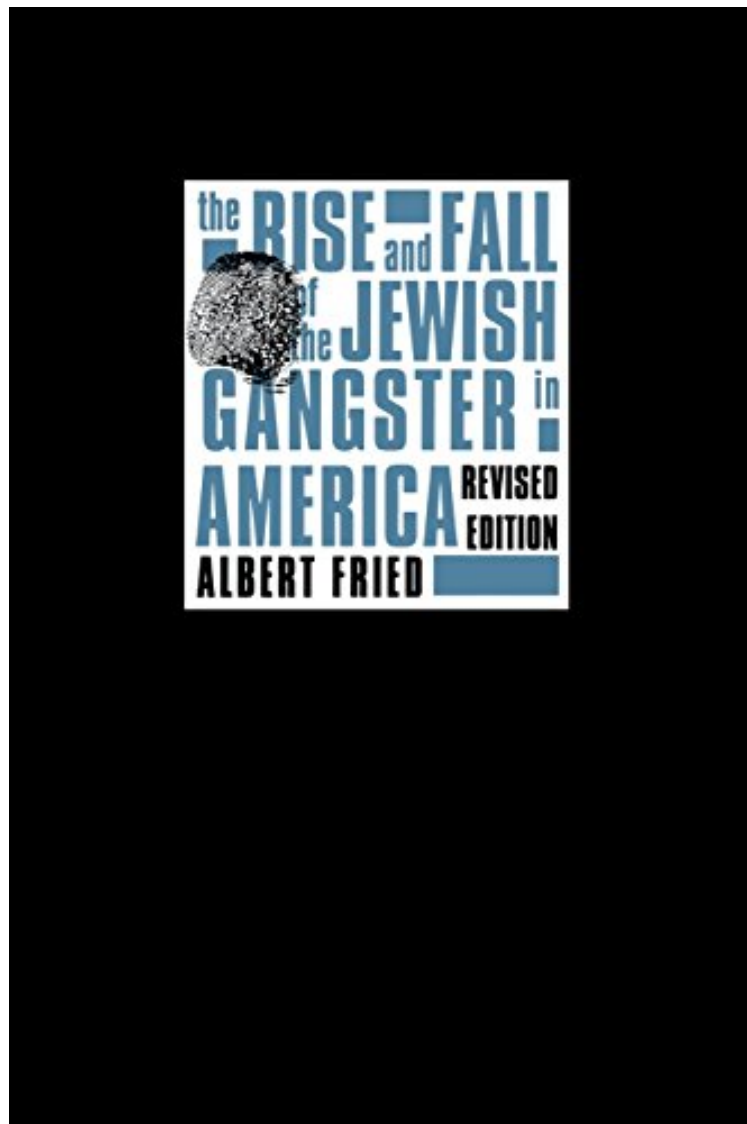


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The Rise and Fall of the Jewish Gangster in America

Albert Fried

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book about the small time crooks and the dangerous mobsters of Jewish background, as well as the non-Jewish mafia who worked with and against them. A piece of Jewish history that is not always discussed-the rampant prostitution and betting in the Lower East Side and the opportunity that Prohibition created for those who made a business of crime. Fascinating!
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This book tracks the rise and fall of an underworld culture that bred some of America's greatest racketeers, bootleggers, gamblers, and professional killers, examining the careers of such high-profile figures as Meyer Lansky and Benjamin Bugsy Siegel.

From Library JournalFried, coauthor of *Socialist Thought* (Classic Returns, LJ 8/93), here "rescues the Jewish gangster from oblivion and traces the development of the Jewish underworld from its origins to its gradual disappearance after Prohibition" (LJ 8/80). This revised edition updates the information on such figures as Meyer Lansky, Bugsy Siegel, and Dutch Shultz. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Back Cover
Albert Fried recalls the rise and fall of an underworld culture that bred some of America's most infamous racketeers, bootleggers, gamblers, and professional killers, spawned by a culture of vice and criminality on New York's Lower East Side and similar environments in Chicago, Cleveland, Boston, Detroit, Newark, and Philadelphia. The author adds an important dimension to this story as he discusses the Italian gangs that teamed up with their Jewish counterparts to form multicultural syndicates.
About the Author
Albert Fried teaches American Studies at SUNY Purchase. He is the editor of *Socialism in America: From the Shakers to the Third International*, and edited with Ronald Sanders a revised edition of *Socialist Thought: A Documentary History*, both available from Columbia University Press.