

The Animated Film Encyclopedia: A Complete Guide to American Shorts, Features and Sequences, 1900 – 1999. 2nd ed. Edited by Graham Webb. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2011. 509p. alkaline \$125 (ISBN: 978-0-7864-4985-9).

The Animated Film Encyclopedia is, as stated in the volume's introduction, "an alphabetical listing of every American theatrical cartoon released from 1900 through 1999" (1). While the first edition of this title concluded at 1979, this new edition has been updated to include theatrical cartoons released throughout the entirety of the twentieth century. Thanks to the expanded time range, the encyclopedia now includes cartoons and live-action features which utilize computer generated imagery, such as *Jurassic Park*.

The entries are arranged by cartoon title and range from the early and obscure to the modern and well-known. Here readers will find information on little known cartoons (some of which no longer exist) such as 1925's *Air Cooled*, in which "The animals join forces to help farmer Al Falfa's dirigible take flight" (9), alongside more recent features which have become part of contemporary popular culture, such as *Toy Story* and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*.

In addition to feature presentations, the volume also includes entries on individual shorts for the many animated series which were an integral part of the movie going experience earlier in the twentieth century. Entries are included for all episodes of long-running series such as Felix the Cat, Looney Tunes, Merrie Melodies, Mickey Mouse, Mighty Mouse, Popeye the Sailor, Superman, Tom and Jerry, Woody Woodpecker, and many others.

Each entry in *The Animated Film Encyclopedia* includes the cartoon's release date, studio of origin, credits, running time, and a brief synopsis of its plot. Although no biographical information is given, the encyclopedia includes an index of contributors which will allow readers to locate individuals within the credits of specific cartoons. A helpful feature is the appendix, which lists twentieth century American theatrical cartoon series and provides lists of all individual shorts for each series.

The Animated Film Encyclopedia may inevitably be compared to Jeff Lenburg's *The Encyclopedia of Animated Cartoons, third edition* (Checkmark Books, 2009). Lenburg's volume covers cartoons created for television as well as theatrical releases and is therefore broader in scope; however, it is not as thorough in its coverage of theatrical cartoons. Unlike *The Animated Film Encyclopedia*, *The Encyclopedia of Animated Cartoons, third edition* does not provide synopses of individual episodes of animated shorts. Lenburg's volume does, however, provide historical overviews of each series. It is recommended that libraries purchase both titles for the best coverage of this subject.

The Animated Film Encyclopedia is recommended for both academic and public libraries.—Edward Whatley, *Instruction and Reference Librarian, Georgia College, Milledgeville, Georgia*

The Baby Boomer Encyclopedia. By Martin Gitlin. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2011. 231p. acid free \$55 (ISBN: 978-0-3133-8218-5). E-book available (ISBN: 978-0-3133-8219-2), call for pricing.

Martin Gitlin's *Baby Boomer Encyclopedia* is a fun read, especially if you fall into one of the categories that the Library of Congress has supplied as one of the subject headings for this work: "Middle-aged persons—United States—Encyclopedias." Gitlin's stated purpose was "to broadly encapsulate the generation" (vii) and to "[inform] later generations about their Baby Boomer parents and [to give] Boomers insight into their generation." (vii) With nearly one hundred entries, there is a lot of information to support these goals. Under the entry for "Games" (77) are descriptions of chicken fights and red rover. The TV show M*A*S*H has an entry, as does Ronald Reagan. The entire book is a short trip (see also "LSD" (119–20)) down that well-worn path, Memory Lane. Entries are generally at least a page in length, although some are longer. Most entries have at least two citations for "further reading." A brief chronology opens the encyclopedia beginning with the end of World War II in 1945 and the birth of the first babies of the baby boom in 1946 and continuing through 2010 when the first baby boomers reached retirement age. An alphabetical list of entries is provided at the beginning, as is a topical list. Topics include "Arts and Culture," "Events," "Family," "Music," and "Politics and Activism," among others. Scattered black and white photographs provide illustrations.

As with any encyclopedia of this nature, there is always the problem articulated by Bob Seger: "So much more to think about / Deadlines and commitments / What to leave in, what to leave out" (*Against the Wind*, 1980). Gitlin indicates that he chose topics "based on relevancy to the generation as a whole" (vii). This is understandably a huge task and will, perforce, be rather hit or miss. At only 231 pages, it is nearly impossible to be completely comprehensive. However, while there are essays on various topics such as "Aging" (3), "Career Changes" (23), and "Marriage and Infidelity" (131) there are rather conspicuous absences. The Cold War is mentioned in passing but doesn't get its own entry. If worried parents coupled with school children practicing what to do when "the Big One comes" didn't shape the baby boomers, what did? Steve Martin, the Monkees, *I Love Lucy*, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, *The Flintstones*, and the campus shootings of 1970 are among the many notable gaps. The selections seem to reflect the author's personal preferences, less than a sense of scholarship. Happily, the "Space Race and Moon Landing" (178–80) made the cut, but Neil Armstrong does not merit his own entry.

The Baby Boomers Encyclopedia provides an interesting way to pass an afternoon and is useful to look up information on what may have been favorites for a reader, but other works are more useful to the reference collection. *The St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture*, edited by Tom and Sara Pendergast (St. James, 2000), and the Salem Press's titles *The*

Fifties in America (Super, 2005), *The Sixties in America* (Singleton, 1999), and *The Seventies in America* (Super, 2006) are all good alternatives. These are multivolume sets and, as such, have more scope and depth. The ten-volume set *American Decades*, edited by Vince Tomkins (Gale, 1994–) is another good choice for information for researchers looking for information on those “middle aged persons” and the baby boom generation. Recommended as a supplemental purchase for most libraries or only for private collections.—Carla Wilson Buss, *Curriculum Materials & Education Librarian, University of Georgia Libraries, Athens, Georgia.*

Black America: A State-by-State Historical Encyclopedia.

Edited by Jr. Alton Hornsby. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2011. 2 vols. acid free \$180 (ISBN: 978-0-313-34112-0). E-book available (978-1-5735-6976-7), call for pricing.

The editor of this two-volume set adopts a novel approach to a subject well covered by reference publishers. The state-by-state structure allows for the study of African American history from a more local context. The work presents countless facts, events, and personalities forgotten or otherwise drowned out by the broader tides of American history. Readers come away with a better understanding that black America is not a monolithic culture, and much of African American history has played out in far-flung corners of the country.

The illustrated encyclopedia covers all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Each state has sections for “Chronology,” “Notable African Americans,” “Cultural Contributions,” and a bibliography. The essay portions are well-written and researched overall, and the chronologies and bibliographies are helpful for historical context and further exploration. The cumulative index is indispensable, and thankfully well constructed, for finding topics dispersed across many states.

The chief weakness of the work is the uneven treatment of the biographies. It is difficult to discern how California only has nine biographies to Oregon and New Mexico’s eleven, Idaho’s thirteen, and Utah’s robust thirty-one, to name a few. As well, there seems to be no criteria to fully explain how notables were selected, or why some have been associated with one state or another or in multiple states in some cases. George Washington Carver has three entries in different states, but President Obama is placed only in Illinois, not Hawaii where he was born and raised. Langston Hughes is placed in Missouri where he was born, but he was raised elsewhere and made his mark in Harlem, as did Malcolm X, who was placed in Nebraska, his state of birth, although raised in Michigan from a small child. Furthermore, there are anomalies such as relatively minor rapper, Nelly, being the only hip hop artist with a biography. It can be argued that in the past two decades, major rap artists and producers such as Dr. Dre, Sean Combs, or Russell Simmons have had more influence over a generation of Americans than all but a few other contemporary African Americans, yet none of them or

their peers made the cut. It seems a generation gap has been exposed. The major jazz and R&B musicians of the twentieth century are well represented, but hip hop received very short shrift. All of the above issues may be a function of having so many authors writing the state profiles, however tighter editing should have smoothed over such glaring inconsistencies.

Despite its shortcomings, the work’s interesting approach and otherwise informative entries are of value to collections focused on high school or lower division college researchers.—Brent D. Singleton, *Coordinator for Reference Services, California State University, San Bernardino.*

Complete Crime & Punishment Series. Edited by William J. Chambliss. Key Issues in Crime and Punishment Series. Los Angeles: Sage Reference, 2011. 5 vols. \$400 (ISBN: 978-1-4129-9903-8). E-books available, \$500.

This collection explores current, significant issues in the field of criminal justice. The five volumes edited by William J. Chambliss comprise the Key Issues in Crime and Punishment series—*Crime and Criminal Behavior; Police and Law Enforcement; Courts, Law, and Justice; Corrections; and Juvenile Crime and Justice.*

In addition to being available as a five-volume set, each volume is available for separate purchase. Each title features its own focused introduction by Chambliss and a separate index to its content. With the changing scope and need for print reference materials, this offers libraries the advantage of purchasing all or selected series titles, depending on their students’ or patrons’ research needs.

The volumes are highly readable, well-organized, and filled with interesting content. Each chapter includes background information on a topic, as well as brief pro-con essays about the topic. Bibliographic references for further reading are included, as well as “see also” references to pages within the volume. Some examples of topics covered include undocumented immigrants, guns, and terrorism within *Crime and Criminal Behavior*; vigilantes, Miranda warnings, and zero-tolerance policing within *Police and Law Enforcement*; insanity laws, DNA evidence, and victims’ rights within *Courts, Law, and Justice*; gangs and prison violence, capital punishment, and prison privatization within *Corrections*; and school violence, violent juvenile offenders, and age of responsibility within *Juvenile Crime and Justice*. The e-book version is easy to use, with clearly visible and accessible table of contents, subject index, advanced search capabilities, and sidebar navigation to related items.

Depending on the needs of your students/patrons, specific volumes within the Complete Crime and Punishment Series, or the entire five-volume set, would be an excellent addition to your collection. Note that Sage offers numerous reference works that provide focused analysis of key topics in the field of criminal justice, such as the *Encyclopedia of Crime and Punishment* (2002), the *Encyclopedia of Race and Crime* (2009), the *Encyclopedia of Victimology and Crime Prevention* (2010), the