



Tefilat HaDerech: The Traveler's Prayer

By Joshua Buchin



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The Jewish people have, throughout history, moved from place to place. Many factors have inspired these journeys - necessity, persecution, and the hope of finding a better life. *Tefilat HaDerech: The Traveler's Prayer* has traditionally offered comfort to those embarking on life's journeys. This beautifully-illustrated book highlights many of the historical Jewish migrations, while presenting a child-friendly adaptation of this meaningful prayer.

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Tefilat HaDerech: The Traveler's Prayer By Joshua Buchin Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

In this bright, colorful book Buchin and Miller deliver a version of the Traveler's Prayer for children, in English. The short prayer is accompanied by diagrams that reflect, in abbreviated form, how the Jews have moved around since circa 1900 BCE until the present day. The first few pages of diagrams reflect biblical drawings, showing the exodus from Egypt in 1280 BCE, the conquest of Canaan in 1240 BCE and the Babylonian exile in 587 BCE. Children glimpse their ancestors' journeys through times happy and sad, in countries ranging from Babylonia to India, China to England, and Spain to Europe. This is a book designed for children to give them a sense of Jewish journeys as they recite a prayer for the start of their own journey... The timeline Tefilat HaDerech covers is vast and selective, erring on the side of happy journeys rather than dark, scary ones. At the back of the book Buchin adds the Traveler's Prayer in Hebrew with an English translation, as well as Psalm 121, A Song for Going Up. Remembering the role that God and the Jewish tradition play in our lives can help ease the transitions and hurdles that traveling can present, he reflects, in his last word. If we remember that we are not alone that we are surrounded by community, part of a continuum of Jewish history and sheltered by God all of our journeys will be sanctified in holiness. Tefilat HaDerech is a nice addition to a child's Jewish library and gives a brief sense of that continuum of Jewish journeying. Recommended for ages 4-9. --Jewish Book World: Winter 2013

Simple and complex, this heartfelt interpretation of the traveler's prayer traverses Jewish history while emphasizing God's blessings for peace, safety, abundant livelihood, and support during difficult times. -- Jewish Family Times: Spring 2015

About the Author

Joshua Buchin is a Jewish educator who has worked in a diverse range of settings. He was a Jewish preschool teacher, ran programming for high school youth, and has worked as an educator for synagogues, summer camps, and after school programs. In an effort to combine his passion for teaching children with his love of Judaism, he is currently studying to be a Rabbi at the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies in Los Angeles, CA.

Users Review

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