

The logo for 'Briefly Noted' features the words 'Briefly' and 'Noted' stacked vertically in a white, sans-serif font against a dark grey rectangular background.

THE ARTS OF INTIMACY:
Christians, Jews, and Muslims in
the Making of Castilian Culture *By*
Jerrilynn D. Dodds, María Rosa
Menocal CW'73 G'75 Gr'79, and
Abigail Krasner Balbale. (Yale
University Press, 2008. \$40.00.)
The arts, architecture, and
literature of nascent Castile

reveal that Castilian identity is deeply rooted in the experience of confrontation, interaction, and occasional union among Christian, Jewish, and Muslim communities. This illustrated book presents the history of Iberia's medieval cities and examines the diverse traditions that intertwined to create their distinctive culture. Menocal is director of the Whitney Humanities Center and Sterling Professor of Humanities at Yale. [BUY THIS BOOK](#)

THE SORCERER'S REVOLT *By Feng Menglong,*
translated by Nathan Sturman C'72 G'75. (Silk
Pagoda, 2009. \$29.95.) Nearly 30 years ago, writer
and translator Nathan Sturman found an old edition of
the *Ping Yao Zhuan* (*Sorcerer's Revolt*) in Van Pelt
Library and began translating it as a labor of love. The
once-forbidden classic from the Ming dynasty— a
magical, earthy tale of a pact with the devil—is
considered one of the world's first psychological
novels. Last summer, shortly after completing
revisions to an advance review copy of the book,
Sturman died of cancer. [BUY THIS BOOK](#)

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The word 'ARTS' is written in a large, bold, grey, sans-serif font. The letter 'A' is partially obscured by a thick, horizontal orange bar that extends to the right.

All Things Ornamental

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POEM [From Norman MacAfee C'65's Selected Poems](#)

EXCERPT [Pull over. Harry Truman's Excellent Adventure](#)

IMAGE [Elizabeth Osborne FA'59's Woman with Red](#)

BOOKS [Inescapable truth. Memory Lessons](#)

BRIEFLY NOTED

ARTS CALENDAR