago Sun-Times

A superb historical study of black achievement. – Houston Chronicle

The well-researched sketches provide a great deal of information. This is an excellent resource for starting research on black history, but its sheer volume may be overwhelming to casual researchers. The lesser-known figures, however, make the title worth digging into. – Library Journal

An exhaustive listing of the accomplishments of black Americans in the arts, business, education, the military, medicine and science, and sports. – Pittsburgh Tribune-Review

This authoritative work, with its brief biographies of many accomplished and famous African-Americans, is one that writers, researchers, and libraries will want to keep close at hand for its valuable information. – Richmond Times-Dispatch

This is a must-have reference. – St. Paul Pioneer Press

... comprehensively catalogs the achievements of everybody from Hank Aaron to Bruce Yuille... – Syracuse Post-Standard

An excellent reference source, but, more than most such encyclopedia collections, it also can be read. – The Salt Lake Tribune

Black Firsts is a celebration of achievement, accomplishments, and pride. It is a testimony to the rich but often overlooked history of black life in America – and throughout the world. This vital collection includes thousands of personal success stories. It recognizes and honors both renowned and lesser-known, barrier-breaking trailblazers in all fields – arts, entertainment, business, civil rights, education, government, invention, journalism, religion, science, sports, and music. With more than 350 photos and illustrations, this information-rich book also includes a bibliography and an extensive index, adding to its usefulness. This vital collection will appeal to anyone interested in America's amazing history and resilient people.

History / African-American Studies / Biographies & Memoirs

W.E.B. Du Bois: The Lost and the Found, 1st edition by Elvira Basevich (Black Lives Series: Polity Press)

W.E.B. Du Bois spent many decades fighting to ensure that African Americans could claim their place as full citizens and thereby fulfill the deeply compromised ideals of American democracy. Yet he died in Africa, having apparently given up on the United States.

In the tour-de-force, **W.E.B. Du Bois**, Elvira Basevich examines this paradox by tracing the development of his life and thought and the relevance of his legacy to our troubled age. Basevich is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at University of Massachusetts, Lowell.

Basevich analyses the main concepts that inform Du Bois's critique of American democracy, such as the color line and double consciousness, before examining how these concepts might inform our understanding of contemporary struggles, from Black Lives Matter to the campaign for reparations for slavery. She stresses the continuity in Du Bois's thought, from his early writings to his later embrace of self-segregation and Pan-Africanism, while not shying away from assessing the challenging implications of his later work.

W.E.B. Du Bois has a chronological structure, though some chapters treat individual themes, such as Du Bois and the Black Lives Matter movement and his feminist thought, which incorporate different parts of his career and life. The second chapter opens with the birth of Du Bois and the conclusion of the book ends with his death. Most chapters begin with a brief biographical statement about the particular stage of Du Bois's life where readers find him, where he was living and working, and his vision of political struggle at that point in his career, drawing in particular on D. L. Lewis's and Manning Marable's exquisite biographies of Du Bois. As a man who described himself as 'bone of the bone' and 'flesh of the flesh' of the people living and striving behind the color line, Du Bois noted that the 'veil' too fell over his own life and that of his family. His life

provides some insight into his political thought, as he often reflected on his personal experiences to chart new directions in his research and activism. The inclusion of biographical information in [W.E.B. Du Bois](#) also meets the objective of the *Black Lives Series* to represent the singular lives of powerful and neglected black thinkers.

In a direct and accessible prose, linking philosophical abstraction with grassroots activism, Elvira Basevich brings us a Du Bois who is by no means merely a figure of historical importance but very much a thinker relevant for the social justice struggles of today. – Charles Mills, City University of New York

With the breadth of a biographer, the depth of a philosopher, and the vision of a poet, Elvira Basevich gives us a compelling elucidation of W.E.B. Du Bois' radical liberalism. This is essential reading for understanding why Du Bois still matters! – Melvin Rogers, Brown University

[W.E.B. Du Bois](#) vindicates the power of Du Bois's thought to help transform a stubbornly unjust world. It is essential reading for racial justice activists as well as students of African American philosophy and political thought.

History / Civil War

[Custer](#): From the Civil War's Boy General to the Battle of the Little Bighorn by Ted Behncke & Gary Bloomfield (Casemate)

Readers are introduced to a little-known side of Custer – a deeply personal side – in [Custer](#).

George Custer (1839-1876) grew up in an expanding young country and his early influences mirrored the times. Two aspects of this era dominate most works about him: the Civil War, and the war with the Indians, culminating in his death at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. When mentioned, if at all, his early life and years as a cadet at West Point are brief, and then only enough to set some background for discussion of the mystery of the Little Bighorn. [Custer](#) is the first Custer biography to focus on these lesser-known parts of his life in great detail.

[Custer](#) also includes illustrations (primarily from *Harper's Weekly*) and photos, such as Matthew Brady's Civil War collection, to accompany the text.

Coauthors are Ted Behncke and Gary Bloomfield. Behncke is a retired U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel having served 30 years in varied command and staff positions across the globe. While serving in the Army, he commanded an infantry rifle company in the 17th Infantry Regiment – the same regiment that had two companies in the Little Bighorn Campaign. Bloomfield is a former Army Journalist of the Year, and managing editor for VFW magazine.

Custer's meteoric rise as a leader during the Civil War is without equal – no other military leader in American history has accomplished more so early in his life and career and to a greater end. Yet Custer scraped through West Point placing last in his class, constantly flouted authority.

From West Point maverick to Civil War hero, George Custer basked in the spotlight of attention and could have retired on his laurels. He considered political office, penned a best-selling memoir, and could have lived out the rest of his life as the greatest cavalry officer in American history. Instead, he chose to stay in the Army, and continue his cavalry exploits against the Plains Indians, where he met his demise while commanding the 7th Cavalry at the battle of the Little Bighorn. Controversy and condemnation have tarnished his legacy ever since. This new biography, [Custer](#), discusses Custer's family and personal life alongside the details of his military career to add context to the puzzling dichotomies of his life.

[Custer](#) is the result of Behncke's lifelong fascination with Custer. Being stationed at military posts in the American west during his Army career, including Fort Riley and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, allowed him to retrace the routes of the 7th Cavalry campaign against the Plains Indians and to understand the challenges Custer faced leading men in this landscape.

Behncke and Bloomfield integrate Custer' military achievements – and failures – with little-known details of his personal life to provide full context and offer cogent explanations for his behavior and decision-making throughout his eventful life. In doing so they provide new insights into this flamboyant, larger-than-life character who, once vaunted for his skills on the battlefield, has long been vilified for leading his troopers to their deaths at the battle of the Little Bighorn.

The approach in [Custer](#) uses all of Custer's known writings: letters; magazine articles; his book, *My Life on the Plains*; and his unfinished memoirs of the Civil War; along with materials and books by his wife, Elizabeth Custer; and reflections of others who knew him well.

The five chapters are Early Life (growing up and as a West Point cadet), The Civil War, The Indian Fighter, The Little Bighorn, and Conclusion. The theme of [Custer](#) is not so much new historical information but the depth of his character development and lesser-known influences of his life. [Custer](#) draws together these elements in a succinct and accessible read.

Journal / Group / Guest Book

[Eat, Drink & Be Married](#) designed by Nicole LaRue (Gibbs Smith)

Readers can make their wedding even more memorable by using this fun fill-in-the-blank book for guests to fill out on their special day.

The wedding day or wedding shower becomes extra unforgettable by giving guests a chance to write their well wishes, fondest memories, and best advice in [Eat, Drink & Be Married](#), a fill-in-the-blank guest book. People won't have to stress about trying to figure out what to write, as each page provides a prompt with a few spaces to fill in their thoughts – they just flip through the book until they find a prompt they love. Once finished, they sign their name at the bottom so the bride and groom will always know who wrote what.

Here are some examples of prompts:

Some say love is all you need. But in my opinion, _____ never hurts either.

A good marriage is like good _____ – it only gets better with time.

Some of the craziest advice I've ever heard was this: _____. But I think it's more important to _____.

Always tell your spouse _____! But, whatever you do, don't tell them _____!

Recreate your first _____, your second _____, and your third _____.

With a beautifully designed cover and a tear-out instruction page, [Eat, Drink & Be Married](#) is sure to make the bride and groom laugh and smile for years to come.

Law / Business & Economics / Real Estate / Taxes / Guides

[Every Landlord's Tax Deduction Guide](#), 17th edition by Stephen Fishman J.D. (Nolo)

No landlord would pay more than necessary for utilities or other operating expenses for a rental property. But, every year millions of landlords pay more taxes on their rental income than they have to. Why? Because they fail to take advantage of all the tax deductions available to owners of residential rental property. That's where [Every Landlord's Tax Deduction Guide](#) comes in. It gives readers all the information they need to maximize their deductions – and avoid common deduction mistakes. Readers can use this book all year long, to make April 15 as painless as possible.

Author Stephen Fishman has dedicated his career as an attorney and author to writing guides on business, taxation, and intellectual property matters for small businesses,

entrepreneurs, independent contractors, and freelancers. He is a two-time recipient of the Independent Book Publishers Association's Benjamin Franklin Award.

When it comes to understanding their taxes, readers need guidance more than ever. In 2017, Congress enacted the most sweeping changes to the tax code in over 30 years when it passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which took effect in 2018. Now, in an effort to stave off economic devastation in the wake of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, Congress has revised the nation's tax laws yet again, temporarily suspending many of the harshest provisions of the TCJA. [Every Landlord's Tax Deduction Guide](#) explains how these changes affect landlords. Of special interest are new rules for deducting losses during 2018 through 2020.

This unusual book makes tax tactics actually interesting, whether you are a novice or a serious full-time investor. – The Washington Post

The best of the best... heavily emphasizes maximizing depreciation deductions. – Chicago Tribune

Top 10 Real Estate Book – Robert Bruss, syndicated real estate columnist.

Updated and revised to cover tax rules for Airbnb-type rentals, [Every Landlord's Tax Deduction Guide](#) lives up to its title with practical information and invaluable advice. Chapters walk the reader through how to deduct operating expenses, the basics of depreciation, the home office deduction, hiring help, casualty and theft losses, necessary record-keeping systems, and much more. An index and access to publisher Nolo's website filled with useful legal forms, profiles of landlord-tenant and tax lawyers in one's area, and more round out this absolute "must-have" for all real estate owners. – The Midwest Book Review, Wisconsin Bookwatch

With [Every Landlord's Tax Deduction Guide](#) readers maximize their tax deductions. Filled with practical advice and real-world examples, the book will save readers money by making sure they owe less to the IRS at tax time.

Even if they work with an accountant or another tax professional, landlords need the information in [Every Landlord's Tax Deduction Guide](#). It will help them provide their tax professional with better records, ask better questions, obtain better advice, and, just as importantly, evaluate the advice they get from tax professionals, websites, and other sources.

Law / Environmental / International

[Research Handbook on Transnational Environmental](#)

[Law](#) edited by Veerle Heyvaert & Leslie-Anne Duvic-Paoli
(Research Handbooks in Environmental Law Series: Edward
Elgar Publishing)

Transnational environmental law is a young and dynamic area of research which responds to our pressing need to better understand and conceptualize the complexities of legal and regulatory responses to environmental problems. [Research Handbook on Transnational Environmental Law](#) unpacks the intricacies of this field of law to provide a broad-ranging guide to the major concepts, analytical tools, approaches and debates that shape transnational environmental law.

[Research Handbook on Transnational Environmental Law](#) offers a detailed overview and critical discussion of the key themes and perspectives that characterize the burgeoning research area of transnational environmental law. It analyzes important sectors at the forefront of the field, including climate change and biodiversity.

Interdisciplinary and comprehensive, this Research Handbook provides provocative discussions on transnational legal phenomena and the ways in which readers can sort out their complexities. Bringing together varied perspectives from both leading and emerging scholars from around the world, chapters deliver methodological and conceptual frameworks for future research, while providing an original view on this emerging field of law. Contributors also pay special attention to the engagement of the field with multilevel governance and the involvement of non-state actors in legislative, regulatory and adjudicative processes.

The editors have assembled in [Research Handbook on Transnational Environmental Law](#) a collection of contributions that offer stimulating discussion on existing transnational legal phenomena and showcase the impressive variety, the depth and the potential for innovation of this budding research field.

The book is edited by Veerle Heyvaert, Professor, Department of Law, London School of Economics and Political Science and Leslie-Anne Duvic-Paoli, Lecturer, The Dickson Poon School of Law, King's College London. The book has 27 contributors who are leading and emerging scholars from around the world.

The [Research Handbook on Transnational Environmental Law](#) offers a striking illustration of the lag between a long-identified phenomenon of growing importance and the development of adequate conceptual categories to explain it and integrate it into the wider body of knowledge. Faithful to the specificity of EE Research Handbooks, this book is a major leap in closing this gap. It not only maps the field but also provides solid conceptual foundations for it. It is destined to be a classic. – Jorge E. Viñuales, Harold

Samuel Professor of Law and Environmental Policy, University of Cambridge

This book provides a state-of-the-art guide to the dynamic new field of transnational environmental law scholarship, focused on critical, cross-cutting issues such as climate change, biodiversity loss and marine pollution. Under the expert editorial guidance of Heyvaert and Duvic-Paoli, leading and emerging scholars from around the world provide an engaging and accessible introduction to the field's key concepts, tools and debates. This Research Handbook is an essential resource for all those interested in environmental law and its broader transnational dimensions. – Jacqueline Peel, The University of Melbourne

By offering a detailed overview and critical discussion of the key themes and perspectives that characterize this burgeoning new discipline, the book serves as an essential, state-of-the-art guide for further research. Offering an accessible and broad-ranging guide to the field's major themes and research strategies, the [Research Handbook on Transnational Environmental Law](#) will be an indispensable resource to scholars, students and practitioners in environmental and transnational law and social sciences seeking to understand the contributions of a transnational approach to environmental law.

Outdoors & Nature / Biodiversity / Reference

[The World Encyclopedia of Animals](#): A Reference and Identification Guide to 840 of the Most Significant Amphibians, Reptiles and Mammals by Tom Jackson (Lorenz Books)

Packed full of facts and detailed illustrations, this is a substantially updated family reference guide to the animals that inhabit our world. From the smallest mouse to the largest whale, [The World Encyclopedia of Animals](#) offers a thorough introduction to an array of reptiles, amphibians and mammals, exploring their habits and habitats. Beginning with a biological and evolutionary overview of the animal kingdom, the book examines a huge range of animal characteristics such as anatomy, survival instincts and reproduction, and takes a closer look at what it means to be an amphibian, reptile or mammal. The main part of [The World Encyclopedia of Animals](#) describes animals from North and South America, Africa, Europe, Asia and Australia. Over 1000 illustrations, 800 distribution maps and information boxes detailing habitat, diet, size, life span and conservation status accompany the entries.

Author Tom Jackson is an experienced author of natural history and science books. Since graduating with a degree in zoology from Bristol University, England, he has worked at the Jersey Zoo and has been involved in the conservation of endangered wildlife in Zimbabwe.

[The World Encyclopedia of Animals](#) includes salamanders, frogs and toads, turtles and tortoises, lizards, crocodilians, snakes, cats, dogs, bears, small carnivores, raccoons, rodents, rabbits, bats, armadillos, marsupials, insectivores, apes, monkeys, hoofed animals, seals, dolphins and whales.

A detailed introduction focuses on animal evolution, anatomy and ecology, and a technical glossary explains biological and zoological terms for easy reference.

The earth's biomes, or habitats, are all described, such as freshwater lakes and rivers, jungles, grasslands, polar regions and mountains, showing how animals have adapted to their surrounding conditions. The book also explores the impact that humans have had on the natural world; an investigation into endangered species and wildlife conservation looks at animals that are in critical danger of being wiped out and what conservationists are doing to prevent this from happening.

The second part of [The World Encyclopedia of Animals](#) is a directory of animals from North and South America, Africa, Europe, Asia and Australasia. Each directory entry is accompanied by a fact box containing a map that shows where the animal is found, and details of its distribution, habitat, food, size, maturity, breeding, life span and conservation status.

The astonishing biodiversity of the Earth's animals is captured in this beautiful natural history encyclopedia. Packed full of fascinating facts and more than 1000 detailed illustrations and photographs, and comprehensively updated for this new edition, [The World Encyclopedia of Animals](#) is an authoritative reference book for everyone who wants to learn more about the extraordinary animals that inhabit our world.

Religion & Spirituality / Celtic

[Secrets of the Druids](#): From Indo-European Origins to Modern Practices by Teresa Cross, with a foreword by Stephen E. Flowers Ph.D. (Inner Traditions)

Druids and their magic, lore, and rituals have fascinated those who encounter them, from the ancient Greeks and Romans onward. Even today, the mere mention of their name evokes pictures of standing stones, mistletoe, golden sickles, white-robed priests, and powerful sorcerers. But were they really as we picture them?

Updated and expanded from the original edition, [Secrets of the Druids](#) is a guide to the history and practices of the Druids and the Celtic faith.

Drawing on comparative mythology and linguistics, archaeological evidence, and etymology, Teresa Cross in [Secrets of the Druids](#) offers readers a comprehensive course in the history and development of the Celtic spiritual tradition and its lore,

reconstructing the Druidic faith from the remnants that have survived and dedicated study of scholarly sources. She also reveals parallels with other Indo-European traditions, such as the similarities between Celtic and Vedic Hindu beliefs and practices. She chronicles the ethics and spiritual teachings of Druidism and the Celtic faith and examines what happened to these beliefs during centuries of Christianization. Cross has been a Celtic scholar since 1982 and was a member of numerous Celtic cultural organizations, including the Scottish Society of Dallas, Southwest Celtic Music Association, Clan MacKenzie Society, and the Irish P.E.C.

Moving from history to practice, Cross in [Secrets of the Druids](#) details magical rites and ceremonies as practiced by modern-day followers of Druidactos. She explores the structure of the Toutha, which roughly corresponds to 'tribe,' methods for consecrating a *nemeton*, the outdoor temple that offers the optimum sacred space for the meeting of heaven and earth, and the rites and customs associated with important festivals such as Beltaine and Samhain. She also explores the rules of firecraft, the sacred art of giving to the cosmos, making offerings to deities and spirits, sacred food and beverages, and the ancient Coligny calendar, including the names of the months in old Gaulish.

Offering an authentic handbook for starting one's own Celtic group led by Druids, with [Secrets of the Druids](#) Cross reveals the meanings and metaphysics behind the Celtic and Druidic customs and traditions, reuniting the fragmentary remains of long-lost Druid culture with the still-living practices of the Celtic faith.

... a refreshing stream of information flowing from an enormous reservoir of research and experience. For twenty-first-century readers desiring knowledge of historic Celtic spirituality or wishing to follow the rites and ways of this ancient path, this book is an indispensable resource. – Kenneth McIntosh, author of Water from an Ancient Well

A thoughtful and well-researched reconstruction of archaic Celtic tribal spirituality. – John Michael Greer, author of The Druidry Handbook

This fascinating account of the Druids – from ancient to modern practice – provides a comprehensive history of the tradition as well as everything one needs to know to practice this vibrant path of healing and magic. – Martha Shideler, author of Caitlin: Priestess of the Goddess and editor of The Independent Celt

... a fantastic guide on modern Celtic polytheism. Filled with important information on history and modern, practical takes on rituals, this book is a must for the aspiring polytheist. An engaging and thought-provoking read from start to finish – I loved it! – Domhnall Irvine, Druid of Sylvan Celtic Fellowship

[Secrets of the Druids](#) has been updated and expanded, strengthening some its best features, such as its detailed linguistic resources. I heartily recommend it to anyone interested in Celtic culture and spirituality or the ancient world in general. – Mark DeFillo, Druid Belenios Ategnatos of Kredenn Geltiek Hollvedel

This expanded edition of [Secrets of the Druids](#), thoroughly researched, provides a comprehensive guidebook to the practices of the Druids and the Celtic faith. <>

Religion & Spirituality / Christianity / African American

[A Black Theology of Liberation](#): 50th Anniversary edition by James H. Cone, with a foreword by Peter J. Paris & an afterword by Kelly Brown Douglas (Orbis Books)

Any message that is not related to the liberation of the poor in a society is not Christ's message. Any theology that is indifferent to the theme of liberation is not Christian theology.

With the publication of his two early works, *Black Theology & Black Power* (1969) and [A Black Theology of Liberation](#) (1970), James H. Cone emerged as one of the most creative and provocative theological voices in North America. His books offered a searing indictment of white theology and society and introduced a radical presentation of the Christian message of our time.

Cone, who died in 2018, was the Bill and Judith Moyers Distinguished Professor of Systematic Theology at Union Theological Seminary, NYC.

Combining the visions of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr., Cone radically reappraised Christianity from the perspective of the oppressed black community in North America. Fifty years later, [A Black Theology of Liberation](#) retains its original power.

In the foreword to the *Fiftieth Anniversary Edition*, Peter J. Paris says that in retrospect it is clear that Cone's 1969 *Black Theology and Black Power* was virtually a prologue to his 1970 book, [A Black Theology of Liberation](#), in which he offered a more disciplined scholarly contribution to the development of a systematic black theology. Fully acknowledging his academic training, taught by white theologians to master the theological canon that their fathers in the faith had developed, he utilized in this book all of those tools, augmented now by selected references from black history, in order to realize his own unique goal. After having spent most of his life in the racially segregated South and having never traveled outside the United States – and thus being unfamiliar with the concurrent rise of Latin American liberation theology – Cone's creative work in constructing this novel theology is undoubtedly the work of a theological genius.

From the beginning Cone made it clear that the content of Christian theology is the liberation of the oppressed, a divine function that is deeply rooted in the biblical portrayal of God's initiative in the Exodus event, in which God revealed Godself, then and always, as one who is engaged in delivering his people from oppression. Most important, the Gospel of Luke depicts Jesus at the beginning of his ministry as assuming

that commission for himself; he said, "The spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom to the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free" (Luke 4:18).

Further, Cone adamantly argued that any theology that dissociates itself from that goal betrays the gospel. With that principle as his guide, Cone was inspired to launch a frontal attack on all white European and American theologians who habitually ignored the plight of the oppressed while rendering moral and spiritual support to their oppressors. Thus, Cone issued a severe judgment of condemnation on all Western theology for neglecting God's work of liberating the oppressed in its midst. Though he always recognized that blacks were not the only oppressed people in America, he contended, nonetheless, that the history of this country has been saturated with the oppression of blacks, beginning with four centuries of enslavement that culminated in a plethora of social, political, and economic injustices in every succeeding historical period up to and including our present age.

Most important, Cone concluded that in America blackness is a symbol for political oppression and theological liberation. The latter marks the struggle against the former. Thus, all who would be Christian in this land must therefore identify themselves with the black oppressed and work diligently for their liberation because that is where the biblical God is to be found. In that regard he called for whites to become black. Though that might seem an impossible task, readers must not forget that Cone devoted his professional career to Union Theological Seminary in New York City, a predominantly white institution, where he engaged in the process of training a racially diverse student body to undertake various types of liberation ministries. In the process of discerning how to identify with blacks in their struggle against racism he encouraged both his students and his colleagues (white and black) to discern how they, like Jesus, could and must become black in order to liberate blacks from the many and varied forms of injustice they confronted daily.

Thus, Cone stated incessantly that all who fail to identify with the black struggle for liberation or who describe a Jesus who is either indifferent to that struggle or rejects it altogether, cannot be allies in the struggle. From Cone's perspective those who fail that challenge are not followers of Christ but, rather, of the anti-Christ, whom white Western theology has faithfully embraced throughout its history. Such consistent condemnation of the latter was vintage Cone.

According to Peter J. Paris in the foreword to the 1986 edition it is important is for readers to begin a convivial relationship with the thinking of James Cone. In emerging from an incredible reality, the 'diabolic' real world of racism in the United States, Cone's thinking gains a singular force. In his theological reflections on this reality, he does not present blacks as strangers from another world, unknown foreigners. James Cone is a

committed man, 'saturated' in the real world, which he analyzes with the authority of one who has experienced it.

[A Black Theology of Liberation](#) is a passionate book, passionately written. In reading it, some will be chilled by their anger, others will tremble with fear. Many readers, though, will find a stimulus for their own struggles. This is what James Cone envisaged.

[A Black Theology of Liberation](#) changed my life. It made me even more proud to be black. Moreover, it set me on my theological journey as it gave me a deeper appreciation of black faith. What it did for me, it did also for others. – from the Afterword by Kelly Brown Douglas

There are some books that so challenge and fascinate us that we cannot put them down until we reach the very last word. [A Black Theology of Liberation](#) is one of those books.

A series of recent events in the nation's political and social life reveals a resurgence of white supremacist rhetoric, fears, and practices that have greatly alarmed African Americans and all their sympathizers. That makes this *Fiftieth Anniversary Edition* of [A Black Theology of Liberation](#) both timely and necessary. <>

Religion & Spirituality / Christianity / History

[The Welsh Methodist Society](#): The Early Societies in Southwest Wales 1737–1750 by Eryn M. White (University of Wales Press)

The evangelical, or Methodist, revival in the eighteenth century had a major impact on Welsh religion, society, and culture. One of its outcomes was the unprecedented growth of Nonconformity by the nineteenth century, which established a very clear difference between Wales and England in religious terms. Since the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist movement did not split from the Church to form a separate denomination until 1811, it existed in its early years solely as a collection of local society meetings.

Focusing on those early societies in southwest Wales, [The Welsh Methodist Society](#) examines the grass roots of the Methodist movement, identifying the features that led to its subsequent remarkable success. At the heart of the book lie the experiences of the men and women who were members of the societies, along with explorations of their social and economic background and the factors that attracted them to the Methodist cause.

Author Eryn M. White is reader in Welsh history at Aberystwyth University and the author of *The Welsh Bible* and coauthor of *The Calendar of Trevecka Letters*.

[The Welsh Methodist Society](#) concentrates on the early Methodist societies set up during the 1740s in south-west Wales. The main focus is the county of Carmarthenshire, but the movement itself did not necessarily think and plan in terms of county boundaries. The landscape was viewed according to where the centers of Methodist activity lay. The key geographical units for the purpose of this study are really the superintendencies set up to oversee groups of societies, which often crossed over county borders. The Cardiganshire societies developed as two distinct groups: one in the Llangeitho/Tregaron area under the influence of Daniel Rowland and the other along the coastline around New Quay and Aberporth. The societies in Welsh-speaking north Pembrokeshire had a closer affinity to those of south Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire than with the English-medium societies to the south. They are therefore included, but the south Pembrokeshire societies are not, as they were under separate supervision and the records for them are not as full.

According to White in the introduction to [The Welsh Methodist Society](#), much of the material produced on the history of Welsh Calvinistic Methodism has tended to be institutional histories of its leaders, ministers, causes and chapels, with less focus on what might be termed the social history of the movement. Considerable attention has also focused on the Methodist 'fathers', each charismatic, talented and exercising a continued fascination for some historians. The early movement has often been viewed primarily from the aspect of the leadership, including their association with revival figures elsewhere in England, Scotland and North America. The sources tend to sustain that approach, as many of the records centre on Harris's activities and connections in particular. To examine the internal life of the grass-roots movement represents something of a challenge.

White says the term 'Methodism' in Wales can invariably be taken as referring to Calvinistic Methodism, which was dominant from the eighteenth century onwards, in contrast to the situation in England, where it was the followers of the Wesley brothers who increasingly garnered support. The historiography of the Methodist movement in England has also had its challenges to negotiate and possibly a similar distinction between histories written by the Methodist community itself and by secular historians. A substantial historiography has emerged relating to Methodism in England, America and beyond, concentrating mainly on the Arminian Wesleyan branch rather than George Whitefield and his followers, despite the latter's early transatlantic influence. Studies of Methodism, heart religion and evangelicalism have burgeoned remarkably in recent years, with a greater variety of different approaches.

There is still a tendency to dwell on the leaders of the movement, for whom there are far more sources than for the rank and file of the societies, although there have been some attempts to focus on the society and its subdivisions in the world of Wesleyan Methodism. When writing about the situation, Howel Harris casts a long shadow which is

difficult to avoid as he is the source of so much information. One of the most influential of Welsh historians of religion, Glanmor Williams, suggested that the success of the movement rested not primarily with the leaders, despite their 'outstanding gifts', but with those who became members. In his view, the fact that the people hearing the Methodist message were no longer as hampered by illiteracy and lack of knowledge of their faith as previous generations had been made an immense difference and allowed the Protestant Reformation in Wales at long last to come of age. It is the experience of those people which is at the heart of [The Welsh Methodist Society](#), although it remains hard to avoid viewing them through the eyes of their leaders.

This is an excellent study, meticulously researched and richly documented, to present a comprehensive view of religion in west Wales in the period. Eryn White shows that this was the crucible of the Evangelical movement in the eighteenth century. This is a book that all scholars of Wales and religious history will need to read. – Professor William Gibson, Director of the Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History

In this magisterial study, the author has returned to the subject that first established her reputation as our foremost historian of eighteenth-century Wales, namely the development of the Methodist societies. Drawing on subsequent research and a quarter-century of deep reflection, she has provided us with the definitive analysis which will be essential reading for social historians and historians of religion alike. – D. Denzil Morgan, Emeritus Professor of Theology, University of Wales Trinity Saint David

The transatlantic Evangelical revival of the eighteenth century had no greater impact than through Methodism in south-west Wales, the subject of this book. Eryn White perceptively shows how converted individuals were grafted into novel communities, the Methodist societies, which she analyses with exemplary thoroughness. – David Bebbington, Emeritus Professor of History, University of Stirling

Since White's first work on the subject was published in Welsh," this revised and updated volume will allow access to a wider readership. [The Welsh Methodist Society](#) is not in any way a study of the theology of the movement, which has received attention from those better qualified to examine it. It is rather a social history of the members and of their experience in the societies.

Science / Natural / Plants

[Herbarium](#): The Quest to Preserve and Classify the World's Plants by Barbara M. Thiers (Timber Press)

Since the 1500s, scientists have documented the plants and fungi that grew around them, organizing the specimens into collections. Known as *herbaria*, these archives helped give rise to botany as its own scientific endeavor.

[Herbarium](#) is an enquiry into this unique field of plant biology, exploring how herbaria

emerged and have changed over time, who promoted and contributed to them, and why they remain such an important source of data for their new role: understanding how the world's flora is changing. Author Barbara Thiers also explains how recent innovations allow us to see things at both the molecular level and on a global scale. Thus herbaria specimens help us address some of the most critical problems facing the world today.

Thiers is director of the William and Lynda Steere Herbarium at the New York Botanical Garden, president of the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, and vice president of the Natural Science Collections Alliance.

Herbaria are the repositories holding preserved specimens of our world's plants, fungi, and other organisms – each collection known as an herbarium. Together, the world's herbaria house nearly 390 million examples of what grows on planet Earth.

In [Herbarium](#), Thiers shares the intriguing and often dramatic accounts of how these collections came to be, the important role they have played through history, and the painstaking lengths both gatherers and botanists have gone to in the name of plant archiving. Thiers also argues passionately for the preservation of herbaria and for their essential function in protecting plant life for future generations.

[Herbarium](#) engenders an appreciation for institutions that have made the commitment to preserve specimens of plants and fungi in perpetuity. At a time when we seem to be bombarded daily by negative aspects of human nature, herbaria highlight one of the better human impulses: to save things for the future, not just for ourselves. We cannot exist without earth's biodiversity, and these preserved organisms give us information about our world and clues to its future that we cannot learn any other way.

With lavish illustrations of places and people; portraits of key players; herbaria specimens; and beautiful, full-color artists' renderings, this carefully researched, detailed homage to herbaria will appeal to those deeply interested in plant exploration and botany. – Library Journal

A sweeping history of the origins, development, and future of herbaria and their role in plant consternation. – The American Gardener

One of the prettiest books of the season... a lovely coffee table book as well as a serious work on the history of scientific endeavor. – The Napa Valley Register

At its heart, the fascinating treasury [Herbarium](#) is a compelling reminder of one of humanity's better impulses: to save things for generations to come. Illustrated with historical material from the collection at the New York Botanical Garden and a wide range of other herbaria, the book is an important addition to the personal libraries of plant fans, conservationists, and anyone fascinated by the ways we identify and document our natural world.

Science / Physics

Lectures on Quantum Field Theory, 2nd edition by Ashok Das (World Scientific)

Lectures on Quantum Field Theory, 2nd edition, comprises the lectures of a two-semester course on quantum field theory, presented in an informal and personal manner. The course starts with relativistic one-particle systems, and develops the basics of quantum field theory with an analysis on the representations of the Poincaré group. Canonical quantization is carried out for scalar, fermion, Abelian and non-Abelian gauge theories. Covariant quantization of gauge theories is also carried out with a detailed description of the BRST symmetry. The Higgs phenomenon and the standard model of electroweak interactions are also developed systematically. Regularization and (BPHZ) renormalization of field theories as well as gauge theories are discussed in detail, leading to a derivation of the renormalization group equation. In addition, two chapters – one on the Dirac quantization of constrained systems and another on discrete symmetries – are included for completeness, although these are not covered in the two-semester course.

The author, Ashok Das, is a professor at the University of Rochester.

According to Das, this *second edition* of Lectures on Quantum Field Theory grew out of requests by students and colleagues alike from all over the world, to include a wide range of related interesting topics. However, it was not practical to accommodate all the topics that were requested since the *first edition* of the book already had about 775 pages. Das was only able to fulfill a few of the requests which, he believed would fit in nicely with the logic of the earlier edition. There are two new chapters as well as two appendices in this new edition and that has enlarged the book by about 150 pages. One of the two chapters added discusses Nielsen identities which addresses questions of gauge independence of physical parameters such as mass of a particle as well as other physical parameters derived from the effective potential which itself is gauge dependent. The other chapter discusses global supersymmetry which is an important idea and which was requested by many readers. One of the two appendices discusses fermions in arbitrary dimensions (as well as in four dimensions). In particular, it investigates the number of space-time dimensions where Majorana, Weyl and Majorana-Weyl fermions can exist. The second appendix discusses the question of gauge invariant (gauge) potentials in detail as well as the Fock-Schwinger gauge as an implementable, complete and ghost free gauge which is widely used in nonperturbative calculations of condensates. In addition, the material of the earlier edition of Lectures on Quantum Field Theory has also been revised and expanded to make explanations simpler and easier.

Reviews of 1st edition:

This new Quantum Field Theory (QFT) book by Professor Ashok Das is a very complete introductory book on the subject. It is ideal for a graduate class that has taken two semesters of Quantum Mechanics and starting the QFT course. There are lucid discussions of topics such as Dirac quantization method which is missing in most QFT books as well as discussions of Yang-Mills theories, BRST, methods and renormalization group equations needed for appreciating the latest developments leading to the standard model. This truly outstanding book fills a longstanding gap in the field and presents the material at just the right level for a beginning course. I recommend it very highly to anyone learning Quantum Field Theory. – Professor R N Mohapatra, University of Maryland

Ashok Das has written an excellent, comprehensive introduction to modern quantum field theory, covering both its theoretical underpinnings and basic computational methods. It will be very useful to students, teachers, and researchers as a course text, and as a volume for self-study and reference. – Professor Stephen L Adler, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton

This book is a comprehensive introduction to modern quantum field theory. The topics under consideration would be of great interest for every physicist and mathematician... interested in methods of the quantum physics. – Zentralblatt MATH

Comprehensive yet at the beginner's level, lucid and informal, this new edition of [Lectures on Quantum Field Theory](#) contains new material including two new chapters and two additional appendices. The book will be of interest to students of mathematics and theoretical physics, teachers and researchers. <>

Sports & Recreation / History / Canada

[Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#) edited by Carly Adams (Human Kinetics)

Written by leading sport and recreation historians, [Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#) serves as a foundation for critical discussions about how historical forces continue to shape 21st-century sport. Although the book focuses on sport and recreation practices on these lands now claimed by Canada, it is set within a larger historical context of interconnecting social and cultural practices to speak to the sustained tensions, complexities, and contradictions prevalent in Canadian society.

The authors examine how gender, ethnicity, race, religion, ability, class, and other systems of oppression and privilege have shaped sport and recreation practices, and how Canadian sporting culture has reproduced, challenged, and reshaped these same systems.

The editor, Dr. Carly Adams, and her 17 contributing experts from across Canada bring the latest research in all areas of Canadian sport history to life and present a thorough look at the nation's past events. Adams is a professor in the department of kinesiology and physical education and Board of Governors Research Chair (tier II) at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta.

[Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#) challenges the dominant narratives and encourages students to think critically about Canadian sport history.

The book separates itself from its competitors by providing an abundance of pedagogical aids. Sidebars highlighting prominent people provide glimpses of figures who made a significant impact on Canadian sport history. Transformative Moment sidebars focus on significant events as they relate to specific themes, such as gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, or ability. A comprehensive timeline showcases where important events fell in relation to one another, while the text acknowledges the problem of presenting history in a linear way and provides a more nuanced discussion of time. Descriptions of primary source documents – such as newspaper articles, photographs, and historical documents – are accompanied by explanations of how sport historians work with these documents.

[Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#) facilitates research-based discussion by providing case studies of Canadian sport within broader social contexts. The book is a core text for university and college courses, but it is also useful for graduate students and as a resource for sport scholars and enthusiasts. For students in fields such as sport history, Canadian studies, gender studies, and Indigenous studies, the book encourages a critical understanding of how and why sport and recreation practices are intertwined with all areas of Canadian society.

[Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#) is not a comprehensive text; indeed, one of the key arguments running through this collection is that there is no such thing as a 'complete' history. Rather, this text challenges readers to think about the past critically; to consider moments, practices, and groups who have been forgotten, silenced, or rendered invisible and how their contributions matter; and to think about how taken-for-granted assumptions about Canadian sport can be challenged and (re)storied.

[Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#) contains 15 chapters. Each of the chapters stands alone and can be read as individual contributions or in a different order depending on interest. Each chapter begins with learning objectives and concludes with discussion questions and suggested readings.

In chapter 1, editor Adams opens the book with a discussion about why sport and recreation histories matter. In doing so, she discusses the role of historians in the historical process and the multiplicity of histories. She also discusses the significance of the text's

cover image and how personal histories of sport connect to broader social, cultural, and political histories.

In chapter 2, Sarah Barnes and Mary Louise Adams offer a provocative discussion about how history is actively produced and not just a documentation of past events. They invite readers to learn how to think historically and to consider the philosophical, political, and practical dimensions of 'doing history.'

In chapter 3, Braden Te Hiwi shares an approach to history that weaves together the past, present, and future in his exploration of the changing contexts of Indigenous peoples' cultures and physical activities. He discusses traditional Indigenous games, the Indigenous origins of lacrosse, the Arctic Winter Games, and the role of these activities in cultural exchange, cultural suppression, and cultural maintenance and revitalization.

In chapter 4, Janice Forsyth highlights three case studies – (1) sports in the residential school system, (2) the Tom Longboat Awards, and (3) the North American Indigenous Games – to discuss the way settlers have used sport to regulate and control Indigenous peoples and how Indigenous peoples have responded, rebuilding their lives and communities in a settler colonial state while resisting settler colonialism itself.

In chapter 5, Courtney W. Mason provides an overview of the development of national parks in Western Canada. Focusing on Banff National Park, he examines how Indigenous practices such as hunting, fishing, and gathering were deemed illegal in the park's system as part of the process of creating recreational and commercial opportunities for settlers and tourists. Throughout the chapter, he highlights the roles of Nakoda people in local tourism, discusses why they were displaced from Banff, and details how some people resisted colonial regulations and policies.

In chapter 6 of [Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#), Robert Kossuth and David McMurray discuss the impact of industrialization and urbanization in Canada and the factors that led to the development of outdoor physical activities for adults and children as a way to offset the negative effects of urban-industrial living.

In chapter 7, Craig Greenham examines cricket and imperialism, lacrosse and nationalism, and baseball and continentalism to consider the ideological debates connected to the evolution of 19th-century Canadian sports.

In chapter 8, Robert Kossuth builds on the previous chapter by exploring how sport in Canada today is a product of the professional sport model that emerged in the late 19th and early 20th centuries that privileged competitive, male-dominated, profit-oriented physical practices.

In chapter 9, Russell Field, Michel Vigneault, and Adams explore the development of ice hockey to consider how some groups of people (predominantly white men) have

maintained and exercised hegemony in the sport while others have been excluded from both full participation and Canada's national stories.

In chapter 10, Danielle Peers and Lisa Tink invite readers to think about the difference between dominant and progressive histories and genealogy. To do this they explore three case studies: (1) the early 20th-century playground movement, (2) 'inclusive' physical education in the early to mid-20th century, and (3) the mid-20th-century emergence of Paralympic sport.

In chapter 11, Ornella Nzindukiyimana and Kevin B. Wamsley discuss Black Canadian sporting experiences and how they have been shaped by racialization and racism. They emphasize the exclusive and discriminatory nature of Canadian sport and explore the complexities of Black Canadians' sport experiences, with a focus on how Black Canadians were framed differently by the media.

In chapter 12 of [Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#), Stacy L. Lorenz and Jay Scherer introduce the sports-media complex and discuss the factors that contributed to the growth of sports coverage in Canadian daily newspapers and radio and television broadcasts.

In chapter 13, Christine M. O'Bonsawin builds on previous chapters and critically situates colonialism in historical sport discourses. Rather than focusing on Indigenous peoples in Canadian sport history and Canada's organized sport structure, she shifts the point of intervention by positioning sport as a form of social organization that was (and remains) rooted in and reproductive of colonial power.

In chapter 14, Russell Field considers elite sport and grassroots initiatives to explore how the Canadian sport system both shaped and was shaped by Canada's involvement in international sport.

In chapter 15, Abrams collaborates with Braden Te Hiwi to reflect on the field of sport history. In particular, they focus on time and timelines, as a way to de-center settle colonial perspectives in historical knowledge.

[Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#) sets a new direction for Canadian sport history. Its third-generation contributors challenge earlier categories and trajectories, and they account much more sensitively and comprehensively for the racially and culturally diverse society that Canada has been. They prepare us for the post-Truth and Reconciliation Canada that we urgently need to understand. It's both illuminating and timely. – Dr. Bruce Kidd, Professor at the University of Toronto

The best sport and recreation histories educate us about the past while challenging us to recognize patterned inequities in opportunities for meaningful physical activities as part of broader societal patterns of colonization, privilege and discrimination. This collaborative textbook, [Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#), written by leading

Canadian sport historians, does that, thereby broadening the ways students can know Canadian sport and recreation but also themselves. – Dr. Vicky Paraschak, Professor at the University of Windsor

Readers will enjoy engaging with the ideas, concepts, and histories in this text. It provides a historical foundation from which to think critically about the past and to challenge often taken-for-granted assumptions about sport and recreation practices in Canada. [Sport and Recreation in Canadian History](#) asks readers to think differently about the history of Canadian sport, and it examines how past people, moments, and events continue to shape 21st-century sport. <>

<>

Bibliography

Art & Photography / Photography / Phone

[Phone Photography for Everybody](#): **Still Life Techniques for iPhone, Android & All Smartphones** by Beth Alesse (**Phone Photography for Everybody Series**: Amherst Media, Inc.)

Biographies & Memoirs / Religion & Spirituality

[Telling Stories That Matter](#): **Memoirs and Essays** by Marvin R. O'Connell, edited by William G. Schmitt, with a foreword by Wilson D. Miscamble, C.S.C. & an afterword by David Solomon (St Augustine's Press)

Culture / Art / History

[Manhattan's Hotel des Artistes](#): **America's Paris on West 67th Street** by Robert Hudovernik (Schiffer Publishing)

Education & Teaching / K-12 / Guides

[Leading for All](#): **How to Create Truly Inclusive and Excellent Schools, 1st edition** by Jennifer Spencer-Iiams & Josh Flosi, with a foreword by Paula Kluth (Corwin)

Geography / Politics / International / India

[India](#): **Continuity and Change in the Twenty-First Century, 1st edition** by John Harriss, Craig Jeffrey & Trent Brown (Polity Press)

History / African-American Studies

[Black Firsts](#): **500 Years of Trailblazing Achievements and Ground-Breaking Events, 4th edition** by Jessie Carney Smith Ph.D. (Visible Ink Press)

History / African-American Studies / Biographies & Memoirs

W.E.B. Du Bois: The Lost and the Found, 1st edition by Elvira Basevich (**Black Lives Series**: Polity Press)

History / Civil War

Custer: From the Civil War's Boy General to the Battle of the Little Bighorn by Ted Behncke & Gary Bloomfield (Casemate)

Journal / Group / Guest Book

Eat, Drink & Be Married designed by Nicole LaRue (Gibbs Smith)

Law / Business & Economics / Real Estate / Taxes / Guides

Every Landlord's Tax Deduction Guide, 17th edition by Stephen Fishman J.D. (Nolo)

Law / Environmental / International

Research Handbook on Transnational Environmental Law edited by Veerle Heyvaert & Leslie-Anne Duvic-Paoli (**Research Handbooks in Environmental Law Series**: Edward Elgar Publishing)

Outdoors & Nature / Biodiversity / Reference

The World Encyclopedia of Animals: A Reference and Identification Guide to 840 of the Most Significant Amphibians, Reptiles and Mammals by Tom Jackson (Lorenz Books)

Religion & Spirituality / Celtic

Secrets of the Druids: From Indo-European Origins to Modern Practices by Teresa Cross, with a foreword by Stephen E. Flowers Ph.D. (Inner Traditions)

Religion & Spirituality / Christianity / African American

A Black Theology of Liberation: 50th Anniversary edition by James H. Cone, with a foreword by Peter J. Paris & an afterword by Kelly Brown Douglas (Orbis Books)

Religion & Spirituality / Christianity / History

The Welsh Methodist Society: The Early Societies in South-west Wales 1737–1750 by Eryn M. White (University of Wales Press)

Science / Natural / Plants

Herbarium: The Quest to Preserve and Classify the World's Plants by Barbara M. Thiers (Timber Press)

Science / Physics

Lectures on Quantum Field Theory, 2nd edition by Ashok Das (World Scientific)

Sports & Recreation / History / Canada

