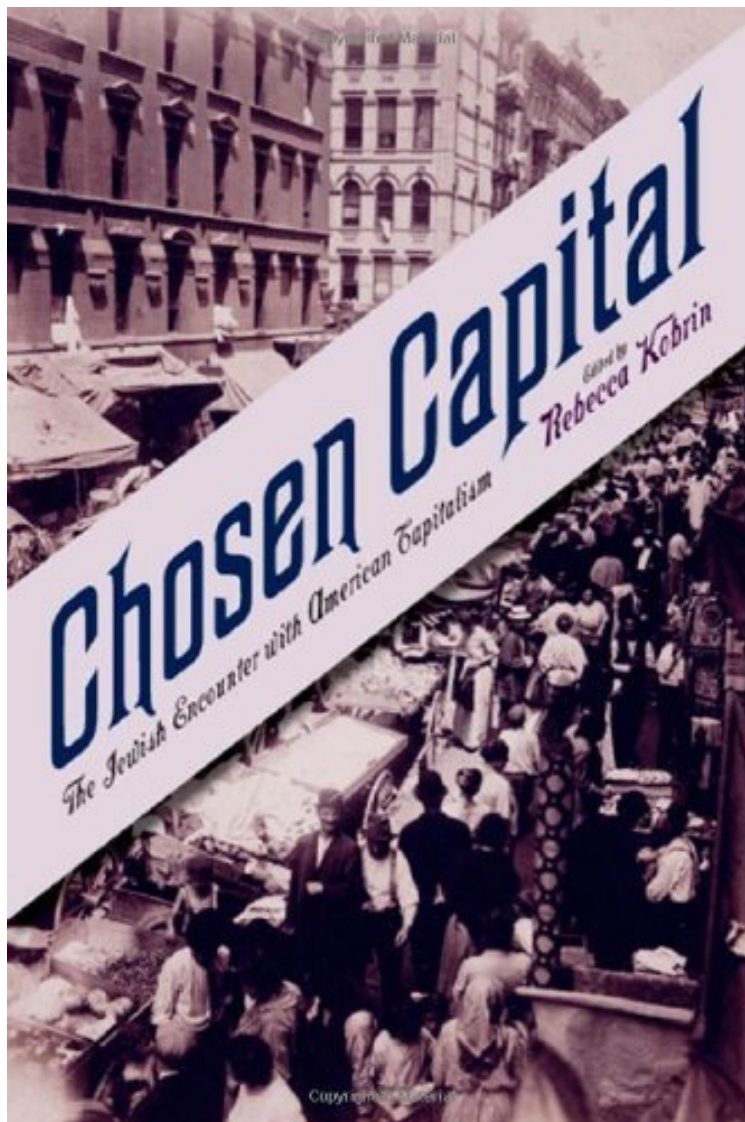


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## Chosen Capital: The Jewish Encounter with American Capitalism

*Rebecca Kobrin, Jonathan Sarna, Daniel Soyer, Jeffrey Shandler, Jon Pollack, David S. Koffman, Ira Katznelson, Daniel Katz, Phyllis Dillon, Andrew Godley, Andrew Dolkart, Marni Davis, Jonathan Karp, Eli Lederhendler, Olga Litvak, Sarah Stein*  
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**Rebecca Kobrin, Jonathan Sarna, Daniel Soyer, Jeffrey Shandler, Jon Pollack, David S. Koffman, Ira Katznelson, Daniel Katz, Phyllis Dillon, Andrew Godley, Andrew Dolkart, Marni Davis, Jonathan Karp, Eli Lederhendler, Olga Litvak, Sarah Stein : Chosen Capital: The Jewish Encounter with American Capitalism** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Chosen Capital: The Jewish Encounter with American Capitalism:

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An excellent compilation of well-researched essays, especially Andrew S. Dolkart's "From the Rag Trade to Riches".  
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By Paul F. Miskovitz  
MDExcellent review, technical, thorough, the book has small print but it is all there. Interesting sociology with anecdotes. I recommend it.

At which moments and in which ways did Jews play a central role in the development of American capitalism? Many popular writers address the intersection of Jews and capitalism, but few scholars, perhaps fearing this question's anti-Semitic overtones, have pondered it openly. *Chosen Capital* represents the first historical collection devoted to this question in its analysis of the ways in which Jews in North America shaped and were shaped by America's particular system of capitalism. Jews fundamentally molded aspects of the economy during the century when American capital was being redefined by industrialization, war, migration, and the emergence of the United States as a superpower. Surveying such diverse topics as Jews' participation in the real estate industry, the liquor industry, and the scrap metal industry, as well as Jewish political groups and unions bent on reforming American capital, such as the American Labor Party and the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, contributors to this volume provide a new prism through which to view the Jewish encounter with America. The volume also lays bare how American capitalism reshaped Judaism itself by encouraging the mass manufacturing and distribution of foods like matzah and the transformation of synagogue cantors into recording stars. These essays force us to rethink not only the role Jews played in American economic development but also how capitalism has shaped Jewish life and Judaism over the course of the twentieth century.

Contributors: Marni Davis, Georgia State University  
Phyllis Dillon, independent documentary producer, textile conservator, museum curator  
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Jonathan D. Sarma, Brandeis University  
Jeffrey Shandler, Rutgers University  
Daniel Soyer, Fordham University

"Fascinating. While each of the essays is scholarly and carefully researched, they are also most engrossing, make for enjoyable reading, and shed new light on the Jewish experience in America."