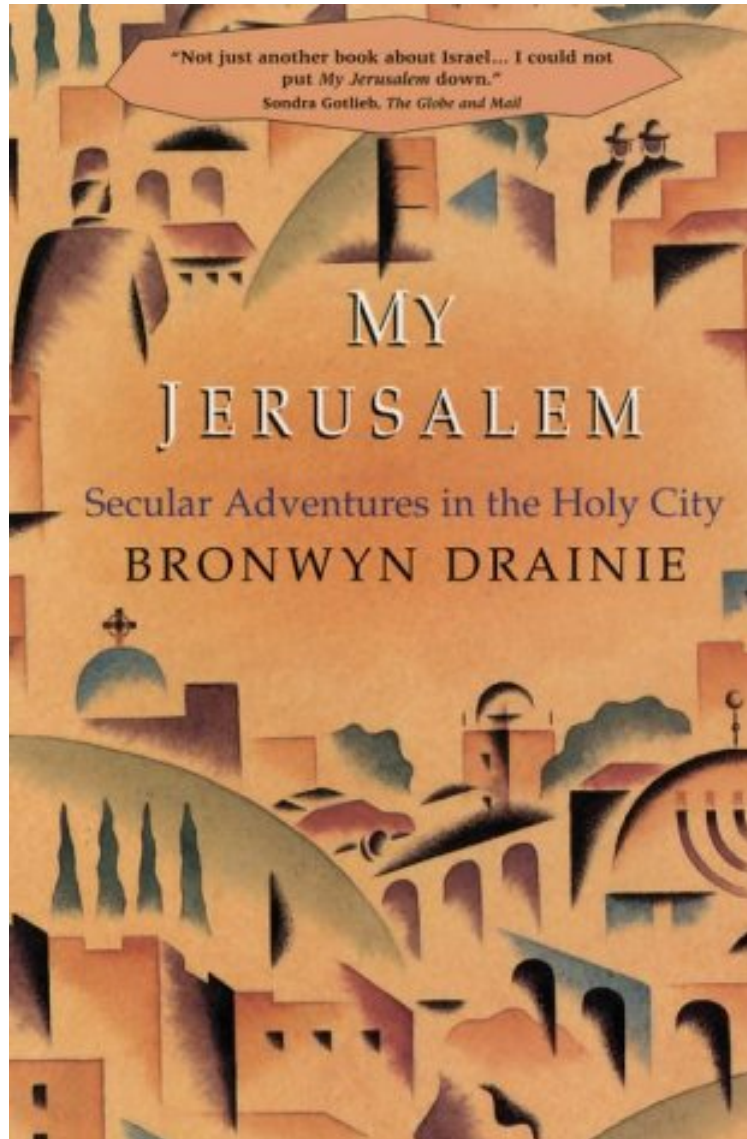


(Pdf free) My Jerusalem: Secular Adventures In The Holy City

My Jerusalem: Secular Adventures In The Holy City

Bronwyn Drainie

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Bronwyn Drainie : My Jerusalem: Secular Adventures In The Holy City before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised My Jerusalem: Secular Adventures In The Holy City:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Memory Lane By David N. Peterson Lovely walk down memory lane for those who have been a part of this experience. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I read this book about once a year By Paull I really love this book. I got it as a gift in 1996 when I was planning my first trip to Israel, and I read the whole thing in a couple of days. Then I read it again. And I've continued reading it every so often since

then. The opening segments of the book describing their move to Israel and the sense of danger and foreboding as they transited through Frankfurt airport really engaged and thrilled me, and made me want to visit even sooner. The whole book is an accurate portrayal of Jerusalem - not the only possible portrayal, since Jerusalem is such a diverse place, but an accurate portrayal of a number of types of people you're likely to meet there. And she describes daily life in Jerusalem in a way that fully makes sense to people who have visited or lived there for an extended amount of time. One segment about the difficulties of simply renting a video at the video store was a perfect example of the aggressive and impatient nature of Israelis. A lot of Drainie's reflections and assessments of the reality of Israelis and Palestinians ring true with me. The book is very well written, even though there are a few moments when her attitude or behavior bothered me. It was her experience of Jerusalem, so it's ok that it was slightly different than mine. I would love it if she went back and wrote a sequel, or added a new section about how things have changed. It's still on my shelf, I just might start reading it again tonight!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Audacious but enlightening...By Jennifer Tzivia MacLeod, author of the Seven Day Manuscript Machine and Writing the Bible for Kids Yes, it takes audacity to live in a place for only two years and then start calling it "yours." Drainie admits that from the start, and then happily explains the uniqueness of this city that causes visitors to claim it as their own. As an observant Jew, I was wary of Drainie's approach from the start. She went to Israel as a non-Jew, covering up the fact that her mother was Jewish. Otherwise, as she correctly suggests, religious Jews would lay claim to her through matrilineal descent as one of the "clan." Nevertheless, she does discover some of the spirit of Judaism, while also objectively exploring the other religious traditions uneasily cohabiting in Israel. Her stance towards the Palestinians is the kind of common-sense approach we need to hear more of, and surprisingly enlightening in terms of the current situation. Regardless of whether Drainie's Jerusalem sounds like your Jerusalem, this city belongs to all of us, and her book is a clear-eyed vision both of what Jerusalem is and perhaps what it should be.

My Jerusalem begins with the preparation for and arrival in the Middle East. Bronwyn, her husband Patrick Martin and their two boys went there because Patrick was asked by the Globe and Mail to become its first Middle East correspondent. Living right on the Green Line between Arabs and Israelis, Bronwyn had to get her children settled in a new school and learn how to behave, react, drive, cook, and dress on the cusp of two unfamiliar and historically antagonistic cultures. She also had to struggle with Hebrew, and adjust to a major change in her professional identity as a writer. From this unique perspective, she was able to capture the charming and engaging side of Jerusalem life, along with the curious, the provocative, and the horrible. An independent woman coping with restrictive cultures on all sides, she was able to make meaningful contact with people in both communities while maintaining the journalistic distance needed to trustworthy observation. Out of her rich two years' experience, Drainie has woven a highly readable narrative that will appeal not only to those who avidly follow events in the region but also to readers whose eyes normally glaze over when they hear the words "the Middle East."

"Not just another book about Israel...I could not put My Jerusalem down." --Sondra Gotlieb, The Globe and Mail "Part travelodge, part history, part delicious gossip...an elegant and highly personal take on life in the Middle East." --The Montreal Gazette From the Publisher "Part travelogue, part history, part delicious gossip...an elegant and highly personal take on life in the Middle East." -MONTREAL GAZETTE "Five stars.../a great book!" -HAMILTON SPECTATOR From the Inside Flap My Jerusalem begins with the preparation for and arrival in the Middle East. Bronwyn, her husband Patrick Martin and their two boys went there because Patrick was asked by the Globe and Mail to become its first Middle East correspondent. Living right on the Green Line between Arabs and Israelis, Bronwyn had to get her children settled in a new school and learn how to behave, react, drive, cook, and dress on the cusp of two unfamiliar and historically antagonistic cultures. She also had to struggle with Hebrew, and adjust to a major change in her professional identity as a writer. From this unique perspective, she was able to capture the charming and engaging side of Jerusalem life, along with the curious, the provocative, and the horrible. An independent woman coping with restrictive cultures on all sides, she was able to make meaningful contact with people in both communities while maintaining the journalistic distance needed to trustworthy observation. Out of her rich two years' experience, Drainie has woven a highly readable narrative that will appeal not only to those who avidly follow events in the region but also to readers whose eyes normally glaze over when they hear the words "the Middle East."