Editor’s Note

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BIBLIO-REVENANCE celebrates the “act of returning to a book” and embraces the bibliographic belief that Nothing Remains the Same (Lesser, 2002). The Biblio-Revenance section invites authors to return to their previously published works and to reexamine ideas in relation to the passing of time and the “differing sense of self.” As Wendy Lesser (2000) has noted:

You cannot reread a book from your youth without perceiving it as, among other things, a mirror. Wherever you look in that novel or poem or essay, you will find a little reflected face peering out at you—the face of your own youthful self, the original reader, the person you were when you first read the book. (4)

Past essays have included William Pinar reflecting on his 1975 renowned collection, Curriculum Theorizing: The Reconceptualists, Michael Apple discussing his seminal work, Ideology and Curriculum (1979), Maxine Greene “returning” to her 1973 publication, Teacher as Stranger (in what served to inspire establishing this column), and more recently a reflection on the field of curriculum studies after reviewing 30 years of AERA conference programs.

Similar to Anne Fadiman’s (2005) comments on rereading, the relationship between reader and book, like all relationships that matter, changes over time. A book that seemed a fount of wisdom to a fifteen-year-old might seem a trough of hogwash to a fifty-year-old; on the other hand, passages that were once dull or incomprehensible might be transformed by life experience from dross into gold. (xiii)

It is the hope that this column permits authors to rediscover thoughts after the passage of time and to remind readers that many passages have transformed with the passing years. For this issue, Tom Roby was invited to return to Joseph Schwab’s legendary work, The Practical I. Roby worked with Joseph Schwab (1909-1988), first as a graduate student at the University of Chicago beginning in 1966 and later as a colleague writing The Practical 5 and The Practical 6. Currently, he serves as the literary executor of the Schwab estate and is establishing an archival center for
the collection and dissemination of Joseph Schwab’s Camp Ramah audiotapes and other materials and documents.

Biblio-Revenance invites submissions, and JCT readers are encouraged to suggest specific authors and publications. Send suggestions to Craig Kridel, Museum of Education, Wardlaw Hall-USC, Columbia, SC 29208.

REFERENCES
