



In Those Nightmarish Days: The Ghetto Reportage of Peretz Opoczynski and Josef Zelkowicz (New Yiddish Library Series)

By Peretz Opoczynski, Josef Zelkowicz

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This volume sheds light on two brilliant but lesser known ghetto journalists: Josef Zelkowicz and Peretz Opoczynski. An ordained rabbi, Zelkowicz became a key member of the archive in the Lodz ghetto. Opoczynski was a journalist and mailman who contributed to the Warsaw ghetto's secret Oyneg Shabes archive. While other ghetto writers sought to create an objective record of their circumstances, Zelkowicz and Opoczynski chronicled daily life and Jewish responses to ghettoization by the Nazis with powerful immediacy. Expertly translated by David Suchoff, with an elegant introduction by Samuel Kassow, these profound writings are at last accessible to contemporary readers.

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Editorial Review

Review

“One hopes this abridged edition will bring Opoczynski and Zelkowicz the attention they deserve.”—*Choice* (*Choice*)

About the Author

Peretz Opoczynski (1892–1943), a journalist by profession, found work as a mailman in the Warsaw ghetto after the war started, and wrote many pieces for the secret archive until he was most likely rounded up in January 1943. **Josef Zelkowicz** (1897–1944), an ethnographer and professional journalist writing in Yiddish before the war, was deported in 1944 to Auschwitz, where he perished. **Samuel D. Kassow** is Charles H. Northam Professor of History at Trinity College. **David Suchoff** is professor of English at Colby College.

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