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Cynthia M. Baker

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Jew

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Cynthia M. Baker : Jew (Key Words in Jewish Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jew (Key Words in Jewish Studies):

Jew. The word possesses an uncanny power to provoke and unsettle. For millennia, Jew has signified the consummate Other, a persistent fly in the ointment of Western civilizations grand narratives and cultural projects. Only very

recently, however, has Jew been reclaimed as a term of self-identification and pride.

"Baker here undertakes the task of trying to navigate as well as interrogate the trajectory of the term 'Jew' from antiquity to the present. Yet Baker's book is much more than macro-history: it is a subtle intervention that seeks to question and challenge conventional theories about ethnicity, religion, and the very making of the West."