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Autore	Ribak Gil
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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Contents -- Acknowledgments -- A Note on Transliteration -- Introduction -- 1. "Never Before Have Gentiles Hated Jews So Much": The Images of Non-Jews in Eastern European Jewish Society in the Late Nineteenth Century -- 2. "Lovers of Man": The Images of Americans among Eastern European Jews in the Last Third of the Nineteenth Century -- 3. "In Goodness They Even Exceed the English": The Idealization of "Yankees" in the 1880's and 1890's -- 4. "The American Is Not Very Musical and Not So Sociable": The Beginnings of an Attitudinal Change in the Early 1900's -- 5. "You Could Almost Forget That He Is Not a Jew": The Jewish Labor Movement and Secularized Chosenness, 1909–1914 -- 6. "The 'Green' Italian Pays the Same Good Taxes as the 14-Karat Yankee": The War in Europe and the Beginnings of Reorientation toward Certain Minority Groups, 1914–1917 -- 7. "What the American Can Do in His Anger": World War I and the Red Scare, 1917–1920 -- Epilogue: Self-Image and Its Limitations

Sommario/riassunto

The very question of “what do Jews think about the goyim” has fascinated Jews and Gentiles, anti-Semites and philo-Semites alike. Much has been written about immigrant Jews in nineteenth- and twentieth-century New York City, but Gil Ribak’s critical look at the origins of Jewish liberalism in America provides a more complicated and nuanced picture of the Americanization process. *Gentile New York* examines these newcomers’ evolving feelings toward non-Jews through four critical decades in the American Jewish experience. Ribak considers how they perceived Gentiles in general as well as such different groups as “Yankees” (a common term for WASPs in many Yiddish sources), Germans, Irish, Italians, Poles, and African Americans. As they discovered the complexity of America’s racial relations, the immigrants found themselves at odds with “white” American values or behavior and were drawn instead into cooperative relationships with other minorities. Sparked with many previously unknown anecdotes, quotations, and events, Ribak’s research relies on an impressive number of memoirs, autobiographies, novels, newspapers, and journals culled from both sides of the Atlantic.
