

## **CHILDREN'S FOLKLORE REVIEW**

### **Book Review Guidelines**

Thank you for agreeing to help *Children's Folklore Review* by reviewing a new work of scholarship!

Below, you will find general guidelines and information on the review process, how the review should be formatted, what the review should highlight, and how the review should be formatted. If you have any questions about any of this, please contact the editor, Brant Ellsworth, at [brantellsworth@centralpenn.edu](mailto:brantellsworth@centralpenn.edu).

#### **PROCESS**

Look at the *CFR* book list and email review editor Brant Ellsworth with your interest to review a specific book. After you receive the book in the mail, you will have six weeks to produce your review. Generally, submissions should be limited to 1,000 words. Your review will be edited by Brant Ellsworth and returned to you for corrections. The final version may be edited further to adhere to publishing and formatting guidelines.

You will be informed when the review is confirmed to be published and provided bibliographic information for your C.V.

#### **CONTENT**

Remember, the first and foremost goal of a book review is to inform the journal's readers. While you read, take note of the potential audience of the book and how the book furthers scholarship within the field.

With that in mind, a book review should generally be broken into five parts:

- I. Introduction
  - a. Why is the topic important?
  - b. What are the big questions the author asks?
- II. Intellectual Framework
  - a. Topics including: premise, thesis, methodology, theory
- III. Topics covered
  - a. Usually a chapter or section breakdown of the content  
*Note: For edited collections, be sure to examine the dominant themes tying the individual sections together*
  - b. Structure of the work
  - c. Themes of the work
- IV. Evaluation
  - a. What are the book's strengths?
  - b. What are the book's weaknesses?  
*Note: evaluation should be constructive*
- V. Conclusion
  - a. What is the value of the author's conclusions or thesis?
  - b. What is the author adding to the discourse?

- c. The reviewer's overall conclusions

## **FORMATTING**

*Children's Folklore Review* utilizes Chicago-style parenthetical (in-text) citations. All reviews must adhere to standard document formatting: 12 point Times New Roman, double-spaced.

Book review bibliographic information should be listed first, including:

- Title of book.
- Author(s) or editor(s) full name(s).
- Place of publication.
- Publisher.
- Year of publication.
- Number of pages.
- Number and type of images.
- Section breakdown.

### Examples:

#### *Single author:*

Folklore Rules: A Fun, Quick, and Useful Introduction to the Field of Academic Folklore Studies. By Lynne S. McNeill. (Logan: Utah State University Press, 2013. pp. xvi + 90, 4 diagrams, 7 black and white images, preface, acknowledgments, foreword, index).

#### *Edited collection:*

Latter-day Lore: Mormon Folklore Studies. Edited by Eric A. Eliason and Tom Mould. (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2013. x + pp. 591, acknowledgments, introduction, notes, bibliography, contributors, sources of previously published chapters, index.)

At the conclusion of the review, include your full name and your institutional affiliation, right justified.

### Example:

BRANT W. ELLSWORTH  
*Pennsylvania State University, Harrisburg*