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Encyclopedia of the Developing World (Review)

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☆ **The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature.** 5v. Ed. by Emmanuel S. Nelson. 2005. 2,483p. illus. index. Greenwood, \$499.95 (0-313-33059-X). 810.9.



This wonderfully wide-ranging and comprehensive set is unique in its breadth of coverage of the history, trends, and current directions of the nebulous category of writing in the U.S. called multicultural literature. Everything from influential works to prominent events and places in the sociopolitical history of America's ethnic groups is covered. Major writers like Toni Morrison, Philip Roth, and Leslie Marmon Silko are covered, as are lesser-known and younger writers of emerging importance. The term *ethnic* is broadly defined here, spanning alphabetically the subcultures of Afghan and Amish American to Turkish and Vietnamese American literature while including the literature of groups like German, Irish, and Italian Americans as well.

The entries are arranged alphabetically and include extensive cross-references. An ethnic group's literature does not receive one broad entry but instead a series of smaller ones covering genres and subtopics. For example, entries on Native American literature include, among others, *Native American autobiography*, *Native American creation myths*, *Native American novel*, and *Native American stereotypes*. Each entry is followed by a list of further reading likely to include both fiction and nonfiction texts.

In addition to entries related to ethnic groups or individual writers and works, there are intriguing general entries on topics like *Assimilation*, *Diaspora*, *Identity*, and *Whiteness*. There is even an entry devoted to the premier academic journal focusing on American ethnic literature, *MELUS* (The Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States). Exhibiting great diversity in its coverage, the encyclopedia also includes more esoteric topics, like *African American pulp fiction* and *Mexican American children's literature*.

A nine-page introduction explains the scope of coverage as well as the history of American multiethnic literature. A list of entries and a guide to related topics appear in each volume. The last volume includes a selected bibliography and a voluminous index clearly differentiating main entries from topics covered within larger entries.

In sum, this is a fine contribution to the still-emerging and growing study of the widely varied multicultural literature of the U.S. Highly recommended for academic and public libraries. —Michael Tosko

user-friendly, trustworthy resource and is recommended for a wide range of readers, certainly young adult through general audiences. It is appropriate for many types of libraries, including public, high school, and undergraduate. —Scottie Wallace

Encyclopedia of the Developing World. 3v. Ed. by Thomas M. Leonard. 2005. 2,184p. illus. index. Routledge, \$475 (1-57958-388-1). 909.

The developing world, also known as the "Third World," comprises nations underdeveloped in the areas of economics, political and social characteristics, and cultural components. Much of this encyclopedia focuses on Africa, Asia, and Latin America, with special focus on subregions of these areas, including South Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, and Latin America's Southern Cone. The Middle East, Soviet Union, and East European Bloc have a fair representation as well. Although the economic stability of the latter nations may appear passable, political, social, or cultural characteristics have identified them as underdeveloped. Generally speaking, this encyclopedia includes all nations exclusive of the G-7 nations (U.S., Japan, Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, and Canada); other Western European nations; Australia; and New Zealand.

According to editor Leonard, "as much as

possible, the encyclopedia covers the history, economic development, and politics of the developing world from 1945 to the present, providing the reader with a reliable, up-to-date view of the current state of scholarship on the developing world." Leonard has worked with a team of 251 contributors, who represent both developed and underdeveloped nations and a variety of disciplines.

The 800 articles are arranged alphabetically, with *see also* references. The articles, ranging from 500 to 5,000 words, are signed and include lists of references and further readings. Several entries also include charts and graphs. Types of articles include factual narratives, analytical discussions, and overviews describing the history and economic development of a particular country. Although many countries have their own articles, they are also included in larger regional articles. For example, Cambodia has additional data in various Southeast Asia articles. There are also entries for organizations (*CARE*, *HAMAS*, *Russian Orthodox Church*); individuals (*Castro*, *Fidel*; *Gandhi*, *Indira*; *Mandela*, *Nelson*); and various other topics having national (*Libyan Cultural Revolution*, *Three Gorges Dam*, *Untouchables*), regional (*African diaspora*, *Braceros program*, *Kashmir dispute*), and global (*Acid precipitation*, *Infant mortality*, *Terrorism*) impact. An extensive index, 102 pages in length, includes countries and regions,

personal and organizational names, and themes and topics. The index, list of contributors, A–Z list of entries, and thematic list of entries are included in each of the three volumes.

Providing a unique context for the examination of most of the world's nations, this set is recommended for academic and large public libraries. —Sue Polanka

Encyclopedia of Twentieth-Century Photography. Ed. by Lynne Warren. 3v. 2005. 2,048p. illus. index. Routledge, \$395 (0-57958-393-8). 770.9.

In these alphabetically arranged volumes, Warren, along with 227 contributors, strives to "provide a useful resource on the entire scope of photography in the twentieth century." The set has an international reach, and 324 of its 525 entries cover people, mostly photographers. The remaining articles, as outlined in the thematic list of entries, cover "Equipment" (*Camera: Digital; Enlarger*); "Institutions, Galleries, and Collections" (*Museum of Modern Art*); "Publications and Publishers" (*National Geographic*); "Regions" (*Mexico, photography in*); and "Topics and Terms" (*Contact printing, Industrial photography, Photographic 'truth'*). Some articles, such as *Camera: An overview*, offer surveys on broad topics. Other, such as *Cable release*, zero in on specifics.

Articles on equipment tend to describe features and operation rather than historical development. Other types of entries, such as those on publications, regions, and photographic genres, provide a more historical overview. Many articles are 2 to 3 pages long, with some entries spanning 8 pages or more (e.g., *Museums: Europe* is 13 pages). The signed articles conclude with *see also* references and lists of further readings. Entries on people can include additional reference categories such as individual exhibitions, group exhibitions, books of photographs, and selected works (e.g., notable photographs). Also, readers can quickly scan a person's biographical highlights—entries on people include a capsule biography.

The alphabetical and thematic lists of entries, set index, and a 10-page glossary are repeated in each volume. Less helpful is a list of contributors without affiliations. Each volume also contains about 100 black-and-white photographs along with an 8-page glossy insert. Picture quality is fair. Warren states, "This is a work of scholarship, a book intended to be read rather than viewed," and some readers will be disappointed.

The *Oxford Companion to the Photograph* (2005) covers a longer time period, has more than 1,600 entries, and reviews about 800 photographers and other persons. However, most articles are much shorter and include fewer references. The *Encyclopedia of Twentieth-Century Photography* should prove useful for academic and larger public libraries. —Stephen Fadel

The Geography of Presidential Elections in the United States, 1868–2004. By Albert J. Menendez. 2005. 349p. illus. index. McFarland, \$49.95 (0-7864-2217-3). 324.

A political researcher and writer has created