

Kalman, Julie. *Orientalizing the Jew: Religion, Culture, and Imperialism in Nineteenth-Century France*. Bloomington; Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, [2017]. 172 pp. \$25.00. (9780253024220). Also available as eBook.

This slim book focuses on how the Jews of the Orient (the Near East) were encountered and perceived by nineteenth-century French travelers, and how those travelers' accounts influenced views of Jews at home, as well as subsequent attempts to "Orientalize" them. The work draws on contemporaneous fictional accounts, narratives, and correspondence, and it is divided into three main chapters: Pilgrimage to the Holy Land within; Travel and intimacy; and The Kings of Algiers. The first chapter traces the journeys of French Catholic pilgrims as they followed in the footsteps of the Crusaders and then Chateaubriand to the Holy Land. In chapter two, the largest of the three, the author mines the oeuvre of Theophile Gautier (1811-1872), a French writer and critic for his views on Jews in the Orient and secondarily in France. The third chapter uses the diplomatic correspondence regarding the French debt with the Sephardi Jewish trading House of Bacri and Busnach in Algiers before the French conquest of Algeria. Chiefly for academic libraries.

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Kaminsky, Sarah. *A Forger's Life. Photographs by Adolfo Kaminsky*. Translated by Mike Mitchell. Los Angeles, CA: Doppelhouse Press, 2016. 256 pp. \$26.95 (9780997003406).

Adolfo Kaminsky, a master forger, honed his craft in World War II while working for the French Resistance. This biography, written by his daughter, was based on a series of interviews which led to its publication in her native France. For her it was a way "to understand his choices . . . his desire to build a world of justice and freedom."

Ably translated, the prose carries the tension of a spy novel. The book begins in 1944 with Adolfo's narrow escape from the police on the Paris Metro. It then covers the early years—his family's immigration to France, his first job at a factory, and his encounters with interesting characters. Following the Nazi invasion, he became an apprentice dyer; at the transit camp of Drancy, he befriended a professor who tutored him in math and science. Although his Argentinian nationality saved his life, Adolfo went underground, applying his acquired skills among a clandestine network of rescue organizations. Sights and smells of laboratories are vividly rendered, along with the nuances of photoengraving and careful interactions with strangers and colleagues. The latter half of the book is devoted to Adolfo's largely left-wing postwar activities—producing fake ID cards and documents to the Haganah, to Algerians during their war of independence, to African liberation movements, and to Greeks during their civil war, in 1969. There are also photos of his early handiwork, as well as artistic Paris scenes.

This is a fascinating tribute to a humanitarian and a glimpse at the nuts and bolts of covert operations. The secular and adult content makes this book more suitable for a public library or possibly one with Holocaust/World War II collections.

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Katz, Ethan B., & Lisa Moses Leff & Maud S. Mandel (eds). *Colonialism and the Jews*. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 2017. 359 pp. \$40.00. (9780253024503). Also available as eBook.

The book is divided into three parts, each one of which revolves around a central question. The essays in part one, "Subjects and Agents of Empire," proceed from the question: in their various roles in colonial empires, are Jews best understood as subjects or agents of empire? In the second part, "Jews in colonial politics," the essayists ask: politically, how did Jews become defined and define themselves in the colonial venture and in anti-colonial struggles? The book's final section tackles the vexing question of Zionism's historical relationship to colonialism, republishing an essay of Derek Penslar on Zionism, adding two critical responses to Penslar's piece and a response from Penslar. The French zone of influence in North Africa (Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco) features prominently in these fourteen