



## Memories and Scenes: Shtetl, Childhood, Writers

**Jacob Dinezon**

**Tina Lunson, Translator**

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*Der zhargon*, the jargon—that's how Yiddish was dismissed in the mid-nineteenth century in Eastern Europe, and the few who authored books in the language of the Jewish street caused peals of cynical laughter to rattle the university halls and coffee shop walls. All that changed toward the turn of the century. Several Jewish writers achieved great fame for their Yiddish books, including Jacob Dinezon, but this autobiographical collection of his short stories, exposing the injustices of shtetl society, never earned an English translation. Warm, funny, compassionate, Dinezon is considered the beloved uncle of modern Yiddish literature.

MATT SUTHERLAND (Summer 2014)

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