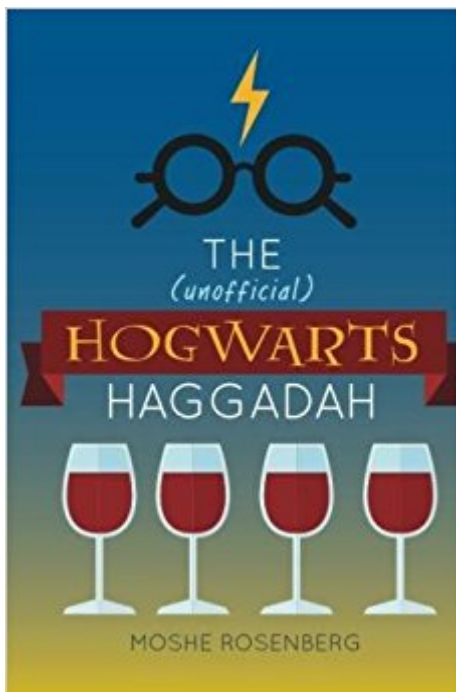


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The (unofficial) Hogwarts Haggadah



Synopsis

What could a School of Witchcraft and Wizardry possibly have in common with the most published book in Jewish history and the most celebrated holiday of the Jewish calendar? As it turns out, quite a lot. From the concepts of slavery and freedom, to the focus on education, to the number four, Harry Potter and Passover share almost everything. This book is the perfect companion for young and old at the Seder table. Enchant your guests with lessons from the magical realms of Hogwarts and Jewish tradition. Foster conversation with student responses to Seder questions. And learn the ultimate lesson: Holiness can be found everywhere, if you know where to look.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Rabbi Moshe Rosenberg is the spiritual leader of Congregation Etz Chaim of Kew Gardens Hills, New York, and a Judaic Studies educator and JudeoTech Integrator at SAR Academy in Riverdale, New York. His writings on religion, ethics and Jewish law have appeared in The Forward, The Jewish Week, The Los Angeles Jewish Journal and The Journal of Halakha and Contemporary Society, among other national publications, and his Harry Potter Club at SAR was featured in the New York Times. He lives in Queens with his wife Dina and their seven children.

Got my copy and just started reading through it. First I have to say how utterly beautiful the book looks. Each page is in full color with clean and attractive illustrations and a great color scheme. I love seeing well-designed self-published books! The book contains all the text, in Hebrew and English, that you would expect to find in a haggadah, along with short bits of commentary relating

each part of the seder to a concept in Harry Potter. I particularly enjoyed Rabbi Rosenberg's musings on goblins' ability to perform bittul hametz and the parallels between the four Hogwarts houses and the four children in the seder. Sprinkled throughout are also thought-provoking questions and some short answers provided by Rabbi Rosenberg's students--these are absolutely precious and alternately had me cracking up and pausing to dwell on some truly insightful answers. At the end of the haggadah are six complementary essays on topics important to both Harry Potter and the story of Passover, from "Slavery and Freedom" to "Empathy for Your Enemies." I can't wait to sit down and read these and discuss them with my friends.

Very well thought out. A little hokey at times, but all in good fun! I'll have it on every seder table from now on.

The Hogwarts Haggadah was a hit at our second-night seder. I may have loved it even more than my kids. The essays and commentary are thoughtful and thought-provoking. None of it seemed forced. It honestly helped renew the holiday for me. We didn't get to every page that night, but I am leaving it out so I can read bits of it here and there post-Pesach. I think it's my new favorite-of-all-time Haggadah.

I love the concept, and while there are a few stretches in the attempt to make a connection work, it is an excellent addition to my HP and Pesach collections! As a huge HP fan, and the leader of sederim every other year, I highly recommend this. There are some formatting suggestions I'd make, and there were a few typos, but overall, I loved reading it. It's a full Hagaddah with HP insights between the standard service. This is not for casual readers or movie watcher only; I believe true HP readers/fans would get the most out of it.

Surprisingly serious, halachically sound take on the Haggadah, from the expected "Harry Potter" perspective. Included some useful illustrations/input via questions posed to the writer's students (generally age 9-14). Definitely not appropriate for anyone younger than that. I don't think this should be your #1 go-to Hagaddah, running the whole evening's narrative, but it provides some interesting points for discussion and is well worth including. In fact, certain digressions might well engage an otherwise cynical or tuned-out teenager. If you have Potterphiles in your family, it's worth picking up a copy for next year's seder.

We host seder pretty regularly and we used this haggadah for a couple supplemental readings for our 2nd Seder this year. We only had the 1 copy but I would definitely consider ordering more copies for our guests to use every year. The explanations were concise and very creative, bringing in interpretations from a variety of Jewish sources as well as (obviously) the Harry Potter stories. It definitely got us thinking about Passover and the Exodus story in different ways. Would definitely recommend this one.

In years past it was the Afikoman ritual that kept our kids glued to the table throughout the entire Passover Seder. This year it was the Hogwarts Haggadah!

I was a little leery that it wouldn't be very clever or have much material but it exceeded my expectations. We were very happy with it.

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