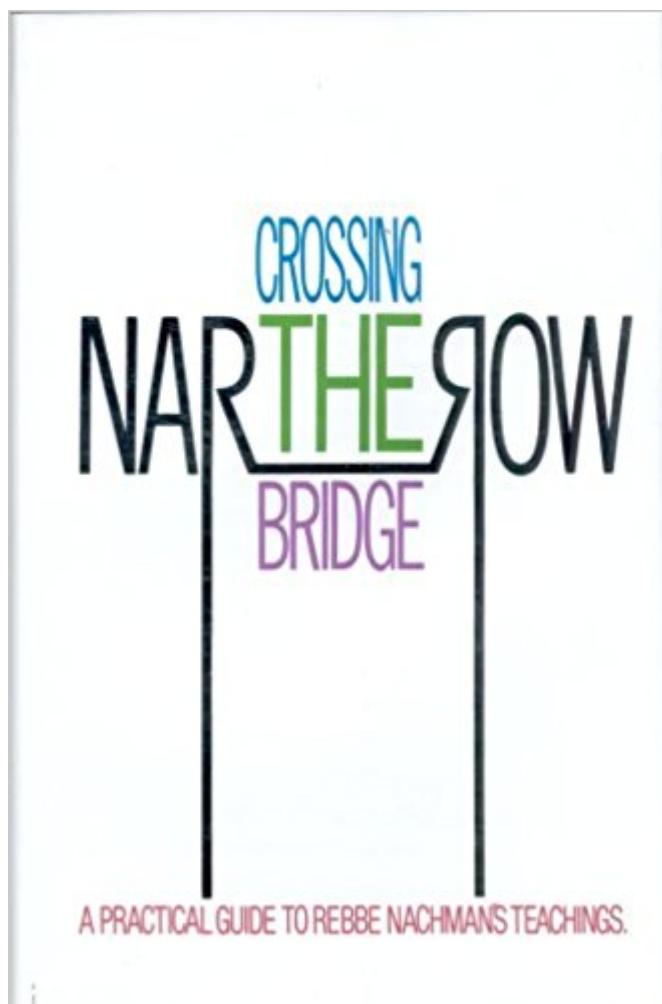


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Crossing The Narrow Bridge: A Practical Guide To Rebbe Nachman's Teachings



Synopsis

The world is a very narrow bridge. The main thing is not to be afraid (Likutey Moharan II, 48). Lively, down-to-earth, and easy-to-read, this book gives clear, detailed guidance as to how to apply Rebbe Nachman's teachings in modern everyday life. The many subjects covered range from faith, truth, joy and meditation to earning a living, health-care and bringing up children. Containing a wealth of anecdotes from the lives of leading Breslover Chassidim of recent times, together with their oral teachings, this work answers many of the practical/technical questions that puzzle those who have begun to make their acquaintance with Breslov literature.

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Customer Reviews

Crossing the Narrow Bridge: A Practice Guide to Rebbe Nachman's Teachings, sets out to be a primer for Breslover thought and practice, explaining to the novice their unique Hasidic viewpoint. In this mission the book is extremely successful. The editor has taken various topics, like "Joy" and culled selections from different places in Rebbe Nacham's corpus, embedding them in his own vision of what joy means to a Brastlaver. This model continues throughout the book, on such topics as Torah Study and Prayer, Making a Living, and such unique Bratslav innovations as hitbodedut. For anyone who wants a gentle dive into Bratslav, this is a fine book. The prose can at times lack inspiration (and it is a pity, for so much of Bratslav is inspirational), but beyond that, it is a good key into this unique world.

Crossing The Narrow Bridge is the starting point and introduction to Rabbi Nachman's teachings.

Afterwords, I highly recommend studying Likutey Moharan (A Collection of my Rebbe's Works), translated into English by Rabbi Chaim Kramer. It is recommended to study this series with a Chavrusa. All of Rabbi Nachman's available books can be found at:[...]I had the privilege of meeting Rabbi Chaim Kramer. I am grateful for his monumental tasks that he has and still is undertaking, in translating so many of Rabbi Nachmans works. He is a true Mensch. He would not even let me call him Rabbi, in spite of his official Smicha.

Rabbi Nachman has incredible insight on Torah and life. Very thankful for his work; this book is excellent (as are the rest of his). Highly recommend.

"Crossing the Narrow Bridge" is truly one of the most inspirational books I have read. I am baal teshuvah for many years and find this book as important now as when I first began the journey. It is well written and conveys a tremendous amount. The book will definitely make you think. One of its greatest feats is demonstrating the luminous beauty of Torah Judaism. Whether you are just investigating a Torah life or are frum from birth, this book has something for everybody.

As a rabbi I get my daily dose of practical questions that I am expected to answer in the spirit of our beloved rabbi Nachman. This books give me the tools and the inspiration to do just that. Magnificent!

GREAT! Survival is knowing how to live your daily life. Caring for those around you and walking in a dark world.some days the path is Narrow

This book is a 10,000 ft view of Breslov. The idea is to be accessible to those not well versed in the primary sources. Rebbe Nachman said "My fire will burn until Mashiach" unfortunately there is no fire to be found in this book. It is very dry and is very light on the practical application of the Rebbe's teachings. It's too scholarly for an introduction and probably too basic for scholars or anyone outside of secular people to whom it was targeted.The books of Israeli Breslover R. Shalom Arush (The Garden of Emuna,etc..) in contrast are much more light on quotes and citations but far more inspirational and offer practical advice.I was hoping this book would teach me how to cross the narrow bridge without fear but in the end it left me stranded on the bank.

The Breslow teacher Chaim Kramer has in this work tried to distill the practical wisdom of Rebbe

Nachman. The chapters are: Simplicity, Joy, The Good Points, Truth, Faith, Torah and Prayer, Torah Study, Prayer, Hitbodedut, Peace, Day and Night, Daily Needs, In the Home, Earning a Living, Charity. The Seven Candles, Tzaddik, Rosh Hoshanah, Eretz Yisrael. The Holy Land, You Can Too. The book is a compilation of teachings and often there is a choppiness to it. But there is a great deal of inspirational teaching here. Here is a citation of one teaching of many, many. "When we have faith, then our livelihood is like receiving manna from Heaven- we can rely on Heaven to send it to us. This way, we are content with whatever we receive, and have no desire for more and more. Conversely, when a person does desire more than what he is given, he destroys his whole life with the desire for wealth, for there is no manna in that. (Likutey Halakhot, Netilat Yadayim li'Seudah 6:85)" As this little excerpt illustrates "Advice is Wise only when it is wisely taken." There is also of course a temptation to interpret such a verse in a way which would free oneself from the need to make any effort at a livelihood. I may be wrong, but I don't think Rebbe Nachman is saying this. In any case I wish that the reader will have the Siyata d'Sheminyah to read wisely even the wisest of works.

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