

## **What does it Say, Mean, Matter Blog**

*The Woman All Spies Fear* by Amy Butler Greenfield tells the story of remarkable cryptanalyst Elizebeth Smith Friedman. Starting off working on a small code breaking project, Elizebeth deciphered messages and broke codes during World War I and World War II, which caught enemy spies and prevented attacks on the U.S. Her work for the Coast Guard and Navy also helped to find and catch criminals and smugglers.

Elizebeth excelled in code breaking and had a very important job. Her work during the World Wars saved many lives, and protected national security. Catching dangerous criminals and gangsters secured the safety of the public, and stopped smugglers from selling illegal items.

Despite the fact that she grew up in a household where her father believed that college education shouldn't be wasted on women, Elizebeth didn't let it stop her from doing what she loved and played an important role in history. She proved people wrong time and time again when they underestimated her, and transformed the way we codebreak today.