

5-15-2016

## The Classical world: the foundations of the West and the enduring legacy of antiquity, Nigel Spivey (book review)

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### Recommended Citation

McCallister, Kathleen, The Classical world: the foundations of the West and the enduring legacy of antiquity, Nigel Spivey (book review) (2016). *Library Journal*, 141(9), 90.  
<https://scholarworks.wm.edu/librariespubs/52>

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and *Life* magazines during World War II. The result is this engaging debut. While Jacoby was lesser known than Ernie Pyle or Ernest Hemingway, he was nevertheless an instrumental, well-respected presence during the late 1930s and early 1940s. After graduating from Stanford University, Jacoby began a journalism career in 1936 that led him from the manufacturing hub of Chungking, China to the Philippine island of Corregidor in 1942 and ultimately to Brisbane, Australia. Jacoby's quest for truth brought him in contact with luminaries such as Madame Chiang Kai-shek, first lady of the Republic of China, and U.S. Gen. Douglas MacArthur. The title is a bit of misdirection; only the last third of the book details the exciting escape from the Philippine province of Bataan that Jacoby and his wife, screenwriter and foreign correspondent Annalee Whitmore, undertook on a blockade runner. However, Lascher succeeds in highlighting Jacoby's brief yet important life using never before published letters and interviews. **VERDICT** This work will find itself at home among other World War II biographies and memoirs such as Elizabeth M. Norton's *We Band of Angels*. [See Prepub Alert, 12/7/16].—**Maria Bagshaw, Elgin Community Coll. Lib., IL**

**Mitchell, Donald Craig. *Wampum: How Indian Tribes, the Mafia, and an Inattentive Congress Invented Indian Casino Gambling and Created a \$28 Billion Gambling Empire*. Overlook. Jun. 2016. 392p. notes. bibliog. index. ISBN 9781468309935. \$29.95. HIST**

In 1979, the Seminole Tribe of Florida opened a bingo parlor on tribal land. An immediate success, it earned impressive profits for the Seminole and their business partners (some of whom had ties to organized crime). That small casino, and the legal loopholes it used to open its doors, helped pave the way for a nationwide rush to bring gambling to Indian reservations, becoming a multibillion dollar industry in just a few decades. Here Mitchell (*Take My Land Take My Life*) details the key events that enabled Native American tribes to open gambling facilities across the United States. It is a complicated affair, involving many different people and groups, and multiple challenges to state and federal laws. While the coverage of legal issues is excellent, this account only occasionally addresses the effects of gaming on Native American communities. **VERDICT** Mitchell's deep look at the evolution of U.S. laws that led to modern gaming on Native lands is recommended primarily for readers interested in legal history or the ongoing political struggles for tribal self-governance.—**Nicholas Graham, Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill**

★**Parkinson, Robert G. *The Common Cause: Creating Race and Nation in the American Revolution*. Univ. of North Carolina. Jun. 2016. 768p. illus. maps. notes. index. ISBN 9781469626635. \$45; ebk. ISBN 9781469626925. HIST**

"Common cause" was a phrase often utilized in Europe during the 18th century to justify imperial alliances against a shared enemy. In this engrossing monograph, Parkinson (history, Binghamton Univ.) recounts how colonial leaders, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and Benjamin Franklin, co-opted the phrase through colonial newspapers to bind the 13 colonies to fight the American Revolution. Their aims were achieved through the constant publication of inflammatory articles alleging that Great Britain was arming Native Americans and Africans to wage war on the respective colonies. While kernels of truth existed in a fraction of the stories, they were at best gross exaggerations, if not outright fabrications. The consequence of the tactic was that when the war was over, it ensured that there was no place in the new country for Native peoples or Africans and their descendants. This included those people of color who were devoted patriots who had fought and died alongside the colonists for the common cause. **VERDICT** A must-read for anyone interested in the American Revolution and issues of race. For further exploration, consider James Corbett David's *Dunmore's New World*.—**John R. Burch, Campbellsville Univ. Lib., KY**

**Spivey, Nigel. *The Classical World: The Foundations of the West and the Enduring Legacy of Antiquity*. Pegasus. Jul. 2016. 288p. maps. index. ISBN 9781681771519. \$27.95; ebk. ISBN 9781681771915. HIST**

In this study of the foundations of the Western world's classical ideals, historian Spivey (classical art, Cambridge Univ.; *The Ancient Olympics*) addresses his topic by centering each chapter on one of nine cities, with the named metropolis acting as a focal point to discuss major events and concepts of Greek and Roman civilization, and a tenth chapter, "Utopia," exploring philosophy and the sciences. This conceit works well in some sections but results in unevenness in others; while the segments on Athens and Sparta nicely balance the topical locales and their relation to wider historical concerns, "Syracuse" wanders from its city and discussion of Greek colonization into a lengthy section on Olympia and the Olympic games. The chapter on Pergamon is markedly short. Spivey's descriptions of historical facts and personages read smoothly, but his re-

liability is sometimes undercut by startling errors, such as naming Ares and not Eris as the instigator of the mythological Judgment of Paris. **VERDICT** A serviceable overall look at Graeco-Roman history and its ideals, hampered in its aims by a scattered focus and noticeable slips in detail.—**Kathleen McCallister, Tulane Univ., New Orleans**

## LAW & CRIME

**Kushner, David. *Alligator Candy: A Memoir*. S. & S. Mar. 2016. 256p. ISBN 9781451682533. \$26; ebk. ISBN 9781451682632. CRIME**

One of the takeaways from this book by Kushner (contributing editor, *Rolling Stone*; Ferris Professor of Journalism, Princeton Univ.; *Masters of Doom*) is that loss cannot be avoided—it stays with a person for however long they need it to, but it can also provide insight into one's approach to life. When the author was four years old, his older brother, Jon, was kidnapped and murdered near their house in Florida. This memoir describes Kushner's experience after that defining moment, and the ways in which, looking back, he sees how events later were linked to that dark day. His writing effectively moves the reader to feel a range of emotions along with his family as they wait during the days Jon is missing, hear the news of his death, learn about the killers, and carry on in their own lives. It is heart-wrenching but also shows how families unite and continue forward with the memories of a loved one. **VERDICT** This emotional account invites readers to journey down a path that at first is in the shade but eventually wanders through strands of sunlight. You will hold those close to you tight after reading. For fans of true crime, books about getting past tragedy, and memoirs.—**Ryan Claringbole, Wisconsin Dept. of Pub. Instruction, Madison**

**Rosen, Jeffery. *Louis D. Brandeis: American Prophet*. Yale Univ. (Jewish Lives). Jun. 2016. 256p. notes. index. ISBN 9780300158670. \$25. LAW**

Rosen (president & CEO, National Constitution Ctr.; law, George Washington Univ. Sch. of Law; *The Most Democratic Branch*) makes a noteworthy contribution to this series. His compact yet insightful book frames Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis (1856–1941) as an "American Prophet," as proclaimed in the subtitle. While the biography explores and explicates a number of Brandeis's major judicial opinions such as *Erie v. Tompkins*, it creates an expansive view of Brandeis's life in its totality. Thus, Brandeis was much more than a distinguished jurist; he was a prophet and philosopher in the Jeffersonian democratic tradition. As articulated in the first chapter,

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