



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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Reel  
177

Box  
65

Folder  
371

Temple Women's Association, 1935.



Early 19C.

Vistula

Salvation

Story of Tzviel  
Berk II Childhood

Life from birth to death

Mother faded + sold linen to the stuff in the market - to farmer.

Father - sat all day in Syn. + studied Torah.

Arrangement Sater - closing up business in other world for both.

At 4 taken to school - wrought in prayer shawl.

5 begins study of Levi. At dawn. ~~(part)~~ presented by Table Talk

7 " Talmud. - 'concerning deed' - dry - did not like it as more

Not particularly quick of apprehension - Not given to intell. gymnastics  
and Talk casuistry - stap - punishment -

A 'drunderhead'

At 10 - convinced as scholar - ~~played~~ helped his mother in market, <sup>and all other</sup>  
spent days in fields - interested in people, Father's unhappy.

~~Solo studies mother for keeping by any from school - So is~~

Filled with love of God - not fear - would like to do something for God -

Servant - stands on his hand in tray. Keaten for his pan

for gentle - argument - Corpus Christi - hurled them down -

breaks up - roughly said - One side - and another!

'Soul of God'

listens to stories, Hell - resents them - Merch will set  
all summer free, shut gates, Hell prayer -

10 - Rabbi Mendel - Tomashow - helping more. (p. 38).

J. must help his sickly mother - drops out of school - Fees

Reb Leibush - blind - 'Hand written Table' - general, Talmud  
- simple worker - 'Polish Fellowship' - Every. H. Teacher

Mother <sup>gives</sup> hard pressed by banker - gives - pan-bake - Talks

mother's plan at Fair - 'If you can't study, say Prayers'

like all other Jews - everything is contained in Prayers  
Nothing disturb his joy in God - Pursue God!

## Sensitive to pity - (60-66). Gift!... Radiant Power



- mother dangerously ill

2. Goes to Tomashov to fetch his father & on way makes travelling boot-seller - broil-cart - carry parcels - acquainted with Chasid ~~books~~

R. Mendel - refused crowd - rich presents - surrounded himself with poor devils, kept them for months, years. Strictly secluded life - Worked - Zohar - bathed at unusual hours - Messiah - Eat stuffed goose, drunk brandy & smoked long pipes

Sat alone in his cold room with bare white-washed walls - Permitted no way to attend to him. (~~p. 83-87~~)

Father consults R. Mendel. J. meets R. M. (~~p. 92~~) Father complains

"I want to be a pious Jew".

"To be a pious Jew he doesn't need to study. He only needs to fear God. Buy him a psalm book! Wray it farther by reciting the psalms than by much study".

Funeral

Book II - Youth

Schloyme - Wolf - house-jew of ~~Levy~~ <sup>Court</sup> Inn-keeper

J. becomes teacher to inn-keeper's family. Small. Hb. alphabet etc.

Daughter - Gorge-girl - Reszel. Nature! Bathes - Dreams made becoming beloved - travels - studies, interested in life!

Vagrants

Look for Gorge-girl - Tendes - "Joseph Shalom", Parents fix it up! Woo her (~~144-5~~) married

Goes to study with ~~neighboring~~ <sup>Agoda</sup> Rabbi in village. 5 years! Did not scale highest points - ~~not total. criticism~~ - confidence and assurance in his eyes. ~~to do deep research~~

great when they look at him

~~(p. 165)~~ Service - beggar - gives everything away

→ strange new power come to him. Friday E.R. in Jan

2 country squires, Attack. (~~165~~) Sun fell from heaven! Miracle



The miracle grows - Beggar tell his mercy towards them  
"God had once sent a computer to the poor - a holy Rabbi who  
performed miracles - Those who stop at him - turn to him  
"You're an imitator. I am less & nothing!" Modest..

✓ J. works to turn - to earn a living. His father-in-law hard-pressed!  
opens shop when his mother had lived. His wife is wretched. He  
in School! Among Proletarian Fellowship - Talks planning R. Leib!  
J. advises customers to buy elsewhere - preferential treatment  
There a peevish reincarnated in the house over-worked. Money is God!  
It is bored. Servant! Is loved by humble folk!  
Reisel gathers up his home on Sal. St. - I don't want  
No children - 5 years! it - make him (the leader). He responds

X But soon terrible trials & leadership come to him

SEL16 - Horse-dealer - childless

Member of Fellowship - lost his horse - wage-earner. New horse  
Sally would lose new horse. Promises that his wife will have  
child.  
No wonder Rabbi! Got profits paper, registers -  
Poor man sobs.

2 pages for tr at J's heart. Read on way. Got the other  
(p. 200 - 203)

Promises. Pledge! Harried!

Goes to R. Mendel - (Count. p. 204-13) Now @ Kozk

J. gives insane - Meets him (p. 226 - 230)

~~Sally's wife gives birth to child~~

But Reisel - his own wife - dies after giving birth to a dead child



He had killed her! - anyone tempted God!  
wishes to do penance - wander through country - little poor Vayant  
United Sign - bag - prose - shawl - ophthalmia - changed cloth with hysan  
spent my at hysan - wretched people - never saw his name  
Sabbath - ba that - @ don of hysan for a hundred to a free table - last on  
- "You can never tell who you may meet in hysan's eyes!"  
No ordinary hysan - "Psalm Jew!" - fled.  
A year. Selig's wife has child! "Reisel".  
It has come to mean himself! Sign!

Vol III - Last years -

Next 18 years - Psalm Jew. remembered that - humble folks.  
Whatever he received - gave to poor - Adverse - Prayed with them.  
Marrried again - but he had four children - all died - saw an boy.  
Wife wanted hysan - divorced

X Court. (p. 2418)<sup>E</sup>

Reisel lived 94. Young Span Dembrowski - handsome gentle  
son the estate agent - on hysan - back

Met him later in home of 2 poor sisters - convert - zeal  
Elise an old widow - downy jewels wrapped  
Talk her to convert - teach her catechism - marry

"Holy Kabli, give me back my daughter!"



Misfortune & Consequence - pride & Con - unruly Disgrace

"Let her rather die than desert the Faith" -

{ Forgets mother to go to convent - face & hair round wall,  
Stand against convent windows - from sunrise to sunset.  
Head-by at home kept burning for soul & day hrs  
10 years in house to ~~last~~ <sup>last</sup> hour - as if she were sick with death

~~For~~ Riesel is being prepared for baptism - kindly runs -  
can't shake that of Rabb - concentrates on her his thought -

(268)

Priest anxious for conversion - Triumph of True faith

My friend - calms her - radiated moral force - hangs undallied &  
Very in round her neck. - goes to ~~front~~ ~~place~~

Sees her mother! Peace & mind shattered!

9th heart & poor little girl - the gods were at war!

Rabbi & Priest - Rabbi Triumph  
Jews want to attack convent! Teach forbids! Riot!

The Last Night (<sup>7</sup>289-292)

J. again blames himself! Helped in untimely destruction

& Riesel.

"How much evil may a man be allowed to do in order  
to save a soul?" What <sup>again</sup> ~~melancholy~~ <sup>abandoning ourselves</sup> ~~melancholy~~ <sup>lost</sup> Forsaken!

Shattered foundations of his life - Doubt! - Knows no fate &

Jew Christian - Evil - Bad blood legendary!



"Taitsh" - 1000 y. - Black Blazer - 10-12 m. use it.

1. Yiddish liter - recent - lang. del. - lit language = Hebrew.  
Mendels - Sh. Abramson - Frug - Herz - Fisdeman - Anshy -  
Yiddish Journalism -  
" Theatre -  
Now recog. in Soviet.

Middle-High -  
German speech  
French elements  
Hebrew - Slavic  
Hebrew alphabet  
Serial drawn

2. Ash - Poland - 1881 - Novelist - Dramatist - 18 Vols.

- 1. Litzke 1 -
- 2. Litzke 1 pt
- 3. 257 1/2
- 4. Kaddish Hashem

- 1. "G. & vengeance" New York - Berlin
- 2. 125 vol

Seen in U.S. back in Europe

3. Hassidism.

My, this is - Kibb - Ahrashen Lyada - Michels - Kalale  
Employment Pits - for - (barricade) Ostrog - Pantheism - Comfort

Zaddik

(1) Isaac Bad - Shem - Tor - Beshit - d. 1760.

(2) R Baer of Meseritz

(3) R. Jacob Jacob & Plom - a postle



(4) R. Levi Yitzchok, Benditchin

(5) A. Nauman & Krakow

(6) R. Shneur Zalman & Tzadi - Philosopher



Wants to swi up - people want let him - Pity engulf  
him -

Go, then, away - Voices (~~308 - 13~~)

# "The Courts, Heaven have decreed that since they have  
forced a Jewish soul unprepared out, this world, thy lot  
and portion in the world to come shall be taken from thee  
and given to him"

A just verdict! Joy - "I shall see Thee without  
hope, remain!" Great happiness!  
Portion restored!

Rescued!

Beamed

WRHS



And so he lives on - sewing - praying - fasting - bathing - occasionally  
ages rapidly - <sup>dreaming</sup> Reisel - the son-vent - 9 two years old...

Day of Abnegation - peran (326 End)

Reuben's Goal



Pity - 62.

Working - 144.

~~His Studies - 158.~~

Prouse to

Selig - 199-203

Meets R

Mendel 226-30.

J's court. 241-248

in last night - 289.

Recitation - 308.

Goal 326.





1. Franz Werfel - Essentially a poet. (plays - novels) "Musa Dagh"  
- Passionate simplicity - no sophistication -  
- Poeta-propheta - Prophet of Sp. Renaissance  
- Social justice - Pity - Tenderness -  
- Humble - rejected - beaten - his themes.

(1) "Goat's Song" - "Bocks-gesang" - drama & elemental power  
Terse, stark, terrible - Monster child born  
symbol of the basic animalization, orig. un-  
covered chaos of human person

(2) "The man who conquered death" - grandeur, lovely  
lover - dis mal, partly novel.  
old dom. man - Heav. poor - love for family  
and asylum for epileptic boy  
Insurance - paid if he lives to 65  
Titanic story he to keep alive Refuses to die

(3) "Class Remains" - Dr. Sebastian, Examining Magistrate  
Dr. Franz Adler - how one man can destroy  
another - jealousy -

(4) Pure in Heart - Viennois in last days of decline -  
world war - break-up of Europe  
love of poor out Nurse who stands by him thru  
all storms -

(5) Poems



2. b. Prophet - 1890. Is. 45 p. old. Sealed in old  
war -  
Is coming to America - Wrote on Jew

3. 40 - on Armenians in War  
Em. Dickinson - England  
1. Tragic fate of Armenia - { 1894-5 : 50,000 massacred  
1896 - 6000. British intrigue . deluded  
2. In World War - doomed - a nation of cultivators,  
artisans etc - Evanes Parker - defortitudes -  
"worst crime in modern history"

4. In July-August 1915 - 7 villages - 5000 Ar. - thus a play -  
refuge -

This is story! Physical history - sp. history of men in arms  
heroism - courage - fight - glory - etc

An epic of vast proportions - events and as events  
Hundreds of characters and on the canvas . 1000s

Thrilling as any book of adventure . Sober as a night  
Tragedy

5. Tragedy of a white people - hounded - murdered - Jews  
glory of heroic resistance



6.- Gabriel Bagradian - rich - 23 yrs. Paris - assimilated, conscientious  
returns - caught - reclaimed by race - leader -

Tulette - His French wife - exotic husband - remains a  
"foreigner" - dis integrates.

Stephan - Son 14 yrs - typical Fr. school boy - reclaimed -  
poignant tragedy - life + death - pathos -

Ter Haigassun - Priest - O.T. Supreme leader - wife -

Aram Tomasian, Pastor, escaped from Zeitun -  
His wife, and his sister

Iskubi - beautiful, arm crippled, tender, tragic love J.

Gouzague Maris, Greek-Armenian visitor - drifter -  
artist. Tulette -

Hrand Oskanian, dwarf, village school master - mute

Sarkis Kilikian - deserter - parents massacred.

while 11 - saw his family killed - wounded in soul  
something savage - diseased - runs away - prisoners  
here - coward

Many many others - Evgen Porha, Jemal Porha, General, Thar,  
foreman, saint, runner, writer, cripple, idiot,  
beggar, pan-gard digger etc.



7. 3 Books (1) Gathering the Strains - Assembly

(2) The Struggle of the Masses - More - Org - Commune  
building - defence - Battle - Love & Tolerance - Men  
g - 12th - 13th

(3) last days - Insurrection - Death, Stephen  
Maturity - Rescue

8. Excerpts 324-35 First attack

Stephen - Runners to Aleppo - Hait, resolute, with

p. 489-91.

odyssey

p. 641-33

return

End. p. 811 - Refuses to be rescued -  
- Azha Rifaat Beretlet, old  
Turkish friend / family -



"Jewish Caravan" ①

1. Jewish h- oldest 2 people - a library people. 1000 yr -  
 2. Acquainted with Bible - did not stop - to this day.  
 3. Not in one method <sup>religion</sup> in all - Even in Bible - all types -  
 4. Not in one language - When Even in Bible - Arabic - Talmud -  
used various original languages in writing of life -  
 (1) Greek - Josephus - Philo.  
 (2) Hebrew - Med. Jew. philosophy.  
 (3) German - "Science & Judaism" <sup>Heine - Schlegel</sup> Heine - Wap Brod - Buber -  
 (4) English - Zangwill, Louis Golding, Henry Levisohn.  
 (5) Yiddish - Mendels - Shalom Aliechem - Pery <sup>Frishman</sup> Asch - Pinski -  
Rosenfeld - Herschman -  
 (6) Spanish - French - Hebrew - Italian - Ruman - Polish etc  
 5. English people repud a their life - what is written in English -  
we cannot. We have not been a uni- lingual people -

6. 'Jewish Caravan' - collection of stories etc. portraying social level  
of people 3000 yrs. Practically no Poetry! Means inadequate!  
Not selected for excellence - revealing stage & culture, & life of  
people at a given stage - century - country.  
also what contemporaries wrote about them.  
Three Parts

Three Parts

# 1. The Making of A People

- (a) - "Beginnings" - Patriarchs of Egypt - Judges - Kings - Prophets.  
(b) "The alien world" - Exile - Restoration - Apocrypha - Josephus - N.T.  
(c). "Torah" - Talmud - Agada -



## 2- Under the Crescent & Cross

(a) Medieval Times - Historical writings - Tracts - Legends - "Maaseh  
Book" - Rel. Persecutions - Mysticism -

(b) Ghetto light shadows - Pictures of life mostly of 17-18c.  
From contemp. sources - "Esikhele y'Haumel", "Autohystory  
of Solomon Maimon" & what underlies with them

(c) World of Hasidism - (Salvation)

## 3. The Modern World - Emancipation - Industrial Rev. -

(a) "To Be or Not to Be" - Assimilation - Antisemitism - etc.  
- disintegration of trad. religion - "naturalism"

(b) America - Immigrant life - adjustment

(c) New Frontiers - Russia -

(d) " " - Palestine -

- Read selections to what applies!

## 7. First Part - Bible - not dwell on. Use as background -

Agada - { p. 141 -  
146 - Order of prayer - Hentze - End  
155 -  
157

## 8. Second Part

1- probably 1200 - Joseph Zabar - Spain - 12c. Physician  
"Canterbury Tales" - device to tell moral by way of story -  
- questions & answers

p. 211

2. Obadiah Bertinoro - <sup>to father</sup> 15c. Italian - 1457-1500 -

Encyclopedia - Benjamin Tudela 12c.

Petachius & Ratisman 12c.

David Kimhoni - 16c.



3. <sup>Autobiographies</sup> 182. "Solomon Maimon" p. 294. Le thurman - Berlin - (3)  
man thunderer - philosophy - Kant - Cyrie.

7 4. "Men who ate" - To illustrate piety - Dand Fishman - Poland -  
d. 1922. Y. dodesh Hefner - Translated with H. clavis works, under

5. Humor. Chelms - p. 318 - Jews laughed. too  
Jew. people created types - Motke Halber, Hershel  
Ostroples, Joseph Litch, in whose name all  
humorous anecdotes were told - (Bull eye, Mark Twain)  
A Till Eulenspiegel

6. Uendele p. 333. Abramowitz - father, Yiddish liter  
Russia, 1836 - Hefner - first to write "Yiddish"  
purity pantheon, grammar, expensive - Picture, Russian  
Shells

7. Haridism (388) Israel Zol  
"If not Hyphen" (Reuz - Poland  
Lingvist - poetry - drama, journalism - Shul  
stones)

9. Nothing, Third Part - Perhaps (342) Bontche Shewers