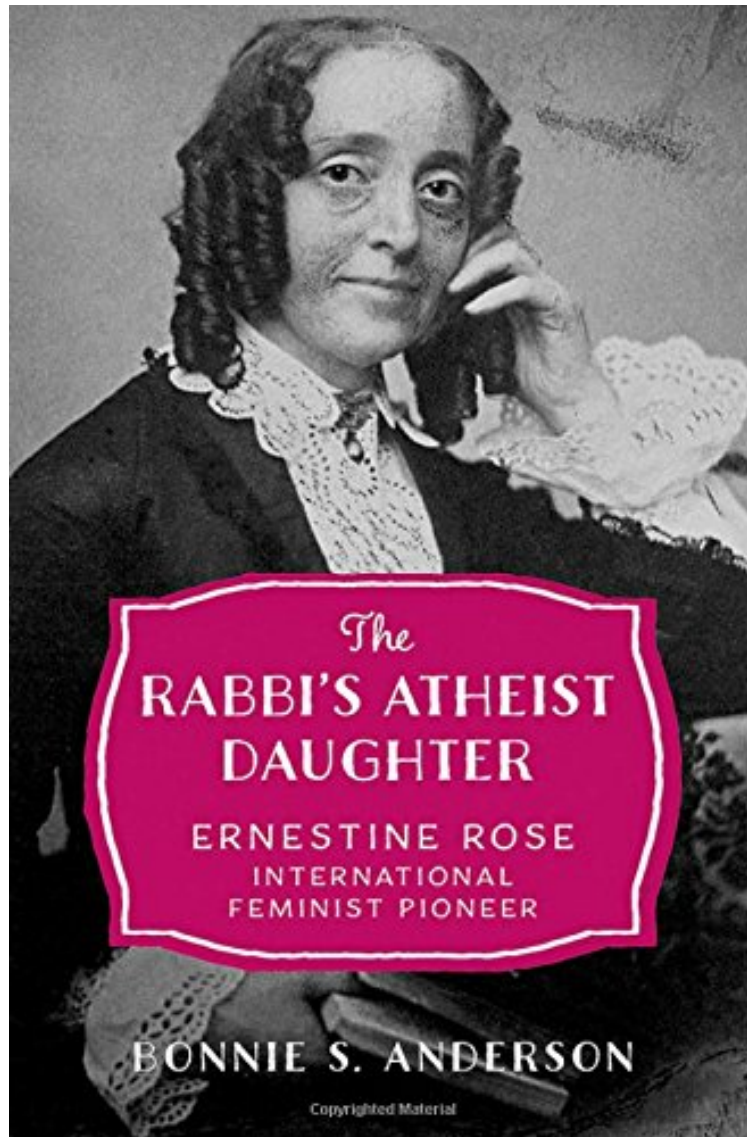


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The Rabbi's Atheist Daughter: Ernestine Rose, International Feminist Pioneer

Bonnie S. Anderson

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Bonnie S. Anderson : The Rabbi's Atheist Daughter: Ernestine Rose, International Feminist Pioneer before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rabbi's Atheist Daughter: Ernestine Rose, International Feminist Pioneer:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Fantastic ReadBy Arthur AndersonThis is an absolutely fascinating book about a human rights advocate famous in her time who left hardly any personal documentation about herself and

today virtually unknown. Great insight into free thinking, abolition and feminist struggles of nineteenth century America and England. Footnotes and bibliography comprising 25% of the pages at the end also are very interesting. A tour de force of scholarship and writing. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Vivid Account of an Important Woman By Joan Brodsky Schur I was totally engrossed by this account of the remarkable life of Ernestine Rose and since reading this book, I will never forget her! The Rabbi's Atheist Daughter is inspiring to read (Rose never gave up) and even-handed in its treatment of her accomplishments and temperament. Two worlds that she participated in, the religiously-motivated abolitionist movement and free thought, existed simultaneously, but I had never put them together before. We see Rose's interactions both with ideas and other leading women of the day with clarity. This book also brings the little-noted presence of Jews of this time period into relief. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. "We have before us a novel spectacle, an hitherto ... By Verna Gillis" "We have before us a novel spectacle, an hitherto unheard of undertaking, in comparison to which all others fall into insignificance, the grandest step in the onward progress of humanity. One half the race stands up against the injustice and oppression of the other, and demands the recognition of its existence and of its rights." Ernestine Rose is a beacon for our times - her values, courage, adventure - the qualities we need to exemplify. Thank you Bonnie Anderson for another classic of women's history and of history. "Humanity of no sex."

Known as "the queen of the platform," Ernestine Rose was more famous than her women's rights co-workers, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. By the 1850s, Rose had become an outstanding orator for feminism, free thought, and anti-slavery. Yet, she would gradually be erased from history for being too much of an outlier: an immigrant, a radical, and an atheist. In *The Rabbi's Atheist Daughter*, Bonnie S. Anderson recovers the unique life and career of Ernestine Rose. The only child of a Polish rabbi, Ernestine Rose rejected religion at an early age, successfully sued for the return of her dowry after rejecting an arranged betrothal, and left her family, Judaism, and Poland forever. In London, she became a follower of socialist Robert Owen and met her future husband, William Rose. Together they emigrated to New York in 1836. In the United States, Ernestine Rose rapidly became a leader in movements against slavery, religion, and women's oppression and a regular on the lecture circuit, speaking in twenty-three of the thirty-one states. She challenged the radical Christianity that inspired many nineteenth-century women reformers and yet, even as she rejected Judaism, she was both a victim and critic of antisemitism, as well as nativism. In 1869, after the Civil War, she and her husband returned to England, where she continued her work for radical causes. By the time women achieved the vote, for which she tirelessly advocated throughout her long career, her pioneering contributions to women's rights had been forgotten. *The Rabbi's Atheist Daughter* restores Ernestine Rose to her rightful place in history and offers an engaging account of her international activism.

"Ernestine Rose has long been relegated to the margins of the abolitionist and woman's rights movements to which she devoted her life. In Bonnie Anderson's new book we have, finally, a biography that is as eloquent, passionate, freethinking, transnational, argumentative, and eager to explore the boundaries of radical possibility as was Rose herself."--Lori D. Ginzberg, author of *Elizabeth Cady Stanton: An American Life* "Bonnie Anderson uncovers, in this deeply researched work, the astonishing life of Ernestine Potowski Rose, champion of all human rights. A powerful orator, she crisscrossed an ocean and continents to speak her mind. A contemporary newspaper expected that it would take a hundred years for her to be fully appreciated. This excellent biography of a woman of fierce intellect and uncompromising convictions fulfills that prediction, affording our generation the fullest depiction yet of the remarkable Ernestine Rose."--Pamela S. Nadell, author of *Women Who Would Be Rabbis: A History of Women's Ordination, 1889-1985* "For someone (like me) who thought she knew Ernestine Rose, this book is a revelation. The gift Bonnie Anderson gives us is the opportunity to hear the fearless words actually spoken by Ernestine Rose, and they're magnificent, powerful testimony to her constancy, boldness, and defiant advocacy for women's rights."--Susan Weidman Schneider, Editor in Chief, *Lilith Magazine* "Bonnie Anderson tells the powerful story of Ernestine Rose, one of the most distinguished and distinctive advocates of woman's rights, free thought, and racial equality in the nineteenth century. Rose linked activists in the United States with radical traditions in Britain and Europe, reminding readers of the multifaceted and transatlantic character of nineteenth-century social movements. While many books claim they are intended for both an academic and popular audience, *The Rabbi's Atheist Daughter* delivers on that promise."--Nancy A. Hewitt, Rutgers University "Anderson's portrait of a little-remembered activist will be a useful resource for scholars interested in the history of feminist intellectuals and 19th-century social movements."--Library Journal "Anderson has written an excellent biography of a too-little-known figure, and a fine addition to history and women's-studies collections."--Booklist Online "Bonnie S. Anderson's new biography elevates [Ernestine Rose] further into the top rank of 19th-century agitators...[H]er picture of Rose is consistently drawn with clarity and color."--Los Angeles of Books "Readers should find this biography of an 'international feminist pioneer' a fascinating reading experience about an amazing woman."--Jewish Independent About the Author Bonnie S. Anderson is professor of history emerita at Brooklyn College and the Graduate Center, CUNY. She is the author of *Joyous Greetings: The First International Women's Movement* (OUP, 2000) and co-author of *A History of Their Own: Women in Europe from*

Prehistory to the Present (OUP, 2000).