

lows a standard format with recurring sections: "Introduction," "Historical Background and Scientific Foundations," "Impacts and Issues," and a "Words to Know" box that highlights vocabulary. There are "see also" recommendations for other entries in the work. There is a brief bibliography for each entry that may contain citations to books, periodicals, and websites. The length of the entries varies from two to nine pages according to the subject matter. Some of the more lengthy entries have sections titled "In Context," which summarize an important concept related to the subject. Other entries have "Primary Source Connection" sections. These sections are reprints of previously published articles on the subject of the entry. Each "Primary Source Connection" has an introduction explaining the importance of the article, and a citation for the article is at the end. The work is illustrated, but not extensively so.

*Environmental Science in Context* is an ambitious work. The topic is broad and interdisciplinary. The entries range from recent science, scientific concepts, and scientific organizations to Walden and Silent Spring. Political and social science issues such as test ban treaties, hunting practices, and United Nations policy and activism are also addressed. The entries are clearly written, informative, and authoritative.

I believe the work would be valuable in a high school, and perhaps even a middle school or public library as a reference resource. However, the cost might be a bit too steep for many of these types of libraries.—*Suzanne T. Larsen, Faculty Director, Jerry Crail Johnson Earth Sciences and Map Library and Oliver C. Lester Mathematics and Physics Library; Acting Faculty Director, Science Library, University of Colorado, Boulder*

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***The Facts on File Companion to British Poetry: 1900 to the Present.*** Ed. by James Persoon and Robert R. Watson. Facts on File Library of World Literature. New York: Facts on File, 2009. 576p. acid free \$85 ISBN 978-08160-6406-9).

The editors of this volume, James Persoon and Robert R. Watson, both English Professors from Grand Valley State University, state that "the selection of entries was largely determined by combing through textbooks and anthologies," while they also sought to "expand the horizon of the reader . . . beyond what is most commonly taught" (v). To this end, the editors succeed in covering all the major works and poets while also including many poets not often studied and emerging voices in British poetry. The editors broadly define British Poetry as "the world community of poets writing in English, minus the Americans" (v). Other similar works have taken a broader approach in defining English Poetry as all poetry written in the English language, including Americans, so poets who could be considered either British or American, such as Hughes, Plath, and Auden, are included.

By leaving out the Americans, this volume gains room to offer a selection of thorough entries on both commonly taught works as well as the obscure, which includes close readings and explication of the poems as well as social, historical, and biographical contexts. All the major poems one would expect

are covered, while lesser-known or contemporary poems such as "The Fat Black Woman Remembers" and "The Death of Joy Gardner" are also included. The attention given to often neglected periods in British poetry such as World War I is also a strong point of this work. For example, the major poets of World War I such as Wilfred Owen and Isaac Rosenberg have several works and biographical entries, but the inclusion of other war poets such as Charles Hamilton Sorley and his "A Letter From the Trenches to a School Friend" reveal the efforts of the editors to represent important poets from all of the twentieth century, regardless of if they have fallen out of the popular canon. Also, many contemporary poets such as Carol Ann Duffy, with entries on five poems, are included in this volume.

Each biographical entry chronicles the major events in the author's life and explains the poet's major themes and works. The up-to-date bibliographies for entries consist of a biographical source, the author's major collected or selected works, and a book of criticism on the poet. The 450 entries, ranging in length from 300 to 2,500 words, are signed by contributing academics from across the world. All major critical concepts, movements, and the major events that influenced British Poetry (for example, the Spanish Civil War and World War II) are also well covered. The appendix features a brief glossary with clear explanations of poetry terminology such as "enjambment" and "heroic couplet."

A similar work, *The Oxford Companion to Twentieth Century Poetry* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1996), which includes American poets, does not include analyses of individual poems, and because of its publication date does not include any twenty-first-century poetry, as this work does. *A Companion to Twentieth-Century Poetry* (Blackwell, 2001) is another excellent source on twentieth-century poetry in English consisting of in-depth essays on national poetries, movements, topics, and readings of major individual poets, but it doesn't have the breadth of coverage of individual poets and poems as this work.

*The Facts on File Companion to British Poetry: 1900 to Present* fills an important gap in the reference literature in twentieth-century British poetry, which was in need of an updated work, and will be useful for a variety of students and patrons who will no doubt find the writing accessible. Highly recommended for high school, public, and academic libraries.—*Shannon Pritting, Coordinator of Access Services, the State University of New York, Oswego*

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***Latino America: A State-by-State Encyclopedia.*** Ed. by Mark Overmyer-Velázquez. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2008. 2 vols. alkaline \$175 (ISBN 978-0-313-34116-8).

This two-volume work, published by Greenwood and edited by University of Connecticut Associate Professor Mark Overmyer-Velázquez, charts the historical and contemporary contributions of Latinos throughout the United States. The encyclopedia approaches its material from a geographical perspective, with a chapter devoted to each of the fifty states.

The chapters are penned by different authors, but contain

## SOURCES

the same structure, each including the sections “Chronology,” “Historical Overview,” “Notable Latinos,” and “Cultural Contributions.” Each chapter ends with notes and a bibliography. The second volume concludes with an appendix, which contains census data of Latinos from 1870 to 2000; an index; and biographical information about the editor and contributors.

Arranging the information on a state-by-state basis effectively illustrates the influence Latinos have had in U.S. history from colonial days to the present. The mix of demographic, historic, cultural, and biographical data is both unique and extensive. The prose style employed by all contributors is clear, lucid, and comprehensible to a general reader. Although information presented in *Latino America* can be found in other sources, there is no specific source that replicates this work.

The state-by-state approach slightly undercuts the encyclopedia’s intent to show how widespread Latino influence has been, since states that have large Latino populations or an historic Latino presence (such as New York or Arizona) receive more attention and greater space than other states. Another fault is that, while each chapter shows where the corresponding state is located within the United States, there is no detailed map provided for the state. This would have been advantageous given the number of references made to specific places within each state. Also, some of the resources noted in the individual bibliographies appear to be dated.

On the whole, this is an informative resource that fills a needed gap. *Latino America* is recommended for mid-size and large public libraries, and for undergraduate academic libraries.—Sharon E. Reidt, *Periodicals Clerk, Brooks Memorial Library, Brattleboro, Vermont*

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***LGBTQ America Today: An Encyclopedia.*** Ed. by John C. Hawley. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2009. 3 vols. alkaline \$349.95 (ISBN 978-0-313-33990-5).

As the editor states in the preface, the emphasis of this resource is on “individuals who are still living, though sufficient history is included to provide the needed context” (xxv). In addition to individual figures, the entries focus on key concepts, historical events, sociopolitical issues, religion and spirituality, popular culture, etc. Alphabetically arranged and cross-referenced in bold print, varying in length from a few paragraphs to several pages, each entry is followed by a “further reading” list. A four-page general selected bibliography is included as well as a comprehensive index. The intended audience ranges from high school students to college students new to the subject.

Because of the prominence of topics related to contemporary popular culture, it is probably inevitable that many sources in the further reading lists point to Wikipedia and other online articles. But since students often begin their research with freely available Internet resources, the value of a print reference work typically has been to identify sources not easily located from an initial Google search. In the case of the article on Don Bachardy, for example, surely more durable

resources could be singled out than the three online articles (one of which being another encyclopedia entry) a researcher would likely find anyway.

There will be some overlap with *Who’s Who in Contemporary Gay and Lesbian History*, edited by Robert Aldrich and Garry Wotherspoon (Routledge, 2001) and the *Encyclopedia of Lesbian and Gay Histories and Cultures*, edited by George E. Haggerty and Bonnie Zimmerman (Garland, 2000), but the major competitor for this product will be *Lgbt: Encyclopedia of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender History in America* (Scribner, 2004), as this resource has garnered high praise in all the major review publications.

If comprehensiveness is a collection development goal, then *LGBTQ America Today* is a worthwhile purchase. Otherwise, in these cash-strapped times, academic libraries supporting LGBT studies having to choose between this and the comparably-priced Scribner set should opt for the latter, where more consistent efforts have been made by contributors to locate additional substantive articles and scholarly titles in the bibliographies.—Robin Imhof, *Reference Librarian, University of the Pacific, Stockton, California*

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***More Than Darwin: An Encyclopedia of the People and Places of the Evolution-Creationism Controversy.*** By Randy Moore and Mark D. Decker. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 2008. 448p. alkaline \$85 (ISBN 978-0-313-34155-7).

A bit different from most of the spate of Darwin bicentennial books, this encyclopedia focuses on the controversy engendered by the implications inherent in Darwin’s 1859 *Origin of Species*. While many deeply religious people have accepted the scientifically determined age of the Earth and the reality of changes in species over time, others still see evolution as incompatible with the existence of God. This book is a balanced look at the players in this 150-year-old debate, written to be accessible to readers from high school on. Although it is a reference book, it is surprisingly interesting as a general primer on the topic, leading the reader easily from entry to entry.

Besides the obvious biographical entries—Wallace, Usher, Galton, and so on—*More Than Darwin* includes entries for modern figures such as Stephen Jay Gould and Jerry Falwell. It describes places such as the 1,700-year-old Hadrian’s Wall, which helped convince the eighteenth-century geologist James Hutton that the Earth must be very old indeed, since the rocks in the wall showed no signs of weathering, while nearby hills had eroded considerably. It treats ideas such as the “red queen hypothesis” and “mitochondrial Eve,” and covers groups that are often left out of other information sources, such as the National Science Teachers Association and the Creation Research Society. Few of us would know offhand that the Ku Klux Klan was a strong supporter of creationism and fundamentalist preachers like Billy Sunday, or that the ACLU was a motive force behind the Scopes Trial. Court cases are also included, as are books and movies that had particular influence on the debate. The 500+ entries are concise and