

Harvard/Belknap, \$35 (382p) ISBN 978-0-674-04840-9

Princeton professor Grafton and Oxford fellow Weinberg probe an aspect of Casaubon's scholarship—and life—that has heretofore received minimal attention: though chiefly known as a classical philologist, he was fervidly dedicated to the study of Hebrew texts. A devoted French Protestant, Casaubon's interest in arcane rabbinical treatises and other ancient Hebrew documents was inspired partly by his belief that early Christianity "could be understood only by scholars who took Jewish texts, histories, and customs into account" (a radical position to have in the late 16th century), and partly by a desire to "unlock Eastern mysteries." Grafton and Weinberg's thoroughly researched account of Casaubon—not only his study of Hebrew texts but also his complicated relationship with Jewish friends, suggesting that "his openness to Judaism as a larger world had certain limits"—succeeds through clear syntheses and thoughtful dissections of the many primary sources involved, rendering this academic text refreshingly accessible. Further compelling to students of Classical, Hebrew, and Renaissance scholarship will be the narrative of Casaubon's "scholarly skirmish" with Catholic Cardinal Cesare Baronio, in which he firmly asserted the relevance of Jewish texts in understanding the New Testament. (Jan.)

★ **Liberty's Exiles: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary World**

Maya Jasanoff. Knopf, \$30 (480p) ISBN 978-1-4000-4168-8

The plight of American Loyalists during and after the Revolutionary War has been largely forgotten. Harvard historian Jasanoff (*Edge of Empire: Lives, Culture, and Conquest in the East, 1750–1850*) corrects that omission with a masterful account of the struggles, heartbreak, and determination that characterized specific Loyalist families and individuals. Rich and poor, black, white, and Native American, the Loyalists paid for their devotion to king and country with their blood, their property, and their prospects. The terrorist tendencies of the Sons of Liberty and the deliberate cruelty of Patriot leaders, including Washington and Franklin, are painfully described. Most tragic, however,

was the postwar neglect of Loyalist refugees by the British government, which minimized the human consequences of defeat. Some Loyalists, among them John Cruden and William Augustus Bowles, responded with continuing efforts to establish armed encampments on the southeast frontier of the new United States. Others, by far the majority, settled in Canada, with smaller enclaves in the Caribbean. This superb study of a little-known episode in American and British history is remiss only in largely ignoring the Loyalist community in Spanish West Florida and the War of 1812 as a continuation of the earlier conflict. 8 pages of illus.; 10 maps. (Jan.)

★ **Dignity**

Dana Gluckstein. PowerHouse, \$39.95 (144p) ISBN 978-1-57687-562-9

Photographer Gluckstein offers more than 90 portraits of indigenous peoples from some of the world's most impoverished and oppressed populations, managing in each frame, a rare balance of formal composition and breathtaking intimacy. Her black and white photographs of men, women, and children—from Kenya, Mexico, Fiji, Botswana, Bhutan, Canada—are striking, textured masterpieces of mood that pay a powerful homage to imperiled cultures. Intended to raise awareness about the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People—with provisions to maintain the survival of indigenous peoples, signed by 144 countries (and notably and controversially unsigned by the U.S. and Australia, which both boast large populations of historically oppressed native populations)—the book transcends its purpose. These photos are first and foremost of individuals—a Masai elder, a Bushman healer, a sinuous Balinese dancer—variously proud or defeated, defiant or coy, instantly recognizable, and signaling our collective interdependence and fragility. (Nov.)

★ **Across the Great Divide: A Photo Chronicle of the Counterculture**

Roberta Price. Univ. of New Mexico, \$34.95 (160p) ISBN 978-0-8263-4957-6

With these 121 photographs, Price

(*Huerfano*) offers a guided tour of the communities and communes—places like the Red Rockers, Drop City, Reality Construction Company—that sprang up in New Mexico and Colorado in the late 1960s and early '70s. Price's understated, almost journalistic foray is lit by warmth, humor, and the abundant tenderness of her subjects; the photographs function as part family album (Price herself called a commune her home for seven years), part countercultural slide show, part lesson in American history. The photos—in both color and black and white—depict commune life: colorfully painted buses, naked babies, long-haired men, bearded musicians, countercultural icons passing through, vegetable gardens, all set against the dramatic southwestern horizon. If at first glimpse, these images appear as familiar images of hippie culture, a closer look reveals nuance and idiosyncrasy. Characters recur, a story begins to emerge, and the work unfurls into a profound exploration that touches on ethnography. (Nov.)

★ **Life at the Top of the World**

Wayne Lynch. Firefly, \$40 (240p) ISBN 978-1-55407-632-1

With these dazzlingly hued color photographs, Lynch takes us north to the far reaches of the Arctic and reveals a rich landscape teeming with life. He offers intimate portrayals of arctic creatures—gamboling polar bear cubs, reindeer, loons, hares—capturing the vast splendor of one of the planet's last undisturbed places. Whether revealing an arctic fox on the hunt or the budding of mountain avens, Lynch's nature photos renew our sense of wonder at the majesty of the natural world with vivid, vital images that all but evoke the chill of arctic air. Taken collectively, these photographs and the author's sharp commentary and anecdotes provide an awe-inspiring glimpse into a wild world most of us will likely never know, an endangered world, Lynch warns in the book's final words, whose ultimate fate lies in our hands. (Nov.)



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