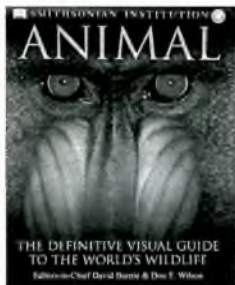


Animal: The Definitive Visual Guide to the World's Wildlife, edited by David Bumie and Don E. Wilson and produced in cooperation with the Smithsonian Institution (624 pages, November 2001), profiles more than 2,000 species, most of which are featured in an outstanding array of photographs that show identifying characteristics and key aspects of their biology and ecology. The next best thing to a zoo visit, *Animal* showcases some species that are rarely or never found in zoos, and offers distribution maps and a summary description for each, from mammals, birds, and reptiles to fishes and invertebrates. The information is meticulously up-to-date; for example, African bush and forest elephants are recognized as separate species, a classification that was definitively confirmed by molecular studies only in 2001. An international team of 70 zoologists and naturalists chose the species to be included, thus eliminating any North American or European bias. A superb one-volume reference that will see much use. \$50.00. DK Publishing. ISBN 0-7894-7764-5.

Just as current and graphically fascinating is the completely misnamed *Dinosaur Encyclopedia*, published in association with the American Museum of Natural History (376 pages, October 2001), which, yes, includes dinosaurs, but also features fossil fishes, amphibians, non-dinosaurian reptiles such as plesiosaurs and diapsids, birds, and extinct mammals—namely, animals that a true dinosaur book would leave out. Supplemented with a geological timeline and biographies of famous paleontologists, this volume serves as an excellent overview of the procession of life on earth as we currently understand it. \$29.95. DK Publishing. ISBN 0-7894-7935-4.

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The Browsable Classroom: An Introduction to E-Learning for Librarians, by Carolyn B. Noah and Linda W. Braun (169 pages, January 2002), demonstrates some models and techniques for designing effective Web-based distance-learning programs. Many of the examples come from university or community college education courses. \$45.00. Neal-Schuman. ISBN 1-55570-425-5.

The Columbia Guide to Asian American History, by Gary Y. Okihiro (323 pages, December 2001), examines attitudes toward resident Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States over the past 200 years. Specific focuses include Hawaii before European contact, the anti-Chinese movement in 19th-century California, and the World War II internment camps for Japanese-Americans. An extensive historiography and resource guide make this an excellent research tool. \$45.50. Columbia University. ISBN 0-231-11510-5.

Fire in Sierra Nevada Forests: A Photographic Interpretation of Ecological Change Since 1849, by George E. Gruell (238 pages, October 2001), compares historical black-and-white photographs of landscapes in the Sierra Nevada with photographs taken in the 1990s in order to assess the long-term environmental changes that had occurred in the region. Gruell, a retired wildlife biologist, selected 168 images out of thousands available in universities, public libraries, historical societies, and private collections. The photo pairs are arranged into four vegetation and climate zones; the captions identify landscape features and analyze the vegetation changes in the past 100 years or more. Mountain Press. \$20.00. ISBN 0-87842-446-6.

The Great Atlas of the Stars, by Serge Brunier (112 pages, October 2001), provides full-color telescopic photographs of the 30 major constellations visible from the northern hemisphere. Each has a transparent mylar overlay that identifies the stars and draws the traditional lines between them; details of the more prominent stellar features are given on

the opposite page. A helpful guide for observers with binoculars or small telescopes. \$59.95. Firefly Books. ISBN 1-55209-643-2.

Another outstanding atlas from Firefly is the *World Atlas of the Oceans* (264 pages, October 2001). This reprints in segments the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans, produced by the Canadian Hydrographic Service, a superb chart of submarine depths and features, supplemented here with the panoramic topographic drawings of Heinrich C. Berann, which show what the ocean bottom would look like without the water. Well-illustrated essays cover oceanic commerce, oilfields, tides, currents, fisheries, coral reefs, geology, and marine ecology. \$50.00. ISBN 1-55209-585-1.

Piracy, Slavery, and Redemption: Barbary Captivity Narratives from Early Modern England

edited by Daniel J. Vitkus (376 pages, November 2001), presents seven accounts written by Englishmen who served time as slaves in the Islamic states of North Africa, formerly known as the Barbary coast. The narratives were written and published between 1577, when John Fox escaped from captivity in Egypt, and 1704, when Joseph Pitts's account of his captivity and conversion to Islam was published. Each narrative is annotated with footnotes to explain context and vocabulary, and an extended introduction by Nabil Matar places the complex relationship of European trade and North African piracy into perspective. Despite some exaggeration and ethnocentrism, these captivity narratives presented British readers with their first nonfictional glimpse into the world of Islam. \$52.50. Columbia University. ISBN 0-231-11904-6.

For those who want to go further and read American captivity narratives in the Barbary states, consult Paul Baepler's *White Slaves, African Masters* (376 pages, April 1999). These range from the 1798 tale of John Foss, ransomed by the Thomas Jefferson administration for a tribute totaling a sixth of the annual federal budget, to the story of Ion Perdicaris, whose apparently staged abduction in Tangier in 1904 prompted Theodore Roosevelt to send warships to Morocco. \$46.00. University of Chicago. ISBN 0-226-03403-8.

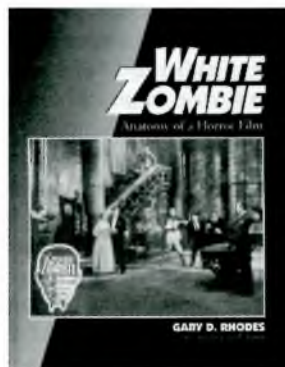
Sextopia: Stories of Sex and Society, edited by Cecilia Tan (181 pages, June 2001), is

an intriguing collection of 11 short science-fiction stories that explore the nature of eroticism and sexual experience in utopian or dystopian futures. Among the contributors are Catherine Asaro, Renée M. Charles, Eric Del Carlo, M. Christian, and Suzy McKee Charnas, whose erotic, science fiction, and fantasy fiction have appeared in many magazines and anthologies. This is the 32nd offering from Circling Press, a small but energetic publisher of alternative fiction. \$14.95. Circling Press, 1770 Mass. Ave., #278, Cambridge, MA 02140. ISBN 1-885865-31-7.

The Story of Rats, by S. Anthony Barnett (202 pages, April 2002), examines the psychology and sociology of these common rodents, especially in their interactions with humans. Barnett, who has been studying rats since his days with the Ministry of Food in wartime London, asks such questions as: Are rats diabolically clever? Do they get bored? Can they think? Are rats gluttons? What happens when they get overcrowded? The many infections carried by wild rats, such as plague and Weil's disease, make the answers crucial ones for controlling rodent populations. \$14.95 (pbk). Allen & Unwin; distributed by Independent Publishers Group. ISBN 1-86508-519-7.

White Zombie: Anatomy of a Horror Film

by Gary D. Rhodes (352 pages, December 2001), is an exhaustive treatment of what some critics see as a minor cinematic classic that was released by United Artists in 1932. *White Zombie* starred Bela Lugosi as an evil practitioner of voodoo in one of his best performances. The film has some impressive and atmospheric visual sequences that have inspired a cult following. Rhodes includes an analysis of every aspect of the film—its narrative and imagery, its source material in Haitian voodoo, the context of independent filmmaking in the early 1930s, stories from participants in the film, audience responses, critical reception,



the film's impact on popular culture, its place in film history, and an essay on the life and career of director Victor Halperin. This massively documented work will please both academic film historians and horror-genre buffs, and it deserves to be emulated as a model for single-film scholarship in the future. \$65.00. McFarland. ISBN 0-7864-0988-6.

The Women of Afghanistan under the Taliban, by Rosemarie Skaine (198 pages, March 2002), was mostly written prior to September 2001, though the author and publisher masterfully managed to squeeze in a few last-minute references to the United States counterattack and the Taliban's then-uncertain future. Skaine catalogs the hardships and atrocities imposed by the regime on Afghan women, 30 of whom were interviewed in 2000 after they had fled the coun-

try. The final chapter summarizes the political and diplomatic efforts made by organizations and individuals in other countries to rebuild Afghan society and women's roles within it. \$29.95. McFarland. ISBN 0-7864-1090-6.

World War II in American Art, by Robert Henkes (157 pages, December 2001), analyzes the works of artists who experienced the intensity and emotion of the war firsthand, both in battle and on the homefront. Arranged by subject matter, the book includes sections on combat, the wounded, survivors, prisoners, ruins, the dead, religion, recreation, and victory. Many of the paintings depicted are housed in the collections of the Army, Navy, and Air Force museums, as well as the personal collection of artist Edward Reep, who wrote the foreword. \$39.95. McFarland. ISBN 0-7864-0985-1. ■

("Back to Europe" continued from page 206)

not market to the United States, and see new products and services from around the world.

To the first-time visitor, the fair may be simply overwhelming with its thousands of exhibitors and activities. The more seasoned veterans in the ACRL group did an excellent job of showing the neophytes how to make their time in Frankfurt productive.

The book fair also marks the highlight of the publishing year in Germany, and many publishers release major titles in conjunction with this annual event. German, Austrian, and Swiss newspapers typically publish literary supplements that review the cream of the crop. Many librarians collect these supplements and peruse them for well-reviewed titles to add to their collections.

Mike Olson accomplished the Herculean task of gathering 22 of these supplements from newspapers large and small, culling 325 titles from them, and compiling these titles into a bibliography, the first volume in a series. His bibliography is an invaluable tool for anyone who wants to know what is hot this year.⁵

Many of the ACRL librarians have bibliographic responsibilities beyond Germany and Western Europe. By walking through the halls devoted to Central and Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia, and Latin and South America, one

can quickly assemble a long list of titles that may otherwise have been impossible to identify through standard sources.

Whether one needs to know about current titles from Armenia or wants to find a good source for reference works from Argentina, Frankfurt is the place to be.

Notes

1. Details and information on the Frankfurt Book Fair are available at <http://www.frankfurt-book-fair.com>.

2. Background information on Greece as guest of honor may be found at <http://www.greece.gr/CULTURE/Literature/greeceinfrankfurt.stm>.

3. "IBLC meets . . . Representatives of American Libraries: Vorträge und Veranstaltungen im IBLC-Forum." For a list of the talks, see <http://www.stub.uni-frankfurt.de/messe/meets.htm>.

4. It should not be forgotten that many Europeans were also victims of the World Trade Center tragedy.

5. Michael P. Olson, *New Books from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland: A Bibliography on the Occasion of the 53rd Frankfurt Book Fair, 10-15 October 2001*, Harvard College Library Series in Germanic Bibliographies, vol. 1 (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard College Library, 2001). ■