

# Contents

- I Introduction: Emancipation, Assimilation,  
and the Crisis of Identity 3
- II The Promised Land
1. Arrival in America, 1654–1882, 16
  2. Songs of a Self-Conscious Semite: Emma Lazarus, 22
  3. The Rise of a Lucky Few: Mary Antin and Abraham Cahan, 25
  4. Interlude: Anzia Yezierska and Samuel Ornitz, 33
  5. How Some of Us Made It: Meyer Levin and Daniel Fuchs, 37
  6. Fathers and Sons: Henry Roth and Isaac Rosenfeld, 48
  7. Marriage with a *Shikse*, 57
  8. Philip Roth and the Rabbis, 64
  9. The Black Humorists, 76
  10. Back to Brownsville: Alfred Kazin, 85
- III One's Own People
1. The Arguments for Peoplehood, 93
  2. The Forgotten Achievement of Ludwig Lewisohn, 100
  3. Zionism and the Jewish Writer, 108
  4. "All Men Are Jews": Bernard Malamud, 112
  5. The Postwar Revival of Peoplehood, 120
  6. Poems of Jews: Karl Shapiro, Irving Feldman, John Hollander, 128

IV The Revolutionary Messiah

1. Jewish Radicals? 134
2. Jews and Proletarians, 140
3. Paul Goodman's Quest for Community, 147
4. The Apocalyptic Vision of Norman Mailer, 153
5. Allen Ginsberg and the Angelheaded Hipsters, 172

V Mr. Bellow's America

1. Dangling Man, 178
2. The Victim, 183
3. The Adventures of Augie March, 189
4. Seize the Day, 198
5. Henderson the Rain King, 201
6. Herzog, 210
7. Mr. Sammler's Planet, 217

VI The End of the Jewish People? 222

Notes 229

Supplementary Bibliography 244

Index 247