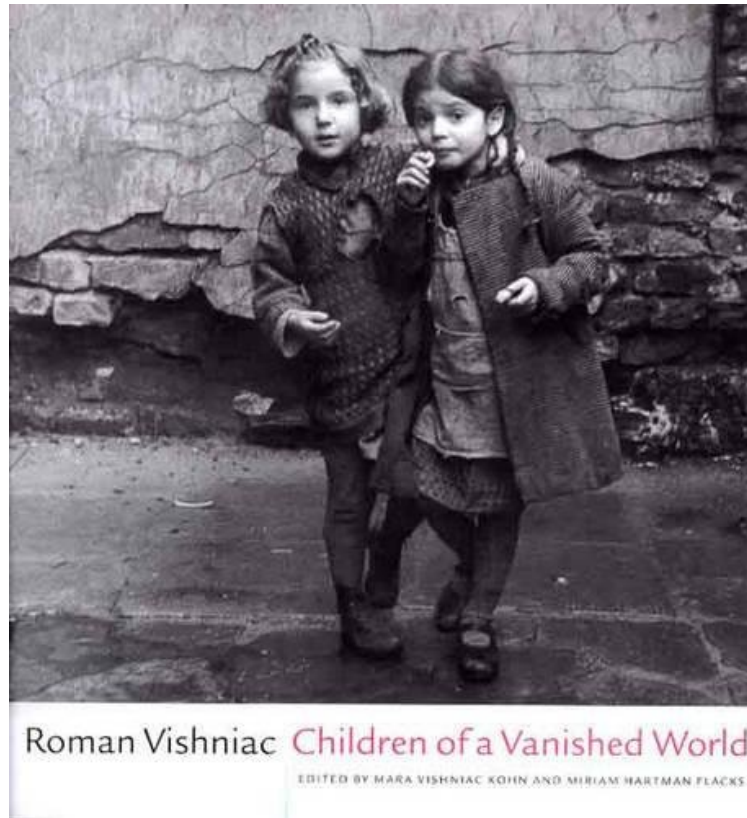


(Read now) Children of a Vanished World

Children of a Vanished World

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From University of California Press : Children of a Vanished World before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Children of a Vanished World:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Lovely photographs and beautiful poems By Simon Holloway This book is absolutely beautiful - and so much more than what I had bargained for! I ordered this product expecting a counterpart to Vishniac's gorgeous "A Vanished World": a collection of pictures, in other words, of young children, presented in his inimitable style, inspiring of nostalgia and pretty to appraise. Instead, what I discovered was a work worthy of actual study. The pictures in this volume are lovely, to be sure, but the real gem is found in the accompanying text and in the appendix. Interspersed between photographs are Yiddish poems, both in Yiddish and in a loose English translation. In the appendix, the poems appear again together with musical notation, which allows the reader to learn them as children's songs. I have a young daughter to whom I sometimes sing in Yiddish - a language that I have been attempting to learn. Had I any idea what assistance this wonderful book would have provided, I would have acquired it sooner! I thoroughly recommend it to fans of Vishniac's beautiful work, to lovers of Yiddish and to anybody with an interest in the world of European Jewish life. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Children of a Vanished World: Purchased at .com By dep Children of a Vanished World has to be one of the most moving books I have ever read. So many wonderful pictures of so many beautiful children. The sweetness and

innocence of the children was so apparent. When you include the music and lullabies, this book is truly about a world of children. Sadly, that world is gone, probably with most of the people in the photographs. I am so very glad I had the opportunity to read this book and would highly recommend reading it. Very well worth buying this book. 31 of 33 people found the following review helpful. HAUNTING IMAGES OF INNOCENTS AND INNOCENCE DESTROYED By Shlomo Pestcoe This is a powerful book. In its pages we find starkly beautiful black and white photographs of children laughing, crying, playing, studying, working, in the course of their daily life... unaware of the horrific nightmare that will overtake them soon and destroy their world. The children's eyes look at you with all the innocent curiosity and wonder of eternal, universal childhood. You look again and apprehension grips you: in a few short years after being photographed, the future of many of these children will be brutally terminated in an unmarked mass grave or a crematorium. The poignancy of this harsh reality is driven home when you read editor Mara Vishniac Kohn's dramatic description of her father's desperate, futile efforts to use his photographs as a means of arousing the conscience of the world and inspiring action to save these children and their families. We learn that Roman Vishniac sent these photos to the White House, only to receive a perfunctory note thanking him for "the excellent pictures you sent the President." "I must express my heartfelt compliments and appreciation to the editors, Mara Vishniac Kohn and Miriam Hartman Flacks, for the way in which they have presented these precious images-- accompanying them with the lyrics of appropriate Yiddish children's songs, in the original Yiddish and English transliteration and translation, rather than the standard dry caption text. I am especially grateful to the editors for including the music and annotation for these wonderful songs. This book belongs in every home and library.

Between 1935 and 1938 the celebrated photographer Roman Vishniac explored the cities and villages of Eastern Europe, capturing life in the Jewish shtetlekh of Poland, Romania, Russia, and Hungary, communities that even then seemed threatened—not by destruction and extermination, which no one foresaw, but by change. Using a hidden camera and under difficult circumstances, Vishniac was able to take over sixteen thousand photographs; most were left with his father in a village in France for the duration of the war. With the publication of *Children of a Vanished World*, seventy of those photographs are available, thirty-six for the first time. The book is devoted to a subject Vishniac especially loved, and one whose mystery and spontaneity he captured with particular poignancy: children. Selected and edited by the photographer's daughter, Mara Vishniac Kohn, and translator and coeditor Miriam Hartman Flacks, these images show children playing, children studying, children in the midst of a world that was about to disappear. They capture the daily life of their subjects, at once ordinary and extraordinary. The photographs are accompanied by a selection of nursery rhymes, songs, poems, and chants for children's games in both Yiddish and English translation. Thanks to Vishniac's visual artistry and the editors' choice of traditional Yiddish verses, a part of this wonderful culture can be preserved for future generations. Earlier books of Roman Vishniac's photographs include *To Give Them Light: The Legacy of Roman Vishniac* (1995), *A Vanished World* (1983), and *Polish Jews* (1947). A major exhibition titled "Children of a Vanished World: Photographs by Roman Vishniac" is scheduled at the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York. The show will open to the public on March 7 and run through June 4, 2000.

"The gentle moments Vishniac's camera captured are haunting."—"Columbus Dispatch From the Inside Flap" Vishniac came back from his trips to Eastern Europe in the 1930s with a collection of photographs that has become an important historical document, for it gives a last-minute look at the human beings he photographed just before the fury of Nazi brutality exterminated them. Vishniac took with him on this self-imposed assignment—besides this or that kind of camera and film—a rare depth of understanding and a native son's warmth and love for his people. The resulting photographs are among photography's finest documents of a time and place."—Edward Steichen "Not to forget, not to allow oblivion to defeat memory: That is his obsession. Defying all dangers, surmounting all obstacles, he travels from province to province, from village to village, capturing slums and markets, a gesture here, a movement there, reflections of hope and despair, so that the victims will not wholly vanish into the abyss—so that they will live on, past torture and past massacre. And he has won the wager: They live still."—Elie Wiesel