

SOURCES

the concluding chapter in the book's narrative section on presidential campaigns.

Campaigning for President in America, 1788–2016 is divided into two major sections followed by a selective bibliography and an index. "Issues, Strategies, Practices, and Events," the first section, follows an A-Z arrangement. Short articles define campaign-related terms such as "Astroturfers," "Faithless Elector," "Microtargeting," and "Values Voters," give examples of their usage, provide "see also" references to related terms, and offer a short listing of additional resources for further reading. This section demystifies terms more familiar to students of political science than to the general public in clear jargon-free language that achieves the authors' goal to produce a reference work "more amenable and accessible to a wider readership" (xv).

"Presidential Campaigns," the second section of this work is a detailed narrative arranged in chronological order of the salient historical features of every presidential campaign from Washington through Obama plus the aforementioned speculative chapter on the 2016 campaign in progress. Each campaign narrative concludes with a brief listing of citations for additional reading. Presumably the unattributed sources for the many quotations used throughout the narrative campaign histories are drawn from these additional readings lists.

Campaigning for President in America, 1788–2016 concludes with a seventeen-page selected bibliography of monographs, journal articles, reference works, and websites. Printed works cited range in publication date from the mid-1960s to 2016. The index is comprehensive and thorough.

Three other recent reference publications tread similar ground: *Elections A to Z*, 4th edition, by Dave Tarr and Bob Benenson (CQ Press 2012); *Encyclopedia of US Campaigns, Elections, and Electoral Behavior*, edited by Kenneth F. Warren (Sage 2008; 2 volumes), and *Encyclopedia of American Political Parties and Elections*, edited by Larry J. Sabato and Howard R. Ernst (Facts on File 2006). Each of these publications focuses on core issues and themes related to electoral politics writ large with correspondingly appropriate articles and terms such as "Scandals, State and Local Elections" (*Encyclopedia of U.S. Campaigns, Elections, and Electoral Behavior*, volume 2, 794–37) and "Voting Machines" (*Elections A to Z*, 661–62) outside the purview of the more narrowly subscribed *Campaigning for President in America, 1788–2016*.

This is not to say that these other reference publications neglect the presidency. Rather, treatment differs in scope and focus. Whereas, for example, the lengthier narrative description of the presidential election of 1976 in *Campaigning for President in America, 1788–2016* (761–70) emphasizes the campaign itself in contrast treatment of the same election in *Encyclopedia of American Political Parties and Elections* (362–63) eschews a lengthy narrative to focus on the key elements of the election, to summarize the election's significance in the history of presidential contests, and to provide an at-a-glance tabulation of the winning ticket, the contestants and

their party affiliation, and both the popular and Electoral College tallies.

Campaigning for President in America, 1788–2016 provides another tool by which high school, community college, and lower division undergraduate students, in addition to the general public, can understand the ins and outs of campaigning for president in America for a relatively small amount of money. Recommend with a caveat regarding the misleading date. —Sally Moffitt, *Reference Librarian and Bibliographer for Anthropology, History, Philosophy, Political Science; Africana Studies, Asian Studies, Judaic Studies, Latin American Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies; Cohen Library Enrichment Collection, Langsam Library, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio*

Encyclopedia of Nordic Crime Fiction: Works and Authors of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden Since 1967. By Mitzi M. Brunsdale. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2016. 563 p. \$65 (ISBN 978-0-7864-7536-0). E-book available (978-1-4766-2277-4), call for pricing.

Thanks to the Kurt Wallander novels of Henning Mankell, the Lisbeth Salander novels of Stieg Larsson, and their motion picture and television adaptations, crime fiction by Finnish and Scandinavian writers has soared in popularity with American readers over the past few years. In her *Encyclopedia of Nordic Crime Fiction*, Mitzi M. Brunsdale sets out to survey the growing field while offering a historical analysis of its development and importance. She argues that the region's crime fiction "largely deals with the serious societal problems resulting from originally well-intentioned Nordic welfare state policies now proving problematic," and believes that it "has enormous relevance to today's dangerous world" (1).

The work is divided into five main sections, with one section each devoted to Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. Each opens with a thorough discussion of the cultural context of that nation's crime fiction, followed by tabulations of the country's crime fiction awards and short, parallel chronologies of historical and literary events inside and outside the country. The bulk of each section is then taken up with alphabetically arranged entries on individual writers and their works.

Although Brunsdale evaluates the entire chronological range of Nordic crime fiction, she concentrates on the period beginning with 1967, the year in which the first volume of Maj Sjöwall and Per Wahlöö's groundbreaking Martin Beck series appeared in English translation. All in all she discusses some 350 writers, including a large number whose works have not yet been translated into English and a few writing in other languages who have set their novels in the region. The book concludes with an extensive list of works cited and an index.

Although the past decade has seen the publication of several studies of Nordic crime fiction, Brunsdale's ambitious encyclopedia appears to be the first on the subject designed specifically for reference. Given its broad coverage

and impressive level of detail, it is highly recommended for collections dealing with popular culture and European literature. It may also prove useful in readers' advisory services, although in such situations its inclusion of untranslated authors may cause some frustration.—*Grove Koger, retired reference librarian, independent scholar, Boise, Idaho*

Global Happiness: A Guide to the Most Contented (and Discontented) Places Around the Globe. By Roman Adrian Cybriwsky. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2016. 301 p. Acid free. \$89.00 (ISBN 978-1-4408-3556-8). E-Book available (978-1-4408-3557-5), call for pricing.

The Declaration of Independence only guarantees the pursuit of happiness. You have to catch up with her by yourself.
—Benjamin Franklin

There is only one happiness in this life: to love and be loved.
—George Sand

*Oh happiness! Our beings end and aim!
Good, pleasure, ease, content, whatever thy name.
That something still which prompts the eternal sigh,
For which we bear to live, or dare to die.*
—*Essay on Man*, Alexander Pope

As the sampling of epigrams above may attest, everyone from penmen and poets to park bench pundits have—and have voiced—opinions on the topic of happiness. And why not? Happiness concerns us all; it is a subject of universal import. That, in fact, appears to be the impetus for the author's undertaking this project, as when he states that “We think that there is a need for a book such as this because there is indeed a wide public interest in knowing the best and the worst places, and because we think that the myriad rankings of countries, cities, and states that exist to this point measure something other than contentment with place” (xix). Cybriwsky goes on to opine that many of these happiness/satisfaction/grass is greener report cards are unfairly skewed toward rich and powerful nations, while ignoring the fact that joy may still be found in some of the most deplorable places on the planet. This, then, is the author's attempt to rectify the situation.

Many problems become immediately apparent, before one even opens the book. First, how do we define what “happiness” is? Cybriwsky himself admits that this particular human emotion “. . . is an elusive concept” and that “no single measure and no index made of combined measures will yield an accurate assessment” (xx). Undeterred by his own acknowledgement of the obstacles before him, he nevertheless plunges headlong with enthusiasm into this pet project. The author goes to some length in discussing and describing the very measures—this survey, that index—about which he just expressed doubt (“Scope of the Study and Methodology,” xix–xxiv), the upshot being that the true yardstick employed

here is not necessarily happiness per se, but rather contentment/satisfaction/peace of mind or some other synonym that basically means things are OK.

Perhaps even more troubling is the fact that the author is shooting at a moving target. The entry on Charleston, South Carolina extolls its historic architecture, rich culture, temperate climate and so on as sources of pleasure for the local populace. This reviewer surmises there was much less to be gratified about during the American Civil War, when Charleston was besieged for nearly six hundred days by Union troops, their artillery pounding the city into rubble. By the same token, the nation of Greece is listed among the world's least contented countries, due to its economy being in a shambles, rampant unemployment, governmental corruption and other ills. One can only imagine what glories Greek life had to offer two thousand years ago during the Hellenistic era, when art and literature flourished amid the marble monuments that may still be gazed upon today. The point being made here is that any endeavor such as this, well-meaning as it may be, is but a snapshot in time. In this reviewer's opinion, happiness is much like the stock market, up one day and down the next.

Yet another criticism that may reasonably be leveled against this work is that only a fraction of the populated places on the face of the earth receive treatment here. The entries are listed alphabetically in batches of twenty, as in “The 20 Most Contented Countries,” “The 20 Least Contented World Cities,” etc. The rationale given is that “The number 20 was chosen as a round number that represents about 10% of the counties in the world. For cities, the number 20 was chosen to be parallel with the number of countries” (xix). No doubt space constraints played a part in this decision, but nevertheless strikes this reviewer as being arbitrary.

To the author's credit, he is very knowledgeable about the places of which he writes. Holding a doctoral degree in geography from Penn State, he has taught various courses in geography at Temple University for over four decades. In addition, he has numerous publications to his credit, such as *Capitol Cities of the World: An Encyclopedia of Geography, History, and Culture* (ABC-CLIO/Greenwood, 2013) and has traveled extensively, which informs his judicious opinions and conclusions. Cybriwsky writes in a straightforward and engaging manner, giving many interesting tidbits of information regarding nations/cities/US states, such as historical background, languages, customs, and so on.

The basic problem here is that there is no reference value to a publication such as this. If one is of Swiss decent, he or she might yodel with wild abandon that Switzerland “enjoys many high rankings in comparisons of world nations” (45). Unfortunately, this kind of a revelation has more to do with bragging rights than it does with useful information. Libraries could better serve their patrons performing geographical research by having *The Columbia Gazetteer of the World* on hand. With the foregoing in mind, no recommendation for purchase can be made.—*Michael F. Bemis, independent reference book reviewer*