

Bursting the Limits of Time: The Reconstruction of Geohistory in the Age of Revolution,

by Martin J. S. Rudwick (708 pages, November 2005), describes the long-neglected



history of how an international group of scientists developed a radical new conception of the age of the earth during the politically tumultuous period of 1770 to 1848. Rudwick explains that this “historicization of the earth” was

eclipsed by the Darwinian revolution that put human evolution in center stage. However, the reconstruction of geohistory into eras (Mesozoic) and periods (Jurassic) extending millions of years into the past was no less a revolutionary act than the political manifestos of Paine, Rousseau, and Marx in an epoch where the Christian worldview accepted Biblical timelines extending only to 4004 or 6984 B.C. The result was a new science of geology—pieced together by scientists like Jean-André de Luc, Georges Cuvier, Alexandre Brongniart, and William Buckland—that produced a credible account of earth’s deep history. Accompanied by many antiquarian illustrations. \$54.00. University of Chicago. ISBN 0-226-73111-1.

Canadian Fiction: A Guide to Reading Interests,

by Sharron Smith and Maureen O’Connor (423 pages, November 2005), offers advice on which Canadian novels since 1990 are worth acquiring. Arranged by the same “appeal characteristics” that Nancy Pearl used in *Now Read This*—setting, story, character, language, and genre—the descriptions provide a plot summary, subject keywords, and

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suggestions for further reading. Appendices list resources and Web sites, Canadian literary awards, and publishers. \$60.00. Libraries Unlimited. ISBN 1-59158-166-4.

The Columbia Guide to Contemporary African American Fiction,

by Darryl Dickson-Carr (257 pages, September 2005), reviews black authors, movements, institutions, and publications that came into prominence between 1970 and 2000. Discussions of such genres as the Black Arts Movement, the new black aesthetic, cultural nationalism, négritude, post-soul, and hip-hop help put specific themes in perspective, and the detailed treatment of works by both prominent and lesser-known authors will prove helpful to students. \$60.00. Columbia University. ISBN 0-231-12472-4.

The Complete Copyright Liability Handbook for Librarians and Educators,

by Tomas A. Lipinski (411 pages, February 2006), covers in detail all the legal copyright issues that might arise in an academic setting: the different types of infringement (direct, contributory, and vicarious); damage limitations, immunity, and the Section 512 safe harbor; the Digital Millennium Copyright Act; and three ways libraries and schools can distribute materials in compliance with the law. An appendix offers 16 model copyright policies that cover various provisions. \$125.00. Neal-Schuman. ISBN 1-55570-532-4.

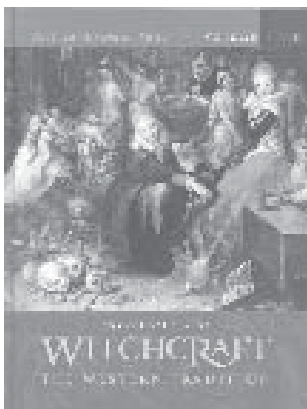
Cravan: Mystery Man of the Twentieth Century,

by Mike Richardson and Rick Geary (66 pages, November 2005), is the true yet speculative story, rendered in graphic-novel format by artist Rick Geary, of Arthur Cravan, a Swiss-born pugilist, art



critic, dadaist, and charlatan who was last seen in Salina Cruz, Mexico, in 1918. During his brief career under many aliases, Cravan associated with Jack Johnson, Marcel Duchamp, and Leon Trotsky, and married the modernist poet Mina Loy. Richardson speculates that Cravan became the reclusive author B. Traven, who wrote the novel *Treasure of the Sierra Madre* in 1927. \$14.95. Dark Horse. ISBN 1-59307-291-0.

Encyclopedia of Witchcraft: The Western Tradition, edited by Richard M. Golden (4 vols., January 2006), brings together contributions



from 172 specialists representing 28 countries who examine European witchcraft trials and beliefs from 1420 to 1782. A masterful compendium of scholarship, this encyclopedia goes well beyond the classic but

now dated *Encyclopedia of Witchcraft and Demonology* by Rossell Hope Robbins (1959). The 757 entries include biographies of historians and historical figures, folklore, religious concepts, geographical areas, specific incidents, legal procedures, and sociological elements, each with sources and suggestions for further reading, many in foreign languages. The writings reflect a significant amount of research that has taken place since the 1970s into the extent and causes of the witch hunts that resulted in the execution or lynching of 35,000 to 50,000 people, predominantly but not exclusively old or single women. Even climate change is addressed, as the climax of witch persecutions in central Europe coincided with the Little Ice Age (1560–1630). \$485.00. ABC-CLIO. ISBN 1-57607-243-6.

Paradigms Lost: The Life and Deaths of the Printed Word, by William Sonn (391 pages, February 2006), is an energetically written

history of print technology that shows how changes in type production have had profound effects on society. Beginning with the 15th-century invention of the printing press and movable type, Sonn describes such innovations as the steam press, the Linotype machine, phototypesetting, and computer composition. In addition to increased speed of information transmission, Sonn explores the effects of technological changes on typographers' guilds and unions over time. \$35.00. Scarecrow. ISBN 0-8108-5262-4.

Pets in America: A History, by Katherine C. Grier (377 pages, February 2006), traces the development of Americans' relationships with their dogs, cats, and other domestic animals from the 18th century to the present. Using a wide variety of printed sources, including illustrations taken from postcards, lithographs, pet photos, and advertising, Grier examines the growth of the domestic ethic of kindness to animals, boys and cruelty, pet shops, animals as friends and servants, home doctoring, and pet products. \$34.95. University of North Carolina. ISBN 0-8078-2990-0.

Presidential Elections, 1789–2004 (277 pages, December 2005) presents a narrative history of U.S. presidential campaigns and elections, accompanied by popular and electoral voting statistics by state and essays on primaries and the electoral college. \$41.00. CQ Press. ISBN 1-56802-983-7. A related CQ volume is *National Party Conventions, 1831–2004* (325 pages, December 2005), which gives a comprehensive listing of party platforms, key convention ballots, and significant roll calls, supplemented by a discussion of the presidential nominating process in the preconvention years, the origin and development of primaries, and historical profiles of all significant political parties. \$40.00. CQ Press. ISBN 1-56802-982-9.

The Ruby Slippers, Madonna's Bra, and Einstein's Brain, by Chris Epting (299 pages, March 2006), identifies the locations of hundreds of famous historical and pop-cultural

artifacts. Discover the exact whereabouts of the only gas station built by Frank Lloyd Wright, the world's largest rotating globe, the pen that signed the Emancipation Proclamation, Abraham Zapruder's camera, James Dean's bongo drums, Forrest Gump's bench, Muddy Waters's cabin, and Alan Shepard's Apollo 14 golf club. This is the fourth in Epting's series of offbeat tour guides. \$16.95. Santa Monica Press. ISBN 1-59580-008-5.


Sensory Worlds in Early America, by Peter Charles Hoffer (334 pages, paperback ed., December 2005), explores the impressions that sights, sounds, and smells have on different cultures and how varying interpretations of sensory experience can result in political conflict and social or religious transformation. Hoffer provides five examples: the first encounters of the English and the Indians in North America, the perceived demons and spectral evidence of the Salem witch trials, the role of color and voice in defining a sense of otherness to African slaves, the richly

evocative visible and auditory sacramentalism of the first Great Awakening in the 1730s, and the genuineness and candor of republican sensory etiquette during the American Revolution. A colorful companion to *How Early America Sounded*, by Richard Cullen Rath (Cornell, 2004). \$25.00. Johns Hopkins University. ISBN 0-8018-8392-X.

The Street-Smart Writer, by Jenna Glatzer and Daniel Steven (296 pages, January 2006), offers valuable advice to writers on how to avoid scams and rip-offs by publishers, producers, agents, contests, editors, and publicists. The authors tell how to spot a good offer, why you might not need a literary agent, what to do if you've already been scammed, and how to research companies and individuals. The appendix presents a sample agency agreement, interview release, permissions and contributor agreements, a trade publishing agreement, and film option agreement. \$16.95. Nomad Press. ISBN 0-9749344-4-5. *zc*

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