

Jewish Stories from Heaven and Earth – Inspiring Tales to Nourish the Heart and Soul.

Edited by Rabbi Dov Peretz Elkins.

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Dov Peretz Elkins is a rare anthologist with a special knack of eliciting unusual and special contributors, and contributions, to fill the pages of his collections.

In Jewish Stories from Heaven and Earth, Elkins has gathered together a number of short stories, some only a page long, others covering several, on a wide range of subjects. They are grouped under nine subject headings: Simple Goodness, Hope and Endurance, Continuity and Tradition, Lessons Learned, Light out of the Holocaust, Great Escapes, Words of the Wise, Providence and Israel: Land of Miracles.

Collections such as these have a highly subjective appeal, and some stories will inevitably resonate with each reader more than others, but that having been said there are some touching and uplifting tales here, as well as some humorous ones, all reflecting the richness and variety not just of Jewish traditions and history but of Jews themselves.

Jewish Stories from Heaven and Earth should have wide appeal, and I can think of many rabbis who, stumped for a sermon on erev Shabbat, will turn to its pages with gratitude and the confident knowledge that they will find something in its pages to engage and touch their congregants.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh