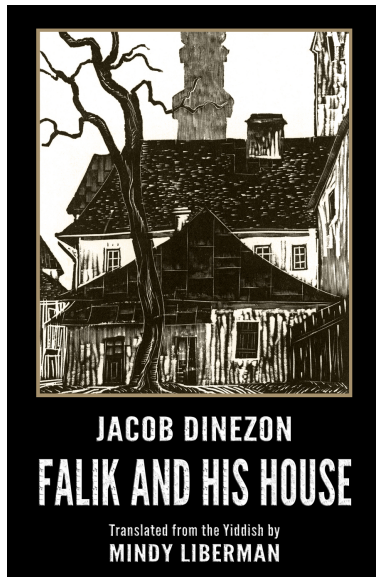


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*For Immediate Release*



## FALIK AND HIS HOUSE

**First English translation of a 1904 Jewish novella reminds us that the human condition has changed very little in over a century.**

Falik Sherman is an aging tailor who has fallen on hard times. His beloved house, which he talks to like a brother, is suffering as well. The walls lean precariously, and the roof is leaking so badly it threatens to drown Falik, his wife, and their belligerent tenants. To make matters worse, the town's richest merchant is building a grand mansion across the street and now has his eye on Falik's property. When the desperate tailor appeals for financial help from his three adult sons in America, they refuse and encourage him to sell the old homestead and come live with them in their new land. Unwilling to abandon his cherished home, Falik has only one remaining option: a loan from the town's unscrupulous moneylender.

Dinezon's themes are as relevant and challenging today as they were in 1904 when *Falik and His House* was first serialized in a Yiddish newspaper in the Russian Empire: aging in place, the complications of living with adult children, the financial difficulties of the working poor, and the effects of modernity on religious observance. With empathy, humor, and suspense, Dinezon offers a masterful tale of one man's stubborn determination to preserve his home, self-respect, and traditional way of life.

At the turn of the 20th century, the Jewish writer Jacob Dinezon was easily as famous as his better-known contemporaries Sholem Aleichem and I. L. Peretz. What made Dinezon so popular was his ability to evoke an emotional response in his readers—a response that is still apparent in this poignant, life-affirming, first-ever English translation by Mindy Liberman.

**Jacob Dinezon** (1851-1919) was a leading figure in 19th-century Eastern European Jewish literary circles. He was a successful author credited with writing the first bestselling novel in Yiddish, a staunch advocate for Yiddish as a literary language, and an indomitable social reformer.

**Mindy Liberman**, translator, studied Yiddish at McGill University. She has translated poetry by Miriam Ulinover and letters by Sholem Aleichem. Her work has been published in *In geveb: A Journal of Yiddish Studies* and on the JacobDinezon.com website. She is a retired librarian living in Los Angeles.

**Jewish Storyteller Press** was founded in 2007 to bring the works of 19th-century Jewish writers to 21st-century readers. Since then, publisher Scott Hilton Davis has been working to restore the literary legacy of the renowned Yiddish writer Jacob Dinezon by publishing the first English translations of Dinezon's novels and short stories. For more information, please visit [www.jewishstorytellerpress.com](http://www.jewishstorytellerpress.com).

### FALIK AND HIS HOUSE

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