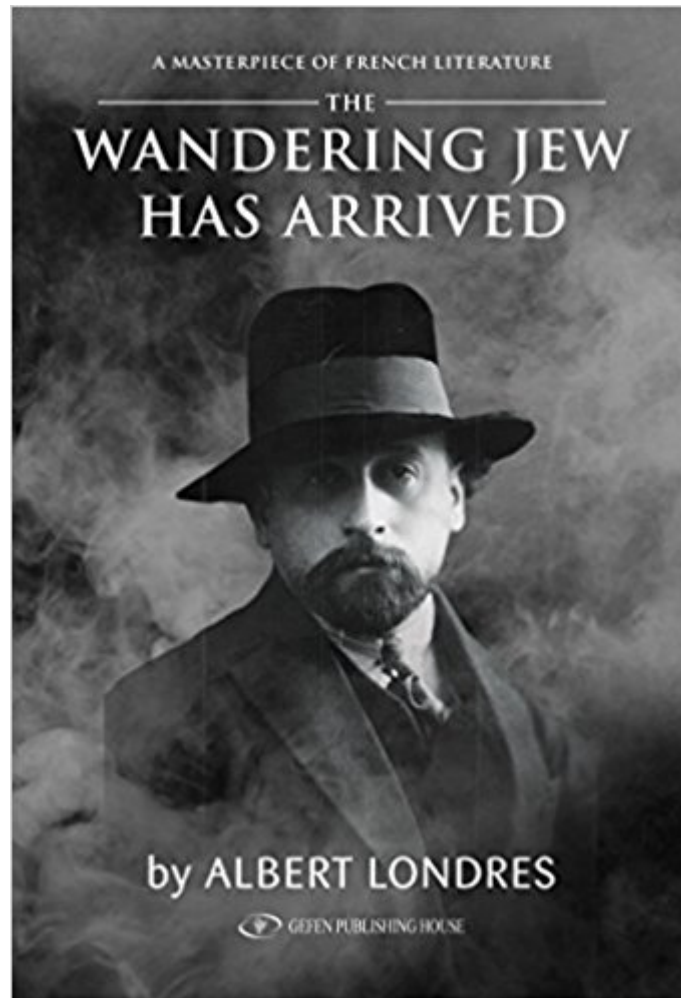




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# **The Wandering Jew Has Arrived**



## Synopsis

In 1929 Albert Londres, a non-Jew and renowned journalist, set out to document the lives of Jews at this time. His travels to England, Eastern Europe and finally Palestine produced the literary masterpiece, *The Wandering Jew has Arrived*. In the East End of London, Londres is moved by the unswerving faith of the Jews. In Eastern Europe he is astounded by the misery and plight he witnesses. The bleak picture is redeemed by his gentle humor, sharp observations and the unforgettable portraits he paints of the exotic individuals he encounters along his way. Londres vividly depicts the birth of Zionism and the wave of pogroms that propelled Jewish immigration to Palestine at the turn of the 20th century. In Palestine, he discovers the new metamorphosed Jew, and his succinct, harrowing descriptions of the Arab massacres of the Jews of Hebron and Safed expose an age-old animosity that is still very much alive today. Presciently, Londres investigation provides startling insight into how the unthinkable the Holocaust could happen, sweeping across Europe barely a decade after the publication of his book. His evocative, passionately and very personally told story transports readers back to a pivotal moment in history and offers an invaluable perspective on Jewish life in the early twentieth century, on the nascent days of the State of Israel, and on the ongoing strife that has engulfed the region ever since. *The Wandering Jew Has Arrived* is as relevant today as when first penned.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I highly recommend *The Wandering Jew Has Arrived*, especially for students of history, and anyone interested in Jewish life in Europe and Palestine before the Holocaust. --Dave Lan, [IsraellycoolRead](#)

today, *The Wandering Jew Has Arrived* can be seen as a chilling and prophetic piece of historical reportage. And so, a dozen years after the Balfour Declaration, he began his investigations into the economic status of the Jews in Europe and their views on Zionism. --Diane Cole, *Jewish Review of Books*

The quality of Londres' noticing is itself worthy of our notice. It allows us to take a fresh, retrospective glance, however aching, over the nearly nine decades that have intervened between his way of noticing and ours. Our profession is not to give pleasure, nor to do harm, Londres once said. It is to twist the pen into the wound. In giving voice to a Jewish world on the eve of rupture, unhealed to this day, his pen found its full measure of poetry and eloquence. --Benjamin Balint, *Haaretz*

Albert Londres (1884-1932), was a pioneer of investigative journalism in the early 20th century. In his search for the truth, Londres traveled across the world documenting cruelty and injustice and his reports for the French press helped change public opinion and policies towards penal colonies, forced labor, mental asylums and the exploitation of black Africans. *The Wandering Jew Has Arrived* is based on a series of articles he wrote for the French newspaper *Le Parisien*. The Albert Londres Prize, on a par with the Pulitzer Prize, is awarded every year to the top two journalists in France.

A fascinating account of the variety of Jewish lives in Europe (mostly) prior to the Holocaust. It is based on a French journalist's travels in 1929, and published in French in 1930...only recently translated into English.

An excellent study on the development on the beginning for the State of Israel, and the plight of many Jewish communities in the late 1920's

*“The Wandering Jew Has Arrived”* by Albert Londres (b.1884-d.1932), (translated into English from French by Helga Abraham), May 2017 ; 120 pp. Partial comments by Phyllis Chesler from her June 26, 2017 website: “Londres was a poet-turned-journalist and a daring adventurer to war zones. He depicts [European Jews] so endearingly, so tenderly, as he documents their long-suffering, European sojourn and their dreamy God-intoxication. In Eastern Europe, the picture turns darker and much colder. Pogroms, house burnings, Torah defiling, hacking, stabbing, rape, sends Jews from Moravia, Little Poland, and Russia, to Ruthenia, Lithuania, Ukraine, Bessarabia, Transylvania, etc.” Londres visits Jews who live,

quite literally, in mud, in sewers, underground, on mountain precipices; the cold is unimaginable. Many barely survive on too little food. "Eastern European Jews are plagued by tax collectors, Armies that wish to conscript their sons, rowdy neighbors who terrorize and humiliate them and who confiscate their possessions. And then: The rabid do not bite everyone. Their teeth dig only into Jews. The sight of a caftan, a beard and sidelocks electrifies them. A pogrom is like a forest fire the first tree that goes up in smoke sets all the others alight. Londres refers to this as the specter, barring our way. He roams over Transylvania, over Bessarabia, over Ukraine. Without him, we would not understand the worried gaze of the Jews from this part of Europe, their fearful comportment, their bent backs, their love of dead-end alleys, nor why, nor their fugitive, vigilant curiosity. At the slightest occurrence, they react like a criminal who hears a knock on the door. Indeed, all of them, in these countries, feel they are guilty of a crime: that of being Jewish. The specter is called a pogrom. Londres interviews assimilated Jews and Zionist pioneers, followers of Herzl, who are trying to persuade European Jews to get out of town before it's too late. c. 1929 Londres rushes to Palestine which he views as a miracle. The Jews have arrived with fire in their souls. He proclaims it a revolution. Gone are the side-locks, the beards, the caftans, the covered heads and in their place are open collars, firm steps, no ceding of their place on the pavement. Torah students defend stores from Arab attacks. Jews pray and weep at the Kotel. Lawyers and doctors are everywhere it is like cosmopolitan Warsaw but in the sun. Carefully, in Haifa, in Hebron, Londres writes about the 1929 Arab massacre of Jews in these cities. He also interviews Ragheb al-Nashashibi, the Arab mayor of Jerusalem, who vows that there would be more bloodshed against the Jews once the British left Palestine. Londres writes beautifully; [he] is an elegant, literary, humorous, ironic, and an always devastating writer.

Heading: From the pogroms to the promised land The Wandering Jew Has Arrived is a meticulously detailed book that covers historical suffering, from the pogroms in Europe to the beginnings of a Jewish homeland. Through Albert Londres' non-jewish eyes and amazing talent, we read about the endless persecution of the Jews. He writes with passion about the killings anti-semitism and the secrets of survival. It is a riveting emotional book

that you can't put down. Sunie Levin

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