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Love, Anarchy, & Emma Goldman: A Biography

CANDACE FALK

"What this remarkable book does . . . is to remind us of that passion, that revolutionary fervor, that camaraderie, that persistence in the face of political defeat and personal despair so needed in our time as in theirs."

—Howard Zinn

"Fascinating . . . With marvelous clarity and depth, Candace Falk illuminates for us an Emma Goldman shaped by her time yet presaging in her life the situation and conflicts of women in our time."

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"To read the sometimes sappy, often moving, ever scandalous love letters of Emma Goldman and her great passion Ben Reitman is to ride the roller coaster of True Romance. Candace Falk renders a valuable service by giving us plain the inside story of this intense ten-year affair."

—Alix Kates Shulman

One of the most famous political activists of all time, Emma Goldman was also infamous for her radical anarchist views and her "scandalous" personal life. In public, Goldman was a firebrand, confidently agitating for labor reform, anarchism, birth control, and women's independence. But behind closed doors she was more vulnerable, especially when it came to the love of her life.

Reissued on the sesquicentennial of Emma Goldman's birth, *Love, Anarchy, & Emma Goldman* is an account of Goldman's legendary career as a political activist. But it is more than that—it is a biography that offers an intimate look at how Goldman's passion for social reform dovetailed with her passion for one man: Chicago activist, hobo king, and red-light district gynecologist Ben Reitman. Candace Falk takes us into the heart of their tumultuous love affair, finding that even as Goldman lectured on free love, she confronted her own intense jealousy.

As director of the Emma Goldman papers, Falk had access to over 40,000 writings by Goldman—including her private letters and notes—and she draws upon these archives to give us a rare insight into this brilliant, complex woman's thoughts. The result is both a riveting love story and a primer on an exciting, explosive era in American politics and intellectual life.

CANDACE FALK is the editor and director of the Emma Goldman Papers, a project of the University of California, Berkeley and of the National Historical Publications and Records Commission of the National Archives. She was awarded the Kanner Prize for the best bibliographical work in Women's History, as well as a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship.

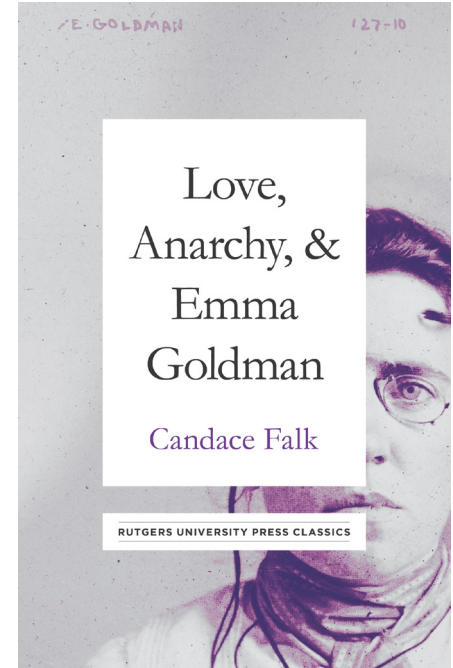
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