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11:1

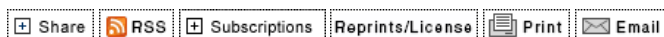
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Web Exclusive Reviews: Week of 1/19/2009

-- Publishers Weekly, 1/19/2009

WEB PICK OF THE WEEK

* A Nation on Fire: America in the Wake of the King Assassination

Clay Risen

. Wiley, \$25.95 (304p) ISBN 9780470177105

Writer and editor Risen accounts for the lead-up to Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination, and the waves of violence that swept the nation in its wake. Risen's work is eye-opening, emphasizing cagey analysis as well as a recreation of the atmosphere and events following King's brutal slaying. Unquestionably important, Risen's detailed narrative documents each riot individually, offering both statistics and accounts from witnesses and participants in the rioting, looting, and arson. Risen also documents President Johnson's personal struggle to maintain order in a wounded country that increasingly disapproved of him, and speeches made by Robert Kennedy and Stokely Carmichael which are believed to have quelled (at least temporarily) the violence. Perhaps more important than his acute historical knowledge is Risen's perspective on the causes of each riot and the emotional toll they took on the American public, which he correlates directly to subsequent loss of support for the civil rights movement. Debut author Risen, formerly of

The New Republic and currently founding manager of *Democracy: A Journal of Ideas*, has crafted a crucial addition to civil rights history, sure to absorb anyone interested in the times, the movement or MLK Jr. 16 b&w photos. (Jan.)

NONFICTION

11:11 The Time Prompt Phenomenon: The Meaning Behind Mysterious Signs, Sequences, and Synchronicities

Marie D. Jones and Larry Flaxman. New Page, \$15.99 (256p) ISBN 9781601630476

Author Jones (*Supervolcano, 2013: The End of Days or a New Beginning?*) and paranormal researcher Flaxman address the "cosmic significance" of specific codes, patterns and numbers—in particular recurring numbers like the "time prompt" 11:11—that call attention to a "separate level of awareness, consciousness, or reality." Jones and Flaxman comb facts and statistics for enticing examples; a long list attached to 9/11 includes the facts that the first plane to strike the towers was Flight 11; New York is the 11 th state; and Bin Laden's birthplace, Saudi Arabia, has 11 letters. They also look at "magical" numbers and curiosities in math, science and religion. (Pi, Apery's Constant, the Hebrew Kaballah, etc.) Jones and Flaxman are rational investigators with a game attitude and a willingness to believe; to be fair, they also look to human psychology (the tendency toward pattern-seeking) and "laws" (like the Law of Truly Large Numbers) that indicate "each of us should be experiencing some strange, coincidental events... even potentially miraculous, every single day." Whether readers will come to believe that numbers are "as paranormal as ghosts [or] UFOs" will largely depend on their attitude toward those two subjects; nevertheless, the authors' case makes an entertaining numerical romp. (Feb.)

As Time Goes By: Boomerang Marriages, Serial Spouses, Throwback Couples, and Other Romantic Adventures in an Age of Longevity

Abigail Trafford. Basic, \$25.95 (288p) ISBN

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Elizabeth Devereaux, ,
September 25, 2007

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Kevin Howell, Audio Book Editor,
August 23, 2007

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