

***“An extraordinary volume that covers an absolutely critical historical period. It is scholarship at its very best.”—Laura S. Levitt, Temple University***

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# **The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization**

## **Volume 9: *Catastrophe and Rebirth, 1939–1973***

**Edited by Samuel D. Kassow and David G. Roskies**

*The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization* is a comprehensive, ongoing project gathering material from biblical times to the 21st century to create an unprecedented collection that reveals Jewish creativity, diversity, and cultural contributions around the globe.

On November 24, 2020, Yale University Press will publish *Volume 9: Catastrophe and Rebirth, 1939–1973*, edited by Samuel D. Kassow and David G. Roskies. This volume covers a period Kassow and Roskies call “one of the most tragic and dramatic in Jewish history,” from the eve of World War II through the aftermath of the Yom Kippur War.

This monumental anthology of primary sources, many appearing in English for the first time, encompasses Jewish civilization and culture throughout this era of transformation. Organized geographically and then by genre, *Volume 9: Catastrophe and Rebirth* details Jewish cultural and intellectual accomplishments—in political thought, literature, the visual and performing arts, and religion. It explores Jewish perceptions of the momentous events of the mid-twentieth century and how Jews around the world redefined themselves in the face of tragedy, displacement, and dispersion. The breadth and depth of this work go beyond any comparable collection, with detailed insights and sharp focus to accompany its breathtaking scope.

*Volume 9: Catastrophe and Rebirth* demonstrates the vitality and diversity of Jewish responses to the Holocaust while it was happening, both within the occupied war zone and throughout the Jewish world. It chronicles the birth of the State of Israel, tracks the expulsion and dispersion of Jews from Arab lands, crosses the divide between Western and Eastern Europe, and presents Jewish culture in North and South America in a multilingual light.

Unlike an encyclopedia, The Posen Library puts readers directly in touch with original works, unmediated by interpretation. Curated by leading scholars, the selections span a wide range of genres: religious and political writing, nonfiction, fiction, memoir, painting, photography, sculpture, and architecture. Sacred and secular texts, translated from an extensive array of languages, appear side by side. Featuring selections by both acclaimed and underappreciated writers, artists, and thinkers, The Posen Library offers new perspectives on well-known works and brings to light many that should be better known.

To make the collection accessible to everyone who reads English, the project includes the interactive Posen Digital Library ([www.posenlibrary.com](http://www.posenlibrary.com)) as well as 10 beautifully produced print volumes to be published by Yale University Press.

## About the Editors

**Samuel D. Kassow** is Charles H. Northam Professor of History at Trinity College.

**David G. Roskies** is the Sol and Evelyn Henkind Chair of Yiddish Literature and Culture and professor of Jewish literature at the Jewish Theological Seminary.

**Deborah Dash Moore** is Frederick G. L. Huetwell Professor of History and Professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. She is editor in chief of The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization.

## About the Posen Library

*The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization* consists of The Posen Digital Library (PDL), available at [posenlibrary.com](http://posenlibrary.com), and the 10-volume print anthology of Jewish culture published by Yale University Press. The Posen Library is a collection curated by leading Jewish Studies scholars offering unprecedented access to thousands of primary sources reflecting Jewish creativity, diversity, and culture worldwide, spanning biblical times to the twenty-first century. Many of these original sources are works translated into English for the first time.

The Posen Digital Library (PDL) currently includes 2,400 primary sources—including paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture, fiction, poetry, literature, cartoons, prayer book passages, first-person accounts, and so much more. As each print volume of The Posen Library of Jewish Culture and Civilization anthology is released, the entire collection will ultimately grow to more than 6,500 sources, approximately 90 percent of which will be available to a worldwide audience through the PDL.

## **Praise for the Posen Library**

“Readers seeking primary texts, documents, images, and artifacts constituting Jewish culture and civilization will not be disappointed. More important, they might even be inspired. . . . This work goes beyond an academic scope and ensures its relevance to public. . . . This set will serve to improve teaching and research in Jewish studies at institutions of higher learning and, at the same time, promote, maintain, and improve understanding of the Jewish population and Judaism in general.”

—**Booklist, Starred Review**

“A feast of Jewish culture, in 10 Volumes.”

—**Chronicle of Higher Education**

“A groundbreaking anthology that reflects the exuberance, diversity and vitality of modern Jewish life.”

—**Moment Magazine, A Moment Magazine Notable Book of 2012**

*Booklist Top Ten, Religion Reference Sources, Booklist Editors' Choice, Reference*

## **Volume 9 Publishing Details**

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