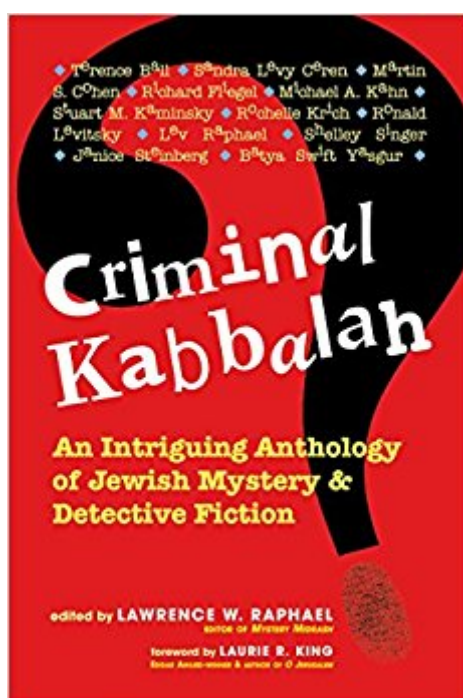


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# Criminal Kabbalah: An Intriguing Anthology Of Jewish Mystery & Detective Fiction



## Synopsis

An intriguing Anthology of Jewish Mystery & Detective Fiction Terence Ball, The Banality of Evil Sandra Levy Ceren, Silver Is Better Than Gold Martin S. Cohen, Death Has Beckoned Richard Fliegel, The Golem of Bronx Park East Michael A. Kahn, Truth in a Plain Brown Wrapper Stuart M. Kaminsky, The Tenth Man Rochelle Krich, Bitter Waters Ronald Levitsky, Thy Brother's Bloods Lev Raphael, Your Papers, Please Shelley Singer, Reconciling Howard Janice Steinberg, Hospitality in a Dry Country Batya Swift Yasgur, Without a Trace All-new stories from twelve of today's masters of mystery and detective fiction are sure to delight mystery buffs of all faith traditions, and fans of the award-winning *Mystery Midrash: An Anthology of Jewish Mystery & Detective Fiction*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Does the world really need another anthology of Jewish mystery stories? Probably not on the other hand, who does it hurt? Following up on his similarly themed 1999 collection, *Mystery Midrash*, editor Raphael has persuaded a dozen mid-list mystery writers to search their souls (or their trunks) for stories that have something to do with Jewish religion or history or philosophy. The result is a decidedly mixed bag and one that doesn't contain much mystery. Three stories are about synagogues in trouble, helped out by one current and two former cops; two stories concern lawyers struggling with difficult clients; one is about a present-day therapist and another about an ancient Israelite judge. They range in interest from Stuart Kaminsky's fascinating look at a much-younger Abe Lieberman ("The Tenth Man") to Lev Raphael's weirdly intriguing "Your Papers, Please," which

manages to combine homophobia, Jewish self-loathing and academic paranoia in a few short pages. A foreword by Laurie R. King should lure her fans. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

This anthology, a sequel to *Mystery Midrash* (1999), features 12 new crime stories on Jewish themes by some well-known genre authors. The quality of the stories varies from Sandra Levy Ceren's rather unimaginative "Silver Is Better than Gold," in which a Jewish Chinese psychologist is told by one of her clients that he is a target for murder, to Stuart Kaminsky's compelling "Thy Brother's Blood," in which a neo-Nazi on Death Row leaves a Talmudic riddle for a lawyer who once defended him. Overall, the stories effectively combine Jewish content with the traditional conventions of detective fiction. Laurie King provides a clever foreword in which a fascinating connection is made between Jewish mysticism and crime writing, and editor Raphael's introduction offers perceptive commentary on the origins of mystery stories in Jewish literature. A useful collection of ethnic crime fiction. Ilene Cooper Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

criminal kabbalah anthology--lawrence raphael--12

authors--(ball-cohen-ceren-kahn-kirch-singer-yasgur-kaminsky--etc).(kaminsky and yasgur--r two of my favorites)+i WISH they had PHOTOS of each author on their story page.+250 pgs...philosophy and philosophical--makes u HAPPY -anecumenical appeal...jewish themes.....PUB//2001.ALL NEW STORIES.....A kosher treat....cost///1 cent.--original COST ----\$17.00.MYSTERY and DETECTION.i have SEVERAL books from this company--bought 4 my selfAND as gifts...(jewish lights publishing).bOOK-----4 PEOPLE OF ALL FAITHS.bBBp okc 65---ariEs

Not worth the time

I found this book to be thoroughly entertaining and its preface and introduction educational and enlightening. As a result, I plan to seek out more books by the authors whose stories appear in this book.

I enjoyed the quality of the stories and the variety of the Jewish experiences portrayed. I highly recommend this book.

It was a fun read for a window into the life and thought of Jewish characters and their approach to solving a mystery.

I am a mystery buff and found this anthology very satisfying. I will recommend to friends at shul. And my Rabbi!

Well, I chose this book because of the title... Now, I'm going to read it.

Thoroughly enjoyable story collection, most feature clever amateur sleuths such as the likeable Dr. Cory Cohen, a psychologist in "Silver is Better than Gold." Others feature professional detectives who, without their intention to do so are drawn into a puzzle. A few of the stories lack mystery, but manage to engage. One of my favourites is "Without a Trace," by Batya Swift Yasgur. As the old ad said, "You don't have to be Jewish to enjoy. . ."

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