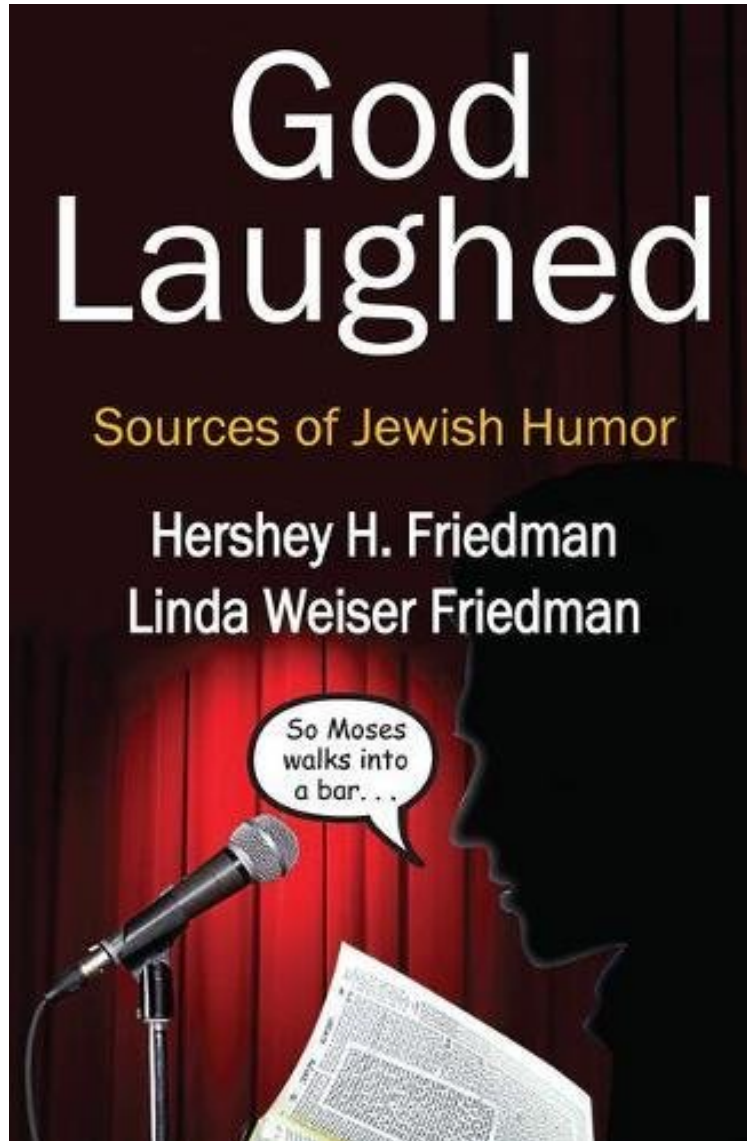


(Read download) God Laughed: Sources of Jewish Humor (Jewish Studies)

God Laughed: Sources of Jewish Humor (Jewish Studies)

Hershey H. Friedman

*ebooks | Download PDF | *ePub | DOC | audiobook*



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#1999730 in Books 2014-05-30Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.25 x 5.75 x 1.00l, 1.41 #File Name:
1412853761366 pages | File size: 46.Mb

Hershey H. Friedman : God Laughed: Sources of Jewish Humor (Jewish Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised God Laughed: Sources of Jewish Humor (Jewish Studies):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. fun. What else could one ask forBy Comparison shopperErudite, informative, fun. What else could one ask for? I've already half-read it, half skimmed, and will settle down on a rainy day sometime to read it cover-to-cover. Firm impression: Great book.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Five StarsBy John J Prinsgood2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. AMAZINGBy Isaac StewartWow! I wouldn't have thought it possible: a book that's fun, funny, and in the end, a breathtaking window into the depths of one of the world's oldest religions. That's right – this is not just about some recent turns in Jewish ethnic history, whether they run through the Borscht Belt or the LA sets of Seinfeld and Curb – though it gets there, too. Instead, the authors show that today's Jewish comics are, in fact, heir to a millennia-old tradition of capturing ultimate (and even mundane) truths with humor, even when that means making fun of God Himself, who, we find out, enjoys a good laugh as much as the rest of us. Of course, this is not a work of earnest piety; the authors treated me to a delicious taste of the wicked ironies that prophets, Talmudists and rabbinic authorities wrought when they tried, with imagination that verged on insanity, to understand the God they so revered. In the end, this book shows just how such irreverence can be religious after all, even as religion is exposed to be, at times, deeply and brilliantly irreverent. A must, must read!!

Humor has had a profound effect on the way the Jewish people see the world, and has sustained them through millennia of hardships and suffering. *God Laughed* reviews, organizes, and categorizes the humor of the ancient Jewish texts—the Hebrew Bible, the Talmud, and Midrash—in a clear, readable, and accessible manner. These works have influenced the Jewish people in many ways, and all are replete with humor and wit. Inevitably, this oeuvre of Jewish humor has itself influenced generations of comics, as well as genres of humor. The authors use examples of Biblical humor from several broad categories, including irony, sarcasm, wordplay, humorous names, humorous imagery, and humorous situations. Because their primary purpose is not to entertain, but to teach humanity how to live the ideal life, much of the humor in the Talmud and the Midrash has a single purpose: to demonstrate that evil is wrong and even, at times, ludicrous. This may help explain why approximately 1,500 years after its closing, the Talmud is still such a fascinating work. *God Laughed* is the latest addition to Transaction's Jewish Studies series.

"...Peppered with humorous anecdotes and stories, this rich and thought-provoking book is an education in Jewish spirituality as well as a study in the meaning of the comic essence itself and deserves a wide audience." -Library Journal
"There is a laugh on every page... Jewish history buffs and biblical scholars will greatly benefit from this volume along with those who simply enjoy a fun read."