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## From the Review Desk

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## From the Review Desk

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The book review section of any journal is a rich forum in which readers can enter into conversation with the multitude of texts available—a re-presentation of ideas with commentary, connections, and critique. In this issue, our reviewers once again add to our understanding of community literacy in general while adding specifically to particular literary practices affected by material, social, and cultural influences. In his keywords essay on “Adult Literacy,” William Carney synthesizes contemporary scholarship on the term to illustrate a broadening of understanding and scope. Following this, Anne-Marie Hall tackles the seemingly impossible task of encapsulating 650 pages of diverse research from *Handbook of Research on Writing: History, Society, School, Individual, Text* into a few short pages for our readers. Two of the shorter books reviewed here—*Rural Literacies* reviewed by Michael Pennell and *Minor Re/Visions: Asian American Literacy Narratives as a Rhetoric of Citizenship* reviewed by Victoria Mason—confront a number of stereotypes and cultural practices that need to be revisited because non-mainstream literacy practices can be and often are powerful. Finally, Jim Bowman’s review of four different YouTube videos engages with the challenges of representing complex ideas and practices (such as literacy) in popularly consumed video shorts.

Thanks to the careful scholarship being conducted by contributors to this journal and others worldwide, this research is being made available at an astounding rate. As such, we encourage you to contact us about a book, documentary, or alternative medium that you have read/watched/participated in that would interest readers of this journal. Further, since we are currently unable to keep up with the rate of publication, we have instituted a keywords essay—a short five-to-seven-page synthesis that brings together multiple contemporary sources on a single topic. If you are interested in contributing to the Book and New Media Review section with either a review or a keywords essay, please contact me at [jdewinter@wpi.edu](mailto:jdewinter@wpi.edu).

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