Tenenbom, Tuvia. The Lies They Tell. Jerusalem: Gefen, 2017. 405 pp. $14.50. (9789652299116). The author is an Israeli Jew, now a United States citizen and resident, founder of the Jewish Theater of New York, and a journalist for the German newspaper Die Zeit. He is thus both an outsider and something of an insider in this account of his travels through the United States. He tries to learn about the country by speaking with the people he meets along the way. In this, the book is similar to his two earlier popular books that dealt with Germany and Israel, but while they each had a specific topic they explored, this is wide-ranging. Notwithstanding, Tenenbom has certain preoccupations (e.g. race) and he comes to certain conclusions, notably that many Americans are reluctant, even afraid, to state frankly their opinions because the bonds that hold United States citizens together are “artificial” (Tenenbom’s travels occurred in 2016 before the presidential election). The author displays a sense of humor and empathy and he is open-minded in acknowledging both the good and evil he encounters. He does not fit neatly into any ideological profile. For example, he has great sympathy for Native Americans, deploring how they were treated by the Europeans who fought and conquered them, while at the same time he regards their efforts to preserve and revivify their culture as sterile. He is skeptical of ideological packages of unrelated issues. In part by chance and in part because of some of the people he intentionally meets and the questions he asks, this book has a strong, though far from exclusive, Jewish content. Indeed, the most chilling encounter, as he relates it, is with a Jewish Voice for Peace demonstrator. This idiosyncratic book provides a pointed and textured portrait of the United States. It is a fine example of a particular kind of journalism. Shmuel Ben-Gad, Gelman Library, George Washington University.