A 19th century Atlantic coastal trader and abolitionist, Captain Daniel Drayton attempted to transport seventy-seven fugitive slaves to freedom in the North aboard his ship the Pearl. Arriving in New Bedford, Massachusetts in the summer of 1857, Captain Drayton committed suicide. Now in an updated second edition, "Martyr to Freedom: The Life and Death of Captain Daniel Drayton" by Zachary J. Martin (Adjunct Professor of History, Roger Williams University, Salem State University, and Bristol Community College), seeks to reconstruct the life and the reasons for his death of this obscure but remarkable man. A work of seminal and meticulous scholarship, "Martyr To Freedom" is informed, informative, and a highly recommended contribution to academic library 19th Century American History and American Biography collections.

The battle for equality is fought on many fronts. "Thea's Song: The Life of Thea Bowman" tells the story of the civil rights era through faithful Thea Bowman, who joined an all white convent as a black woman and sought to bring about equality and fight prejudice in the process, before facing an early death due to cancer's power. "Thea's Song" is a strong pick for biography collections focusing on the Civil Rights era and those who tried to make a difference.
Some men don't accept excellence in merely a single field. "William D. Pawley: The Extraordinary Life of the Adventurer, Entrepreneur, and Diplomat Who Cofounded the Flying Tigers" is a biography of William Pawley, who through his own fortune made himself a millionaire and from that wealth brought many changes in the world. Bringing fighter pilots to China through a volunteer program, he also served a diplomat to South America, and participated in the Cold War in many unique ways. "William D. Pawley" is a fascinating life story of a unique individual that has earned his own little bit in history, very much recommended reading.

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