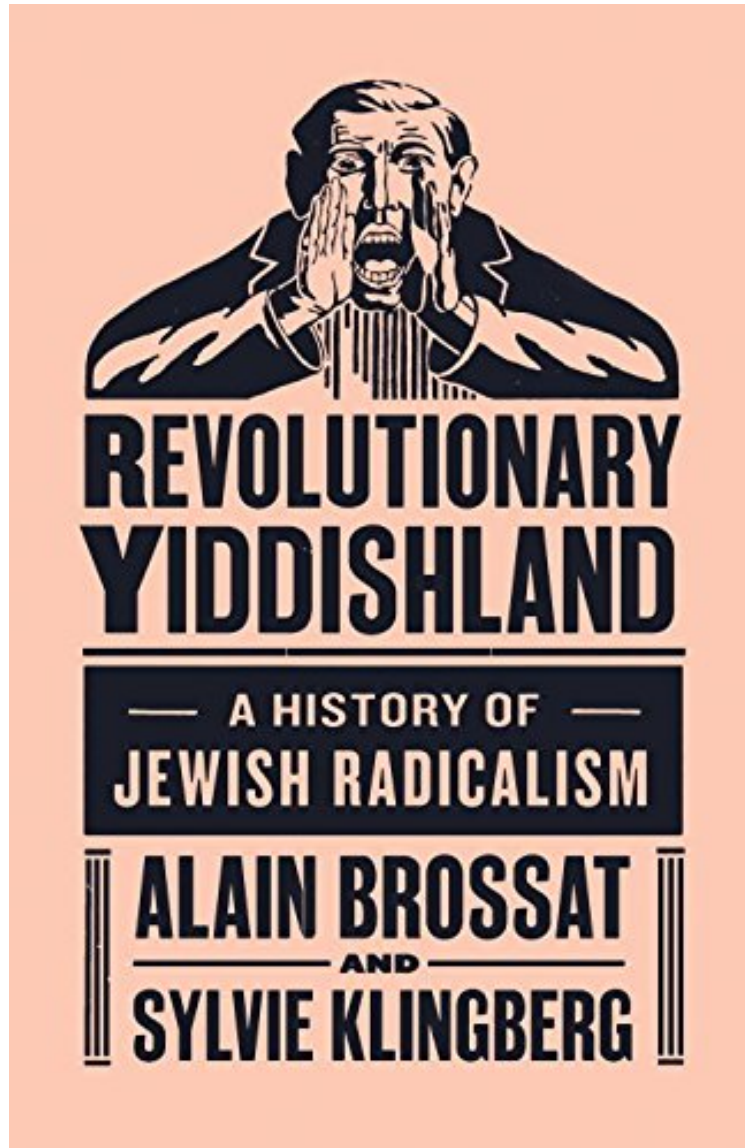


(Download pdf ebook) Revolutionary Yiddishland: A History of Jewish Radicalism

Revolutionary Yiddishland: A History of Jewish Radicalism

Alain Brossat, Sylvie Klingberg
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Alain Brossat, Sylvie Klingberg : Revolutionary Yiddishland: A History of Jewish Radicalism before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Revolutionary Yiddishland: A History of Jewish Radicalism:

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. An Incomplete History of Jewish RadicalismBy edelstadtReaders be weary! This is not a history of Jewish radicalism! I was so disappointed with this book. Angry, if you will. This book is a complete erasure of Jewish anarchism. Even Emma Goldman and Alexander Berkman, arguably the most notable

Jewish radicals, who happen to be anarchists, are omitted completely! There is not mention of the many Jewish anarchist newspapers. The Jewish anarchist group of the early 1900s The Black Banner is not even mentioned. The famous Jewish anarchist authors and poets such as David Edelstadt and Johann Most are erased. I was appalled to read the section on the assassination of anti-Semite Symon Petlura has no mention of his killer Sholem Schwartzbard (a Jewish anarchist). In the index "anarchism" is not mentioned. Baruch Rivkin, a Jewish anarchist who wrote extensively on "Yiddishland," does not even appear once in the book. Jewish anarchists played a extremely significant role in shaping Yiddishland and should not be erased from Jewish radical history. Why do Communists (Verso books is Communist) have such a long history of betraying and erasing anarchists, Jewish anarchists, and Jews from history? 3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Attempts to re-write history - Don't waste your money. By Bob Goise Leaves out important Jewish anarchists. Seems like a petty attempt to rewrite history. Major disappointment. I'd highly recommend "Jewish Radicals: A Documentary Reader" instead of this book. Don't waste your money. 0 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Good for Chanukah gifts. By Khaya Davidson I haven't read it yet, but I gave several as Chanukah gifts and they were very well received.

Recovering the history of the revolutionary Jewish tradition Jewish radicals manned the barricades on the avenues of Petrograd and the alleys of the Warsaw ghetto; they were in the vanguard of those resisting Franco and the Nazis. They originated in Yiddishland, a vast expanse of Eastern Europe that, before the Holocaust, ran from the Baltic Sea to the western edge of Russia and incorporated hundreds of Jewish communities with a combined population of some 11 million people. Within this territory, revolutionaries arose from the Jewish misery of Eastern and Central Europe; they were raised in the fear of God and taught to respect religious tradition, but were caught up in the great current of revolutionary utopian thinking. Socialists, Communists, Bundists, Zionists, Trotskyists, manual workers and intellectuals, they embodied the multifarious activity and radicalism of a Jewish working class that glimpsed the Messiah in the folds of the red flag. Today, the world from which they came has disappeared, dismantled and destroyed by the Nazi genocide. After this irremediable break, there remain only survivors, and the work of memory for red Yiddishland. This book traces the struggles of these militants, their singular trajectories, their oscillation between great hope and doubt, their lost illusions a red and Jewish gaze on the history of the twentieth century.

This rich and poignant and often enthralling record traces the Yiddishland revolutionaries from their East European roots through the years of hope and struggle and hideous crimes to the heroic anti-Nazi resistance and beyond, with fascinating asides on Spain and Palestine. There are many lessons for today, not least the significance of the lively interaction of revolutionary intellectuals and workers and the efforts to integrate the commitment to radical social and economic change with the formation of a Jewish identity that would break sharply from the stultifying tradition and open the way to the aspirations of the Jewish workers movement that was at the forefront of revolutionary struggle from its earliest days. Noam Chomsky Could there have been a future for pre-war Jewry in which Israel did not exist and Jews were gathered in a nation state within a federated Soviet Union? This is one of the questions brought up in Alain Brossat and Sylvie Klingberg's book There is hope for the spirit and aims behind the stories this book tells. Jewish radicalism did not die out in 1942 with the Final Solution. It now expresses itself without Yiddish. Clive Bloom, Times Higher Education A fascinating window onto a lost world essential reading for anyone who wants to understand the complex relationship between the Jewish left, the general left, and Zionism. The gripping testimonies collected in these pages give the lie to the idea that Jews in the Shoah went like sheep to the slaughter. Brossat and Klingberg do not try to iron out the wrinkles of the past. Their insightful commentary illuminates the passions, paradoxes, triumphs and defeats of the witnesses who populate their book. Brian Klug, author of Being Jewish and Doing Justice Nowadays we know more and more about the Nazi Genocide. Unfortunately, we have much less knowledge about the everyday life which preceded the horror and was so brutally terminated. For opening up this world we must praise Alain Brossat and Sylvia Klingberg for their vital new book, Revolutionary Yiddishland. Here, life is given priority to death, and the struggles of so many in the Yiddishland allow us to see past the catastrophes. Shlomo Sand, author of The Invention of the Jewish People Brossat and Klingberg's book is a memorial to a missing world. As an aesthetic composition, it is beautiful. Max Ajl, Mondoweiss Altogether, Revolutionary Yiddishland is a thoroughly engaging read. It's an important historical document preserving the memory of this radical period of Jewish and European history. Haaretz Its impact on me was immense. I devoured it; my political horizons radically expanded. Not only, I came to realise, was there no contradiction between Judaism, socialism and internationalism, but, until the Nazi genocide, they existed in a profoundly interrelated way. Sai Englert, Salvage An eye-opening oral history. Gabriel Levy, author of Judaic Technologies of the World A haunting, inspiring and often tragic book, Revolutionary Yiddishland uses first-hand interviews, deep archival research and sharp analysis to bring to life a complex landscape of factory workers, partisans, poets, party leaders, refugees, ghetto fighters and movement intellectuals. Ben Lorber, In These Times An absorbing oral history Revolutionary Yiddishland provides fascinating insight into a relatively unknown part of Jewish history. Giulia Miller, History Today A spirited and politically engaged study of the lives and ideas of midtwentieth-century Jewish revolutionaries and a rich source for Jewish social history and for the history of

the subalterns of the Jewish left in the twentieth century.
H-Net Judaic About the Author
Alain Brossat is a Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Paris VIII and long-time activist. Sylvia Klingberg is a French sociologist.