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For Immediate Release

JACOB DINEZON

The Mother Among Our Classic Yiddish Writers

Was There A Fourth Classic Yiddish Writer?

Raleigh, NC — A fourth classic Yiddish writer? This is what the renowned literary historian Shmuel Rozshanski asserts in this insightful and well-documented biography about the beloved and successful 19th century Yiddish writer, Jacob Dinezon (1851?-1919), the author the *Jewish Daily Forward* called, “The Greatest Yiddish Writer You Never Heard Of.”

Credited with writing the first “Jewish Realistic Romance” and the first bestselling Yiddish novel, Dinezon was closely associated with the leading Jewish writers of his day, including Sholem Abramovitsh (Mendele Mocher Sforim), Sholem Aleichem, and I. L. Peretz—dubbed the “Classic Writers of Modern Yiddish Literature.”

Dinezon wrote poignant stories about Eastern European shtetl life and focused on the emotional conflicts affecting young people as modern ideas challenged traditional religious practices and social norms. He was also a staunch Yiddish advocate, and a highly respected community philanthropist.

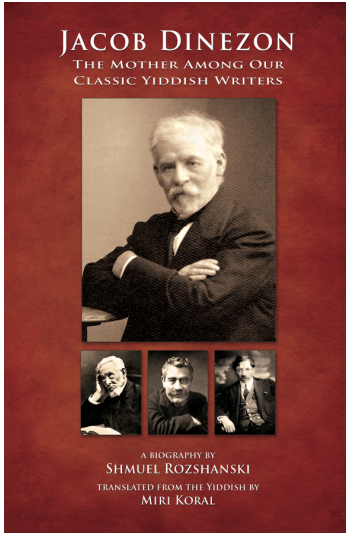
In this extensively researched Yiddish biography written in 1956 and translated into English by Yiddishist Miri Koral, Shmuel Rozshanski makes the case for including Jacob Dinezon in the “family” of classic Yiddish writers. If, as scholars suggest, Sholem Abramovitsh is the grandfather, I. L. Peretz the father, and Sholem Aleichem the grandson of modern Yiddish literature, then Jacob Dinezon, Rozshanski insists, should be considered the “mother” for his gentle, kindhearted, and emotional approach to storytelling and to his readers.

An important new research book for scholars of Yiddish literature, history, and culture.

Shmuel Rozshanski (1902-1995) was a successful Yiddish newspaper columnist, theater critic, short story writer, scholar, and publisher. He served as the director of the YIVO Institute for Yiddish Research in Argentina (IWO) and edited the 100-volume series, *Musterverk fun der yidisher literatur* (*Masterwork from the Yiddish Literature*).

Miri Koral is the CEO and founding director of the California Institute for Yiddish Culture and Language. She is a Lecturer at the University of California at Los Angeles and is an accomplished English translator of Yiddish poetry and prose. Her work has appeared in *The Yiddish Daily Forward* and the Yiddish literary journal *Kheshbn* (Reckoning).

Jewish Storyteller Press was founded in 2007 to bring the works of 19th century Jewish writers to 21st century readers. Learn more at www.jewishstorytellerpress.com.



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**The Mother Among Our
Classic Yiddish Writers**

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