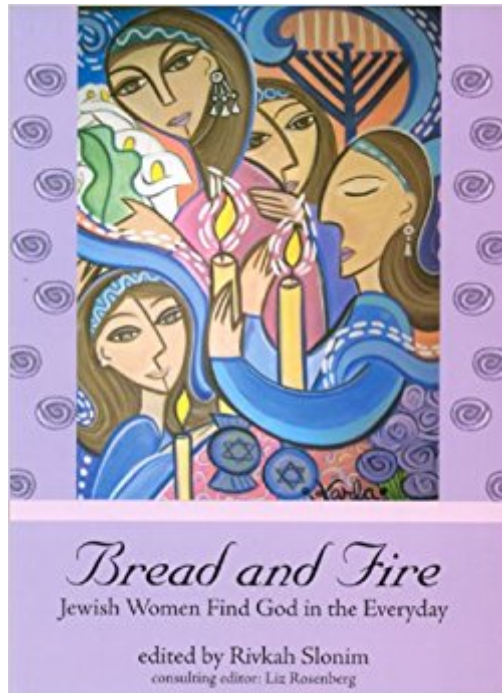




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# Bread And Fire: Jewish Women Find God In The Everyday



## Synopsis

What does it mean to be a Jewish woman today? What does Jewish tradition offer to modern women who are looking for practical ways to bring spirituality and meaning to their lives and the lives of their loved ones? These questions and more are addressed in this book that examines the everyday lives of Jewish women and the struggles and aspirations and failings and triumphs of their spiritual endeavors. The women whose writings appear in this book span a wide range of ages, backgrounds, perspectives, and professions. In her own way, each one reveals God as an anchoring force in her life from the birthing room to the boardroom, cleaning in the kitchen or scrubbing up for surgery. In places as far apart as Jerusalem, Washington, DC, and southern India, these women help readers find the sacred within the apparently mundane. Bread and Fire contains moving teachings and honest reflections from more than 60 contributors, including Shoshana S. Cardin, Elizabeth Ehrlich, Ruchama King Feuerman, Susan Handelman, Francesca Lunzer-Kritz, Rachel Naomi Remen, Liz Rosenberg, Julie Salamon, Wendy Shalit, Sarah Shapiro, Esther Shkop, and Marian Stoltz-Loike.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 454 pages

Publisher: Urim Publications (April 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9655240029

ISBN-13: 978-9655240023

Product Dimensions: 6.8 x 1.3 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #977,930 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #155 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Women & Judaism](#) #704 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Jewish Life](#)

## Customer Reviews

"I highly recommend Bread and Fire to every Jewish woman at every stage of life. . . . [A] thought-provoking and powerful book." [Jewish Press](#) "It is a feminist interpretation, not because it urges women to ignore traditional ritual, but rather, to interpret ritual in a new way that gives women unique spiritual connections rather than the fulfillment of a traditional role." [Jewish Book World](#)

Rivkah Slonim is an internationally recognized activist and lecturer who focuses on the intersection of traditional Jewish observance and contemporary life, with a special emphasis on Jewish women. She is the editor of *Total Immersion: A Mikvah Anthology* and, with her husband, the founder and director of the Chabad House Jewish Student Center at Binghamton University. Liz Rosenberg is a poet, novelist, children's book author, and book reviewer. She is a professor of English at Binghamton University.

This is not just for Jewish women, this should be the attitude for Christian women also. Every minute detail of our life should be for the Lord, not just a daily ritual (Col 3:23). An excellent reminder with examples of how all, women and men but particularly women, what we do is not drudgery, it is to the Lord. Something we should always keep in our mind as we go about our everyday duties. It will change your attitude about daily, common duties and not see them as work but as our "sacrifice" to the Lord.

Stories of Jewish women trying to find G-d in their everyday lives. It's a beautiful book sharing other women's trials and tribulations, foibles and failures, laughter, joy, heartaches and happiness. A gift for all Jewish women.

This book is so thought provoking. It is not a quick read. I read several chapters almost every night. I love the reflections written by women on diverse situations/issues/life events. This book is a must for any woman interested in probing her inner and outer life.

Great quality!

*Bread and Fire* is a rare resource for all Jewish women, but indeed, really, for all women interested in increasing and enhancing their spiritual lives. The book is divided into three sections-- Self, Family, and Community, meaning the larger world. Essays range from the moving and intimate (the death of a parent) to family issues (is it okay to gossip? are Barbie dolls kosher?) to the wide world, for instance when a doctor writes about how she trained herself to pray before performing surgery. There is something here for everyone. Slonim provides a brilliant introduction, giving context, historicity and, yes, feminism, a place in this view of God in the Everyday. Wish this book could be available on Kindle, it's the kind of anthology you want to just carry around with you and dip into as

needed. Inspiring, sometimes heartbreaking, sometimes funny, never preachy. A gem.

There is something in this book for everyone, and especially for every Jewish woman who's ever wondered if she has a place in Judaism, or if Judaism has a place for her. There are moving essays about celebrating holidays, learning not to gossip, raising children, childbirth, sharing food with community, sitting by the bedside of a dying father-- and some funny pieces about how to avoid MacDonald's and other non-kosher meltdowns. It's like the joke about the Easter-- I laughed! I cried! but actually, I did both. Got one for my mom, and for my sister in law. The last time I went to hear Ms. Slonim speak, with other contributors from this anthology, the book sold out completely within about ten minutes and I had to order more online. It's the ideal Hanukkah present for someone looking for a meaningful gift to truly celebrate one's connection to what is holy and real.

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