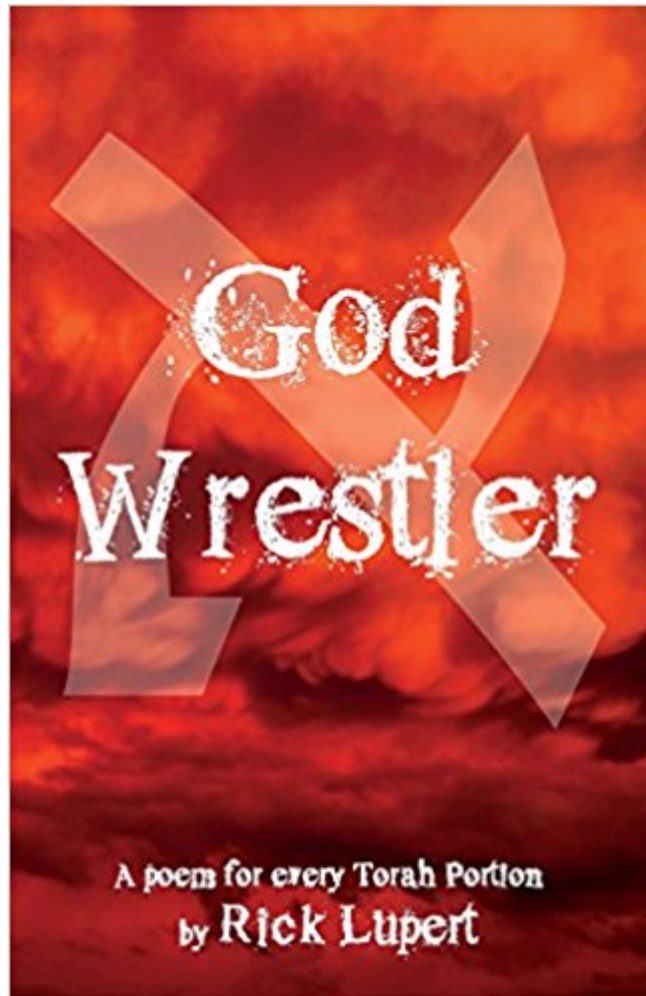




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God Wrestler: A Poem For Every Torah Portion



Synopsis

A poem for each of the weekly Torah portions, written by Los Angeles poet Rick Lupert who immersed himself in the weekly text and came out on the other side with a poem that adds humor, modern insight, and "reverent irreverence" to his interpretations of these ancient stories around which modern-day Judaism has developed. This collection of Jewish poetry adds to Lupert's growing canon of Judaic liturgy interpretations which have found receptive audiences and readers, from all over the world, who are seeking modern interpretations of our oldest text. With just a few exquisite words, Rick Lupert fills in the white spaces between the Torah's words, and offers holy insight, life wisdom, reverent irreverence, and sacred depth. It takes a poet to find the poetry of Torah, and a great teacher to share it. Rick is both. His book is a gift to us all. -Rabbi Ed Feinstein One can always count on Rick to see things in ways that we would not otherwise have seen them. He has succeeded in finding messages within each parashah that are simultaneously uniquely personal and entirely universal. Humor and depth abound. Rick amplifies the timeless nature of the words of Torah, and fills each page with new perspectives. -Cantor Ellen Dreskin Rick Lupert's poetry is witty, knowing, wise, and a tonic to the seeking soul. -Rabbi David Wolpe

Book Information

Paperback: 132 pages

Publisher: Ain't Got No Press (August 1, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0982058470

ISBN-13: 978-0982058473

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.3 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Two-time Pushcart Prize, and Best of the Net nominee Rick Lupert has been involved in the Los Angeles poetry community since 1990. He was awarded the Beyond Baroque Distinguished Service Award in 2014 for service to the Los Angeles poetry community. He served for two years as a co-director of the non-profit literary organization Valley Contemporary Poets. His poetry has appeared in numerous magazines and literary journals, including The Los Angeles Times, Rattle, Chiron Review, Red Fez, Zuzu's Petals, Stirring, The Bicycle Review, Caffeine Magazine, Blue Satellite and others. He hosted the long running Cobalt Café reading series in Canoga Park for almost twenty-one years and has read his poetry all over the world including at the Union for Reform Judaism Biennial, Limmud Conferences in London, Baltimore and Los Angeles, Craig Taubman's Pico Union Project in Los Angeles, and at numerous synagogues throughout the United States. Rick created and maintains Poetry Super Highway, an online resource and publication for poets (PoetrySuperHighway.com), Haikuniverse, a daily online small poem publication (Haikuniverse.com), and writes and occasionally draws the daily web comic Cat and Banana with Brendan Constantine. (facebook.com/catandbanana) He also writes the weekly Jewish poetry blog From the Lupertverse for JewishJournal.com Currently Rick works as a music teacher at synagogues in Southern California and as a graphic and web designer for anyone who would like to help pay his mortgage.

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