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A Good Read

John Roberts
Furman University

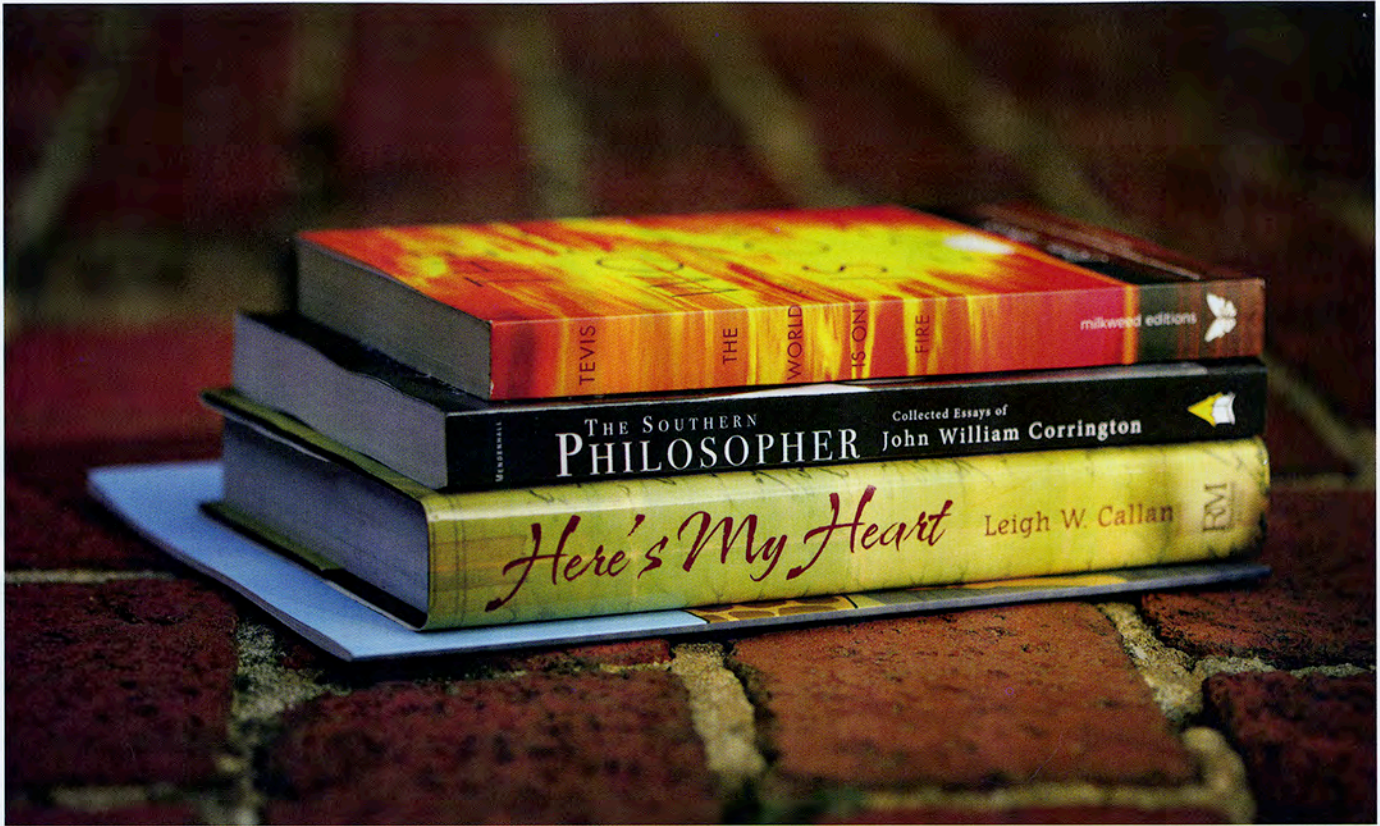
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Shelf Life



A GOOD READ

A love story, apocalypse, baby frog and philosopher

BY JOHN ROBERTS

HERE'S MY HEART

Leigh W. Callan '68

As a member of the 2nd Platoon, Battery D, 639th Antiaircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion, Lieutenant Doyle K. Whittenburg had a front-row seat to some of the greatest moments of World War II. He helped defend towns in Belgium from the Luftwaffe, took part in the Battle of the Bulge and was among the soldiers who pushed through Germany.

Along the way, he penned frequent letters to Juby, his newlywed wife. From 1942 to 1945, Doyle wrote more

than 400 letters—he called them word pictures—to Juby, who meticulously preserved them. The letters, and a few photos Doyle took, became a treasured family archive.

Here's My Heart is a loving compilation of those letters and is authored by Doyle and Juby Whittenburg's daughter, **Leigh Whittenburg Callan '68**. The 416-page work documents her father's daily life as he prepares for war, is tested in battle and learns to lead, all while longing for his new bride.

Callan describes her work in the book's foreword: "A

story of love and survival both, it is a guide for coping with separation under extreme circumstances. The backdrop is WWII, but this story—so very intimate and personal—is about the soldier and his lady, not the war."

She concludes the section by writing, "One thing I know. On the fifth day of transcribing his words 60 some-odd years after they were written, I fell in love with this young man who became my father. And I understood why my parents' marriage lasted 62 years."

Callan is a retired biology professor from Georgia

Highlands College. In 2010, she and her brother retraced their father's footsteps while touring Europe.

THE WORLD IS ON FIRE

Joni Tevis

Joni Tevis' *The World is on Fire: Scrap, Treasure, and Songs of Apocalypse* is a nonfiction book about living in a haunted world. Its essays draw on material gathered from her trips to San Jose, California, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska, the Cave of the

Apocalypse in Patmos, Greece, and elsewhere.

In crafting the work, Tevis researched sources ranging from oral histories of atomic testing, Life articles from the late 1950s, compendium of beliefs such as John Frazer's *The Golden Bough*, declassified films of atomic tests conducted in the Nevada desert, and clips of Buddy Holly performances to help her come to terms with the atomic history of the United States.

A Furman English professor since 2008, Tevis has worked as a park ranger, factory worker and cemetery plot salesperson. *The World is on Fire* is her second book of nonfiction with Milkweed Editions, a nonprofit publisher based in Minneapolis that is dedicated to publishing literary work with an emphasis on place.

FOGO THE FROG

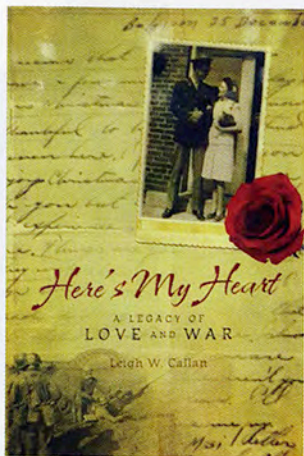
Shawn Reid '88

Fogo is a young, friendly boy frog who lives near a river and enjoys playing in the water with his friends the beaver, pelican, turtle and fish. Each morning before Fogo goes out to play his mother tells him, "Be careful playing near the river and do not talk to strangers."

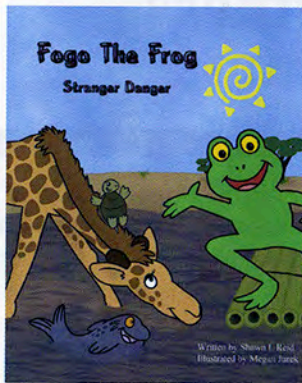
But one day while Fogo was preparing to board his raft for a trip, a sickly looking snake appears. He wants Fogo to give him a ride across the river to see a doctor. Against his better judgment, Fogo agrees.

Shortly after leaving the shore, though, the snake removes his bandages and looks strong. Fogo remembers his mother's words. And he is afraid. What happens next?

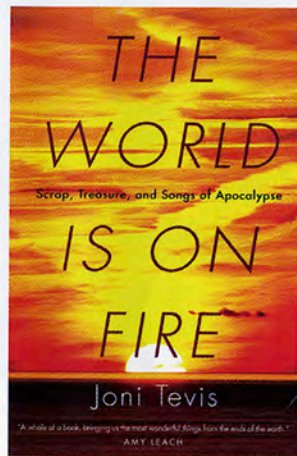
You'll have to read *Fogo The Frog, Stranger Danger* to



Here's My Heart



Fogo The Frog



The World is on Fire



The Southern Philosopher

find out. The work is the third book by **Shawn Reid '88** and is dedicated to the late Francis Bonner and the Furman University English Department. Bonner chaired the English department and served as dean.

THE SOUTHERN PHILOSOPHER, Collected Essays of John William Corrington Allen Mendenhall '05 (editor)

John William Corrington is probably best known for his fiction and screenplays. Corrington, who was also an attorney, wrote scripts for *The Battle for the Planet of the Apes*, *Boxcar Bertha*, *Omega Man* and other films. His most provocative work, though, can be found in the many essays he penned.

Corrington's intense intellect and distinctly southern flair are present in them. He wrote about the humanities, the South, law, religion, jurisprudence and many other subjects in a writing career that spanned more than three decades. In *The Southern Philosopher, Collected Essays of John William Corrington*, editor **Allen Mendenhall '05** presents many of Corrington's previously unpublished critical essays in this 342-page book.

Mendenhall is associate dean of Thomas Goode Jones School of Law and executive director of the Blackstone & Burke Center for Law & Liberty. He has authored hundreds of publications in law reviews, magazines, newspapers and literary periodicals. ●