Writing a Book Review for the Journal of *Black Women and Religious Cultures*

Relevant books for review in *BW&RC* are scholarly texts by or about black women and religions, or black women and spiritualities in any generation, identity, and geographic area of Africa and the African Diaspora. Sites of religion and spirituality are read broadly, including connections to social issues, cultural practices and constructions, politics, law, activism, the arts, education, ritual, gender and gender identities, the environment, and more. Reviews of texts about local, national, or transnational ties to communities of black women and on local, national, or transnational engagements with black women also are welcome.

Publishers: Send texts for review to *Black Women and Religious Cultures*, 3715 Newhalem Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30331

Reviewers: Complete an 800-word (including headings) review using the guidelines below.

Heading of the Review:

Author First and Last Name, *The Title of the Book* (Place of Publication: Publisher, Date of Publication). # of pages. * ISBN.

Reviewed by Your Name, Your Institution, Your City, Your State.

Content of the Review:

1. Introduce the review with a description of the book's focus or the issue, question, problem the book engages.
2. Concisely summarize the book's argument, noting important sub-points. If you judge that the author has written a precise statement of the argument, consider quoting it. Include brief responses to the following questions: Why was this book written? What question does this book answer?
3. Briefly indicate pertinent identifying information about the author (qualifications, school of thought, disciplinary specialty, relation of author's other work to the project under review, etc.).
4. Summarize the book's contents or movements in the order that they appear. Where they exist, note distinct theoretical and methodological considerations.
5. Evaluate the book's strong point(s) and contribution.
6. Indicate where there might have been improvement (omissions, incorrect information, points needing additional attention, etc.).
7. State your overall assessment of the book. Indicate which audiences will find the book useful or benefit from the text.

Other considerations to weave into your review: Is the argument compelling, original, sound, thorough, and correct? Do elements of the argument cohere? Is the writing accessible and well organized? Assess the author's sources. Assess the footnotes and bibliography. Assess charts and illustrations, and their usefulness, if any.