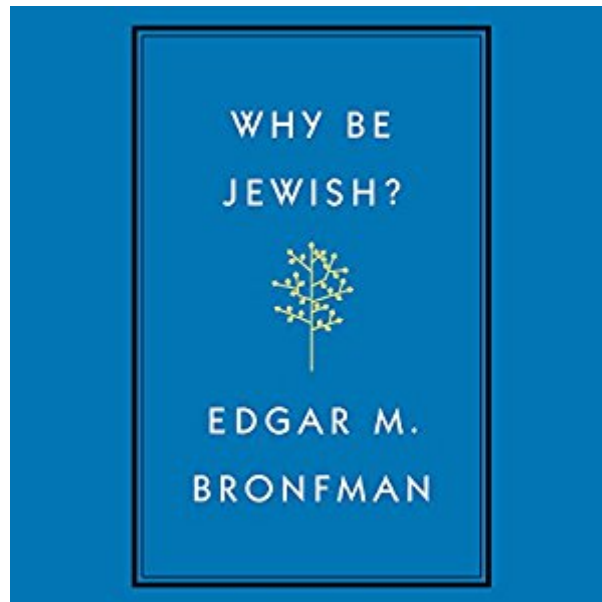


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# Why Be Jewish?: A Testament



## Synopsis

Edgar Bronfman's clarion call to a generation of secular, disaffected, and unaffiliated Jews, *Why Be Jewish?* addresses the most critical question confronting Judaism worldwide. Completed in December 2013, just weeks before he passed away, *Why Be Jewish?* expresses Edgar Bronfman's awe, respect, and deep love for his faith and heritage. Bronfman walks listeners through the major tenets and ideas in Jewish life, fleshing out their meanings and offering proof texts from the Jewish tradition gleaned over his many years of study with some of the greatest teachers in the Jewish world. In *Why Be Jewish?*, with honesty, poignancy, and passion, Bronfman shares insights gleaned from his own personal journey and makes a compelling case for the meaning and transcendence of a secular Judaism that is still steeped in deep moral values, authentic Jewish texts, and a focus on deed over creed or dogma.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 6 hours and 23 minutes

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Version: Unabridged

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## Customer Reviews

Edgar Bronfman makes the case for a rich ritually Jewish life for those like him. He believes that God is not required in order to make the case for a rich Jewish life. His only regret is that realization came too late for his own children. It is not however too late for the thousands like him in the next generations. This book is his gift to them. Edgar loved to learn Jewish texts, and if he found their message compelling, many others could too. They just needed to be convinced by an older, and wiser fellow traveler. This book is accessible, but also learned. One can't help but be impressed with the amount of time he spent engaging with the Torah, Talmud through books and their teachers. This act of generosity to give what took him hours to learn is now made available in a

pithy volume which can be digested in just a few hours. It was worth it to Edgar, he bets it will be worth it to you. I believe it will challenge anyone who chooses to read this book.

Excellent information for anyone who is Jewish, may be thinking about becoming Jewish or just interested in learning more about another faith.

Profound. Incredibly beautiful. And very readable. The ultimate answer as to why it is so important for this great tradition not to die.

A person who does not accept traditional views of "God" finds in Jewish practices and wisdom fuel for commitment to "godliness": pursuit of goodness, kindness, justice, truth, excellence. For Bronfman, being Jewish transcends ethnicity and religion and reinforces universal humanist ethics.

This is a thinking person's guide to Judaism that does not rely on the "man-in-charge" concept of God, or "because we've done it this way for thousands of years". Each of us is the architect of our own salvation; deeds matter far more than words.

I wish I could thank Mr. Bronfman personally for his wonderful book. He touches on topics that are dear to my heart and I delight in being able to put into words my values and feelings, and for being able to access his wealth of information on various Jewish sources. It really is an act of generosity on the part of Mr. Bronfman (like another poster has mentioned) and I am grateful for it. I also bought the book because my son is only reluctantly preparing for his Bar Mitzvah next year and it breaks my heart a little that it seems a chore for him. I feel that Mr. Bronfman's little volume will help me guide him, it's already been the focus for several lively Friday night discussions with the family.

very well written, a must read for younger and older generations, and those in between!

Wonderful and thought provoking book.

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