



A Child of Christian Blood: Murder and Conspiracy in Tsarist Russia: The Beilis

By Levin, Edmund.

Schocken. 1 Cloth(s), 2014. hard. Book Condition: New. On March 20, 1911, in a cave near Kiev, the body of 13-year-old Andrei Yushchinsky was found with dozens of stab wounds. Russian police arrested Mendel Beilis, a brick factory clerk and father of five, and charged him with Andrei's murder in a blood libel, a Jewish ritual killing of a Christian child. Despite the fact that there was no evidence linking him to the crime, that he had a solid alibi, and that his main accuser was a career criminal who was herself under suspicion for the murder, as Edmund Levin explains in his gripping account, Beilis was imprisoned for more than two years before being brought to trial. As a handful of officials and journalists diligently searched for the real killer, anti-Semite groups whipped Russian citizens into a frenzy, assuring them that this was only the latest example of centuries of Jewish ritual murder. Tsar Nicholas II's prosecution called an array of "expert witnesses" pathologists, a theologian, a psychological profiler whose laughably incompetent testimony horrified educated Russians, and brought to Beilis's side an array of international supporters including Thomas Mann, H.G. Wells, Anatole France, Arthur Conan Doyle, Jane Addams, and the archbishop...



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