What Goes Around Comes Around

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Shirley L. Arora is a professor emerita of Spanish in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese of the University of California, Los Angeles. Her chief research interests are Spanish proverbial speech and oral narrative, particularly the legend. She is currently engaged in a long-term research project focusing on proverbial speech among speakers of Spanish in the greater Los Angeles area. The initial result of this project is the volume Proverbial Comparisons and Related Expressions in Spanish Recorded in Los Angeles, California (University of California Folklore Studies, no. 29. University of California Press, 1977). A corresponding volume on proverbs is in preparation.

Jan Harold Brunvand is professor emeritus of English at the University of Utah. He is the author of numerous books on modern urban legends, including The Truth Never Stands in the Way of a Good Story (University of Illinois Press, 2000) and The Encyclopedia of Urban Legends (ABC-CLIO, 2001).

Charles Clay Doyle, at the University of Georgia since the mid-1970s, has published on a variety of folklore topics, especially proverbs. He also teaches and does research on the English language and poetry of the English Renaissance. In graduate school at the University of Texas, his folklore mentor was the late Américo Paredes.

Alan Dundes is professor of anthropology and folklore at the University of California, Berkeley where he has been on the faculty since 1963. He is one of the world’s leading folklorists.

Kimberly J. Lau is assistant professor of English and gender studies at the University of Utah. She is the author of New Age Capitalism: Making Money East of Eden (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2000) and is currently completing
an ethnography of Sisters in Shape, a black women’s health and fitness project based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Isaac Jack Lévy, distinguished professor emeritus of Spanish language and literature at the University of South Carolina and founder of the American Society of Sephardic Studies, is the author of And the World Stood Silent: Sephardic Poetry of the Holocaust and Prolegomena to the Study of the “Refranero Sefardi.”

Rosemary Lévy Zumwalt, vice president of academic affairs and dean of the college at Agnes Scott College and past president of the Fellows of the American Folklore Society, is the author of Wealth and Rebellion: Elsie Clews Parsons, Anthropologist and Folklorist and American Folklore Scholarship: A Dialogue of Dissent.

Jay Mechling is professor of American studies at the University of California, Davis. He was editor of Western Folklore (the quarterly journal of the California Folklore Society) from 1984 through 1988 and was elected a fellow of the American Folklore Society in 1998. He served as chair of the California Council for the Humanities in the mid-1990s and was named Distinguished Alumnus of the Year (2002) by Stetson University. The author of nearly one hundred articles, book chapters, and books, including On My Honor: Boy Scouts and the Making of American Youth (Chicago, 2001), he is one of the three senior editors for the four-volume Encyclopedia of American Studies (Grovier, 2001).

Anand Prahlad is a professor of folklore and creative writing at the University of Missouri, Columbia, where he teaches courses in poetry, folklore, and film. His research and creative interests include poetry of the body, the convergence of popular and classical forms, the proverb and speech performances, and theories of race and gender. He is the author of Hear My Story and Other Poems and has published widely in American poetry journals. In addition to his poems, he has published two critical books, African American Proverbs in Context (University of Mississippi Press, 1996) and Reggae Wisdom: Proverbs in Jamaican Music (University of Mississippi Press, 2001). Prahlad’s current projects include editing a four-volume encyclopedia set on African American Folklore (Greenwood Press); editing a special issue of the Journal of American Folklore
on African American folklore; and writing an ethnographic memoir, a collection of short stories, and a second book of poems.

Peter Tokofsky has published on proverbs, festivals, folktales, and other topics and is the director of the ArtsBridge Program in the UCLA School of Arts and Architecture. He has published articles on various aspects of carnival celebrations in southwest Germany, such as performances of social/political satire and gender differences in the celebration. He is a contributing consultant for an exhibition Carnaval!, which came to the UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History in 2004.

Stephen D. Winick is director of the Delaware Valley Folklife Center, one of six regional folklife centers for the state of New Jersey, and an adjunct instructor at the University of Pennsylvania. He writes and lectures on a broad range of topics in folklore and has published several previous articles on proverbs. He serves as convener of the Music and Song section of the American Folklore Society and sits on the board of directors of the New Jersey Folklore Society. He earned his Ph.D. in folklore from the University of Pennsylvania and wrote his dissertation on proverbs in popular culture.