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REVIEW: Colors of Africa

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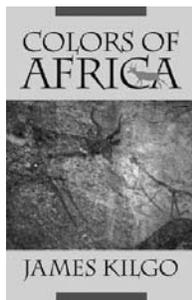
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Colors of Africa by James Kilgo
(University of Georgia Press, 2007;
ISBN 978-08203-3017-4, \$16.95,
pbk).

James Kilgo, invited to travel to Africa with a safari group in the spring of 2000, views his unexpected opportunity with conflicting emotions: excitement, wariness and trepidation.

Although he intends to shoot only with his camera, he is part of a group intent on bringing home big game trophies, such as zebra, kudu, leopard and lion. Kilgo, fighting an insidious cancer himself, ponders issues of life and death even as he describes the beauty and brutality of Africa. He visits villages and keenly observes traditions; he explores the bush and observes life and death within the animal kingdom. He writes with eloquence, power and sincerity about the majestic landscape of Africa. The reader is drawn, sometimes unwillingly, into the drama and harshness of the safari's purpose. We experience each failure and success as the often grim and graphic hunt progresses. Kilgo weaves observations from David Livingstone, Hemingway, Dinesen and others throughout his journal, adding dimension and depth to his reflections and experiences. Kilgo was a member of the University of Georgia English department faculty for over 30 years and directed the creative writing program there from 1994 to 1996. He passed away in 2002, and this book was his last. Not for the faint of heart, it is nevertheless recommended for public libraries and university collections in the state of Georgia. ▶▶

—Book Review by **Ruth Hayden**
Smyrna Public Library

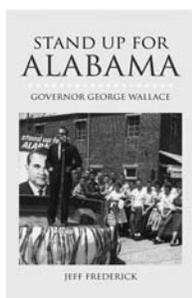


presents colorful details of Alabama life that help readers see the people and ethics of the time; his inclusion of citizens' letters to Wallace adds illuminating human perspectives. From Chapter 2 onward, Frederick adeptly turns his research at the Alabama Department of Archives and History and of contemporaneous newspapers into a fluent narrative. The preface and Chapter 1, though, feel like a dissertation's literature review; readers may feel like they're wading through other researchers' generalizations. The book is rigorously referenced; virtually every paragraph has an endnote, some listing up to 13 sources. Because of the depth of his research and storytelling (474 pages including notes), Frederick's conclusions about Gov. Wallace's intentions and effects carry the weight of expertise, sound judgment and efforts at fairness. When he attributes Wallace's misgovernance to narcissism, hypocrisy and demagogic appeals to racism and mistrust, he provides information to support these statements. Several components would make the book more navigable, such as a brief chronology of Wallace's long career and a bibliography of sources. Nevertheless, the book will be instructive and entertaining to readers wanting to absorb an era or to watch in hindsight as a self-serving politician wastes leadership opportunities to improve people's lives, leaving a 50-year legacy of limitations and lost potential for progress. ▶▶

— Reviewed by **Peter Otto**
Swilley Library, Mercer University

Stand Up for Alabama: Governor George Wallace by Jeff Frederick
(University of Alabama Press, 2007; ISBN 978-0-8173-1574-0, \$47.50).

Jeff Frederick answers two questions in his deeply researched book: What was George Wallace's impact on the state of Alabama? Why did Alabamians continue to embrace him over a 25-year period? Frederick lucidly portrays the complexities of George Wallace and the political and economic culture of Alabama from 1963 to 1986. He explores broad themes such as Wallace's collusions with special interests to steal opportunities and resources from working people, his constant fomenting of regional pride and invocation of Southern citizens' sense of victimhood, his lifelong "government by perpetual campaigning," and his disinterest in administration and policy. Frederick also



Georgia Legal Research by Nancy P. Johnson, Elizabeth G. Adelman, and Nancy J. Adams (Carolina Academic Press, 2007; ISBN 978-1-59460-388-4, \$25.00).

This work represents one of the most current and comprehensive legal research tools written specially for Georgia. Clearly written and without extraneous legal jargon, the 11 chapters and three appendices of this 253-page paperback book cover a broad range of topics that explain how to perform legal research in Georgia. The topics include the court system; the eight steps of doing legal research; researching and reading cases; understanding Georgia statutes, constitutions and court rules; understanding Georgia's legislative history and process; Georgia's administrative law; how to update the research through citators; using secondary resources, legal ethics, online resources; and, finally, how to put it all together. The three appendices provide a section on understanding legal citation, a useful bibliography and a list of Georgia practice materials. A good table of contents, adequate indexing and chapter learning

