

FROM THE EDITORS

Goodbye, 2011. You've been rich.

The online *Free Merriam-Webster Dictionary* offers eight definitions of *rich*, and four of the eight have at least two sub-parts. When I tell the Old Year it's been rich, I think I personally mean it in the sense of definition **7b**: "meaningful, significant," which of course can broadly cover both positive and negative richness. When I think about the big picture — you know, politics, the economy, the general state of the world — I think **6c** might be just about right: "high in the combustible component." In the world at large as well as in my small one, some aspects of the year have been **7a**: "entertaining; also: laughable," some even **3**: "magnificently impressive" (think certain protest movements). On many levels I can even see **4c** as apt: "having a strong fragrance," but I won't elaborate on just what that fragrance might have been.

Certainly I, myself, have not felt rich this year in the sense of definition **1** — "having abundant possessions and especially material wealth" — and I'm sure at least ninety-nine percent of our readers haven't either — even though I'm well aware that as a citizen of the U.S., in no matter what percentile, I have far more wealth than the average citizen in many other places in the world. By my

own standards, which are not primarily material, I have to say that my life has been rich in the sense of **2a** — "having high value or quality" — and **2b**, "well supplied," especially with love

the example given is "cholesterol-rich foods" but I would make it "stress-rich challenges." I really can't point to anything about myself or the past year that I'd call "pure or nearly pure"; but hey, that's way down at the bottom of the Merriam-Webster entry, in definition **8**.

In terms of this issue of *Feminist Collections*, I very much hope our readers will find it rich in the sense of **4a** — "vivid and deep in color" (meaning "color" figuratively, of course, as we still print in black and white) — and **4b**, "full and mellow in tone and quality." Oh, and don't forget about that **7b** we began with, and maybe you'll even decide this issue is **7c**: "lush." It's a double issue, rich with **six** feature-length resource reviews that look at global Islamic feminisms, controversies about veiling, women in law enforcement, women in combat, and women in sports. We even had to create a new category: "reviews of multiple media," as one of our reviewers critiqued a combination of books and films and another, films (both DVD and streamed online), podcasts, and blogs. I think you'll find this issue's batch of reference reviews to be **4b** ("full and mellow...") as well.

May your 2012 be rich in the best possible ways. We'll see you again soon with our Winter issue.

○ J.L.



Miriam Greenwald

and support and lots of humor and adventure. Those riches have helped to balance the ways in which the catch-all **6d** rings true: "high in *some* component" (emphasis mine), where