

Friday digest

June 1, 2012

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New today from the *Century*:

- Philip Jenkins on [Orthodoxy in East Africa](#): "Orthodoxy's roots in Egypt and Ethiopia are ancient. In East Africa there is a younger movement: a native Orthodoxy, locally grown." (subscription required)
- Harold Bush [reviews Why Read Moby-Dick?](#) by Nathaniel Philbrick: "The title of Nathaniel Philbrick's slim new meditation foregrounds the questions at the heart of every assignment made by every English teacher: Why read this book? Or that book? For that matter, why do we assign reading in the first place?" (subscription required)
- Debra Bendis [calls for adult-ed suggestions](#)
- Lil Copan on [art by Jake Weidmann](#) (subscription required)
- Tom Scott's vision of [the singularity, ruined by lawyers](#)

In the news:

- [Federal appeals court rules against gay marriage ban](#)
- [Malcolm X's pivotal letter on race at center of dispute between Syracuse, Alex Haley's family](#)
- [Mosque construction continues to attract opposition across U.S.](#)
- [Israel agrees to recognize non-Orthodox rabbis](#)