Blessed Experiences
Genuinely Southern, Proudly Black
James E. Clyburn
Foreword by Alfre Woodard

The compelling memoir of a civil rights leader’s journey from the Jim Crow-era South to the Washington beltway

From his humble beginnings in Sumter, South Carolina, to his prominence on the Washington, D.C., political scene as the third highest-ranking Democrat in the House of Representatives, U.S. Congressman James E. Clyburn has led an extraordinary life. In Blessed Experiences, Clyburn tells in his own inspirational words how an African American boy from the Jim Crow–era South was able to beat the odds to achieve great success and become, as President Barack Obama describes him, “one of a handful of people who, when they speak, the entire Congress listens.”

Born in 1940 to a civic-minded beautician and a fundamentalist minister, Clyburn began his ascent to leadership at the age of twelve, when he was elected president of his National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) youth chapter. He broke barriers through peaceful protests and steadfast beliefs in equality and justice. Of his success Clyburn says he was “blessed with nurturing parents, a supportive family, and loyal friends.” But, he added, “my life was not just about knocking down doors and lowering barriers. I spent some time marching in the streets and occupying the inside of South Carolina jails.”

As a civil rights leader at South Carolina State College, as human affairs commissioner under John C. West and three subsequent governors, and as South Carolina’s first African American congressman since 1897, Clyburn has established a long and impressive record of public leadership and advocacy for human rights, education, historic preservation, and economic development.

Clyburn was elected to Congress in 1992. Serving as copresident of his freshman class, he rose quickly through the ranks and was elected chair of the Congressional Black Caucus in 1999 and House Democratic Caucus vice chair in 2002. Three years later he was unanimously elected chair of the Democratic Caucus. When Democrats regained the House majority in 2006, Clyburn was elected House majority whip. Now as assistant Democratic leader in the 112th Congress, Clyburn, a self-described independent, prides himself on working to overcome barriers and destroy myths without becoming too predictable. “I have worked across party lines to further legislative causes, and on occasion publicly differed with some of my allies in the civil rights community,” says Clyburn. “My experiences have not always been pleasant, but I have considered all of them blessings.”

Blessed Experiences includes a foreword from Emmy Award–winning actress and the congressman’s longtime friend Alfre Woodard.

James E. Clyburn has represented South Carolina’s sixth district in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1993, and he currently serves as assistant democratic leader of the House. He has been married to the former Emily England since June 1961, and they have three daughters, two sons-in-law, and three grandchildren. The congressman and his wife live in Columbia, South Carolina.

ALSO AVAILABLE

May
7 x 10, 336 pages, 46 b&w illus.
ISBN 978-1-61117-337-6
hardcover, $34.95t
ebook, $34.95t

“There are few people with more character and integrity, or who have lived a more interesting and dynamic life, than Jim Clyburn. He has great insight, and it’s been my honor to serve with him.”—Vice President Joe Biden

“A remarkable chronicle of a remarkable life, Blessed Experiences provides a vivid and unforgettable portrait of the Jim Crow South on the eve of its extinction and of a man dedicated to bringing its oppression and injustice to an end. James Clyburn helps us remember our all-too-recent past and the struggles and sacrifices he and so many others endured to build a better world for us all.”—Drew Gilpin Faust, President and Lincoln Professor of History, Harvard University

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**Reflections of South Carolina, Volume 2**

*Photographs by Robert C. Clark  
Text by Tom Poland  
Foreword by Mary Alice Monroe*

A pictorial essay that showcases the natural beauty of the Palmetto State and its inhabitants

From the Appalachians to the Atlantic, South Carolina’s awe-inspiring beauty is revealed in this visually stirring and heartwarming tribute to one of America’s favorite vacation destinations. Rich with 250 stunning photographs, this second volume of *Reflections of South Carolina* uncovers the geological, natural, and cultural grandeur the Palmetto State packs into 32,000 square miles. A foreword by New York Times best-selling author Mary Alice Monroe complements the photographs and text.

In a landscape abundant with waterfalls, rivers, lakes, and surf, South Carolina overflows with flora and fauna, as well as astonishing vistas. On their new journey, photographer Robert C. Clark and writer Tom Poland set out on a path of discovery that reveals charming country stores, water-powered gristmills, enchanting meadows, and extraordinary people and places. From angles high and low, this keepsake book illuminates the state’s summits, swamps, shores, and islands that brim with life, beauty, and culture. Turn the pages and explore the mountain majesties, fruited plain, and shining sea—South Carolina holds so much of what makes this country “America the Beautiful.”

*Reflections of South Carolina, Volume 2* documents the state’s surprising variety as well. You can stand atop Sassafras Mountain in August and yet feel fall’s chill or walk Charleston’s cobblestone streets in shorts in the middle of February. Clark and Poland advise visitors and residents alike to take their time exploring South Carolina and whenever possible to take the road less traveled—for the next turn might reveal an antebellum-era slave chapel, a farmer peddling honey and tomatoes, a mountain’s reflection in a sparkling lake, or a peach orchard exploding pink. What could be next? A praise house? An unforgettable character? Art on an abandoned boat? Discovery makes a great companion.

Robert C. Clark’s work has appeared in National Geographic books, Newsweek, *Smithsonian*, photographic awards annuals such as *Print* and *Communication Arts*, and magazines too numerous to list. He has collaborated on three previous USC Press books with Tom Poland—*South Carolina: A Timeless Journey*, *South Carolina: The Natural Heritage*, and *Reflections of South Carolina*—and one, *University of South Carolina: A Portrait*, with Chris Horn.

Tom Poland writes columns about the South and its people, traditions, lifestyle, and culture for newspapers and journals in Georgia and South Carolina. In addition Poland has coauthored *Save the Last Dance for Me: A Love Story of the Shag and the Society of Southern Strangers*, also published by USC Press. Poland lives in Columbia.


**Also Available**

1999, hc, 978-1-57003-344-5, $39.95t

“South Carolina is a state of inspiration. Our rich and complex history and the power of our landscape form the palette of our state’s meaningful and profoundly inspiring culture, traditions, our values. Poets, writers, artists, and craftsmen flock to our storied cities and breathtaking landscapes, each desperate to capture in words and color the source of an exquisite revelation.”

—Mary Alice Monroe, from the foreword
(clockwise from upper left) The Everett Gene; Bill's Pickin' Parlor; Skufful Farm Plantation; Greenville's Peace Center for the Performing Arts
A SOUTHERN GIRL
A Novel
John Warley
Foreword by Therese Anne Fowler

The worlds of privilege and poverty collide in this moving
tale of adoption, identity, belonging, dedication, and love

Set against the exquisite, historical backdrop of
Charleston's insular South of Broad neighborhood,
A Southern Girl is a tale of international adoption and
of families lost, then found anew through revelations,
courage, and the perseverance of a love without bounds.
With two biological sons and a promising career, Coleman
Carter seems set to fulfill his promise as a resourceful trial
lawyer, devoted husband, and dutiful father until his wife,
Elizabeth, champions their adoption of a Korean orphan.
This seemingly altruistic mission estranges Coleman's
conservative parents and demands that he now embrace
the unknown as fully as he has always entrenched himself
in the familiar.

Elizabeth, a self-proclaimed liberal with a global sense
of duty, is eager for the adoption, while Coleman, a scion
of the Old South, is at best a reluctant participant. But
the arrival of Soo Yun (later called Allie) into the Carter
household and the challenging reactions of Coleman's
peers and parents awakens in him a broadening sense of
responsibility and dedication to his new family that opens
his eyes to the subtle racism and exclusionary activities
that had dominated his sheltered life. To garner Allie's
entrance into Charleston society, Coleman must come
to terms with his past and guide Allie toward finding her
own origins as the Carters forge a new family identity
and confront generations-old fears inherent in Southern
traditions of purity and prestige.

Deftly told through the distinctive voices of Allie's
birth mother, her orphanage nurse, her adoptive mother
Elizabeth, and finally Coleman himself, A Southern Girl
brings us deeply into Allie’s plights—first for her very
survival and then for her sense of identity, belonging, and
love in her new and not always welcoming culture. In this
truly international tale, John Warley guides us through the
enclaves of southern privilege in New Hampton, Virginia,
and Charleston, the poverty-stricken back alleys of Seoul,
South Korea, the jungles of Vietnam, and the stone
sidewalks of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, as the bonds
between father and daughter become strong enough to
confront the trials of their pasts and present alike.

The first release from Pat Conroy’s Story River Books,
A Southern Girl includes a foreword by New York Times
bestselling novelist Therese Ann Fowler.

John Warley, a native South Carolinian, is a
graduate of the Citadel and the University of
Virginia School of Law. He practiced law in
Virginia until 1993, when he moved to Mexico
to write and teach. Now a full-time writer, War-
ley divides his time between Beaufort, South
Carolina, and San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.
His previous books include Bethesda’s Child
and The Moralist. He and his wife, Barbara, have
three sons, Caldwell, Nelson, and Carter, born
in Newport News, Virginia, and a daughter,
MaryBeth, born in Seoul, South Korea.

“With both skill and passion, John Warley
carries the reader through generations
and countries. Following plot twists and
heart-turns, we become a member of many
families, loving and loathing as we do in
any real family. A Southern Girl is rich with
trustworthy and vulnerable narrators who
allow us the privilege of entering the secret
traditions and lore-soaked South as well
as the clandestine corners of the charac-
ter’s souls. This is a gorgeous, heartfelt
book from a masterful storyteller; I didn’t
want to miss a word of Warley’s whispered
secrets.”—Patti Callahan Henry, New York
Times bestselling author of And Then I
Found You, Coming Up for Air, and others
New and Selected Poems
Marjory Wentworth
Foreword by Carol Ann Davis

New and Selected Poems includes more than fifty poems from Marjory Wentworth’s previous three collections, Noticing Eden, Despite Gravity, and The Endless Repetition of an Ordinary Miracle, plus twenty-eight new poems. This collection serves as a capstone to Wentworth’s tenure as South Carolina poet laureate, a title she has held since 2003.

Thematically, Wentworth’s poems invite us to view nature as a site of reflection and healing, to consider the power of familial bonds and friendships, and to broaden our awareness of human rights and social justice. Regional settings appear throughout, indicative of Wentworth’s commitment to represent her adopted home state of South Carolina in her work. She skillfully employs a variety of forms, from prose poems to sonnets to elegies to list poems, making for a rich and interesting trek through this “best of” collection of her poems to date.

This collection includes a foreword by the poet Carol Ann Davis, author of Psalm and Atlas Hour and assistant professor of English at Fairfield University.

“Like her literary forebears, Wentworth addresses simultaneously political realities and personal ones, showing again and again throughout her collection the urgent relationship between the two through the use of concrete images that implicate the speaker and draw her into questions about historical knowledge.” — Carol Ann Davis, author of Psalm and Atlas Hour and assistant professor of English at Fairfield University, from the foreword.

Marjory Wentworth, South Carolina poet laureate and five-time Pushcart Prize nominee, is the author of three collections of verse, the children’s book Shackles (2009 Silver Medal winner in the Moonbeam Children’s Book Awards), and Taking a Stand: The Evolution of Human Rights (with Juan E. Mendez). She is coeditor with Kwame Dawes of Seeking: Poetry and Prose Inspired by the Art of Jonathan Green (University of South Carolina Press). Wentworth teaches at the Art Institute of Charleston, and she is the president and co-founder of the Lowcountry Initiative for the Literary Arts.
Claws
Archibald Rutledge
Introduction by Jim Casada
Afterword by Ben McC. Moïse
Illustrations by Stephen Chesley

A new illustrated edition of an outdoor adventure story by South Carolina’s first poet laureate

Unseen by readers for a century, Archibald Rutledge’s story “Claws” is a fast-paced adventure tale of a young boy, Paul, lost in the foreboding terrain of Spencer’s Swamp, the domain of the mighty bobcat Claws, which is deftly evading hounds and hunters alike. When Paul and Claws encounter one another at a perilous creek crossing, Rutledge’s mastery of outdoors storytelling shines through in every evocative word.

The short story “Claws” was written for publication in an early twentieth-century boy’s magazine and was first collected in the privately printed Eddy Press edition of Old Plantation Days (c. 1913). Limited to just a few hundred copies, the Eddy Press edition is highly prized by Rutledge collectors and includes five stories—“Claws,” “The Doom of Ravenswood,” “The Egret’s Plumes,” “The Heart of Regal,” and “The Ocean’s Menace”—not found in the more widely available 1921 Stokes edition of Old Plantation Days.

A project of the Humanities Council SC benefiting the South Carolina Book Festival, this new edition of Claws is illustrated in handsome charcoal etchings by Southern artist Stephen Chesley. Award-winning outdoors writer and noted Rutledge scholar Jim Casada provides the volume’s introduction and retired South Carolina conservation officer Ben McC. Moïse offers an afterword.

Archibald Rutledge (1883–1973) was South Carolina’s most prolific writer and the state’s first poet laureate. His nature writings garnered him the prestigious John Burroughs Medal.

Jim Casada has written or edited more than forty books, contributed to many others, and authored some five thousand magazine articles. Casada has edited five Rutledge anthologies. A past president of the South Carolina Outdoor Writers Association, the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association, and the Outdoor Writers Association of America, Casada has been honored with more than 150 regional and national writing awards.

Ben McC. Moïse was recognized with the Guy Bradley Award by the North American Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Order of the Palmetto for his service as a conservation officer with the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. He is the author of Ramblings of a Lowcountry Game Warden: A Memoir, editor of A Southern Sportsman: The Hunting Memoirs of Henry Edwards Davis.

Stephen Chesley is a semiabstract artist working primarily in oils, charcoal, and metal. His work has been featured in solo and group exhibitions and has been honored with a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. Chesley’s previous collaboration with the Humanities Council SC was an illustrated chapbook edition of the Julia Peterkin short story “Ashes” in 2012.
The Lost Woods
Stories
H. William Rice

A collection that follows the lives of two families who own land and hunt in rural South Carolina.

The Lost Woods is a collection of fifteen short stories, most of them set in and around the fictional small town of Sledge, South Carolina. The events narrated in the stories begin in the 1930s and continue to the present day. The stories aren’t accounts of hunting methods or legends of trophy kills—they are serious stories about hunting that are similar in style to William Faulkner’s Go Down, Moses. The collection traces the evolution of two families—the Whites and the Chapmans—as well as the changes in hunting and land use of the past eighty years.

Some of these stories are narrated in third person; others are told by a wide range of characters, from grown men and women to children, but only from one perspective—that of the hunter. As they walk the woods in search of turkeys, deer, or raccoons, these characters seek something more than food. They seek a lost connection to some part of themselves. The title “the lost woods” is adapted from Cherokee myths and stories wherein people must return again and again to the woods to find animals that were lost. Thereby, we find not only food, but who we are.

Through these stories Rice reminds us that hunting is inextricably entwined with identity. As one of the oldest rituals that we as a species know, it reflects both our nobility and our depravity. Through it we return again and again to find the lost woods inside ourselves.

H. William Rice is the chair of the English Department at Kennesaw State University. An avid outdoorsman, he has written stories about hunting and fishing that have appeared in a number of publications, including Gray’s Sporting Journal and Sporting Classics. He is the author of two books and many essays on an array of subjects. The Lost Woods is his first work of fiction.

ALSO AVAILABLE

My Health Is Better In November
Thirteen Stories of Hunting and Fishing in the South
By Harriah Babcock
1985, hc, 978-0-87249-440-4, $29.95t

Tales of Whitetails
Archibald Robertson’s Great Deer Hunting Stories
Edited by Frank T. Haddix
1992, hc, 978-0-87249-860-0, $29.95t

Ramblings of a Lowcountry Game Warden
Ben McC. Mease
2008, hc, 978-1-57003-728-3, $32.50t
ph, 978-1-57003-881-5, $21.95t

A Southern Sportsman
The Hunting Memoirs of Henry W. Shackleford
Edited by Ria McIvor Mease
2010, hc, 978-1-57003-863-1, $29.95t
Cakewalk

Stories

Lee Smith

With a New Introduction by the Author

A new edition of Smith's comic short stories featuring an array of memorable southern characters

First published in 1982, Cakewalk was the first short story collection by iconic Southern writer Lee Smith. Comic and observant, Smith's fourteen tales in Cakewalk introduce readers to a host of memorable Southern characters. Her protagonists include aging gossips, a soap opera–hooked housewife, a runaway teenager, and divergent sisters in various combinations. Smith's gutsy Southern women don't always triumph, but, with her sympathetic portrayals, readers gain appreciation for the merits of spirited perseverance, right or wrong, in the face of modern adversity. The characters are everyday folks with everyday problems, particularly the tensions of home and family and loneliness and connection. Smith is keenly aware of the foibles that make people so maddeningly funny but also deeply sensitive to their pain and sorrow.

This Southern Revival edition includes a new introduction by the author.


“Cakewalk is great fun, its tales shrewdly observant of segments of North Carolina life.”—Wall Street Journal

“Excellent...Beautiful portrayals. . . . Dazzling.”
—Chicago Tribune

“Lee Smith strikes dead center the nerves of women’s lives and does it with a grace and style that make her one of the writers to watch most closely.”—Houston Post

“Smith has a perfect voice, incorporating hints of both refinement and shabbiness. Quite simply, excellent writing.”—Booklist

Lee Smith, a native of Grundy, Virginia, is the author of sixteen works of fiction, including Fair and Tender Ladies, Oral History, and her recent collection of stories, Mrs. Darcy and the Blue-Eyed Stranger. Her many awards include the North Carolina Award for Literature and an Academy Award in Fiction from the American Academy of Arts and Letters; her novel The Last Girls was a New York Times best seller as well as winner of the Southern Book Critics Circle Award. Smith’s latest novel is Guests on Earth.
**F Troop and Other Citadel Stories**

*Tom Worley*

*Short stories about character-building experiences at the storied military academy in the 1960s*

From its founding in 1842 the Citadel has been steeped in tradition. There have been changes through the years, but the basics of the military code and the plebe system have remained constant. Citadel graduate Tom Worley has crafted this collection of short stories about life at the South Carolina military academy during the 1960s. While the stories are fictional, they are inspired in part by his days as a student on the college campus. With humor and dramatic clarity, Worley reveals the harshness of the plebe system, how success is achieved through perseverance, and the character-building benefits of a Citadel education.

These seventeen stories are told from the perspective of two main characters—cadets Pete Creger and Sammy Graham—who are members of F Company. By turns surprising and entertaining, the collected stories range from the emotional and physical trials of being a knob in the plebe system, the brutality of hazing, and the fear and fun of company pranks, to the friendship and camaraderie the system fosters and the tremendous pride shared by those who wear the coveted Citadel ring.

Best known for its Corps of Cadets, the Citadel attracts students who desire a college education within a classical military system in which leadership and character training are essential parts of the overall experience. Any romanticized notion of military bravado is quickly shattered the moment students set foot on campus and their parents drive away. Many cadets are left wondering, “What have I signed up for?” Worley’s stories shed light on the pain and pride, explaining why, he says, “most cadets at the Citadel hated the place while they were there and loved everything about it once they’d graduated. They were bonded together for life. Perhaps that’s the greatest thing the Citadel did for them.”

**Tom Worley,** a 1968 graduate of the Citadel and former member of F Company, practices law in Charleston, South Carolina. He and his wife, Nancy, have two children and four grandchildren. Worley is currently working on a new collection of short stories and a novel.

“When I read Tom Worley’s powerful collection of Citadel stories, it was like reading my own novel *The Lords of Discipline* as told from a different point of view. The Citadel marks its graduates in both glorious and troubling ways. The plebe system shapes us with its dark, indelible matrix forever and the Citadel experience becomes the most commanding force in our lives. Better than most anyone, Tom Worley tells us why.”—Pat Conroy
Phoning Home
Essays
Jacob M. Appel

A collection of short personal essays on complex issues that range from humorous to poignant

Phoning Home is a collection of entertaining and thought-provoking essays featuring the author’s quirky family, his Jewish heritage, and his New York City upbringing. Jacob M. Appel’s recollections and insights, informed and filtered by his advanced degrees in medicine, law, and ethics, not only inspire nostalgic feelings but also offer insight into contemporary medical and ethical issues.

At times sardonic and at others self-deprecating, Appel lays bare the most private aspects of his emotional life. “We’d just visited my grandaunt in Miami Beach, the last time we would ever see her. I had my two travel companions, Fat and Thin, securely buckled into the backseat of my mother’s foul-tempered Dodge Dart,” writes Appel of his family vacation with his two favorite rubber cat toys. Shortly thereafter Fat and Thin were lost forever—beginning, when Appel was just six years old, what he calls his “private apocalypse.”

Both erudite and full-hearted, Appel recounts storylines ranging from a bout of unrequited love gone awry to the poignant romance of his grandparents. We learn of the crank phone calls he made to his own family, the conspicuous absence of Jell-O at his grandaunt’s house, and family secrets long believed buried. The stories capture the author’s distinctive voice—a blend of a physician’s compassion and an ethicist’s constant questioning.

Jacob M. Appel is a physician, attorney, and bioethicist based in New York City. He is the author of the novel The Man Who Wouldn’t Stand Up, the short fiction collection Scouting for the Reaper, and more than two hundred published stories. He also writes about the nexus of law and medicine, contributing to many leading publications including the New York Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune, and Detroit Free Press. His work has been nominated for the O. Henry Award, Best American Short Stories, Best American Non-required Reading, Best American Essays, and the Pushcart Prize anthology on many occasions.
Deveaux
Deveaux Bank Seabird Sanctuary, South Carolina
Dana Beach

An examination of a fragile environment under siege and a call to conserve it for future generations

Deveaux is a meditation on the life of a South Carolina sea bird rookery, known as Deveaux Bank, at the mouth of the North Edisto River. Over the past twenty-five years author and photographer Dana Beach has become intimately familiar with this ephemeral sand bar through experience and research. Here he explains the annual cycle of reproduction and renewal and chronicles, and shares what he has learned from the work of the scientists and conservationists who labor to understand and protect it.

Deveaux Bank is a microcosm of the rich diversity that defines and distinguishes the South Carolina lowcountry. The challenges that the island and its inhabitants face as human populations expand are common to many fragile and irreplaceable places along the coast. Through stories and images, Beach makes a compelling call to action to save Deveaux and sites like it before they are lost forever under a rising tide of imperceptive humanity.

Dana Beach is the founder and executive director of the South Carolina Coastal Conservation League. He is the recipient of the South Carolina Order of the Palmetto, the James L. Dockery Southern Environmental Leadership Award, the National Wetlands Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Environmental Law Institute, and the Environmental Awareness Award from the South Carolina General Assembly. Beach is author of "Coastal Sprawl: The Effects of Urban Design on Aquatic Ecosystems in the United States," a research publication of the Pew Oceans Commission.

Coastal Conservation League was founded in 1989 and has offices in Beaufort, Charleston, Georgetown, and Columbia. It is recognized as one of the most successful state-level conservation groups in the United States, particularly for its work in the field of land use policy and land conservation.

Also Available
2013, hc, 978-0-615-56259-9, $34.95t
2010, hc, 978-1-57003-923-2, $29.95t
2013, hc, 978-1-61117-071-9, $24.95t
pb, 978-1-61117-278-2, $24.95t
2010, hc, 978-1-57003-923-2, $29.95t
**FIRST, YOU EXPLORE**

*The Story of the Young Charles Townes*

Rachel Haynie  
Illustrated by Trahern Cook

An inspirational biography of the Nobel Prize–winning inventor of the laser

“Do exploration. Do things that are new and different.”

This is the philosophy that Charles H. Townes has lived by since he was a young boy growing up on a small farm in Greenville, South Carolina. While tending to chores, exploring the outdoors, and tinkering with broken tools and equipment, Townes began what became a lifelong love of exploring and inventing. His passion for new things drove him to an amazing career of discoveries that have changed the world.

All of us have been affected by Townes’s work, especially his most famous contribution to science: the laser. We’re surrounded by lasers, and we may not even realize it: they are in computers, DVD players, atomic clocks, and barcode scanners at the grocery store checkout counter. Doctors, police, astronomers, and even Hollywood filmmakers use lasers regularly in their work. This extraordinary technology was made possible by Townes’s hard work and dedication to the “new and different,” winning him the Nobel Prize in physics in 1964.

In *First, You Explore*, the first biography of Townes, Rachel Haynie chronicles the scientist’s boyhood fascination with the physical world and his early reading, experiments, and exploration of his surroundings on his family’s farm. Now at age ninety-eight, Townes is still actively involved in science and education, serving as a guiding force for the planetarium and observatory at the South Carolina State Museum.

This inspirational biography includes a timeline of Charles Townes’s major life events and additional biographical information that parents and educators will find useful as teaching tools.

South Carolina native Rachel Haynie is a freelance writer and editor for regional publications and corporate communications. She holds a bachelor’s degree in English and a master’s degree in education from the University of South Carolina.

Trahern Cook is a professional illustrator for print media and children’s publications. A graduate of the South Carolina Governor’s School for the Arts and the Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida, Cook maintains a studio on his family farm in Columbia, South Carolina.

“Another day at his grandmother’s mountain cottage, Charlie returned to the nearby creek and caught an unusual-looking fish. Its colors and shape did not match any fish he had studied in books on the family bookshelf. He decided to pickle the fish in formaldehyde and mail it off to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. He attached a note asking: ‘Can you tell me what kind of fish this is?’”

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**ALSO AVAILABLE**

*Fragments of the Ark*  
Louise Menvether

2013, pb, 978-1-61117-282-9, $21.95t
AIDS in the End Zone
Edited by Kendra S. Albright and Karen W. Gavigan
Illustrations by Sarah Petrulis

A graphic novella that promotes HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention to teens and young adults

Marcus Johnson has just been named star quarterback for the Marina High School Pirates. Former quarterback Brad Timmerman will do anything to depose this new rival and regain his position and popularity—including setting up Marcus with Maria Cruz, who is HIV positive. As secrets are exposed, this encounter will shake the halls of Marina High and change the lives of these students forever. AIDS in the End Zone approaches HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention through a compelling narrative with high school drama, the dangers of high-risk behaviors, and the benefits of public health resources. The graphic novella is the result of an innovative collaboration between editors Kendra S. Albright and Karen W. Gavigan, illustrator Sarah Petrulis, and the authors—students at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice (SCDJJ).

Albright and Gavigan began this project in response to research indicating that the graphic novel format is a highly successful educational tool for motivating young adults to read. They chose HIV/AIDS as their topic because South Carolina ranks eighth in the nation for new HIV cases, while the capital city of Columbia ranks sixth nationally among metropolitan areas. By working with teen students at the SCDJJ, Albright and Gavigan were able to develop characters, a storyline, setting, and dialog as a collaborative project—engaging the students in the public health subject matter as well as in the creative process. This project was funded in part by a grant from the Association for Library and Information Science Education.

Kendra S. Albright is an associate professor in the School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina. Her research has focused on the role of information and communication in the prevention of HIV/AIDS and domestic violence and the ways in which people feel about different kinds of messages across different cultures.

Karen W. Gavigan is an assistant professor in the School of Library and Information Science at the University of South Carolina. Her research interests include the use of graphic novels in schools and libraries and the instructional role of the school librarian. With Mindy Tomasevich, Gavigan is co-author of Connecting Comics to Curriculum: Strategies for Grades 6–12 and the “Connecting Comics to Curriculum” column in Library Media Connection.

Sarah Petrulis studied illustrations and painting at the University of South Carolina and the School of Visual Arts in New York.
The Market Preparation of Carolina Rice
An Illustrated History of Innovations in the Lowcountry Rice Kingdom
Richard Dwight Porcher, Jr., and William Robert Judd

The first book to illustrate and describe the implements and machines used to prepare Carolina rice for overseas markets

Richard Dwight Porcher, Jr., eminent field biologist and lowcountry South Carolina native, has brought all of his skills as a botanist, historian, photographer, and conservationist to bear in a multidisciplinary study of the rice industry in South Carolina from its beginnings in the 1670s to its demise in the twentieth century. Using the tools of the geographer, civil engineer, draftsman and close readings of many primary and secondary sources on the history of rice culture in the colony and state, Porcher and coauthor William Robert Judd have amassed a great body of previously unknown information on rice history.

Detailed illustrations and descriptions of the implements and machines featuring technology used to prepare Carolina rice for overseas markets, The Market Preparation of Carolina Rice includes 161 illustrations, most of them meticulously hand-drafted by Judd expressly for this edition. The book begins with the preindustrial implements and techniques used by African and African American slaves and workers in the late 1600s and early 1700s and concludes with the water- and steam-powered machines that drove rice threshing and milling until the end of the industry in 1911. In great detail the authors reveal the immense, continually evolving technological innovations of an agricultural industry that spanned the Industrial Revolution and much of the history of the colony and state.

With this rich body of knowledge in hand, Porcher stands at odds with theories held by most historians of rice culture who generally assert that the plantation culture of rice was in unrecoverable decline as the South hastened to civil war. Porcher believes that decline was retarded by continuous technological innovation and increasing investment in land, labor, and mechanization as local planters sought to sustain profits in a globally expanding market. Porcher asserts that the post–Civil War loss of slave labor and destruction of infrastructure, a series of hurricanes, competition from rice grown in the American Southwest starting in 1880, and financial restraints that led to the cessation of rice culture in lowcountry South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia. Impoverished and unable to adapt to new technologies and market demands, rice planters left the commercial rice enterprise to others.

Richard Dwight Porcher, Jr., is professor emeritus at the Citadel and adjunct professor of biological sciences at Clemson University, where he established the Wade T. Batson Endowment in field botany. Porcher is the author of Wildflowers of the Carolina Lowcountry and Lower Pee Dee and the coauthor of A Guide to the Wildflowers of South Carolina (both published by the University of South Carolina Press) and The Story of Sea Island Cotton. Porcher serves as a trustee of the South Carolina Nature Conservancy and on the board of directors of the Charleston Library Society, the Waring Library, and the Carolina Gold Rice Foundation. He is the 2008 recipient of the South Carolina Environmental Awareness Award.

William Robert Judd, a self-taught draftsman/artist, archaeologist, and historian, is retired from the U.S. Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPARWAR) and lives with his family on James Island, South Carolina.

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The Vitruvian Water Mill, circa 1st Century BCE.
Art History

The Miniature Portrait Collection of the South Carolina Art Association
Martha R. Severens
Edited by Charles L. Wyrick, Jr.

Miniature portraiture had its origin in Renaissance humanism. When fifteenth- and sixteenth-century patrons and artists began to abandon religious themes, they turned to landscape, genre, and portraiture. Of these, portraiture was emphatically human-centered, with the primary concern being the creation of a credible likeness. Closely tied to royal patronage, the first miniatures resembled manuscript illuminations in their saturated colors, pictorial backgrounds, and concern for details. This collection forms a distinctive and impressive group, numbering in the hundreds and ranging from sophisticated, European-influenced examples to naïve, local efforts. This volume is the result of the generous patronage, diligent study, and sustained interest of a host of donors, scholars, staff members of the Gibbes Museum of Art, funding agencies, and friends of the museum.

Martha R. Severens, an art historian, served as curator of the Gibbes Museum of Art.

Charles L. Wyrick, Jr., is on the Gibbes Museum of Art board of directors and previously served as the museum director.

Jonathan Green at Work
A Documentary by Charles Allan Smith

Jonathan Green at Work is an award-winning documentary film by renowned filmmaker and photographer Charles Allan Smith of a day in the life and work of the celebrated and charismatic American painter Jonathan Green. The film allows a rare glimpse into the unique life of this outstanding artist and integrates his work, environment, and Gullah heritage and culture, bringing together Green’s acute sense of space, privacy, and dignity with his creative genius.

At the time of filming, Green’s studio and home was nestled in twenty-five acres of beautifully gardened woodland in Naples, Florida. This serene sanctuary for the artist was a place few people were permitted to visit. But thanks to Smith’s measured, Zen-like production, with Green serving as host, the viewer feels like a welcome and privileged guest.

Jonathan Green is a renowned Gullah artist and the author of Gullah Images: The Art of Jonathan Green. His work is the subject of Seeking: Poetry and Prose Inspired by the Art of Jonathan Green, published by the University of South Carolina Press.

Jonathan Green at Work
A Documentary by
Charles Allan Smith

Charles Allan Smith is a contemporary producer and filmmaker, specializing in documentaries, short films, and photography.

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Jonathan Green

Jonathan Green at Work

January
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Distributed for
Gibbes Museum of Art / Carolina Art Association
Notes from a Colored Girl
The Civil War Pocket Diaries of Emilie Frances Davis
Karsonya Wise Whitehead

A rare glimpse into the thoughts and experiences of a free black American woman in the nineteenth century

In Notes from a Colored Girl, Karsonya Wise Whitehead examines the life and experiences of Emilie Frances Davis, a freeborn twenty-one-year-old mulatto woman, through a close reading of three pocket diaries she kept from 1863 to 1865. Whitehead explores Davis’s world-views and politics, her perceptions of both public and private events, her personal relationships, and her place in Philadelphia’s free black community in the nineteenth century.

Although Davis’s daily entries are sparse, brief snapshots of her life, Whitehead interprets them in ways that situate Davis in historical and literary contexts that illuminate nineteenth-century black American women’s experiences. Whitehead’s contribution of edited text and original narrative fills a void in scholarly documentation of women who dwelled in spaces between white elites, black entrepreneurs, and urban dwellers of every race and class. Notes from a Colored Girl is a unique offering to the fields of history and documentary editing as the book includes both a six-chapter historical reconstruction of Davis’s life and a full, heavily annotated edition of her Civil War–era pocket diaries. Drawing on scholarly traditions from history, literature, feminist studies, and sociolinguistics, Whitehead investigates Davis’s diary both as a complete literary artifact and in terms of her specific daily entries.

From a historical perspective, Whitehead re-creates the narrative of Davis’s life for those three years and analyzes the black community where she lived and worked. From a literary perspective, Whitehead examines Davis’s diary as a socially, racially, and gendered nonfiction text. From a feminist studies perspective, she examines Davis’s agency and identity, grounded in theories elaborated by black feminist scholars. And, from linguistic and rhetorical perspectives, she studies Davis’s discourse about her interpersonal relationships, her work, and external events in her life in an effort to understand how she used language to construct her social, racial, and gendered identities.

Since there are few primary sources written by black women during this time in history, Davis’s diary—though ordinary in its content—is rendered extraordinary simply because it has survived to be included in this very small class of resources. Whitehead’s extensive analysis illuminates the lives of many through the simple words of one.

Karsonya Wise Whitehead is an assistant professor of communication and African and African American studies in the Department of Communication at Loyola University Maryland, an award-winning master teacher and curriculum writer in African American history, and a three-time New York Emmy-nominated documentary filmmaker. She lives in Baltimore, Maryland, with her family. For more information, visit her website: kayewisewhitehead.com.
The Spirit of an Activist
The Life and Work of I. DeQuincey Newman
Edited by Sadye L. M. Logan
Foreword by Vernon E. Jordan, Jr.
Prologue by James E. Clyburn

A diverse collection of essays about a civil rights leader who played a major role in the desegregation of South Carolina

The Spirit of an Activist chronicles the life and distinguished career of Isaiah DeQuincey Newman (1911–1985), a Protestant pastor, civil rights leader, and South Carolina statesman. Known as a tenacious advocate for racial equality, Newman was also renowned for his diplomatic skills when working with opponents and his advocacy of nonviolent protest over confrontation. His leadership and dedication to peaceful change played an important role in the dismantling of segregation in South Carolina.

The thirteen narratives in this volume by such diverse contributors as Richard W. Riley, William Saunders, Esther Nell Witherspoon, and Donald L. Fowler attest to Newman’s impact on South Carolina. Editor Sadye L. M. Logan orchestrates these many contributions into an informative, moving, and sometimes passionate collage of Newman’s challenges, triumphs, and small and significant everyday acts of courage.

Through this collection Logan takes the reader on an extraordinary journey from Newman’s childhood in Darlington County, South Carolina, to his death at the age of seventy-four. Along that journey Newman led the state’s African Americans to join the Democratic Party and was a delegate to several Democratic Presidential Conventions. In 1983 he became the first African American South Carolinian elected to the State Senate in nearly a century. The Spirit of an Activist is essentially biographical, but it uses a diverse chorus of voices to capture Newman’s rich and varied contributions in transforming South Carolina’s rigid and unjust social systems. His quiet dignity and appeals to reason won him the confidence, and ultimately the support, of key white political and economic leaders. In effect Newman served both as chief strategist for the protest movement and as chief negotiator at the conference table, becoming the “ unofficial liaison” between South Carolina’s African American citizens and the state’s white power structure.

Sadye L. M. Logan is the I. DeQuincey Newman Professor Emeritus of Social Work at the University of South Carolina. She founded the College of Social Work’s Isaiah DeQuincey Newman Institute for Peace and Social Justice in 2001. Logan is the recipient of numerous academic and service awards, and her professional interest involves culturally specific services to families and children of color. She has written and published as well as provided consultation in areas related to poverty, mental health, family well-being, and racial identity development.

Contributors
Gloria Blackwell (Rackley)
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Wallace Brown, Sr.
James E. Clyburn
G. Robert Cook
Carrie Crawford Washington
Donald L. Fowler
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Jerome Noble
Matthew J. Perry, Jr.
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Richard W. Riley
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Winifred R. Moore Jr. and Orville Vernon Burton
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Jewish Sanctuary in the Atlantic World

A Social and Architectural History

Barry L. Stiefel

With the Assistance of David Rittenberg

Foreword by Samuel D. Gruber

A cultural and architectural history of Judaism as it expanded and took root in the Atlantic world

Jewish Sanctuary in the Atlantic World is a unique blend of cultural and architectural history that considers Jewish heritage as it expanded among the continents and islands linked by the Atlantic Ocean between the mid-fifteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Barry L. Stiefel achieves a powerful synthesis of material culture research and traditional historical research in his examination of the early modern Jewish diaspora in the New World.

Through this generously illustrated work, Stiefel examines forty-six synagogues built in Europe, South America, the Caribbean Islands, colonial and antebellum North America, and Gibraltar to discover what liturgies, construction methods, and architectural styles were transported from the Old World to the New World. Some are famous—Touro in Newport, Rhode Island; Bevis Marks in London; and Mikve Israel in Curáçao—while others had short-lived congregations whose buildings were lost. The two great traditions of Judaism—Sephardic and Ashkenazic—found homes in the Atlantic World.

Examining buildings and congregations that survive, Stiefel offers valuable insights on their connections and commonalities. If both the congregations and buildings are gone, the author re-creates them by using modern heritage preservation tools that have expanded the heuristic repertoire, tools from such diverse sources as architectural studies, archaeology, computer modeling and rendering, and geographic information systems. When combined these bring a richer understanding of the past than incomplete, uncertain traditional historical resources. Buildings figure as key indicators in Stiefel’s analysis of Jewish life and social experience, while the author’s immersion in the faith and practice of Judaism invigorates every aspect of his work.

Barry L. Stiefel is an assistant professor in the Historic Preservation and Community Planning and Urban Studies programs at the College of Charleston. He holds a Ph.D. in historic preservation from Tulane University.

David Rittenberg received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in Comparative Literature. He is an independent scholar and editor with interests in European history and Philosophy. Rittenberg lives in Charleston, South Carolina.

Samuel D. Gruber is the Holstein Family Visiting Lecturer at Syracuse University, head of the International Survey of Jewish Monuments, and author of Synagogues and American Synagogues: A Century of Architecture and Jewish Community.
**The Civil War as Global Conflict**

*Transnational Meanings of the American Civil War*

Edited by David T. Gleeson and Simon Lewis

*A collection of essays highlighting the war not only as a North American conflict but as a global one*

In an attempt to counter the insular narratives of much of the sesquicentennial commemorations of the Civil War in the United States, editors David T. Gleeson and Simon Lewis present this collection of essays that examine the war as more than a North American conflict, one with transnational concerns. The book, while addressing the origins of the Civil War, places the struggle over slavery and sovereignty in the United States in the context of other conflicts in the Western hemisphere. Additionally Gleeson and Lewis offer an analysis of the impact of the war and its results overseas.

Although the Civil War was the bloodiest conflict in U.S. history and arguably its single most defining event, this work underscores the reality that the war was by no means the only conflict that ensnared the global imperial powers in the mid–nineteenth century. In some ways the Civil War was just another part of contemporary conflicts over the definitions of liberty, democracy, and nationhood.

The editors have successfully linked numerous provocative themes and convergences of time and space to make the work both coherent and cogent. Subjects include such disparate topics as Florence Nightingale, *Gone with the Wind*, war crimes and racial violence, and choices of allegiance made by immigrants to the United States. While we now take for granted the nation’s values of freedom and democracy, we cannot understand the impact of the Civil War and the victorious “new birth of freedom” without thinking globally.

The contributors to *The Civil War as Global Conflict* reveal that Civil War–era attitudes toward citizenship and democracy were far from fixed or stable. Race, ethnicity, nationhood, and slavery were subjects of fierce controversy. Examining the Civil War in a global context requires us to see the conflict as a seminal event in the continuous struggles of people to achieve liberty and fulfill the potential of human freedom. The book concludes with a coda that reconnects the global with the local and provides ways for Americans to discuss the war and its legacy more productively.
Joseph Conrad and the Anxiety of Knowledge

William Freedman

An alternate view of the perplexing and often contradictory fiction of an elusive author

Few if any writers in the English language have been cited, praised, chided, or marveled at more routinely than Joseph Conrad for the perplexing evasiveness, contradictoriness, and indeterminacy of their fiction. William Freedman argues that the explanations typically offered for these identifying characteristics of much of Conrad's work are inadequate if not mistaken.

Freedman's claim is that the illusiveness of a coherent interpretation of Conrad's novels and shorter fictions is owed not primarily to the inherent slipperiness or inadequacy of language or the consequence of a willful self-deconstruction. Nor is it a product of the writer's philosophical nihilism or a realized aesthetic of suggestive vagueness. Rather, Freedman argues, the perplexing elusiveness of Conrad's fiction is the consequence of a pervasive ambivalence toward threatening knowledge, a protective reluctance and recoil that are not only inscribed in Conrad's tales and novels, but repeatedly declared, defended, and explained in his letters and essays.

Conrad's narrators and protagonists often set out on an apparent quest for hidden knowledge or are drawn into one. But repelled or intimidated by the looming consequences of their own curiosity and fervor, they protectively obscure what they have barely glimpsed or else retreat to an armory of practiced distractions. The result is a confusingly choreographed dance of approach and withdrawal, fascination and revulsion, revelation and concealment. The riddling contradictions of these fictions are thus in large measure the result of this ambivalence, their evasiveness the mark of intimidation's triumph over fascination.

The idea of dangerous and forbidden knowledge is at least as old as Genesis, and Freedman provides a background for Conrad's recoil from full exposure in the rich admonitory history of such knowledge in theology, myth, philosophy, and literature. He traces Conrad's impassioned, at times pleading case for protective avoidance in the writer's letters, essays, and prefaces, and he elucidates its enactment and its connection to Conrad's signature evasiveness in a number of short stories and novels, with special attention to The Secret Agent, Heart of Darkness, Lord Jim, Under Western Eyes, and The Rescue.

**Toni Morrison’s Fiction**  
*Revised and Expanded Edition*  
Jan Furman

Updated critical commentary with discussion of four additional novels

In this revised introduction to Nobel Laureate Toni Morrison’s novels, Jan Furman extends and updates her critical commentary. New chapters on four novels following the publication of *Jazz* in 1992 continue Furman’s explorations of Morrison’s themes and narrative strategies. In all Furman surveys ten works that include the trilogy novels, a short story, and a book of criticism to identify Morrison’s recurrent concern with the destructive tensions that define human experience: the clash of gender and authority, the individual and community, race and national identity, culture and authenticity, and the self and other.

As Furman demonstrates, Morrison more often than not renders meaning for characters and readers through an unflinching inquiry, if not resolution, of these enduring conflicts. She is not interested in tidy solutions. Enlightened self-love, knowledge, and struggle, even without the promise of salvation, are the moral measure of Morrison’s characters, fiction, and literary imagination.

Tracing Morrison’s developing art and her career as a public intellectual, Furman examines the novels in order of publication. She also decodes their collective narrative chronology, which begins in the late seventeenth century and ends in the late twentieth century, as Morrison delineates three hundred years of African American experience. In Furman’s view Morrison tells new and difficult stories of old, familiar histories such as the making of Colonial America and the racing of American society.

In the final chapters Furman pays particular attention to form, noting Morrison’s continuing practice of the kind of “deep” novelistic structure that transcends plot and imparts much of a novel’s meaning. Furman demonstrates, through her helpful analyses, how engaging such innovations can be.

**Jan Furman** is professor of early American literature and director of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program at the University of Michigan–Flint. She is the editor of *Slavery in the Clover Bottoms: John McCline’s Narrative of His Life in Slavery and during the Civil War* and *Song of Solomon: A Casebook*. Furman has published scholarly essays on Toni Morrison, Civil War narrative, and slave narrative.

“Significant, lucid, and perceptive … a well-crafted, thoroughly researched study that greatly enhances our understanding of Morrison’s works.”—*American Literature*

“Though academic in tone, the volume is accessible to general readers and offers useful information about Morrison’s vision and beliefs.”—*Chattanooga Times*

“Based on her rich analyses of the characters, themes and settings of Morrison texts, Furman contends that in developing her art Morrison transcends racial and linguistic boundaries …”—Charlene Taylor Evans, Texas Southern University

“… Furman’s account of Toni Morrison’s fiction is an agreeable, informative and direct commentary on her novels and on her social and literary criticism. Free from contemporary critical jargon, it traces the themes and concerns of the novels through Morrison’s whole career.”—*Forum for Modern Language Studies*
Understanding Truman Capote
Thomas Fahy

A new direction for Capote studies that reconsiders the author’s place in literary criticism, the canon, and the classroom

Truman Capote—along with his most famous works In Cold Blood and Breakfast at Tiffany’s—continues to have a powerful hold over the American popular imagination. His glamorous lifestyle, which included hobnobbing with the rich and famous and frequenting the most elite nightclubs in Manhattan, makes him the subject of ongoing interest for public and academic audiences alike. In Understanding Truman Capote, Thomas Fahy provides a new direction for Capote studies that offers a way to reconsider the author’s work.

By reading Capote’s work in its historical context, Fahy reveals the politics shaping his writing and refutes any notion of Capote as disconnected from the political. Instead this study positions him as a writer deeply engaged with the social anxieties of the 1940s and 1950s. Understanding Truman Capote also applies a highly interdisciplinary framework to the author’s writing that includes discussions of McCarthyism, the Lavender Scare, automobile culture, juvenile delinquency, suburbia, Beat culture, the early civil rights movement, female sexuality as embodied by celebrities such as Marilyn Monroe, and atomic age anxieties. This new approach to Capote studies will be of interest in the fields of literature, history, film, suburban studies, sociology, gender/sexuality studies, African American literary studies, and American and cultural studies.

Capote’s writing captures the isolation, marginalization, and persecution of those who deviated from or failed to achieve white middle-class ideals and highlights the artificiality of mainstream idealizations about American culture. His work reveals the deleterious consequences of nostalgia, the insidious impact of suppression, the dangers of Cold War propaganda, and the importance of equal rights. Ultimately Capote’s writing reflects a critical engagement with American culture that challenges us to rethink our understanding of the 1940s and 1950s.

Thomas Fahy is an associate professor of English and director of the American Studies program at Long Island University–Post. He is the author of numerous books, including Staging Modern American Life: Popular Culture in the Experimental Theatre of Millay, Cummings, and Dos Passos and Freak Shows and the Modern American Imagination: Constructing the Damaged Body from Willa Cather to Truman Capote and the editor of The Philosophy of Horror.

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escape and engagement; between the sweet, centripetal pull of the redemptive imagination as a splendid, if imperfect, engine of retreat and the harsh, centrifugal pull of real life itself, recklessly deformed by the crude handiwork of surprise and chance and unable to coax even the simplest appearance of logic.

Joseph Dewey is an associate professor of contemporary American literature for the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. He has authored *In a Dark Time: The Apocalyptic Temper of the American Novel in the Nuclear Age*, *Novels from Reagan's America: A New Realism*, *Understanding Richard Powers*, and *Beyond Grief and Nothing: A Reading of Don DeLillo*. Dewey has also edited casebooks on Henry James, Don DeLillo, and J. D. Salinger.

**Understanding Michael Chabon**
Joseph Dewey

*An exploration of Chabon's career-long fascination with the consolations—and dangers—of the imagination*

Pulitzer Prize–winning author Michael Chabon has emerged as one of the most daring writers of American fiction in the post-Pynchon era. Joseph Dewey examines how Chabon's narratives have sought to bring together the defining elements of the two principal expressions of the American narrative that his generation inherited: the formal extravagances of postmodernism and the compelling storytelling of psychological realism.

Like the audacious, self-conscious excesses of Pynchon and his postmodern disciples, Dewey argues, Chabon's fictions are extravagant, often ironic, experiments into form animated by dense verbal and linguistic energy. As with the probing texts of psychological realism by Updike and his faithful, Chabon's fictions center on keenly drawn, recognizable characters caught up in familiar, heartbreaking dilemmas; enthralling storylines compelled by suspense, enriched with suggestive symbols; and humane themes about love and death, work and family, and sexuality and religion.

Evolving over three decades, this hybrid fiction has made Chabon not only one of the most widely read composers of serious fiction of his guild but one of the most critically respected writers as well, thus positioning Chabon as a representative voice of the generation. Dewey's study, the first to examine the full breadth of Chabon's fiction from his landmark debut novel, *The Mysteries of Pittsburgh*, to his controversial 2012 best seller, *Telegraph Avenue*, places Chabon's fictional sensibility, for all its hipness, within what has been the defining theme of American literature since the provocative romances of Hawthorne and Melville: the anxious tension between

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Understanding
STEVEN MILLHAUSER

Earl G. Ingersoll

An exploration of the thematic interests and narrative strategies of a contemporary American master of fiction

Earl Ingersoll introduces the fiction of Steven Millhauser, whose distinguished career of more than four decades includes eight books of short fiction and four novels, the latest being the Pulitzer Prize–winning Martin Dressler (1996). In Understanding Steven Millhauser, Ingersoll explores Millhauser’s twelve books chronologically, revealing the development of a major contemporary American writer and a master of fiction who cares as deeply about his craft as the modernists did earlier in the past century.

While most examinations of an author’s work begin with at least a biographical sketch, Ingersoll has faced distinct challenges because Millhauser has resisted efforts to read his fiction through the lens of his biography. Responding to an interviewer’s request for a brief biography, Millhauser provided the succinct “1943–.”

Part of such resistance, Ingersoll argues, arises from Millhauser’s belief that if readers have too many questions about an author’s work, the author has failed, and no amount of response can redress that failure.

Millhauser’s central characters, such as August Eschenburg and J. Franklin Payne, are often themselves artists or technicians who are “overreachers,” and Ingersoll shows that Millhauser’s early expressions of literary realism have given way to interest in departures from the “real.” For Millhauser, “stories, like conjuring tricks, are invented because history is inadequate to our dreams.”

Millhauser’s strength is the ability to sustain obsessions because works of fiction succeed insofar as they are able to supplant reality.

As a master fabulist, Ingersoll argues, Millhauser is preoccupied with extravagance both in the subject matter of his fiction and in his style. Whether it involves Martin Dressler doing himself in by designing and constructing increasingly complex hotels or the miniaturists in the short story “Cathay” pushing their impulse to extremes, past the eye’s ability to see their art objects, Millhauser’s fiction is full of such an impulse, which can produce prolific artists as well as compulsive lunatics. The triumph of Millhauser’s craft, Ingersoll shows, is that it merges a fascination with the relationship between imagination and experience with a precise and allusive prose to produce works seamlessly joining the everyday with the radical and fantastic, in forms ranging from travelogues of the imagination to works merging the waking world with the world of dreams.
The historical Ezra was sent to Jerusalem as an emissary of the Persian monarch. What was his task? According to the Bible, the Persian king sent Ezra to bring the Torah, the five books of the Laws of Moses, to the Jews. Modern scholars have claimed not only that Ezra brought the Torah to Jerusalem, but that he actually wrote it, and in so doing Ezra created Judaism. Without Ezra, they say, Judaism would not exist.

In Ezra and the Law in History and Tradition, Lisbeth S. Fried separates historical fact from biblical legend. Drawing on inscriptions from the Achaemenid Empire, she presents the historical Ezra in the context of authentic Persian administrative practices and concludes that Ezra, the Persian official, neither wrote nor edited the Torah, nor would he even have known it. The origin of Judaism, so often associated with Ezra by modern scholars, must be sought elsewhere.

After discussing the historical Ezra, Fried examines ancient, medieval, and modern views of him, explaining how each originated, and why. She relates the stories told about Ezra by medieval Christians to explain why their Greek Old Testament differs from the Hebrew Bible, as well as the explanations offered by medieval Samaritans concerning how their Samaritan Bible varies from the one the Jews use. Church Fathers as well as medieval Samaritan writers explained the differences by claiming that Ezra falsified the Bible when he rewrote it, so that in effect, it is not the book that Moses wrote but something else. Moslem scholars also maintain that Ezra falsified the Old Testament, since Mohammed, the last judgment, and Heaven and Hell are revealed in it. In contrast Jewish Talmudic writers viewed Ezra both as a second Moses and as the prophet Malachi.

In the process of describing ancient, medieval, and modern views of Ezra, Fried brings out various understandings of God, God’s law, and God’s plan for our salvation.

Lisbeth S. Fried is a visiting scholar in the Department of Near Eastern Studies at the University of Michigan, an emeritus program lecturer at Washtenaw Community College, and an associate editor for ancient Near Eastern religions for the forthcoming Routledge Dictionary of Ancient Mediterranean Religions. Fried is the author of The Priest and the Great King: Temple-Palace Relations in the Persian Empire and editor of Was 1 Esdras First? An Investigation into the Priority and Nature of 1 Esdras.
Trained Capacities
John Dewey, Rhetoric, and Democratic Practice
Edited by Brian Jackson and Gregory Clark
Afterword by Gerard A. Hauser

A collection examining Dewey’s influence on effective communication in a healthy democratic practice

The essays in this collection, written by sixteen scholars in rhetoric and communications studies, demonstrate American philosopher John Dewey's wide-ranging influence on rhetoric in an intellectual tradition that addresses the national culture's fundamental conflicts between self and society, freedom and responsibility, and individual advancement and the common good. Editors Brian Jackson and Gregory Clark propose that this influence is at work both in theoretical foundations, such as science, pragmatism, and religion, and in Dewey's debates with other public intellectuals, such as Jane Addams, Walter Lippmann, James Baldwin, and W. E. B. Du Bois.

Jackson and Clark seek to establish Dewey as an essential source for those engaged in teaching others how to compose timely, appropriate, useful, and eloquent responses to the diverse and often-contentious rhetorical situations that develop in a democratic culture. They contend that there is more at stake than instruction in traditional modes of public discourse because democratic culture encompasses a variety of situations, private or public, civic or professional, where people must cooperate in the work of advancing a common project. What prepares people to intervene constructively in such situations is instruction in those rhetorical practices of democratic interaction that is implicit throughout Dewey's work.

Dewey's writing provides a rich framework on which a distinctly American tradition of a democratic rhetorical practice can be built—a tradition that combines the most useful concepts of classical rhetoric with those of modern progressive civic engagement. Jackson and Clark believe Dewey's practice takes rhetoric beyond the traditional emphasis on political democracy to provide connections to rich veins of American thought such as individualism, liberalism, progressive education, collectivism, pragmatism, and postindustrial science and communication. They frame Dewey's voluminous work as constituting a modern expression of continuing education for the "trained capacities" required to participate in democratic culture. For Dewey human potential is best realized in the free flow of artful communication among the individuals who together constitute society.

The book concludes with an afterword by Gerard A. Hauser, College Professor of Distinction in the Department of Communication at the University of Colorado Boulder.

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Gregory Clark
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Moral Vernaculars of Political Agency

Gerard A. Hauser

An examination of the discourse of political prisoners as a form of vernacular rhetoric

Prisoners of Conscience continues the work begun by Gerard A. Hauser in Vernacular Voices: The Rhetoric of Publics and Public Spheres, winner of the National Communication Association’s Hochmuth Nichols Award. In his new book, Hauser examines the discourse of political prisoners, specifically the discourse of prisoners of conscience, as a form of rhetoric in which the vernacular is the main source of available appeals and the foundation for political agency.

Hauser explores how modes of resistance employed by these prisoners constitute what he deems a “thick moral vernacular” rhetoric of human rights. Hauser’s work considers in part how these prisoners convert universal commitments to human dignity, agency, and voice into the moral vernacular of the society and culture to which their rhetoric is addressed.

Hauser grounds his study through a series of case studies, each centered on a different rhetorical mechanism brought to bear in the act of resistance. Through a transnational rhetorical analysis of resistance within political prisons, Hauser brings to bear his skills as a rhetorical theorist and critic to illuminate the rhetorical power of resistance as tied to core questions in contemporary humanistic scholarship and public concern.

Gerard A. Hauser is a College Professor of Distinction in the Department of Communication at the University of Colorado Boulder. Editor of the journal Philosophy and Rhetoric, Hauser is the author of Introduction to Rhetorical Theory and Vernacular Voices: The Rhetoric of Publics and Public Spheres.

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