

Unorthodox: The Scandalous Rejection of My Hasidic Roots

Deborah Feldman's memoir, *Unorthodox*, is a powerful and moving account of her journey from a strictly Hasidic upbringing in Brooklyn to a secular life in Berlin. The book was published in 2012 and has since been translated into more than 30 languages. It has been praised by critics for its honesty and insights into a hidden world, but it has also been met with criticism from the Hasidic community.

In this article, we will explore the main themes of *Unorthodox*, discuss the controversy surrounding the book, and provide a critical analysis of Feldman's work.

The main themes of *Unorthodox* are:



Unorthodox: The Scandalous Rejection of My Hasidic

Roots by Deborah Feldman

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2943 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 273 pages



- **The conflict between tradition and modernity:** Feldman's memoir explores the tension between her Hasidic upbringing and her desire for a more modern life. She struggles with the expectations of her community and the desire to live a life that is true to herself.
- **The importance of education:** Education is a central theme in *Unorthodox*. Feldman's memoir highlights the importance of education for women, both secular and religious. She believes that education is essential for women to be able to make informed choices about their lives.
- **The power of storytelling:** Feldman's memoir is a powerful example of the power of storytelling. She uses her story to shed light on a hidden world and to inspire others to break free from the constraints of their own lives.

Unorthodox has been met with both praise and criticism. Some critics have praised Feldman for her honesty and courage, while others have accused her of betraying her community. The Hasidic community has been particularly critical of the book, accusing Feldman of fabricating her story and spreading lies about their way of life.

Feldman has defended her book, saying that it is a true account of her experiences. She has also said that she is not trying to attack the Hasidic community, but rather to shed light on a world that is often misunderstood.

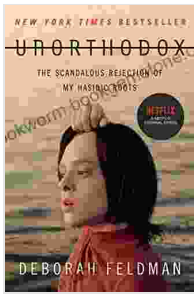
Unorthodox is a well-written and engaging memoir that offers a unique perspective on the Hasidic community. Feldman's writing is clear and concise, and she does an excellent job of conveying the complexities of her experiences.

One of the strengths of *Unorthodox* is Feldman's ability to balance her personal story with a broader analysis of the Hasidic community. She provides a detailed account of her own experiences, but she also discusses the history and culture of Hasidic Judaism. This broader perspective helps to contextualize Feldman's story and makes it more accessible to a wider audience.

However, *Unorthodox* is not without its flaws. Some critics have accused Feldman of oversimplifying the Hasidic community and of presenting a one-sided view of their way of life. Others have criticized her for focusing too much on her own experiences and not enough on the experiences of other Hasidic women.

Overall, *Unorthodox* is a valuable and insightful memoir that offers a unique perspective on the Hasidic community. Feldman's writing is clear and concise, and she does an excellent job of conveying the complexities of her experiences. However, some critics have accused her of oversimplifying the Hasidic community and of presenting a one-sided view of their way of life.

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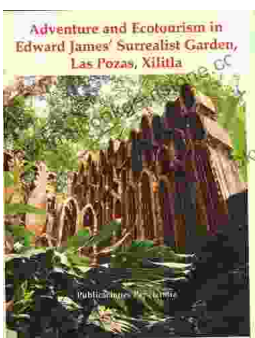
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