**The Christian Studies Shelf**

 **Zondervan Publishing House
5300 Patterson Avenue, S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49530
9780310333685, $19.99, www.zondervan.com

Soul Detox: Clean Living in a Contaminated World is a fundamental spirituality guide that tells how to lead a spiritual life despite harmful relationships, toxic media, addictive habits, and bad influences all around. And the spiritual 'toxins' take a toll on a personal relationship with God, also. This outlines common hazardous thoughts and dangerous influences that come from cultural pressures, ethical ambiguity, and more - and provides keys to connecting with a deeper personal spirituality unaffected by the slings and arrows of the outside world. Christians who want insights into having a relationship with God will find this a powerful survey indeed!

Orbis Books
Price Bldg., Box 302
Maryknoll NY 10545
www.orbisbooks.com

Charlene Smith and John Feister's THEA'S SONG: THE LIFE OF THEA BOWMAN (9781570759628, $18.00) provides a *fine biography* that will appeal equally to spirituality and civil rights issues holdings, and tells of a black girl born in Mississippi who joined a convent of white Catholic sisters in Wisconsin. Thea fought prejudice and inspired others, and her story is captured in a riveting blend of historical and social examination that brings her world and beliefs to life. *It's powerful on many levels and assures that Thea's life and contributions won't be forgotten.***

**Diana L. Hayes' FORGED IN THE FIERY FURNACE: AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUALITY (9781570754722, $22.00) describes the origins of African American spirituality, developments during slavery and changes brought about by the Civil Rights Movement, and much more, offering a link between evolving African-American spirituality and social issues of this country. From the effects of the rise of black leadership to the increased involvement and power of women in the church, this is packed with important insights key to any spirituality collection!**

**Midwest Book Review, July 2012**