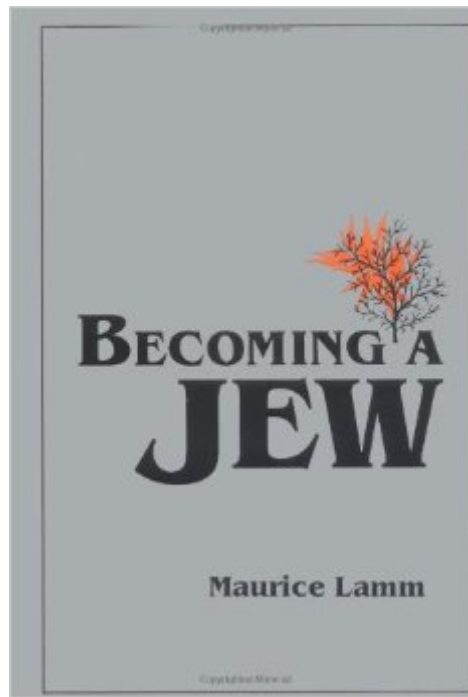


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Becoming A Jew



Synopsis

The author of the highly popular Jewish Way in Death and Mourning and Jewish Way in Love and Marriage offers us a work designed expressly for non-Jews who are contemplating converting, for those who have already converted, and for Jews by birth who wish to gain deeper insight into their heritage. Becoming a Jew describes the odyssey of the convert and charts the traditional approach to conversion. Written in a crisp, contemporary style, this volume addresses questions converts frequently have relating to the procedures of conversion. An invaluable contribution.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (33 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #550,635 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #443 inÂ Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Jewish Life

Customer Reviews

Rabbi Lamm's book is very informative, very comprehensive and very forcefully argued. He pulls no punches and strongly makes his case that (to him) the only real/authentic conversion to Judaism is the Orthodox conversion. I found his arguments very convincing, and ultimately I guess I decided NOT to convert on account of this book. Which is not to say I didn't enjoy reading it...I did, very much so. I have been disillusioned by Christianity since early childhood and I was amazed just how "Jewish" my ways of thinking have been over the years. I am adopted and sometimes I do wonder if maybe my birth mother wasn't really Jewish...I think the odds are strongly against it, but it might explain a lot about myself if it were true. I enjoyed very much the testimonials of converts and their "what I don't like about Christianity" criticisms. I found myself nodding in agreement more than once. But I realized paradoxically that I agreed with Lamm's unspoken assertion that Orthodox conversion is the only real authentic route but also came to understand I could never have the self discipline to live up to Orthodoxy's stringent standards, either. I used to joke to a friend who is converting under Reform auspices "It's really too bad you can't convert to SECULAR Judaism", to

which she responded with a laugh "but honey you can, it's called REFORM!"...we used to have some interesting arguments, since I started pondering conversion because of this friend. I always found myself lining up with the Orthodox and Conservative interpretations while she always lined up with the Reform tradition. I guess I'm too much of a hellenic sensualist, too much a pagan Stoic to fit the Orthodox-Jewish mold.

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