

This two-volume set is organized first by era (the first being pre-1900, then a section for each decade thereafter, up to and including the 2010's), while the entries within each section are organized alphabetically. Within the section for each decade there are a series of four sidebars that provide further insights into each decade. Themes for each sidebar include "Face of the Decade," which "spotlights the people or ideal images that best personified the era. 'Games People Play' looks at the toys, games, and other diversions that were the most popular at the time. 'The Only Way to Go' focuses on transportation, and 'Everybody's Talking' eavesdrops on what fashionable people were chatting about" (xxvi).

Ragtime, baseball cards, drive-in movies, MAD Magazine, pet rocks, and mood rings are just a sampling of the over 200 fads and crazes covered, with each entry spanning one to three pages in length. Each entry concludes with suggested further reading that directs users to an additional one to five sources on each topic. An exhaustive alphabetical index, spanning over 100 pages, enables researchers to find exactly what they are looking for with great specificity and further enhances the usability of this encyclopedia. One feature that is particularly noteworthy is the inclusion of a section titled, "Popular Slang and Catchphrases by Decade." Essentially a glossary and dictionary of terms and phrases, this section provides readers with a fun and valuable insight into the colloquialisms used by Americans in their everyday language and conversations throughout each decade.

The writing style and technique of author Nancy Hendricks deserves special mention as well. Entries are equal parts informative and fascinating and will quickly and easily grab the attention of its reader. While the entries are fairly short in length, this is very much a positive, as they are best described as succinct and to the point. Her clear and approachable writing gives this encyclopedia more of a conversational tone that will appeal to readers young and old alike.

Thoroughly researched, thoughtfully organized, and written with great skill and technique, *Popular Fads and Crazes through American History* is a gem that is easy to recommend. This two-volume set would make a welcome addition to any public, school, or academic library.—*Matthew Laudicina, Senior Reference Librarian, Manuscripts and Special Collections, New York State Library*

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***Pro Wrestling: A Comprehensive Reference Guide.*** By Lew Freedman. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2018. 305 p. Acid-free \$94. (ISBN 978-1-4408-5350-0). E-book Available (978-1-4408-5351-7), call for pricing.

Professional wrestling is one of the most popular forms of entertainment in the world, delivering spectacles that are equal parts athletic competition and theatrical performance. As pro wrestlers have grown in stature from local heroes to worldwide superstars, so too has the wrestling industry grown from traveling road shows to globally televised productions. Despite the massive success of pro wrestling,

a literature search reveals a dearth of reference guides and scholarly analysis on the subject. In *Pro Wrestling: A Comprehensive Reference Guide*, author Lew Freedman provides a much-needed guide for newcomers to this unique hybrid of sport and performing art.

The volume begins with a preface that establishes its goal of "highlighting the famous and important names who elevated pro wrestling in public esteem" (ix). This is followed by an introduction that traces the growth of pro wrestling to its current status as a multimillion-dollar industry and a chronology that identifies some key dates in this development. The guide is comprised of 100 entries arranged alphabetically and primarily focused on the careers and lives of individual wrestlers. A few other important topics are also covered, including wrestling promoters and governing bodies. Each entry helpfully includes see also references and a further reading list predominantly composed of news articles, websites, and popular nonfiction titles for readers to explore.

For popular culture scholars or knowledgeable fans of pro wrestling, this work does have some limitations. There is little discussion of the terminology and tropes of wrestling storytelling beyond an article on kayfabe—the essential genre convention that all things depicted in a wrestling performance are real. Additionally, the biographical entries focus less on personal lives and more on each wrestler's career and in-ring exploits. Even this information is presented in the form of a broad overview, with brief descriptions of character traits and storyline highlights, rather than examined in significant detail.

As a result of these limitations, this guide may be more appropriate for a general audience seeking an introduction to the world of pro wrestling. The focus on major personalities is a compelling hook for new fans and younger readers, and the suggested further readings are easily accessible online or through a library. This, combined with the overall lack of guides about pro wrestling, makes this title a potentially valuable addition to high school and public library collections.—*Kapil Vasudev, Special Collections Resident Librarian, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio*

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***Reading Harper Lee: Understanding To Kill a Mockingbird and Go Set a Watchman.*** By Claudia Durst Johnson. Santa Barbara, CA: Greenwood, 2018. 183 p. Acid-free \$39 (ISBN 978-1-4408-6127-7). Ebook Available (978-1-4408-6128-4), call for pricing.

*Reading Harper Lee: Understanding To Kill a Mockingbird and Go Set a Watchman* by Claudia Durst Johnson is meant to assist students studying the work of Harper Lee by providing context for her life and work and examining key topics such as race, class, and gender. It functions in some ways as an update to Johnson's *Understanding To Kill a Mockingbird: A Student Casebook to Issues, Sources, and Historic Documents* (Greenwood, 1994) since it includes analysis of *Go Set a Watchman*. Rather than being a replacement for the 1994 reference work, it functions as a great complement for a