

Submission Guidelines for the *FARMS Review*

Purpose

Our primary purpose is to help readers find books that are worth reading. They need information about the content of the book and its quality, including both its strengths and its weaknesses. Your evaluation of why the book or its topic is interesting or important, or is not, will be useful to them. Such evaluations should also encourage reliable scholarship on the Book of Mormon.

Audience

Assume that the readers of the *Review* are serious students of the Book of Mormon and are familiar with its story, characters, and doctrines. However, given the diversity of our readers and the interdisciplinary nature of work on the Book of Mormon, you should not assume that they have an academic background. You should avoid or explain special terminology from your area of expertise, and you may need to summarize any history of research in your field that you wish to use to evaluate the book.

Focus

A review essay usually focuses on the book being reviewed, rather than on larger issues in the field that the book covers. A review that covers three or more related books may go further afield since its purpose is to show connections and comparisons among the books and between the books and a larger body of information. But the purpose is still primarily to enlighten the reader about the content and quality of the books being reviewed. If you believe that a different focus would better serve the readers, please consult with the editor of the *Review*.

Evaluation

You should first evaluate the book on its own terms—what the author intended to accomplish and how well he or she accomplished it. You may also discuss such matters as the other things you think the author should have tried to do and how the book compares with others in the field, but not to the exclusion of evaluating the book on its own merits.

Length

Reviews vary in length from about 1500 words to 6000 words. If you need to go below or above that guideline, please discuss that with one of the editors of the *Review*. In general, use your own judgment regarding suitable length for covering your topic responsibly and thoughtfully without being infinitely thorough.

Deadlines

If you have contacted us earlier and were given a deadline, we urge you to meet it so we can serve our readers by producing the *Review* in a timely manner. If circumstances arise that make it impossible for you to meet our deadline, please contact us right away.

Sources

You are required to submit photocopies of your sources along with your essay. **This is a condition of publication.** For a book, please photocopy the page quoted, the title page, and the copyright page so that the following information is visible: quotation, page of quotation, title of book, author, editor or translator, publisher, place of publication, and publication year. Usually this data is found on the title page, copyright page, and page of the quotation. For periodicals, copy the quotation (so that the page number shows), the article title, the byline, the title of the

periodical, the volume and issue numbers, and the date/season of publication. It is also permissible to send scans of this information by e-mail. You do not need to photocopy scripture references.

Revisions

The editors of the *Review* will read your review and may make suggestions aimed at improving clarity, cohesion, and the overall quality and strength of your argument. Some suggestions may aim to make your essay fit better with others to be published in the same issue. We hope that you will consider the suggestions to be friendly and will think through them carefully. We believe that our goal and yours are the same—to help serious students of the Book of Mormon make informed choices and judgments about the books published on the Book of Mormon and to encourage reliable scholarship on this key scripture.

Format

Your manuscript should be in Times or Times New Roman, 12 point, double-spaced. Please title your essay and include your contact information.

Address

Send your essay and sources to FARMS Review, attn: Don Brugger, 200 WAIH, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, 84602. You can also e-mail your essay to don_brugger@byu.edu (be sure to submit photocopied or scanned sources as well).