

## SOURCES

include avalanches, droughts, famines, floods, heat waves, hurricanes, tornadoes, and volcanic eruptions. Each overview essay includes a definition, the science behind the disaster, the geography, and an annotated bibliography. Many of the essays also provide a historical overview and summary of milestone events.

The entries on the one hundred worst disasters are in volumes two and three. These disasters are listed in chronological order starting with the meteorite impact that created the Yucatán crater in 65,000,000 BCE, and concluding with the Leyte Mudslide in the Philippines on February 17, 2006. These articles provide facts about the disaster such as the date, place, and result (deaths, injuries, infections, and monetary damage) along with a detailed account of the disaster. At the end of each article is a listing of books and periodicals for further reading. Entries vary in length from three pages for disasters that are not well known (for example, The Great London Smog of 1952 and the El Niño of 1982) to twelve-page entries about disasters that are more commonly known (such as The Great San Francisco Earthquake of 1906 and the Mount St. Helens eruption of 1980). Most of the entries include black-and-white photos, illustrations, or maps.

Volume 3 also contains some special features, including a glossary, time line, comprehensive bibliography, organizations and agencies, disasters organized by category, disasters organized geographically, and an index.

One weakness is the obvious duplication from Marlene Bradford and Robert S. Carmichael's *Natural Disasters* (Salem, 2001). The contributors are all the same as well as most of the text. But the publisher states in *Notable Natural Disasters* that, "this affordable subset of *Natural Disasters* (2001) has been rearranged and thoroughly updated with new bibliographic sources and entries on recent disasters" (vii). *Notable Natural Disasters* includes eight entries on more current disasters, including the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami and Hurricane Katrina in 2005, which cannot be found in Bradford and Carmichael's *Natural Disasters*. Nonetheless, the ninety-two other disaster entries and twenty-three disaster overviews were selected directly from *Natural Disasters* (Salem, 2001) with only slight revisions made to some of the text, photos, and bibliographies.

Overall, *Notable Natural Disasters* presents a clearly written and thorough account of some of the world's worst disasters. It is an appropriate and informative resource for high-school level users and beyond. But those libraries that already own Bradford and Carmichael's *Natural Disasters* may find little need for this reference work unless they want the eight entries on more recent disasters in their collections. —Megan Coder, Senior Assistant Librarian, State University of New York, New Paltz

## Professional Materials

Karen Antell

Editor

*Alternative Publishers of Books in North America*. 6th Edition. Byron Anderson. Duluth, Minnesota: Library Juice Press, 2006. 178 p. \$18 (ISBN-13: 978-0-9778617-2-9).

A divisive pluralistic society such as ours must grapple with serious issues that can profoundly affect the future of humanity. Byron Anderson, in his sixth edition of *Alternative Publishers of Books in North America*, continues his advocacy for the acquisition of books encompassing "all points of view" by producing an informative, updated, easy-to-use directory and reference tool.

Since the last edition was published in 2002, 33 new publisher profiles have been added to the alphabetical list of 162 noteworthy publishers of alternative literature. The independent publishers listed offer high-quality books that give alternative, radical, and progressive perspectives on important social issues such as education, health care, human rights, gender, labor, economics, aging, politics, social justice, multiculturalism, and the environment. One can easily find publishers on a particular subject by using the subject index. The 102 subject listings range from "adopted children" to "zine culture."

The annotated directory includes a brief history of the presses, their publication interests, examples of titles, the average number of titles published per year, titles in print, contact information with Web addresses, names of editors, ISBN prefixes, and the publisher's motto. To make ordering easier, the directory lists the distributors for each press. Major distributors used by many of the listed publishers include Consortium, Small Press Distributors, AK Press Distribution, and Publishers Group West.

Although missing from the directory are fine Hawai'i-based alternative publishers such as Bamboo Ridge Press, Mutual Publishing, Bess Press, and Watermark Publishing, librarians at public and school libraries will still find many publishers of books for ethnic minority children and young adults listed in Anderson's directory. Other librarians interested in filling gaps not covered by mainstream publishers in their collections will find the directory with its excellent bibliography a useful reference and collection development tool.—Donna M. Maemori, Library and Information Science graduate student, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Honolulu

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*Archives and the Digital Library*. Ed. by William E. Landis and Robin L. Chandler. Binghamton, N.Y.: The Haworth Information Press, 2006. 270 p. \$85 (ISBN 978-0789034373).

*Archives and the Digital Library* is copublished as volume 4, numbers 1–2, 2006, of the *Journal of Archival Organization*. So this book is not a true monograph, but a collection of