

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910967309403321
Autore	Kotik Yekhezkel <1847-1921.>
Titolo	Journey to a nineteenth-century shtetl : the memoirs of Yekhezkel Kotik // edited with an introduction and notes by David Assaf ; [translated from the Yiddish by Margaret Birstein]
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Detroit, : Wayne State University Press in cooperation with The Diaspora Research Institute, Tel Aviv University, c2002
ISBN	9780814337332 0814337333
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (543 p.)
Collana	Raphael Patai series in Jewish folklore and anthropology
Altri autori (Persone)	AssafDavid BirsteinMargaret
Disciplina	947.08/092
Soggetti	Jews - Russia Jews - Russia - Social life and customs - 19th century
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Originally published in Yiddish in 1913 as Mayne zikhroynes. Translated and published in Hebrew in 1998 as Mah she-ra'iti ... Zikhronotav shel Yekhezkel Kotik.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. [421]-511) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	""Cover""; ""Contents""; ""Preface to the English Edition""; ""A Note on the Translation""; ""Abbreviations""; ""Introduction: a€œLife as It Wasa€? a€?Yekhezkel Kotik and His Memoirs""; ""My Memoirs, Yekhezkel Kotik""; ""Instead of an Introduction""; ""Sholem Aleichema€?s letter to Yekhezkel Kotik""; ""1. My Town""; ""2. My Grandfather""; ""3. The a €œPanica€?""; ""4. My Father and His Attraction to Hasidism""; ""5. Yisrael, the Polish Patriot Hasid""; ""6. The Handshake""; ""7. The Scandal with the Assessor""; ""8. My Melamdim""; ""9. The Kidnappers""; ""10. The Great Dispute"" ""11. My Mothera€?s Unhappiness""""12. The Lords""; ""13. Berl-Bendeta €?s Life on the Estate""; ""14. How We Celebrated the Holidays""; ""15. The Rebbe Is Dead!""; ""16. The Fate of a Prodigy""; ""17. The Garments of Those Days""; ""18. My First Revolt""; ""19. The Izbica Hasid""; ""20. Marriage Negotiations""; ""21. Liberating the Serfs""; ""22. The Jews after the Polish Rebellion""; ""23. a€œKeep in Step!a€?""; ""24. The Debate""; ""25. a€œChildren, Gather the Coins!a€?""; ""26. The Impact of the Bible on Me""; ""27. The Cholera Epidemic""; ""28. Grandmothera

€?s Death"

"29. Hasidism and Mitnaggedism""Appendix A: Yekhezkel Kotik: List of Publications"; "Appendix B: Selected Bibliography on Yekhezkel Kotik and His Memoirs"; "Appendix C: Yekhezkel Kotik's Genealogy"; "Notes"; "Works Cited"; "Glossary"; "A"; "B"; "C"; "D"; "F"; "G"; "H"; "I"; "K"; "L"; "M"; "N"; "P"; "R"; "S"; "T"; "V"; "Y"; "Z"; "Indexes of Names, Places, and Subjects"; "Indexe of Names": "A"; "B"; "C"; "D"; "E"; "F"; "G"; "H"; "I"; "J"; "K"; "L"; "M"; "N"; "O"; "P"; "R"; "S"; "T"; "V"; "W"; "Y"; "Z"; "Indexe of Places": "A"; "B"; "C"; "D"; "E"; "F"; "G"; "I"; "J"; "K"; "L"; "M"; "N"; "O"; "P"; "R"; "S"; "T"; "U"; "V"; "W"; "Y"; "Z"; "Indexe of Subjects": "A"; "B"; "C"; "D"; "E"; "F"; "G"; "H"; "I"; "J"; "K"; "L"; "M"; "N"; "O"; "P"; "R"; "S"; "T"; "U"; "V"; "W"; "Y"; "Z"

---

Sommario/riassunto

The first annotated English edition of a classic early-twentieth-century Yiddish memoir that vividly describes Jewish life in a small Eastern European town. Originally published in Warsaw in 1913, this beautifully written memoir offers a panoramic description of the author's experiences growing up in Kamieniec Litewski, a Polish shtetl connected with many important events in the history of nineteenth-century Eastern European Jewry. Although the way of life portrayed in this memoir has disappeared, the historical, cultural, and folkloric material it contains will be of major interest to historians and general readers alike. Kotik's story is the saga of a wealthy and influential family through four generations. Masterfully interwoven in this tale are colorful vignettes featuring Kotik's family and neighbors, including rabbis and zaddikim, merchants and the poor, hasidim and mitnaggedim, scholars and illiterates, believers and heretics, matchmakers and informers, and teachers and musicians. Stories of personal warmth and despair intermingle with descriptions of the rise and decline of Jewish communal institutions and descriptions of the relationships between Jews, Russian authorities, and Polish lords. Such events as the brutal decrees of Tsar Nicholas I, the abolishment of the Jewish communal board known as the Kahal, and the Polish revolts against Russia are reflected in the lives of these people. The English edition includes a complete translation of the first volume of memoirs and contains notes elucidating terms, names, and customs, as well as bibliographical references to the research literature. The book not only acquaints new readers with the talent of a unique storyteller but also presents an important document of Jewish life during a fascinating era.

---