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Tales Of The Hasidim (The Early Masters / The Later Masters)



Synopsis

This new paperback edition brings together volumes one and two of Buber's classic work *Tales of the Hasidim*, with a new foreword by Chaim Potok. Martin Buber devoted forty years of his life to collecting and retelling the legends of Hasidim. "Nowhere in the last centuries," wrote Buber in *Hasidim and Modern Man*, "has the soul-force of Judaism so manifested itself as in Hasidim... Without an iota being altered in the law, in the ritual, in the traditional life-norms, the long-accustomed arose in a fresh light and meaning." These marvelous tales "terse, vigorous, often cryptic" are the true texts of Hasidim. The hasidic masters, of whom these tales are told, are full-bodied personalities, yet their lives seem almost symbolic. Through them is expressed the intensity and holy joy whereby God becomes visible in everything.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Text: English (translation) Original Language: German

This edition, bringing together Volumes One and Two of Buber's classic work, contains marvelous tales - terse, vigorous, often cryptic - of the Hasidic masters.

This book is a fine compliment to more academic tomes- it lets the reader see some of the actual stories passed down in the Hasidic community. Fascinating study. It's good that we have them in English for reference. Riveting images. Useful for those interested in religious studies or mysticism.

One of the most concise and valuable books ever committed to writing. Full of extremely compact yet deeply valuable wisdom like the following 3 examples:

The Bold Faced and the Shame Faced=====Our Sages say: "The bold faced go to hell, the shame faced to paradise." Rabbi Zusya, God's fool, expounded these words as follows. "Whoever is bold in his holiness, may descend to hell in order to raise what is base. He may roam about in the alleys and market-places and need not fear evil. But he who is shame-faced, who lacks boldness, must keep to the heights of paradise, to studying and praying. He must beware of coming into contact with evil."

The Truth=====The Baal Shem said: "What does it mean, when people say that the Truth goes over the whole world? It means that Truth is driven out of one place after another, and must wander on and on."

The Wicked & the Righteous=====The Rabbi of Lublin said: "I love the wicked man who knows he is wicked more than the righteous man who knows he is righteous. But concerning the wicked who consider themselves righteous, it said: 'They do not turn even on the threshold of Hell.' For they think they are being sent to Hell to redeem the souls of others !!!"

I am still enjoying these wonderful little stories

Only read a little bit of a lot so far. Buber at his best! Thanks for making this available. !!!

Always an interesting read... it requires thought and quiet time to gather the jewels in this book.

I love reading as well as digesting the wisdom of the early masters. A friend gave me a copy years ago which I lost or misplaced. I am so thankful at this time in my life to get reacquainted with this book!

WONDERFUL WISDOM

Spiritual Classic. Not tales, true mystical encounters with God from great spiritual saints and souls. God is the entire purpose of life. Pray, meditate, follow the religious teachings... it is the only way to true fulfillment in life, saving us from the pitfalls of the world.

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