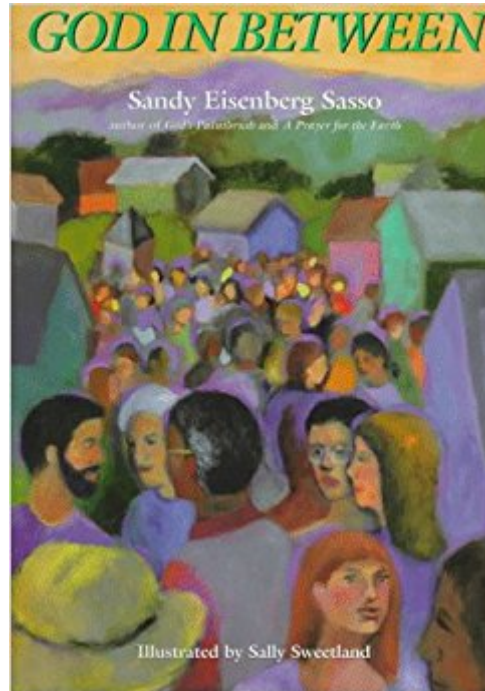




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# God In Between



## Synopsis

From award-winning author Sandy Eisenberg Sasso comes a new story to delight children and adults from all faiths and backgrounds. This is the magical, mythical tale of a poor village at the foot of a hill--a topsy-turvy town with no roads and no windows, where the people sneeze through tall weeds and trip over rocks as big as watermelons. Surely God would help them, they decide. But "how" can God be found? The story, grounded in Jewish wisdom, teaches that God can be found where we are.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Ages 4<sup>+</sup>-8. In a town with no roads and few windows live adults of various races, all of whom are in search of God to build windows and roads for them. The two residents who have a window in their homes are designated to find God. Each travels far and endures nature's extremes en route, but neither searcher is successful. Meeting after their exhausting quests, the two spend hours comforting each other before returning home. The disappointed townspeople continue to complain about their windowless, roadless existence, while the two searchers help each other build a road and put windows in each room of their homes. When asked how they accomplished this daunting feat, they replied that God helped them, for "God is in the between. In between us." Reflecting the author's weighty message with heavy brushstrokes, Sweetland thickly paints a multicultural populace in a nondescript environment. Although the message is didactic, this nonsectarian urging to look beyond oneself, to look to help others and thereby find God will be welcomed by fans of Sassov's *God's Paintbrush* (1995) and *Prayer for the Earth* (1997). Ellen Mandel

Sandy Eisenberg Sasso is Rabbi of Congregation Beth-El Zedeck in Indianapolis. She is active in the interfaith community and has written and lectured on the renewal of spirituality and the discovery of religious imagination in children of all faiths. She is the second woman to be ordained as a rabbi (1974) and the first rabbi to become a mother. She is also the award-winning author of *A Prayer for the Earth*, *God in Between*, *But God Remembered*, *In God's Name* and *God's Paintbrush*.

A great book!

I found the explanation to be a bit obtuse for young children and not enticing for those children over the age of six years.

Our child was really interested in the way this book presented the concept of God. He could recognize the applicability and the book helped him find a way to understand how God was in his life, in a way that many other books (and our own religious community) had not been able to when he was young. As he said to me after one of our discussions following a reading of this book, "Mom, I don't think that God is a man with a beard. Not a real man. But I believe that God is there when people love each other and want to try to understand each other. I believe that God is there when people try to make things better." I thank the author for a book that helped our son realize this.

Sandy tells the tale of village with no roads or windows. The people think that God is missing and find God and then they would have roads and windows. So they send two people who have windows in their homes to find God. They search and search but don't find God, but the people change and realize in the building of roads and windows that God is everywhere. This story can be loved by all but I feel works very well with older children and youth. Great pictures also.

This book is a great tool to help children and adults both to recognize the presence of God everywhere in everyone. Through our faith God can make all things possible.

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