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Review of The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity

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any of the myths. This is not to say that Chauncey's book is the final text on the subject of homosexuality. He admits that the time period he has written about leaves room for more texts on the subject in the future. Regardless of its shortcomings due to a limited scope, Chauncey's text is valuable both as a text about homosexuality and sexuality in general.

Aaron Lan

The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity. By Jill Lepore. New York: Vintage Books, 1998.

Wars, especially those fought on the frontier of culture, generate mythical stories of heroism, nationalism, and pride as well as gore, death, and atrocity. Little known conflicts such as King Philip's War are no exception and woven into the accounts of this battle with Metacom is a fundamental crisis of identity. "Wounds and words," writes Jill Lepore, "cannot be separated" and these two things join in the common purpose of "defining the geographical, political, cultural and sometimes racial and national boundaries between peoples" (p. x).

The book is categorized into four topically distinct sections: Language, War, Bondage, and Memory. "Language" emphasizes the role of written and spoken communication in New England between the English colonials and the Algonquins. Not only did the lack of effective communication (of grievances and diplomacy) lead to hostilities but, yet more profound, the murder of John Sassamon, a literate Indian, represents a dangerous neutral area that neither side could suffer to exist. Literacy or, more specifically, the cultural threat literacy symbolized killed John Sassamon but also any chance of the Algonquin side of the story being told.

The second major section, "War," accounts how more physical elements of cul-

ture were used to both define what each society was and was not. Homes, agriculture, clothing, and livestock were important symbols of livelihood, privacy, and property which were all English values. In contrast, the nakedness and semi-nomadic lifestyle of the Native Americans was seen as barbaric and immoral. Lepore argues that the war was a conquest of personal and societal identity as much as it was about killing the other side.

The section titled "Bondage" demonstrates even more points of contention within New England society. Mary Rowlandson and Printer both appeared in captivity together but whereas Rowlandson went on to write a wildly popular account that "saved" her soul, or her identity, from proximity to Indian culture, Printer was required to kill two enemy Indians. It was an irony that Printer later printed Rowlandson's account but highlighted the precarious position literate Indians found themselves in during the war. Slavery also played an important role, justifying the perpetual widening of the chasm between cultures that amounted to the Indians becoming subhuman in the eyes of colonists.

"Memory" is the final section of the book which explains the written legacy of King Philip's War. The Indians had only oral stories while the English commemorated events in books and almanacs which gave them alone the power to reshape the memory of the war in a palatable image to those whose war of identity was still raging. The play *Metamora*; or, the Last of the Wampanoags allows, almost a century after the war, Americans to use the image of King Philip and the "noble savage" as a way to prove their Americanness. With the Indians long subdued and removed from New England, Americans were comfortable enough to use the repressed culture with pride but at the same time agree that it was inevitable and right that it disappear.

The Name of War delivers insightful analysis on the tribulations and roots of American identity as well as the roles that identity and language play during conflict

more broadly. The book successfully engages the reader with a topical deconstruction of the specific conflict and war in general as well as an abundance of primary sources. However, Lepore does not fully illustrate the role identity and literacy had on the Anglicized non-literate Indians. Overall, this book is an excellent addition to contemporary scholarship and a successful study of a topic that is difficult to negotiate with documents alone.

Rocco Bowman

From the Jaws of Victory: The Triumph and Tragedy of Cesar Chavez and the Farm Worker Movement. By Matt Garcia. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2012.

Cesar Chavez is often held up as a hero or saint within modern liberal discourse, akin to Martin Luther King or Susan B. Anthony. In *From the Jaws of Victory*, Matt Garcia sets out to demonstrate that the successes of the United Farm Workers (UFW) were by and large the result of its diverse volunteer group, who were highly motivated, quick to learn from mistakes, and thoroughly innovative. In doing so, he de-emphasizes Chavez's role in the UFW's victories. Furthermore, he argues that Chavez's attempts to assert control over the union ultimately led to its downfall.

Garcia organizes his book chronologically, following the entire arc of the UFW: from its humble beginnings, to its first major success with the grape boycott of 1966, to the union's internal and external pressures that eventually led to its collapse. This begins in Chapter 1 with the background and initial struggles of the nascent UFW, including the realization that a strike alone would not be enough.

This leads into Chapter 2, where the boycott's origins and methods are examined in detail, though with a focus on the boycott within the US. Chapter 3 moves

abroad to Europe, following Elaine Elinson's efforts to strengthen the union's presence in England and eventually Sweden, and her astonishing success despite a lack of resources and contacts. Chapter 3 also details the role ethnicity, nationality, and gender played within the UFW.

Having now succeeded in their boycott effort, the UFW faces internal and external issues in Chapter 4. Externally, the Teamsters and President Nixon presented challenges to UFW growth and activities. Garcia also argues that the UFW never quite made the jump from pursuing change to actively implementing it. Garcia is at his best in Chapter 5, presenting Harry Kubo as a foil to Chavez: an equally strong-willed leader, but one with a clear objective and message that are easy for voters to relate to. ALRA and Proposition 14 are also examined, with Garcia arguing that, ultimately, the latter's defeat began the UFW's downward spiral.

Chapters 6, 7, and 8 chronicle this spiral. More rifts open up within the UFW, especially concerning Chavez's controversial adoption of the tactics of Chuck Dederich and the issue of whether or not to pay staff. Constant divisions, firings, and attempts by Chavez to assert control came to a head at the June 30 through July 4 executive board meeting, which is explored in great detail in Chapter 7.

Finally, in Chapter 8, Garcia devotes a great detail of time to the effects of The Game on the UFW. He sees The Game as an ultimately poisonous addition and symbolic of both Chavez's descent into near-totalitarianism. This finally culminates in resistance by many of the highest ranking and most notable members of the UFW, leading to their departures or firings. Chapter 8 ends on a postmortem for the UFW; Garcia concludes by stating that, though the UFW ultimately failed, the fight for increased rights for farm workers continues.

From the Jaws of Victory is one of the first and only scholarly works to challenge Cesar Chavez and his legacy. It is difficult