Ready to Dive
Five Decades of Adventure in the Abyss

by Curt Newport

In Ready to Dive, Curt Newport describes his role in some of the most daring and consequential deep ocean search and recovery operations of our time. Newport was there on the front lines and in the trenches, rigging lift lines, piloting underwater vehicles, and dealing with the carnage following both military and civilian plane crashes. Starting with his life as the son of an army aviator during various international postings before covering his conflicts with his father during the turbulent 1960s, the book details how he got into the subsea field. In a career lasting nearly fifty years, probing waters deeper than three miles, Newport describes unwinding passenger clothing from submersible propellers during the Air India salvage, recovering tons of volatile fuel-laden solid rocket motor parts from the Space Shuttle Challenger, thumbing through the wallet of a young girl lost during the crash of TWA flight 800, and deciphering the navigational mystery of the USS Indianapolis. Ready to Dive is a gritty, blunt, and real firsthand subsea account unlike any other.

They said it was impossible. Newport’s mission to raise Liberty Bell 7 from three miles below the Atlantic Ocean was perhaps as audacious as the mission’s original brief from thirty-eight years earlier—a mission to raise Gus Grissom and his tiny spacecraft, 100 miles above Earth, to accomplish the world’s third human spaceflight. It’s all recounted here, along with Newport’s countless other search and recovery operations as one of the great pioneers of remotely operated vehicles (ROVs). Ready to Dive is a fascinating, no-nonsense insight into nearly fifty years of Newport’s experience at the forefront of some of the most notable deep ocean expeditions in recent memory. —Andy Saunders, author of Apollo Remastered

A deep dive into the murky and dangerous world of subsea operations and recoveries from the man who spent nearly fifty years in that hostile, unforgiving environment. This isn’t just a historical biography of some of the most newsworthy undersea operations—it’s a gripping firsthand account that puts the reader in the cold, dark, alien environment that will leave you gasping for air! —David A. Yuzuk, author of The Giant Killer

Curt Newport retired in 2022 after forty-seven years in the underwater profession. During his work with underwater vehicles, he operated Canadian, US, British, and Norwegian vehicles on an international basis, ranging from the Arctic to the “Roaring Forties,” the Persian Gulf, the North Sea, and both sides of the equator in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Overall, he has participated in over 150 undersea operations in water depths down to 5,500 meters (over 3.4 miles). He has supported numerous undersea operations such as the salvage of Air India Flight 182, the Space Shuttle Challenger, the recovery of Liberty Bell 7, TWA 800, the broadcast of live images from the RMS Titanic, the USS Indianapolis, as well as many other classified missions involving the loss of military aircraft.
Lead Babies and Poisoned Housing
Environmental Injustice, Systemic Racism, and Governmental Failure

by Carolyn R. Boiarsky

Drawing on historic sources as well as present-day interviews, Lead Babies and Poisoned Housing is a story about systemic racism, environmental injustice, and the failure of government.

In 2016, 1,100 mainly minority residents of a low-income housing complex in East Chicago, Indiana, received a letter from the city forcibly evicting them from their homes because a high level of lead was found in the soil under their houses. The residents were given two months to move. Many could not find safe housing nearby. The site was designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as a Superfund site because of the large amount of toxic material on it. More than 1,300 similar sites are located throughout the United States. Over 70 million people live within three miles of one of these sites.

Five years later, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Inspector General charged three federal agencies—EPA, HUD, and CDC—with causing the lead poisoning of children living in the complex. The EPA, responsible for the cleanup, had been aware of the situation for 35 years. The director of the local housing authority admitted to building the complex over a demolished lead smelter. When health issues arose, the housing authority blamed the residents’ sanitary habits rather than its own failure to maintain the structures. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s testing of blood lead levels was revealed to be faulty. In short, the very agencies that were supposed to protect these people instead neglected, ignored, and blamed them.

But this isn’t just a story of victimization; it is also about empowerment and community members insisting their voices be heard. Lead Babies and Poisoned Housing records the human side of what happens when the industries responsible for polluting leave, but the residents remain. Those residents tell their stories in their own words—not just what happened to them, but how they acted in response. We should listen, not only for justice, but as a cautionary tale against repeated history.

“Giving voice to the unheard, Boiarsky passionately weaves the inspiring stories of East Chicago women—fighting for their children and an entire community of children—while meticulously exposing the decades-long failure of government to protect our kids. In describing one of the most egregious environmental injustices of our time, Lead Babies and Poisoned Housing will leave readers demanding justice for the victims, accountability from industries, and a reimagined government that is equity-driven, prevention-focused, and child-centric. —Mona Hanna-Attisha, Flint, Michigan, pediatrician and author of What the Eyes Don’t See: A Story of Crisis, Resistance, and Hope in an American City

Carolyn R. Boiarsky is an investigative reporter and academic. She began her career as Statehouse correspondent for United Press International (UPI) in 1964, one of only a few female investigative reporters in the country at that time. She went on to become a television news reporter for the West Virginia CBS affiliate WCHS-TV. She has published in the New Republic, the Progressive, and various newspaper Sunday supplements. Later she became a professor. She currently serves as a professor of English at Purdue University Northwest. Author of five books on teaching writing, she is also the founder of the Northwest Indiana Writing Project.
What we currently call “horse whispering” has roots in a form of western horsemanship that traveled from Europe to Mexico and the United States, and was then transformed by Native Americans and working cowboys into Vaquero horsemanship. *Fine Horses and Fair-Minded Riders: Modern Vaquero Horsemanship* documents the learning and practice of Vaquero horsemanship, which has survived as a vibrant part of horse culture. In her study, Ávila first focused on participants in the southeastern United States before expanding to include their mentors from across the United States.

Ávila characterizes what she found as “a collapse of distance” between geographical and cultural boundaries, digital and physical spaces, and, most significantly, horses and humans. Influenced by New Literacies scholarship and employing a sociocultural theoretical framework, Ávila explores self-directed learning journeys; the flexibility of apprentice and expert positions; the influence of consumer culture; the philosophy and significance of the cultural roots of Vaquero horsemanship; the role of technology; and what the future of this continually evolving horsemanship might include. At the heart of this volume are personal stories and firsthand accounts from those who have studied modern Vaquero horsemanship, which can help to create exceptional and powerful bonds between horses and humans.

For the time I spent with *Fine Horses and Fair-Minded Riders: Modern Vaquero Horsemanship*, I gained insight and a sense of the peacefulness of living with horses. Ávila’s unique book on horsemanship has much to teach humankind about living in a time of duress, short tempers, and upheavals the world over. —**Donna E. Alvermann**, Omer Clyde and Elizabeth Parr Aderhold Professor in Education Emeritus, University of Georgia

Fine Horses and Fair-Minded Riders is a love song to horses, those who ride them, and truly learners everywhere. —**Judith Dunkerly**, Associate Professor of Literacy, Language, and Culture, Old Dominion University

**JuliAnna Ávila** is an associate professor in the English Department at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She received her PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, in education in language, literacy, and sociocultural studies. In addition to five edited and coedited collections, she has published in *Irish Educational Studies, Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy, Teaching Education, English Journal, Literacy, Theory Into Practice, and Pedagogies*. She is the recipient of the American Educational Research Association Steve Cahir Award for Research on Writing, the Edward B. Fry Book Award, and the Divergent Publication Award for Excellence in Literacy in a Digital Age Research.
A History of the Development of Alternatives to Animals in Research and Testing

John Parascandola

Growing public interest in animal welfare issues in recent decades has prompted increased attention to the efforts to develop alternative, nonanimal methods for use in biomedical research and product testing. In A History of the Development of Alternatives to Animals in Research and Testing, the first book-length study of the subject, John Parascandola traces the history of the concept of alternatives to the use of animals in research and testing in Britain and the United States from its beginnings until it had become firmly established in the scientific and animal protection communities by the end of the 1980s. This account of the history of alternatives is set within the context of developments within science, animal welfare, and politics. The book covers the key role played by animal welfare advocates in promoting alternatives, the initial resistance to alternatives on the part of many in the scientific community, the opportunity provided by alternatives for compromise and cooperation between these two groups, and the dominance of the “Three Rs”—reduction, refinement, and replacement.

John Parascandola has provided an expert and essential volume for anyone interested in the history of animal welfare in twentieth-century Britain and the United States. Parascandola’s history is impeccable, his writing engaging, and with the book’s focus on reducing and replacing animals in the laboratory, it is certainly the most important and compelling contribution to the history of animal welfare and experimentation in decades. —Susan E. Lederer, Ronald L. Numbers Professor of Medical History and Bioethics, University of Wisconsin

This book presents a fully developed picture of the development of the three Rs and alternatives from both personal knowledge, interviews, and historical records. It will be a wonderful teaching tool, and it is a very good and interesting read. —Alan M. Goldberg, Founding Director (Emeritus), Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing, Johns Hopkins University

Nobody is better placed to write a comprehensive history of the alternatives concept than Dr. Parascandola. He has the necessary expertise as a professional health historian and, having raised two children who are now animal advocates, he also has the motivation. —Andrew Rowan, President, WellBeing International, and former CEO, Humane Society International

John Parascandola, PhD, taught at the University of Wisconsin and the University of Maryland, and served in the federal government as chief of the History of Medicine Division of the National Library of Medicine and as the historian for the Public Health Service. He is the author of four books, including The Development of American Pharmacology: John J. Abel and the Shaping of a Discipline, winner of the George Urdang Medal, and Sex, Sin, and Science: A History of Syphilis in America, which won the George Pendleton Prize. He is currently an affiliate of the Department of History at the University of Maryland.
Everyday Postsocialism in Eastern Europe

History Doesn't Travel in One Direction

Edited by Jill Massino and Markus Wien

The collapse of state socialism ushered in dramatic political and economic change, producing new freedoms and opportunities, but also new challenges and disappointments. Focusing on laborers, professionals, youth, women, sexual minorities, foreign students, and emigrants, Everyday Postsocialism in Eastern Europe explores these multifaceted changes and people's varied experiences of them. The featured narratives complicate hegemonic representations of transformation, revealing ruptures and continuities, progress and reversals. Highlighting the multi-directionality of change over the last thirty years, the book reappraises 1989 as an epochal event for all.

KEY SELLING POINTS

- Bottom-up history of Eastern Europe since the collapse of communism, focusing on the lived experiences of everyday people.
- Includes multidisciplinary approach and specialized case studies.
- Illuminates the diverse and nonlinear nature of transition: history as lived is not “neat.”

Jill Massino is an associate professor of history at the University North Carolina at Charlotte. She is the author of Ambiguous Transitions: Gender, the State, and Everyday Life in Socialist and Postsocialist Romania and coeditor of Gender Politics and Everyday Life in State Socialist Eastern and Central Europe.

Markus Wien is professor of European history at the American University in Bulgaria. His publications include Market and Modernization: German-Bulgarian Economic Relations 1918–1944 and Their Conceptual Foundations and numerous articles and book chapters on minorities in Bulgaria, Bulgarian politics, and German development projects in interwar Bulgaria.

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From Schmelt Camp to “Little Auschwitz”: Blechhammer’s Role in the Holocaust

Susanne Barth

From Schmelt Camp to “Little Auschwitz”: Blechhammer’s Role in the Holocaust is the first in-depth study of the second largest Auschwitz subcamp, Blechhammer (Blachownia Śląska), and its lesser known yet significant prehistory as a so-called Schmelt camp, a forced labor camp for Jews operating outside the concentration camp system. Drawing on previously untapped archival documents and a wide array of survivor testimonies, the book provides novel findings on Blechhammer’s role in the Holocaust in Eastern Upper Silesia, a formerly Polish territory annexed to Nazi Germany in the fall of 1939, where 120,000 Jews lived.

Established in the spring of 1942 to construct a synthetic fuel plant, the camp’s abhorrent living conditions led to the death of thousands of young Jews conscripted from the ghettos or taken off deportation convoys from Western Europe. Blechhammer was not only used for selecting parts of the Jewish ghetto population for Auschwitz, but also for killing pregnant women and babies. As an Auschwitz satellite, Blechhammer became the scene of brutal executions and massacres of prisoners refusing to go on the Death March. This microhistory unearths the far-reaching complicity of often overlooked perpetrators, such as the industrialists, factory guards, policemen, and “ordinary” civilians in these atrocities, but more importantly, it focuses on the victims, reconstructing the prisoners’ daily life and suffering, as well as their survival strategies.

Susanne Barth presents readers with a meticulously researched study on the neglected Blechhammer concentration camp. Indeed, the book provides a chilling portrait of the enthusiastic role played by industrialists outside of the camp SS in exploiting and, ultimately, murdering their forced laborers. The author powerfully reminds us again of the diverse universe of the Nazi concentration camp system and of the wide range of complicity beyond the SS. This is an important book that combines microhistory with larger trends to place the camp within the history of the Holocaust. —Waitman Beorn, Assistant Professor of History, Northumbria University

Susanne Barth’s work is a novel contribution to the field of research on the Schmelt camp system. Barth uses an overwhelming and well-informed body of sources, and sheds a critical and carefully analyzed light on new perpetrators, which are underrepresented in Holocaust scholarship. —Verena Buser, Research Fellow, Western Galilee College

A precious contribution to our knowledge of the history of the Holocaust. The book covers a gaping lacuna in the existing Holocaust research and is a product of meticulous studies. This is the best quality scholarship—balanced, impartial, and concrete. —Piotr J. Wróbel, Professor and Konstanty Reynert Chair of Polish History, University of Toronto

Susanne Barth received a PhD in history from Oldenburg University (Germany) and currently is a Thesaurus Poloniae Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the International Cultural Center in Kraków, Poland. Her research was funded by a Claims Conference Saul Kagan Fellowship in Advanced Shoah Studies and a European Holocaust Research Infrastructure Fellowship at the NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust, and Genocide Studies in Amsterdam. Her articles have appeared in Shofar; S:i.M.O.N. – Shoah: Intervention. Methods. Documentation; and European History Quarterly.
New Paths in Jewish and Religious Studies
Essays in Honor of Professor Elliot R. Wolfson

Edited by Glenn Dynner, Susannah Heschel, and Shaul Magid

The work of Elliot R. Wolfson has profoundly influenced the fields of Jewish studies as well as philosophy and religion more broadly. His radically new approaches have created pioneering ways of analyzing texts and thinking about religion through the lens of gender, sexuality, and feminist theory. The contributors to New Paths in Jewish and Religious Studies: Essays in Honor of Professor Elliot R. Wolfson, many of whom are internationally renowned scholars, hearken from diverse fields. Each has learned from and collaborated with Wolfson as student or colleague, and each has expanded the new scholarly directions initiated by Wolfson's groundbreaking work. Wolfson's scholarship gives us innovative ways to think about Judaism and a fresh understanding of religion. Not only a scholar, Wolfson is one of the most important Jewish thinkers of our day. Chapters are grouped according to the categories of religion, Jewish thought and philosophy, and a focused section on Kabbalah, Wolfson's primary specialization. The volume concludes with a bibliography of Wolfson's published work and a selection of his poetry.

"Offering a rich and probing array of contributions to the broad fields of religion, Jewish thought, Kabbalah, philosophy, and literature, this Festschrift is a worthy tribute to the originality, depth, and astonishingly wide-spanning nature of Wolfson's life's work." —Daniel M. Herskowitz, Faculty of Theology and Religion, University of Oxford

Glenn Dynner is the Carl and Dorothy Bennett Professor of Judaic Studies and director of the Bennett Center at Fairfield University. He is coeditor of Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies and a recent Guggenheim Fellow. He is author of "Men of Silk": The Hasidic Conquest of Polish Jewish Society and Yankel's Tavern: Jews, Liquor, and Life in the Kingdom of Poland. His latest book is entitled The Light of Learning: Hasidism in Poland on the Eve of the Holocaust.

Susannah Heschel is the Eli M. Black Distinguished Professor of Jewish Studies and chair of the Jewish Studies Program at Dartmouth College. She is the author of Abraham Geiger and the Jewish Jesus; The Aryan Jesus: Christian Theologians and the Bible in Nazi Germany; and Jüdischer Islam: Islam und jüdisch-deutsche Selbstbestimmung. Her forthcoming book, written with Sarah Imhoff, is Jewish Studies and the Woman Question. A Guggenheim Fellow, she also is the recipient of five honorary doctorates from institutions in the United States, Canada, Germany, and Switzerland, and she has held research grants from the Carnegie Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the National Humanities Center, and the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin.

Shaul Magid is a professor of Jewish studies at Dartmouth College, Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of World Religion at Harvard, and Kogod Senior Research Fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America. He has rabbinical ordination from Jerusalem in 1984. Among other books, he is the author of From Metaphysics to Midrash; American Post-Judaism: Identity and Renewal in a Postethnic Society; and Hasidism Incarnate: Hasidism, Christianity, and the Construction of Modern Judaism. He is the editor of the column Teiku for the Ayin Journal and writes regularly for +972 and Religion Dispatches. He is an elected member of the American Academy for Jewish Research and the American Society for the Study of Religion.
Clarice Lispector

From Brazil to the World

Earl E. Fitz

*Clarice Lispector: From Brazil to the World* explains why the Brazilian master was so transformative of modern Brazilian literature and why she has become such a celebrity in the world literature arena. This book also shows why Lispector is not one writer, as many think, but many writers. By offering close readings of her novels, stories, and nonfiction pieces, Fitz shows the diverse sides of her literary world. Chapters cover Lispector’s devotion to language and its connection to identity; her political engagement; and her humor, eroticism, and struggle with the concept of God. The last chapter seeks to explain why this most singular of modern Brazilian writers commands such a passionate global following.

> From Brazil to the World *impacts the literary criticism and translation of Clarice Lispector’s texts in very meaningful ways considering that there is a genuine interest in her literature worldwide. The discussions are informed by the latest theories in the field, and the close readings and lucid analyses of Lispector’s texts make considerable contributions to the studies of Brazilian and world literatures.* —Maria José Somerlate Barbosa, University of Iowa

**KEY SELLING POINTS**

- Explores why, fifty years after her death, Clarice Lispector remains so popular.
- Covers Lispector’s themes of identity, politics, and humor.

*Earl E. Fitz* is a professor of Portuguese, Spanish, and comparative literature at Vanderbilt University, where he currently teaches classes on Brazilian and Spanish American literature, on inter-American literature, and on translation. He is the author of *Sexuality and Being in the Poststructural Universe of Clarice Lispector.*
Santé, intimité, et identité dans la bande dessinée autobiographique de tradition franco-belge

Cynthia Laborde

*Santé, intimité, et identité dans la bande dessinée autobiographique de tradition franco-belge* examines the ways different autobiographical comic books explore the theme of health, and its influence on identity construction. How do artists represent abstract feelings of pain? How do illnesses influence our sense of self? What is the role of others in our personal history? Our state of health, both physical and mental, has a profound effect on our identity, and how we perceive and tell stories about this dimension of our lives is crucial to forming a sense of self, particularly in a contemporary digitalized world that is now flooded with information and images once considered too private for public consumption. All the works studied exhibit a constant tension between the anxieties of revealing intimacy and vulnerability, and the desire to make suffering meaningful, which is a fundamental aspect of these authors’ quest to recover and to reconstitute a sense of self. Informed by the insights of intimacy studies, psychoanalysis, comics studies, and visual studies, this book shows how these works participate in the process of meaning-making, and how the comics genre allows them to do so in particularly inventive and contemporary ways.

**KEY SELLING POINTS**

- A unique study focused exclusively on nonfictional graphic novels discussing health.
- An interdisciplinary work, including comic studies, visual studies, medical humanities, and psychology.

**Cynthia Laborde, PhD**, is an associate professor of French at the University of Texas at Arlington. She specializes in twentieth-century French studies, and her research focuses exclusively on comic books. She has published various articles and book chapters on French classics, as well as lesser-known works of nonfiction. She also has led several pedagogical workshops related to *bandes dessinées*. 
Forging the Future
A History of the John Martinson Honors College, 2013–2023

Edited by Emily Allen, Jannine Huby, and Pulkit Manchanda

Forging the Future: A History of the John Martinson Honors College, 2013–2023 is the story of a collaborative effort to build a visionary place: an academic-residential college that would bring together students from across disciplines and differences to rethink the goals and practices of a college education. Designed to be a hub for interdisciplinary learning and innovative pedagogy at Purdue University and a national leader in honors education, the John Martinson Honors College (JMHC) was first and foremost a dream of the future. How that collective dream took shape—from the first, speculative discussions of a college to the literal construction of its buildings and the arrival of its students—is a tale researched, written, and published by the students and alumni of the JMHC. Part institutional history, part biography of a place and its people, Forging the Future is a record of what hope and imagination can accomplish in ten years.

Emily Allen is associate professor of English at Purdue University and director of the Blue Sky Teaching and Learning Laboratory in Purdue’s John Martinson Honors College.

Jannine Huby is a recent alumna of Purdue University and the John Martinson Honors College.

Pulkit Manchanda is a Purdue University and John Martinson Honors College alumnus from New Delhi, India.
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