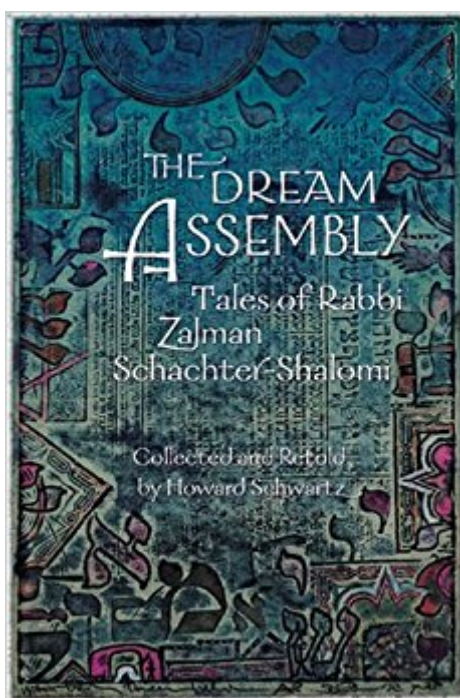


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The Dream Assembly: Tales Of Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi (Consciousness Classics)



Synopsis

This is a book of mystical tales set in the old world of the Hassidic masters, beautifully illustrated by Israeli artist Yitzhak Greenfield. This is the only collection of stories in print from Reb Zalman, acknowledged as a unique living kabbalist and esoteric teacher in this tradition. "Reb Zalman is one of the great teachers of our time." - Jean Houston, founder of The Mystery School and co-director of The Foundation for Mind Research.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a book of mystical tales set in the old world of the Hassidic masters, beautifully illustrated by Israeli artist Yitzhak Greenfield. This is the only collection of stories in print from Reb Zalman, acknowledged as a unique living kabbalist and esoteric teacher in this tradition. "Reb Zalman is one of the great teachers of our time." - Jean Houston, founder of The Mystery School and co-director of The Foundation for Mind Research.

Parables are one of my favorite forms of writing because one can learn from them again and again at deeper and deeper levels with each rereading or rehearing of the story. This book exemplifies that and the Rabbi is a master of this art. I have owned and read this book now for decades...I continue to get "ah-has" with each rereading as I grow in spiritual consciousness and understanding. I also utilize this book with my kabbalah students. First I give it to them to read

(when they have just asked me to be their teacher) and tell them to jot down notes of what they think various stories mean and questions they might have. When they have done that, and we have had a meeting to discuss what they came away with from reading these stories...I then know where they are in consciousness, understanding and kabbalistic background. Because of this I then can start them on a level of study and direction that is appropriate for their individual walk. I also read individual stories from this book in various class situations to help illustrate points I am making. I keep wearing my copy out I use it so much and keep buying another, LOL!

An enjoyable collection of stories that are also illuminating. I read them at intervals and have yet to finish reading them all.

One of Reb Zalman's best books. Many of these stories have remarkable staying power and you'll find yourself thinking about them months (and years) later.

The Dream Assembly: Tales of Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, Collected & Retold by Howard Schwartz, is a clever, modern take on the classic Hasidic tale. Schachter-Shalomi is the father of the Jewish Renewal Movement, and these stories reflect that very post-modern sensibility (although the stories take place in nineteenth century Poland). The Reb Zalman of the stories leads a group of Chasidim who experience all manner of mystical understandings. This includes richly layered dreams, visions, classic coincidences in the world which show that the seemingly random events which clutter the human space are really part of God's plan. Interesting, the Reb Zalman of the stories is painted in Messianic colors. Is Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi trying to broadly hint at his own role in the contemporary Jewish world? It is hard to know; what we can know is that these sharply written, beautiful stories convey a very Jewish and worldly sensibility while transporting the reader to a Judaism and world that exists, perhaps, only in dreams.

This book is a secret gem full of delightful and wise tales - the first one is worth the price alone! I really recommend it - it's one of my favorites - and it's a lovely gift to the right person...

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