

ners, with a few notable exceptions (e.g., Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas; filmmakers Ismail Merchant and James Ivory) were less famous. Each chapter covers one couple and highlights how the pair's personal lives synergistically developed and came to influence their work, whether as muse (Whitman and Peter Doyle), emotional stability and support (Williams and Frank Merlo), or a fully evolved working partnership (Merchant and Ivory). **VERDICT** An engaging and well-researched volume with broad appeal to the LGBTQ crowd (especially couples) as well as social historians.—Richard J. Violette, Greater Victoria P.L., B.C.

Zeilinger, Julie. *A Little F'd Up: Why Feminism Is Not a Dirty Word.* Seal: Perseus. 2012. c.256p.

ISBN 9781580053716. pap. \$16. soc sci
Zeilinger, creator of a popular feminist teen blog, thebomb.org, has written a primer on feminism for teenagers and young women. Now a student at Barnard College, she draws on her own high-school experiences to connect to readers who may be put off by both the language and the ideas of feminism. She devotes the book's first third to the history of feminism or, as she puts it, "The Badasses

Who Came Before Us." Like the rest of the book, it is talky and thinly resourced (with the occasional error), but Zeilinger's goal is to entice her readers to stick with her as she demonstrates her understanding of their plight: the abundant "bullshit," "the fucking nightmare" of dealing with body image. (The patois seems intrinsic to her presentation of the issues.) Focusing on global issues, the Internet, and surviving high school, she describes feminism as both inclusive and empowering, with sound advice to young women dealing with the ongoing double standard and the images of perfect women that surround them. She concludes with a short list of other recommended resources for budding feminists. **VERDICT** Zeilinger has the bonafides to reach teenaged and twentysomething women. This just might work.—Cynthia Harrison, George Washington Univ., Washington, DC

TRAVEL & GEOGRAPHY

Arnold, Daniel. *Salt to Summit: A Vagabond Journey from Death Valley to Mount Whitney.* Counterpoint. 2012. c.288p. bibliog. illus. ISBN 9781582437507. pap. \$17.95. TRAV

Arnold (*Early Days in the Range of Light: Encounters with Legendary Mountaineers*) is one tough guy—he's not even slightly intimidated by the hazardous extremes of California's deserts and mountains he describes in a travel memoir that also offers up a hearty dose of history. Aware of the dangers before him, he relishes the challenge as he sets out from the Badwater Basin in Death Valley, CA, at 282 feet below sea level to the peak of Mount Whitney at 14,505 feet above it, the highest point in the contiguous United States. Interspersed with his own experiences hiking along a route he planned himself are those of travelers who came through this area before him: Mary Arnold, who learned the secret trails of the Shoshone Indians; William Manly, who rescued the last of the forty-niners from the bottom of Death Valley; and even the infamous Charles Manson. A useful appendix of sources will help the reader consult other firsthand accounts. **VERDICT** Arnold infuses the narrative of his strenuous journey with eloquence. For avid outdoors types and students of California history. (Photographs not seen.)—Olga B. Wise, Austin, TX

★**Craig, William.** *Yankee Come Home: On the Road from San Juan Hill to Guantánamo.* Walker. Aug. 2012. c.448p. index. ISBN 9780802710932. \$28.

TRAV

Freelance journalist Craig (liberal arts,

River Valley Community Coll.) has a story to tell. After years of hearing that his great-grandfather fought with Teddy Roosevelt on San Juan Hill, he sought to connect with the past and retrace his ancestor's steps; this book is the result. His adventures in Cuba ultimately involve a dubious Nigerian missionary, a New England feminist choir, and a family secret. Though his travels don't work out as planned, Craig forges on. As they say on the island: "*Estamos en Cuba.*" Readers experience Afro-Cuban religious ceremonies, brush-ups with the ever-present secret police, plenty of rum, and several hours on terrible Cuban transportation. **VERDICT** This memoir could have disintegrated into a slapstick account of a Nigerian scam artist, inflexible Cuban bureaucrats, and the woes of a crumbling Cuban infrastructure. Instead, Craig has crafted a nuanced, coherent account of the Spanish-American War (remember the *Maine*?) interspersed with recent Cuban history and the current reality; the book is also a family memoir and quirky travelog. Recommended for anyone interested in Cuba or the Spanish-American War.—Lee Arnold, Historical Soc. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Kolsky, Rachel & Roslyn Rawson. *Jewish London: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Visitors and Londoners.* Interlink: Interlink Pub. Group. 2012. 224p. illus. maps. index. ISBN 9781566569002. pap. \$17.95. TRAV

Travel guide Kolsky and attorney Rawson have taken the rich history of Jews in London, which dates from the 11th century, and compiled an information-packed, handsomely illustrated guide. The book includes a number of themed walks ("Old Jewish East End," "Fitzrovia and Soho," "Jewish Firsts"), each with an excellent map, as well as chapters on the hidden Jewish London, Holocaust memorials, historic Jewish cemeteries, and the Jewish Museum in Camden Town. An extensive section on London today includes recommendations for kosher restaurants, with the supervising Kashrut (dietary) authority indicated, hotels that offer Shabbat (Sabbath) facilities, and synagogues. The guide also includes essays on films and books on Jewish London, a list of current Jewish newspapers and journals, and a glossary of Jewish terms. Most entries contain contact information, the nearest Underground or bus stop, and opening hours. **VERDICT** Highly recommended for anyone, Jewish or not, planning a trip to London who is interested in this distinctive aspect of the city's history.—Linda M. Kaufmann, Massachusetts Coll. of Liberal Arts Lib., North Adam

