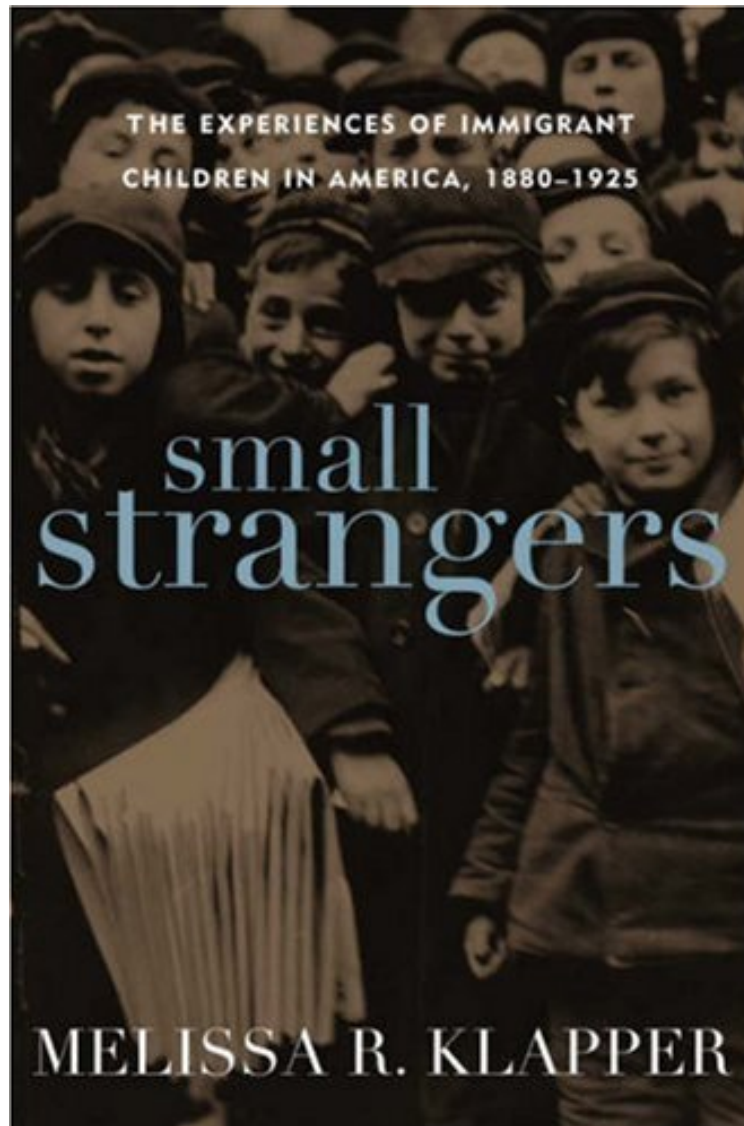


(Ebook pdf) Small Strangers: The Experiences of Immigrant Children in America, 1880-1925 (American Childhoods Series)

Small Strangers: The Experiences of Immigrant Children in America, 1880-1925 (American Childhoods Series)

Melissa R. Klapper

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Melissa R. Klapper : Small Strangers: The Experiences of Immigrant Children in America, 1880-1925 (American Childhoods Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Small Strangers: The Experiences of Immigrant Children in America, 1880-1925 (American Childhoods Series):

2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An excellent addition to any college-level collection strong in immigrant studies. By Midwest Book Review SMALL STRANGERS: THE EXPERIENCES OF IMMIGRANT CHILDREN IN AMERICA, 1880-1925 provides a rare look at immigration using children's own experiences over the last century. Few existing immigrant studies do more than nod to the child's perspective: SMALL STRANGERS fills a gap, analyzing kids at home, at work and at play and considering their special challenges. An excellent addition to any college-level collection strong in immigrant studies. Diane C. Donovan California Bookwatch

Children are the largely neglected players in the great drama of American immigration. In one of history's most remarkable movements of people across national borders, almost twenty-five million immigrants came to the United States in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries from Mexico, Japan, and Canada as well as the more common embarkation points of southern and eastern Europe. Many of them were children. Together with the American-born children of immigrants, they made up a significant part of turn-of-the-century U.S. society. *Small Strangers* recounts and interprets their varied experiences to illustrate how immigration, urbanization, and industrialization all related processes molded modern America. Growing up in crowded tenements, insular mill towns, rural ethnic enclaves, or middle-class homes, as they came of age they found themselves increasingly caught between Old World expectations and New World demands. The encounters of these children with ethnic heritage, American values, and mass culture helped shape the twentieth century in a United States still known symbolically around the world as a nation of immigrants.

Skillfully shows how the experiences of immigrant children highlight the dramatic shift from farm to factory. . . . An engaging synthesis. (Kriste Lindenmeyer, author of *The Greatest Generation Grows Up*) Her culturally sensitive survey fills a gap in histories of childhood and of immigration. (Roger Daniels, University of Cincinnati) Klapper has written a brief gem of a book, examining immigrant children in all of their diversity, tragedy, and triumph. (Jonathan Zimmerman, author of *Whose America?*) A careful blending of personal accounts with the larger social issues and reform movements of the period. (Marilyn Irvin Holt, author of *Children of the Western Plains*) *Small Strangers* touches on an astonishing range of key issues. . . . Indispensable. (Alice Kessler-Harris, author of *Gendering Labor History*) Klapper paints a compelling portrait. . . . An especially pertinent story in light of the current debates over immigration policy. (Peter Bardaglio, author of *Reconstructing the Household*) *Small Strangers* fills a gap. . . . An excellent addition to any college level collection strong in immigrant studies. (California Bookwatch) *Small Strangers* captures the essence of what it meant to be one of the many children whose families immigrated to America around the turn of the last century. . . . *Small Strangers* manages to do an excellent job of telling their stories and shedding light on their lives and their contributions to building America. (Garrett Berger *Virginia Quarterly*) Highlight[s] . . . experiences of individuals while still describing . . . structural similarities in the experiences of . . . a broad range of ethnicities. (Ellen L. Berg *H-Childhood*) Stimulating study . . . fine insights concerning the effects that immigration had on American and its varied citizenry. (Robert Leiter *Jewish Exponent*) This slim, accessible volume presents a concise history of the immigrant generation that came of age in late nineteenth- and early twentieth century America. (H. Mark Wild *Journal of American History*) A book that smoothly synthesizes several decades' worth of scholarship. . . . Klapper draws an interesting contrast between the 'public and collective' child-rearing practices of working-class families and the 'private and individual' ones of native-born white Americans. . . . Readers will appreciate Klapper's presentation of anecdotes from a refreshingly broad range of geographic locales and ethnic groups. (William S. Bush, Texas AM University-San Antonio *Journal of American Ethnic History*) About the Author Melissa R. Klapper teaches history at Rowan University in New Jersey and has also written *Jewish Girls Coming of Age in America, 1860-1920*. She lives in the Philadelphia area.