THE END OF THE STORY, AND OTHER ADVENTURES IN AMERICAN JEWISH APOCALYPSE

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Abstract

This essay explores what it calls the "secular apocalyptic" discourse of the decline and disappearance of American Jewry not as a demographic problem but rather as a narrative crisis, or a crisis in narrativity. The article argues that the economic and cultural successes of Jewish Americans have been difficult to locate within Jewish narrative traditions, rendering the shape and meaning of these experiences opaque or resistant to incorporation within familiar Jewish narratives.