

Jewish Noir

Edited by Kenneth Wishnia

Jewish Noir is unique collection of all-new stories by Jewish and non-Jewish literary and genre writers, including numerous award-winning authors such as Marge Piercy, Harlan Ellison, S.J. Rozan, Nancy Richler, Moe Prager (Reed Farrel Coleman), Wendy Hornsby, Charles Ardai, and Kenneth Wishnia. The stories explore such issues as the Holocaust and its long-term effects on subsequent generations, anti-Semitism in the mid- and late-20th century United States, and the dark side of the Diaspora (e.g., the decline of revolutionary fervor, the passing of generations, the Golden Ghetto, etc.). The stories in this collection also include many "teachable moments" about the history of prejudice, and the contradictions of ethnic identity and assimilation into American society.

Stories include:

"A Simkhe" (A Celebration), first published in Yiddish in the *Forverts* in 1912 by one of the great unsung writers of that era, Yente Serdatsky. This story depicts the disillusionment that sets in among a group of Russian Jewish immigrant radicals after several years in the United States. This is the story's first appearance in English.

"Trajectories," Marge Piercy's story of the divergent paths taken by two young men from the slums of Cleveland and Detroit in a rapidly changing post-World War II society.

"Some You Lose," Nancy Richler's empathetic exploration of the emotional and psychological challenges of trying to sum up a man's life in a eulogy.

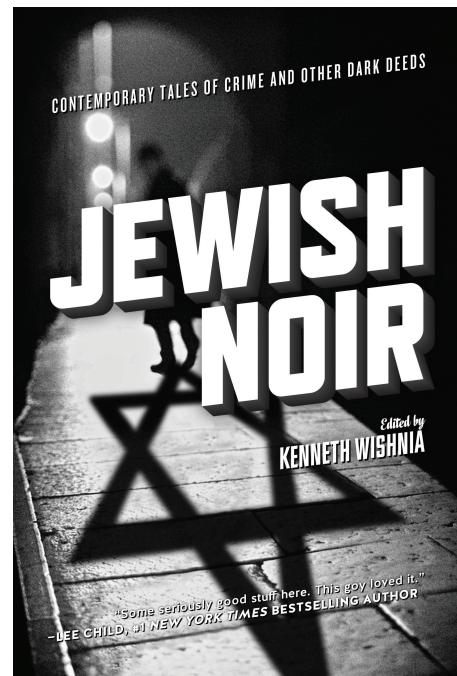
"Her Daughter's Bat Mitzvah," Rabbi Adam Fisher's darkly comic profanity-filled monologue in the tradition of Sholem Aleichem, the writer best known as the source material for *Fiddler on the Roof* (minus the profanity, that is).

"Flowers of Shanghai," S.J. Rozan's compelling tale of hope and despair set in the European refugee community of Japanese-occupied Shanghai during World War II.

"Yahrzeit Candle," Stephen Jay Schwartz's take on the subtle horrors of the inevitable passing of time.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Kenneth Wishnia's novels include *23 Shades of Black*, which was nominated for the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best First Novel and an Anthony for Best Paperback Original; *Soft Money*, a *Library Journal* Best Mystery of the Year; and *Red House*, a *Washington Post Book World* "Rave" Book of the Year. His short stories have appeared in *Ellery Queen*, *Alfred Hitchcock*, *Queens Noir*, *Long Island Noir*, *Send My Love and a Molotov Cocktail*, and elsewhere. His latest novel, *The Fifth Servant*, was an Indie Notable selection, a Best Jewish Book of the Year according to the Association of Jewish Libraries, won a Premio Letterario ADEI-WIZO (the Italian chapter of the Women's International Zionist Organization), and was a finalist for the Sue Feder Memorial Historical Mystery Award, a category of the Macavity Awards. He teaches writing, literature, and other deviant forms of thought at Suffolk Community College on Long Island.



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