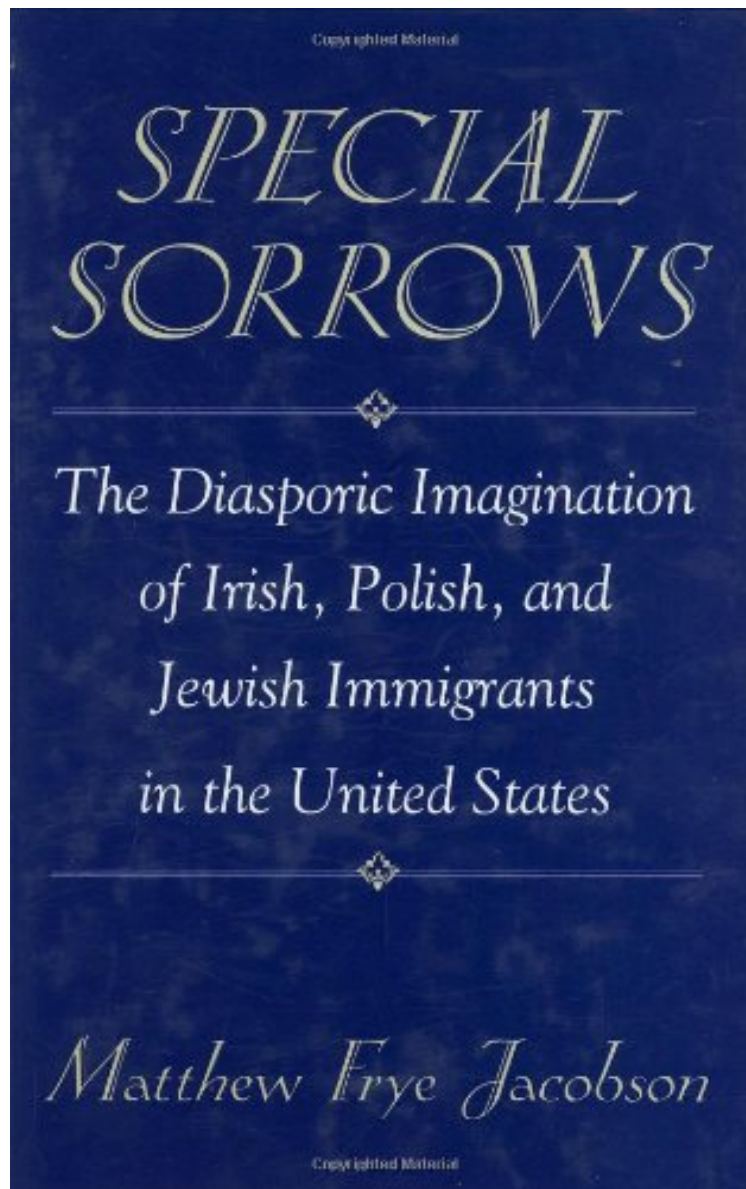


[Mobile pdf] Special Sorrows: The Diasporic Imagination of Irish, Polish, and Jewish Immigrants in the United States

Special Sorrows: The Diasporic Imagination of Irish, Polish, and Jewish Immigrants in the United States

Matthew Frye Jacobson

ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook



DOWNLOAD



READ ONLINE

#2920643 in Books 1995-02-24 1995-01-25 Ingredients: Example Ingredients Original language: English PDF # 1 9.55 x 1.07 x 6.39l, 1.19 #File Name: 0674831853321 pages | File size: 18.Mb

Matthew Frye Jacobson : **Special Sorrows: The Diasporic Imagination of Irish, Polish, and Jewish Immigrants in the United States** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Special Sorrows: The Diasporic Imagination of Irish, Polish, and Jewish Immigrants in the United States:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Special SorrowsBy Alice FThis book focuses on the immigration period around the turn of the last century. The first few chapters on how life in USA chronicled the emigrants' views; that is, the reasons for emigration and the hope the US policy would support their dreams of creating (Jews) or reclaiming (Irish and Poles) a homeland. This part was somewhat tedious reading because it was too repetitive. The later chapters on the emigrants' reaction to the conflict in Cuba and the Philippines were fascinating. It revealed the beginnings of empire building and sounded like current Mideast policy.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An academic book, but fascinatingBy M L HillThis is an academic book, but reads pretty well. Very informative for anyone interested in immigration. Like it a lot!5 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Where's the paperback?By A CustomerThis marvelous and insightful immigration history represents cultural history at its finest, with brilliant thoughts on the broader issues of homeland, citizenship and national identity alongside detailed investigations of Polish, Irish, and Eastern European settlers. If only this book was published in paperback, so it would be more accessible in the classroom!

Conventional wisdom would have us believe that every immigrant to the United States "became American," by choice and with deliberate speed. Yet, as *Special Sorrows* shows us, this is simply untrue. In this compelling revisionist study, Matthew Frye Jacobson reveals tenacious attachments to the Old World and explores the significance of homeland politics for Irish, Polish, and Jewish immigrants at the turn of the twentieth century. Drawing on Yiddish, Polish, and English-language sources, Jacobson discovers the influence of nationalist ideologies in the overt political agendas of such ethnic associations as the Knights of Zion and the Polish Falcons, as well as in newspapers, vernacular theater, popular religion, poetry, fiction, and festivals, both religious and secular. In immigrant communities, he finds that nationalism was a powerful component of popular sensibility. A captivating example of Jacobson's thesis is immigrant reaction to American intervention in Cuba. Masculinist/militarist strains of nationalist culture met with the keen impulse to aid a subjugated people. The three national groups, rich with memories of their own subjugation, found an unlikely outlet in the Caribbean. But when the U.S. war for Cuban liberation was followed by a crusade for Philippine subjugation, immigrants faced a dilemma: some condemned the American empire rich in Old World parallels; others dismissed the Filipinos as racial "others" and embraced the glories of conquest. In effect, the crucible of American imperialism was vital to many immigrants' Americanization, in the sense of passionate participation in national politics, pro or con. This work answers the call of scholars to recover the full experience of these immigrants. It adds to the tapestry of America's turn-of-the-century political culture and restores an essential transnational dimension to questions of ethnic identity and behavior.

A scholarly study of the real roots of what Jacobson calls 'America's largely assimilated but ultimately unmeltable ethnics.' It's a startling point of view for readers who are accustomed to the self-congratulatory myth of America as a beacon of liberty to which the 'huddled masses' of the world look with longing. (Jonathan Kirsch Los Angeles Times) Jacobson is a remarkable kind of historian, as comfortable with the subtle analysis of literary texts as in tracing the complex historical paths of nationalism through diverse groups. (Eric Homberger American Studies in Europe) Most recently scholars like Thistlethwaite, Nugent, and others have depicted the migration as an international and global phenomenon, viewing the movement as a dispersion to many lands, a diaspora. Matthew Josephson follows this latest trend of placing migration in a world context. His work, *Special Sorrows*, highlights the importance of the national homeland in the minds of newcomers and thereby makes a substantial contribution to our understanding of American immigrant adjustment...His comparative approach and his linguistic feat are admirable. As a result the reader comes away with the surprising insight that ethnic nationalism was important well beyond the traditional patriotic societies...The work will also intrigue its audience from its employing the latest feminist or gender theory on nationalism. (Victor R. Greene American Jewish History) Jacobson's pathbreaking and provocative book focuses on the continuing Old World attachments of America's Irish, Polish, and East European Jewish immigrants. Using an impressive array of foreign-language sources, Jacobson demonstrates that nationalist images rooted in the Old World suffused both popular and literary immigrant culture...Innovative in both his comparative approach and in his reading of sources...One of the most significant studies of immigrant life in many a year. (J. D. Sarna Choice) Interest in the ways homeland allegiances and feelings of peoplehood have influenced American ethnic political behavior...is long standing among diplomatic and ethnic historians...Matthew Frye Jacobson's original, well-conceived work decisively moves the subject from the realm of politics to the new cultural history. Light is shed on an old subject, which, now freshly illuminated, is revealed to be far more laden with significant meanings than one might have thought...In reconceiving the subject of the international politics of ethnic groups, Jacobson forms a dynamic conceptual grid at the juncture of nationalism, race, and gender. His understanding of the importance of whiteness in rooting the ethnics' own emergent American identities and in complicating their understanding of the experience of victimization leads to the deft analytical maneuver that forms the center of the book: the presentation of Irish, Polish, and Jewish responses to the Spanish-American War and, in its wake, the American acquisition of a colonial empire in Asia and the Caribbean...[T]his is a pathbreaking, intelligent book that deserves a wide reading, both for what it reveals about

American ethnicity and for its contributions as an analytical model. (David A. Gerber American Historical)This interesting book provides what in effect is a revisionist approach to the history of immigration to the United States, by examining the continuing connection to their homelands of immigrants who were Irish, Polish, and Jewish, and by examining their reactions to changes in American foreign policy. (Historical Journal of Massachusetts)[This] study...marks another milestone in the swerve away from the balkanization of United States history...Carefully written with reliance on Irish, Polish, and Yiddish sources, with a keen eye to differences within each group, this book deserves a careful reading by those interested in the separate identities of immigrant groups and how their feelings about their homelands affected their ongoing struggles in the United States. (Mark Wyman Journal of American History)This innovative work should encourage more study of 'the psychodrama of exile' and its contribution to the fashioning of the world's most powerful and perhaps most perplexing nation...This is a rich and relevant study. (Interrational Minds)Matthew Jacobson's pace-setting cultural study of three turn-of-the-century immigrant communities shows how the imagination of countries of origin shaped the consciousness of Irish, Polish, and Eastern European settlers. In a masterful analysis of their writings and other forms of cultural expression, he reveals the ways in which their preoccupation with a homeland (in the case of Jews, an imagined homeland), their consciousness of themselves as exiles, created a new and complex kind of almost imperialist surveillance of the world they had left behind, a perspective on national others that has become part of modern American consciousness, as today's headlines suggest. (William R. Taylor, New York University)A fresh, original, insightful, and strikingly ambitious effort to reexamine the nationalist impulse in America from the 1840s to our own day as mirrored in the experiences of three carefully selected groups. Inspired by a shift in perspective in the study of immigration and ethnic history, Jacobson has ventured to do the first comparative study of the common culture of an American ethnopolitical moral consciousness as shaped by the psychodrama of exile. (Moses Rischin, San Francisco State University)Imaginatively conceived, gracefully written, and persuasively argued, this book makes a major contribution. (David M. Emmons, University of Montana)Special Sorrows deserves the praise heaped upon it by commentators on the book jacket. It is an original, spacious, extremely well-written and often brilliant analysis of the ways in which the ethno-Americanization of Irish, Polish, and Jewish immigrants intersected with their old country nationalist aspirations. Mastering an extraordinary range of sources in the experience of each group--literary, theatrical, the press, and political speeches--Jacobson shows how the nationalism of each group in exile was often intensified by its contact with America...Only Jacobson has taken on the exploration of how ethnic group national liberation movements intersect with the process of Americanization itself, and he has done it for these otherwise notably different groups in a persuasive and fascinating way. (Lawrence H. Fuchs Studies in Contemporary Jewry)From the Inside Flap"Jacobson's book impressively lives up to its stark and splendid title, which is borrowed from Polish-Jewish revolutionary Rosa Luxemburg's capsule description of the bonds uniting people into nations. For the immigrants whom Jacobson considers, nationalist sorrows seemed especially tragic, as they were felt and resisted in exile from the nations whose causes were being championed. Special Sorrows carefully delineates the centrality of Jewish, Polish and Irish supporters in the United States to national liberation movements abroad and, as expertly, details how such movements shaped immigrant life in the United States."David Roediger, from the Foreword