

FROM
THAT PLACE
AND TIME

*A MEMOIR
1938-1947*

LUCY S.
DAWIDOWICZ

Author of The War Against the Jews

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From That Place and Time: A Memoir, 1938-1947 Lucy S. Dawidowicz, 2019-08-17 In this memoir Lucy S Dawidowicz recounts her time in Vilna where she went to study in 1938 39 She also reconstructs the history of Vilna Jews through the centuries and gives a first hand account of Vilna s Jewish community right before its destruction by the Nazis Dawidowicz fled days before the German invasion of Poland and returned to the American zone in Germany in 1946 47 to help Jews in Displaced Persons camps with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee It was in that role that Dawidowicz helped salvage remnants of YIVO s Vilna archives that were shipped to New York Dawidowicz a well known historian of the Jews has presented us a memoir on Vilna a city she left on Aug 24 1939 just before World War II began It is a tremendous collection of facts and names There are sketches depicting the everyday life of a thriving community and reflections upon its unique culture But the book is more than that it is a monument to the community destroyed not by forces of nature but by the evil human hand Tomas Venclova The New York Times In this deeply moving personal reminiscence eminent historian Dawidowicz recounts the year she spent in Vilna Poland in 1938 39 a poignant memoir Her piercingly eloquent narrative gives us a sharp first hand impression of a world in ruins and of the irreparable losses suffered by European Jewry Publishers Weekly The story of Dawidowicz s early years and a tribute to the Jewish community and culture of Vilna Crammed with descriptive details of a people and culture now destroyed and of WW II s chaotic aftermath chastening compelling powerful Kirkus Reviews A leading historian of the Holocaust Dawidowicz transports the reader from 1938 when she studied in Vilna Poland through 1946 when she returned to Europe to assist Jewish survivors This is a powerful and absorbing memoir Library Journal Lucy Dawidowicz s memoir comprises several books for the price of one it portrays Jewish Vilna as the plucky American student encountered it in 1938 describes the fate of Jewish cultural treasures as she helped recover them after the War and exposes the mind and spirit of an intrepid historian in the making Ruth R Wisse Harvard University Lucy Dawidowicz was an historian of monumental importance best known for her classic *The War Against the Jews* But she was also a vital chronicler of the world of European Jewry before its destruction A compelling memoir of Vilna on the brink of destruction Jonathan Rosen author of *The Talmud and the Internet A Journey Between Worlds* **City of promises : a history of the jews of New York** Deborah Dash Moore, Howard B. Rock, Jeffrey S. Gurock, Annie Polland, Daniel Soyer, 2012-09-10 New York Jews so visible and integral to the culture economy and politics of America s greatest city has eluded the grasp of historians for decades Surprisingly no comprehensive history of New York Jews has ever been written *City of Promises The History of the Jews in New York* a three volume set of original research pioneers a path breaking interpretation of a Jewish urban community at once the largest in Jewish history and most important in the modern world *Restoring Democracy to America* John F. M. McDermott, 2010-12-13 If the current economic malaise accomplishes nothing else it should help awaken us all to the realization that our country has been on a path of self destructive behavior

for several decades a reversal of the progressive path that had made major gains in economic and political equality for a large majority of the U S population starting in the 1870s It is John McDermott s purpose in this ambitious book to explain why that reversal happened how society has changed in dramatic ways since the 1960s and what we can do to reverse this downward spiral In Part 1 he endeavors to lay out the overall narrative of change from the 1960s to the present emphasizing how a novel social structure came to be developed around corporate America to form what he calls corporate society Part 2 analyzes what the nature of this corporate society is how it is a special type of fabricated structure and why it came to dominate society generally eventually including the government and university systems which themselves became increasingly corporatized The aim of Part 3 is to outline a path of reform that can if all its parts can be integrated sufficiently to be effective put us on the path to restarting the progressive movement

King Solomon's Table Joan Nathan,2017-04-04 A definitive compendium of Jewish recipes from around the globe and across the ages from the James Beard Award winning much loved cookbook author and the queen of American Jewish cooking Houston Chronicle Driven by a passion for discovery the biblical King Solomon is said to have sent emissaries on land and sea to all corners of the ancient world initiating a mass cross pollination of culinary cultures that continues to bear fruit today With Solomon s appetites and explorations in mind in these pages Joan Nathan gathers together more than 170 recipes from Israel to Italy to India and beyond Here are classics like Yemenite Chicken Soup with Dill Cilantro and Parsley Slow Cooked Brisket with Red Wine Vinegar and Mustard and Apple Kuchen as well as contemporary riffs on traditional dishes such as Smoky Shakshuka with Tomatoes Peppers and Eggplant Double Lemon Roast Chicken and Roman Ricotta Cheese Crostata Here too are an array of dishes from the world over from Socca Chickpea Pancakes with Fennel Onion and Rosemary and Sri Lankan Breakfast Buns with Onion Confit to Spanakiti Georgian Spinach Salad with Walnuts and Cilantro and Keftes Garaz Syrian Meatballs with Cherries and Tamarind gorgeously illustrated and filled with fascinating historical details personal histories and delectable recipes King Solomon s Table showcases the dazzling diversity of a culinary tradition more than three thousand years old

Fabrics of Anthropological Knowledge Hande Birkalan-Gedik,Fabiana Dimpflmeier,2025-07-01 Weaving together a collection of original essays this book looks at the transnational circulations of people concepts and practices in anthropology revealing the many ways that they cross borders The essays focus on European anthropological traditions and beyond including broader transnational interactions to uncover the intricate fabrics of interconnected influences that have shaped anthropology By presenting these diverse threads the volume challenges the notion of singular separated traditions of anthropology and demonstrates how the field has been shaped by a rich plurality of transnational connections negotiations and entanglements in the past and today

Writing Our Lives Steven Joel Rubin,1991 Twenty eight selections from the writings of some of the best known American Jewish novelists dramatists critics and historians span the social and cultural history of American Jews in the twentieth century Often joyous occasionally tragic they provide a fascinating record from immigration to

assimilation from life in the ghetto to the current movement by many to recapture their Jewish identity At once personal and historical the selections are poignant and moving testimonies to the perseverance of the American Jewish people **Women and Gender in Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, and Eurasia** Mary Zirin,Irina Livezeanu,Christine D. Worobec,June Pachuta Farris,2015-03-26 This is the first comprehensive multidisciplinary and multilingual bibliography on Women and Gender in East Central Europe and the Balkans Vol 1 and The Lands of the Former Soviet Union Vol 2 over the past millennium The coverage encompasses the relevant territories of the Russian Hapsburg and Ottoman empires Germany and Greece and the Jewish and Roma diasporas Topics range from legal status and marital customs to economic participation and gender roles plus unparalleled documentation of women writers and artists and autobiographical works of all kinds The volumes include approximately 30 000 bibliographic entries on works published through the end of 2000 as well as web sites and unpublished dissertations Many of the individual entries are annotated with brief descriptions of major works and the tables of contents for collections and anthologies The entries are cross referenced and each volume includes indexes The Jewish Heroes of Warsaw Avinoam Patt,2021-05-04 Analyzes how the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising was interpreted and commemorated following the revolt The Jewish Heroes of Warsaw The Afterlife of the Revolt by Avinoam J Patt analyzes how the heroic saga of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising was mythologized in a way that captured the attention of Jews around the world allowing them to imagine what it might have been like to be there engaged in the struggle against the Nazi oppressor The timing of the uprising coinciding with the transition to memorialization and mourning solidified the event as a date to remember both the heroes and the martyrs of Warsaw and of European Jewry more broadly The Jewish Heroes of Warsaw includes nine chapters Chapter 1 includes a brief history of Warsaw from 1939 to 1943 including the creation of the ghetto and the development of the Jewish underground Chapter 2 examines how the uprising was reported interpreted and commemorated in the first year after the revolt Chapter 3 concerns the desire for first person accounts of the fighters Chapter 4 examines the ways the uprising was seized upon by Jewish communities around the world as evidence that Jews had joined the struggle against fascism and utilized as a prism for memorializing the destruction of European Jewry Chapter 5 analyzes how memory of the uprising was mobilized by the Zionist movement even as it debated how to best incorporate the doomed struggle of Warsaw s Jews into the Zionist narrative Chapter 6 explores the aftermath of the war as survivors struggled to come to terms with the devastation around them Chapter 7 studies how the testimonies of three surviving ghetto fighters present a fascinating case to examine the interaction between memory testimony politics and history Chapter 8 analyzes literary and artistic works including Jacob Pat s Ash un Fayer Marie Syrkin Blessed is the Match and Natan Rapoport s Monument to the Ghetto Fighters among others As this book demonstrates the revolt itself while described as a revolution in Jewish history did little to change the existing modes for Jewish understanding of events Students and scholars of modern Jewish history Holocaust studies and European studies will find great value in this detail oriented study **A**

Mortuary of Books Elisabeth Gallas, 2019-04-30 Winner 2020 JDC Herbert Katzki Award for Writing Based on Archival Material given by the Jewish Book Council The astonishing story of the efforts of scholars and activists to rescue Jewish cultural treasures after the Holocaust In March 1946 the American Military Government for Germany established the Offenbach Archival Depot near Frankfurt to store identify and restore the huge quantities of Nazi looted books archival material and ritual objects that Army members had found hidden in German caches These items bore testimony to the cultural genocide that accompanied the Nazis systematic acts of mass murder The depot built a short lived lieu de memoire a mortuary of books as the later renowned historian Lucy Dawidowicz called it with over three million books of Jewish origin coming from nineteen different European countries awaiting restitution A Mortuary of Books tells the miraculous story of the many Jewish organizations and individuals who after the war sought to recover this looted cultural property and return the millions of treasured objects to their rightful owners Some of the most outstanding Jewish intellectuals of the twentieth century including Dawidowicz Hannah Arendt Salo W Baron and Gershom Scholem were involved in this herculean effort This led to the creation of Jewish Cultural Reconstruction Inc an international body that acted as the Jewish trustee for heirless property in the American Zone and transferred hundreds of thousands of objects from the Depot to the new centers of Jewish life after the Holocaust The commitment of these individuals to the restitution of cultural property revealed the importance of cultural objects as symbols of the enduring legacy of those who could not be saved It also fostered Jewish culture and scholarly life in the postwar world

Jewish Responses to Persecution: 1944-1946 Leah Wolfson, 2015-08-13 Published in association with the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum With its unique combination of primary sources and historical narrative Jewish Responses to Persecution 1944 1946 provides an important new perspective on Holocaust history Covering the final year of Nazi destruction and the immediate postwar years it traces the increasingly urgent Jewish struggle for survival which included armed resistance and organized escape attempts Shedding light on the personal and public lives of Jews this book provides compelling insights into a wide range of Jewish experiences during the Holocaust Jewish individuals and communities suffered through this devastating period and reflected on the Holocaust differently depending on their nationality personal and communal histories and traditions political beliefs economic situations and other life history The rich spectrum of primary source material collected including letters diary entries photographs transcripts of speeches and radio addresses newspaper articles drawings and official government and institutional memos and reports makes this volume an essential research tool and curriculum companion

From Left to Right Nancy Sinkoff, 2020-03-10 Intellectual biography of Holocaust historian Lucy S Dawidowicz From Left to Right Lucy S Dawidowicz the New York Intellectuals and the Politics of Jewish History is the first comprehensive biography of Dawidowicz 1915 1990 a pioneer historian in the field that is now called Holocaust studies Dawidowicz was a household name in the postwar years not only because of her scholarship but also due to her political views Dawidowicz like many other New York

intellectuals was a youthful communist became an FDR democrat midcentury and later championed neoconservatism Nancy Sinkoff argues that Dawidowicz's rightward shift emerged out of living in prewar Poland watching the Holocaust unfold from New York City and working with displaced persons in postwar Germany Based on over forty five archival collections From Left to Right chronicles Dawidowicz's life as a window into the major events and issues of twentieth century Jewish life

Gershom Scholem Noam Zadoff, 2018 A new intellectual portrait of a prominent twentieth century philosopher *Essays on Hitler's Europe* István Deák, 2001-01-01 István Deák is one of the world's most knowledgeable and clearheaded authorities on the Second World War and for decades his commentary has been among the most illuminating and influential contributions to the vast discourse on the politics history and scholarship of the period Writing chiefly for the New York Review of Books and the New Republic Deák has crafted review essays that cover the breadth and depth of the huge literature on this ominous moment in European history when the survival of democracy and human decency were at stake Collected here for the first time these articles chart changing reactions and analyses by the regimes and populations of Europe and reveal how postwar governments historians and ordinary citizens attempt to come to terms with or to evade the realities of the Holocaust war fascism and resistance movements They track the acts of scoundrels and the collusion of ordinary citizens in the so called Final Solution but also show how others in authority and on the street heroically opposed the evil of the day With its depth conciseness and interpretive power this collection allows readers to consider more clearly and completely than ever before what has been said how thought has shifted and what we have learned about these momentous world changing events *I Didn't Say Goodbye* Claudine Vegh, 2019-08-16 Approximately 1 500 000 Jewish children were murdered during the Holocaust almost ninety percent of those alive in Europe in 1939 The vast majority of those who survived were hidden either with their parents or with strangers For decades they were considered too young to remember their experiences during the Second World War *I Didn't Say Goodbye* by Claudine Vegh a hidden child who grew up to become a child psychiatrist was one of the earliest studies of a group known in France as les enfants de déportés or children of the deported The adults Dr Vegh interviewed were all hidden between the ages of five and thirteen One or both of their parents were murdered in the Holocaust Thirty five years later in the 1970s many still felt as though they were alive by accident *I Didn't Say Goodbye* published in France in 1979 is an extraordinary collection of interviews with 17 French men and women who lost one or both parents in the deportations and never talked about it Anguished and raw the interviews dramatize the awful inability to mourn Wendy Kaminer The New York Times Book Review They were all children during the last war They were all taken away from their families and kept in hiding They are children of people who were deported A small but worthy addition to the archives of Holocaust testimony Kirkus Reviews A book of haunted and haunting testimonies by men and women who lost one or both parents in the Holocaust Chattanooga News Free Press **No Fixed Abode: A Jewish Odyssey to Africa** Peter Fraenkel, 2019-08-18 In this memoir Fraenkel writes as a member of an enclosed minority

German Jew within a predominantly Lithuanian Jewish community which was part of a white settler community itself a minority in a predominantly black African territory A young settler reprimanded him for stepping out of the way of an African family on a narrow bush path Walk straight on They must know who is the master in the land Fraenkel found himself whistling the Nazis anthem Clear the streets for the brown battalions The storm troopers are marching He was coming to learn the importance of not conforming A vivid account of a childhood in a middleclass non observant Jewish family in Nazi Germany forced to emigrate to Zambia then Northern Rhodesia in 1939 Trevor Gundry Jewish Chronicle Peter Fraenkel and his family emigrated in 1939 from Breslau to Northern Rhodesia where he forged a successful career in the Central African Broadcasting Service Fraenkel was thus given the opportunity of using his undoubted skills as a broadcaster to help in the education of black people using new methods of mass education his sojourn in Northern Rhodesia came to an end in 1957 a few years after the country was refashioned by the British government as the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland a big mistake Fraenkel thinks and one that wasn't undone until much later when the independent state of Zambia was created His love affair with Africa came to an end and he felt impelled to leave because of his dislike of racist politics in this bastion of white privilege Peter Fraenkel's account of the 20 years in Northern Rhodesia is absorbing there are riveting chapters on his activities as a somewhat subversive broadcaster working together with like minded whites and Blacks The book is written in a very lively manner and there are countless anecdotes many of them in direct speech I recommend it strongly Leslie Baruch Brent Association of Jewish Refugees The book bursts with life Countries like these Central African territories are far more exciting than countries with a settled structure Here a new society is emerging This excitement is lost in official reports and academic studies and one of Fraenkel's achievements is that he conveys it in full measure I know of no book which more vividly describes the variety and throb of a modern African township Max Gluckman The Observer He brings out the formation of the new African metropolitan and rural societies I know of no book which describes this surging varied vitality so well Africa

Before Golda: Manya Shochat Rachel Yanait Ben-Zvi, 2019-08-18 Manya Shochat was a truly unusual woman a figure of extreme complexity who might have come out of a nineteenth century Russian novel In her life's story we find a full enactment rare in one person of the main qualities some of them contradictory which played such a prominent role in the history of Zionism She was incredibly tough and unbelievably charitable sentimental and fearless a fanatic Zionist and a fanatic socialist a co founder of Ha shomer an armed organization of settlers whose motto was In blood and fire Judea fell in blood and fire she shall rise again and at the same time a leading member of the left wing anti nationalist League for Arab Jewish Understanding She was fully convinced that Arab acquiescence to Zionism could be achieved through the raising of Arab standards of living and yet on lecture tours abroad on behalf of Poale Zion and her kibbutz she passionately admonished the wealthier Jews of America that high living standards were meaningless only national dignity counted Already before her arrival in the country in January 1904 she had achieved some notoriety in Russian revolutionary circles by running arms for

the anarchists and participating in clandestine plots and agitation Once as a twenty year old anarchist in Russia she shot a Czarist spy to death dismembered his corpse placed the pieces in a suitcase and sent it off by rail to a nonexistent address in Siberia Amos Elon in *The Israelis Founders and Sons* This is a deeply moving story of a life Mrs Ben Zvi wife of Israel s second president describes not only Manya s growth and her incredible creativity in starting the kibbutz movement but her love affair with Yisrael Shochat a charmer with a roving eye whose infidelities drove her to attempt suicide Manya Shochat lived her extraordinary life with strength and idealism with a pure vision of a world in which all people especially Jews and Arabs would one day live together in peace and brotherhood Biography is living history It is fitting that the story of Manya Shochat one of the founding mothers of Israel should be told by her friend Rachel Yanait Ben Zvi herself a founding mother Ruth Gruber author of *Raquela A Woman of Israel Haven and Rescue The Exodus of the Ethiopian Jews* The history of Eretz Israel during the second aliyah does not lack riveting personalities but it would be no exaggeration to say that Manya Shochat was outstanding even among these Yediot Achronot an important and fascinating book an extraordinary woman possessing enormous inner strength Both idealistic and pragmatic she had a vision of Israel as a just society that respects all individuals a vision that should serve as inspiration today Judith A Sokoloff Editor Na Amat Woman Yanait s book is a true and well documented testimony which broadens our knowledge through supporting documents and through various legends which give us a new dimension It is fascinating to become reacquainted with those early settlers who were equally adept with pistols as with plows with fountain pens as with balalaikas Yanait s book is a true testimony which gives us a new dimension Haaretz a quite exciting read Rachel Yanait Ben Zvi s book of another heroine is a tale of an Israel we shall never see again As all scramble to decipher where Israel is headed now they may want to examine where it once was through the life of the revolutionary and pioneering Manya Shochat Jack Nusan Porter author of *The Sociology of American Jewry* Courageous and naive tough and sentimental Manya Shochat is the stuff of Zionist legend Lesley Hazleton author of *Israeli Women and Jerusalem Jerusalem* This is a book which I recommend to Israeli feminists and to anyone who has been affected by the women s liberation movement in America Maariv The author does not hide the truth as to Manya s marriage on the contrary her brief comments on this subject add an enticingly human dimension to Manya s heroic persona Al Hamishmar

Making History Jewish Paweł Maciejko, Scott Ury, 2020-08-25 This collection explores the different ways that intellectuals scholars and institutions have sought to make history Jewish While practitioners of Jewish history often assume that the Jews are a well defined ethno national unit with a distinct continuous history this volume questions many of the assumptions that underlie and ultimately help construct Jewish history Starting with a number of articles on the Jews of eighteenth and nineteenth century Poland and Hungary continuing with several studies of Jewish encounters with the advent of nationalism and antisemitism and concluding with a set of essays on Jewish history and politics in twentieth century eastern Europe pre state Palestine and North America the volume discusses the different methodological research and narrative strategies

involved in transforming past events into part of the larger canon of Jewish history Churchill Sebastian Haffner, 2019-08-10 Written in the tradition of Stefan Zweig's biographical studies Haffner's Churchill is a concise effectivewarts and all analysis of one of the giants of the twentieth century Beginning with a brief history of the Churchill family Haffner examines the future Prime Minister's childhood his early failures in school and in politics his indomitable energy and drive how he managed to become an inspirational figure to anti Nazis all over the world and how he managed to seize success from the jaws of defeat over and over again Compact elegant and incisive this is the one book about Churchill that is a must read One of the most brilliant things of any length written about Churchill The Times Literary Supplement Fast moving and perceptive The London Times A wonderful portrait of Churchill Die Zeit A ravishing biography Der Spiegel A fascinating psychological study of Britain's greatest war leader a pleasure to put on your bookshelf Tribune His Meaning of Hitler published in 1978 remains a masterpiece of historiography His Churchill biography gives the first indication of his great talent for brief wonderfully graphic insights Sddeutsche Zeitung Of all Haffner's books this is the one that stays in my memory Marcel Reich Ranicki Haffner was an admirer of great men and among all the biographies of Winston Churchill his brief sketch of the man who risked Britain in order to defeat Hitler is a model of historically empathetic veneration Joachim Fest Astute short analytical like all Haffner's work Cuts away anything that is not bare essential what remains stays with you for a lifetime JAB Sennef Quora What distinguishes this brilliant biography is its partisanship It does not list facts in order and evaluate them Every sentence is witness to the fact that the biographer loves this man with all his failings Wolfgang Franssen Belletristik Couch A jewel Haffner lived through the decisive years in Britain and gives a convincing description the fragile atmosphere in which Churchill fought his battles Tarzan von Aquin Haffner was one of the great historians and journalists of the last century Andrew Roberts From My Life: The Memoirs of Richard Willstätter Richard Willstätter, 2019-08-18 In these memoirs written after the author's dramatic emigration to Switzerland in 1939 Richard Willsttter 1872 1942 recounts his childhood in a Jewish family in Karlsruhe his developing interest in chemistry and his studies under Adolf von Baeyer his mentor at the University of Munich Willsttter writes only briefly about the tragic early deaths of his beloved wife and of his young son but describes in detail his work as a leading organic chemist tackling difficult problems in plant pigments chlorophyll enzymes and more in Zurich Berlin and Munich where he succeeded his mentor and his training of dozens of young chemists In 1924 he resigned from the University of Munich in face of increasing antisemitism The book offers candid portraits of major fellow chemists including Willsttter's close friend Fritz Haber also a Nobel prize laureate and describes life in German research universities before the Nazis persecution of Jewish scholars decimated them The book goes far beyond a chronicle of events in Willsttter's life it is a valuable contribution to the history of chemistry Nature Willsttter's story is a reflection of the glory and the tragedy that is modern German history These memoirs which are truly an inside story of German chemical scholarship are filled with delightful personal reminiscences and interesting

anecdotes about the great chemist Willstatter was associated with during the course of his remarkable career David H. Kenny
Journal of Chemical Education This autobiography is one of the outstanding books printed in Germany in recent years and it provides an insight into the thinking and working methods of a great scientist The Chemist Great scientists are rare but great writers among them are almost unique Willstatter's autobiography published posthumously and edited by his former student Arthur Stoll is an extremely moving book This wonderful book could with profit be made adjunct reading in an advanced organic chemistry course Record of Chemical Progress Willstatter's knowledge of chemistry and chemical problems was encyclopedic and as unlimited as the kindness he showed me At a meeting of the Munich university senate some time in 1928 a discussion had arisen about the appointment of a mineralogist A candidate was proposed a front rank mineralogist by the name of Goldschmidt As soon as the name was mentioned a murmur arose in the meeting and someone remarked Wieder ein Jude another Jew Without saying a word Willstatter rose collected his papers and left the room He never crossed the threshold of the university again Although his reputation was immense and he was a Nobel prize winner he was modest unassuming and retiring in character he often reminded me of the old time venerable type of great Jewish Rabbi For a long time Willstatter refused to understand what was taking place in Germany to my repeated and insistent pleas that he leave Germany and come to us in Palestine he turned a deaf ear He came to the opening of the Daniel Sieff Research later Weizmann Institute in Rehovot and returned to Germany in 1934 He still felt that he was protected by his reputation and by the devotion of the Munich public His last word on the subject was I know that Germany has gone mad but if a mother falls ill it is not a reason for her children to leave her My home is Germany my university in spite of what has happened is in Munich I must return Chaim Weizmann Trial and Error *Hotel Bolivia: The Culture of Memory in a Refuge from Nazism* Leo Spitzer, 2019-08-09 Desperate to escape the increasingly vehement persecution in their homelands thousands of refugees from Nazi dominated Central Europe the majority of them Jews found refuge in Latin America in the 1930s Bolivia became a principal recipient of this influx one of the few remaining places in the entire world to accept Jewish refugees after the German Anschluss of Austria in 1938 Some 20 000 refugees arrived in Bolivia more than in Canada Australia New Zealand South Africa the leading British Commonwealth countries combined In Bolivia the refugees began to reconstruct a version of the world that they had been forced to abandon Their own origins and social situations had been diverse in Central Europe ranging across generational class educational and political differences and incorporating various professional craft and artistic backgrounds But it was Austro-German Jewish bourgeois society that provided them with a model for emulation and a common locus for identification in their place of refuge Indeed at the very time when that dynamic social and cultural amalgam was being ruthlessly and systematically destroyed by the Nazis the Jewish refugees in Bolivia attempted to recall and revive a version of it in a land thousands of miles from their home in a country that offered them a haven but in which many of them felt themselves as mere sojourners Hotel Bolivia explores an important but generally neglected aspect of the

experience of group displacement the relationship between memory and cultural survival during an era of persecution and genocide Employing oral histories family photographs artistic and documentary portrayals it considers the Third Reich background for the emigration the refugees perceptions of past and future and the role of images and stereotypes in shaping refugee and Bolivian cross cultural communication and acceptance It examines how the immigrants remembered recalled and reshaped the European world they had been forced to abandon in the institutions culture and community they created in Bolivia In documenting life stories and reclaiming the memories and discourses of ordinary persons who might otherwise remain hidden from history *Hotel Bolivia* contributes to a major objective of contemporary historical studies But it is also directly concerned with theoretical issues increasingly evident in historical writing focusing on the contextualization of memory and the interdependence and tension between memory and history In reflecting on remembered experience over time and between people the ultimate objective of this book is to contribute to the historical study of memory itself A curiously inspiring corner of Holocaust history the story is of how culture and memory survive and change in the shock of new surroundings Adam Hochschild author of *King Leopold's Ghost* A form of doing history that offers fresh intellectual insights while touching the heart Ruth Behar University of Michigan author of *The Vulnerable Observer* and *Translated Women* It is rare that a scholarly book reads like a novel Leo Spitzer's compelling *Hotel Bolivia* not only is beautifully written but changes the way we think about history This groundbreaking book will become required reading in numerous fields including Latin American studies Jewish studies diaspora studies immigration studies and ethnic studies Jeffrey Lesser Brown University author of *Welcoming the Undesirables* Brazil and the Jewish Question Evocative thoughtful and otherwise impressive Vividly introduces readers to a little known aspect of refugee history during the Holocaust Kirkus A searing account of the Jewish refugees checkered experience Part memoir part oral history Spitzer's eye opening study uses interviews with surviving refugees now widely dispersed around the world plus letters photographs family albums and archival documents to explore the trauma of displacement Publishers Weekly

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