

the presidency, and biography, as well as for general surveys of American history. Any instructor who is searching for a source that promotes critical thinking skills among advanced students will be richly rewarded by the use of this work.

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Sam Roberts. *The Brother: The Untold Story of Atomic Spy David Greenglass and How He Sent His Sister, Ethel Rosenberg, to the Electric Chair*. New York: Random House, 2001. Pp. 543. Cloth, \$35.00; ISBN 0-375-50013-8.

David Greenglass will be remembered forever as the atomic spy who betrayed his sister, Ethel Rosenberg, assured a guilty verdict in her (and her husband's) treason trial of 1951, and sealed the couple's fate: death in the electric chair on June 19, 1953. Rather than receive the death penalty for his role as a spy at Los Alamos during World War II, Greenglass was sentenced to fifteen years in prison. He served ten years and was released in November 1960.

Although one of the most controversial figures of his generation, David Greenglass all but disappeared from public view until Sam Roberts, a *New York Times* reporter, discovered his whereabouts in 1983. It took another thirteen years for Roberts to convince Greenglass to participate in what eventually totaled more than fifty hours of interviews. Greenglass told Roberts that he finally agreed to talk because, at his advanced age (79), "I need the money."

And so historians of the McCarthy era have an opportunity to rehear the Rosenberg spy story from a long silent source. *The Brother* reveals Greenglass's perspective on everything from his amateur spying methods in the Manhattan Project to his persistent lack of regret for all he did in World War II and since. Readers are never tempted to like David Greenglass, but we are at least able to understand his political motives and often perverse reasoning. The result is that we now know that all sides in the great Rosenberg debate were right: Greenglass lied to save his (and his wife's) skin, but the Rosenbergs were guilty as charged. Greenglass has simply confirmed what recently disclosed Soviet espionage records have seemingly proven.

But just as we are ready to close the book on the Rosenberg case, there is lingering doubt about Greenglass's revelations to Sam Roberts. Is Greenglass still lying? After all, Roberts admits that "there were several elements of his account ... that were contradicted by other sources." And Roberts quotes Greenglass as saying, "When you think you can get out of something without getting anybody in trouble, then it's okay to lie." Greenglass had no qualms about lying at the Rosenbergs' trial (despite the terrible trouble it caused them) and at anti-communist Congressional hearings of the 1950s. ("I'm not adverse to lying to a committee. Screw them!") Greenglass's credibility is just as questionable today as it was in 1950, although the stakes back then were admittedly far greater.

Who should read *The Brother* and how can it be used in teaching history? Weighing in at more than five hundred pages on a very specific topic, the book is clearly not made for high school or undergraduate U.S. survey classes. On the other hand, graduate seminars on the Cold War and the McCarthy era might well benefit by including this book on their updated readings lists.

But *The Brother* is best used by teachers and professors who strive to remain current on recently released historical sources so they can share new views and information with their students. We might agree with Sam Roberts's candid appraisal that David Greenglass was little more than a rat, but even rats can provide new evidence in important debates among historians and, hence, among U.S. history students at all levels. We just must not forget that, with rare exceptions, rats must never be given the last word in our classrooms and, by extension, in life.

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Vincent J. Cannato. *The Ungovernable City: John Lindsay and His Struggle to Save New York*. New York: Basic Books, 2001. Pp. 720. Cloth, \$35.00; ISBN: 0-465-00843-7.

Despite its unchallenged position as America's preeminent city, the scholarly literature devoted to New York City's history is relatively sparse. The one book that prominently stands out with general readers and historians is Robert Caro's biography of Robert Moses, *The Power Broker*. Vincent Cannato's recently published *The Ungovernable City: John Lindsay and His Struggle to Save New York* deserves to be placed alongside *The Power Broker* as one of the few great books written about New York City. It is also a work that provides brilliant insight into American society during the 1960s. In this sense, *The Ungovernable City* is not only a book about New York, but also a fine history of urban and social life in 1960s America.

The Ungovernable City centers around the troubled mayoralty of John V. Lindsay, although it is not really a biography of Lindsay. Rather, the book covers in intricate detail the eight years that Lindsay occupied City Hall and catalogues with brilliant clarity and dramatic prose the many fiscal, racial, and social crises that buffeted New York during that time. The Lindsay that emerges here is not a likeable character; he is a patrician, Yale-educated blueblood, longing to do right by the city's underprivileged, but totally uneducated about how to conduct New York City politics and oblivious to the concerns of the city's middle and working classes. The book moves in a rough chronology, but is more thematic in its organization, with each chapter addressing a particular crisis or troubling episode (such as the Columbia student riots of 1968) and detailing how Mayor Lindsay responded to it. Taken together, the chapters lead the reader to the conclusion that Lindsay presided over the deterioration of New