

SOURCES

ment of matters relating to race and racism that is international in scope, *Encyclopedia of Race and Racism* meets that goal. It is recommended for high school and college libraries.—*Joann E. Donatiello, Population Research Librarian, Donald E. Stokes Library, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey*

Encyclopedia of Society and Culture in the Ancient World. Ed. by Peter Bogucki. Facts On File Library of World History. New York: Facts On File, 2008. 4 vols. acid free \$360 (ISBN 978-0-8160-6941-5).

This set is meant by its publisher as a companion to their soon-to-be-published *Encyclopedia of Society and Culture in the Medieval World*. The sixty-nine theme-based entries are alphabetically arranged and users can easily approach their topic directly, via the fifty-one-page index at the end of volume 4, the multiple “see also” references at the end of articles, or through the complete table of contents for the entire set that is conveniently reproduced at the beginning of each volume. Each of the entries (ranging from nine to thirty-eight pages in length) is subdivided into separately signed sections: Introduction, Africa, Egypt, Middle East, Asia and Pacific, Europe, Greece, Rome, and the Americas. (Longer articles are often further subdivided, which guides readers to the information they are seeking more quickly.) Consequently this set offers true worldwide coverage, but it lacks other encyclopedic approaches to the ancient world, which rarely cover Africa and the Pacific regions and are often limited to either Greece and Rome or the ancient Near East. The closest parallel is perhaps the far more scholarly *History of Humanity* set (Routledge and UNESCO, 1994–). The contributors to the *Encyclopedia* range from well established scholars to those at entry levels in the academic community; they present the material in an approachable style.

The entries include the usual topics one would expect, such as “Death and burial practices,” “Sports and recreation,” “Slaves and slavery,” “Weaponry and armor,” “Literature,” “Social organization,” and “Transportation.” But there are also more imaginative entries, such as “Borders and frontiers,” “Natural disasters,” “Social collapse and abandonment,” “Scandals and corruption,” and “Pandemics and epidemics”—entries that could fulfill the requirements of many undergraduate, high school, and even upper grade assignments and capture students’ interests.

The basic text is supplemented by sixteen black and white maps (simplified but quite clear), more than 250 black and white illustrations (unfortunately not crisp because they are printed on the same nonglossy paper as the text), and 77 “Primary Source Documents” (snippets of ancient texts). Each volume contains a few highlighted sections on topics that might especially grab a student’s fancy, such as “Homework in Ancient Greece” in the “Education” article or “Hatshepsut, female king” in the “Empires and dynasties” article. English-language bibliographies conclude each entry; an additional short general bibliography, broken down by geographic area, is included in the fourth volume. That volume also has a

twenty-four-page glossary and a nine-page “Chronology by region” to tie the book together.

The topical format and the breadth of coverage make this set a very helpful addition to a high school, public, or college library, especially when there is the need to select a single source to save funds and space.—*Jean Susorney Wellington, Classics Librarian Emerita, University of Cincinnati, Ohio*

The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Folktales and Fairy Tales. Ed. by Donald Haase. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2008. 3 vols. alkaline \$299.95 (ISBN 978-0-313-33441-2).

This Greenwood encyclopedia aims to provide a broad audience with wide-ranging coverage not only of fairy tales and folktales from around the world, but also of the changing contexts that have influenced centuries of creative expression and scholarship. With the 670 entries included here, editor Donald Haase has done justice to the intended purpose of this work. Entries for specific cultural and linguistic groups introduce diverse narrative traditions, while significant themes, characters, and tales themselves have separate entries. General readers and students stand to gain background knowledge from the clearly-written entries on the concepts, vocabulary, and methods used by researchers. It is to the benefit of all users that well over one hundred contributors write from the perspectives of a range of relevant disciplines and highlight the vitality of the critical and creative work that has advanced the field since the 1970s.

The standard for this type of reference work was set by Jack Zipes’ *Oxford Companion to Fairy Tales: The Western Fairy Tale Tradition From Medieval to Modern* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 2000). Haase was a contributing editor to that work, which covers only literary fairy tales—as distinct from folk tales—and focuses solely on Western European and North American traditions. Some overlap in entries between these two works is inevitable, but *The Greenwood Encyclopedia* truly stands apart with its multicultural scope and its theoretical framework that challenges the received knowledge of the field.

Each volume contains a table of contents for the entire work and begins with a complete list of the alphabetically arranged entries. Cross-references, “see also” notes, and an index provide deeper access. Black-and-white illustrations, though scant, offer a useful visual reference to particular manifestations of the tales discussed (such as representative work of a well-known illustrator or a still from a movie adaptation). “Further readings” after each entry include references to multimedia resources and relevant works (in English where available), and the extensive bibliography in the third volume is an excellent starting point for further research. I could see this work being especially valuable when used alongside William M. Clements’s *Greenwood Encyclopedia of World Folklore and Folklife* (Greenwood, 2006), which provides deeper sociological and geographical context for the cultures discussed.

Physically, the volumes are comfortable to handle and the font is a readable size. I only hope that future editions will print entry headings in bold; under the current organiza-