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By Mark Shechner

Huntington Press, United States, 2016. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 216 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Aren t we all following personal yellow brick roads to Las Vegas? Hasn t everyone experienced some version of Dorothy s surprise in The Wizard of Oz of not being in Kansas anymore? Cherry Picker author Mark Shechner, the quintessential Jewish intellectual, university English and writing professor, and literature scholar, never feels more ordinary and all-American than when he s anonymized in the hordes crowding Las Vegas and casinos throughout the world, human hives that, for tens of millions of bees, are as fragrant as giant pots of nectar. Moreover, as a decades-long machine player, he s experienced a lifetime of the derision projected on those who feed the slot beast and endow it with its enormous wealth. Yet, Shechner argues eloquently, the hotels were built on the rake-off from gambling-from the high rollers at the blackjack and crap tables, the poker players betting the house on the river, and the baccarat players doing some hellacious hoodoo with stacks of chips at the ready, but mostly from the masses bathing themselves in the Ganges of slots, making up for their lack...



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