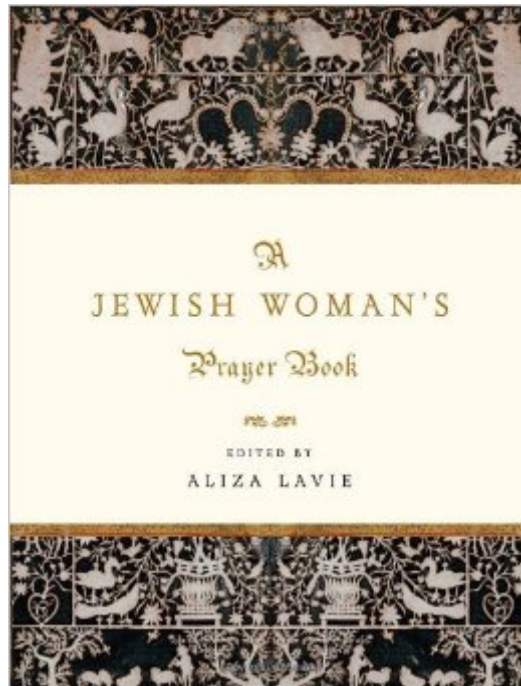


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# A Jewish Woman's Prayer Book



## Synopsis

A beautiful and moving one-of-a-kind collection that draws from a variety of Jewish traditions, through the ages, to commemorate every occasion and every passage in the cycle of life, including: Special prayers for the Sabbath, holidays, and important dates of the Jewish year Prayers to mark celebratory milestones, such as bat mitzva, marriage, pregnancy, and childbirth Prayers for companionship, love, and fertility Prayers for healing, strength, and personal growth Prayers for daily reflection and thanksgiving Prayers for comfort and understanding in times of tragedy and loss

On the eve of Yom Kippur in 2002, Aliza Lavie, a university professor, read an interview with an Israeli woman who had lost both her mother and her baby daughter in a terrorist attack. As Lavie stood in the synagogue later that evening, she searched for comfort for the bereaved woman, for a reminder that she was not alone but part of a great tradition of Jewish women who have responded to unbearable loss with strength and fortitude. Unable to find sufficient solace within the traditional prayer book and inspired by the memory of her own grandmother's steadfast knowledge and faith, Lavie began researching and compiling prayers written for and by Jewish women. A Jewish Woman's Prayer Book is the result—a beautiful and moving one-of-a-kind collection that draws from a variety of Jewish traditions, through the ages, to commemorate every occasion and every passage in the cycle of life, from the mundane to the extraordinary. This elegant, inspiring volume includes special prayers for the Sabbath and holidays and important dates of the Jewish year; prayers to mark celebratory milestones, such as bat mitzva, marriage, pregnancy, and childbirth; and prayers for comfort and understanding in times of tragedy and loss. Each prayer is presented in Hebrew and in an English translation, along with fascinating commentary on its origins and allusions. Culled from a wide range of sources, both geographically and historically, this collection testifies that women's prayers were—and continue to be—an inspired expression of personal supplication and desire.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 448 pages

Publisher: Spiegel & Grau; 1st edition (December 2, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385522746

ISBN-13: 978-0385522748

Product Dimensions: 6.6 x 1.2 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (24 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #471,982 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #55 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Women & Judaism #88 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Prayerbooks #385 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Jewish Life

## Customer Reviews

Don't let the title "A Jewish Woman's Prayer Book" stop you from buying this book. Normally that title would describe a book that is used to follow during a daily or Shabbat prayer service. But this is not a "prayer service" book. This is an intensive study by Dr. Lavie to uncover women's prayers to fit all manners of situations over the centuries: prayers written by women, prayers in ancient and modern books that were often recited by women. Many of the prayers were not previously incorporated into prayer books, rather they were handed down through the generations from mother to daughter. It is important to note that this book of women's prayers has meaning also for men and impacts the lives of Jews and non-Jews. This powerful book is a must read.

I love this book because it has so much history and tells you where the prayers come from, often who wrote them and why, and what situation they were in when each one was written. Some of the prayers are translations or alternate versions of standard prayers found in standard siddurim. Each prayer is written in English, and then the facing page is either Hebrew or Yiddish or Ladino! Beautifully written, beautifully collected, something to cherish and pass down to the young ladies in the family! I have been using this to extend my regular prayers, and to extend my own conversations with HaShem. Prayers for joyous occasions, troubling times, daily thoughts, etc. are all included. There is even a beautiful, short Haggadah written on toilet paper during the holocaust by a concentration camp victim, slipped to another woman just before the author passed on! Even the way this book came about is beautiful...you really should read the inside cover.

I bought three copies--for my wife, daughter, and daughter-in-law. All three are using it regularly. Plus, they are strongly recommending it to others. A wonderful addition to any woman's religious texts/sources.

This is a beautiful book to add to anyone's Judaic collection. It is written in both Hebrew and in English. I purchased copies as gifts for some special women in my life. No matter how observant the readers are, they will be moved by the poetic beauty, historic commentary, and inspiration of the

prayers that apply to many life cycle events.

This is a great book for a person like me, not very organized in my religious observances.... I found everything I needed, and if those prayers are still not answered... well, that is not the book's fault! May be one day...

How great to have a new resource for Jewish Women's Studies that has the Hebrew text included! it also provides a fresh take on Jewish holidays and other areas of Jewish life for those of us addressing them from a woman's perspective. Rabbi Amy Bernstein

I bought this book as a gift for my wife and she has enjoyed reading these timeless prayers along with the historical explanations of who wrote them and why they were written.

This book traverses most of Jewish history, featuring prayers from Ladino, Yiddish, German, English, Hebrew and other languages. Not all the prayers are by women but all relate to times or key moments in Jewish women's lives. They represent everything from traditional Sabbath prayers to the more unusual, such as a girl's prayer on having her first period, or a woman's prayer upon biting off the pittum (stem of the etrog). Really! The research and work in putting this invaluable book together was phenomenal.

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