

definitely covers all anyone other than the fervid fan would wish to know about these characters. It is limited to just twenty-four characters and authors so is not the full spectrum of mystery and crime characters. Almost each kind (i.e. cozy, hard-boiled, noir) of the mystery genre is represented except that of the tough and savvy woman detective such as Sara Paretsky's V. I. Warshawski, Sue Grafton's Kinsey Millhone, or Patricia Cornwell's Kay Scarpetta. There is a passing reference in the chapter on Jessica Fletcher, but this reviewer would recommend a more robust treatment, if not a substitution for the Jessica Fletcher chapter. There are many reference and nonfiction books about mystery and crime detection authors and fictional characters but none quite like this reference work with its attention to the cultural and historical context and the character's lasting impact. The reader receives a history lesson along with information about the character. I would recommend this set to public and academic libraries that have an audience interested in a scholarly approach to this genre.—*Carol Krismann, Retired Business Librarian, University of Colorado*

Literary Research Guide, 5th ed. By James L. Harner. New York: Modern Language Association. Online Edition, www.mlalrg.org/public, call for pricing.

Long the standard for identifying research sources for literature in English, the *Literary Research Guide* annotates reference resources, detailing their strengths and, in many cases, suggesting how to use them efficiently or in combination with additional titles. The online edition, based upon the printed fifth edition, won the 2009 PROSE Award for eProduct/Best in Humanities. While the online edition retains the overall organizational structure and entries of the print edition, it also has the advanced features of a database and discovery tool, increasing the value of this essential resource.

Entries are grouped as general reference works, broad national literatures, or related topics and within each section follow a structured approach divided by type of reference work, from broad strokes such as histories and surveys, drilling down to biographical dictionaries and genres. Titles under each heading are listed in order of importance to the field. Scanning entries within any section is much like scanning the inventory of a well-stocked academic collection. However, Harner acknowledges that omissions are inevitable, and that is true in some specialized fields of study. While the "Literature Related Topics and Sources" section acknowledges disciplines related to the study of literature, the small number of entries provides limited entry to these areas. A major resource for popular culture, Tom Pendergast and Sara Pendergast's *St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture* (St. James Press, 2000), is omitted as well as Salem Press's Decades series. Intentionally omitted are separate entries on works focusing on a single author, general surveys, and elementary works more suited to lower level researchers, although within an entry researchers may be guided to such material. A decided preference toward print rather than electronic resources indicates the state of electronic reference materials in literature, although more electronic resources

are added with each new edition as appropriate. Overall, the thoroughness and currency of this resource is well-established. Harner has updated entries since the print fifth edition; these updates, including revised or renumbered entries, are clearly indicated in the "Update Information" link, information previously available from an author-supplied URL used in conjunction with the print editions. As the online guide continues to be updated, however, lists of recent updates need to be organized or indicated more effectively than alphabetically under each revision date, listing perhaps only the latest round of updates or a last updated note within each entry.

Although not apparent from the initial edition number, the online and print editions differ in content. The online edition includes "The Research Process," a section which walks through the process of finding primary and secondary works much like a tutorial, suggesting resources from broad categories (bibliographies of bibliographies) to narrow (text archives), working down through a list to cover all the research bases. The online edition frees researchers from relying on the index to find a work that may only be referenced in annotations for another resource; due to full text and title searching, the three indexes from the print edition are not included online.

A basic full text search and an advanced search (full text, author or editor name, or title of work) return results quickly, both for known item searching and keyword searching. Search result relevancy is high while still allowing for serendipitous discovery of related resources based upon the results list. Complementary titles from other sections of the guide are easily found within the results list, and the ability to browse through a section also works well for discovery. Tracking sources for multiple projects can be managed by a user account, similar to the type used in EBSCO databases or WorldCat FirstSearch.

The ability to link from *LRG* entries directly to library holdings, WorldCat, and Google Books increases immediate discovery, allowing users to move directly from an *LRG* entry to the local catalog record. Also hyperlinked are "see also" references, included at the end of many entries, providing an efficient method of moving through entries to find a number of potential resources, possibly further opening up reference collections and increasing usage.

The *LRG* site indicates that it will be updated twice a year; MLA is not certain a print version will continue to be available in future editions. Essential for researchers from advanced undergraduates to faculty and researchers.—*Amy F. Fyn, Reference and Instruction Librarian, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio*

Milestone Documents in African American History. Ed. By Paul Finkelman. Milestone Documents. Dallas, Tex.: Schlager, 2010. 4 vols. acid free \$395 (ISBN 978-1-935306-05-4). Complementary online access with purchase of print.

This set is the publisher's fourth entry in a series of reference volumes focusing on primary sources, and *Milestone Documents in African American History* is a welcome addition to the current literature. Although other texts such as George

SOURCES

Ducas's *Great Documents in Black History* (Praeger, 1970) or Pamela Newkirk's *Letters from Black America* (Farrar, Strauss, and Giroux, 2009) have reproduced primary sources grouped by format, no other reference text has compiled as many primary documents in as many varied formats. The four-volume set represents a comprehensive effort to gather disparate documents into one place, including correspondence, essays, reports, tracts, manifestos, petitions, legislation, military orders, narratives, presidential documents, speeches, and testimonies.

Arranged chronologically beginning in 1619, each of the 126 primary documents in the set is prefaced by several pages of background, historical context, interpretation, and impact. This contextual detail will likely be what sets this series apart from others, although it would seem more effective to place the document before the interpretation: this reader became a bit weary of so much secondary material before the entrée of the primary material. All documents have been replicated with historical spellings left intact, but several documents are also reproduced in facsimile.

Entries themselves are well written and rich in detail, sometimes overly so, but are effective in providing readers with context and in directing users to additional, external sources. Source material is wide ranging, including entries such as David Walker's *Appeal to the Colored Citizens of the World*, Booker T. Washington's Atlanta Exposition Address, the Niagara Movement Declaration of Principles, the Moynihan Report, and Jackie Robinson's *I Never Had it Made*. Each article is followed by a bibliography broken into sources by type—books, articles, and websites—which may help novice researchers more easily identify and locate additional resources. Entries also point to other documents in the series, although in-text references are not highlighted or bolded and can therefore be easy to miss. Glossaries for historical terms and study questions are also included in each entry.

The only drawback in this series is one which many comprehensive series suffer from: what to include; what to exclude; how to best represent four hundred years of history into four volumes. This edition's documents would be well supplemented by a closer examination of women's roles, as in Manning Marable's *Freedom on My Mind* (Columbia University Press, 2003) or the addition of prose, poetry, and music, as in Kai Wright's *The African American Experience* (Black Dog, 2009).

In all, *Milestone Documents in African American History* is a well-written, well-researched addition to the literature of primary source material concerning the African American experience. Recommended for all libraries.—Kristin J. Henrich, *Reference and Instruction Librarian, University of Idaho, Moscow*

Native Americans Today: A Biographical Dictionary. Ed. by Bruce E. Johansen. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2010. 315 p. acid free \$85 (ISBN 978-0-313-35554-7). E-book available (978-0-313-35555-4), call for pricing.

With a photograph of Geronimo (1909) on the cover and with twenty-five percent of the one hundred biographical

essays concerning individuals born a century or more ago, *Native Americans Today: A Biographical Dictionary* seems to be an incongruous name for this book. The scope of this work “begins in the late-nineteenth century and extends to the present day, profiling Native Americans and a few non-Natives” (ix). Nearly half of the entries are on individuals who are deceased.

The majority of the biographical sketches are for individuals documented elsewhere, for example, Charles Eastman, Louise Erdrich, Susan LaFlesche, Billy Mills, and Buffy Sainte-Marie. Forty-one of the individuals are found in Bruce E. Johansen and Barry Pritzker's *Encyclopedia of American Indian History* (ABC-CLIO, 2008), and sixty in Duane Champagne's *The Native North American Almanac* (Gale, 2001). Approximately one-quarter of the profiles are unique to this volume. These include astronaut John Bennett Herrington and Foxwoods Resort Casino founder Richard “Skip” Hayward.

The main biography section is preceded by a list of entries and two topical lists indexing individuals by field of endeavor and by nationality. Arrangement is alphabetical. Essays are written in a storytelling style and are interesting to read. Profiles range from less than a page for actor Graham Greene to ten pages for Vine Deloria, Jr., five of those pages devoted to Deloria's death. Five pages are allocated to Ward Churchill, whose Cherokee origins are unsubstantiated. Most of the profiles are unsigned; however, a list of the nine contributors identifies five of the contributors as graduate students of English. Illustrations are scattered throughout the volume.

At the end of almost every entry, “a further reading section has recommended sources for more research opportunities, as does the selected bibliography” (ix). Perhaps this should have been called “References and Further Reading,” as researchers cannot follow up on personal communication. Further reading sources also include juvenile books and a large number of nonscholarly websites (for example, Answers.com). In some instances, standard print sources are strangely absent from individual entries as well as the selected bibliography. Missing, for example, are references to Roberta Ulrich's *Empty Nets: Indians, Dams, and the Columbia River. Culture and Environment in the Pacific West* (Oregon State University Press, 2007) for David Sohapp; or David L. Fleitz' *Louis Sockalexis: The First Cleveland Indian* (McFarland, 2002).

There are occasional factual errors. A cover photograph misidentifies Navajo Code Talker Henry Bahe as Henry Bake. Dennis Banks is noted as having received his A. A. degree from the nonexistent “Davis University.” In Dennis Banks and Richard Erdoes' *Ojibwa Warrior: Dennis Banks and the Rise of the American Indian Movement* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2004), Banks writes that he studied at the now-closed D-Q University in Davis. This reviewer was unable to determine whether Banks also studied at UC Davis.

The volume ends with an eight-page selected bibliography and an index. Under the heading “boarding schools” one will not find a reference to Dennis Banks, and the listing for “mascots, sports” omits any reference to Louis Sockalexis.

This relatively small collection will not satisfy every