

more than four hundred biographical essays on Christian writers. Each genre essay attempts to summarize a major facet of Christian literature and contains notes and a bibliography. Those working in libraries in theological schools or seminaries may not need a glossary to navigate the entries, but a general reference librarian assisting a patron may have to consult an outside source, such as *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* (Oxford, 1997) for further edification on some of the concepts.

The biographies fare better for the general reader, and each includes a biography with emphasis on its subject's religious history and education, along with a bibliography of works by and about the subject. Volume 2 comprises the rest of the biographies (H–Z).

Separating the genres and the biographies proves to be a bit awkward for the user, and as previously mentioned, a glossary—not unusual for this type of reference work—would further assist the user. Despite issues with organization, this title is recommended for academic libraries, especially those that support religious studies curricula.—*Tracy Carr Seabold, Reference Services Director, Mississippi Library Commission, Jackson, Mississippi*

Encyclopedia of Comic Books and Graphic Novels. Edited by M. Keith Booker. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2010. 2 vols. Acid-free \$180 (ISBN: 978-0-313-35746-6). E-book available (ISBN: 978-0-313-35747-3), call for pricing.

Encyclopedia of Comic Books and Graphic Novels is an extremely valuable resource filled with informative and engaging articles dealing with virtually every aspect of the art and industry of comic books and graphic novels. Here the reader will find information on individual characters, titles, creators, genres, and publishers. This resource, of course, includes histories of well-known superheroes such as Superman, Batman, and Spiderman, but also delves into the lesser-known worlds of underground comics and contemporary “alternative” comics such as *Ghost World* and *Blankets*. Entries discussing the lives and works of comic book creators range from notable superhero artists such as George Pérez and John Byrne to pioneers of the underground scene such as Robert Crumb and luminaries of modern literary comics such as Chris Ware and Daniel Clowes. This encyclopedia covers comics and graphic novels from the golden age (which began with the debut of Superman in 1938) to the present day. Though the emphasis is on American comics, European comics and Manga are also discussed.

This reviewer was impressed by not only the broad scope of this encyclopedia, but also by the thorough and insightful nature of the entries. In entries dealing with individual books, the authors go beyond plot summaries to offer concise critical analysis and reflections on the book's influence. Entries are arranged alphabetically. An index and a section of selected general resources are included. A selected bibliography is included for some entries.

The Superhero Book, edited by Gina Misiroglu (Visible Ink,

2004) offers comparable information on superhero characters, but is much narrower in scope than *Encyclopedia of Comic Books and Graphic Novels*, which does not limit itself to the superhero genre. Libraries seeking resources devoted more to detailed discussions of creators and their works may also wish to purchase *Graphic Novelists*, by Tom Pendergrast and Sara Pendergrast (Thomson Gale, 2007).

Encyclopedia of Comic Books and Graphic Novels is a welcome addition to the growing body of comics scholarship. It is recommended for both academic and public libraries.—*Edward Whatley, Instruction and Reference Librarian, Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, Georgia*

Encyclopedia of Depression. By Linda Wasmer Andrews. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2010. 2 vols. Acid-free \$165 (ISBN: 978-0-313-35366-6). E-book available (978-0-313-35367-3), call for pricing.

Wasmer Andrew's *Encyclopedia of Depression* has set out to provide a comprehensive overview to the multifaceted condition that is depression. The encyclopedia's objective has clearly been met and surpassed. This two-volume work, which is also available as an e-book, has the traditional components of an encyclopedia, including an alphabetical list of entries and a detailed index; however, it offers a great deal more. Unlike similar works such as Roberta Roesch's *Encyclopedia of Depression* (Facts on File, 2001), Andrew's work offers the reader a wealth of additional features that provide other paths to a better understanding of depression. The quick reference guide at the beginning of each volume provides a detailed outline of the various topics related to depression. This tool allows the reader to see how the various topics are interconnected and acts as a guide to further research. The topical guide highlights some of the additional issues related to depression, such as diet and nutrition, experimental treatments, and famous people diagnosed with depression. The depression timeline is a historical break down of depression: from when it was first identified as a health issue through various discoveries and cultural events related to depression. These additional features are complemented by a further reading list and a list of various organizations, which range from support groups to treatment resources.

The *Encyclopedia of Depression* is comprehensive. Three hundred entries cover a variety of topics related to depression. Topics range from available treatment options, to biographical sketches of physician pioneers in the field, to details of the various types of mental disorders related to depression. The entry topics cover the lifespan: from “Anaclitic Depression” found in infants to the “Geriatric Depression Scale” used to assess depression levels in senior citizens. Cultural, ethnic, and social factors are also discussed. The entries vary in length and all include a bibliography. Cross-references, “see also” references, and charts are provided when available. The charts are invaluable when coupled with entries that cover complex topics. Examples include “What's a Mental Disorder,” which covers the similarities and differences of various mental health

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disorders, and “Antidepressant Medications,” a comparison chart of the different antidepressants. Complex topics, such as “Reuptake” and “MAOIs,” are broken down so the layperson can fully understand the topics discussed. Also included at the end of many entries is a section for further information, which includes a list of relevant organizations and websites. The text has an easy to read, conversational tone. Though the topic is dark in nature, the read is rather enjoyable. The reader is left feeling better informed about the topic and inspired to learn more.

Though the *Encyclopedia of Depression* is well written and the entries are accompanied with bibliographies, the author's background is problematic. Unlike Rick E. Ingram's *International Encyclopedia of Depression* (Springer, 2009), whose entries are written by experts and practitioners in the field of mental health, Wasmer Andrews lacks strong clinical credentials or support. Though she holds a master of science in health psychology and writes frequently for “magazines, newsletters, and websites,” (<http://lindaandrews.com>), her lack of professional clinical credentials and collaboration with practicing mental health professionals makes the *Encyclopedia of Depression* not recommended for graduate students, researchers, or mental health practitioners. It is, however, recommendable for consumers and undergraduates looking for an introduction to depression—*Maria C. Melssen, Head of Learning and Information Services, Florida International University, Miami, Florida*

Encyclopedia of Global Resources. Edited by Craig W. Allin. Pasadena, Calif.: Salem, 2010. 4 vols. Alkaline \$395 (ISBN: 978-1-587-65644-6). Online access included with purchase of print.

The 2010 *Encyclopedia of Global Resources* is an updated and expanded four-volume edition of *Natural Resources*, a three-volume encyclopedia released in 1998. This encyclopedia covers a wide range of topics that reflect not only the management, extraction, and processing of natural resources, but also the economic and environmental impact of those activities. Of the 576 articles included in this work, there are 105 describing specific mineral and nonliving resources form the core. These address the geographic distribution and availability, technical description, history, extraction, and uses of each resource. Close attention is paid to oil and other energy resources, including alternatives such as hydropower and nuclear energy. Plant, animal, and ecological resources are also addressed, as are forty of the most important resource nations. Entries describing major organizations, historical events, and biographies of key individuals are included as well.

All of the original articles have been updated in the 2010 edition, and 143 new articles have been added. Although some article revisions are simply minor wordsmithing, it is important to note that data within the text, sidebars, tables, and charts have been carefully updated. For example, when comparing the 1998 and 2010 editions it is interesting to see the change in percentage of freshwater use in the agricultural

industry, or in the numbers and amounts of toxic compounds allowable in U.S. drinking water.

The scope of the new edition has been expanded to reflect the role natural resources play in the global economy. The new articles on important resource nations provide country overviews, discussion of the most prevalent resources, and single-page “Resources at a Glance” insets. Many of the black-and-white photographs illustrating the text have been updated to include images from around the world rather than specific to North America, although, in a few cases, the original article still reflects the distinctively North American perspective of the 1998 edition.

The layout of the 2010 edition is far superior to the earlier version. Article sections are clearly marked with a section heading and additional whitespace. Bibliographies for further reading are listed in a standard reference format rather than as a narrative, making them easier to use, and short lists of major websites likely to remain stable also have been added. Each article entry includes the category or categories under which it falls as well as “see also” references. Combined with the category index at the end of volume 4, this system makes it easy for patrons to explore similar articles. Tables and charts are consistently offset from the text by borders and grey backgrounds. Grayscale pie charts, bar graphs, and diagrams are used effectively to illustrate resource distributions, end-uses of resources, production figures, and other concepts discussed within the text. All photographs are black-and-white and in general are crisp and clear.

Articles are signed and arranged alphabetically, and a volume-specific table of contents as well as a comprehensive table of contents appear at the beginning of each volume. New to the 2010 edition is a six-page “Common Units of Measure” section listing unit, quantity, symbol, and equivalencies at the beginning of each volume. Contributors and their affiliations are listed in volume 1, and volume 4 concludes with 125 pages of appendixes and indexes. Appendixes include a periodic table, lists of major mineral resources for the U.S and Canada, major worldwide mineral resources and producers, a time line, a glossary, a bibliography, and a list of relevant websites. Category and subject indexes complete the volume.

The purchase of the print set currently includes complimentary access to the online version until December 31, 2011. According to the Salem Press website, beginning in January 2012 the publisher will begin charging \$100 per year to maintain access. Set up and registration are easy with the URL and activation code provided inside the back cover of volume 1. IP authentication is supported, and entering IP ranges is part of the setup process. The online version has both simple and advanced searching available, and the interface is clean and easy to navigate. When an article is retrieved the user can move through it using a linked table of contents, which is equivalent to the section headings in the print version. “See also” references are linked although, interestingly enough, the categories are not. Glossary terms in the online version are bold blue and when clicked show the definition of the term (the print version does not indicate through bold