

## The most-read *Century* book reviews

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Here are the *Century* book reviews that got read the most online this year.

- 1) **[Tony Robinson on Nancy Tatom Ammerman](#)**: Publishers see SBNRs as a key market, while preachers either court them or put them down. As for Ammerman, she isn't sure SBNRs exist.
- 2) **[Ralph Wood on Carol and Philip Zaleski](#)**: The proliferation of Inklings books is often prompted by Christian triumphalism. The Zaleskis have something more interesting to say.
- 3) **[Phil Jenkins on Karen Armstrong](#)**: Secularists from Voltaire to Richard Dawkins have attacked religion for its connection to violence. Armstrong flatly rejects the idea.
- 4) **[Walter Brueggemann on David Carr](#)**: Carr rereads the familiar materials of the Bible in conversation with trauma theory. This opens the way for a fresh and suggestive interpretation.
- 5) **[Katherine Willis Pershey on Lauren Winner](#)**: I read Winner's new book with the sort of joy one feels when watching someone utterly hit their stride.
- 6) **[Alexandra Brown on Frances Taylor Gench](#)**: Gench doesn't ignore difficult texts about women; she wrestles with them. That's because she is committed to the Bible as scripture.
- 7) **[Daniel José Camacho on Ta-Nehisi Coates](#)**: Coates is an atheist. But perhaps his atheism is precisely the kind that Christians in America need.
- 8) **[Valerie Weaver-Zercher on Nadia Bolz-Weber](#)**: Readers who found *Pastrix* to be a long, cool drink will find more refreshment here. Those who have tired of Bolz-Weber's cranky schtick will tire of it here as well.
- 9) **[Roger Owens on books by Jon Sweeney and Richard Rohr](#)**: Rohr and Sweeney, authors of two new books on St. Francis, would be united in their advice to

us: forget the statue with the birds.

**10) [Will Willimon on Karl Ove Knausgaard](#):** Knausgaard forced me to cancel six months of my life in order to fixate on 30 years of his.

**11) [Alan Van Wyk on Catherine Keller](#):** Keller's latest book presents process theology as a maker of worlds. It's heady stuff—and very exciting.

**12) [James Howell on Amy-Jill Levine](#):** Reading Levine's *Short Stories by Jesus*, I kept wishing she had published it earlier. It would have saved me some mistakes in the pulpit.

**13) [Jason Byassee on six books on preaching](#):** My sixth-grade sex ed teacher held up a worksheet and apologized: “I know this is sort of unromantic.” Books on preaching can leave us similarly cold.

**14) [Sarah Morice Brubaker on Stanley Hauerwas](#):** Longtime Hauerwas readers will not be surprised to hear that his new book is maddening—nor that some of the most maddening aspects are also the most rewarding.

**15) [Amy Frykholm on Karl Giberson](#):** Giberson offers a cultural history of the Bible's first human. It's an intriguing and unsettling story.