



The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible

By Jonathan Kirsch

Download now

Read Online ➔

The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch

"The stories you are about to read are some of the most violent and sexually explicit in all of Western literature. They are tales of human passion in all of its infinite variety: adultery, seduction, incest, rape, mutilation, assassination, torture, sacrifice, and murder. . . ."

Sex. Violence. Scandal. These are words we rarely associate with the sacred text of the Bible. Yet in this brilliant book, Jonathan Kirsch recounts shocking tales that have been suppressed by religious authorities throughout history. Kirsch places each story within the political and social context of its time, delves into the latest biblical scholarship to explain why each one was originally censored, and shows how these ancient narratives hold valuable lessons for all of us.

📄 [Download The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tale ...pdf](#)

📖 [Read Online The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Ta ...pdf](#)

The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible

By Jonathan Kirsch

The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch

"The stories you are about to read are some of the most violent and sexually explicit in all of Western literature. They are tales of human passion in all of its infinite variety: adultery, seduction, incest, rape, mutilation, assassination, torture, sacrifice, and murder. . . ."

Sex. Violence. Scandal. These are words we rarely associate with the sacred text of the Bible. Yet in this brilliant book, Jonathan Kirsch recounts shocking tales that have been suppressed by religious authorities throughout history. Kirsch places each story within the political and social context of its time, delves into the latest biblical scholarship to explain why each one was originally censored, and shows how these ancient narratives hold valuable lessons for all of us.

The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #706474 in Books
- Published on: 1998-03-03
- Released on: 1998-03-03
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.29" h x .89" w x 5.50" l, .65 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 378 pages

 [Download The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tale ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Ta ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online *The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible* By Jonathan Kirsch

Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Kirsch, an attorney and book critic, retells some of the juicier stories of the Bible in contemporary language. He expands upon the original biblical text to make the stories highly readable and includes with each the original text in modern translation and a brief sketch of the scholarly research and the speculation surrounding it. For those to whom Bible stories suggest "Disneyesque animals and simple uplifting moral lessons," this book may be a bit of a shock. Kirsch shows that the Bible is not a children's book. Then, as now, rape, incest, prostitution, murder, and strange religious cults were a part of life. As Kirsch says, "The Bible is a map of the human heart, and no secret chamber or hidden passage is left out." Kirsch contends that returning to the Bible can offer insight into modern issues. Mostly, however, he offers an irresistible popularization of some unfamiliar stories. Some readers will enjoy it; others will be highly offended. Recommended for public libraries. ?C. Robert Nixon, MLS, Lafayette, Ind.
Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From [Booklist](#)

Although some of these biblical tales are not as "forbidden" as Kirsch makes out--both David's and Lot's stories have been on TV's *Mysteries of the Bible* they do contain far more sex and violence than most readers would expect to find in a holy book. Demonstrating meticulous research and an enticing style, Kirsch recounts the rape of Dinah, in which the seducer of Jacob's daughter, along with 300 of his men, are circumcised and then murdered when they are too weak from their surgery to run; the seduction of Judah by his daughter-in-law Tamar; and the murder of Uriah by David, in order that David may have Uriah's wife, Bathsheba. Along the way, Kirsch comments perceptively on the implications of numerous instances of what he calls the "gyno-sadism" of the Bible--women being raped, gang-raped, and murdered. Along with excerpts from the *Holy Scriptures according to Maoretic Text*, Kirsch retells the stories, places them in the context of the time, and thoroughly addresses levels of meaning for both the ancient and modern readers. Fascinating reading. *Ilene Cooper*

From Kirkus Reviews

An amateur Bible student's attempt to deal with the complexities of biblical sexuality. The oxymoronic subtitle says it all. Biblical episodes used for millennia for moral instruction are far from forbidden. And yet, in the unmistakable cadence of the tabloid TV narrator, L.A. Times book critic, novelist, and lawyer Kirsch guides us with wide eyes toward several biblical episodes containing incest or rape: "You mean that's in the Bible? Yes, dear reader, that's in the Bible. But wait--it gets worse." And so does Kirsch's retelling of these stories. Whether the typically sparse, clinical Hebrew Bible text is about Lot and his daughters, the rape of Dinah, or Judah and his daughter-in-law Tamar (the harlot of the title), Kirsch's novelistic retellings have all the subtlety of a tabloid tale. In treating the title episode from Genesis 38, for example, in which the childless and widowed Tamar poses as a harlot to trick her father-in-law into impregnating her, the author calls it "an erotic fairy tale," even though all the details of Tamar's swaying breasts and "strange hunger" are his own invention. Kirsch pens in a description of Tamar's veil falling off, then speculates about how Judah's fervor might have been affected by the discovery that the harlot by the side of the road was his neglected daughter-in-law. While such fictionalizations surely eroticize the original texts, they purposefully cleanse them of any supernatural qualities. Lot's angels with blinding light become mere hunks with house lanterns. While Kirsch displays some familiarity with classical Bible critics, he appears perplexed by the concept that the Hebrew Bible's theology isn't Canaanite: "Another curious feature of the Hebrew Bible is the absence of a female counterpart to God." A retelling for those so unfamiliar with the sex and violence in the Bible that they think

it merits a PG rating. (Author tour) -- *Copyright ©1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Florence Adams:

Within other case, little men and women like to read book *The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible*. You can choose the best book if you want reading a book. Providing we know about how is important the book *The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible*. You can add expertise and of course you can around the world with a book. Absolutely right, simply because from book you can know everything! From your country right up until foreign or abroad you may be known. About simple matter until wonderful thing you may know that. In this era, we can open a book or maybe searching by internet gadget. It is called e-book. You can utilize it when you feel weary to go to the library. Let's go through.

Daniel Evans:

In this 21st one hundred year, people become competitive in most way. By being competitive right now, people have do something to make these individuals survives, being in the middle of the crowded place and notice through surrounding. One thing that at times many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yeah, by reading a publication your ability to survive boost then having chance to stand up than other is high. For you who want to start reading any book, we give you this specific *The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible* book as basic and daily reading book. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

Sharon Works:

Reading a book tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With reading through you can get a lot of information that may give you benefit in your life. Together with book everyone in this world can share their idea. Ebooks can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire their very own reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the guides. But also they write about the information about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors on earth always try to improve their skill in writing, they also doing some research before they write for their book. One of them is this *The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible*.

Mary Varnum:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray a person, why because this *The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible* e-book written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book that may be understand by anyone who all read the book. Written inside good manner for you, still dripping wet every ideas and composing skill only for eliminate your personal hunger then you still uncertainty *The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible* as good book not merely by the cover but also

from the content. This is one publication that can break don't assess book by its cover, so do you still needing an additional sixth sense to pick that!? Oh come on your reading through sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

**Download and Read Online The Harlot by the Side of the Road:
Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch #X9KQS2ZIHGB**

Read The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch for online ebook

The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch books to read online.

Online The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch ebook PDF download

The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch Doc

The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch Mobipocket

The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch EPub

X9KQS2ZIHGB: The Harlot by the Side of the Road: Forbidden Tales of the Bible By Jonathan Kirsch