Some three hundred biographical entries make up this single-volume work on the Harlem Renaissance. Biographies are of both the now well known (Billie Holiday, Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, and Lead Belly) and those known mostly to experts in the field. Each biography is followed by a list of further reading, which includes books, encyclopedia articles, and journal and newspaper articles. The biographies are taken from Gates and Higginbotham's monumental eight-volume work, *African American National Biography* (Oxford, 2008).

Supplementary material includes only a general index and a brief introduction. The index would benefit from subheadings. An index entry is followed only by a series of page numbers, with no information as to what the entry is about. W. E. B. Du Bois, for example, is followed by two dozen page numbers. Any or all of them might be relevant or helpful to an individual researcher, but the index gives no specific information. A general bibliography also might have been helpful in addition to the lists of further readings.

*Harlem Renaissance Lives* contains only biographical entries. No entries cover topics related to the Renaissance, such as literary or artistic themes, publishing houses, individual works of literature or art, or historical events. In this sense, it is more limited than an earlier reference volume on the Harlem Renaissance, *Encyclopedia of the Harlem Literary Renaissance: The Essential Guide to the Lives and Works of the Harlem Renaissance Writers* by Lois Brown (Facts on File, 2006). That earlier work has some eight hundred entries, both biographical and topical. Several works published by Thomson Gale also cover the period. The first volume of the three-volume *The Harlem Renaissance: A Gale Critical Companion*, edited by Janet Witalec (Thomson Gale, 2003) contains chapters on the various arts that flourished during the Harlem Renaissance—music, performance, the visual arts, and literature. In addition, two volumes of Gale’s *Dictionary of Literary Biography* examine the Harlem Renaissance. Volume 50 of this series is *Afro-American Writers before the Harlem Renaissance* (Gale, 1986) and volume 51 is titled *Afro-American Writers from the Harlem Renaissance to 1940* (Gale, 1987). Both volumes contain biographies, including extensive critical comment, bibliographies of primary and secondary works, and excerpts from primary works such as letters of the writers of this time and movement.

Libraries that do not already own one or more of the titles mentioned above, and those who seek to have a complete collection in the area, will find *Harlem Renaissance Lives* a valuable purchase.—*Terry Ann Mood, Professor Emerita, University of Colorado, Denver*