

gender-identity formation in children, parental anxiety about the same, mass production vs. home sewing of clothes, and changing societal beliefs about masculinity and femininity, propriety, and gender roles. Old photographs, paper dolls, and sewing-pattern packages illustrate Paoletti's findings, e.g., that traditional white baby dresses were common for boys and girls from infancy well into childhood through the late 19th century. In the 1920s, a survey indicated that about half of major American department stores promoted blue for girls and pink for boys. An interesting trend toward unisex fashion, influenced by feminism and the sexual revolution, thrived from the 1960s through the 1980s. But from the 1890s onward, children's clothing has become increasingly gender-specific and now heavily reinforces gender stereotypes. **VERDICT** This is a fascinating piece of American social history, perhaps raising more questions than it answers. It is of potential interest to students and professionals in fields ranging from child development to gender studies to fashion to marketing, as well as to new and prospective parents.—**Janet Ingraham Dwyer, State Lib. of Ohio, Columbus**

## TRAVEL & GEOGRAPHY

**Kaster, Robert A. *The Appian Way: Ghost Road, Queen of Roads*. Univ. of Chicago. (Cultural Trails). Apr. 2012. c.144p. photogs. ISBN 9780226425719. \$22.50. TRAV**

In this slim travelog, Kaster (classics, Princeton Univ.) tromps down and drives up the Appian Way—the Roman Republic's first major thoroughfare and the original piece of a system of roads eventually extending to 75,000 miles. (As of 2006, the United States could claim only 46,000 miles of interstate highways.) In Part I, he begins at the Appian Way's traditional start (now in central Rome) and walks its first ten miles. In Part II, Kaster travels by car along more modern paths from Brindisi (ancient Brundisium, the Appian's end) back to Rome, following the road's general route. Throughout, he draws on the breadth of his knowledge of the classical world. Readers are introduced to the road's creator, Appius Claudius; society wife Caecilia Metella; and statesman Marcus Cicero, not to mention Roman road construction and burial practices. Kaster also offers suggested reading, tips for walking the Appian Way near Rome, general driving advice, geographic coordinates of his favorite stops, and map recommendations.

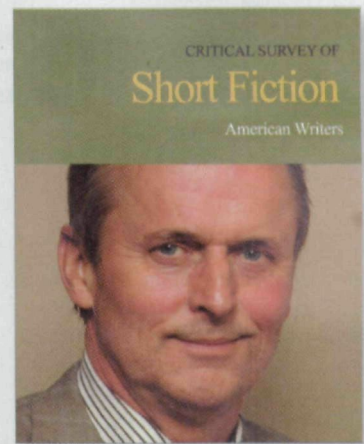
**VERDICT** A wonderful preface for any traveler planning an outdoorsy day in Rome or, especially, a trip through southern Italy. Kaster's enthusiasm for the road and the people (past and present) who populate it is contagious.—**Molly McArdle, Library Journal**

**Mack, Doug. *Europe on 5 Wrong Turns a Day: One Man, Eight Countries, One Vintage Travel Guide*. Perigree: Penguin. Apr. 2012. c.272p. ISBN 9780399537325. pap. \$15. TRAV**

The discovery of a 1963 edition of Arthur Frommer's *Europe on Five Dollars a Day* inspires freelance writer Mack to follow its well-beaten path to Florence, Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, Berlin, Munich, Zurich, Vienna, Venice, Rome, and Madrid. With the intention of avoiding any current advice, he wanders the cities with his outdated guidebook and finds that many of the recommended restaurants and hotels are closed, booked, or beyond his budget. Comparing past travel experiences to present, he quotes Frommer's book and correspondence from his own mother's 1967 and 1975 European trips. He joins the "tourist dance," where cameras are exchanged so sightseers can have pictures of themselves at famous spots. Based on the blog he kept while overseas, this book shares that medium's anecdotal style: describing his impressions of each city's personality, relating facts about the history of tourism, and ruminating on tourist-flooded locations. Mack, at first timid and uncomfortable, learns to embrace the cliché of visiting places everyone visits. **VERDICT** Unlike travel books focused on local color or distant destinations, this amusing narrative chronicles a traveler's experience of Europe's hot spots and tourist culture. Recommended—**Janet Clapp, MLS, North Clarendon, VT**

**Strayed, Cheryl. *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail*. Knopf. Mar. 2012. c.336p. ISBN 9780307592736. \$25.95. TRAV**

Strayed delves into memoir after her fiction debut, *Torch*. She here recounts her experience hiking the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) in 1995 after her mother's death and her own subsequent divorce. Designated a National Scenic Trail in 1968 but not completed until 1993, the PCT runs from Mexico to Canada, and Strayed hiked sections of it two summers after it was officially declared finished. She takes readers with her on the trail, and the transformation she experiences on its course is significant: she goes from feeling out of her element with a too-big backpack and too-small boots to finding a sense of home in the wilderness and with the allies she meets along the way. Readers will appreciate her vivid descriptions of the natural wonders near the PCT, particularly Mount Hood, Crater Lake, and the Sierras—what John Muir proclaimed the "Range of Light." **VERDICT** This book is less about the PCT and more about Strayed's own personal journey, which makes the story's scope a bit unclear. However, fans of her novel will likely enjoy this new book. [See Prepub Alert, 10/1/11.]—**Karen McCoy, Northern Arizona Univ. Lib., Flagstaff**



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