

Joe Hill

The IWW & the Making of a Revolutionary Workingclass Counterculture, Second Edition

Franklin Rosemont

Introduction by David Roediger

A monumental work, expansive in scope, covering the life, times, and culture of that most famous of the Wobblies—songwriter, poet, hobo, thinker, humorist, martyr—Joe Hill. It is a journey into the Wobbly culture that made Hill and the capitalist culture that killed him. Many aspects of the life and lore of Joe Hill receive their first and only discussion in IWW historian Franklin Rosemont's opus.

In great detail, the issues that Joe Hill raised and grappled with in his life: capitalism, white supremacy, gender, religion, wilderness, law, prison, and industrial unionism are shown in both the context of Hill's life and for their enduring relevance in the century since his death.

Collected too is Joe Hill's art, plus scores of other images featuring Hill-inspired art by IWW illustrators from Ralph Chaplin to Carlos Cortez, as well as contributions from many other labor artists.

As Rosemont suggests in this remarkable book, Joe Hill never really died. He lives in the minds of young (and old) rebels as long as his songs are sung, his ideas are circulated, and his political descendants keep fighting for a better day.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Franklin Rosemont was born in Chicago in 1943. His father, Henry, was a labor activist, and his mother, Sally, a jazz musician. He edited *What Is Surrealism? Selected Writings* by André Breton, *Rebel Worker, Arsenal/Surrealist Subversion*, *The Rise and Fall of the Dill Pickle*, and *Juice Is Stranger than Friction: Selected Writings of T-Bone Slim*. With Penelope Rosemont and Paul Garon he edited *The Forecast Is Hot!* His work was deeply concerned with both the history of surrealism and of the radical labor movement in America. For several decades he and Penelope Rosemont combined such interests helming the venerable radical publishing house the Charles H. Kerr Co. He died in 2009 in Chicago.

David Roediger is Kendrick Babcock Chair of History at the University of Illinois. Among his books are *Our Own Time: A History of American Labor and the Working Day* (with Philip S. Foner), *How Race Survived U.S. History: From Settlement and Slavery to the Obama Phenomenon*, and *The Wages of Whiteness: Race and the Making of the American Working Class*. He is the editor of *Fellow Worker: The Life of Fred Thompson*, *The North and Slavery*, and *Black on White: Black Writers on What It Means to Be White* as well as a new edition of Covington Hall's *Labor Struggles in the Deep South*.

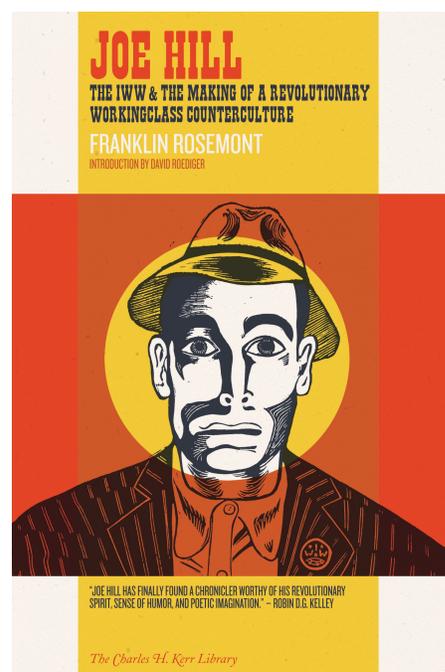
ACCOLADES

"Joe Hill has finally found a chronicler worthy of his revolutionary spirit, sense of humor, and poetic imagination."

—Robin D.G. Kelley, author of *Freedom Dreams*

"Magnificent, practical, irreverent and (as one might say) magisterial, written in a direct, passionate, sometimes funny, deeply searching style."

—Peter Linebaugh, author of *Stop, Thief!*



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