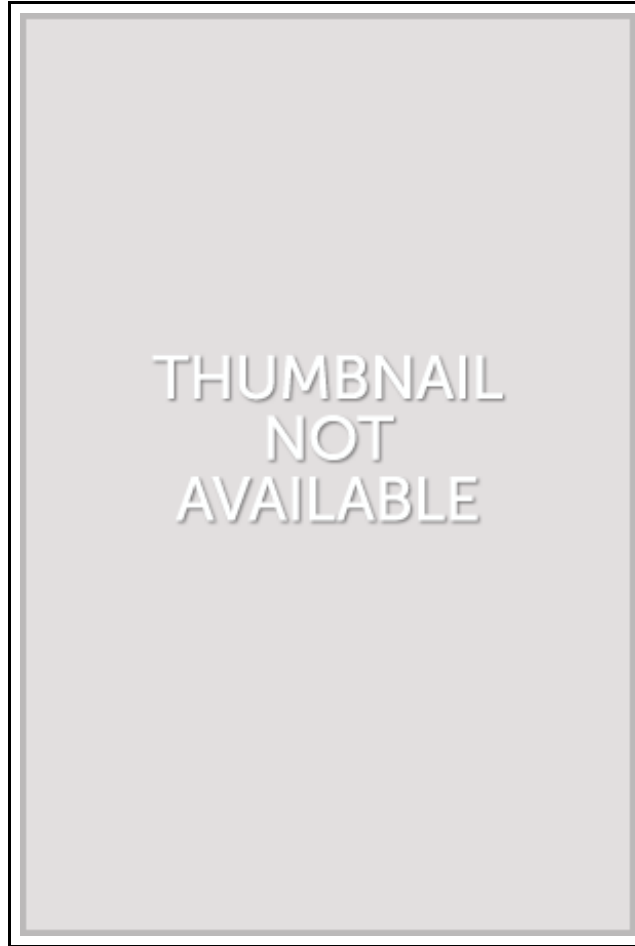


The Spirit of the Ghetto (Paperback)



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(Ozella Batz)

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HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESS, United States, 1990. Paperback. Book Condition: New. New edition. 213 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.The title couldn't be more unfortunate, for this collection of essays by an energetic journalist peddling his wares in 1902 glows with a youthful excitement and the sense of discovery as Mr. Hapgood becomes involved in the ferment and confusion of the Jewish Lower East Side. Although reported before the great migrations before World War I, the divisive influence of American culture on a religious and involuted society was already being felt, in the poverty-ridden but full life on the square mile below New York's E. 14th St. and between the Hudson and East rivers. Fascinated by the intellectual vitality of the community, Hapgood regrettably witnesses the decline of the elderly scholars displaced by youngsters determined not only to establish a secure place for themselves but to become vigorously, jauntily American. The family, religion, children, women, societies, are perhaps discussed too briefly, and it is here that writer Harry Golden supplies his affectionate, anecdotal notes. However, when the essays turn to the Yiddish theatre, writers and artists, Mr. Golden steps aside for Hapgood's crisp, appreciative, critical appraisal. Among Mr. Hapgood's discoveries was the young Jacob Epstein and his exquisite sketches decorate the book. Although for a predictable Jewish market, this has special literary and historical value. Hapgood to Golden to Epstein with every base covered. (Kirkus Reviews).



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