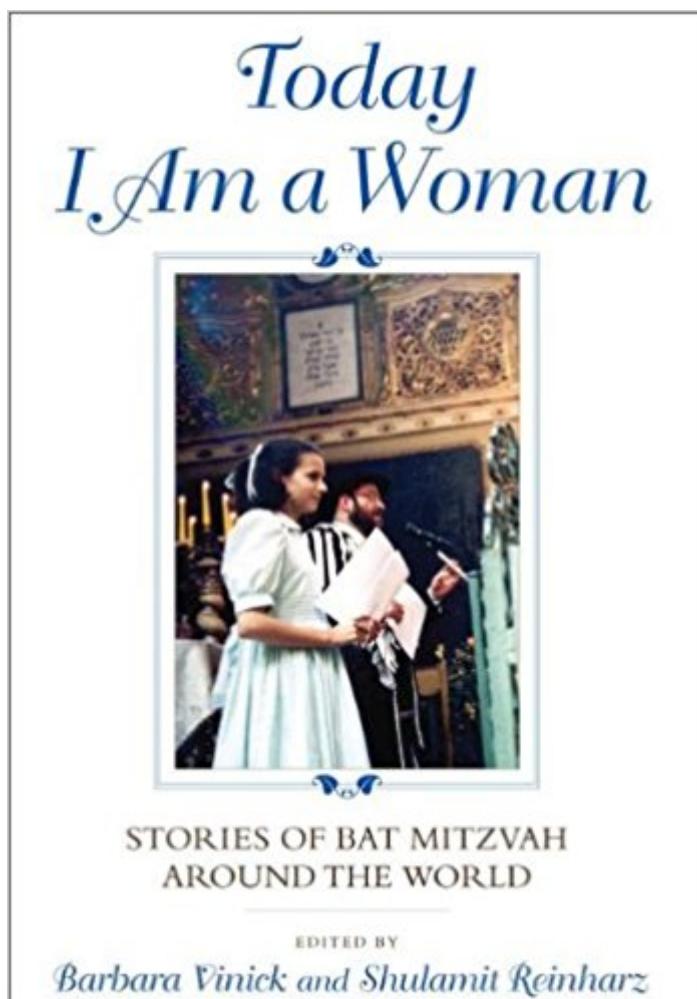


The book was found

Today I Am A Woman: Stories Of Bat Mitzvah Around The World



Synopsis

Recollections of the first bat mitzvah at the only synagogue in Indonesia, a poignant bat mitzvah memory of World War II Italy, and an American bat mitzvah shared with girls in a Ukrainian orphanageâ •these are a few of the resonant testimonies about the transition from Jewish girl to Jewish woman collected in Today I Am a Woman. Introduced by brief biographical notes and descriptions of Jewish communities around the world, these stories reveal how Judaism defines this important rite of passage in a girl's life in widely disparate settings. The contributions are from bat mitzvah girls of the past and present, their parents, communities, and religious leaders. Including evocative family photosâ •some recent, some from decades pastâ •this rich compilation is an ideal gift for bat mitzvah celebrants, their families, and friends.

Book Information

Hardcover: 279 pages

Publisher: Indiana University Press (November 7, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0253356938

ISBN-13: 978-0253356932

Product Dimensions: 6 x 1.1 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #746,576 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #122 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Women & Judaism #508 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Jewish Life

Customer Reviews

"The stories speak for themselves, putting Jewish girls and women on the center of the stage, into the limelight, and at the pulpit. By showcasing ritual innovation, they make a point about Judaism's elasticity and women's agency." â •Hasia R. Diner, coeditor of Remembering the Lower East Side (IUP, 2000)"A vital book that documents the revolution that has transformed the role that Jewish women play in the public life of the Jewish people in our day.... It is a joy to turn its pages." â •Rabbi David Ellenson, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion"Americans undoubtedly think they know what a bat mitzvah is. Today I Am a Woman will surprise them with its fascinating array of compelling accounts of what it meant for Jewish girls to come of age. The editors scoured the globe to find powerful, varied, and moving depictions of bat mitzvah in the contemporary Jewish

world. This is a rich resource for anyone interested in understanding religious diversity, folk practices, and cultural creativity through the lens of gender." •Deborah Dash Moore, University of Michigan, co-editor of *Women and Gender in Jewish History* (IUP, 2010)"[Today I Am a Woman] is a worthy and inspiring read, regardless of which stream of Judaism one adheres to." •The Jewish StandardThe narratives may center around the bat mitzvah itself, but in the process we learn about Jewish life in widely different Jewish communities around the world, about what it means to become an adult woman, and most important, about the power of a ritual that far too many American Jewish families understand as simply an opportunity to have a party. The photos scattered throughout are endearing.USCJ Bookshelf"Today I Am A Woman' would not only be a lovely gift for a bat mitzvah girl or a useful purchase for anyone preparing for a bat mitzvah celebration in the family; it will also be a welcome addition to the libraries of readers seeking to understand variations in bat mitzvah practices among Jewish communities" •Nashim: Jnl Jewish Wmn Std & Gender Is"[Vinick and Reinhartz] capture the amazing tales of Jewish girls on six different continents who celebrate the Jewish ritual of becoming a woman. Illustrated with over 100 black and white family photographs, readers will enjoy the accompanying narratives of each woman's unique journey and celebration into womanhood." •The Jewish Journal"Today I Am a Woman is filled with lyrical accounts of being a bat mitzvah in such exotic places as Cochabamba, Bolivia, and Tegucigalpa, Honduras.... All the vignettes are accompanied by a well-researched history of the Jewish community in the area." •Jewish Book Council"These testimonies constitute the incredible story of our people: the vast richness of Diaspora Jewry; the importance of family, community, and rabbis everywhere... ; the value of new expectations, as girls, even shy ones, rise to meet them. The book tells about the importance of bat mitzvah in an age of intermarriage, in a world of feminism, tradition, and change.... You will surely read this book as I did, through laughter and tears and the sweep of emotions about your own Jewish identity, the joy and pride and vulnerability of being a Jew." •Blu Greenberg, author of *On Women and Judaism*

Barbara Vinick is affiliated with the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute at Brandeis University, where she has studied gendered rituals in Jewish communities worldwide. Shulamit Reinhartz is the Jacob S. Potofsky Professor of Sociology at Brandeis University, where she is Director of the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute. Her publications include *American Jewish Women and the Zionist Enterprise*, *Jewish Intermarriage around the World*, and *The JGirls' Guide*.

This is a second time I am reading through this book, as I consider it as a present. So beautifully

written, one can feel each writers story. This book is wonderful for adults going through Bat Mitzvah journey as well as for a 12 year old. Thank you to Barbara Vinick for this endeavor. There is such a need for our voices (1) to be heard and, (2) to be part of the teachings in our beautiful and wise tradition.

Interesting book with true stories from all over the world. It shows the two editors spent several years and a lot of effort in collecting the different testimonies. I ordered the book right before Thanksgiving and got it, as I requested, two days after I placed my order.

Very interesting from a Jewish point of view

Great book. Well written and full of interesting things about Bat Mitzvah all over the world.

Excellent Bat Mitzvah present for any age. I would especially recommend this book for adult women. I gave it a women who received her Bat Mitzvah at 71 years old!

I highly recommend this unique book that contains accounts from all over the world describing the different manners to celebrate one single event that is: Bat Mitzvot of our precious daughters.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Mitzvah Project Book: Making Mitzvah Part of Your Bar/Bat Mitzvah ... and Your Life Today I Am a Woman: Stories of Bat Mitzvah around the World A Spiritual Journey: The Bar Mitzvah and Bat Mitzvah Handbook Bat Mitzvah Egal.& Envelopes Packs of 5 You Are SO Not Invited to My Bat Mitzvah! For Kids - Putting God on Your Guest List - 2nd Edition: How to Claim the Spiritual Meaning of Your Bar or Bat Mitzvah Bar/Bat Mitzvah Memory Book 2/E: An Album for Treasuring the Spiritual Celebration My Bar/Bat Mitzvah: A Memory and Keepsake Journal Bedtime Stories for Kids: Short Bedtime Stories for Children: (Bedtime Stories for Babies, Bedtime stories for Kids Ages 4-8, Uncle Nick's Bedtime Stories ... (Uncle Nick's Bedtime Stories for Kids) A Foxy Old Woman's Guide to Traveling Alone: Around Town and Around the World World War 1: Soldier Stories: The Untold Soldier Stories on the Battlefields of WWI (World War I, WWI, World War One, Great War, First World War, Soldier Stories) Ghost Stories: The Most Horrifying Real Ghost Stories from Around the World Including Disturbing Ghost, Hauntings, & Paranormal Stories Bedtime Stories for Children: Short Bedtime Stories for Kids: (Bedtime Stories for Babies, Bedtime stories for Kids Ages 4-8, Uncle Nick's Fun Bedtime ... Nick's Bedtime Stories for Kids Book 3) Bedtime Stories for Kids:

Short Bedtime Stories for Children: (Bedtime Stories for Babies, Bedtime stories for Kids Ages 4-8, Uncle Nick's Fun Bedtime ... Nick's Bedtime Stories for Kids Book 1) Mitzvah Girls: Bringing Up the Next Generation of Hasidic Jews in Brooklyn It's a ... It's a ... It's a Mitzvah Moti the Mitzvah Mouse It's a Mitzvah, Grover! (Sesame Street: Shalom Sesame) Mourning & Mitzvah (2nd Edition): A Guided Journal for Walking the Mournerâ™s Path Through Grief to Healing Bar Mitzvah Certificate and Envelope Pack of 5

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)