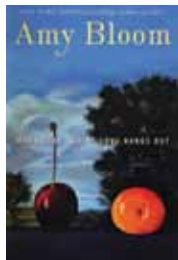


JUST PUBLISHED



**RICH BENJAMIN '93**  
*Searching for Whitopia: An Improbable Journey to the Heart of White America* (Hyperion, 2009)

Benjamin’s fascinating account considers the increase of movement of white Americans to small towns and exurban areas that are predominately inhabited by other white citizens. Benjamin calls these communities “Whitopias.” This flight coincides with the increase of immigrant populations—many of them people of color—in cities and suburbs. Between 2007 and 2009, the writer, who is African American, traveled some 26,000 miles around the country to learn more about life in these seductive Whitopias and the people who live there, many of them hoping to find a more orderly or safer environment or people with similar values and political views. He lived in three such communities in Georgia, Idaho, and Utah for several months, where he spent time with locals at such typical social activities as barbecues, pool parties, bowling nights, bars, poker games, and outdoor hikes.



**AMY BLOOM '75**  
*Where the God of Love Hangs Out* (Random House, 2010)

Bloom’s latest acclaimed story collection contains two sets of four related stories and four unrelated works in which she explores love, loss, mortality, and other human predicaments with compassion and humor. The first quartet of stories concerns the love affair between middle-aged friends William and Clare who are married to others. The other set of interlocking tales explores the relationship over 30 years between Julia and her stepson Lionel who are introduced in the story “Sleepwalking” as they mourn the death of Lionel’s jazz musician father.

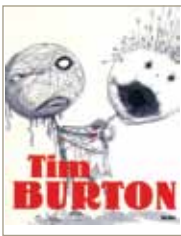
In her review of the book in the *New York Times*, Janet Maslin wrote that Bloom “writes

about characters who are stunning in their verisimilitude but never really predictable in their behavior...they sustain the ability to surprise one another—and themselves.”



**BENJAMIN FLOWERS '96**  
*Skyscraper: The Politics and Power of Building New York City in the Twentieth Century* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009)

An assistant professor of architecture at the Georgia Institute of Technology, Flowers explores the role of culture and ideology in shaping the construction of skyscrapers, as well as the way wealth and power have operated to reshape the urban landscape. The author examines the creation and reception of three major architectural sites: the Empire State Building, the Seagram Building, and the World Trade Center, as he draws upon a broad array of archival sources, such as corporate records, architects’ papers, newspaper ads, and political cartoons. Flowers reveals how architects and their clients employed a diverse range of modernist styles to engage with and influence broader cultural themes in American society, such as immigration and the Cold War.



**JENNY HE '02 AND RON MAGLIOZZI**  
*Tim Burton* (The Museum of Modern Art, 2009)

He worked on this book to accompany a major career retrospective of artist and filmmaker Tim Burton (for which she was co-curator) at the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA) in New York City. The publication considers the evolution of Burton’s creative practices and the influence of popular culture and Pop Surrealism on his work. The book traces the path of his visual imagination from his earliest childhood drawings through his mature works, which includes his films *Beetlejuice*,

*Edward Scissorhands*, and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. He contributes an essay, “An Auteur for All Ages,” in which she discusses Burton’s unique visuals, specific themes, and his embrace of character. Among the 64 illustrations in the book are works on paper, moving-image stills, drawn and painted concept art, puppets and maquettes, storyboards, and previously unseen works from the artist’s personal archive.

**JOHN F. ROSS '81**  
*War on the Run: The Epic Story of Robert Rogers and the Conquest of America’s First Frontier* (Bantam, 2009)

Ross’s exciting biography reconstructs the extraordinary life and battles of Robert Rogers (1731–1795), a brave and inspiring leader and wilderness warrior. Rogers’ heroics are often overlooked in the present, yet he is hailed by today’s elite special forces who still follow his innovative principles of unconventional warfare. Rogers learned to survive in New England’s dangerous forests. By merging European technology to the stealth and adaptability he observed in native warriors, he led the Independent Company of Rangers in victory over the Abenake Indians during the French and Indian War. He trained this unorthodox unit of green provincials, raw woodsmen, farmers, and Indian scouts on “impossible” missions that became legendary. These Rangers were chosen for their backwoods savvy, courage, and endurance. These men laid the groundwork for the colonial strategy later used in the War of Independence.

**MARK C. TAYLOR '68**  
*Field Notes from Elsewhere: Reflections on Dying and Living* (Columbia University Press, 2009)

Taylor, a professor of religion at Columbia University, suddenly fell critically ill in fall 2005. For two days a team of 40 doctors, many of whom thought he would not live, fought to save him. Although he would eventually recover, he then faced the new threat of surgery for cancer. His experiences led him to write this remarkable memoir in which he combines philosophical and theological reflection with autobiographical narrative. In 52 chapters with accompanying pho-

tographs, the author describes his experiences of sickness and convalescence, as he confronts human frailty and resilience with a sense of humor and hope. Taylor writes: “In the hospital, a unique community emerges among strangers. ...In a world where intimacy is often cheap, the richest community might be found in the most unexpected place—the cancer ward.”



**SAM WASSON '03**  
*A Splurch in the Kisser: The Movies of Blake Edwards* (Wesleyan University Press, 2009)

Wasson offers a fresh, intelligent and comprehensive study of the films of Blake Edwards, who had one of the longest and most controversial directorial careers in Hollywood. Edwards is best known for his gift for directing comedy, with a particular talent for filming slapstick, on a par with America’s great comic directors such as Charles Chaplin, Ernst Lubitsch, Preston Sturges, and Billy Wilder, yet he has been undervalued over the years by film critics. The director also tackled serious dramas and a number of films that were not easily classified or that explored the darker side of comedy. Wasson examines Edwards’ classics such as *Breakfast at Tiffany’s*, the original *Pink Panther* films, and *Victor/Victoria* but he also takes a close look at some of the director’s lesser known works, including *What Did You Do in the War, Daddy?* and *Darling Lili*, making a convincing case for their brilliance.

**MICHAEL ARMSTRONG-ROCHE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ROMANCE LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**  
*Cervantes’ Epic Novel: Empire, Religion and the Dream Life of Heroes in Persiles* (University of Toronto Press, 2009)

Though well-known today as the author of the classic novel *Don Quixote*, Miguel de Cervantes conceived his final work, *The Labours of Persiles and Sigismunda: A Northern Story* (1617), as a great prose epic that would accomplish for its age what Homer and Virgil had done for theirs. Yet this later work has been largely forgotten except by academic scholars. As Armstrong-

Roche writes in his introduction, this study is an “attempt to make sense of Cervantes’ hopes for *Persiles*” and “to recover something of the experience of discovery that its pages may have offered its earliest readers.” He provides a close reading of the text, grounded in the novel’s multiple contexts: literature, history and politics, and philosophy and theology. He also places *Persiles* within the history of prose fiction and reveals how Cervantes recast the prose epic and took it in new directions.



**JOEL PFISTER, PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN STUDIES AND ENGLISH**  
*The Yale Indian: The Education of Henry Roe Cloud* (Duke University Press, 2009)

Henry Roe Cloud (c. 1884–1950) was honored in his time as one of the most prominent Native American public intellectuals, and he fought to open higher education to Indians. Pfister draws upon extensive archival research to recount Roe Cloud’s remarkable life. Roe Cloud, who belonged to the Winnebago Bear Clan, was the first Native American to receive undergraduate and graduate degrees from Yale University. Pfister compares Roe Cloud’s experience to that of other “college Indians” and also to African Americans such as W. E. B. Du Bois. Roe Cloud helped launch the Society of American Indians, graduated from Auburn seminary, founded a preparatory school for Indians, served as the first Indian superintendent of the Haskell Institute (forerunner of Haskell Indian Nations University), and worked under John Collier at the Bureau of Indian Affairs, where he was a catalyst for the Indian New Deal. —David Low ’76

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FICTION AND POETRY

Robin Ekiss '91, *The Mansion of Happiness* (University of Georgia Press, 2009)

Sanford Fraser '54, *Tourist* (NYQ Books, 2009)

Seth Lerer '76, editor and Kenneth Grahame, author, *The Wind in the Willows: An Annotated Edition* (Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2009)

Joanie Mackowski '85, *View from a Temporary Window* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2010)

Mark Schafer '85, editor and translator, *Before Saying Any of the Great Words: Selected Poems of David Huerta* (Copper Canyon Press, 2009)

Matvei Yankelevich '95, *Boris by the Sea* (Octopus Books, 2010)

NONFICTION

Daniel Chaffee '05 and Sam Han '06, *The Race of Time: A Charles Lemert Reader* (Paradigm Publishers, 2009)

Rachel Curtis '88 and Elizabeth A. City, *Strategy in Action: How School Systems Can Support Powerful Learning and Teaching* (Harvard Education Press, 2009)

Paul Dickson '61, *A Dictionary of the Space Age* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009) and *The Unwritten Rules of Baseball* (Collins, 2009)

Joshua Goode '91, *Impurity of Blood: Defining Race in Spain, 1870–1930* (Louisiana State University Press, 2009)

Julie Hacker '79 and Stuart Cohen, *Transforming the Traditional: The Work of Cohen and Hacker Architects* (Images Publishing, 2009)

Donald Gratz '72, *The Peril and Promise of Performance Pay: Making Education Compensation Work* (Rowman and Littlefield Education, 2009)

Sabrina McCormick '96, *No Family History: The Environmental Links to Breast Cancer* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2009)

Gary Morris '73, *Action! Interviews with Directors from Classical Hollywood to Contemporary Iran* (Anthem Press, 2009)

Foster Morrison '61, *The Art of Modeling Dynamic Systems: Forecasting for Chaos, Randomness and Determinism* (Dover Publications, 2008)

Colin Ong-Dean '91, *Distinguishing Disability: Parents, Privilege, and Special Education* (University of Chicago Press, 2009)

Wendy Richmond '75, *Art Without Compromise* (Allworth Press, 2009)

Celina Su '99, *Streetwise for Book Smarts: Grassroots Organizing and Education Reform in the Bronx* (Cornell University Press, 2009)

Christian Thorne '95, *The Dialectic of Counter-Enlightenment* (Harvard University Press, 2009)

# BETWEEN THE LINES

## SOUTHERN MANNERS

**Anders Walker '94** reveals the lengths that southern moderates in the United States went to undermine the Civil Rights Movement in his new book, *The Ghost of Jim Crow: How Southern Moderates Used Brown v. Board of Education to Stall Civil Rights* (Oxford University Press, 2009).

**M**y family moved to Georgia on a lark. It was 1979 and my mother, who southern writer Bailey White would later describe as a “tough looking Scandinavian woman,” happened to be flipping through a *Unique Homes* magazine when she learned that for the price of our split level ranch in Los Gatos, California, we could purchase an antebellum southern cotton plantation, replete with a white columned mansion, stables, carriage house, guest cottage, and fishing pond. Tara called. We turned the main house into a bed and breakfast and moved into the cottage. My brother and I enrolled in the local private school founded, I would later learn, to avoid desegregation in 1972.

Between 1979 and 1990, we lived as if we were in the year 1953; a placid world of private tennis courts, bearded oaks, and Weejuns. People were polite and well-dressed. No one shouted; no one pushed. The head of Commercial Bank called personally, and apologetically, to inform us that they might have to foreclose on our mortgage. Bailey White, who lived down the road, smiled as she handed my mother a copy of *Mama Makes Up Her Mind*, satirizing us, the hippies from California who had bought her

family's “ancestral home.” Even the agents from the State Bureau of Investigation were gracious when they came out to investigate, following up on an anonymous report that the bed and

breakfast was being run as a liquor lounge.

The sheer well-mannered graciousness of it all made me question, as a graduate student, the conventional narrative of the Civil Rights Movement. According to documentaries like *Eyes on the Prize*, which came out in 1987, southern whites spent the 1950s and 60s waving Confederate flags, lighting buses on fire, and setting dogs on black protesters in the street. Yet, these were not the people I knew, nor was it their parents, who had been alive and well in the 1950s. It remains hard for me to imagine them laying a hand on anybody, much less set snarling dogs on them. At worst, they might have had their lawyer send a letter in the mail, or make an anonymous call to the State Bureau of Investigation, or quietly build a private school.

Convinced that there was more to white resistance than violence, I began to look at southern moderates, particularly governors who presided over their states during the decade immediately after *Brown v. Board of Education*, the pivotal Supreme Court ruling declaring segregated schools unconstitutional. What I found was intriguing, a lost narrative of political leaders who viewed legal segregation to be a mutually agreeable arrangement that reinforced racial diversity, but not a system that was inherently discriminatory. Though flawed, this view led moderates to use the law in creative ways to fight *Brown*, meanwhile desperately trying to prevent extremism in their states. In Mississippi, for example, Governor J. P. Coleman struggled to bring Emmett Till's killers to justice, precisely because the murder angered national audiences so much that he felt it might bring the federal government crashing down on the state, enforcing *Brown* in the process.

Perhaps the most compelling figure to emerge was LeRoy Collins, the genteel, forward-looking Florida governor who spoke out against the Klan, recognized the inherent justice of the sit-ins, and has since come to be remembered as a civil rights hero. Buried deep in the Florida State Archives, I found confidential letters, memos, and committee reports portraying a very different man, someone who actually took a remarkable

number of measures to try to undermine Martin Luther King Jr., including the surveillance of civil rights activists, the centralization of state police, and the tightening of state welfare rolls. Integration, Collins genuinely believed, was “ridiculous”; a crazy idea that neither whites nor blacks in the South wanted. Civil rights leaders like Martin Luther King Jr., by contrast, were nothing more than agitators, pot-stirrers determined to make headlines by provoking crisis.

Presciently aware that crisis helped the cause of civil rights by stirring popular support for blacks, Collins kept the peace, and retained segregation. Florida schools admitted negligible numbers of African American students in the 1950s, just enough to claim compliance with *Brown*, meanwhile avoiding the kind of racial violence that would erupt in Alabama and Mississippi, bringing the hammer of the federal government down on the region. Lyndon Johnson, another southern moderate, became so impressed by Collins that he ordered him to Selma in 1965 to neutralize the second march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, an event that would come to be known as “Turnaround Tuesday,” a defeat for King.

How did Collins do it? He was gracious and polite. He convinced local sheriff Jim Clark that if they attacked the marchers it would be ill-mannered, only furthering black claims that southern whites were racist thugs in need of federal oversight. The police refrained. When I presented LeRoy's wife, Mary Call Collins with a photograph of her husband and Martin Luther King Jr. walking side by side from Selma to Montgomery at her birthday party in 2000, I could hear her and the guests at the Tallahassee Country Club drop their forks and gag on their dinner rolls. The photo had killed his political career even as it made him a civil rights legend. If Florida voters had only known what his real mission was, to derail the demonstrations, he might not have lost the 1968 Senate election to Edward Gurney, a Republican unknown. Then again, gentility does have its price.

*Anders Walker is assistant professor of law at St. Louis University.*

