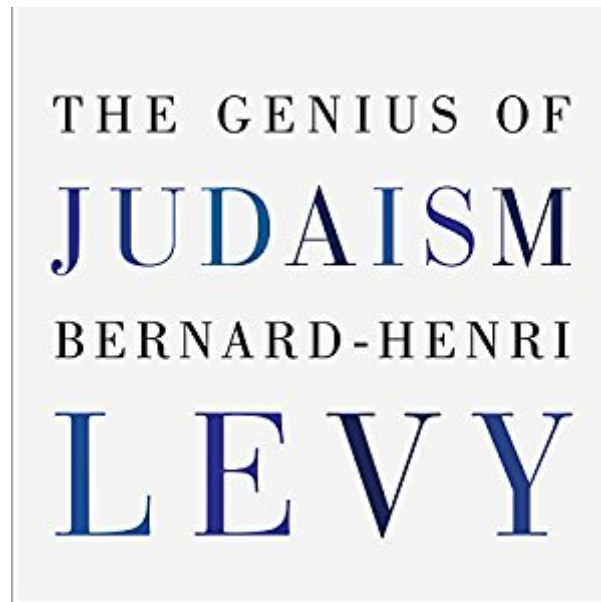




The book was found

The Genius Of Judaism



Synopsis

From world-renowned public intellectual Bernard-Henri Lévy comes an incisive and provocative look at the heart of Judaism. For more than four decades, Bernard-Henri Lévy has been a singular figure on the world stage - one of the great moral voices of our time. Now Europe's foremost philosopher and activist confronts his spiritual roots and the religion that has always inspired and shaped him - but that he has never fully reckoned with. *The Genius of Judaism* is a breathtaking new vision and understanding of what it means to be a Jew, a vision quite different from the one we're used to. It is rooted in the Talmudic traditions of argument and conflict, rather than biblical commandments, borne out in struggle and study, not in blind observance. At the very heart of the matter is an obligation to the other, to the dispossessed, and to the forgotten, an obligation that, as Lévy vividly recounts, he has sought to embody over decades of championing "lost causes", from Bosnia to Africa's forgotten wars, from Libya to the Kurdish Peshmerga's desperate fight against the Islamic State, a battle raging as we speak. Lévy offers a fresh, surprising critique of a new and stealthy form of anti-Semitism on the rise as well as a provocative defense of Israel from the left. He reveals the overlooked Jewish roots of Western democratic ideals and confronts the current Islamist threat while intellectually dismantling it. Jews are not a "chosen people", Lévy explains, but a "treasure" whose spirit must continue to inform moral thinking and courage today. Lévy's most passionate book, and in many ways his most personal, *The Genius of Judaism* is a great, profound, and hypnotic intellectual reckoning - indeed a call to arms - by one of the keenest and most insightful writers in the world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This work ranged from the personal to the very general in a context which lacked form and scholarly rigor too often for my taste. Many points were well taken and, indeed, substantiated, but on the whole, the work was not engaging on many levels, particularly its prose. I think a good editor would have helped tremendously to bring more focus to a work that I had expected to be better. Having seen M. Levy on PBS numerous times, I looked forward to this book. It is definitely worth reading, however, as M. Levy always touches on points which need consideration and discussion and reflect his deep insights, some of which are controversial in certain circles.

Maybe it's just over my head, but I had a hard time following Levy's lines of thought. Some parts were engrossing, like the discussion of Jonah and the discussion of anti-zionism/anti-semitism, but it doesn't really cohere over the course of the whole book. After reading I'm still left wondering what is the genius of Judaism.

Hard to read, but the material was interesting

I really need a book group to read this with. LOTS to think about...and discuss

Brilliant, but difficult to understand due to long drawn out sentences with multiple ideas in each

It may well be presumptuous of me (no credentials here) but, for me, unreadable.

A most important work detailing what anti-Semitism looks like today and how the Jewish people will be stronger in facing it tomorrow than in the past. Offers an strong defense of Israel which is needed more than ever. Heard LÃfÂvy speak in NY at the 92Y. Powerful, passionate and a moving voice for all.

I loved this book because he pointed out two aspects of Judaism that I did not fully realize, after having thought about that great religion for many years. Also BHL is a profound thinker. Rocky Denver

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