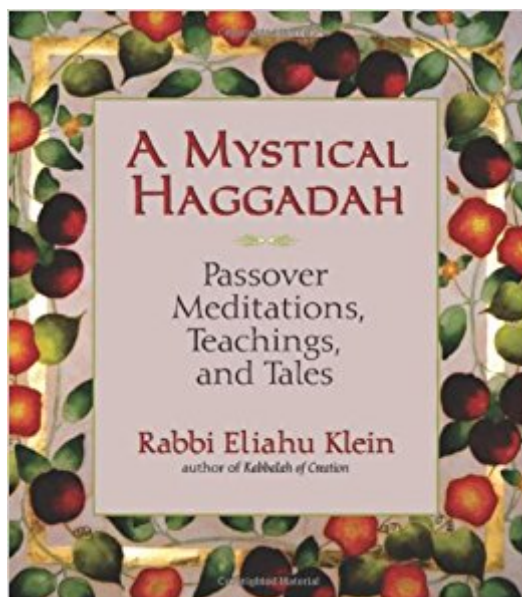


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A Mystical Haggadah: Passover Meditations, Teachings, And Tales



Synopsis

In a generation that has seen an explosion in popularity of books about mystical and meditative traditions, very little has been published about the rich and fascinating mystical traditions of the Jewish holy days. Passover, the first religious holiday of the Jewish people, particularly rewards a re-viewing from a mystical perspective. A Mystical Haggadah takes readers through the Passover ritual with Kabbalistic meditations and affirmations in a friendly, accessible format. This Haggadah also includes many Hassidic teachings and stories that have never been presented to the English reading audience. The book is especially valuable for its transliterations of all the major prayers and rituals, and is refreshing in its creative and spiritually-based adaptation and translation of the primary Haggadah text. A Mystical Haggadah is for all spiritual seekers who wish to explore this root tradition of Judaism as a ritual of cosmic importance. The book is also for Jewish seekers of all denominations who wish to explore the mystical, meditative, and empowering aspects of Jewish traditions as seen through the rich and meaningful Passover eve Seder ritual.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“Steeped in the tradition of Kabbalah, the mystic branch of Judaism, Klein’s book sheds new light on old traditions and adds a contemplative aspect to often numbingly familiar stories; it’s sure to provide, if not enlightenment, then at the very least a little novelty at the traditional meal.”
•Kirkus Reviews “Rabbi Klein brings us deeper into the ways of tikkun according to Kabbalah and Hasidism, than any other Haggadah in English. One of the great strengths of this Haggadah is that it reflects Rabbi Klein’s personal experience.

He is particularly adept at weaving more abstract kabbalistic commentaries with stories and personal advice from Hasidic rebbes. A Mystical Haggadah can help teach us how to pray with activist feet, or at least rehearse the steps on Passover night.

•Kennard Lipman, Tikkun magazine
 “Rabbi Klein has penned a fascinating Haggadah according to the mystical traditions of Kabbalah and Hassidic masters
 |This is a deep and satisfying book that invites the reader to dive deeply into the Spirit behind the Seder.

•Pan Spence, The Ohio Jewish Chronicle
 “Chassidic tales, gematria, kabbalistic meditations and the traditional Haggadah text combine in A Mystical Haggadah
 |There’s a homey feel, it’s refreshing, and there are several items in it that you may wish to incorporate into your celebration.

•Cynthia Ramsay, Jewish Independent
 “This is a complex haggadah that stops at nearly every point in the telling of the Passover story to discuss the meaning and greater mystical significance of every action undertaken during the seder, as well as including the occasional story with lessons and miracles of harder, but more pious times
 |for those looking for inner meaning, they may well find it in this text.

•Joel Magalnick, JTNews
 “This elegant haggadah is filled with wondrous commentaries
 •many outside the realm of standard interpretations and comments
 •by a variety of kabalistic and Chassidic teachers.

•Stephen S. Pearce, J Weekly
 “[A Mystical Haggadah] stops at nearly every point in the telling of the Passover story to discuss the meaning and greater mystical significance of every action undertaken during the seder, as well as including the occasional story with lessons and miracles of harder, but more pious times.

“Rabbi Klein borrows from Chassidic masters and features descriptions of his own experiences, providing meditations every step of the way while he blesses God and the shechinah....
 “[T]hose looking for inner meaning may well find it in this text.

•Diana Brement, JTNews
 “A Mystical Haggadah: Passover Meditations, Teachings and Tales by Eliahu Klein incorporates the Kabbalah teachings into the 15-step seder ritual.”
 •Publishers Weekly

Rabbi Eliahu Klein has taught Kabbalah, Jewish Meditation, and Hassidism for over 30 years throughout the U.S., Great Britain, and Israel. The Jewish Chaplain for San Francisco County Jails and other prisons of the State of California Department of Rehabilitation, he lives in Berkeley.

At our seder, with our mixed religious group, it is hard to get intellectual, and have deep discussions about some of the rabbinical commentaries. What is easier to do is to get folks to think about the symbols of the Passover experience ie matzah, charoset, maror, egg , etc and ask the group to

imagine the "deeper meaning" of the seder symbols on a personal level. A Mystical Haggadah gave me the needed material to explain to our attendees the "invisible world" of sefirot through the ritual objects/eatings of the Passover service. I then used the Seder Plate and the ritual dippings, matzah eatings as a "Jewish Show and Tell" (reading to the group from book's mystical explanations as we went along). The book is well written and for an interested, more knowledgeable Jewish group, this book would really add to the spiritual essence of the Passover experience. I would highly recommend it to a seder group who wants to "go deep"!!

If you are thinking about this Hagadah, stop right now! Sure it contains the necessary components to lead a seder, but it is not particularly insightful and won't help you or yours to a better or fresher understanding of the text. The stories/legends that are interwoven within the Hagadah feel stale and poorly complement the text. Although they may be beloved tales of scholars of the Zohar, they fail to bring inspiration to the reader. You would be far better off digging out your parents old "Maxwell House" Hagadot out of the attic.

Gave as a gift and they loved it. Arrived in good condition and on time. The material added to their Passover experience.

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