

and include suggestions for further reading. For each country, and several cultures separately addressed (Basques, for instance), food culture means exploring food's social and symbolic context in relation to issues of diet, food stuffs, methods of cooking, typical meals at home, eating out if relevant, and special occasion meals. Articles generally include one or two recipes for a traditional dish using American measurements. Religious considerations or restrictions are integrated into the food customs and cuisine of each country or cultural group rather than being separately addressed as in *Food, Feasts, and Faith* and *Encyclopedia of Food and Culture*.

While these three encyclopedias cover some of the same material, each does so from a different perspective and with a different emphasis. Users seeking basic information about the intersection of food and religion will find the singular focus of *Food, Feasts, and Faith* a useful and easy to use starting point.—Sally Moffitt, *Bibliographer and Reference Librarian, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio*

History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots.

By Thomas J. Davis. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2016. 271 p. Cis-free \$58 (ISBN 978-313-38540-7). E-book Available (978-0-313-38541-4), call for pricing.

History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots by Thomas J. Davis chronicles the remarkable past of African Americans from the earliest arrival of their ancestors to the election of President Barack Obama. This work was produced to recognize every triumph and tragedy that separates African Americans as a group from others in America. By distinguishing the rich and unique history of African Americans, *History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots* provides an account of inspiration, courage, and progress. Each chapter details a significant piece of African American history, and the book includes numerous concise portraits of prominent African Americans and their contributions to progressing social life in the United States.

This reference work opens with a brief introduction describing the journey of African Americans that highlights the major topics surveyed within the book. These topics include racism, segregation, equality, and diversity. Following the introduction, there is a chronology of key dates in African American history that provides a quick orientation to noteworthy places, people, and events. *History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots* contains 271 pages of African American history that is prescribed chronologically in narrative form. The book also includes selected bibliography and index sections succeeding the conclusion. *History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots*, the hardcover edition is printed on acid-free paper and includes a plentiful amount of black-and-white images depicting various eras in African American history.

Comparing *History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots* to other resources on the subject of African American history can seem overwhelming because the subject matter is well researched and has been significantly covered by many

resources. These resources include many encyclopedias and general reference works both in print and electronically. While there are many resources that describe specific parts of African American history, like the Civil Rights Movement, *History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots* is a general account of the complete African American experience. The work was envisioned to be an unembellished survey of the African American experience. Several of the newer books on African American history provide much of the same content as *History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots*; however, the arrangement and narrative form may differ. A few other books highlight historic events in African American history by subject while others focus on the location of the events and people. While much of the content remains unchanged, these other resources serve to provide the reader with the significant events of African American history with varying forms of accessibility.

History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots by Thomas J. Davis is a wide-ranging volume on the African American identity and belongs in any institution that provides historic resources to its users. No specific person, place, or event is hugely examined, but the book provides a well-ordered introduction to the overall history of African Americans. The individual portraits of remarkable African Americans of the past provide short, yet detailed descriptions of leaders, reformers, and educators that fashioned the social landscape of America. For the reader that desires a universal history of African Americans that is organized chronologically, *History of African Americans: Exploring Diverse Roots* is an ample resource.—Trent Shotwell, *Special Collections & Archives Librarian, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas*

Listen to New Wave Rock! Exploring a Musical Genre. By James E. Perone. Exploring Musical Genres. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2018. 218 pages. Acid-free \$61 (ISBN 978-1-4408-5968-7). E-book Available (978-1-4408-5969-4), call for pricing.

Listen to New Wave Rock! is the first volume in the Exploring a Musical Genre series from Greenwood Press. According to the series forward, the series will consist of “scholarly volumes written for the enjoyment of virtually any music fan” (x). Rather than attempt to provide an exhaustive history of new wave music, this volume instead focuses on fifty musical works the author considers to be “Must-Hear Music” (xiv). This limited focus allows the author to devote more attention to the chosen pieces of music than is typical of most reference resources. The entries provide accounts of each band’s formation and early careers that one would expect in a volume such as this; however, what distinguishes *Listen to New Wave Rock!* is the rigorous critical analysis the author applies to each selected musical composition. Topics discussed in any given entry might include the band’s techniques for composing and recording as well as the themes of the song’s lyrics. While the series forward claims that the entries will eschew “technical terms or concepts,” many