

(Mobile ebook) A Kosher Christmas: 'Tis the Season to be Jewish

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Joshua Eli Plaut

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Joshua Eli Plaut : A Kosher Christmas: 'Tis the Season to be Jewish before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Kosher Christmas: 'Tis the Season to be Jewish:

1 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Sad, but probably a true portraitBy N. WThe book is written well, an excellent read. My problem with it is more the content / subject . Partly I can hardly blame the author; if the one and only way for American Jews dealing with xmas is gong to a cabaret/ chinese restaurant/ filling in for workers in health care , etc, without doing anything positively Jewish during given days off, that is surely not his fault. Still, I did hope to see something turn up in analogy to Limmud (UK) , which was born from the immense boredom the British Jews

felt during Xmas :-). In a Jewish community as big as the one of the US nobody came up with such an initiative ? All synagogues/ temples/ jewish clubs are busy organizing their xmas committees??? A shame, and probably a missed chance, in my humble opinion. My only question is : is this true , or does it exist and did the author not look for / ignore it ? 0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A great idea, with great potential By Eric Mazur There's a lot of work to be done in this field. This is certainly a pretty good start. Read it. 2 of 4 people found the following review helpful. A Kosher Christmas Required Reading By Charles H Nave This is a fantastic explanation of the month of December for everyone Jewish, Do NOT MISS THIS FUN READ. jen

Christmas is not everybody's favorite holiday. Historically, Jews in America, whether participating in or refraining from recognizing Christmas, have devised a multitude of unique strategies to respond to the holiday season. Their response is a mixed one: do we participate, try to ignore the holiday entirely, or create our own traditions and make the season an enjoyable time? This book, the first on the subject of Jews and Christmas in the United States, portrays how Jews are shaping the public and private character of Christmas by transforming December into a joyous holiday season belonging to all Americans. Creative and innovative in approaching the holiday season, these responses range from composing America's most beloved Christmas songs, transforming Hanukkah into the Jewish Christmas, creating a national Jewish tradition of patronizing Chinese restaurants and comedy shows on Christmas Eve, volunteering at shelters and soup kitchens on Christmas Day, dressing up as Santa Claus to spread good cheer, campaigning to institute Hanukkah postal stamps, and blending holiday traditions into an interfaith hybrid celebration called Chrismukkah or creating a secularized holiday such as Festivus. Through these venerated traditions and alternative Christmastime rituals, Jews publicly assert and proudly proclaim their Jewish and American identities to fashion a universally shared message of joy and hope for the holiday season. See also: <http://www.akosherchristmas.org>

"Fascinating. Plaut means so well and covers so much ground. After 207 pages, I am a Hanukkah maven. Ask me anything."