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Servants: a downstairs history of britain from the nineteenth century to modern times, Lucy Lethbridge (book review)

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discourse at a level exceeding that of the 1930s and 1940s. He dispels the notion that this animus is caused by the actions of Israel or Jews and details the means used by anti-Semites to spread their influence—up to and including the agencies of the United Nations. **VERDICT** This is a book that should be of interest to anyone who opposes anti-Semitism. [See Prepub Alert, 3/18/13.] —**Joel Neuberg, Santa Rosa Junior Coll. Lib., CA**

Goldhagen, Daniel Jonah. *The Devil That Never Dies: The Rise and Threat of Global Antisemitism*. Little, Brown. Sept. 2013. 432p. notes. ISBN 9780316097871. \$30. HIST

Review by Brian Renvall

Haag (*The Templars: The History and the Myth*) provides a thorough account of the Crusades, including the history of the Crusader states—known as Outremer—established by the Franks after the First Crusade. He expertly examines the Crusades from both the Christian and Muslim perspectives, drawing from contemporary chronicles, church records, and correspondence by Templars. Haag covers the motivations for the Crusades, why both Muslims and Christians wanted control of the Holy Land, and how the Templars were established—with the approval of Rome—as a fighting band of monks whose responsibility was to protect pilgrims visiting the area. He describes how the Templars became influential and, ultimately, extremely wealthy. With the fall of the Crusader states in the 1200s, secular powers sought to gain control of Templar assets. The Templar story is not at the fore of this work—Haag's real focus is the fate of Outremer, in which the Templars had a role. **VERDICT** This work will be of interest to general and specialty readers seeking an in-depth look at the Crusades and the importance of the Holy Land to both Western and Eastern groups. Further, it reminds us that this was a time not unlike our own in that religious intolerance created a dangerous environment for average worshippers no matter their creed. —**Brian Renvall, Mesalands Community Coll., Tucumcari, NM**

Haag, Michael. *The Tragedy of the Templars: The Rise and Fall of the Crusader States*. Harper. 2013. 448p. notes. bibliog. index. ISBN 9780062059758. pap. \$16.99. HIST

Review by Douglas King

Kelly (literature, Coll. of Charleston; *Our Joyce*) brings a literary sensibility to this vivid and engrossing study of slavery in and around one of its trading hubs, Charleston, SC, site of the first and longest Civil War siege and a hotbed of political, economic, religious, and moral debates about importing, owning, and trading slaves. The author explores the popular ideological arguments for and against slavery in the only American city (and state) in which black slaves outnumbered whites. Digging deeply into documentary evidence such as journals, letters, and printed public speeches to illuminate what both abolitionists and slave owners thought about using human capital to build wealth and maintain a power imbalance, Kelly frames the issue of slavery as a cultural battle *within* the South rather than of the South versus the North. Politically powerful pro-slavery "fire-eaters" such as John C. Calhoun and James Hammond claimed to use logic and reason in perpetuating the slave trade while painting abolitionists as dangerous idealists who failed to see that slavery was a "necessary evil" or even a "positive good." **VERDICT** Well written and finely detailed, Kelly's debut historical work is an important contribution to Southern antebellum history and is highly recommended to scholarly readers. —**Douglas King, Univ. of South Carolina Lib., Columbia**

Kelly, Joseph. *America's Longest Siege: Charleston, Slavery, and the Slow March Toward Civil War*. Overlook. 2013. 384p. illus. notes. bibliog. index. ISBN 9781590207192. \$27.95. HIST

Review by Kathleen McCallister

One of the most striking anecdotes in UK journalist Lethbridge's history of English domestic service over the last two centuries concerns a social researcher posing as a scullery maid in a fancy London house in the 1930s. When her invalid employer requested a milk drink and digestive biscuit, the task of preparing and delivering this simple fare turned out to involve the efforts of no less than eight servants, including the cook, footman, butler, and lady's maid. It's a scene that encapsulates the twofold nature of this book's appeal, for while it provides many such entertaining and eyebrow-raising episodes, its greatest strength is the author's clear-eyed exploration of the complex and shifting mind-set surrounding housework and domestic service in the country as a whole.

Lethbridge's long-range view of English servants might drift a little in the early chapters, but, as the years roll on, she provides a thorough look at how this nostalgically retained tradition began to break down against the forces of financial instability, technological progress, and the changing attitudes of successive generations. **VERDICT** Studies and memoirs of life in service are currently thick on the ground, but the panoramic view of the subject and Lethbridge's engaging style and sharp observations make this book a valuable addition to the crowd. [See Prepub Alert, 5/13/13.] **–Kathleen McCallister, Univ. of South Carolina Lib., Columbia**

Lethbridge, Lucy. *Servants: A Downstairs History of Britain from the Nineteenth-Century to Modern Times*. Norton. Nov. 2013. 400p. illus. notes. bibliog. index. ISBN 9780393241099. \$27.95. HIST

Review by Maria Bagshaw

Under the Third Reich, many a moral compass was abandoned in capitulation to prejudice and mania. Basing their work on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's and his brother-in-law Hans von Dohnanyi's own letters and writings, Sifton (senior vice president, Farrar, Straus & Giroux; *The Serenity Prayer: Faith and Politics in Times of Peace and War*) and Stern (Univ. Professor Emeritus, Columbia Univ.; *Gold and Iron: Bismarck, Bleichröder, and the Building of the German Empire*) explore how these two extraordinary men influenced the German resistance movement.

Bonhoeffer, a Protestant pastor, provided the religious center with his writings on faith, ethics, and the role of the church. Von Dohnanyi, a lawyer, worked to keep the rule of law alive, using the Nazi machine against itself in his work in the courts, in German military intelligence, and in saving others under Nazi threat. These men collaborated closely while working with other well-known resisters in a race to save their country. Briefly but effectively, the authors highlight each man's special place in the German resistance and underscore his deep humanity. **VERDICT** Specialists and academics are well familiar with these men but will appreciate this treatment; those unfamiliar with Bonhoeffer and von Dohnanyi will find this book a starting point for further study. [See Prepub Alert, 5/20/13.]

–Maria Bagshaw, Elgin Community Coll. Lib., IL

Sifton, Elisabeth & Fritz Stern. *No Ordinary Men: Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Hans von Dohnanyi, Resisters Against Hitler in Church and State*. New York Review. Sept. 2013. 160p. notes. ISBN 9781590176818. \$19.95; ebk. ISBN 9781590177020. HIST

Review by Crystal Goldman

British biographer and travel writer Wheeler (*The Magnetic North*) turns her attention to six Englishwomen—Fanny Trollope, Fanny Kemble, Harriet Martineau, Isabella Bird, Catherine Hubback, and Rebecca Burlend—who reinvented themselves in America during their "second acts" in middle age. They came from a variety of backgrounds—they were, respectively, an author, an actress, an early sociologist, an explorer, Jane Austen's niece, and a tenant farmer—but all wrote extensively in letters, diaries, pamphlets, and books. Some published about their time in the States, including experiences of society balls in the East, Midwestern farms, the Colorado Rockies, and the California gold rush, though not all were impressed with what they found in the New World. Trollope penned a criticism of American manners and Kemble a scathing indictment of Southern slavery, while Martineau praised the