

Lalley, Patrick

9.11.01: Terrorists Attack the U.S.

2002. 48pp. \$21.98 hc. Raintree Steck-Vaughn Publishers. 0-7398-6021-6. Grades 6-8

The literary response to September 11th has been very heartening and thorough, from comic books and sermons, to songs and personal narratives. This volume includes detailed descriptions of the attacks, historical background of the World Trade Center, Islam and the extremists, world terrorist activities, personal stories from Ground Zero, the United States' reactions in the aftermath, and the effects around the world. Pages are filled with color photographs and concise sentences with important dates and numbers. This is a valuable purchase for middle schools and children's departments of public libraries. **Recommended.** *Jane Cabaya, Media Specialist, Rochester (Minnesota) Public Schools*

Levy, Peter B.

Encyclopedia of the Clinton Presidency

2002. 416pp. \$65 hc. Greenwood Publishing. 0-313-31294-X. Grade 9 & Up

The cover of this book shows a pensive President Clinton, hands folded and wedding ring prominently displayed. The shot doesn't seem to be a random choice for this tome, which covers all aspects of Clinton's controversial, eight-year presidency. The volume's 230 alphabetical entries discuss people, issues, statistics, and phrases ("It's the economy, stupid") and include many b&w photographs, tables, and charts. Lists of books, magazine articles, and Web addresses for further research are part of almost every entry. Under "pets," we find references to Buddy, the chocolate Labrador, and Socks, the White House cat. Issues such as foreign policy and the near-impeachment are given equal treatment. This book would be valuable for students of presidential politics and American history. Index; time line. **Recommended.** *Rita M. Fontinha, Library Media Specialist, Norwood (Massachusetts) High School*

The Mystery Library

Wyly, Michael J.

Dragons

2002. 96pp. \$27.47 hc. Lucent Books (Gale Group). 1-56006-972-4. Grade 8 & Up

Although the list of topics for this series may be nebulous, the treatment is serious and steeped in solid research. The author divides his work into dragons of Eastern and Western cultures. Topics include how to slay a dragon; historic dragon slayers; the origins of the dragon; and the dragon as a symbol. Dragons and their significance in various cultures are explored in representative literatures and their legends. One of the most interesting parts is the scientific exploration of the topic "Could the dragon have existed?" This work would be suitable for a research topic or appealing to reluctant readers. There are frequent appearances of b&w photographs. Works consulted. Index. Further reading section.

Recommended. *Patricia Beddoe, Media Specialist, Corydon (Indiana) Central Jr. Sr. High School*

[Editor's Note: Other titles in the series explore the existence of vampires, witches, unicorns, angels, and other legendary creatures and phenomena.]

Schultz, David

Encyclopedia of American Law ★

2002. 542pp. \$75 hc. Facts on File. 0-8160-4329-9. Grade 9 & Up

An affordable, compact, and comprehensive resource, this encyclopedia's entries average a page in length and include contemporary topics such as affirmative action and recent court cases as well as concepts such as entrapment, equity, and insanity. The appendixes include documents such as the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and other amendments to the Constitution, and the Emancipation Proclamation. Other appendixes are Locating Court Cases and Laws, Justices of the Supreme Court, How Cases Reach the United States Supreme Court, and the Stages of a Criminal Case. This resource packs a lot of material and is easy to read and navigate. I'd be surprised if it didn't become one of the most used reference materials in a school library. **Highly Recommended.** *Linda D. Behen, Director of Library Services, St. Ursula Academy, Cincinnati, Ohio*

Stand Up Speak Out:

A Book About Children's Rights

2002. 96pp. \$14.95 hc. Two-Can Publishing. 1-58728-540-1. Grades 5-8

Children's rights are not a hot topic in the United States, yet children around the world are at risk everyday for their safety, health, and even their lives. Peace Child International, a non-profit group based in the United Kingdom, has assembled an in-depth look at the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This document sets forth basic expectations for the treatment of children in member countries. Topics covered include child labor, abuse, health care, and legal rights. The book is illustrated with photographs of kids and artwork created by children around the world. Poems and letters from children give abstract issues emotional impact. This information would be useful for reports, and might inspire students to "think globally, act locally." **Recommended.** *Sylvia L. Adair, K-8 Library Media Specialist, Lomira, Wisconsin*

Tracey, Grant

Filmography of American History

2002. 352pp. \$55 lb. Greenwood Publishing. 0-313-313008-8. Grade 10 & Up

Tracey annotates more than 200 films that portray pre-Civil War times to the present, giving information about the film's setting, plot summary, and cast, and materials for further reading. Film buffs will enjoy it; teachers wanting a resource about films that they can use in history, English, or film studies classes will welcome it. It would be an asset to any college or high school with a film study course or a building- or system-level professional collection of curriculum materials. But most schools with limited budgets will not need it. Indexes, appendixes. **Additional Selection.** *Augie E. Beasley, Educational Reviewer, Charlotte, North Carolina*

