Micha Josef Berdyczewski, or Mikhah Yosef Bin-Gorion, was a Ukrainian-born writer of Hebrew, a journalist, and a scholar. He appealed to the Jews to change their way of thinking, freeing themselves from dogmas ruling the Jewish religion, tradition, and history. The main subject of his stories is an individual rebelling against the tradition of the Jewish shtetl and subsequently being excommunicated by the conservative society. The hero seeks his destiny in Western Europe, but as a rule the stories end with his defeat. He is powerless to come to terms with the forces inside him, is unable to adapt to his new environment, and is left lonesome. The two stories given here demonstrate Berdyczewski’s way of writing.

(Summary by Wikipedia and Omri Lernau)

Read in Hebrew by Omri Lernau  
Running time: 1:43:22

Cover image: Photograph of Micha Josef Berdyczewski, 1902  
CD cover design by LA Walden

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Micha Josef Berdyczewski, or Mikhah Yosef Bin-Gorion, was a Ukrainian-born writer of Hebrew, a journalist, and a scholar. He appealed to the Jews to change their way of thinking, freeing themselves from dogmas ruling the Jewish religion, tradition, and history. The main subject of his stories is individuals rebelling against the tradition of the Jewish shtetl and subsequently being excommunicated by the conservative society. The hero seeks his destiny in Western Europe, but as a rule the stories end with his defeat. He is powerless to come to terms with the forces inside him, is unable to adapt to his new environment, becomes a nouveau riche in the Jewish world, and subsequently begins reassessing the tradition of the Jewish shtetl and subsequently becoming a nouveau riche in the Jewish world. He appears to have changed, but in reality he has remained just as he was. The two stories given here demonstrate Berdyczewski's way of writing. (Summary by Wikipedia and Omri Lernau)