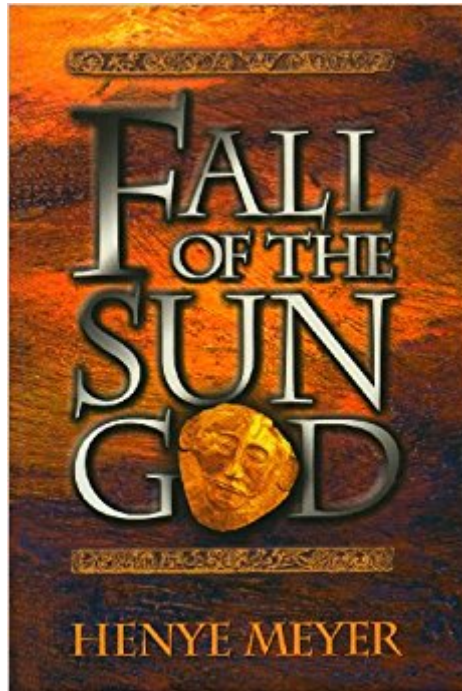




The book was found

Fall Of The Sun God



Synopsis

Rediscovering one's Jewish roots in the midst of the Crusades seems a daunting task. Martin searches for meaning as he struggles for survival in a desperate time in this action-packed historical drama. After Martin's parents are killed by bandits, he gives up his Judaism as a form of self-protection and goes on his own personal quest to find himself. Along the way, he hones his fighting and weapons skills and considers joining the Crusader march towards Jerusalem.

Ultimately, as Martin evolves, he finds a place for himself that he never thought existed, a place that holds an age-old message: To have faith in a world filled with barbarism. Martin comes back to the realization that the Torah is the lamp, the sword, and shield to protect his way in the world. This book provides a well-researched glimpse into lifestyles, attitudes, and religious practices of those living in Constantinople. It has great appeal to a Young Adult male audience for its action and adventure tale. Many will recognize their own life journey in Martin's quest and relate to his tribulations.

Book Information

Paperback: 336 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

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Literature & Fiction > Religious > Jewish #790 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles >

Children's & Teens > Teens #955 in Books > Teens > Religion & Spirituality

Customer Reviews

Henye Meyer was born in Phoenixville, PA and currently lives in Manchester, England. She has written one previous novel and has written for various Jewish publications, as well as for the BBC.

The book is brilliant. One of its strongest points is its humor. The dialogue is often laugh-out-loud witty. The last line of the book is one of the best I've ever read. It has obviously been well-researched as you get a strong sense of the time. The different Jewish communities are

colorfully distinct and there are cultural details showing the transition from pagan worship to Christianity. For example, some pagan-turning-Christian characters go to church to offer a sacrifice to the god, Thor. You get a strong sense of the effect of the Crusades, the well-organized care of the Jews toward their destitute fellows, and more. The characters are complex and realistic and colorful. I think a lot of teens would be able to identify with the main character. This is a good example of a "crossover" novel because adults enjoy this book as much as, if not more than, younger readers. One friend I lent the book to returned it to me with the comment, "I just wish it had gone on and on. I never wanted it to end."

Also available in paperback (1932687068, \$14.95), *Fall Of The Sun God* by author Henye Meyer is both a tale of adventure and the introspective story of one man coming to terms with his heritage and faith. Born of Jewish parents who were killed by bandits, Martin decides to give up his Jewish faith rather than endure persecution for it. He sharpens his fighting skills and searches for a place among the Armed Peasants of the First Crusades marching on Jerusalem. Yet even as he finds his way amid the Christian city of Constantinople, the sharp-eyed and demanding Jewish community's religious leader Theios Ionas sees the religious heritage and untapped potential smoldering within Martin. This is a saga about coming to terms with one's identity and purpose in life, and the transition from hiding or repressing one's faith to embracing it, set against the backdrop of the ancient world.

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