

# A CONVERSATION ABOUT CONTEXT

## Some references to get you started ...

“He told us we needed to know something about Arizona in order to become fine lawyers in Arizona: law cannot be practiced in a vacuum because it exists in the context of people, history, and places.” – Charles Wilkinson<sup>1</sup>

### A good general introduction ...

Timothy Egan, *The Good Rain: Across Time and Terrain in the Pacific Northwest*, Vintage, 1991

### Land, water and some of the conflicts they engender) ...

John Eliot Allen and Marjorie Burns, *Cataclysms on the Columbia: A Layman's Guide to the Features produced by the Catastrophic Bretz Flood in the Pacific Northwest*, Timber Press, 1986

David Alt, *Glacial Lake Missoula and Its Humongous Floods*, Mountain Press, 2003

David Alt and Donald Hyndman, *Roadside Geology of Idaho*, Mountain Press, 1989

David Alt and Donald Hyndman, *Roadside Geology of Oregon*, Mountain Press, 1978

David Alt and Donald Hyndman, *Roadside Geology of Washington*, Mountain Press, 1984

William Dietrich, *The Final Forest: The Battle for the Last Great Trees of the Pacific Northwest*, Penguin, 1992

Stephen L. Harris, *Fire Mountains of the West: The Cascade and Mono Lake Volcanoes* (Third Edition), Mountain Press, 2005

Marc Reisner, *Cadillac Desert: The American West and Its Disappearing Water*, Penguin, 1986

Richard White, *The Organic Machine: The Remaking of the Columbia River*, Hill and Wang, 1995

*Salmon Nation: People, Fish, and Our Common Home*, Ecotrust, 2003

### History and more conflicts ...

Gordon B. Dodds, *The American Northwest: A History of Oregon and Washington*, Forum Press, 1986

Patricia Nelson Limerick, *The Legacy of Conquest: The Unbroken Past of the American West*, Norton, 1987

Murray Morgan, *Puget's Sound: A Narrative of Early Tacoma and the Southern Sound*, University of Washington Press, 1979

Keith C. Peterson, *Company Town: Potlatch, Idaho, and the Potlatch Lumber Company*, Washington State University Press, 1987

William G. Robbins, *Landscapes of Conflict: The Oregon Story, 1940—2000*, University of Washington Press, 2004

Carlos Arnaldo Schwantes, *The Pacific Northwest: An Interpretive History*, University of Nebraska Press, 1996

### First people ...

Katrine Barber, *Death of Celilo Falls*, University of Washington Press, 2005

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<sup>1</sup> Charles F. Wilkinson, *The American West: A Narrative Bibliography and a Study in Regionalism*, University Press of Colorado, 1989, xi

Jacqueline Peterson, *Sacred Encounters: Father De Smet and the Indians of the Rocky Mountain West*, University of Oklahoma Press, 1993  
 Charles Wilkinson, *Messages from Frank's Landing: A Story of Salmon, Treaties, and the Indian Way*, University of Washington Press, 2000

#### **Some writers to get you started ...**

Raymond Carver, *Where I'm Calling From: New and Selected Stories*, Vintage, 1989  
 Annie Dillard, *The Living*, Harper Perennial, 1999  
 David James Duncan, *God Laughs and Plays: Churchless Sermons in Response to the Preachments of the Fundamentalist Right*, Triad, 2006  
 Martha Gies, *Up All Night*, Oregon State University Press, 2004  
 Jim Lynch, *The Highest Tide*, Bloomsbury, 2005  
 Norman Maclean, *A River Runs Through It and Other Stories*, University of Chicago, 1976  
 Nicholas O'Connell, *On Sacred Ground: The Spirit of Place in Pacific Northwest Literature*, University of Washington Press, 2003  
 Jonathan Raban, *Waxwings*, Vintage, 2003  
 Larry Watson, *Montana 1948*, Washington Square Press, 1995

#### **And a few poets ...**

Richard Hugo, *Making Certain It Goes On: The Collected Poems of Richard Hugo*, Norton, 1984  
 Patiann Rodgers, *Firekeeper: New and Selected Poems*, Milkweed, 1994  
 Theodore Roethke, *The Collected Poems of Theodore Roethke*, Anchor Books, 1975  
 William Stafford, *The Way It Is: New and Selected Poems*, Graywolf Press, 1998  
 David Whyte, *The House of Belonging*, Many Rivers Press, 1996

#### **The Spiritual Landscape ...**

Patricia O'Connell Killen and Mark Silk, editors, *Religion and Public Life in the Pacific Northwest: The None Zone*, Altamira Press, 2004  
 Louis Renner, *Alaskana Catholica: A History of the Catholic Church in Alaska*, Arthur H. Clark, 2005  
 Jan Shippo and Mark Silk, editors, *Religion and Public Life in the Mountain West: Sacred Landscapes in Transition*, Altamira Press, 2004  
*The Columbia River Watershed: Caring for Creation and the Common Good*, Columbia River Pastoral Letter Project, 2001, <http://www.columbiariver.org/>

#### **Some artists ...**

Emily Carr, Dale Chihuly, Monte Dolack, John Hoover, Rie Munoz, Mark Tobey

#### **Some movies ...**

*Smoke Signals*

#### **What's missing from this list?**

Women writers; writers from other cultures and perspectives especially people from the Pacific Rim, people whose first language is Spanish, African Americans, books about Alaska and Idaho, books that you've found helpful, challenging, or interesting; books that have changed your life ...

**SO ... WHAT'S ON YOUR NIGHT STAND?**