

of brilliance. She includes roughly one excerpt per chapter, from a source that has been central to that chapter. It is a perfect way to further engage students in the topic.

The only distraction is the liberal reference to misogyny. As in many books on women, particularly medieval women, this term seems overused. Most readers will not have to be told that medieval society was misogynist—it is evident. This terminology seems to be a calling card or rallying point for some, but it is a small criticism. The work does not feel biased, and the revelations about women that emerge should actually provide tools to break down any lasting barriers associated with studying women's history. Leyser has written a fascinating account that students and teachers alike will love.

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Michael Broers. *Europe Under Napoleon, 1799-1815.* London and New York: Arnold, 1996. Pp. xii, 291. Cloth, \$49.95; ISBN 0-340-66265-4. Paper, \$19.95; ISBN 0-340-66264-6.

Do we need yet another book on Napoleon? Michael Broers answers, not exactly. According to Broers, what we need, and indeed what he has given us, is a sophisticated historical analysis of the impact of Napoleonic rule on conquered Europe from the point of view of the ruled. So, if you are looking for a book primarily on Napoleon the man and ruler, or one on France under Napoleon, you will need to look elsewhere.

Drawing his inspiration from his now deceased mentor Richard Cobb, Broers examines the Napoleonic era from the perspective of those who endured it: soldiers, peasants, local officials, collaborators, and resisters. Unlike Cobb, however, who tended to eschew generalizations, Broers uses his chronological development of Napoleonic rule in Europe to advance several generalizations about Napoleonic rule and its effects.

Most importantly, Broers insists that Napoleon was rooted in the secular, rational world of the Enlightenment and Revolution. The last of the Enlightened Despots, Napoleon sought to extend and apply Enlightenment values to the areas he conquered. He imposed modern, rational bureaucratic practices and, in the Concordat with the Pope, limited papal influence and dissolved the popular religious orders. Enlightenment and Revolutionary influences can also be seen in Napoleon's attempts to abolish seigneurialism and to export the Napoleonic Civil Code.

Unfortunately for France, most of the local populations despised and resisted Napoleon's conquest and administration. While French administrators frequently saw the people in the regions they conquered, including much of the west and south of France, as savages or "bumpkins" and religious fanatics, the local populations viewed

the French as godless murderers. Whatever support the French might have gained from elite sympathizers of the Enlightenment or peasants wanting land was forfeited by cultural arrogance, the often violent imposition of conscription, the economic effects of the Continental Blockade, the dissolution of religious orders to which many were attached, and the attempts to eliminate local traditions.

Broers emphasizes, however, that Napoleonic rule did not directly or inadvertently promote nationalism. Napoleon sought a European order that was rational, uniform, and dependent on France, not a Europe of revolutionary nationalisms. Nor did opposition to his bureaucratic and military agents encourage nationalism. Rather, with the exceptions of Poland and Ireland, conquered Europeans agreed only on preserving their particularist, traditional rights.

Broers's evaluation of Napoleon's legacy is mixed. He acknowledges Napoleon the butcher, tyrant, and warmonger, but also insists on Napoleon's military and administrative genius. Napoleon's legacy also endured. For better or worse, leaders of new and old European states would not return to pre-1799 Europe, and they retained many of Napoleon's legal and administrative reforms in order to compete in the modern world.

Broers organizes his book into several dense chronological chapters, and within those chapters examines the impact of Napoleonic rule on the different geographical and social sectors of Europe. This is not a book for students, or faculty, beginning their study of Napoleon or Napoleonic Europe. Although Broers does briefly discuss the most important events and individuals affecting Europe, he focuses more on interpretation and on rather specific internal developments within European countries that assume some prior knowledge. The book would be very useful to graduate students and even to advanced undergraduate students who will find, in addition to the text, bibliography and footnotes invaluable for writing a term paper. Instructors will also find interesting arguments and examples for more than one lecture.

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Michael Burns. *France and the Dreyfus Affair: A Documentary History.* New York: St. Martin's Press, 1999. Pp. xiv, 210. Cloth, \$39.95; ISBN 0-312-21813-3.

One driven to bed by a chronic illness endures both pain and the prolongation of time; one who suffers injustice might wait long years for a remedy. So it was in 1894 with Captain Alfred Dreyfus, an Alsatian Jew in the French army whom fellow officers targeted. His arrest resulted from the acquisition of a military memorandum (*bordereau*) imputed to him on tenuous grounds as the basis for a charge of treason. Arrested, accused of high treason, tried, and convicted, he went to prison.