Sanctified and Chicken-Fried: The Portable Lansdale
Steven L. Davis, series editor
Assistant Curator, Southwestern Writers Collection
The Wittliff Collections

Prolific master of mojo storytelling, spinner of over-the-top yarns of horror, suspense, humor, mystery, science fiction and even the Old West, Joe R. Lansdale has attracted a wide and enthusiastic following. His genre-defying work has brought him numerous awards, including an Edgar, seven Bram Stokers and Notable Book of the Year recognition twice from the New York Times. Latest in the book series created by Texas State’s Southwestern Writers Collection – home to Lansdale’s major archives – Sanctified and Chicken-Fried is the first “true best of Lansdale” anthology, a unique mix of well-known short stories, excerpts from his acclaimed novels (including Bubba Ho-Tep, now a hit cult film), and new and previously unpublished material. Out of the blender of Lansdale’s fearless imagination spew tall tales about men, mummies and mules, hogs and races, that are, in his words, “the equivalent of Aesop meets Flannery O’Connor on a date with William Faulkner, the events recorded by James M. Cain.” (University of Texas Press)

Interactive Services Marketing
Raymond Fisk
Chair, Marketing

Interactive Services Marketing

Gypsies” (Romanies), a wandering race of Hindu origin, emerged in Europe and England in the 16th century and were thought to have come from Egypt (hence, the word “Gypsy”). When they arrived in Europe, curiosity about the dark-skinned people and their lifestyle gave way to xenophobia. Feared as thieves, witches and spies of the invading Ottoman Empire, Romanies have experienced a violent history of ethnic cleansing and persecution. They were enslaved for 500 years in Central Europe, exterminated by the Nazis in World War II and sterilized in Communist countries. In an effort to assimilate them into mainstream culture, several European countries banned their language and music and prohibited marriage between them. In this book, Glajar and co-editor Domnica Radulescu, professor of French and Italian at Washington and Lee University, trace representations of “Gypsies” that have become prevalent in European imagination and culture and influenced perceptions of them in eastern and western European societies. Chapters cover subjects such as “Gypsy” myth and Romani reality; the “Gypsy” lifestyle; Bohemian philosophy and “Gypsies” in 19th century European literature; “Gypsies” and Russian imperialism; “Gypsies” and property in British literature; the Romani Holocaust in European literature; the sexualization of “Gypsy” women in literature; and representations of “Gypsies” in European cinema. (Palgrave Macmillan)

The Changing Alpine Treeline: The Example of Glacier National Park, Montana
David Butler, editor
Professor, Geography
Mark Fonstad, contributor
Associate Professor, Modern Languages

Butler and three co-editors – George Malanson, University of Iowa; Stephen Walsh, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; and Daniel Fagre, U.S. Geological Survey, Northern Rocky Mountain Science Center, Glacier National Park – examine Glacier National Park’s “alpine treeline ecotone,” an area of transition high on the mountains where closed-canopy forests from lower elevations give way to the open alpine tundra and rocky expanses above. From snow avalanches, frost heaves and impenetrable surfaces – all deterrents to
plant propagation – to microcosmic areas of sheltered terrain where seeds can lodge, the authors take a “plant’s-eye view” of the climatic events and topographical features that determine whether a tree seedling becomes established in the alpine tundra. The book will interest professionals and students in physical geography, geomorphology, ecology, and environmental science, as well as managers of parks, wildlands and recreation in mountainous environments. Several chapters are written by graduates of Texas State’s Ph.D. program in environmental geography – Lynn Resler, Ginger Schmid and Forrest Wilkerson (all Ph.D., 2004), and Carol Sawyer (Ph.D., 2009). (Elsevier)

*Excrement in the Late Middle Ages: Sacred Filth and Chaucer’s Fecopoetics*
Susan Signe Morrison
Professor, English

Some fastidious readers might be tempted to turn away from the pungent topic of Susan Morrison’s new book,” writes one reviewer. “To do so would be to miss adventurous theory, wide learning, fascinating stories, startling juxtapositions and witty writing that present Chaucer as he has never been seen before.” Morrison’s groundbreaking study of how late medieval England dealt with excrement also has applications beyond Chaucer’s poetry. Filth in all its manifestations – material (including privies, dung on fields and as alchemical ingredient), symbolic (sin, misogynist slander and theological wrestling with the problem of filth in sacred contexts) and linguistic (a semantic range including dirt and dung) – helps us to see how excrement is vital to understanding the Middle Ages and our relationship to our own waste. The British publication *Times Higher Education* calls the book “a spry and sparkling study,” and Morrison concludes by proposing Waste Studies as a new field of ethical and moral criticism for literary scholars. (Palgrave Macmillan)

*Health Care Ethics: Critical Issues for the 21st Century*
Eileen Morrison
Professor, Health Administration

Morrison brings together articles by the leading experts in the field on the tough issues facing modern health care in this thoroughly revised second edition. She divides the chapters into biomedical issues challenging individuals, organizations and society in general. Topics include domestic violence, disaster relief, abortion, elder care, physician-assisted death, new reproductive technology and the rationing of health care. Also included are extensive support materials and end-of-chapter discussion questions. (Jones & Bartlett Publishers)

*Regionalism and the Humanities*
Mark Busby, contributor
Director, Southwest Regional Humanities Center

Although the framework of regionalist studies may seem to be crumbling under the weight of increasing globalization, this collection of 17 essays, co-edited by Timothy Mahoney and Wendy Katz of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, makes clear that cultivating regionalism lies at the center of the humanist endeavor. In his essay on defining the Southwest, Busby says that an understanding of one’s region is important to understanding one’s connection to the larger world. Using literary examples from Katherine Anne Porter, Ralph Ellison and Cormac McCarthy, Busby examines these writers’ personal and literary relationships to their native Southwest and argues the need for regional studies centers on university campuses. Such centers address the importance of understanding place at a time when increased mobility leads to the loss of a sense of rootedness, he writes, and address major problems facing American education – e.g., the need to reduce the fragmentation produced by rigid academic disciplines, the need for programs to promote collaboration among faculty, and the need to strengthen understanding among various racial and cultural groups around the country. Other writers in the volume include poets and fiction writers, literary historians, musicologists and historians of architecture, agriculture and women. (University of Nebraska Press)

*The Complexity of Human Communication*
Philip Salem
Professor, Communication Studies

Salem argues that communication with our fellow human beings is a process analogous to the complexity in other living systems. Reviewing a remarkable range of material stretching over three centuries, Salem explains complicated concepts in a simple and often whimsical way and uses practical as well as research examples to bring technical ideas to a wide audience. He disputes current thinking across a range of concepts such as communicating self, conflict, stories and storytelling, and trust and social networks. He concludes by sketching some of the practical, ethical and other challenges facing all of us as communicators. (Hampton Press)