



## Leon Trotsky: A Revolutionary's Life (Jewish Lives)

By Joshua Rubenstein

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**Leon Trotsky: A Revolutionary's Life (Jewish Lives)** By Joshua Rubenstein

Born Lev Davidovich Bronstein in southern Ukraine, Trotsky was both a world-class intellectual and a man capable of the most narrow-minded ideological dogmatism. He was an effective military strategist and an adept diplomat, who staked the fate of the Bolshevik revolution on the meager foundation of a Europe-wide Communist upheaval. He was a master politician who played his cards badly in the momentous struggle for power against Stalin in the 1920s. And he was an assimilated, indifferent Jew who was among the first to foresee that Hitler's triumph would mean disaster for his fellow European Jews, and that Stalin would attempt to forge an alliance with Hitler if Soviet overtures to the Western democracies failed.

Here, Trotsky emerges as a brilliant and brilliantly flawed man. Rubenstein offers us a Trotsky who is mentally acute and impatient with others, one of the finest students of contemporary politics who refused to engage in the nitty-gritty of party organization in the 1920s, when Stalin was maneuvering, inexorably, toward Trotsky's own political oblivion.

As Joshua Rubenstein writes in his preface, "Leon Trotsky haunts our historical memory. A preeminent revolutionary figure and a masterful writer, Trotsky led an upheaval that helped to define the contours of twentieth-century politics." In this lucid and judicious evocation of Trotsky's life, Joshua Rubenstein gives us an interpretation for the twenty-first century.

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#### Review

"This trim book . . . pulls together all the essentials of the life of Leon Trotsky and the revolution he so significantly shaped into a seamless, intelligent, and wonderfully accessible synopsis."—Robert Legvold, *Foreign Affairs*  
(Robert Legvold *Foreign Affairs*)

"In this new, concise biography, Rubenstein offers a more balanced view of Trotsky....There are many reasons to commend this work — among them, Rubenstein's depoliticization of its subject and the book's succinctness and readability."—Peter Ephross, *The Forward*  
(Peter Ephross *The Forward*)

"Joshua Rubenstein has produced a steadily intelligent, insightful biography of one the last century's most alluring intellectual-politicians, a man of astonishing brilliance and no less astonishing rigidities."—Steven J. Zipperstein, author of *Imagining Russian Jewry: Memory, History, Identity* (Steven J. Zipperstein)

"As much a myth and a legend as a man, Leon Trotsky is an individual of deep contradictions... Fast-paced and engaging, Rubenstein's brief biography provides a solid introduction to the period and a detailed examination of a man much studied but little understood."—*Publishers Weekly*  
(*Publishers Weekly*)

"An accessible scholarly account of a man whose life spanned continents, whose charisma was legendary and whose ideas sparked a revolution and its backlash."—*Kirkus Reviews*  
(*Kirkus Reviews*)

"An exemplary biography... Rubenstein depicts Trotsky as a tragic hero, a complex man whose brilliance and fallibility were inseparable."—Judith Maas, *Jewish Advocate*  
(Judith Maas *Jewish Advocate*)

"Joshua Rubenstein's succinct account of Leon Trotsky's life rescues the Russian radical from a remoteness, positioning him at a useful distance for contemporary readers."—Harvey Blume, *ArtsFuse*  
(Harvey Blume *ArtsFuse*)

"Joshua Rubenstein has told a fascinating story in this book. It is very well documented, with close attention to the sources in several languages, and yet it reads like a novel."—Rabbi Jack Riemer, *South Florida Jewish Journal*  
(Rabbi Jack Riemer *South Florida Jewish Journal*)

#### About the Author

**Joshua Rubenstein** was a staff member of Amnesty International USA from 1975 to 2012 and is a longtime associate at Harvard University's Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies.

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The book Leon Trotsky: A Revolutionary's Life (Jewish Lives) will bring you to definitely the new experience of reading a book. The author style to elucidate the idea is very unique. In the event you try to find new book to study, this book very ideal to you. The book Leon Trotsky: A Revolutionary's Life (Jewish Lives) is much recommended to you to learn. You can also get the e-book from the official web site, so you can easier to read the book.

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Playing with family in the park, coming to see the marine world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you will have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. 1 activity that make you not feeling tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you are ride on and with addition associated with. Even you love Leon Trotsky: A Revolutionary's Life (Jewish Lives), it is possible to enjoy both. It is excellent combination right, you still would like to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its named reading friends.

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#### **Lila Costillo:**

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