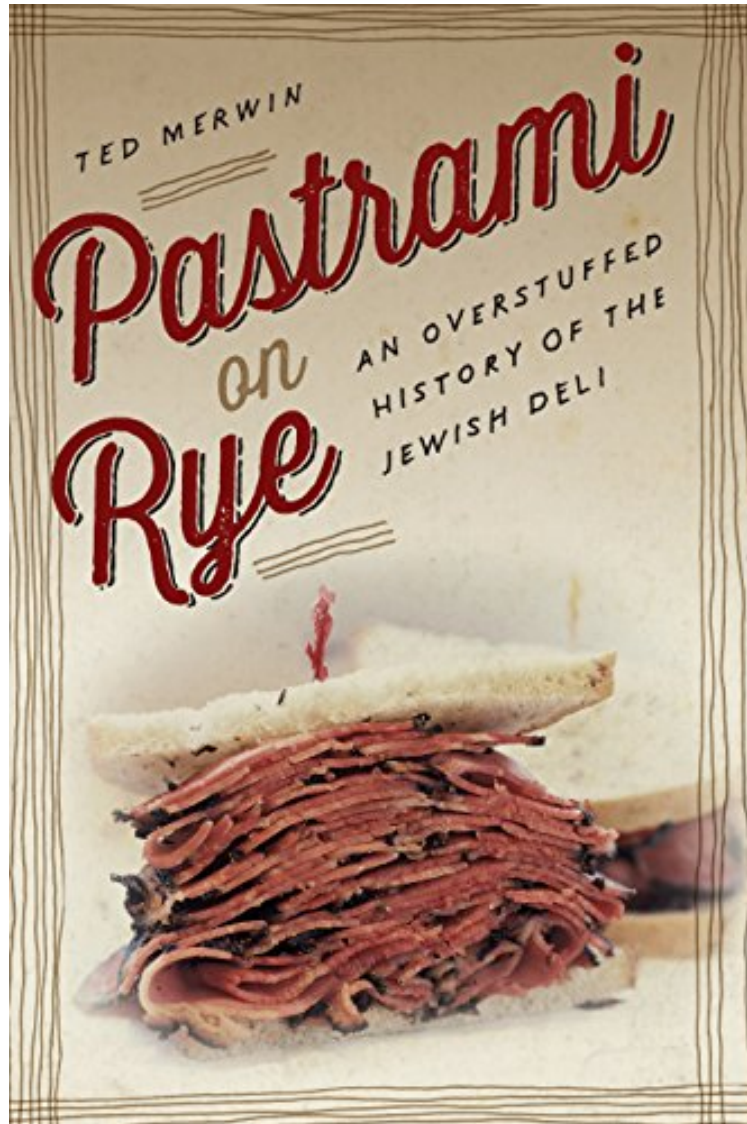


(Download) Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli

Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli

Ted Merwin

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#264166 in Books Ted Merwin 2015-10-06 2015-10-06 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.02 x .75 x 5.981, 1.05 #File Name: 0814760317256 pages Pastrami on Rye An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli | File size: 48.Mb

Ted Merwin : Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Pastrami on Rye: An Overstuffed History of the Jewish Deli:

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. A Cult Status By Mr. August This is an unusual history of the Jewish Deli in America. In addition to its mouth-watering, cholesterol laden food, delis were a place to meet your friends, business associates and make a Jewish connection. The New York delis, like Katz's in Manhattan - think of the

movie "When Harry Met Sally." and the fake orgasm scene, represent the best of the old time delis and the sense of belonging to a group. Forget the synagogue, the deli surpassed it as meeting place. The author contends that delis flourished in the interwar era, when successful Jews found a place to reunite with their heritage. Ted Merwin believes that the deli is experiencing a resurgence and developing a cult status. That may be true, but it's hard to find a good deli in most American cities and never, ever in small, rural towns! This book is about New York and is well researched. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Nostalgic memory and meaningful sociology combine for a reading treat. By Anita Malina Professor Merwin treats the reader to a strong double play: An in depth sociological analysis of the Jewish deli as a clue to understanding the American immigrant experience; and a delightful nostalgic romp replete with anecdotal memories and little known facts that are fun to read. You can smell the pastrami, corned beef and sour pickles on every page. A must read! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. May make you hungry. By Good Sound Incredible detail and reporting that may be too much for many. But overall a fascinating look at New York and other delis past and present. Many great stories and for me at least a lot of nostalgia. Interesting social commentary on the role of the deli in Jewish life and culture. And how the deli changed in style and approach over the years and has diminished in numbers. If you find some parts too dense or drawn out just skip or skim over them. You will still get a lot of information and story telling in a very readable and clear writing style. Great photos. Warning: May make you hunger for a corned beef or pastrami on rye, but assuredly without mayonnaise.

Winner, 2015 National Jewish Book Award presented by the Jewish Book Council For much of the twentieth century, the New York Jewish deli was an iconic institution in both Jewish and American life. As a social space it rivaled and in some ways surpassed the synagogue as the primary gathering place for the Jewish community. In popular culture it has been the setting for classics like *When Harry Met Sally*. And today, after a long period languishing in the trenches of the hopelessly old-fashioned, it is experiencing a nostalgic resurgence.

Merwin's long awaited history of the deli delivers like the best deli fress: this is a book that nails the mustard-slicked soulful flavor of this cultural gem, with a heft of academic substance that leaves the mind thoroughly satisfied (and the body starved for chopped liver). -David Sax, author of *The Tastemakers: Why We're Crazy for Cupcakes but Fed Up with Fondue* A comprehensive history of the New York deli from its European antecedent beginnings to what Ted Merwin calls the 'postgastronomic' deli we have today. After doing exhaustive research into the subject, Dr. Merwin has put his scholarly pen and thoughtful gaze to work to create this marvelous book. I got really hungry for pastrami reading this comprehensive story of the American deli. Now that is a sign of a great read. -Joan Nathan, author of *Quiches, Kugels and Couscous: My Search for Jewish Cooking in France* "Try reading Ted Merwin's new book, *Pastrami on Rye* without having your mouth water. Merwin offers plenty of delicious descriptions as he traces how delis rose up first as take-out services for Jewish immigrants, to gathering places for Jewish communities, to symbols of integration as pastrami piled high became popular nationwide." -New York Post "The fruit of more than ten years of research and writing, Mr. Merwin's account shows that delis have been a rich part of the story of Jewish assimilation in America." -The Economist "Combining a flair for anecdote with exhaustive research, Merwin has produced an exuberantly readable history of delis, and he reveals how their prepared foods helped free early twentieth-century women from daily kitchen drudgery. The very success of ethnic Jewish delicatessens led inevitably to cultural assimilation for Jews and to appreciative acceptance by Gentiles, and the delicatessen became indisputably an American institution." -Booklist "In *Pastrami on Rye*, Ted Merwin gamely sets out to show how American Jews evolved from the clannish immigrants of the late 1800s into well-heeled secularists who atone for their parents' assimilation through (mostly culinary) nostalgia." -The Times Literary Supplement, Samuel Ashworth "[An] affable dive into the culture and history of the Jewish deli." -New York Times Book "[V]ery well researched and enjoyable." -JWeekly.com "Pastrami on Rye proves entertaining, provocative, and--appropriately--food for thought." -JewishBookCouncil.org "Merwin has written a spectacularly funny, engaging and sharply analytical book." -Forward "This delightful book just about guarantees that its readers will want to head to the nearest deli for a hot pastrami sandwich, or maybe corned beef, naturally on fresh rye bread." -Western States Jewish History "Ted Merwin... delivers a scholarly paean--like an ample but lean corned beef sandwich--to a vanishing New York ethnic icon." -New York Times "Metropolitan" "In *Pastrami on Rye*, author Ted Merwin captures the essence of the New York deli experience... Merwin offers a thoughtful, 'overstuffed' look at all aspects of the Jewish deli by examining the role of its food in America through, as he puts it, the 'greasy...gluttonous lens of the pastrami sandwich.' [A] delightful exploration of one of America's favorite culinary institutions." -Chicago Tribune "Merwin's tasty exploration of deli cuisine and culture also tracks larger shifts in the American Jewish experience, particularly in the post-World War II period when delis upstaged shuls as Jewish gathering places." -JTA Professor and journalist Ted Merwin uses interviews, archives and popular representation to tell the history of the Jewish deli in America. Calling on food studies and an eclectic mix of sociological theory, he builds a narrative from a space of civic engagement and mutual support, it grows into a site bound up with nostalgic and un-nuanced readings of the past. -Religion Culture "Brings together a vast range of scholarship and anecdote to produce the first comprehensive history of the Jewish

delicatessen. Both culinary and cultural history, this book will be of interest to scholars and common readers alike, the former for its incisive interpretations of modern Jewish foodways and the latter for its ability to recreate a time and place that was 'home' for so many 20th century Jews in America. Its evocation of deli menus alone will get your mouth watering."-David Kraemer,author of Jewish Eating and Jewish Identity Through the Ages"Avital addition to the academic literature in cultural history, American studies, American Jewish studies, food studies, and popular culture studies."-Journal of American CultureThe writing is so lively and entertaining readers will forget they're being educated. The work is also an excellent example of a multidisciplinary approach combining food studies, Judaic studies, history and sociology.-Long Island Jewish World "[Pastrami on Rye] is an entertaining work of merit, written in a fluent style that recalls Calvin Trillin at his foodie best and Ludwig Bemelmans at his most observant."-Santa Fe New Mexican "Merwin's extraordinarily exhaustive research and his skill in selecting just the right fact, telling detail, quote, and anecdote makes this one of the most enjoyable, enlightening, fluid and fascinating food histories I've ever read. And it is my history, too, being one of those many Jews for whom the delicatessen and love of delicatessen foods is as much a part of my identity as the ethics and humanity my religion has taught me."-Arthur Schwartz,author of Arthur Schwartz's Jewish Home Cooking: Yiddish Recipes Revisited"Merwin has set out to trace the rise and fall of the delicatessen in American Jewish culture, using this analysis to help us understand the American-immigrant experience. He has been more than successful. By meticulous and thorough research, Merwin has shown that in the postwar migration to the suburbs, city neighborhoods fragmented and delis closed."-St. Louis Jewish Light"[Merwin's] writing is so lively and entertaining readers will forget they're being educated. The work is also an excellent example of a multidisciplinary approach--combining food studies, Judaic studies, history and sociology."-Reporter"In Pastrami on Rye, Merwin finally addresses the pressing question overlooked in his first book on New York Jews (In Their Own Image): but where did they eat? This fun and informative examination of the New York Jewish deli is half history and half love story; batampte und geshmacht, with a heaping helping of sakhelyoull kvell before you plotz!"-Eric Michael Mazur,co-editor of God in the Details: American Religion in Popular Culture"A pleasing exercise in culinary and cultural history, evoking some favorite New York-centric comfort foods... [Merwin] does a solid job of locating the delicatessen... as a cultural and culinary center of New York Jewish life."-Kirkus s"Thorough and thoughtful, scholarly and readable, Ted Merwin's Pastrami on Rye provides a vital addition to the academic literature in cultural history, American studies, American Jewish studies, food studies, and popular culture studies."-Journal of American Culture"[A]cultural history of American Judaism told through a particularly revealing culinary lens.-Haaretz"Pastrami on Rye is both a celebration of the deli and an elegy for it. This lively book traces the deli's evolution from dynamic gathering place to kitschy tourist site, peppered with hefty doses of popular culture. Merwin tells a fascinating story of cultural and culinary assimilation as he explores what it means to be modern and American. This book left me longing for the lost delis of my youth!"-Darra Goldstein,Founding Editor, Gastronomica: The Journal of Food and CultureAbout the AuthorTed Merwin is Associate Professor of Religion and Judaic Studies at Dickinson College (PA), where he is Founding Director of the Milton B. Asbell Center for Jewish Life. He writes about Jewish theater, dance, and food for the New York Jewish Week and other major newspapers and magazines.