

Leading the Passover Journey – The Seder’s Meaning Revealed, the Haggadah’s
Story Retold by Rabbi Nathan Laufer.
Jewish Lights Publishing 2005.

There are almost as many books about Passover as there are editions of the Haggadah, but this new addition to an already vast corpus is a most worthy contribution to the subject as well as providing an excellent resource for those leading sedarim and those wishing to get more out of their participation in them.

Rabbi Nathan Laufer models the book on the divisions in the seder ritual, and divides his work into 9 chapters, starting with Preparing for Passover: Why we rid ourselves of Chametz and concluding with the intriguingly named final chapter –The Triple Helix: What it all means. He analyses the texts of the haggadah, their inherent meaning and their applicability to us today, as well as answering some of the questions about the haggadah that will arise in any inquiring mind.

In his final chapter Rabbi Laufer draws together the three threads of the biblical narrative of redemption, the history of the Jewish people, and our own personal stories to give the Pesach narrative an enduring and powerful relevance for each and every one of us.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh