source on economic thinkers. Dieterle states in the preface that the encyclopedia spans the centuries from before Christ with Qin Shi Huang and progresses to the current era with the latest Nobel Laureates. There are only 200 entries in this source and picking those to be included was a challenge. The intent of the book was to “include a broad base of economic philosophies, economic disciplines such as history, development economics, and econometrics, along with thought leaders and policy implementers from the influential economic institutions” (xxxiv). The encyclopedia begins with a few reference pages that include an alphabetical list of the entries, a chronological guide to related topics, a geographical guide where the entries are listed by region and country, and a guide to the economic philosophies and concepts with the thinkers associated with those topics. The introduction provides a “Family Tree of Economics” with a brief explanation of the various parts of the family such as Early Philosophers, Classical Economists, New Political Economy, Quantitative Revolution, and the New Branches of the Tree.

The first entry is George Akerlof who is known for his work in growth theory, and the last entry is Robert Zoellick, the current president of the World Bank. In between are profiles of thinkers such as Thomas Mun, a 16th century mercantilist who believed in the importance of balance of trade; Jeremy Bentham, an 18th century English philosopher who advocated that consumer satisfaction has an impact on markets; and Beatrice Webb, a cofounder of the London School of Economics. Each entry is at least a page and sometimes longer. After each entry there is a list of both Selected Works by the Economic Thinker and Selected Works about the Economic Thinker. Women makeup only 10 percent of the entries in this source. The end of the volume includes a list of Nobel Laureates, an extensive glossary, a selected bibliography, and an index. There is also a list of contributors.

This reference source is an excellent introduction to the thinkers of the discipline of economics. The entries are accessible and easy to read and provide the general reader with a starting point to explore more about the people and the topic of economics. Recommended for all libraries.—Stacey Marien, Acquisitions Librarian, American University, Washington, DC


I will admit that I wasn’t quite sure what all was meant by the term “crisis management,” or how broadly it could be applied as a field of study, before working on this current review. Thankfully, as one would expect from any decent reference work, the “Introduction” section was able to provide me with a solid overview of the topic. Here, it explains quite simply that “crisis management involves planning for, coping with, and recovering from the impacts of unexpected events” (xxv). Considering that “unexpected events” could conceivably emerge from just about any situation, I soon began wondering how the editors were able to limit this reference work to a mere two volumes. Further along, however, it notes that crisis management, as a field of practice and academic study, is still relatively young, emerging only in the late 1980s. So, in light of the fact that crisis management, as an actual “thing,” is really quite new, it would be unfair to expect much more than what the editors have amassed here. The editors acknowledge, too, that they are dealing with a field that is very “complex and dynamic,” and state that their encyclopedia seeks to “provide an overview of the how the practices and the concepts associated with crisis management are currently evolving” (xxvi).

As per the norm, entries are arranged alphabetically. Without the “Reader’s Guide,” however, the casual inquirer would have a difficult time understanding how this incredibly diverse and multifaceted field is organized. Here, the 350+ entries are filed under 15 topic areas, or “Categories of Crisis” (i.e., “Financial and Business,” “Natural Disasters,” “Political, International Relations, and Civil Violence,” etc.). Many of the entries include a “Case Study” to highlight exemplary, corresponding situations or historical events. Also included are an abundance of relevant tables, images, and other figures. Back matter includes a glossary, resource guide, and appendix, which is essentially a collection of what I would consider more in-depth case studies.

To my knowledge, this encyclopedia is the first of its kind—that is, it brings together the vast range of topics comprising the broader scope of the field into a single reference work. Many of the topics, or “crises,” included here have, however, been addressed in greater detail in encyclopedias of their own, such as The Encyclopedia of Natural Hazards (Springer, 2013) and Encyclopedia of Disaster Management (Himalaya Publishing House, 2009). I could imagine this being a useful research starting point for high school or undergraduate students as many of the entries have potential to stimulate ideas for interesting papers or other projects, although I’m not so sure they would think to go looking for them in a crisis management encyclopedia.—Todd J. Wiebe, Head of Research & Instruction, Van Wylen Library, Hope College, Holland, Michigan


Fairies are very popular right now—again. They were popular in the Victorian era and now have been discovered by a whole new generation. This expensive paperback book will help answer patron ready reference questions and point the way to answers in other sources. The simple, straightforward organization uses a single alphabetical arrangement for concise entries, which vary in length from two sentences to six paragraphs for more important or well-known fairy folk like Morgan Le Fey (237). Each entry on the more than 2,000 fairy-like beings lists variant names, clearly identifies the