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Michael Stephens: The Brooklyn Book of the Dead; Graham Swift: Last Orders; Bob Shacochis: Swimming in the Volcano; Willie Morris: New York Days; Forward to the Past: SLF Album; Andrew Levy: The Culture and Commerce of the American Short Story; ACKNOWLEDGMENTS; INDEX; A; B; C; D; E; F; G; H; I; J; K; L; M; N; O; P; Q; R; S; T; U; V; W; Y

Sommario/riassunto

William O'Rourke's singular view of American life over the past 40 years shines forth in these short essays on subjects personal, political, and literary, which reveal a man of keen intellect and wide-ranging interests. They embrace everything from the state of the nation after 9/11 to the author's encounter with rap, from the masterminds of political makeovers to the rich variety of contemporary American writing. His reviews illuminate both the books themselves and the times in which we live, and his personal reflections engage even the most fearful events with a special humor and gentle p
