Modern love: true stories of love, loss, and redemption (book review)

Kathleen McCallister
*William & Mary, krmccallister@wm.edu*

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resulting recovery of some $60 billion since 1986. The author also considers cases involving hospital overbilling, toxic mortgages at Citigroup, the fraudulent marketing of psychotic drugs, the My Lai Massacre, Hanford Nuclear Reservation safety concerns, and others. Mueller profiles whistleblowers’ backgrounds, motivations, and the retaliations they suffered, while interweaving personal accounts with a deep analysis of the meaning of whistleblowing in the context of organizational authoritarianism, greed, moral ambiguity, conflicts of interest, and secrecy. Government agencies are often apathetic or even hostile to whistleblowers, says Mueller, because of the revolving door between government service and private enterprise. VERDICT Mueller’s powerful but disheartening story of pervasive fraud and a general collapse of ethical behavior with only glimmers of hope from the bravery of whistleblowers is fully accessible to general readers and substantive enough for academic audiences; a must-read.—Lawrence Maxted, Gannon Univ. Lib., Erie, PA


Journalist Stoller (Open Markets Inst. Fellow, former senior policy adviser and budget analyst, U.S. Senate Budget Committee) tackles a complicated story in this debut. He leads off by noting that, until the 1970s, Congress vigilantly protected Americans from the dominating effects of corporate and bank monopolies, seeing that competition was a way to prevent tyranny. But a new generation of legislators who had not lived through the Great Depression failed to understand the dangers of concentrating economic power, and unwittingly allowed, and even encouraged, the creation of monopolies. Stoller’s insightful analysis shows how the composition and values of members of Congress on both sides of the political divide have allowed monopoly power to dominate American business and politics. VERDICT This book will strike a chord with those who lived through the Great Recession and experienced frustration at the injustice of bankers and corporations being bailed out while so many lost their homes and livelihoods.—Carol Eise, Univ. of Wisconsin, Whitewater Libs.

PSYCHOLOGY


Released ahead of the related Amazon original series adaptation, this collection of essays from the New York Times’s long-running “Modern Love” column is a “revised and updated” edition of 2007’s Modern Love: 50 True and Extraordinary Tales of Desire, Deceit and Devotion. However, it is perhaps not quite as updated as some might hope, as close to half of the entries are repeats from the earlier book. Also, somewhat disappointingly, given column editor Jones’s (Love Illuminated) introductory comments on the multiple forms of love, nearly three-quarters of the material centers on dating or romantic/sexual partnerships, with pieces on familial love and friendships filling out the remainder. Still, the new material contains enough gems (a daughter’s clear-eyed account of the disintegration of her parents’ marriage owing to Alzheimer’s; a wife’s meditative thoughts on her partner transitioning from male to female; a dy ing woman composing a letter about her husband’s sterling qualities to his potential future dates) to make this new work one to consider. VERDICT Certainly worthwhile for holdings without the earlier edition, but readers already familiar with that text might wish to compare the contents here to decide if this would be a suitable addition (or replacement).—Kathleen McCallister, William & Mary Libs., Williamsburg, VA

SOCIAL SCIENCE


Urban renewal in the United States is often viewed as a well-intentioned failure. Cohen (American studies, Harvard Univ.) acknowledges this opinion but moves toward a more nuanced interpretation through the lens of one of its foremost proponents: Ed Logue (1921–2000). A native of Philadelphia, Logue attended Yale on a bursary, working in the dining halls and joining the Labor Party. To Logue, revitalizing cities in postwar America was an egalitarian mission. Cohen describes the many contradictions of midcentury urban renewal birthed from New Deal idealism. Logue and his allies believed firmly in desegregation, yet the planning and implementation largely ignored grassroots voices. Logue’s personal life and public beliefs were often in conflict. He argued for the destruction of 19th-century neighborhoods, yet chose to live in Boston’s Beacon Hill, which reminded him of his childhood home. Cohen follows Logue’s career from New Haven, CT, in the late 1950s through the Bronx in the 1980s, a career ultimately undone by the Reagan administration, which withdrew

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